

The Administration operates residential facilities and also provides funds for purchased care, group homes and apartments, small residential centers, and activity programs for mentally retarded persons. In addition, the Administration includes Supplemental Security Income Eligible/Disabled Children's Programs, Family Support Services, and Continuum of Care Teams. These teams initiate, coordinate, and evaluate programs in five regions of the State. Team members provide consultation and assistance to local governments and other local resource agencies in the development of plans, program priorities, and requests for funds (Code Health—General Article, secs. 7-101 through 7-1201).

The Program for Hearing-Impaired Infants was established in 1985 (Chapter 402, Acts of 1985). Under the Administration, the Program is for early identification and follow-up of infants who have a risk factor for developing a hearing impairment.

The Administration operates eight facilities: Brandenburg Center, Victor Cullen Center, Great Oaks Center, Highland Health Facility Mental Retardation Unit, Holly Center, Potomac Center, Rosewood Center, and the Mental Retardation Unit of the Walter P. Carter Community Mental Health and Retardation Center. The Community Services Advisory Commission, the Advisory Council for the Program for Hearing-Impaired Infants, and numerous citizens advisory boards also serve the Administration.

BRANDENBURG CENTER

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Opened on October 23, 1978, as the Thomas B. Finan Center—Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Unit, the Brandenburg Center adopted its present name in 1981. The Center serves the residential needs of retarded adults in Allegany and Garrett counties (Code 1957, Art. 59A, sec. 19). Brandenburg Center is a multipurpose health facility. The Center provides occupational, physical, speech, and hearing therapies; social services; and medical supervision to its clients (Code Health—General Article, sec. 7-305).

The major goal of the Center is to habilitate clients so they might return to a community setting of a less restrictive nature. Service capability is for fifty clients.

Citizens Advisory Board for Brandenburg Center

Chairperson: Lawrence V. Kelly, 1987

C. Fleurette Brandenburg, 1987; Albert Coviello, 1987; Randjit S. Dhillon, 1987; Joseph F. Yutzy, 1988; Wilba McLaughlin, 1989; Betty June Dougan, 1990.

The Governor appoints the Board's seven members to four-year terms.

VICTOR CULLEN CENTER

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Origins of the Victor Cullen Center date to 1908, when the State Sanatorium was established. In 1949, the Board of Public Works renamed the Sanatorium as the Victor Cullen State Hospital, a tuberculosis hospital under the oversight of the State Department of Health. In 1965, the Victor Cullen School was established as a training school for male minors under the State Department of Public Welfare (Chapter 818, Acts of 1965). The School, in 1967, became part of the Juvenile Services Administration. In January 1974, it was transferred from the jurisdiction of Juvenile Services to what is now the Developmental Disabilities Administration. The School was then renamed the Victor Cullen Center.

The Center is oriented toward a nonmedical model of education, training, and habilitation for all of its severely and profoundly retarded residents. The purpose is to prepare residents to return to the community within a five-year period. Individualized programs are designed to achieve this goal, and residents use the generic services provided by doctors, dentists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and pharmaceutical services in the local community. More than half of the residents attend day training in the community. The Center is budgeted for ninety residents (Code Health—General Article, sec. 7-305).

Citizens Advisory Board for Victor Cullen Center

Chairperson: Robert M. Preston, 1988

Doris D. Remsberg, 1987; Joseph K. Scott, 1987; Samuel W. Inmon, 1988; Alfred A. Pansa, 1989; Mary V. Schnurr, 1989; William O. Lee, Jr., 1990.