

Thriving Schools

Begin at Home



Studies show
Home Stability
promotes **better attendance,**
less student turnover, and
stronger academic performance!



FAIRFAX COUNTY HOUSING SYMPOSIUM

Cornerstones 50

stability • empowerment • hope



Cornerstones

Since 1970, Cornerstones has worked purposefully with a diverse network of partners who are deeply committed to **building and strengthening our neighbors, communities and region.**

Focus: Increase housing stability, education, and social capital which research shows will provide real opportunities to improve income, build assets, gain health and well-being.

Our caring and generous community enables us to provide a comprehensive, holistic approach to help people navigate life-changing opportunities that help rebuild their self-sufficiency, resiliency, and hope for a better future.

75

Annual
Partners

100

Faith Based
Groups

1800

Individual
Donors

6K+

Volunteers
& Advocates



**16,000 families and individuals,
with upwards of 5,000 children**

Strong, Sustainable Enriching and Equitable Communities



SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

- **Affordable and Accessible Housing**
 - Care Management and Specialized Services



ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY

- Financial Assistance
- Building Assets through Education and Employment Supports
 - **Affordable Child Care and Early Education Opportunities**



HEALTHY PEOPLE

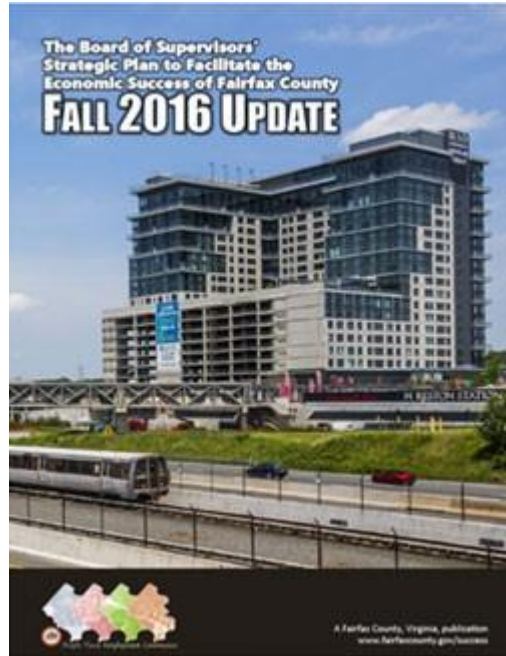
- Affordable Health Insurance
- **Behavioral Health Services for Adults, Children and Youth**
- Domestic Violence Services



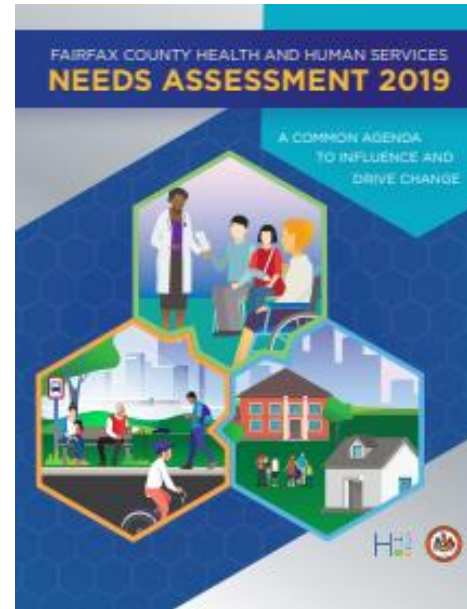
CONNECTED INDIVIDUALS

- Affordable and Accessible Public Transportation Services
- Access to Human Services Information
- **Building Community Voice and Leaders**

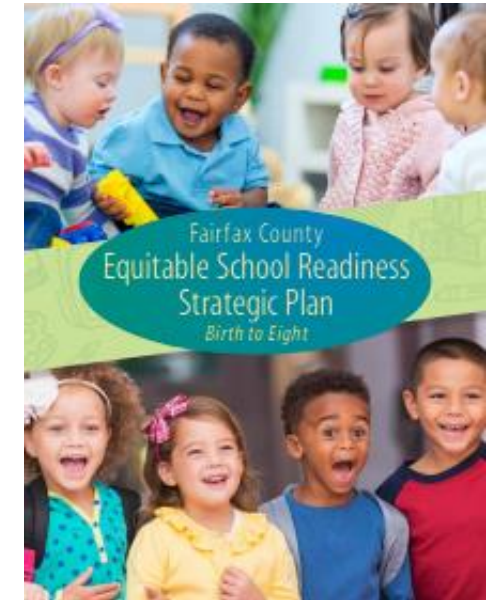
Strong, Sustainable Enriching and Equitable Communities



Strategic Plan to Facilitate Economic Success



Human Services Needs Assessment



Equitable School Readiness Strategic Plan

Countywide Housing Strategic Plan



Strong, Sustainable Enriching and Equitable Communities



Fairfax County Board Chair – Jeff McKay Launches Chairman's Task Force on Equity and Opportunity to consider:

- The circumstances and systems that have made certain places and populations vulnerable.
- How institutional and structural racism have contributed to these situations and conditions.
- The voices that must be lifted to better understand and address these issues.
- The actions that can be taken to reshape Fairfax County into a place where all can thrive; including, what might accelerate or facilitate progress and what stands in the way of progress.

One Fairfax Resolution



<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/chairmans-task-force-equity-and-opportunity>



Strong, Sustainable Enriching and **Equitable** Communities



Affordable housing serves as a platform for **individual and family well-being**

Economic self-sufficiency and upward mobility

Student achievement and academic success

Physical and mental health and well-being

Affordable housing is the basis for **inclusive and diverse communities**

Equitable access to opportunities and services, regardless of race and socioeconomic status

Communities in which everyone can prosper

Affordable housing supports sustainable **local economic growth**

Housing opportunities to encourage families and individuals to both live and work in the community

Short commutes, easier to attract and retain workers



Racial and Ethnic Barriers to Educational Opportunity

- **Quality early childhood experiences and learning opportunities** are critical to lifelong success and wellness.
- **Opportunity for academic success is enhanced by student and family engagement and connectedness to school.**
- **Participation in academic enrichment programming prepares students for careers** (e.g., advanced academics, career and technical education, internships)

COVID-19 Recovery Survey (February 2021)

In their own words (Survey of Residents – 20170, 20171, 20190, 20191)

**Survey Conducted and Results Compared for English/Spanish/Arabic Speaking/Identified*

- What are biggest concerns over the next 6 months?
- What are the 3 most important supports you will need over next 3 months?
- Are you employed? If not, is it due to COVID-19?
- How concerned are you about the effects of CV19 on the education of your children?
- In the past few weeks have you / your children felt stress, anxiety, fear?
- How stable do you feel in your housing?
- If you have lost or fear losing housing, what are the reasons?
- What other issues related to CV19 have you experienced?

COVID-19 Recovery Survey Results (February 2021)

In their own words (Survey of Residents – 20170, 20171, 20190, 20191)

**Survey Conducted and Results Compared for English/Spanish/Arabic Speaking/Identified*

Survey Question: What Concerns to you have for the next 6 months?	Race/Ethnicity (Self-Identified) or Survey Chosen (by Language Spoken)		
	English	Spanish	Arabic
I or a loved one will contract COVID-19 / Concerns about the Vaccine	45%	61%	33%
Household member losing a job or not able to find work.	48%	83%	44%
My children's education and well-being	48%	83%	78%
Financial impacts to my household	77%	100%	66%



COVID-19 Recovery Survey Results (February 2021)

In their own words (Survey of Residents – 20170, 20171, 20190, 20191)

**Survey Conducted and Results Compared for English/Spanish/Arabic Speaking/Identified*

Survey Question: What are the 3 Most Important Supports over next 3 months for you or household members?	Race/Ethnicity (Self-Identified) or Survey Chosen (by Language Spoken)		
	English	Spanish	Arabic
Food and Help with Emergency Financial Assistance	77%	95%	89%
Help with finding a Job	50%	44%	44%
Childcare and/or children returning to School	48%	50%	44%
Emotional Supports	43%	61%	55%



COVID-19 Recovery Survey Results (February 2021)

In their own words (Survey of Residents – 20170, 20171, 20190, 20191)

**Survey Conducted and Results Compared for English/Spanish/Arabic Speaking/Identified*

Survey Question: How Secure Are You in Your Housing? What Issues are Impacting Housing Instability?	Race/Ethnicity (Self-Identified) or Survey Chosen (by Language Spoken)		
	English	Spanish	Arabic
Concerned about losing housing / Need Financial Assistance to Maintain / Lost due to COVID-19	60%	83%	30%
Being Evicted when Moratorium Restrictions are Lifted	19%	44%	11%
Not Able to Get CARES or other Financial Assistance	0%	17%	22%
Using Rent Money to Pay for Other Household Expenses	29%	33%	0%

Arabic Speaking Respondents in this Survey Live in an FCRHA Housing Program; Hispanic Respondents Live in Subsidized and Private Housing



COVID-19 Recovery Survey Results (February 2021)

In their own words (Survey of Residents – 20170, 20171, 20190, 20191)

**Survey Conducted and Results Compared for English/Spanish/Arabic Speaking/Identified*

Other Answers of Note	Race/Ethnicity (Self-Identified) or Survey Chosen (by Language Spoken)		
	English	Spanish	Arabic
How concerned are you about the effects of COVID-19 on your children’s education?	48%	77%	50%
Stress/Fear by HoH – Most of the Time/Often	39%	72%	79%
Stress/Fear by HoH – Occasionally	32%	5%	20%
Stress/Fear of Children – Most of the Time/Often	13%	50%	44%
Stress/Fear of Children – Occasionally	45%	22%	33%
Access to Available Information and Services	52%	35%	30%
Fear that Race/Ethnicity or Immigration Status will affect Access to Household Stability	24%	38%	30%

Building Opportunity through Education Equity

Youth and Young Adults

- It's hard to get a foothold in the labor market when it is crumbling beneath your feet.
- Young people just starting out in the working world are among hardest-hit in a recession (including Pandemic)
- Young people are at the end of a much longer line of job seekers, greatly reducing their chances of finding employment.
- Highest number of youth and young adults now unemployed and not in school.
- 1 in 4 worked in Leisure and Hospitality- the industry that experienced the highest number of job losses in the early months of the pandemic.

Building Opportunity through Education Equity

- **Excellent Public Education:** Provide high-quality education for low-income children from preschool through career and prevent school pushout.
- **School-Community Partnerships:** Provide comprehensive supports and integrated services to help public school students and their families succeed.
- **Career Pathways:** Implement workforce strategies that connect un- and underemployed workers to good jobs and careers in growing industries.
- **Successful Tools:** Cradle to Career Planning, Pre-School and School Readiness, Summer Youth Programs and Apprenticeships/Internships

Building Opportunity through Education Equity

- Ensure all families with children under age 5 have **access to affordable, quality early childhood programs** available through the public and private sectors.
- Ensure all early childhood education (ECE) providers have access to **professional development and skill building opportunities**, in order to ensure the highest quality ECE services for every child, regardless of setting or program type.
- **Expand Career and Technical Education offerings** through FCPS and community-based providers to be more accessible and to align with projected areas of job demand.

Building Opportunity through Education Equity

- Engage educators, business, government, and nonprofits, and involving youth and young adults, to align their resources and initiatives to create an **education-to-career system** for youth ages 16-24 who are not in school or working (opportunity youth) to in-demand careers.
- Ensure **residents are aware of academic and career enrichment opportunities**, early enough and in ways that encourage Blacks and Hispanics to take advantage of them.



Building Opportunity through Education Equity



Opportunity Neighborhoods helps our community identify the priorities and work together toward that change.

RestON and ON: Herndon are neighborhoods brought together by the commitment of community partners to work together in a focused and strategic way to improve outcomes for children, youth and families.

Working collaboratively to **create limitless possibility for children and youth**, ensure their well-being by reducing barriers and provide a seamless continuum of trauma-informed supports, using data to understand community conditions, measure success and be accountable for results.

Opportunity Neighborhoods

RestON and **ON: Herndon** neighbors and partners have come together with neighbors, parents and schools to work in a focused and strategic way to improve outcomes for children, youth and families.

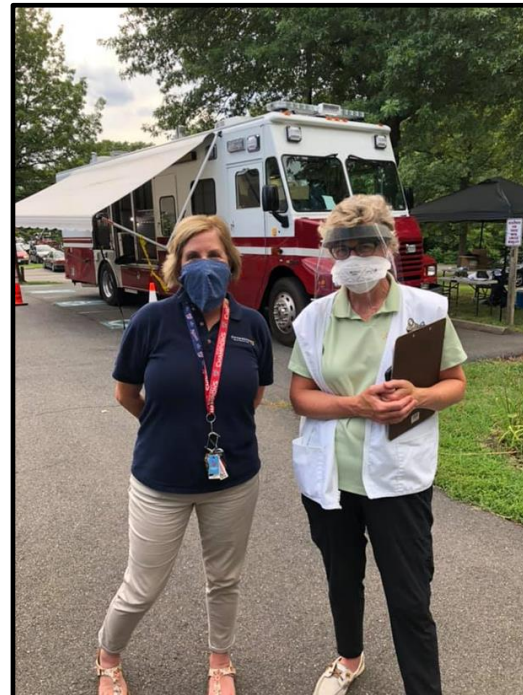
Whether it is in areas of health, or being ready and prepared for school, feeling safe in our home and community, or having a plan for graduation and beyond—**Opportunity Neighborhood helps our community identify the priorities and work together toward that change.**



Opportunity Neighborhood volunteers are needed for following:

- Academic Support
- Employment Clinic Mentors
- ESL Instruction
- Literacy Support
- Financial Mentoring
- Organizing online enriching activities (STEAM Days, virtual field trips, holiday parties, musical events)

Building Opportunity through Education Equity



Kerrie Wilson, Chief Executive Officer
kerrie.Wilson@cornerstonesva.org / 571.323.9571

Sarah Newman, Division Director, Community Change Partnerships
Sarah.Newman@cornerstonesva.org / 703.429.5010

Toni Francis-Bowie, Strategy Director, Opportunity Neighborhoods
Toni.Francis-Bowie@cornerstonesva.org / 571.323.1388

Karen Pope, Director, Community Youth Services (Kids and Parents Engage)
Karen.Pope@cornerstonesva.org / 703.509.3626

**Courtney Park Jamborsky, Division Director, Early Childhood Education and
Director, Laurel Learning Center**
Courtney.Park@cornerstonesva.org / 571.323.1398