



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities
Frank W. Berry, Commissioner

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 17, 2014

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DBHDD Awards Contract for Administrative Services Organization

New contract will help streamline services and improve coordination across the agency

ATLANTA—The [Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities \(DBHDD\)](#) has selected [ValueOptions, Inc.](#) to serve as the department's administrative services organization (ASO). Under the terms of the contract, ValueOptions will assist in the administration of DBHDD's behavioral health and developmental disability care through a wide range of services. A request for proposal released by the department in March sought to combine functions of existing contracts. This process allowed DBHDD an opportunity to modify and add new deliverables that will improve coordination, increase efficiency and support high-quality care for individuals served by the department. Some highlights of the ASO functions include:

- Maintaining a 24/7 crisis and access line for behavioral health and developmental disability services.
- Creating a single information technology system for behavioral health and developmental disability services.
- Using state-of-the-art technologies to create efficiencies and improve the quality of care.
- Providing an integrated and effective platform for monitoring the department's quality management plan.
- Providing focused utilization management and review services for intensive services and a streamlined process for less intensive services.

"The new administrative services organization will be a critical part of DBHDD's operational structure as we continue to transform Georgia's behavioral health and developmental disability care environment," said DBHDD Commissioner Frank Berry. "The opportunity to work with ValueOptions is very exciting. I am confident that this partnership will help us create a world-class system in our state that remains focused on providing easy access to high-quality care for everyone we serve."



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ValueOptions is a nationally recognized behavioral health improvement firm, which brings superior experience in building effective systems. As DBHDD's ASO, ValueOptions will subcontract with [Behavioral Health Link \(BHL\)](#) to provide the [Georgia Crisis and Access Line \(GCAL\)](#) service. Under a second subcontract, the [Delmarva Foundation](#) will continue to monitor and report on DBHDD's developmental disabilities quality management system. By incorporating BHL and Delmarva into the ASO, ValueOptions will build on these already successful models to create improvements to the overall system.

The award to ValueOptions is the result of a long-term collaborative effort between DBHDD staff, providers and community stakeholders, including consumers and their family members. "From its initial development through the award, this procurement is a reflection of the collaboration and dedication of DBHDD leadership, the team working directly on the project and all of those supporting and guiding us," said Melissa Sperbeck, director of DBHDD's provider network performance unit and ASO project manager. "I am proud of our process and eager to work with ValueOptions to bring to life our vision of delivering better services more efficiently."

DBHDD is pleased to engage ValueOptions as its new administrative services organization. The department anticipates measurable improvements to its efficiency and the quality of services it provides.

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The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is the state agency that focuses solely on policies, programs, and services for people with mental illness, substance use disorders, and developmental disabilities. The department's mission is to help the people it serves live a life of recovery and independence. Frank Berry has served as commissioner of DBHDD since August 2012.



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