

Behavioral Health Commission- Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 3, 2025 - 2:30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Villa, 8000 Brook Rd., Richmond, VA 23227

Members Present

Senator Creigh Deeds, Chair

Senator Tara Durant

Senator Barbara Favola

Senator Russet Perry

Delegate Patrick Hope, Vice Chair

Delegate Carrie Coyner

Delegate Adele McClure

Delegate Chris Obenshain (virtual)

Delegate Rodney Willett (virtual)

Members Absent

Delegate Vivian Watts

Senator Lashrecse Aird

Delegate Ellen Campbell

Call to order and opening remarks- Senator Creigh Deeds, Chair

Roll call- Agnes Dymora

Executive Director Nathalie Molliet-Ribet gave an overview of the meeting agenda and introduced Jenny Friar, Chief Executive Officer of St. John's Villa.

Ms. Friar provided an overview of the programs offered at St. Joseph's Villa. She described the budget and utilization of the Crisis Receiving Center and Crisis Stabilization Unit, as well as the demographics, referral sources, and outcomes of patients. She identified ways to support crisis services at the facility, such as raising public awareness of the programs, and provided suggestions for legislative action that could help reduce clinicians' administrative burden. Ms. Friar concluded the presentation by describing the extent of philanthropic support at St. Joseph's Villa.

A panel of stakeholders consisting of: Jenny Friar, John Richardson-Lauve, Linda Saltonstall, Nina Marino, and Jennifer Kelly answered members' questions.

Executive Director Molliet-Ribet described two new opportunities for the public to provide input to the BHC through the agency website: a public comments form, and a sign-up form for subject matter experts. Nathalie also provided an overview of the BHC's legislative impact in the Commonwealth through bills and budget amendments that were adopted during the 2025 legislative session.

Mike Tweedy, Senior Legislative Fiscal Analyst at Senate Finance & Appropriations Committee, provided an overview of the 2025 session budget related to healthcare programs, with particular attention placed on behavioral health services.

Several individuals offered public comments.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Commission meeting will be on July 8, 2025.

Delegate Willett participated virtually due to prior out-of-town commitment. Delegate Obenshain participated virtually due to a work commitment.