



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, January 22, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

300 Medical Drive, Hampton, VA 23666

Present: Mr. Steven Brown Chair; Dr. Kristie Norwood, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Mary Miller, Treasurer; Ms. Madonna Flores, Secretary; Mrs. Ann Abdullah; Mrs. Ginger Blount-Moore; Sheriff Karen Bowden; Dr. Cynthia Gaither; Dr. Diane Griffiths; Mrs. Gisele Russell; Dr. Tarita Stonewall; and Dr. Tamara Temoney-Porter.

Staff: Dr. Daphne Cunningham; Mrs. Raymona Barnes; Dr. Melanie Bond; Ms. Keisha Carroll; Ms. Joy Cipriano; Mr. Ron Clark; Mr. Tony Crisp; Mr. Ryan Dudley; Mr. Tom Miller; Ms. Allison O'Brien; Mrs. Rhonda Perry; Mrs. Mrs. Beverly Smith; Mrs. Kimberly Thompson; and Mrs. Jae Hee Jackson.

Absent: Dr. Mark Bell; Mr. Ryan Kotrch; Mary Stewart; and Ms. Hui-Shan Walker.

**Members of the
Public and
Other Guest(s):**

Mrs. Melvia Eley

CALL TO ORDER

Members of the Board, Guests, and Staff were welcomed to the Meeting of the Board of Directors for the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board (H-NNCSB) by Mr. Steven Brown, Chair, who called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. on January 22, 2026.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

After Chairman Brown welcomed the Members of the Board of Directors and wished everyone a Happy New Year, he gave Dr. Daphne Cunningham, Executive Director, the floor.

Dr. Cunningham welcomed everyone to the meeting then introduced Mrs. Melvia Eley, who will be retiring at the end of January after 41 years of service at the H-NNCSB. Mrs. Eley shared some of her history at the CSB and thanked the agency since she was able to learn and grow in each position.

Chairman Brown commended Mrs. Eley's years of service to the agency and clients. Mr. Brown noted how pleasant it was to interact with Mrs. Eley whenever they met away from the agency. He wished her well as she starts retirement.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

None

ACTION ITEMS

A-1. Board Approval of the December 18, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Issue: Board Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held on December 18, 2025.

Background: The Board meeting minutes were provided to Members of the Board of Directors for review in the Board package distributed on January 15, 2026.

ACTION: There being no discussion or comments, the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held on December 18, 2025, were approved as presented.

A-2. Budget, Finance, & Audit Committee Recommendation

Issue: Board Approval of FY2027 Budget Planning Assumptions

Background: At the beginning of each year, Members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee review the Proposed Budget Planning Assumptions received from staff for the next fiscal year of the Agency. Staff will provide Members of the Committee with the Planning Assumptions and Development Calendar at their next meeting to be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Upon review and consensus, Members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee will seek Board approval of the FY2027 Proposed Budget Planning Assumptions at the next meeting of Members of the Board of Directors scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2026.

Mrs. Mary Miller, Committee Chair, reported that the Budget, Finance, & Audit Committee met on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 via Zoom to discuss the Budget Planning Assumptions for FY2027.

Mrs. Raymona Barnes, Chief Financial Officer, presented the FY2027 Budget Planning Assumptions, which has several key areas of focus. The first is to maintain and enhance fiscal strength through sound budgetary and accounting practices to ensure financial security. The second is to apply resources to strategic areas that improve access to and provision of behavioral healthcare services. The agency will develop a sustainable budget; remain in compliance with changes in Federal, State, Local, and Third-Party payer guidelines; enhance financial reporting; transition to the Community Psychiatric Support and Treatment model; continue with STEP-VA and other State guidance; and utilize operational dashboards for data analysis and reporting.

The fiscal environment for FY2027 is expected to influence expenditures, revenue realization, and cash flow. Several factors to consider are: cost increases in service provision; employee compensation; revenue growth struggles to keep pace with expenditures; changes to service delivery models; changes in funding to reimbursement model; the need to enhance Accounts

Receivable collections process; and exploring options to grow Operating Reserves. Programs and services will be reviewed during the budget process to ensure sustainability.

Five areas that were considered during budget development were: Program Revenue/Investments; Operating Expenses; Staff Compensation; Strategic Plan Initiatives; and Agency Initiatives. Federal funding is unstable with many changes being implemented or considered; there are anticipated changes to the State budget with the new administration; Local match funding is level. The agency will need to optimize earned revenue, discover new funding opportunities, and seek alternative funding for grants ending this calendar year. The agency will continue to maintain administrative costs below 15% in accordance with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) Performance Contract; maintain reserves for healthcare expenses; streamline operating costs to reduce expenses while meeting the changes in service delivery models; maintain vehicle fleet; and continue updating technology to maintain the agency's infrastructure. The agency continues to evaluate current pay scales to maintain competitive wages and review recruitment and retention strategies while offering employees comprehensive benefit packages despite the rising cost of healthcare. The agency adheres to the Strategic Plan Initiatives by adjusting to the changing environment and adapting to new guidelines and regulations while maintaining our workforce. The agency will also focus on a variety of initiatives by transitioning to Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) model; adapting to the Community Psychiatric Support Treatment (CPST) model; Right-sizing the IDD Residential homes; and utilizing the Opioid Abatement funding.

The timeline for the FY2027 Budget is to review programs and develop the budget by April 2026 and present it for Board approval in May 2026.

The Budget, Finance, and Audit Committee recommended the Members of the Board of Directors approve the Budget Planning Assumptions for FY2027.

ACTION: The Board of Directors approved the FY2027 Budget Planning Assumptions.

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Relations & Governmental Affairs

Members of the Community Relations and Governmental Affairs Committee met on Monday, January 12, 2026 via Zoom virtual meeting.

Dr. Griffiths welcomed everyone to the meeting at 4:05 p.m. then requested Dr. Daphne Cunningham provide updates on Legislative activity. The full report can be found in the red folders.

Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Griffiths met with Delegate-Elect Dr. Mark Downey, and Dr. Cunningham met with Delegate-Elect Virgil Thornton recently. They are interested in various mental health care, housing, and re-entry services

provided by the CSB. An overview of the CSB, legislative priorities, and resources were provided to them. The agency is still working to meet with Delegate Price as well as Senator Locke and will continue to reach out to local legislators. Dr. Cunningham mentioned she was at an event and spoke with Delegate Ward, who is supportive of the CSB.

Dr. Cunningham shared she was able to contribute to the Governor's budget hearing and provided a document with the CSB's budget priorities. She advised that the new Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services will be Mr. Daryl Washington, who is currently the Executive Director of the Fairfax CSB. He has extensive knowledge of the CSB system, and the agency looks forward to working with him in his new role.

Next, Mr. Ryan Dudley, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates on the BJ Roberts Behavioral Health Center. He stated the agency was successful in hiring many new positions, and some internal processes were improved in order to increase access and coordination between programs. Mr. Dudley and Crisis Services staff recently met with the Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams which is in all Emergency Departments in the state, to discuss who can now be served. He also shared that Anthem reached out about a pilot program where an Anthem staff would embed at the Crisis Receiving Center. The CRC will begin 24/7 admissions on January 19. Mr. Dudley has spoken with law enforcement and security about the need for expanded coverage for the extended hours.

Marcus Alert coverage has expanded to almost round-the-clock coverage. Mr. Dudley shared that in December, 87% of the crisis calls did not require issuance of an Emergency Custody Order. The agency is piloting a new community stabilization program that provides after-care following an initial mobile crisis response. A Child and Adolescent mental health crisis clinician is partnering with Marcus Alert staff to become more familiar with crisis response.

Dr. Tarita Stonewall asked a question about Anthem's partnership, and Mr. Dudley discussed Anthem possibly embedding a Peer Recovery Specialist at the Crisis Receiving Center but stated that the agency would prefer a Care Coordinator.

Mr. Tony Crisp, ARTS Director, provided a status report on the three projects under the Opioid Abatement Authority. The Hampton City Jail program started on January 5, and 20 people have been screened for substance use and mental health services. The mobile unit is at both locations though not very visible in the Newport News location, so alternative marketing will be explored. The Peer Drop-In Center is still under renovation and expected to open soon.

Mr. Soltys asked about the kinds of services available with the Jail-based projects, specifically, if the agency is working with the psychiatrists at the jails. Mr. Crisp responded the agency is working with the medical staff at the jails, and Sheriff Bowden stated there isn't a psychiatrist on staff, but there are medical staff in the jails. Mr. Dudley also shared the jails are referring people

to the CSB's Forensics team to work with them for up to 90 days after they return to the community.

Regarding community partnerships, Mr. Dudley stated the agency recently signed the lease for the Sentara Cares Clinic. The therapist who was hired has resigned so the position has been re-posted; however, some other programs are currently working with the clinic on engagement activities. The clinic will be a vital link to the Peer Drop-In Center, and the Women's Services Navigator will be able to link individuals to the Southeastern Family Project. Mrs. Smith shared that one of the therapist positions has been filled and will be working at Mary T. Christian Elementary. The program will expand from there.

Next, Mr. Johnnie Mullins presented an update on Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA) of the Peninsula's activities. He shared that SAARA of the Peninsula was awarded a community innovation grant from DBHDS for \$5000. The purpose is to support and improve innovative programs and to support Virginia peer-run programs, or recovery community organizations. SAARA hosts recovery meetings at Four Oaks Day Center and plans to provide nice lunches and dinners for the participants throughout the year. On Advocacy Day, January 27, SAARA will go to the General Assembly. They have also partnered with local churches to discuss the dangers of fentanyl to youth.

Finally, Dr. Cunningham shared that January 13 is the official 55th Anniversary of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board. The cities were requested to provide Proclamations to celebrate the 55 years. Mr. Soltys congratulated the agency. Dr. Cunningham thanked him for his years of association with the agency and his support.

The next meeting will be on February 17, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Members of the Community Relations and Governmental Affairs Committee adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Chairman Brown asked if the security for the BJ Roberts Behavioral Health Center was finalized and Mr. Dudley responded the agency is in discussions with Hampton Sheriff's office and Hampton Police regarding contracts. He next asked about the grant SAARA of the Peninsula received and noted the agency used to support the organization and Dr. Cunningham responded that the H-NNCSB still supports SAARA of the Peninsula.

Budget, Finance & Audit

Members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee held a virtual meeting via Zoom on Monday, December 15, 2025, at 4:01 p.m.

As noted in the Action Item, members of the Budget, Finance and Audit Committee held a virtual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Mrs. Raymona Barnes provided an overview for the meeting. First, she presented the Budget Planning Assumptions for FY2027. Then, she proceeded with the agenda, which included: the H-NNCSB's Financial Statements – Operating results through November 30, 2025; Financial Statements for Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board Property Company, Inc.; Share-A-Homes of the Virginia Peninsula; and the Balance Sheet for Trust for Disabled Persons.

Mrs. Barnes presented the key focus areas considered during budget development and the timeline for the budget planning for FY2027. She then presented the financial information and operating results through November 30, 2025.

In Aging, there has been a shift in grants from up-front funding to reimbursement-based funding, and that has been affected by delays in accessing the Webgrants portal. In addition to the increase in reimbursable funds, there was also an increase in denials that the finance team is escalating to payers for review and reprocessing.

The cash balance in the operating reserve is stable and the agency continues to serve as the fiscal agent for several Region 5 projects. Mrs. Barnes stated the interest earned from the certificates of deposit (CD) moved to the operating reserve. The line of credit remains unutilized.

Health insurance is in-line with the budget for November 2025, but the agency is still over budget for the fiscal year. Medicaid revenue is under the projected targets through November 2025. Leadership meets regularly to discuss ways to increase enrollment in programs, retain staff for hard to fill positions, and enhance service delivery models for long standing programs. The budgeted Payroll Expenses included the 3% Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) in September, and several new programs with increases in personnel and program budgets will continue to increase as they expand and become fully operational. Expenses for the grants are submitted as expenses are incurred.

Mrs. Barnes reviewed the financial statements for all entities, highlighting specific line items that changed. Mrs. Bea Dahlen asked about the reinvestment of funds from the CDs, and Mrs. Barnes replied that the finance team works with Towne Wealth once the CDs mature to find the best rate for new CDs, and this is reviewed during the budget process. The earned interest is placed in the Operating Reserve.

Mrs. Dahlen also requested anyone interested in being on a Gubernatorial Board or Commission to please apply.

There being no additional business, I thanked Mrs. Barnes and the Finance Team for their hard work on the budget assumptions, and the Budget, Finance, & Audit Committee meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Chairman Brown asked about pending legislation and its effect on the agency's

ability to provide health insurance and Mrs. Kimberly Thompson, HR Director, explained that the agency has negotiated a good benefit plan for everyone eligible for insurance so the new legislation will not impact the agency at this time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Mr. Brown thanked the committee members for all their hard work. He stated the Members of the Board received Administrative Division Program Highlights on pages 6 through 30 of the Board Package. Next, he gave the floor again to Dr. Cunningham.

Dr. Cunningham reviewed the items in the red folders: email from a father of one of the Creative Options clients commending the staff for their excellent work and thanking the agency; congratulatory letter from the City of Hampton on the agency's 55th Anniversary; Virginia Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) Tax Credits - Ms. Joy Cipriano provided a summary of the program and its benefits to the CSB; DBHDS notice of the rescinded SAMHSA Federal Grant Award Termination; the presentation from National Council for Mental wellbeing regarding Virginia's Statewide Behavioral Health Landscape Analysis; a news article about disability funding; and a list of current legislation the VACSB is tracking that also interests the CSB. House Bill 1292 attempts to repeal the sunset date for private providers in Hampton performing evaluations to determine whether a person meets the criteria for temporary detention for behavioral health treatment. The CSBs believe this function should remain with CSBs and not expand to private providers.

Dr. Cunningham mentioned the Newport News City Council invited the agency to attend the January 27 meeting in order to receive the Proclamation celebrating the 55 years of service and she extended the invitation to the Board Members. The mobile outreach unit has been in Hampton and there has been support from some members of the community. The agency is preparing for the winter weather forecasted. Dr. Cunningham stated she will reach out to Board Members whose terms are ending in June 2026 to determine their level of interest in continuing on the Board. Finally, she recognized Sheriff Bowden and congratulated her on being re-elected as the Hampton Sheriff. Sheriff Bowden thanked the Board Members and the agency and spoke about the importance of serving the community and training the young staff in the Sheriff's Office.

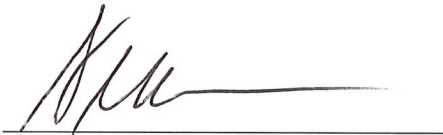
Chairman Brown added he agrees with Sheriff Bowden that serving the community is very important and thanked her for continuing to serve Hampton. Then he recognized a historic moment for the H-NNCSB Board of Directors, all of whom were women, except Chairman Brown, this evening.

**CLOSING
REMARKS**

Chairman Brown gave the floor to Mrs. Gisele Russell, who stated Dr. Cunningham was being too modest about her participation on Senator Kaine's roundtable earlier in the month. She shared that Dr. Cunningham provided information about behavioral healthcare and educated the attendees on the need for services the CSB provides. Mrs. Russell also shared that another roundtable participant gave the CSB accolades for supporting her daughter, a CSB employee, with great work training and nurturing. She noted that the NAP tax credit bill was co-sponsored by Congressman Bobby Scott. And on a personal note, she told Mrs. Eley that her son was the inspiration for giving her son the same name, in hopes he would be inspired to follow in his footsteps. Finally, Mrs. Russell shared Congressman Scott was trying to help a constituent and Mrs. Russell reached out to Mr. Dudley, who provided tremendous help late on a Friday night. She commended him and the agency for always being available to help members of the community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business, the Meeting of the Board of Directors for the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board adjourned at 5:52 p.m.



Mr. Steven Brown
Board Chair



Ms. Madonna Flores
Secretary

*Submitted by
Jae Hee Jackson*