



Program Narrative

Sunday, September 10, 2017

10:00 am – 1:00 pm	CESP Exam (APSE)
1:30 – 2:30 pm	VRCEA Membership Meeting
1:00 – 7:00 pm	Conference Registration Desk Open
1:00 – 5:00 pm	Exhibit Set-Up
2:00 – 5:00 pm	<u>Pre-Conference Training Sessions</u>

Ethics: 2017 CRCC Code Updates and the Ethics of Outcomes Measurement and Return on Investment

In 2016 a draft of the new CRC Code of Ethics was developed, the draft was made public for comments, and ultimately the new 2017 CRC Code of Ethics was made effective January 2017. Certified Rehabilitation Counselors and allied rehabilitation professionals need to learn about this new code and how it impacts on their work. In addition to the new Code, the field has seen an increase in the need for continually more sophisticated strategies to measure outcomes. Return on Investment is one comprehensive approach to globally measuring the impact of vocational rehabilitation and related services. This preconference session will review the new Code of Ethics, and will examine ethical principles forming the foundation of the vocational rehabilitation process. Those principles will be applied to highlight important considerations when developing ROI measurement and more global outcome measurements. These considerations include technical proficiency, regulatory/policy requirements, systemic communication channels for inferring meaning, timelines for ROI/outcome measurement development, and ultimately policy development.

Speaker: Robert Froehlich, Project Director & Adjunct Professor, The George Washington University Center for Rehabilitation Counseling, Research & Education

DBHDS and DMAS DD Waivers and Medicaid Update

What are the most recent updates and implementation changes regarding the Community Living Waiver, the Family and Individual Support Waiver and the Building Independence Waiver? What's going on with the status of the final waiver regulations and the waiver provider manual? Where are we with Virginia's Transition Plan and timeline to implement the CMS Final Settings Rule? Mandated on-line Provider Survey? What can we expect for upcoming CMS waiver amendments and DMAS Medicaid Memos? This interactive session will focus on the most up-to-date information regarding Virginia's DD Waivers and provide participants with an opportunity to get additional questions answered.

Speaker: Heather Norton, Director of Community Support Services, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) and Ann Bevan, Director of Developmental Disabilities and Behavioral Health, DMAS

5:30 – 7:00 pm **Exhibitor Welcome Reception**
Ballroom Foyer
Hosted by Sponsors & Exhibitors

8:00 – 11:00 pm **Hospitality Suite**
RiverWalk
Hosted by the Collaborations Steering Committee

Monday, September 11, 2017

7:30 – 5:00 pm **Conference Registration Open**
Exhibits Open

7:30 – 8:30 am **Breakfast**
Ballroom Foyer – Seating in Stratford Hall

8:30 – 10:00 am **Concurrent Sessions**

Virginia Career Pathways Project – A Collaborations Model

Come to this engaging talk show based format session to hear about how such divergent topics as motivational interviewing, assistive technology, workforce and educational partner relationship development and labor market/demand side training interventions all fit together to improve employment opportunities and outcomes for Virginians with disabilities. Participants will leave with an understanding of why Motivational Interviewing techniques are effective in career/employment counseling strategies and will gain an understanding of how scheduling shared events can impact the individual connections between organizations which leads to better services for individuals with disabilities. Those that attend this facilitated panel “interview session” will learn strategies for using a “collaborative” approach within their own organization or program for enhanced effectiveness based upon experiences within the Virginia Career Pathways for Individuals with Disabilities project.

Speakers: Rob Froehlich, Project Director/Adjunct Professor and Maureen McGuire-Kuletz, Director/Associate Professor, The George Washington University Center for Rehabilitation Counseling, Research and Education; Emily West, CPID Project Manager, DARS; Tish Harris, CPID Project Coordinator, DBVI; Kate Kaegi, CPID VMA Liaison, DARS; and Paul Martin, Assistive Technology Specialist, DARS

Data Collection and Transportation – Two Things a Job Coach Must Navigate for Successful Placements

Don't miss this session that tackles and provides practical solutions to everyday challenges that occur in the working world of a job coach. Through the explanation of mapping techniques and virtual “hands on” mapping activities, attendees will be enabled to collect, store and share data, as well as apply data to a job seeker's Employment Plans and produce better and faster placement outcomes. Electronic and paper Mapping documents will be provided for practice use during the session and for use later as an individual effort by a job coach or as a collaborative effort by a team. Information that is described in detail in *Job Coaching in Rural Areas, Tips and Suggestions* will be shared and illustrated. Finally, no job coaching session would be complete without addressing the issue of transportation. Attendees will receive a creative approach to solve the issues of lack of transportation in outlying areas using a co-op approach, a short and long-term approach, and immediate suggestions to help develop a solution to the “no ride to work” issue job coaches face daily. In a state that is more than 70% rural, the transportation problem continually creates barriers to employment.

Speaker: Teresa Mullins, SSA Certified Community Work Incentives Counselor (CWIC), vaACCSES Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) Project

Working with the LGBTQ+ Community

This session will give participants a background on issues related to a person's real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. Workshop will include a discussion of the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity, how LGBTQ+ people today are different from in the past, and a breakdown of how risk factors like internal conflict, isolation, and family rejection can impact the mental health of LGBTQ+ people. Training will end with a discussion of how staff can help increase the protective factors and resilience of their LGBTQ+ clients. This Side by Side training session provides an overview of LGBTQ terminology and information about adolescent sexual and gender identify development. In addition, the presentation explores three pathways to risk, supporting research and best practices for creating supportive environments. Time for questions and answers will be included.

Speaker: Lacette Cross, Petersburg Youth Programs Coordinator, Side By Side

Commonwealth Coordinated Care Plus and Beyond – A Managed Care in Virginia Update

What is Commonwealth Coordinated Care Plus and how is it being implemented in Virginia? Who is required to participate in CCC Plus? What services are included? How will CCC Plus effect individuals receiving Waiver Services? Which MCO Health Plans have been selected to provide services? What is the Managed Long-Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) Program? What do you need to know as a provider? The Commonwealth Coordinated Care Plus (CCC Plus) is a new statewide Medicaid managed long-term services and supports program that will serve approximately 214,000 individuals with complex care needs, through an integrated delivery model, across the full continuum of care. Care management is at the heart of the CCC Plus high-touch, person-centered program design. CCC Plus focuses on improving quality, access and efficiency. CCD Plus initially launched August 1, 2017 and will implemented regionally over a period of time in Virginia. Enrollment into CCC Plus is required for qualifying populations

Speaker: Ann Bevan, Director of Developmental Disabilities and Behavioral Health, DMAS

Managing Health and Personal Care Issues in the Community – Don't Let Them Be A Barrier to Work and a Full Community Life

New opportunities for full community inclusion are being implemented across the Commonwealth. Individuals with medical, health and person care needs also want to be part of their communities and by implementing some creative strategies and finding innovative solutions can access work, social and volunteer venues. This session will help the attendee to recognize their own biases and fears related to supporting individuals with more complex health needs in the community and at work, will offer the participant information on strategies that can help solve access issues in community settings, and will identify resources that can assist in strategizing how to break down barriers to both physical and social obstacles.

Speakers: Susan Rudolph, RN, BSN, Registered Nurse Care Consultant, Office of Integrated Health, DBHDS; Heather Norton, MSW, Director of Community Support Services, DBHDS

10:00 – 10:15 am Break

**10:00 – 3:30 pm Assistive Technology Fair
Montpelier Room**

The Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS) will host a "hands-on", give it a good ole' try, show and tell Assistive Technology Room! All day Thursday, November 17, conference participants will be able to "drop-in" to the Technology Room and personally try out some of the latest and greatest assistive technology (AT) devices and gadgets available to accommodate individuals with disabilities at home, work

or play! VATS staff and disability service agency professionals will provide 1:1 training and demonstrations to increase participants' knowledge, skills, and competencies regarding AT as well as help individuals make informed decisions regarding appropriate and affordable solutions. Conference participants will be able to come and go as their interest and schedule permits and interact directly with the presenters and the technology. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to learn the benefits and resources available for AT in a fun and un-intimidating setting!

Host: - Barclay Shepard and the Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS), Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS).

10:15 – 12:00 pm Opening General Session

Hope – A Tool for Employment

Within the disability community, we often discuss the barriers individuals with disabilities face when they seek employment: 1) lower educational and skill attainment, 2) complex public benefit rules, 3) limited access to reliable transportation, 4) lack of work-related supports, such as assistive technology, and 5) persistent employer. These individuals can also face internal conflicts during the process of seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment that create barriers to successful employment outcomes. These barriers include 1) diminished self-efficacy and hope – limiting one's belief that they can get a job, 2) social role devaluation – making social interactions, such as interviews and onboarding more challenging; and 3) extrinsic work motivations – leading to job choices that lack meaning and engagement.

Hope is an individual's perceived ability to set a goal, identify the strategies to achieve that goal, and implement those strategies. Hope is a change agent, motivating an individual to take action, even if they do not yet have the necessary level of self-efficacy to ensure success. Most importantly, hope influences an individual's perception of what they can do and helps the individual to focus on solutions rather than barriers. For job seekers with disabilities who have had to prove that they are unable to work to receive public benefits, hope supports the individual's perception that they can return to work, even when they have not yet had the opportunity to demonstrate proof. Inc

Increasing hope in individuals is beneficial, as those with high levels of hope see obstacles to goals as challenges to be overcome. Join our keynote speaker, Elizabeth Jennings, to learn hope-building strategies that help individuals focus on current goals and highlight past success and future opportunities as opposed to failures.

Elizabeth Jennings, Deputy Director, National Disability Institute

(PICTURE – INSERT with subtitles (of Elizabeth Jennings))

12:00 – 1:45 pm Lunch on Your Own

**12:00 – 1:45 pm VRA General Membership Meeting
*Monticello***

2:00 – 3:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

Saving for the Future in ABLEnow Accounts – A New Option for Eligible Individuals with Disabilities

There's a new savings and flexible spending option for your clients in Virginia! ABLEnow is a new way for individuals and families to save, invest and pay for qualified disability-related expenses like basic-living expenses, health & welfare, employment, housing, financial management, transportation, education and training, AT and legal fees. ABLEnow provides people with disabilities and their families the opportunity to save money for today's needs or invest for tomorrow. These simple, affordable and tax-advantaged accounts allow eligible individuals to save up to \$14,000 a year without endangering their eligibility for certain state and federal benefit programs critical to their health and well-being. Attendees will learn the benefits and details of tax-advantaged ABLE accounts and how eligible clients can open an ABLE account

on line and start their savings. Anyone can contribute including family and friends and money saved in this account, up to \$100k+ depending upon SSA eligibility status, will not jeopardize disability benefits. As the Virginia-sponsored ABLER savings program, ABLEnow is administered by Virginia529, the nation's largest college savings plan. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about ABLEnow and how you can help your clients gain more freedom and independence with the building of a "nest egg" to purchase services to maintain health, independence and quality of life.

Speaker: Sara Pennington, Senior Marketing Communications Associate, ABLEnow

Fast Track to Employment

Come join this interactive, upbeat breakout session which will inform participants of the newly created DBVI Business Relations Unit and the many opportunities now available to job seekers served by DBVI. In addition to learning about incentives offered to business, discover how DBVI launched a successful statewide paid work experience program. The City of Norfolk will discuss their involvement with the work experience and paid work experience program. Hear from DBVI consumers who will take you through their journey of work experience and career exploration leading them on the fast track to success!

Speakers: Cindy Roberts, Director of Business and Corporate Initiatives, DBVI and Mike Paris, Business Development Manager, City of Norfolk Economic Development

Fostering and Sustaining Positive Change

We lead, foster and develop "transition plans" for individuals receiving services every day. But, in these complex times of changing expectations (Workforce Opportunities Act (WIOA), the Medicaid Waiver Redesign, and the CMS Final Rule), if we don't "Practice What We Preach", not only will we struggle but the outcomes of those we serve will as well. Without integrity in our services during these crucial times, the programs that we lead and the individuals that we support could regress even from the most mastery level of success. The complexity of service delivery and the diverse need of the individuals we serve make managing change and "transitioning well" essential. This session will frame the reality of the rapid changes in the field, the need for providers to organizationally exemplify positive, successful, and proactive change while using the campfire format to identify challenges and solutions to effective transition and change. .

Speakers: Melody Crossway, Director of Client Achievement, NW Works and Kevin Paluszak, CEO, ECCO Consulting Services

A School-to-Work Paid Internship Program for Transition Students: Start on Success (SOS)

Join us for an engaging and interactive session to discuss the entire process of the Start on Success (SOS) Program 2016-2017 - from the challenges of early stage planning through the end of the year success and high school graduation. Start on Success (SOS) is a highly structured employer-based program which provides opportunities for paid work experience for transition students with disabilities. The Collaborative effort between VA Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Danville, VA, and the Department of Education (DOE), Danville Public Schools, (DPS), George Washington High School (GWHS), Danville, VA, is one of three programs throughout the State of Virginia. This presentation will include how-to steps, challenges with students, case studies, opportunities and activities for Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) and updates on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA)

Speakers: Rhonda Beavers-Chandler, MS, CSAC, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor – Transition Services, DARS and Terry Peed, Special Ed Chairperson and Transition Specialist, George Washington High School, Danville Public Schools

Power of One Sessions

"Pioneering Possibility: How Brittany's Life Experience Inspired New Services In Virginia"

When Brittany was diagnosed with Autism at eighteen months of age almost twenty years ago, her family was heartbroken not only by the prognosis but also by the lack of direction and services offered in her community. Early on, the family made a firm commitment to ensure that other families would have expanded opportunities for their children. Fast forward 20 years later, Brittany now lives in a Family Partner Program at the Faison Center through her Medicaid Waiver, enjoys spending her days in an adult day program, volunteers in her community and enjoys trying new foods and activities – a life now that her parents never imagined could be possible. The program was developed in collaboration with VHDA and support from DBHDS. Her presentation will stress the collaborative nature they experienced throughout program development.

Speaker: Kathy Mathews, VP, Educational Outreach, The Faison Center

“Waivers Are My Family’s Life”

What help is available to the families and individuals that providers serve? What is a Waiver? How do they qualify? How do families and individuals apply for services? As a mom of three children with disabilities, I’ve been on this journey and want to share my family’s story and our improvement in family quality of life. Attendees will be able to help those they serve access resources to aid them in navigating and applying for Medicaid Waivers and learn what resources are available.

Speaker: Jamie Zeagler, Division Manager of Richmond/Hampton Roads for Moms-In-Motion

3:00 – 3:15 pm **Break**

3:15 – 4:45 pm **Concurrent Sessions**

Don’t Change to Survive: Evolve to Thrive

The reality of the field is that ever changing standards and expectations make the reality of service delivery more difficult than ever. The same model that got us here will not guide us through the maze of change – business as usual will not be enough. Over time, we have embarked on a balancing act with demand and the risks that are higher than ever before. With this reality, it is time to reframe our approach not to change and survive, but to evolve and thrive. This breakout session will address the need for change, barriers to change, and provide a foundation for staff and organizations to embrace evolution and growth as professionals to ensure successful service delivery and quality outcomes.

Speakers: Kevin Paluszak, CEO, ECCO Consulting Services

The Employment First Imperative and Supporting Informed Choices: A Reconciliation of Values, Beliefs and Client Engagement Practices

This session will provide an overview of Employment First, the importance of informed choice and the significance of this national movement. Ideas and resources will be shared that can be used by an array of people supporting someone with a disability to explore his/her interest in work. How is informed choice defined and how can professionals and family members support individuals to gain accurate information, knowledge and experiences they need in order to make informed choices about employment. Specific examples will be geared toward family members/caregivers, transition/school professionals, case managers, residential and day services providers and DARS counselors. The session will end with attendees receiving information about how to use and disseminate the Supporting Informed Choices About Employment guide.

Speakers: Jessica Stehle, DD Employment Resource Specialist, DARS; Mark Peterson, DD Employment Resource Specialist, DARS; Richard Kriner, Autism Research Project Coordinator, DARS; and, Matt Luther, Pre-ETS Counselor, DARS

Financial Capability: Financial Empowerment, Employment Goals and Employment Plans

The session will explore financial empowerment as a key component to setting employment goals and defining employment plans. Financial empowerment focus' on increasing participants' ability to make informed financial decisions and set financial goals. In employment services, these financial goals influence employment goals and plans and act as a motivator to goal attainment. Over the past few years, several federal laws have passed that create a new focus on financial empowerment including the HCBS Final Rule, the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and the ABLE Act. Join us to learn about new initiatives and tools that will build your knowledge of financial empowerment tools and your ability to integrate financial empowerment strategies into employment services.

Speakers: Elizabeth Jennings, National Disability Institute's LEAD Center and David Leon, Ticket to Work Coordinator, Grants and Special Programs, DARS

Successful Partnerships with Our Nation's Government: Schedule A and Vocational Rehabilitation

Obtaining higher paying careers has always been a challenge for persons with disabilities and organizations that facilitate employment services for this population. Through the Schedule A hiring authority established by the Clinton Administration, many persons with disabilities have been able to acquire employment with the federal government with higher paying salaries and full government benefits. This session focuses on the partnerships and strategies used to make those opportunities a reality for individuals with disabilities. Attendees will learn about how to collaborate with federal agencies to establish Unpaid Internships and Direct Placement Recruitment including required forms and MOUs establishing the goals, scheduling and follow-up. A federal partner will discuss the needed components of a Schedule A letter, what it is and how it is used for special recruitment and hiring of individuals with disabilities with the federal government.

Speakers: LaPearl Smith, Business Development Manager, DARS; Gwendolyn Scott, Workforce Services Specialist and Federal Job Developer, DARS; and, Vance Wilkerson, Disability Employment Program Manager, U.S. Department of Labor

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| 6:00 – 6:30 pm | Cash Bar and Awards Dinner Seating |
| 6:30 – 8:30 pm | Awards Dinner – <i>Celebrating Staff, Employers and Virginians with Disabilities</i> |
| 7:00 – 7:10 pm
(INSERT PICTURE) | Honorable James Rothrock, Commissioner, DARS |
| 8:30 – 8:45 pm | Awardee Formal Pictures |
| 9:00 – 11:00 pm | Hospitality Suite
<i>Riverwalk – Hosted by the Collaborations Steering Committee</i> |

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

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|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7:30 – 12:00 pm | Conference Registration Open |
| 7:30 – 12:30 pm | Exhibits Open |
| 7:30 – 8:30 am | Breakfast |
| 8:30 – 9:30 am | <u>Concurrent Sessions</u> |

Don't Believe Everything You Think

Change is ongoing – chaos is imminent – coping becomes a concern. What can science and contemplative practices add to our ability to find solid ground in difficult times? To even add happiness, job and meaning to our lives and others? In this session, attendees will discover the unified theory of a happy brain, identify our habitual patterns and experience approaches that can be used in the moment to reduce reflexive action to stress but also change neural pathways that recycle our habitual patterns.

Speaker: Margaret Glenn EdD, Professor and Coordinator, Clinical Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling Program, West Virginia University

Rapid Job Placement for Individuals with Substance Use Disorders

This presentation will cover the aspects of rapid job placement for individuals with substance use disorder and/or serious mental illness – from intake to job placement. Attendees will learn the process of assisting individuals with supported employment services as a first option in recovery. Participants will learn multicultural strategies for taking a candidate from intake to job placement while in treatment for substance use disorder and/or serious mental illness including resources for resume building, cover letter writing, online job search considering barriers such as criminal histories, current substance use disorder and serious mental health. Finally, attendees will learn multicultural motivational techniques and strategies for addressing barriers to employment and meeting each participant “where they are”.

Speakers: Lauren Unger, CSAC, Lead Workforce Specialist, Linden Resources and Michelle Golob-Birjandian, Mental Health Therapist, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB

The Power of Contemporary Vocational Evaluation: Expanding Job Seeker Possibilities

What is the meaning of vocational evaluation and how do recommendations lead to successful outcomes? Attendees will learn the different levels of vocational evaluation. Case examples will be used to demonstrate the type of vocational evaluation and the recommendations assisted towards successful placement. Session will include an open dialogue to discuss the needs of counselors, how vocational evaluation can assist with plan development and how it all leads back to successful job placement. A brainstorming session will be included to discuss methods to more effectively utilize vocational evaluation to their client's benefit.

Speaker: Janice Chory, Vocational Evaluator, Fairfax County Public Schools and Shawn Zimmerman, Certified Vocational Evaluator, DARS

Successful Implementation of Community Engagement - The MOST Program

The Meaningful Opportunities for Successful Transitions (MOST) is a one-year transitional program focused on assisting individuals and their families in making the transition from the entitlements of high school to the eligibility of adult services. This “campfire session” will focus on how to successfully engage transitioning youth in the community through volunteer experiences. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn what has worked, challenges, overcoming barriers and what has not worked when implementing community engagement, as well as success stories as told by current and former participants of the MOST Program. Session will also include video clips of current and former MOST Program participants providing information about their experiences and what they are doing after they complete the MOST Program.

Speakers: Marcy Bennett, MBA, Director, Jewish Foundation for Group Homes (JFGH) MOST Program and Ross Kerr, MOST Program Manager, JFGH

Section 301 and the Power of Financial Planning

Section 301 of the Social Security Act is designed as a work incentive to empower individuals receiving SSDI or SSI to work without the fear of automatically losing their benefits and health insurance. Section 301 protects the benefits and health insurance for individuals found no longer disabled according to SSA criteria following a Continuing Disability Review (CDR) or SSI's age 18 redetermination. Benefits and health insurance for these individuals will be allowed to continue until their participation in an approved VR program or other approved program such as receiving services from an Employment Network (EN) under the Ticket to Work (TTW) program ends. Following the training, attendees will have a better understanding of 1) what the Section 301 work incentive entails and how to utilize it; 2) the importance of continuing education on financial planning concepts and resources; and, 3) the benefits of incorporation of financial planning strategies in work incentives counseling.

Speaker: Mike Klinger, Work Incentives Specialist, DARS

9:30 – 9:45 am **Break**

9:45 – 11:15 pm **Concurrent Sessions**

Community Employment Crews: Pathways to Success – A True Story

This is a true story of how we transitioned our “sheltered workshop” into community employment. This session will not only tell our story, but will explore how we operationalized the plan and changed our Supported Employment Program. Attendees will hear the step-to-step process that we followed and leave this session with plans that they might be able to use in their own programs. In addition, there will be a panel of individuals who went through the process to that the audience can ask questions. The panel will include Supported Employment job developer, a family member with their individual who went through the process, an employer, and a Support Coordinator.

Speakers: Amy Thomas, Program Coordinator II Employment Services and Gregory Ellison, Employment Specialist Supervisor, Hanover County Community Services Board

Addressing the Addiction Crisis: Virginia Substance Abuse Treatment Services

Dr. Marissa Levine, State Health Commissioner, declared the Opioid Addiction Crisis as a public health emergency in Virginia on November 21, 2016. Since that time, Virginians have been inundated with both devastating stories of opioid addiction and brave tales of those who have escaped the grip of opioids. The reality is that opioids are only one type of drug that is destroying the lives of people from all walks of life. Statistics show a steady increase in the use of marijuana, alcohol and amphetamines. The good news is Virginians public mental health system is facing this challenge head on. In this session, participants will learn: 1) The nature of substance use in Virginia; 2) Addiction treatment basics; 3) How Virginia provides publicly funded treatment; and, How to access publicly-funded treatment.

Speaker: Dr. Gabriella Caldwell-Miller, Community Services Manager, DBHDS

Sensory Foundations: Identifying the Source of the Behavior

There are many factors that can cause behaviors and sensory is a primary one that is often unknown or misunderstood. There are eight sensory systems that can affect a client’s behavior. A clear understanding of these sensory issues can help not only to understand behavior responses, but can also help to reduce the frequency and intensity of these behaviors. This course will expose learners to the eight sensory systems, and how high and low thresholds in each area can affect a client’s response and can contribute to habitual and even destructive behaviors. It will also help learners to have a better compassion and understanding from the perspective of the client, and allow them to better provide tools that may help to de-escalate the behavior, or even eliminate it with the right level of proactive tools and strategies.

Speaker: Wendy V. Atkinson, OTR/L SIPT Certified, Occupational Therapist, Business Owner, Consultant, Cornerstone Therapy Association

All Things Federal – What the Heck is Going on in Washington DC – A Public Policy Update

Get the latest information on federal issues including changes at the top of the Departments of Education/RSA, Labor, Health and Human Services, and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and how those changes affect providers in terms of current law and pending legislation. Kate will provide the latest information regarding President Trumps Executive Order on Regulatory Review, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the CMS Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule, the proposed (and currently enjoined) DOL Overtime Rule, the TIME Act (14c), Medicaid, federal budget actions and a myriad of other federal, state and constitutional concerns. This

session will also look at the power of reaching out to individual members of Congress to tell your stories and show them the important work Virginia providers and the people they serve do every day.

Speaker: Kate McSweeney, VP Governmental Affairs & General Counsel, National ACCSES

The Scylla and Charybdis: Providing Best Practice Services in a Challenging Financial and Regulatory Landscape

In today's climate of tumultuous fiscal and regulatory change, it is becoming increasingly challenging to navigate the current landscape and connect those we serve with the services they sorely need. Even if we identify the right services for an individual, we must determine if they qualify for services and if they do qualify, is there any funding? It can be daunting to identify the right services for an individual and then downright scary to provide it without fear of reprisal or payback. We often find ourselves caught between powerful forces. This presentation will demonstrate innovative methods to navigate available funding streams to provide highly individualized services to Virginians with severe disabilities and challenging behaviors. This presentation will illustrate through case studies of success stories where individuals have benefitted from critical intervention across a variety of funding streams and services.

Speakers: Chris Lavach, VP and Director of Community Services, Beth Martin, Coordinator of Waiver Services, and Adair Jensen-Smith, Director of Training and Operations, The Choice Group

11:15 – 11:30 am Break

11:30 – 12:30 am Closing Session

Knee Deep in Mud & Loving Life – Tips, Techniques and Strategy Used in Adventure Racing to Help You and Your Agency Overcome Anything

As an avid adventurer, Chip Dodd has created a lifestyle of pushing himself past his comfort zone. Whether it be rock climbing in Yosemite, mountain biking Porcupine Rim trail in Moab UT, scuba diving deep wrecks in Thailand or Adventure Racing for 24+ hours, he has had learned how to thrive while overcoming fear, pain, exhaustion and dehydration. These skills are not unlike those he has needed to survive roller coaster ride of leading a 10M+ state wide human services agency. In this fascinating and entertaining presentation, Chip will dive deep into Adventure Racing strategy and share experiences of how the same techniques has helped him lead his company through past challenges as well as those over the horizon. Not only will attendees will leave with dozens of “takeaways” that can be directly applied to their agency today, but they will gain a unique perspective on strategy development moving forward.

Chip Dodd, President, Support Services of Virginia

(INSERT PICTURE OF CHIP DODD)

12:25 pm Final Cash Drawing - \$100 (Must be Present to Win)

12:30 pm Conference Adjourns