

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Child and Family Services Division

2100 Washington Blvd., 3rd Floor, Arlington, VA 22204

TEL 703-228-1550 FAX 703-228-1172 TTY 703-228-1598

March 6, 2024

Dear Arlington County Families and Community Stakeholders:

The Community Services Board within the Department of Human Services has offered Behavior Intervention Services (BIS) for parents and caretakers to support those who need assistance with techniques to manage their children's behavioral challenges. Every year the County is faced with financial pressures that stretch us to meet the demand for services. This year there were many budgetary pressures, and the County Manager had to make over \$10 million in cuts to programs and personnel to balance the budget. As a result, the Behavior Intervention Services Program will be eliminated effective mid-May 2024. We recognize the challenge this may pose to you and remain committed to ensuring that children, youth, and families have access to quality and affordable services that meet their needs. If you are currently receiving services, staff will contact you to discuss your progress and how best to terminate services and/or identify another provider. If you have been accustomed to making referrals to the BIS program, we will help you to identify other community resources.

We will get through this transition period. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

Please visit our website: <u>Children's Behavioral Health Bureau – Official Website of Arlington County Virginia Government (arlingtonva.us)</u>, www.arlingtonva.us/childrensbehavioral-health-bureau, for additional information about Children's Behavioral Health.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Laura Ragins, Psy.D Children's Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health Supervisor

Jamii Premoss

Jamii PremDas, LCSW Children's Behavioral Health Bureau Director

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CC: Tabitha Kelly, LCSW, Child and Family Services Division Director

Deborah Warren, LCSW, DCSW, SB Executive Director, DHS Deputy Director

Anita Friedman, DHS Director