

DBHDS

Virginia Department of
**Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services**

Systemic Therapeutic Assessment Respite and Treatment (START)

Bob Villa

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Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

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Systemic Therapeutic Assessment Respite and Treatment

A Few Key Points...

- START is not a separate system.
- START does not replace any current emergency services providers.
- Every step in the START process involves a thorough and clinical assessments.
- START emphasizes crisis PREVENTION through early identification of individuals at high risk.
- When fully operational, all START programs will be able to respond by phone 24/7 and face to face within 3 hours.

Who is Eligible for START?

- At least 18 years of age
- A supported diagnosis of intellectual disability/ developmental disability is required, and
- Have a co-occurring mental illness or significant challenging behaviors
- START admissions are approved based on the team's review of individual needs, situation, and assessment information

START Services

- Cross Systems Crisis Prevention and Intervention Plans
- Comprehensive Service Evaluations
- Assessments, including MD and PHD

Therapeutic Respite Services

- Crisis and Planned
 - Community In-Home
 - 6-Bed site in each region
- Separate Advisory Council for each region

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Virginia START Locations

Region I - Charlottesville

Region II- Fairfax County

Region III -New River Valley

Region IV- Richmond

Region V-Hampton/Newport News



Region I

Easter Seals UCP
START Director-Kelly Watson
kelly.watson@eastersealsucp.com (540) 259-1028

- 1) Easter Seals' P&P are currently under review by Licensing; they are offering consultation to region until Licensed.
- 2) Staff in Place and Receiving On-Going Training:
Medical Director, Respite Director, Assistant Respite Director, all 6 Coordinators and 9 Respite Staff.
Position to fill: Clinical Director.
- 3) Staff have been meeting and educating the CSB's and other stakeholders in the region.
- 4) Therapeutic Respite House in Charlottesville is completed and furnished.

Region II

Easter Seals UCP
START Director- Philippe Kane
phillipe.kane@eastersealsucp.com (571)-409-0377

- 1) Easter Seals' P&P are currently under review by Licensing, offering consultation to region until licensed.
- 2) Staff in Place and Receiving Training: Clinical Director, Medical Director, Respite Director, 5 Coordinators.
Position to Fill: Assistant Respite Director.
- 3) Staff have been meeting and educating the CSB's and other stakeholders in the region.
- 4) Therapeutic Respite House, located in Woodbridge, expected to be ready for guests this fall.

New River Valley Community Services

Denise Hall, LCSW START Director

info@swvastart.org 1-855-88-START (855) 887-8278

- 1) Staff in Place: Medical Director, Respite and Assistant Respite Director, Team Leader, 6 Coordinators and 15 Respite staff. Staff to Fill: Clinical Director.
- 2) Responding to crisis calls 24-7.
- 3) Have received over 150 referrals.
- 4) In-Home Therapeutic Respite has been provided throughout the region, helping to prevent out-of-home placement.
- 5) Therapeutic Respite House in Radford to open 11/1.

Richmond Behavioral Health Authority

Ron Lucas, START Director

lucasr@rbha.org 1-855-282-1006

- 1) Staff in Place and Receiving Training: Clinical Director, Respite Director, Team leader all 4 Coordinators.
Position to Fill: Medical Director.
- 2) Responding to crisis calls 24/7.
- 3) Have received over 80 referrals and are working with individuals and families in developing crisis plans.
- 4) Therapeutic Respite House in Richmond will be renovated and ready for guests early 2013.
- 5) Will begin hiring and training respite staff this fall.

Hampton-Newport News CSB

Dona M. Sterling-Perdue START Director

donas@hnnncsb.org 1-855-80-START 855-807-8278

- 1) Staff in Place and Receiving Training: Clinical Director, Respite Director, 7 Coordinators.
Position to Fill: Medical Director
- 2) Responding to crisis calls 24/7.
- 3) Have received over 50 referrals and are working with individuals and families in developing crisis plans.
- 4) Therapeutic Respite House in Hampton will be built and ready for guests spring/summer 2013.
- 5) Will begin hiring and training respite staff this fall.

Challenges Encountered

- Education and Training for all START staff.
- Identifying specialized staff 24/7 coverage over a wide area.
- Education and Training needed for Stakeholders (CSB's, DD CM's, individuals, families, private providers) - ASAP!
- Regions I and II START projects went through a bidding process, which caused a 4-6 month delay.
- The START Therapeutic Respite Houses in all regions experienced delays in opening (due to A&E requirements).

Solutions to Challenges

- Consultant provides regular training and feedback to all programs.
- DBHDS presents START at many conferences, trainings and workshops statewide.
- In Region I and II, though delayed, receive experienced guidance from NC Easter Seals START (which has been operating for over 4 years).
- All 5 regions will have very well designed homes to ensure consistent service delivery statewide.

Data Collection

- Working with UNH, a new MIS was created to collect detailed client information and is connected to staff working in the field.
- The system tracks all services that the individual receives in real time.
- Data is shared with the Advisory Councils which review START goals, objectives and outcomes, and provide feedback to enhance the capacity and effectiveness of the program.

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For updated information please see the following web page:

<http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/ODS-default.htm>