



## 2019 PRIORITIES

### ADDRESSING THE PRIORITY 1 URGENT WAIVER WAITLIST

Fully fund the Priority 1 urgent waiver waiting list by FY 2021.

Item 303 #1s (Barker), Item 303 #7h (Torian)

- Individuals in Priority 1 have been assessed as needing services **immediately**, by the Commonwealth's own definition. It is imperative to address the urgent needs of these citizens.
- By eliminating the wait for anyone in Priority 1, we can begin to focus on serving people on the waiting list whose service costs are lower – bringing balance and efficiency to our system.

### INCREASING NURSING RATES FOR CRITICAL SERVICES

Sufficient rates are necessary to ensure individuals have access to quality supports and services.

Item 303 #7s (Dance), Item 303 #18h (Hope)

- Nursing rates were not approved at the estimated cost to provide those services, which currently leaves those requiring nursing care in a dangerous position in terms of retention and quality.
- Current rates are based on outdated information from the 2014 study by the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI), when nursing rates were set at a mere 63% of the recommended rate. This drives individuals and their families toward crisis and more expensive nursing home care.

### FURTHERING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Direct the VA Department of Education to work with school divisions in a pilot program to identify the resources and supports needed to appropriately meet the needs of students in a public education setting.

HB 2408 (Adams, L.), SB 1576 (Suetterlein & Vogel)

- Since the first study by the Commission on Youth that examined spending by the Office of Children's Services for private special education placements, school division representatives serving on workgroups and offering comment have repeatedly stated that they would prefer to serve the children they have placed in a private special education school in their communities in a public school. School divisions should be supported in identifying specific training, staffing, or other services needed in order build the capacity to return students to public school or to prevent out-of-school placements of students whose parents wish to keep them in a public school.
- Current CSA funding methods systematically incentivize the most restrictive environments for students, not the least.

## ENSURING COMPREHENSIVE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Instruct the Department of Education to establish guidelines for IEP teams to utilize when developing IEPs for students with disabilities, to ensure age-appropriate instruction for sexual health, self-protection, and personal boundaries of self and others is considered for each child.

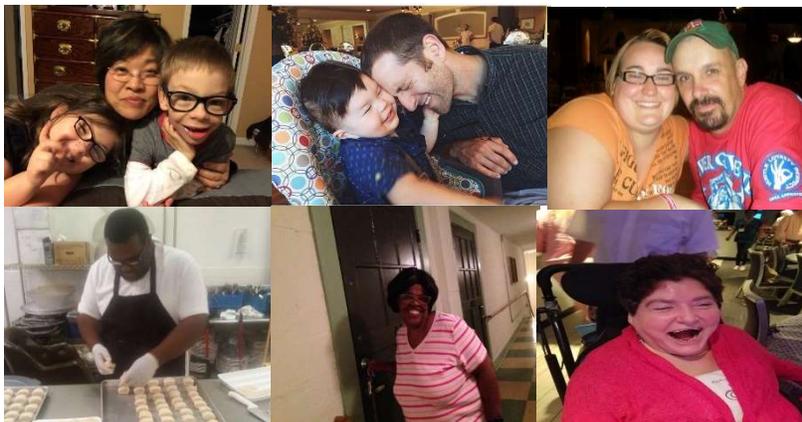
SB 1595 (Dunnavant), HB 1693 (Rodman)

- Currently Family Life Education is not geared toward students with developmental disabilities. This lack of education puts people with developmental disabilities at risk of abuse.
- Without proper education, individuals are also at higher risk of becoming offenders due to inappropriate behaviors.
- This legislation will not remove parental opt-out or other autonomous decisions of IEP teams; rather, it will simply ensure that appropriate FLE is considered for each student.

## CONTINUE TO DEFER ENROLLMENT OF DD WAIVER SERVICES INTO MANAGED CARE

With the Department of Justice Settlement Agreement and Waiver redesign implementation, the system cannot withstand additional changes without a time of settling into the new standards of operation.

## FULFILL COMMITMENT TO CLOSE TRAINING CENTERS



*The Arc of Virginia promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.*

2147 Staples Mill Road | Richmond, VA 23230  
804.649.8481 | info@thearcova.org  
thearcova.org

