

## Response to Questions on the FY 2016 Budget

**Request By:** Supervisor Hudgins

**Question:** How does the Healthy Families Fairfax budget reduction align with the Board of Supervisors and FCPS priority to prepare children for a great start in education and life? Please outline any subsequent program that will serve this population and its funding expectations.

**Response:** The Healthy Families Fairfax (HFF) program is a collaborative partnership between the Department of Family Services, the Health Department and three nonprofit organizations. HFF is an accredited, home-visiting program offering families at-risk of maltreating their child an opportunity to learn parenting skills and receive emotional support and case management services. Services are voluntary and begin during pregnancy or right after the birth of a baby and last until the child reaches age three and is enrolled in an early group education experience.

Healthy Families Fairfax helps prepare children for a great start in education and life by addressing child and family well-being indicators that have been shown to affect health and development in childhood and into adulthood. These indicators are listed below (please see Attachment 1 for detailed information about the HFF indicators and outcomes):

- Prenatal care
- Birth weight
- Connection to and continuation with care providers
- Immunization completion
- Subsequent births
- Developmental screenings, referrals, and follow-ups
- Parent-child interaction
- Home environment
- Child abuse/neglect

HFF completes frequent screenings for developmental and social/emotional delays, as research shows that the relationship between cognitive and emotional development is critical to school readiness. If children do not receive this prevention/early intervention support, particularly children of at-risk families, they may perform poorly in school resulting in greater risk for behavioral problems, mental health concerns, suicide, substance abuse, pregnancy at an early age, truancy or dropping out of school, involvement with the juvenile justice system, or entry into foster care.

Additionally, studies indicate a strong relationship between adverse emotional experiences in childhood and the physical and mental health of adults. By preventing trauma in these early years and helping families establish a solid foundation with their children through parenting education and supportive resources, there is a better chance of fostering a child's success in school and in life.

For information about other available County and community early childhood home visiting programs, please refer to the Healthy Families Fairfax Q&A response included in the Responses to BOS Questions – Package 2.

Comparison of the FY14 Healthy Families Virginia Standards  
and the FY14 Healthy Families Fairfax Outcomes

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FY14 Healthy Families Virginia Standards</b> <i>(Note: the Healthy Families Virginia Standards either meet or exceed the Healthy Families America Standards)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FY14 Healthy Families Fairfax (HFF) Outcomes</b></p>
1.	<p><b>Prenatal Care Compliance:</b> 75% of HFF prenatal enrollees will receive 80% of their prenatal care visits as recommended by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.</p>	<p>(88%) Eighty-eight percent of HFF prenatal enrollees made 80% or more of the recommended prenatal care visits.</p>
2.	<p><b>Birth Weight:</b> 85% of prenatal enrollees deliver babies weighing at least 2500 grams or 5 pounds and 5 ounces.</p>	<p>(97%) Ninety-seven percent of HFF enrollees delivered babies weighing at least 2500 grams.</p>
3.	<p><b>Connection to Care Provider:</b> 85% of children have a primary health care provider within 2 months after enrollment or birth of target child.</p>	<p>(90%) Ninety percent of participants in the program have a medical provider within two months of the birth of the target child and continue with a primary care provider.</p>
4.	<p><b>Continuation with Care Provider:</b> 85% of HFF children will continue with a primary care provider.</p>	<p>(100%) One hundred percent of target children in the program will continue with a primary care provider.</p>
5.	<p><b>Immunization Completion:</b> 80% of children will be up-to-date with immunizations as recommended by ACIP, AAP, State Health Dept., or provider.</p>	<p>(82%) Eighty-two percent of target children in the program with immunizations due are 100% up-to-date.</p>
6.	<p><b>Subsequent Births:</b> 85% of mothers have an interval of at least 24 months between target child's birth and subsequent births.</p>	<p>(99) Ninety-nine percent of mothers had an interval of 24 months between target child's birth and subsequent births.</p>

	<p align="center"><b>FY14 Healthy Families Virginia Standards</b>  <i>(Note: the Healthy Families Virginia Standards met or exceed the Healthy Families America Standards)</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>FY14 Healthy Families Fairfax (HFF) Outcomes</b></p>
7.	<p><b>Developmental Screening:</b> 90% of children will be screened for developmental delays.</p>	<p>(99%) Ninety-nine percent of children eligible for a screening were screened.</p>
8.	<p><b>Developmental Screening – Referral:</b> 90% of children with suspected developmental delay will be referred (with parental consent) to appropriate early intervention services for assessment to determine need and therapeutic services.</p>	<p>(100%) One hundred percent of children with suspected delays will be referred.</p>
9.	<p><b>Developmental Screening – Follow-up:</b> 90% of the children with suspected delays who are referred and received appropriate developmental services will be monitored for receipt of services.</p>	<p>(100%) One hundred percent of children who were referred for assessment and services are monitored for follow through by case workers and nurses.</p>
10.	<p><b>Parent-Child Interaction:</b> 85% of participant dyads will demonstrate an acceptable level of positive parent- child interaction or show improvement after 1 year of participation.</p>	<p>(94%) Ninety-four percent of participants screened showed an acceptable level of positive parenting.</p>
11.	<p><b>Home Environment:</b> 85% of families have optimal home environments to support child development or show improvements in home environments after 1 year of participation.</p>	<p>(91%) Ninety-one percent of eligible families tested within normal limits on the home environment assessment.</p>
12.	<p><b>Child Protective Services Founded Cases:</b> 95% of families who receive at least 12 months of services will not have founded reports of child abuse or neglect on the children enrolled.</p>	<p>(100%) One hundred percent of our families did not abuse nor neglect their children.</p>