

HEALTH CARE ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary

October 11, 2021

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ELECTRONICALLY

Marlene Blum, Chairman
Tim Yarboro, MD, Vice Chairman
Bill Finerfrock, Vice Chairman
Maia Cecire
Ellyn Crawford
Philippe Beauchene
Rose Chu
Rosanne Rodilosso
Leeann Alberts, JD, MBA
Shikha Dixit

STAFF

Sherryn Craig

MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Trahos, DO, At Large

GUESTS

Allyssa Tobitt, COO, Reston Hospital
Ben Brown, CEO, Dominion Hospital
Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH, Health Director, Health Department
Jessica Werder, Deputy Director of Public Health Operations, Health Department
Dominic Bonaiuto, Director, Central Region Government & Community Relations, Inova Health System

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Marlene Blum at 7:32 pm.

Audibility of Members' Voices

Chairman Marlene Blum conducted a roll call asking each participating member to state his/her name and the location from which he/she was participating.

Braddock District, Leeann Alberts, JD, MBA, Springfield, VA
Dranesville District, Rosanne Rodilosso, McLean, VA
Hunter Mill District, Ellyn Crawford, Reston, VA
Lee District, Maia Cecire, Alexandria, VA

Mason District, Rose Chu, Falls Church, VA
Mount Vernon District, Shikha Dixit, Lorton, VA
Providence District, Marlene Blum, Vienna, VA
Springfield District, Bill Finerfrock, Springfield
Sully District, Phil Beauchene, Chantilly, VA
At Large, Tim Yarboro, MD, Reston, VA

Chairman Blum passed the virtual gavel to Vice Chairman Tim Yarboro. Ms. Blum moved that each member's voice was adequately heard by each other member of the board, and specifically that each voice was clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all other members. Maia Cecire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Need for an Electronic Meeting

Having established that each member's voice could be heard by every other member, Ms. Blum established (1) the nature of the emergency compelling the emergency procedures, (2) the electronic format for the meeting, and (3) public access to the meeting. Ms. Blum moved that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for the Board to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, FOIA's usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the Board and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented safely or practically. Ms. Blum moved that the Board would conduct the meeting electronically through Zoom Conference call, and that the public could access this meeting by telephone 888-398-2342 or through the following link - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83723149739>. Maia Cecire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Continuity in Government

To dispense with FOIA's Usual Procedures to Assure Continuity in Government, Ms. Blum moved that all of the matters addressed on today's agenda must address the State of Emergency itself, are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the HCAB's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. Shikha Dixit seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

September 13, 2021 Meeting Summary

The meeting minutes from September 13, 2021 were approved as submitted.

HCA Community Update – Reston Hospital Center and Dominion Hospital

Reston Hospital Center's (RHC) Allyssa Tobitt, Chief Operating Officer, and Dominion Hospital's Ben Brown, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), provided their annual community reports.

RHC

Ms. Tobitt summarized RHC's capital developments. Demand for RHC's 18-bed Inpatient Rehabilitation (IP Rehab) Service remains strong, resulting in RHC's decision to expand the unit in 2022. RHC is currently in the design phase to expand its Surgical OR unit, with construction to begin in 2022. RHC's Free-Standing Emergency Department (FSED), located at the intersection of Gallows Road and Gallows Branch Road on Leesburg Pike/U.S. Route 7 in Tyson's, is still in development. The existing 14,000 square foot retrofit construction will include 12 treatment areas. Labor and supply shortages have affected the projected timelines, resulting in a delayed opening for Quarter 1 in 2022. In response to a question about congestion, RHC acknowledged that that traffic is problematic and access to the site is constricted. RHC is currently working with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on additional signage to improve navigation and traffic flow.

Dominion Hospital

Dominion Hospital is a 116-bed facility located in the Seven Corners area of Falls Church, continuously serving the acute mental health care needs of patients locally, regionally, and nationally for more than 30 years.

The hospital provides 24-hour, seven day a week care for children, adolescents and adults who suffer from debilitating mood and thought disorders such as anxiety, depression, bipolar disorders, eating disorders, school refusal, trauma and self-injurious behaviors. Youth services are the greatest portion of Dominion's patient population.

In 2020, Dominion treated 3,000 inpatients - 44% were adults, 48% children/adolescents, and 8% eating disorder and trauma program patients. Dominion's 2020 partial hospitalization program included 20,000 outpatient visits: 43% were adults, 40% adolescents, and 17% eating disorder patients. Dominion's intensive hospitalization program numbered 4,000 outpatient visits in 2020.

While the community regards Dominion as an inpatient behavioral health hospital, it is also a mental health care system that provides a full continuum of services, both inpatient and outpatient, to meet the needs of the surrounding community.

Dominion Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission. Dominion's Reflections Center is the only Joint Commission disease-specific certified eating disorders treatment program on the east coast and only one of two in the nation. Dominion is also the first and only program in the Northern Virginia and metropolitan Washington, D.C. region to provide inpatient and partial hospitalization programs, as well as access to outpatient care in one comprehensive treatment center.

Dominion Hospital has been recognized as a top performer for LGBTQ healthcare equality four years in a row, providing care and services that are affirming and inclusive of LGBTQ patients, visitors, and staff.

Dominion partners with several different community organizations to support the broad needs of the community, offering financial support and/or in-kind expertise to organizations such as the National Alliance on Mental Illness Northern Virginia, PRS/CrisisLink, Prevent Child Abuse America, Friends of Loudoun Mental Health, and Healthy Minds Fairfax.

On the growth and development side, demand for Dominion's 10-bed Adult Trauma Inpatient Unit continues to grow. This specialized program helps patients cope and heal from chronic, complex trauma and dissociative identity disorders.

Dominion is seeking a Special Exception Amendment (SEA) request that will allow the hospital to treat patients with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse. Across Northern Virginia, there has been a 19% increase year-over-year of substance use disorders as a primary diagnosis. This need is compounded by the increasing percentage of people reporting initiating or increasing substance abuse to cope with stress or emotions over the last year. If the SEA is approved, Dominion plans to dual license 10 beds that treat substance abuse disorders.

No physical modifications to the hospital are required, and Dominion's licensed capacity would not increase. Existing resources would be leveraged to care for patients with a primary diagnosis of substance abuse. Dominion is already providing services to patients with a co-occurring diagnosis of substance abuse. Given that there are no changes to service delivery or bed capacity, the HCAB is not recommending a public hearing on the project.

In response to a question about COVID-19 vaccinations for hospital providers and staff, Dominion, as well as RHC, are encouraging staff to get vaccinated by organizing

employee clinics. However, in accordance with its parent company, HCA, the hospitals do not have a mandate requiring employees to get vaccinated.

Bill Finerfrock shared that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will issue an interim final rule (IFR) at the end of the month requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for workers in most health care settings receiving Medicare or Medicaid reimbursement, likely by using Medicare/Medicaid Conditions of Participation (CoPs).

In response to a question about economic challenges experienced by patients during the pandemic, RHC stated that the hospital's Charity Care program is standardized across all HCA affiliates and no changes have been made to the program.

Phil Beauchene moved that the HCAB send a memo to the Board of Supervisors with information from RHC and Dominion Hospitals' presentations. Ellyn Crawford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

HCAB Work Plan Discussion

The HCAB discussed potential topics and requests for information for its 2022 meeting schedule. In addition to several standing commitments, including Inova's Budget and Capital Improvement Plan and the County's Advertised Budget, the HCAB will work with staff to evaluate and/or schedule the following topics:

- Planning and implementation of a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in the Sully District
- Health and wellbeing of FCPS students, including behavioral concerns for secondary school/high school students
- Follow up on Special Exception (SE) applications/approvals for Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) and confirming affordability provisions are being honored
- Implementation of Public Health Nurses (PHNs) in each school and discussion about how the job has evolved
- School Health Enhancement Initiative report and planning/engagement for the development of Community Schools
- Information on Continuing Care Facilities' (CCF) monetary contributions to the Housing Trust Fund and the adequacy/effectiveness of the policy (e.g., the purchasing power of one-time, deferred dollars)
- Triage and treatment of the disabled community in EDs due to physicians' perceptions of patients' quality of life
- Stronger2 Program Implementation/Health Literacy Update

- Planning and preparedness for the next pandemic or emergency, especially among minority and vulnerable communities
- Opioid Task Force update
- Update on COVID programs – boosters/third dose and 12 and under vaccinations
- Expansion of Medicaid, including dental care/services for adults

Representatives from the Health Department had similar suggestions and recommendations as HCAB members, including:

- Division of Community Health Development (CHD) update with a focus on community outreach/engagement
- Reflections from the pandemic: lessons learned and silver linings
- Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) Expansion
- Information Technology (IT) planning/expansion
- Dissolution of the Office of Strategy Management (OSM) and the transition of OSM staff into the Health Department, including Health Integration and Safety Net

Staff will gather additional information and some areas of interest may be consolidated or expanded. A revised workplan matrix will then be distributed at a future HCAB meeting.

Other Business. None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.