



## 2018 - 2020 Budget Priorities

**STEP-VA – System Transformation, Excellence and Performance in Virginia:** STEP-VA was developed to address: ACCOUNTABILITY, ACCESS, QUALITY, and CONSISTENCY across all CSBs to work toward excellence in behavioral healthcare and ultimately a healthy Virginia. STEP-VA services are intended to foster wellness among individuals and prevent crises before they arise.

The General Assembly has mandated that all of STEP-VA be provided in every Community Services Board (CSB) in Virginia, but STEP-VA has not been fully funded. To meet the code mandated timeline for implementation of all the services and supports, the General Assembly needs to provide full funding in the 2018 – 2020 biennial budget.

### **STEP-VA Services:**

- Same Day Access (SDA) to Assessments
- Outpatient Behavioral Health Services
- Outpatient Primary Care Screening and Monitoring
- Mental Health Care for Members of the Armed Services & Veterans
- Psychiatric Rehabilitation
- Person-Centered Treatment Planning
- Care Coordination
- Behavioral Health Crisis
- Targeted Case Management
- Peer Supports

**Budget Request:** Funding in this biennium for the 10 services in the STEP-VA model. The 2017 General Assembly mandated that Same Day Access (SDA) and Primary Care Screening (PCS) be implemented by 2019 and the remaining eight services are slated for implementation by 2021. At a minimum, funding will be required for the Community Services Boards still waiting to implement SDA and for all of the CSBs to implement PCS.

**Increase the Reimbursement Rate for Medicaid Early Intervention Case Management:** Early Intervention Services result in special education cost savings and provide an increased quality of life for the child and his/her family.

**Budget Request:** Increase the Medicaid Early Intervention case management reimbursement rate to its data-determined adequacy. This increase is necessary because the current monthly rate does not cover the expense of providing this critical service, which ensures eligible children and families receive service coordination that is appropriate to the needs of infants, toddlers and their families.

**Reduce the DD Waiver Waiting List:** Currently, over 11,000 people with developmental disabilities are on a waiting list for community-based services. Virginia's DD Waivers have been redesigned to provide increased access to community supports. Using the Family and Individual Supports Waiver, Virginia can serve 50% of the individuals on the DD Waiver waiting list for a quarter of the cost of existing DD waiver programs. Receiving a Waiver slot will enable an individual who needs developmental services and supports to live a life that is fully integrated in the community.

**Budget Request:** Fund 800 additional Family and Individual Supports (FIS) Waivers and 250 Community Living (CL) Waivers.