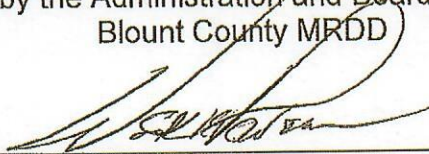


Blount MR/DD County 310 Board

**THREE YEAR PLAN FOR SERVICES
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES
RESIDING IN BLOUNT AND ST. CLAIR COUNTIES**

For the Fiscal Years 2019 through 2022

Submitted by the Administration and Board of Directors of
Blount County MRDD



Board President Date: 9/4/19

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THREE YEAR PLAN – Blount County MR/DD Fiscal Years 2019- 2020

INTRODUCTION

Blount County MR/DD, Inc. is a public non-profit agency which was established in 1993 to serve individuals residing in Blount County. The organization was created under Act 310 of the 1967 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature. This Act gives the Board authority to plan and coordinate services to support persons with intellectual disabilities.

On July 31, 2010 Blount County MR/DD began providing Case Management services to individuals with intellectual disabilities in St. Clair County when the 310 Board for that county dissolved.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Blount County MR/DD to ensure that quality supports, and services are available and accessible to people with intellectual disabilities throughout their lifespan.

These services will be family and consumer driven, proactive and creative in their response to individual needs and desires. Community-based supports will be designed to provide a wide array of service options tailored to address individual and family needs, promote natural support networks and family unity, and increase each individual's social capital. Blount County MR/DD is committed to informing and supporting people with disabilities and their families to know and exercise their rights in all aspects of their lives. Input regarding Blount County MR/DD vision and mission will be solicited from the persons served and their families by the Case Managers/ Support Coordinators during the annual discussion of choice and satisfaction with services.

The primary role of Blount County MR/DD will be the provision of case management services to eligible individuals residing in Blount and St. Clair Counties. Blount County MR/DD will be fiscally responsible in the use of the resources provided to carry out this mission.

VISION STATEMENT

To act as the single-point of entry in Blount and St. Clair counties and assist individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families in navigating a service delivery system designed to provide a wide array of service options tailored to promote a life of dignity and respect, opportunity, and community inclusion for all people.

AGENCY GOALS

- ◆ Blount County MR/DD will serve as the Single Point of Entry coordinating agency for Blount and St. Clair Counties. This includes gathering intake information and submission to DMH for eligibility determination for placement on the statewide waiting list for waiver services.
- ◆ Blount County MR/DD will coordinate desired and needed services for as many eligible individuals on the statewide waiting list as authorized by the Department of Mental Health. Eligibility criterion is set by the Department of Mental Health.
- ◆ Blount County MR/DD case managers/ support coordinators will monitor services provided and update waiting list criticality as individual/family needs change.
- ◆ Satisfaction surveys will be sent to all individuals/families receiving services to determine satisfaction with services as well as to assess future service needs.
- ◆ Face-to-face Individual experience assessments will likewise be completed with the person served and those that know the person best to assess future wants, needs, and satisfaction with current services.
- ◆ Blount County MR/DD case managers/ support coordinators will assess interest in employment and make referrals to ADRS for assessment, training and employment placement.

SERVICE PHILOSOPHY

1. Individuals with intellectual disabilities are recognized as persons with basic human needs, aspirations, desires, and feelings. They are citizens of our community who have all the rights, privileges, opportunities and responsibilities afforded to all.
2. Family units, both traditional and nontraditional, are frequently the most important resource and support to individuals with intellectual disabilities.
3. Informed choices and desires expressed by consumers and their families/advocates, as well as their rights, values, and needs, are the driving force in the development and provision of services.
4. Services must show sensitivity to individuals and families with diverse characteristics.

ASSUMPTIONS

In the development of this Three-Year Plan, 2019 – 2022, the following issues were considered:

1. Funding currently received from the Alabama Department of Mental Health will at best be maintained at current levels for the remainder of this fiscal year and for fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.
2. Alabama Medicaid's Intellectual Disabilities Living-at-Home Waiver, Home Community Based Waiver, and Self-Directed Waiver will continue to be available to fund residential habilitation, day habilitation, supported employment, personal care, specialty medical supplies, behavioral and other Medicaid waiver eligible supports.
3. The Plan is an evolving document, which is subject to periodic revision based on new information regarding individuals served and availability of funds.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND POPULATION SERVED

Blount County MR/DD serves Blount County with an estimated population of over 57,827 with a growth rate of 0.54% in the past year according to the most recent United States 2017 census data and St. Clair County with an estimated population of 88,690 as of July 1st, 2018, with the targeted population being persons with intellectual disabilities who meet the eligibility criteria for such services. Blount and St. Clair Counties are both considered rural counties. In those cases where individuals and/or family members are not eligible for existing DMH services, efforts will be made to provide an appropriate referral. Specific areas of service are:

- ◆ Provides a single-entry point into all services provided to people with intellectual disabilities. Assists family in arranging assessments for eligibility determination.
- ◆ Case management / support coordinators provides services to targeted groups of individuals with a diagnosis of intellectual disabilities. Such services include needs assessment, case planning, service arrangement, social support, reassessment and follow-up, and monitoring.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

Blount County requested input into the planning process through letter and personal contact from eligible individuals, family members or guardians, as well as from various agencies and school systems. Planning activities focus on the fiscal rather than calendar year: October 1st through September 30th of each year. Input into the planning process involves, but is not limited to, the following:

Satisfaction Surveys are sent to individuals/families receiving services to determine satisfaction with services as well as to assess future service needs. In addition, a face-to-face Individual assessments is conducted by single point coordinator to a sample of persons waiting for services to determine types and timelines of need

METHODOLOGY

The method and/or sources of data used in this plan consist of consumer satisfaction surveys, public forums, DMH 's data collected/submitted to the National Core Indicators Project, DMH Statewide Waiting List and data kept by the single point of entry and case managers. During the annual pre-planning meeting for each person served, Case Managers/ Support Coordinator's spend one-on-one time with each person on their caseload gathering information about their desired personal outcomes for the coming year and thereafter. Case Managers/ Support Coordinator's advocate with and on behalf of the people we serve as well as their families.

MONITORING

The plan is monitored through the continued use of consumer and family satisfaction surveys, case management face-to-face monitoring visits with individuals in the places they receive services and their family home. The Board of Directors receives and reviews monthly reports regarding services delivered and acts as needed. This Plan will be reviewed and updated as appropriate by the Board of Directors annually or as dictated by resources and local needs.

UNMET NEEDS

The greatest areas of unmet need in Blount and St. Clair Counties are (1) Choice of Provider, (2) employment opportunities – job assessment/training/placement/follow-up, (3) day services - traditional day habilitation, vocational training, or non-traditional supports; (3) residential habilitation services; (4) respite services, (5) public transportation and (6) in-home supports.

CURRENT AND FUTURE FUNDING RESOURCES

Blount County MR/DD currently receives funding from DMH and Medicaid targeted Case Management services. Blount County has three Case managers, which will contribute to Maintain the current level of quality services provided.

WAITING LIST ASSESSMENT

Currently, Blount County receives referrals from the Alabama Department of Mental Health Call Center and gathers documentation as proof of eligibility (IQ below 70, deficits in adaptive behavior occurring prior to age 18) for the statewide waiting list for services funded by the Alabama Medicaid Home and Community Based Waivers. Individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or families in need of services are advised to contact the DMH 1-800-Call Center where initial intake information is taken and then forwarded to Blount County MR/DD for eligibility and criticality assessment as the Single Point of Entry for Blount and St. Clair Counties.

Besides aging out of educational services, individuals may also need adult services as a result of changes in the family situation, moving into the geographic area, or health of aging parents. Currently there is approximately 54 individuals on the waiting list for Blount/ St Clair.

The following table illustrates projected needs for various services based on data obtained from actual waiting lists.

PROJECTED SERVICE BASE AND COSTS

The current service base within Blount and St. Clair Counties should remain relatively constant for the fiscal period beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2022. All costs associated with services are based on an average, which may or may not be adequate to meet the service needs of a specific individual.

CASE MANAGEMENT: Within Blount and St. Clair Counties, approximately 105-115 individuals receive targeted case management through this agency.

CM/SC	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22
Nr. Served	109	112	115
Total Cost	\$359,124	\$369,009	\$378,893
Rate	\$63.36/hr	\$63.36/hr	\$63.36/hr