

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2008
Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chairman	<i>Present</i>	Carol Ann Hawn	<i>Excused</i>
Colonel Marion Barnwell	<i>Excused</i>	Bill Kogler	<i>Present</i>
Richard P. Berger	<i>Excused</i>	Michael Kwon	<i>Excused</i>
John Byers	<i>Excused</i>	Herk Latimer	<i>Present</i>
Robert L. Faherty	<i>Present</i>	Laura I. McDowall	<i>Present</i>
Donna J. Fleming	<i>Excused</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
Baba Freeman	<i>Present</i>	John Niemiec	<i>Excused</i>
Robert Gaudian	<i>Excused</i>	Dr. Virginia P. Norton	<i>Excused</i>
Richard Gonzalez	<i>Excused</i>	J. Jay Volkert	<i>Present</i>
Tom Grodek	<i>Present</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Present</i>

Staff:	
Verdia L. Haywood, Deputy County Executive	<i>Present</i>
Ken Disselkoen, Department of Systems Management for Human Services	<i>Present</i>
Chip Gertzog, Department of Systems Management for Human Services	<i>Present</i>
Ken Garnes, Department of Administration for Human Services	<i>Present</i>
Ron McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services	<i>Present</i>
Deborah H. Gutierrez, Department of Systems Management for Human Services	<i>Present</i>

Guests: Bob Eiffert (Fairfax County Health Dept), Dennis Brown (MRS, Fairfax-Falls Church CSB), Matthew Barkley (DFS), Ann Long (FCPS), Doug James (VA Dept of Rehabilitative Services), Ginny Brennan (FCPS), Chris Johnston (FCPS), Woody Witt (FA-DSB & Parent), Rosalyn Foroobar (Fairfax County Health Dept), and Patricia Trahan (Fairfax County Health Dept), Marlene Blum (HCAB), and Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu (Fairfax County Health Dept)

Other Attendees: Ginny McKernon (DAHS – CSB), Alan Wooten (Fairfax-Falls Church CSB), and Barbara Antley (DFS).

Call to order

7:35 - 7:45 PM

Kevin Bell called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Mr. Bell briefly reviewed the agenda and informed the Council that the FY 2009 budget was outlined in more detail in the handout entitled “FY 2009 Budget Markup Process,” which was reviewed at the end of the meeting. The FY09 Budget will be adopted next Monday. The HSC Presentation on the budget recommendations to the Board of Supervisors went well.

Kevin Bell announced that he will represent the HSC on a panel discussing the right of and the responsibility for universal healthcare in light of unfunded federal mandates. The audience will be physicians, nurses & other healthcare professionals from Fairfax Hospital on the evening of May 7th. All are invited to attend.

7:45-7:55

Verdia Haywood, Deputy County Executive referenced the fiscal plan adjustments to the FY 2009 Budget. He mentioned that in the Board of Supervisors’ review and approval of the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan, the funding for CCFAC was adopted. Mr. Haywood noted the Human

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2008
Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

Services Committee to the Board of Supervisors will be meeting at 10:00 AM on May 12th. Committee discussion will center on:

- The critical status of non- profits in our community and how the community, as a whole, can be more supportive.
- Autism and CSB's role with regards to the system challenges and limitations faced in service provision to adults with Autism.

While financial management of non-profit organizations is important, it is not the only thing that is important. The poverty rate is almost 2% higher than a few years ago. We need to look at how we (county and community) support the non-profits and look at the level of investments and involvement in non-profit organizations. The Human Services Committee to the Board of Supervisors will be presenting first to the Supervisors and then the presentation will be shared with the Human Services Council.

Kevin Bell added that the Board is looking at consolidating funding for non-profits, perhaps creating a 501C3 vehicle as a funding umbrella. The Human Services Council will be willing to make this issue a top priority to assist the Board of Supervisors with this matter.

Mr. Haywood added that a systemic approach must be applied when tackling this issue.

Presentation – Trends in Autism Spectrum Disorder
7:55-8:50 PM

A handout of the presentation, entitled “Trends in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)” was shared with all in attendance. In response to a 2007 request from the Board of Supervisors, a joint school and county committee was formed to assist the county as it plans for future services to the growing population of children with autism as they become adults and transition from school programs. The presentation included a representation of national, state, and county data as it relates to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).

Stephanie Mensh: Where are the ASD students receiving school services, in mainstream classes or special education classes? Response: The schools offer a full spectrum of services and provide them in both a general education setting & special education classes. Those students with severe autistic developmental disabilities receive services in various ways:

- at public day placement sites;
- within special centers located at public schools; or
- with contracted outside providers in their homes.

Stephanie Mensh: How does the structure of paperwork requirements fit with children's needs and what are parents thinking of the service level of FCPS? Some schools with trained staff are excellent; some schools do not do so well because special education staffs haven't seen autism. It appears to not be standardized throughout system. Response: The school staff works closely with parents to provide the best services possible and provide appropriate options for service delivery.

Henry Wulf: What resources are needed (\$ and programs)? Response: Day support programs are needed for:

- socialization,
- life skills training, and
- vocational training.

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2008
Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

It is currently estimated at \$80K / year for about 8,000 people. Presently there are no services provided to the client after he/she turns 22 years of age, if they are not employable.

Kevin Bell: In 1990, we had a similar service gap with special education graduates. Is this not a parallel? The programs for special education graduates were under funded then and there seem to be lots of similarities. Response: After 12 years of support in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), there is no financial support currently and we are looking for support to assist the adult autistic population in becoming as self-sufficient as possible.

Tom Grodek: So there are life long implications? In my research, there seems to be some parents who feel it is not important because they are looking for a cure. Response: There is a 3 million dollar lifelong cost estimate because there is no cure. We need to work on assisting adults with ASDs to gain the needed Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities for employment. We need to assist them in how to best present themselves to employers when seeking employment and how to maintain jobs with regards to what behaviors are appropriate and inappropriate in the workplace. We need to provide adequate training and development. Early intervention, while it is important and has shown remarkable results, is a not a cure, but rather helps one overcome the disability. Early intervention provides more recovery from the disability and more sense of “normalcy” through the support provided.

Laura McDowall: I am glad to see the collaboration between the county, state, FCPS, and parents. Why are the numbers showing such an increase in numbers over the past 10 years? Is it better diagnosis? What is causing the spike? Response: Better diagnosis is one reason; more medical professionals and early childhood educational specialists are identifying the developmental disabilities earlier. Additionally, the spectrum has been broadened over the years and coupled with earlier diagnosis; the result is an increase in numbers. Early intervention should continue to be stressed. There is a raw number increase internationally.

Laura McDowall: Is the prevalence continuing to increase? Response: Incidents are increasing internationally. The numbers are higher here in the county than in other neighboring localities, with the exception of Loudon County Public Schools, who has more students diagnosed with ASD.

Baba Freeman: I fully support the efforts for more services for adults; there will be a much higher return on investment that was made when the child received services within FCPS system. It is clear that parents are pulling the load for ASD children, but once they become adults, the parents “age out” too.

Stephanie Mensh: On slide 14, what kinds of services are provided for the noted average cost? Response: There are more examples of successes now in employment placing because there is more job counseling and more training services provided to get clients stable. Up to \$5,000 is spent per person to assist them in obtaining employment and once they have a job, case management ends. Long term support services provide only 2-5 hours of on-going support and that is usually not enough. We have found more success with job coaching. Adults with ASD do best with routine jobs. Socialization is what is lacking and they are often unaware of what is inappropriate behavior (i.e. sexual harassment with coworker). When an adult client loses their job, their case is reopened.

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2008
Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

Verdia Haywood: The Long-term Care Council needs to continue to be creative with regards to private and public collaboration. There was a strong advocacy coalition with MR in the 1990s and they identified the need for more public-private partnerships. Additionally, we need more waivers at the state level. The solutions lie in a combination of efforts. Presently, with 1,150 in MR Day Services, there is a cost of roughly \$14M. In light of the current budget situation and with estimates of potentially 600-700 more adults with ASD needing support services in the next few years, more creative solutions will need to be found.

Presentation – School Health Study
8:50-9:50 PM

A handout of the presentation, entitled “The Recommended Strategic Plan for Fairfax School Health Services through 2015” was shared with all in attendance. Presenters shared elements of the Fairfax County School Health Program in relation to the findings of the School Health Study and the strategic recommendations being put forward by the School Health Study Steering Committee. A report has gone to the Board of Supervisors, but the steering committee has not discussed yet it with the Board to date.

Laura McDowall: I don’t want it to become “how to get blood out of a turnip”. The school health plan needs to be funded to support the community needs. This presentation compliments the acuity of needs and my word is don’t starve this plan. Staff numbers have never increased since the shingle was put out to help acute urgent short term needs versus public health promotions, so the phrase “pay me now or pay me later” comes to mind. Response: We have never able to match the ratios between the health department and the school system that were set. Administration changes will help minimally, but there is no other locality in country that could be found staffed at this low of level for the level of needs.

Stephanie Mensh: What about the training needs for staff and nurses? Response: The Clinic Room Aides (CRAs) do not have to have a health degree. They receive training every year and have worked with children before. Most are parents with PhDs and Masters.

Henry Wulf: What are the plans for use of technology within the next 5-10 years to assist in the expansion of knowledge through the increased access (based on what the CRA and the Public Health Nurse (PHN) does daily)? Response: We do have limited IT dollars in the budget. There is a need for an improved data system; one that integrates with FCPS and the health system. It is desired to have an on-line training system and electronic access to PHNs to answer questions since they no longer can do one-on-one training. Presently, we try to work in coordination with SAAC and RECPAC trainings, which has resulted in 300-500 children being educated. The CRA now conducts the one-on-one training with students.

Henry Wulf: I suggest a technology pilot be conducted.

Baba Freeman: Do the PHNs coordinate services with recent surveys? Response: Yes, the PHNs participate with the Youth Risk Survey.

The external consultant from GMU added that the findings show a lack of health promotion and disease prevention, which is greatly needed, and a mismatch of resources. There doesn’t need to be a debate regarding numbers. The outstanding issue for the county is, “Will you be able to

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, April 21, 2008
Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 & 3

mobilize resources to get the basic needs met? For example, there should be more utilization of Memoranda of Agreement.

Marlene Bluhm asked the council, “How do we make the recommendations happen?” Response: Verdia Haywood: We need the county executive to sit down with the school superintendent and be briefed before a formal presentation to the Board. Response: The first Tuesday in May there will be a briefing to Jack Dale’s school leadership team. Verdia Haywood: Then we need the meeting of Tony Griffin with Jack Dale soon afterward. Both boards need to own this. The school leadership team needs to push it with the school board. Kevin Bell: Also build involvement of the PTAs. Marlene Bluhm: We would like more teachers involved, however, it is out of their comfort zone to advocate for this at budget time. And at the same time teachers feel uncomfortable supplementing or filling in for CRAs at the school clinics.

Other Business

9:50-10:10 PM

FY2009 Budget Update

Ron McDevitt provided copies and reviewed the Board’s budget markup process that the Board discussed today for FY08-09 and a blueprint for FY10. The Board balanced the current year budget. According to Tony Griffin, the big news for FY09 is that the picture is deteriorating and devastating. The Board approved a tax rate increase of 3%. They identified \$68.5 M to cover \$25M deficit. This left the county with \$44M to \$40M going to FCPS; \$4M for county issues. While they reduced IT funding by \$3M and reduced by \$13.5M for spending on other county issues, \$16.6M was restored to fund Pay For Performance and funded a third code enforcement strike team. \$600K was budgeted for (CSB & Community Recreation) limited term funding for human services & field enforcement. The Board maintained an increase to the Community Funding Pool at a 3% increase or \$35K. Adult Protective Services had two positions allocated within DFS without impacting salary costs. The penny for affordable housing & penny for storm water remains in tact.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the previous meeting minutes of March 10 & March 19 were moved and approved.

Adjournment

10:10 PM

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Staff Support Information (also included on updated roster):

1. **Chip Gertzog:** 703-324-7959 Fax 703-324-7572 E-mail: Cgertz@fairfaxcounty.gov
2. **Judy Greene:** 703-324-5640 Fax 703-324-7572 E-mail: Jgreen@fairfaxcounty.gov
3. **Marie Custode:** 703-324-4540 Fax 703-324-7572 Email: Kcusto@fairfaxcounty.gov
Michelle Gregory: 703-324-7136 Fax 703-324-7572 Email: Mgrego@fairfaxcounty.gov
Deborah Gutierrez: 703-324-7132 Fax 703-324-7572 E-mail: Dgutie@fairfaxcounty.gov