

ATTACHMENT V
Summary of FY 2009 Consideration Items

#	Consideration Item	Requested		Net Cost	
		By	Positions	Recurring	Non-Recurring
1.	Enhanced level of service for the Code Enforcement Strike Team	All	8 / 8.0	\$1,000,000	\$0
2.	Creation of an ombudsman position to assist residents with foreclosures and prevent homelessness	Hyland	1 / 1.0	\$100,000	\$0
3.	Provide funding for P'CASO program to make up for lost federal dollars.	Hyland/ Smyth	6 / 6.0	\$799,681	\$0
4.	Restore funding to Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital that the Community Services Board is proposing to cut in FY 2009.	Hyland	0 / 0.0	\$346,784	\$0
5.	Provide funding for field walk-on use enforcement that was cut by Community and Recreation Services in response to the limited-term reductions.	McKay	0 / 0.0	\$27,000	\$0
6.	Restore proposed reduction for Burke Library to allow the new library to open on-time in July 2008 by eliminating funding for the EZ-Bus shuttle to the satellite VRE lots.	Bulova	0 / 0.0	\$0	\$0
7.	Create two merit positions for Adult Protective Services utilizing existing funds	Herrity	2 / 2.0	\$0	\$0
8.	Create four Safety Officer positions in the Fire and Rescue Department	Hyland	4 / 4.0	\$737,130	\$0
9.	Eliminate the charging of costs associated with positions to the penny for Stormwater Management	All	0 / 0.0	\$7,583,839	\$0
10.	Eliminate the charging of costs associated with positions to the Penny for Affordable Housing	All	0 / 0.0	\$570,000	\$0
11.	Reduce Social Security Offset for Uniformed Retirement System from 40 to 20 percent	Smyth	0 / 0.0	\$385,000	\$0
<i>Human Services Council Consideration Items</i> <i>(from the attached Human Services Council letter dated March 28, 2008)</i>					
12.	Maintain increase for Consolidated Community Funding Pool.		0 / 0.0	\$249,918	\$0
13.	Maintain CSA reserve funding		0 / 0.0	\$1,000,000	\$0
14.	Maintain County funding of \$2.6 million for the Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) Program instead of offsetting County contribution with additional state funds.		0 / 0.0	\$2,600,000	\$0
15.	Provide positions and funding for 5 new SACC Rooms: two rooms at White Oaks Elementary School and second rooms at Haycock, Waynewood, and Mount Vernon Woods Elementary Schools.		15 / 12.11	\$275,153	\$0
16.	Restore funding for CrisisLink that the Community Services Board is proposing to cut in FY 2009.		0 / 0.0	\$135,000	\$0
17.	Restore funding for Alternative House that the Community Services Board is proposing to cut in FY 2009.		0 / 0.0	\$75,000	\$0
Subtotal Recurring/Non-Recurring:				\$15,884,505	\$0

Total Consideration Items: 36/33.11 Positions and Total Funding of \$15,884,505

ATTACHMENT V
FY 2009 Consideration Items

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
1. Multiple Agencies	Expenditure <u>\$1,000,000</u>
Code Enforcement Strike Team – Enhanced Level of Service	Net Cost \$1,000,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 8, 2007, funding of \$1,000,000 is requested to support additional enhancements to the Code Enforcement Strike Team. This level of funding (Gradation 3 on the scale of one to five) would allow for the creation of a 3rd strike team and allow for enhanced data collection efforts through the establishment of 8/8.0 SYE additional positions supporting strike team-related work. Of these new positions, 5 positions would staff the 3rd team and 3 positions would expand the documentation, data tracking, research, and citizen feedback capacity of the enhanced code enforcement effort and would provide a foundation for future consolidation of staff resources into a centralized intake center. This funding would also allow for the inspection of additional residential units and begin limited apartment and motel inspections. In addition to the positions noted above, funding would be used for associated operating requirements, including vehicles and operating equipment.

In response to Board comments, another alternative is available for additional funding of \$0.5 million. This alternative, which could be referred to as Gradation 3.5, would require 6 additional staff. At this \$1.5 million funding level, resources would be available to provide a proactive response to property maintenance and other requirements of the increasing number of vacant properties in the County, particularly in the three current areas in the County with higher concentrations of foreclosures and vacant properties. Gradation 3.5 would also provide resources for relocation assistance and help identify short and long term sheltering options for persons displaced as a result of strike team action. In addition, Gradation 3.5 provides additional staff to the code enforcement staff to provide for an increased level of oversight of code violations which are not now able to be fully addressed by the strike team whose focus is primarily boarding houses, overcrowding, and life safety issues. The expanded code enforcement staff will address more property maintenance and other quality of life violations.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
2. Agency 38, Department of Housing and Community Development	Expenditure <u>\$100,000</u>
Ombudsman Position to Assist Residents Facing Homelessness	Net Cost \$100,000
As a Result of Foreclosures	

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 8, 2008, funding of \$100,000 is requested to support 1/1.0 SYE ombudsman position, as well as operating costs, to assist County residents with properties in foreclosure and prevent homelessness. Foreclosures are becoming a larger share of total homes sold in Fairfax County – there were 198 home foreclosures in calendar year 2005, compared to 4,527 in calendar year 2007. The ombudsman position will be located in the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and will work with eligible individuals to help prevent their homes from foreclosure; strengthen at-risk communities; coordinate training of community volunteer counselors to assist homeowners facing foreclosure; help homeowners work with lenders to seek alternatives to foreclosure; and identify opportunities to access state and federal funds to address foreclosures. Funding will also support operating costs, including marketing materials to ensure community awareness of available County support.

**3. Agency 90, Police Department
Provide for the Continuation of the P'CASO Program**

	RECURRING
Revenue	\$0
Expenditure	<u>\$799,681</u>
Net Cost	\$799,681

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 18, 2008, funding of \$799,681 and the conversion of 6/6.0 grant positions to regular status is requested to support the continuation of the P'CASO (Protecting Children Against Sex Offenders) program. Of the total funding, \$544,144 is for salaries and overtime, \$166,653 is for fringe benefits, and \$88,884 is for associated operating expenses. ChildSafeNet, a nonprofit organization, has supported the P'CASO program via grant dollars received from a FY 2004 Congressional earmark. Additional grant support is not anticipated and the program will cease to exist without General Fund support beyond June 2008.

It should be noted that initial programmatic estimates from June 2002 included a 5-year plan for a P'CASO program with 16 positions at a total cost of \$12,147,584, which ChildSafeNet had hoped to raise via federal funding and private donations. Additionally, during public hearings for the FY 2005 Advertised Budget Plan, ChildSafeNet representatives expressed optimism for the continued support of P'CASO through subsequent grants funded by private donations. However, the grant provided total funding of just over \$2.3 million for the period from October 2004 through June 2008 (45 months), supporting all direct Personnel, Operating, Capital and Fringe Benefit costs. The County did not directly supplement these funds but did provide management/fiscal staff time as needed. The additional grant dollars, federal earmarks, and/or private donations have not materialized, and other efforts to secure additional grant funds have not been successful.

Since the P'CASO unit's inception in late 2004, the unit has identified 203 out of compliance registered sex offenders within Fairfax County. Additionally, P'CASO has identified 453 cases with a 75.7 percent closure rate, with offenses including possession and transmission of child pornography, child molestation, and the use of chat rooms to solicit sex from minors. The number of known registered sex offenders in the County varies from 350-400 at any one time, with most classified as violent sex offenders. In 2005, it was found that 34.8 percent of known sex offenders were not in compliance with registration requirements. With the resources available from the ChildSafeNet grant, the department has been able to monitor, investigate, and apprehend out of compliance sex offenders, reducing the out of compliance rate to 22 percent. While the Virginia State Police are responsible for monitoring the sex offender registry, which involves checking on offenders and verifying information, as of April 1, 2008 only 4 State Police Officers are assigned to the entire Northern Virginia District. While the Virginia State Police are able to verify the status of 20-25 percent of registered sex offenders every six months, P'CASO personnel were able to conduct checks on all registered sex offenders within Fairfax County every six months. This will no longer occur unless additional funding is made available.

	RECURRING	
	Revenue	\$0
4. Fund 106, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board	Expenditure	<u>\$346,784</u>
Restore Funding for Contract with Inova Health Care Services	Net Cost	\$346,784

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$346,784 is requested to restore funding to Inova Health Care Services at Mt. Vernon Hospital for contracted non-emergency psychiatric services. The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) has proposed to eliminate this portion of the contract with Inova Health Care Services at Mt. Vernon Hospital in order to balance the CSB's FY 2009 budget.

Over the last three decades, the CSB contract with Inova Health Care Services at Mt. Vernon Hospital has evolved from assuring availability of inpatient beds to currently subsidizing the cost of non-emergency psychiatric services. However, other hospitals in the community (e.g., Dominion, Fairfax, Virginia Hospital Center, and Prince William) which provide similar services have not required an additional subsidy for non-emergency psychiatric services provided to CSB clients. All of these hospitals, including Inova Mt. Vernon, derive psychiatric inpatient hospitalization compensation from third party payers, Medicaid, Temporary Detention Orders, and Regional Local Inpatient Purchase of Service (LIPOS).

In addition, regarding emergency psychiatric services, the CSB will continue to contract with Inova Mt. Vernon for after hours or emergency psychiatric services, and all hospitals with emergency departments are subject to the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act. This Act requires that any patient who goes to an emergency department (i.e., Hospitals which have entered into "provider agreements" under which they will accept payment from the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) under the Medicare program for services provided to beneficiaries of that program. In practical terms, this means that it applies to virtually all hospitals in the U.S., with the exception of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children and many military hospitals. Its provisions apply to all patients, and not just to Medicare patients.) and requests examination or treatment for a medical condition must be provided with an appropriate medical screening examination to determine if he is suffering from an emergency medical condition. If he is, then the hospital is obligated to either provide treatment until he is stable, or transfer him to another hospital in conformance with the statute's directives.

		RECURRING
	Revenue	\$0
5. Agency 50, Department of Community and Recreation Services	Expenditure	<u>\$27,000</u>
Athletic Field Walk-On Use Enforcement Program	Net Cost	\$27,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$27,000 is requested to support the Department of Community and Recreation Services' (DCRS) field monitor portion of the Athletic Field Walk-On Use Enforcement Program. FY 2009 funding for Exempt Limited Term salaries was reduced by 10 percent below the FY 2008 funding level in order to offset the \$32 million shortfall noted in the County Executive's memo to the Board dated February 25, 2008. The budget for the field monitor portion of the Athletic Field Walk-On Use Enforcement Program is \$270,000, so a 10 percent reduction totals \$27,000, which is the amount proposed to be reinstated.

It should be noted that the \$27,000 reduction would eliminate the use of multiple monitors within the same geographic area as well as eliminate the ability to provide monitors during the winter scheduling season. The projected impact is a reduced ability to respond to calls for service in a timely manner and a reduced ability to monitor fields during the winter scheduling season, particularly important due to the development of several turf fields throughout the county. Additionally, since field monitors also play a crucial on-site role in outreach and education efforts, DCRS will have to focus more on enforcement and problem-site monitoring at the expense of random patrols in which these preventative efforts regularly occur.

		RECURRING
	General Fund Transfer	(\$200,000)
6. Fund 100, County Transit Systems	Expenditure	<u>\$200,000</u>
Agency 52, Fairfax County Public Library	Net Cost	\$0
Burke Centre Library Opening		

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$200,000 is requested to be reallocated from funds currently budgeted in Fund 100, County Transit Systems, for the EZ Bus shuttle to the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) to allow the Burke Centre Library to open as scheduled on June 28, 2008. The library site is adjacent to the Fairfax County Parkway and is expected to attract a broad customer base of Parkway commuters in addition to the library's geographically defined community. In his February 25, 2008 memo entitled "Proposed Reductions to Address FY 2009 Shortfall" the County Executive proposed that the Fairfax County Public Library delay the opening of the Burke library until October 2008 to achieve FY 2009 savings. If approved, this consideration item will result in a reallocation of \$200,000 currently budgeted in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan for the EZ Bus shuttle to satellite VRE lots to FCPL. There is no net cost to the County associated with this action.

Starting in December 2003, the EZ Bus shuttle was originally funded by a Governor's Congestion Relief Grant to relieve congested parking at the Burke VRE Station, and it operated as a neighborhood bus stop pick-up service. When the Congestion Relief Grant was not available to support this service and the County began construction on the Burke VRE parking garage in FY 2007, further limiting parking at the VRE Station, General Fund support of \$271,040 was included in the Fund 100 budget to fund 4,000 additional CONNECTOR revenue hours of service for the shuttle. The County initiated satellite parking at the lot of the future Burke Center Library and at the adjacent church of St. Mary of Sorrows. As a result of the imminent completion of the Burke VRE parking project, a full 1,500 parking spaces in garage and surface lots are expected to be available at the VRE Station by June 2008, and the additional CONNECTOR revenue hours for the Burke VRE shuttle are not needed.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
7. Agency 67, Department of Family Services	Expenditure \$162,225
Agency 67, Department of Family Services	Expenditure Savings <u>(\$162,225)</u>
2/2.0 SYE Merit Positions in Adult Protective Services	Net Cost \$0

As requested by Supervisor Herrity on April 2, 2008, funding of \$162,225 is requested to support 2/2.0 SYE merit Social Worker II positions in the Adult Protective Services (APS) program area in the Department of Family Services (DFS). DFS has indicated they are able to absorb costs associated with the salaries; however, merit positions are required for this work.

APS is mandated by Virginia Code. APS social workers investigate situations of abuse, neglect and exploitation involving adults age 60 and older and persons over age 18 who are incapacitated; and they provide ongoing protective services. Investigations increased nearly 30 percent from 632 in FY 2006 to 818 in FY 2007. It is anticipated that this increase will be sustained and may increase further in the coming years.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
8. Agency 92, Fire and Rescue Department	Expenditure <u>\$737,130</u>
Creation of Safety Officer Positions	Net Cost \$737,130

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on April 2, 2008, funding of \$737,130 is requested to support the creation of 4/4.0 SYE Captain I Safety Officer positions in the Fire and Rescue Department (FRD). The department currently has one Safety Officer per shift countywide. The Safety Officers' responsibilities include, but are not limited to: responding to incidents as a member of the Incident Command staff; advising the incident commander of unsafe conditions/acts; investigating all injuries and/or FRD vehicle accidents occurring during the shift; inspecting fire station work and living quarters for code safety/compliance; and testing and monitoring the atmosphere at emergency incidents. According to FRD, one safety officer per shift for the entire County is inadequate. Currently, the department states the average response time for the Safety Officer is approximately 20 minutes, including travel time and the time to don protective clothing, report to command, etc. Due to the County's geographic size and population density, Safety Officers are unable to respond to certain incidents due to the impracticality of traveling long distances (e.g. response from Herndon to Lorton); the department estimates that this occurs twice per day. FRD projects that a second Safety Officer per shift would cut response times down to approximately 10 minutes.

The Safety Officer is also the first point of contact for infectious disease, biological and chemical exposures. There is an average of 15 exposures per month. The average time to process an exposure is approximately two hours. During the process time, the safety officer is unavailable to respond to incidents for the first 30 minutes due to the necessity of obtaining source patient information in a timely manner. According to FRD, on major incidents it would be beneficial to have the Safety Officer enter the hazard area to assess safety concerns. With only one Safety Officer, that action is prohibited by OSHA 1910.134 which requires a team of two.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
9. Fund 318, Stormwater Management Program	Expenditure <u>\$7,583,839</u>
Eliminate staff and operating charges to Penny for Stormwater	Net Cost \$7,583,839

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$7,583,839 is requested for salary and operating costs associated with 109 positions supporting the Stormwater Management program. The FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan and the County Executive’s February 25th “Proposed Reductions to Address FY 2009 Shortfall” memo includes a proposal to charge staff and operating costs for the Stormwater Planning Division (SPD) and the Maintenance and Stormwater Management Division (MSMD) to Fund 318, Stormwater Management Program (The Penny for Stormwater Management Fund). The Stormwater Planning Division provides stormwater planning, monitoring and capital project design and floodplain management, as well as administers the federally mandated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. The Maintenance and Stormwater Management Division provides maintenance and rehabilitation services on existing stormwater infrastructure such as pipes, catch basins, drainage channels, stormwater facilities and dams. Together the two divisions fully support the County’s stormwater program. Funding of \$7,583,839 would increase resources for capital projects within Fund 318.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
10. Fund 319, Penny for Affordable Housing Fund	Expenditure <u>\$570,000</u>
Offset of Administrative Costs	Net Cost \$570,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$570,000 is requested to offset administrative costs associated with administering the Penny for Affordable Housing Fund.

Fund 319 was established in FY 2006 and is designed to serve as a readily available source of funding for the preservation of affordable housing in the County. On May 23, 2005, the Board of Supervisors adopted a policy to allow up to 2.5 percent of the annual funding in Fund 319 to be used for administrative costs (e.g., planning dollars, consultant services, staff expenses). Expenditures in the amount of \$570,000 currently associated with administrative support of Fund 319 (e.g., policy oversight, program management, budgeting, and project management) that were previously supported by the General Fund are proposed to be charged to Fund 319 in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. Funding of \$570,000 increases resources for housing projects within Fund 319.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
11. Agency 89, Employee Benefits	Expenditure <u>\$385,000</u>
Uniformed Retirement System - Social Security Offset Provision	Net Cost \$385,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on April 3, 2008, funding of \$385,000 is requested to support the reduction of the current social security offset multiplier from 40 percent to 20 percent for service-connected disability benefits in the Uniformed Retirement System. It should be noted that the Social Security offset for service-connected disability benefits in the Uniformed and Employees' Retirement Systems was reduced from 64 percent to 40 percent in FY 2008. The additional cost of reducing the offset in the Employees' System would be \$135,000. Since Police Officers do not earn eligibility for social security during their employment, there is no social security offset in the Police Officers Retirement System. The total cost of reducing the offset for both the Uniformed and Employees' systems would be \$520,000.

For those members of the Uniformed Retirement System who submitted applications for a service-connected disability retirement prior to December 9, 1996, their benefit is 66-2/3 percent of salary at retirement. If retired on or after December 9, 1996, there are two possible levels of benefit. The standard benefit is 40 percent of salary and a severe service-connected disability benefit is 90 percent of salary. All three levels are offset by social security benefits. There is a 40 percent offset of disability benefits provided by social security. This offset occurs regardless of age unless the social security benefit is based on a disability other than that for which the employee was retired. If the retiree is not eligible for social security disability benefits and is eligible to receive a social security benefit based on age, for those with a 66-2/3 or a 90 percent benefit, there is a 40 percent offset of the age-based social security benefit that occurs at age 62, their first date of eligibility for social security benefits. The 1996 changes in the disability benefits were put into effect because the system was experiencing a high number of service-connected disability retirements. Furthermore, the tax-free benefit of 66-2/3 percent of salary was often better than the benefit for a normal service retirement. This "moral hazard" in the plan design was corrected by reducing the salary replacement percentage and implementing a severe disability benefit.

The service-connected disability benefit in the Employees' Retirement System is 66-2/3 percent of salary. This benefit is reduced by 40 percent of social security disability benefits received at any age or, at age 62, by 40 percent of the age-based social security benefit.

If approved by the Board of Supervisors, the 40 percent offset for both disability and age-based social security benefits would be reduced to 20 percent.

The social security offset provisions were established in the early years of the retirement systems when County retirement benefits were considered supplemental to social security. The Uniformed and Employees' systems have provisions that decrease benefits at social security age not only for service-connected disability retirees, but also for those who retire based on years of service. The various tiers of benefits for service retirements reflect the plan design element aimed at providing a more level income over a lifetime for those retiring before social security eligibility.

Reducing the social security offset in the Uniformed system would primarily affect those service-connected disability retirees who retired before the 1996 change. Those who retired after the change on a non-severe disability benefit do not experience an offset of age-based social security benefits. Those who retired after the change on a severe service-connected disability do experience the offset, but as their initial benefit is 90 percent, their benefit levels are significant even with the offset.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
12. Fund 118, Community Consolidated Funding Pool	Expenditure <u>\$249,918</u>
Offset to Proposed Cut	Net Cost \$249,918

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$249,918 is requested to offset the cut proposed by the County Executive as part of the February 25, 2008 proposed reductions to address the projected FY 2009 budget shortfall since publication of the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. The funding represents an approximate 3 percent increase to the General Fund Transfer portion of the total funding for Fund 118, Community Consolidated Funding Pool for the first of a new two-year funding cycle, and is associated with performance and leverage requirements for nonprofit organizations.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
13. Agency 67, Department of Family Services	Expenditure <u>\$1,000,000</u>
Comprehensive Services Act	Net Cost \$1,000,000

As requested by the Human Services Council and Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$1.0 million is requested to restore the reserve set aside to address increasing costs associated with the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) to the level included in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. Cost increases in CSA are primarily attributed to the reinterpretation by the state of the foster care prevention population, an increase in the number of youth served in FY 2007, and an overall increase in the cost per youth associated with contract rate increases. Please note the projected shortfall assumes no increases in the number of children served in FY 2009.

Based on analysis completed as part of the *FY 2008 Third Quarter Review*, in FY 2009, the Department of Family Services (DFS) projected an increase in expenditures of \$8.0 million offset by \$4.3 in revenue with a net cost to the County of \$3.7 million. To address this anticipated shortfall, the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan includes a reserve of \$4.1 million. However, in an effort to address the County-wide shortfall of \$32.0 million, the County Executive has proposed reducing the reserve by \$1.0 million. This leaves the reserve balance at \$3.1 million in FY 2009.

Additionally, after the FY 2008 Third Quarter adjustment, the reserve established to address the FY 2008 shortfall has a remaining one-time balance of \$0.4 million. This balance will also be used to address the shortfall in FY 2009. Based on current expenditure estimates as of Third Quarter and current reserve balances, it is anticipated that DFS, if possible, will absorb just over \$0.2 million in FY 2009.

**14. Agency 67, Department of Family Services
Child Care Assistance and Referral Program**

	RECURRING
Revenue	\$0
Expenditure	<u>\$2,600,000</u>
Net Cost	\$2,600,000

As requested by the Human Services Council on March 28, 2008, funding of \$2.6 million is requested to support the Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) program.

As the Board may recall, in the spring of 2007 the Department of Family Services (DFS) was notified by the Virginia Department of Social Services that \$2,591,187 in federal pass-through funds in FY 2008 would no longer be available. As part of the *FY 2007 Carryover Review*, savings identified by DFS fully funded the \$2.6 million loss in FY 2008. At the time the Advertised budget was developed, no additional state resources had been identified to address the \$2.6 million shortfall; therefore, the \$2.6 million was fully funded as part of the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan utilizing all County dollars. However, since completion of the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan, additional state resources have now been identified to support at-risk child care subsidies for low-income families. As a result of the state actions, the current proposed FY 2009 funding level for CCAR does not include the \$2.6 million in County funding originally included in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan.

Recognizing the current budget environment, the Human Services Council presented two funding options for the CCAR program. They are:

- Option 1: Reduce the County’s contribution commensurate with the increase in state funding. Due to funding included in the 2008 Caboose bill and the 2008-2010 Biennium budget bill, along with additional state resources identified during the *FY 2008 Third Quarter Review*, it is anticipated that \$2.6 million will be available in FY 2009. Thus, no additional County resources are needed in FY 2009. As a result, the number of children served would be 5,143 the same level identified at FY 2008 carryover.

- Option 2: Retain the \$2.6 million in County funding included in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. Thus, to maintain County funding at the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan, an additional \$2.6 million is needed. This funding would be in addition to the anticipated state resources discussed in Option 1 above. As a result, the number of children served would be 5,556, an increase over the FY 2008 carryover level.

The table below summarizes the requested FY 2009 funding levels.

	FY 2008 Adopted Budget	Funding Included at FY 2008 Carryover	FY 2009 Proposed Funding Level	Additional Funding in FY 2009 with Option 1	Additional Funding in FY 2009 with Option 2
Funding	\$29.8 million	\$2.6 million	\$29.8 million	\$2.6 million ¹	\$5.2 million ²
Additional Children Served		413		413	826
Total Children Served	4,730	5,143	4,730	5,143	5,556

¹ These adjustments will need to be done at a quarterly review, not as part of the Adopted budget.

² Includes \$2.6 million in County funding plus the \$2.6 million in additional state resources identified in Option 1. County funding would be included as part of the Adopted budget; however, additional resources received from the state would be done at a quarterly review.

**15. Agency 67, Department of Family Services
School-Age Child Care**

	RECURRING
Revenue	\$825,458
Expenditure	<u>\$1,100,611</u>
Net Cost	\$275,153

As requested by the Board of Supervisors and Human Services Council on March 28, 2008, funding of \$1,100,611, offset by revenue from fees of \$825,458 for a net cost of \$275,153 is requested to support five School-Age Child Care (SACC) rooms and 15/12.11 positions. Funding includes the addition of a new SACC program (two rooms) at White Oaks Elementary School (one of six schools with no SACC program) and a second room at three existing SACC programs: Haycock, Mt. Vernon Woods, and Waynewood Elementary Schools. Each SACC room requires net County funding of approximately \$55,000 and three merit County positions. Five rooms can accommodate 150 non-special needs children and 25 special needs children for a total of 175 children.

**16. Fund 106, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board
Restore Funding to CrisisLink**

	RECURRING
Revenue	\$0
Expenditure	<u>\$135,000</u>
Net Cost	\$135,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$135,000 is requested to restore funding to CrisisLink to support a contract for 24/7 emergency and information and referral call-in services. The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) has proposed terminating the \$135,000 contract with CrisisLink that provides crisis prevention and phone-based early intervention services in order to balance the CSB's FY 2009 budget.

CrisisLink is a community-based nonprofit organization providing vital support in the entire Northern Virginia, Maryland and DC Areas to those facing life crises, including trauma and suicide as well as other crisis needs. The organization was founded in 1969 and is a 24/7 hotline dedicated to crisis prevention, intervention and response and information and referral services. In February 2008, CrisisLink was awarded a state contract to answer 211 calls in the Northern Virginia Area. CrisisLink is accessed by one local number (703-257-4077), two toll-free numbers (1-800-273-TALK and 1-800-SUICIDE) and the regional information and referral hotline (2-1-1), and handles an estimated 578 calls each month from Fairfax County residents.

CrisisLink is supported by private contributions and municipal funding from the City of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax Counties, as well as state funding with the recent award of the 211 state contract. CrisisLink has been funded by Fairfax County since 1970 and specifically by the CSB beginning in FY 2005 when it lost funding from the Community Consolidated Funding Pool. In FY 2005, CSB used fund balance as a result of the *FY 2004 Carryover Review* to fund the CrisisLink contract. In FY 2006, a commensurate increase was made in the General Fund Transfer to the CSB to fund the contract. According to the Human Services Council, Fairfax County funds 25 percent of CrisisLink's costs for operating crisis hotlines, while 74 percent of the calls to CrisisLink are from Fairfax County residents.

Restoration of the \$135,000 in funding that the CSB has proposed to eliminate in FY 2009 will ensure continuation of CrisisLink's vital crisis prevention and phone-based early intervention services.

	RECURRING
	Revenue \$0
17. Fund 106, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board	Expenditure <u>\$75,000</u>
Restore Funding to Alternative House	Net Cost \$75,000

As requested by the Board of Supervisors on March 28, 2008, funding of \$75,000 is requested to restore funding to Alternative House to fully support an FY 2009 contract for mental health residential respite care and transitional housing services (Alternative House – Shelter for Runaway Adolescents). The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) has proposed to eliminate \$75,000 of the \$149,120 contract with Alternative House in order to balance the CSB’s FY 2009 budget. Please note that Alternative House receives additional County funding through Fund 118, Community Consolidated Funding Pool for other services.

Alternative House has provided shelter to local homeless and abused children, youth in crisis, and young people with mental illness since 1972. More than 150 youth seek shelter in the program each year. The County has provided funding to Alternative House since FY 1997 through the CSB and below is a table providing information on the County’s CSB funding:

Fiscal Year	Funding Amount
1997	\$163,770
1998	\$163,770
1999	\$167,045
2000	\$170,386
2001	\$175,112
2002	\$180,365
2003	\$184,874
2004	\$138,135
2005	\$138,135
2006	\$141,589
2007	\$145,256
2008	\$149,120

The FY 2008 contract between the CSB and Alternative House funds services to 75 youth for a maximum of 14 bed days each at a total of 750 bed days per year. According to Alternative House staff, a \$75,000 reduction in funding would: 1) eliminate two staff positions at the shelter (i.e., a 50 percent reduction in the counseling staff); 2) reduce the number of young people served from eight youth at any one time to four youth due to staff reductions; and 3) result in 100 youth per year to go unserved (i.e., 60 youth from Fairfax County and not in the custody of the Department of Family Services based on previous years’ data).

Restoration of the \$75,000 in funding that the CSB has proposed to eliminate in FY 2009 will ensure full continuation of this community partner’s services to at-risk children, youth and their families through shelter, crisis intervention, counseling and outreach.

Following are the recommendations regarding the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan from the Human Services Council as indicated in the letter dated March 28, 2008. These recommendations have been included in the Consideration Items listed above, but the letter is included for additional information. In some cases (i.e. CCAR, CrisisLink), the Consideration Items may differ from the following recommendations as a result of additional clarification and information received from agencies.



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

DATE: March 28, 2008

Human Services Council

At-Large

Kevin H. Bell, *Chair*
Laura I. McDowall

TO: Chairman and Members
Board of Supervisors

Braddock District

Tom Grodek
Capt. John R. Niemiec

FROM: Kevin H. Bell, Chairman
Fairfax County Human Services Council

Dranesville District

Dr. Virginia P. Norton
J. Jay Volkert

SUBJECT: Recommendations Regarding the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

Hunter Mill District

Baba Freeman
Herk Latimer

The Human Services Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. The Council appreciates the County Executive's efforts to preserve the current funding levels for the county's vitally important human services programs.

Lee District

Robert L. Faherty
Richard Gonzalez

The Council wants to emphasize just how crucial county funding is for **basic human needs**, now more than ever. Conditions of economic distress markedly increase the need for Fairfax County Government's human service programs. However, our nonprofit community partners feel the impact even more strongly, because their resources are not as deep and diverse as the county's. Look, for example, at the current plight of the food banks and non-profit partners, which are at their lowest resource ebb in nearly four decades. Without county funds to fill the widening gap left by declining financial resources and deteriorating market conditions, our nonprofit partners cannot serve even basic needs.

Mason District

Michael Kwon
Stephanie Mensh

Our dialogue with Community-Based Organizations and Boards, Authorities, and Commissions revealed the precarious state of the human services community:

Mt. Vernon District

Col. Marion Barnwell
John R. Byers

- Economic stress has a dual impact on our community-based organizations' capacity to meet residents' needs because as service requests sharply increase donations decline.
- An important indicator of stress in our community is the increased volume of calls for basic needs. The Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) hotline, which tries to link these requests to community resources, has experienced a 34 percent increase in calls over the prior year. High volume days (400 or more calls), which totaled five in all of FY 2007, amounted to 49 in just the first four months of FY 2008. The cupboard, in many instances, is so bare that no organization can respond to aid our desperate residents.
- Requests for emergency food and housing payment assistance are at their highest levels in two years: Requests for food stamps are up 72 percent; emergency needs/food assistance requests are up 64 percent; and financial emergency/rent assistance requests are 44 percent higher.

Providence District

Donna Fleming, *Vice Chair*
Henry Wulf

Springfield District

Robert E. Gaudian
William Kogler

The Council, recognizing our constrained budget environment, divided our comments as follows:

Sully District

Richard P. Berger
Carol A. Hawn

- Our support for human services recommendations in the County Executive's budget;
- Areas of particular concern that need monitoring;
- Recommended additional human service investments the Board should consider making;
- Recurring strategic and policy issues central to maintaining our investments; and,
- Commitment to maintaining and finding ways to strengthen the county's network of human services providers.

Human Services Council
c/o Department of Systems Management for Human Services
and c/o Department of Administration for Human Services
12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 942
Fairfax, VA 22035

Supporting the County Executive's Funding Recommendations for Human Services

The Council appreciates the County Executive's support for human services and thinks that the FY 2009 budget presents a responsible approach to sustaining the quality of life in our Fairfax County community. We commend his continued backing for high-priority human services initiatives for families, youth, seniors, and the elderly. These include:

- **Penny for Affordable Housing (\$22.8 million)**: Continuing the financial commitment to preserve and create affordable housing opportunities by dedicating one penny of the real estate tax rate for affordable housing.
- **Realignment of Domestic Violence Programs (\$1.5 million)**: Streamlining and strategically focusing the county's domestic violence services.
- **Maintaining a Safe Community (\$0.1 million)**: Adding resources to continue gang prevention services targeted in the East County and South County areas.
- **Comprehensive Services Act Reserve (\$4.1 million)**: Including a reserve to mitigate higher costs resulting from changes in state foster care policy that increased the number of children served and the expense per child. The County Executive, however, has proposed a reduction of \$1.0 million as part of his "Proposed Reductions to Address FY 2009 Shortfall," which would result in the reduction and possible elimination of non-mandated services and may require a shifting of agency resources to fund mandated services. The Council notes that this reserve is in addition to baseline funding of \$37.2 million. Our understanding is that this proposed reduction has been reconsidered.
- **Supporting Our Nonprofit Partners (\$9.0 million)**: Providing funding of \$9.0 million for the Consolidated Community Funding Pool and funding contract rate increases for service providers.
- **Contractual Rate Increases (\$1.4 million)**: Including funding for limited contract rate increases in human services. Of this total, \$0.9 million is for a 2.71 percent rate adjustment for Community Services Board contracts and \$0.5 million is for Department of Family Services contracts.
- **Mental Health Initiatives (\$0.6 million)**: Supporting ongoing efforts to address timely access and manageable caseloads for adult outpatient services.
- **Investment in Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness (\$0.3 million)**: Continuing the county's investment in a community partnership of government, business, nonprofit organizations, and faith communities that will create the leadership necessary to achieve the goal of ending homelessness in ten years.

These significant investments in human services make a direct contribution to the quality of life in Fairfax County for all its residents.

Areas of Particular Concern to the Council That Need Monitoring

The County Executive's memorandum to the Board of Supervisors of February 25, 2008, proposed reductions to address the FY 2009 budget shortfall of \$32 million. We commend the County Executive's rapid and responsive action to address the unfolding impact on the county in such fluid financial circumstances. The Council's concerns, however, relate not only to the obvious impacts to human services programs, but also to the ripple effects. Of particular concern are proposals that affect the following areas:

- **Across-the-board reductions in funding for personnel services in general and limited-term positions** restrict the flexibility of agencies to manage their programs efficiently and effectively. It is under these very types of adverse fiscal conditions that agencies need more, not less, ability to maneuver their human resources so they can balance caseloads, waiting times, and level of services. The flexibility to deploy quickly positions throughout human services permits responsive and timely provision of direct services to the community. The Council thinks the across-the-board reductions of \$16.5 million in general personnel services and \$3.3 million for limited-term positions is the wrong approach, especially in human services, because its impact is disproportionate to community needs. Two excellent examples of the problems this produces in human services is how the proposal restricting limited-term staffing will seriously compromise Community Services Board activities such as psychiatric medication and evaluation services to over 4,300 consumers and around-the-clock coverage at Community Services Board residential facilities. Another is how it will hamper the ability of the Department of Community and Recreation Services to staff and operate Teen Center, Community Center, and Therapeutic Recreation programs—key prevention strategies for youth. The same story is repeated across the spectrum of human services programs.
- **The Penny for Affordable Housing Fund** has been used to preserve successfully more than 2,000 affordable housing units and thus sustain the accessibility of affordable housing, which is so vital to the health of our community and directly affects many human services' programs and needs. While the Council commends the County Executive for continuing to dedicate one penny of the real estate tax rate to housing affordability, it issues a note of caution related to the proposed charging of \$570,000 in administrative costs to "The Penny Fund." This is a reasonable approach in the difficult budget circumstances for FY 2009, since flexibility within the fund is limited based on current capital acquisition commitments. However, the County Executive should not use this "charge-back" approach in future years when economic conditions improve.
- **The Consolidated Community Funding Pool** leverages nonprofit organizations' resources to meet the needs of the community. The Council supports the County Executive's proposal for including \$9.0 million – an increase of \$0.3 million – for the first year of the two-year process. Do not reduce this amount because the impact will echo in the capacity of community organizations to provide basic human services such as food and shelter. The \$9.0 million proposal is the proper funding level because the pool's performance-based operation so highly leverages county funding with community funding. These organizations work as partners with the county and are integral to the service delivery system. Remember, our community partners feel the effects of the economic downturn more acutely than the county government. They are worried about their ability to continue serving the community. A measure of how important county funding is lies in the fact that the number of applications for pool funding rose to 178 from 145 in the last cycle and represent requests for \$22.0 million, more than double the amount recommended in the FY 2009 budget.
- **Human Services Caseloads and Workloads** grow inversely to a worsening economy. The county exceeds caseloads in Public Assistance, Coordinated Services Planning, and the Community Services Board (CSB). Public Assistance caseloads have grown by more than 70 percent since FY 2001, increasing from a monthly average of 29,208 cases in FY 2001 to 49,681 cases in FY 2007. Public Assistance caseloads are rising in response to changing economic circumstances as well as regulatory changes that have expanded eligibility for public benefits such as food stamps. The state is undertaking a broad workload study to help determine staffing needs in all social service areas. Results of this study are expected later this spring. The Council urges close monitoring of this situation to make sure that once it is completed the state provides appropriate resources to enable localities to meet staffing needs.

- **Protection and Safety of Our Community's Adults**

A primary mission of human services is to protect the well-being and safety of the community as a whole as well as its most vulnerable members. Prevention-oriented services encourage the development of family and community resources to increase the strength and stability of individuals, families, and communities. The Council received testimony that Adult Protective Services (APS) is understaffed. APS social workers investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of adults 60 years and older, as well as younger adults who are physically and mentally disabled. Investigations increased nearly 30 percent in FY 2007, from 632 to 818. APS workers conduct investigations and carry an average of 23 ongoing cases.

Recommended Additional Investments in Human Services

The Council strongly recommends that the Board try to determine a way to fund two very important services, child care assistance and referral (\$2.6 million) and school age child care (\$280,000). These two programs require additional county resources in order to avert serious service gaps in our community. The County Executive originally supported these investments, but ultimately concluded that the county lacked sufficient resources now to dedicate to these critical, high-priority programs. While we are mindful that the current budget environment is limited, both programs are such keystones of our self-sufficiency goal that they require additional investment.

- **Additional Support for the Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) Program**

The County Executive's original budget recommendation included additional funding of \$2.6 million to replace the most recent loss of federal pass-through funding. This money would support CCAR at the same level as FY 2008 – 5,138 children. (Please see attachment.)

It is the Council's understanding that the county now anticipates that additional funding of \$2.0 million may become available from the Commonwealth of Virginia in FY 2009 for child care programs. An alternative budget recommendation has been submitted to the Board of Supervisors to consider concurrently reducing the county's contribution for the child care assistance program by the same amount of funding. If approved, these two actions will serve only to maintain the current funding and service levels of the program. It will not address the waiting list of 3,312 children in Fairfax County—which is roughly one third of the waiting list for child care services in the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. The Council strongly recommends that the Board retain the \$2.0 million in county funding for the CCAR program instead of eliminating it.

Because this program is an integral component of our self-sufficiency goal, the Council thinks the Board should note the following:

- Even if the Board follows our recommendation and maintains the current FY 2008 service levels, CCAR will still cover 1,600 fewer children than in FY 2007;
- The current financial predicament reflects successive funding reductions from the state over several years.

The Council notes all this with great trepidation. Community groups highlighted this issue on two nights of testimony. We understand you need to balance important competing programs under the current fragile fiscal conditions. As you make these choices, we remind you that the CCAR program is a vital component of the county's prevention initiative, providing accessible, affordable, quality child care for county residents in very fragile circumstances. These families – some formerly part of the welfare system, others households striving to attain or sustain economic self-sufficiency – without such affordable child care, might be forced into the welfare system or become homeless, costing us far more in public services in the near future. We give these parents a Hobson's choice: remain on the job and leave their children alone, with older children, or unlicensed providers; or leave a job so they can care for their children. One other point for the Board to consider is that reducing the funding threatens serious damage to the backbone of this service, the carefully nurtured network of childcare providers. This will create a multi-year problem. The community spent years building this fragile provider capacity, and we will spend many more years trying to recover it without the additional funding. It should be noted again that as of early March 2008, 3,312 children are on a waiting list for CCAR services.

- **New School Age Child Care (SACC) Rooms**

Five additional SACC rooms were requested in FY 2009, but no additional funding was provided despite space being available. This request included two rooms at White Oaks Elementary School that would provide 70 slots for children and second rooms at Haycock, Waynewood, and Mount Vernon Woods Elementary Schools that would have provided a total of 105 slots for children. Each additional SACC room requires net county funding of \$56,000, and three additional positions. Thus, all five SACC rooms would require net county funding of \$280,000. Seventy-five percent of the cost of SACC is recovered from fees paid by parents. As of early March, 4,016 children are on a waiting list for SACC services.

The same general arguments presented concerning CCAR apply to some families in the SACC program. The residents who will bear the brunt of not having this service available are those on the edge of self-sufficiency between public welfare and work.

The Council heard testimony about two other services delivered through partnerships—CrisisLink (\$170,000) and Alternative House (\$75,000)—that we recommend the Board fund. They provide such life-saving and life-altering services that Fairfax County must find a way to provide them.

- **CrisisLink**

An investment of \$170,000 as requested by CrisisLink will ensure continuation of these vital crisis intervention services. CrisisLink has partnered with Fairfax County for 39 years, saving lives and preventing tragedies via its Crisis Hotline. Mental health and suicide are serious health and safety issues, and CrisisLink is on the front lines answering the calls. In 2006, there were 87 suicide deaths in Fairfax County—the highest number of suicides of any locality in the state. Suicides here outnumbered homicides 5 to 1. Fairfax County funds just 25 percent of CrisisLink's costs for operating crisis hotlines, yet 74.3 percent of the calls to CrisisLink are from Fairfax County residents.

- **Alternative House**

An investment of \$75,000 will ensure continuation of this community partner's services to at-risk children, youth, and their families through counseling, shelter, crisis intervention, and outreach. Alternative House has provided shelter to homeless and abused children, youth in crisis, and young people with mental health issues since 1972. More than 150 youth each year seek shelter in their program. In 2007, Alternative House provided services to 95 youth from Fairfax County who were not in the custody of Child Protective Services. An investment of \$75,000 will ensure continuation of this community partner's services to at-risk children, youth, and their families through counseling, shelter, crisis intervention, and outreach.

Recurring Human Services Strategic and Policy Issues **Prevention is a Wise Human Services Investment**

The testimony of the Community-Based Organizations and Boards, Authorities, and Commissions sounded important prevention themes regarding the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. The Council stresses the importance of sustaining long-term commitments to prevention efforts. Human services that embrace proven, effective prevention strategies are good public policy, cost-effective strategies, and the most successful way to reverse negative trends that the community faces. Prevention-oriented services encourage the development of family and community resources to increase the strength and stability of individuals, families, and communities. Fairfax County's prevention programs, in particular, leverage public resources to build upon the strengths of actively involved nonprofit, faith-based, and business communities. Prevention strategies and initiatives are especially effective tools to address comprehensively issues such as child care, housing, and gang prevention because they address the root causes of problems. A small investment now is a more effective application of resources than having to mitigate much more costly social problems in five, ten, fifteen, twenty years, or more. The CCAR and Teen Center programs, among others we have cited above, are good examples of investing in families and children now and reaping the benefits later. An ounce of prevention really is better – and more cost effective – than a pound of cure.

The Human Services Council cites the Healthy Families Fairfax program as a prime example of a successful prevention strategy. This program has met or exceeded all of its program goals since its inception. For example, as of FY 2007: 96 percent of children were current with immunizations; 95 percent of babies were born at desirable birth weight; 97 percent of children enrolled had a medical provider within two months of birth and continued with a primary care provider.

Commitment to Maintaining and Finding Ways to Strengthen the County's **Network of Human Services Providers**

The Human Services Council acknowledges the many strengths of the county's human services system, as well as the strengths of Fairfax County's larger network of service providers. County agencies and community organizations continue to work together in new ways to meet the needs of residents in our community. Interagency work and community involvement are becoming the norm for many programs, not just within human services agencies but also with other county agencies such as police and schools, as well as nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the faith community. The Council encourages the county to continue enriching this active collaboration which is more important now than ever before in helping meet the increasing needs of our diverse and growing community.

The Human Services Council heard from several community-based organizations that expressed concern about continued funding support from Fairfax County. We share their concern and urge the Board of Supervisors' approval of funding for these groups in order that they continue serving the vital basic needs of the community.

Many of these community organizations save the county money, and reach niches in the service delivery system that are sometimes unreached by the broader safety net. These are important partners that the county leverages. The services that they provide fill significant supply/demand service gaps. Their partnership with the county enables residents to get support that leads to independence, self-sufficiency, and a healthier future. The financial health of our nonprofit partners is key to a vibrant community-support network. The Human Services Council shares these concerns:

- The Council urges caution so that budgetary decisions do not compromise the investment, momentum, and energy that the county and our partners have built in addressing human services needs in the community. Important endeavors such as preventing and ending homelessness, and preserving and developing affordable housing will suffer if this forward momentum is slowed or stopped altogether.
- No organization is immune from the serious funding constraints that are expected over the next two to three years. The worsening economy affects government, the business community, the faith community, and nonprofits. We must continue to look out for our partners and ensure that their service networks are solid. Peoples' basic needs and lives are at stake.

Fairfax County funds devoted to human services programs are prudent investments. Every dollar spent on proven, effective, and well-managed human services programs has a positive impact. They sustain a quality of life that our Fairfax County families, individuals, and communities want and deserve. The county's investment in prevention-oriented initiatives and strategies also results in a high return on investment, avoiding greater cost increases in the future, helping stabilize the workforce, facilitating the business community's hiring of qualified people, and preventing increased recidivism, more serious and expensive health problems, juvenile delinquency, and homelessness.

A report entitled *Trends in Community Needs, Illustrated by Demand for Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) Services* was recently presented to the Council. The Department of Systems Management for Human Services completed this report in February 2008. Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) connects callers to assistance with basic needs and links them to public and community resources. CSP works collaboratively with community-based organizations, many of whom receive funding through the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. A document containing highlights of the report is attached for the Board of Supervisors' information.

The Human Services Council hopes that the issues outlined above in this letter will aid the Board of Supervisors in its deliberations on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan. The Council is ready to answer questions the Board may have and looks forward to meeting with you at the Board's Budget Committee meeting on March 28, 2008. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Attachments (2)

rcm

Human Services Council Recommendations
Regarding the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan
Page 8

cc: Human Services Council
Anthony H. Griffin, County Executive
Verdia L. Haywood, Deputy County Executive
Edward L. Long, Jr., Chief Financial Officer
Human Services Leadership Team
Susan W. Datta, Director, Department of Management and Budget

ATTACHMENT 1

Child Care Assistance and Referral Program Information Sheet

The table below summarizes changes to the CCAR program since the FY 2007 Adopted Budget Plan:

	FY 2007 Adopted Budget	FY 2007 Revised Budget*	FY 2008 Adopted Budget**	FY 2008 Revised Budget	FY2009 Advertised Budget***	FY2009 Advertised Adjusted****
# of Children	6,750	5,138	4,725	5,138	5,138	4,725
Expenditures	\$42.7 million	\$32.4 million*	\$29.8 million**	\$32.4 million	\$32.4 million***	\$29.8 million****

* This reflects reduction of \$10.4 million in state funding.

** This reflects reduction of \$2.6 million in state funding.

*** As proposed in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

**** Without the \$2.6 million recommended in the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan

- If the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan for subsidized child care is reduced by \$2.6 million, this will result in serving 413 fewer children.

During adoption of the FY 2008 budget, the Board directed county staff to identify sustainable funding to address the \$2.6 million reduction from the state in FY 2008. The \$2.6 million increase is reflected in the FY 2008 Revised Budget plan. .

- There are currently 3,312 (as of March 7, 2008) children on the County waiting list for subsidized child care.
- Research indicates parents' employment and economic independence are jeopardized without affordable child care:
 - Parents may be forced to leave work to care for their children, and
 - Parents may go on or **return** to welfare programs
 - Parents may place their children in unsafe, unregulated child care settings
- Families affected by the lack of affordable child care include those with children at risk for *school failure*. Child care subsidies help low-income working families to afford quality early childhood education that helps young children to arrive at kindergarten well prepared to succeed.
- Families in need of affordable child care include:
 - Families formerly on welfare
 - Large numbers of single-parent families
 - Families with parents who work in hospitals, elementary schools, offices, nursing homes, hotels, restaurants, child care centers, dry cleaners, grocery stores, small businesses.