

**Human Services Council Meeting**  
**Monday, May 18, 2009**  
**Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5**

<b>MEMBER NAME</b>		<b>MEMBER NAME</b>	
<b>Kevin H. Bell, Chairman</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Carol Hawn</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Colonel Marion Barnwell</b>	<i>Excused</i>	<b>Bill Kogler</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Richard P. Berger</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Michael Kwon</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>John Byers</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Herk Latimer</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Robert L. Faherty</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Laura I. McDowall</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Donna J. Fleming</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Stephanie Mensh</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Baba Freeman</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Kathleen Murphy</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Robert Gaudian</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>John Niemiec</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Richard Gonzalez</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Dr. Virginia P. Norton</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Tom Grodek</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Henry Wulf</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Staff:</b>			
<b>Verdia L. Haywood, Deputy County Executive</b>			<i>Present</i>
<b>Ken Disselkoen, Department of Systems Management for Human Services (DSMHS)</b>			<i>Excused</i>
<b>Chip Gertzog, Department of Systems Management for Human Services (DSMHS)</b>			<i>Present</i>
<b>Ken Garnes, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)</b>			<i>Present</i>
<b>Ron McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)</b>			<i>Present</i>
<b>Deborah H. Gutierrez, Department of Systems Management for Human Services</b>			<i>Present</i>

**Guests and Other Attendees:** Dean Klein, Nanette Bowler, Michelle Gregory, Karen Fuentes, Lynne Crammer, George Braunstein, Brenda Gardner, Marlene Bluhm, Gail Ledford, and Alan Wooten.

**Call to Order: 7:35 PM**

Donna Fleming called the meeting to order. Verdia Haywood, in reference to the first agenda item, requested Ron McDevitt to review the “FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan, Summary of Reductions and Restorations to Human Services” document first and stated he would follow with the review the Cross Agency Impacts. Verdia Haywood also recommended the Council members review a very good article on philanthropy in the May 2009 edition of Town and Country Magazine.

**Update on FY 2010 Budget: 7:40-9:05 PM**  
**Budget Summary & Cross Agency Impacts**

In highlighting the “FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan, Summary of Reductions and Restorations to Human Services,” Ron McDevitt noted the shaded items had been restored by the Board of Supervisors. Special attention was called to columns G and H where the cross reference was made between Human Services Council recommendations and those budget items restored, including additional restorations, for example as noted on line 24. Ron expressed congratulations to Council for their hard work in conjunction with the number of restorations by the Board in relation to their recommendations.

Additionally, Ron called attention to the Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) Program, as noted on rows 31 and 39. This was good news in that these were two separate and additive items to budget. The Board of Supervisors restored the entire Child Care Assistance and Referral Program, relying on receiving federal stimulus funding and managing the program enrollment through attrition. There will not be any disenrollment and there is a possibility of some other funds “falling out” at end of year. Verdia Haywood clarified further that there will be no reduction in slots. The Department of Family Services has always gone after every little bit of funding it can and these dollars, some of which are surpluses from this year, will be

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carried over to keep the program at the same level, even if no additional funding comes from the federal stimulus package for child care. They may hopefully be able to add on slots.

It was noted that the Board suspended ½ of the penny for affordable housing. It was taken off of the table for restoration of funding.

### **Question and Answer**

**Baba Freeman**: I suspect less attrition during tough economic times, how are they estimating the attrition rate? **Response**: The 156 slots are based on the last ten months. This is an annual number estimate that includes mandated and non-mandated slots and keeping a child on for a longer period of time to ensure that no parents are put in a precarious situation. Verdia Haywood added that a great deal of correspondence has been sent to the state to lobby for using the federal stimulus funding it is receiving (approximately \$38M) to reduce the wait list and not solely on internal child care technology (infrastructure). The county is monitoring and lobbying state and will keep the Council posted.

### **Budget Summary & Cross Agency Impacts**

Verdia Haywood reviewed with the Council members the “FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan Analysis - May 2009” presentation. Mr. Haywood highlighted the various challenges currently affecting human services delivery and made special note of current unofficial projections of a shortfall for FY 2011 in excess of \$154M. Mr. Haywood stressed that this number is expected to change several times over the coming months. In addition to the challenges resultant from the budget shortfalls, there are challenges from the:

- ♦ Changes in community demographics,
- ♦ Need for transformational change through human services system-wide initiatives to improve outcomes, and
- ♦ Growing income disparity both impact human services delivery.

Additionally, Verdia Haywood reviewed the highlights of the revenue adjustments adopted by the Board of Supervisors in light of the county’s decision making process. With the need to maintain, or in some cases, enhance program service levels, where ever it was reasonable, the Board looked to incremental increases to fees. Mr. Haywood stressed to Council members to expect a continuance of increased reductions in FY 2011 and therefore a continued impact on human services delivery, especially with regards to the following:

- ♦ Transportation supports,
- ♦ In home supports,
- ♦ Vocational and day program supports for persons with disabilities,
- ♦ Youth athletics and social programs for older adults,
- ♦ Self-sufficiency and employment,
- ♦ Medical services and meeting health needs,
- ♦ Service access and information/referral, and
- ♦ Case management services.

Verdia Haywood also noted that many reduction options affecting strategic community-wide initiatives were restored in the final adopted budget plan. The Board of Supervisors placed a great deal of importance on sustainability of senior programs and has begun a staff review of senior programming. It appears that to continue senior programming, the following will need to occur:

- ♦ Increase fees
- ♦ Decrease unit cost
- ♦ Increase public-private partnerships

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There will definitely be more dialogue around this issue in the FY 2011 budget process.

Unfortunately, there remains an adverse impact to county direct and contracted services and to the service capacity of nonprofit, community and faith providers. While the proposed reductions in these areas were greater than the adopted budget plan, considerable reductions still exist.

Some services did have to be eliminated and no longer provided. The major restorations by the Board to maintain service levels were to the following:

- ♦ Rent relief program for the elderly and disabled and
- ♦ Supervised child visitation program

Potential wait lists and service reduction or delays are still a reality for a majority of County services and activities.

The *Budget Guidance* document sheds light on how the budget process was handled by the Board of Supervisors. Ed Long is the Stimulus Money Committee Chair and is charged with the monitoring of stimulus dollars. The Board stressed consolidation and reorganization. The stimulus money may mitigate a great deal of the issues for schools in FY 2010, for example with their Special Education programs and their disadvantaged community programs.

The Home Share program is geared to enable seniors to age in place – in their own home and the new program will allow them to take on a person to assist them by providing the assistant to take advantage of reduced rental fees. This type of program has been successful in other locations. The proposal is for \$125K to get the program started and a late summer or fall start up. The new program will need to be bid competitively through the Community Funding Pool.

The Board recognizes that reductions in the FY 2010 budget have a significant impact on the Human Services transportation system and is calling for a study of what it is now and what should it be in the future. There is a hope that the state provider solution works; however, Fastran will need to be reviewed systemically as a Para transit/ public Para transit system. The Board is hoping that some stimulus money will be able to fund the study.

### **Question and Answer**

**Laura McDowall**: Are disabilities increasing or is there a higher percentage of citizens with disabilities in Fairfax County? **Response**: Not sure of an explanation. For example, there has been a significant increase in cases of children with autism; however, there are many contributing factors and not one explanation identified.

**Stephanie Mensh**: With regards to increasing all Athletic fees, these were only proposed and not all adopted? **Response**: Yes.

**Laura McDowall**: There appears to be some deep cuts and other cuts made that are not so deep. Is there a pattern? And if so, what is it? **Response**: No, there is not a pattern. We will clarify further the decision making process.

**Stephanie Mensh**: The County will be receiving federal stimulus dollars for childcare? **Response**: No, the county is not guaranteed any stimulus funding. This funding if received would be passed through the state to the county. Any possible stimulus dollars are not reflected in the numbers represented by the proposed reductions.

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**Laura McDowall**: What happens to children served under the Comprehensive Services Acts? **Response**: The county staffs are looking closely at CSA. In addition, we are looking for additional Medicaid dollars and are studying possible cost savings efforts and redesign efforts to implement and reduce program costs.

**Laura McDowall**: Isn't there a greater demand for services in numbers requesting services? **Response**: There is not necessarily an increase in numbers; however, the associated costs have increased because of the increased length of service provision and the higher intensity of services provided. The costs associated with service provision have risen and many of these services are mandated services.

**Stephanie Mensh**: What happened to the Lincolnia Center? **Response**: The physical site renovations for the HVAC system still must be done. The proposed closure is now off the table and the facility will remain open. The county is now looking at numerous options to accomplish the needed renovations in a cost effective manner.

**Laura McDowall**: With the elimination of the Health Department's environmental hazards emergency response program, will these services now be handled entirely by the Fairfax County Fire Department (FCFD)? **Response**: To the level the FCFD has the resources and private sector firms/contractors will now need to be used. Costs for these services will be billed to the owner of the private facility or to the homeowner. The HAZMAT unit of the FCFD has been restored for the initial response to this type of emergency. The money for the service provision of the:

- ♦ analysis,
- ♦ cleanup, and
- ♦ determination of whether or not the site is safe to inhabit

has been cut from the budget.

**John Byers**: With the elimination of 8 substance abuse treatment beds, what is the impact? **Response**: It actually turns out to be more like 5 beds out of 8. There are 35 beds at New Beginnings. The reduction results in about a 50% reduction in total beds for Substance Abuse for Adults and Teens. Approximately 20 persons per year will be able to be served.

**Kevin Bell**: Is there a waiting list? **Response**: At times, yes there is one.

**Kevin Bell**: What are the parameters of the subsidized child care? **Response**: This item centers on the Pre-school Child Care program. The numbers remain the same for FY10 as FY09. The Board of Supervisors did not take the funding. There will be a reallocation of dollars within the county system. Most reallocation will take place in the Human Services system and it will cover any add-ons in the process. It does not include any possible stimulus dollars. Fairfax County has approximately 2,000 children on the waiting list; however, restoration of funding will not reduce the waiting list. If there are any stimulus dollars passed onto us through the state, then these funds may assist in reducing the waiting list.

**Kevin Bell**: Stimulus dollars takes us for how long? **Response**: Approximately, 24 months.

**Stephanie Mensh**: What is the average time a child remains in the Child Care program? **Response**: About 2 and ½ to 3 years. There is a revolving attrition.

**Stephanie Mensh**: Aren't the reductions cutting the staff that monitors this? **Response**: No. We are not.

**Kevin Bell**: Will there be a meals tax proposed? **Response**: Not sure at this time. There are many options on the table.

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**Laura McDowell**: The cost savings are being looked at in Fairfax County. Is the State also looking at cost savings together with the county? **Response**: Mainly the integration is in education even with the possible injection of stimulus dollars.

**Donna Fleming**: Why wouldn't the "home share program" be put under an existing agency versus contracting it out? **Response**: No. This type of program is different than the programs that DFS Area Agency on Agency is providing currently. With this program they are matched with a person who will stay in their home with a reduced rent. This person would be responsible for helping with home maintenance, such as mowing the grass, painting and minor repairs.

**John Byers**: Isn't it like the Mt Vernon at Home program, where the rent subsidy is \$500 when assisting a senior individual and \$800 when assisting a senior couple? Is provides "assisted living" at home by utilizing community support and is based on a program in Boston, MA. **Response**: Yes.

**Robert Gaudian**: What are we giving up by going with the state provider for the transportation? Why was this option used earlier? **Response**: Cost is reduced. Hopefully, the level of service will be sufficient for Medicaid clients. It most likely will not be the same level of service as Fastran provided. The county will be monitoring it as well as the state since it is their program. The county is already meeting with Logisticare to ensure accountability and they have been very responsive. There are no major transportation issues on the retreat agenda because it was done early and before the transit issues have gotten worse.

**Kevin Bell**: Is there a county employee directly in contact to monitor or are we having to go through the state? **Response**: No, we do not have to go through the state. The state is only providing a representative that attends all of the meetings between the county and Logisticare. The state acts somewhat as a broker with Logisticare; however, the county has direct contact.

**Kevin Bell**: How does one complain if service is unacceptable? To who are complaints sent? **Response**: The county has a direct link to Logisticare. The state, DMHMRSAS, is the broker. Fairfax County will manage.

**Laura McDowell**: I am concerned with the number of indicators in the community showing increased gang involvement and the funding for Gang Prevention services is eliminated. **Response**: The youth survey results will be used to help with this issue.

**Stephanie Mensh**: I am concerned that Metro Access is offered as a viable option in light of the Fastran reduction because of Metro Access's history of poor service delivery. **Response**: The question is can some of Metro Access's services be provided by Fastran?

**Robert Gaudian**: I am concerned about CRS and their lack of a database to properly conduct volunteer tracking and participant tracking. Will there be any discussion about improving the databases that support county programs? **Response**: Yes, the staff can discuss with you later.

**Stephanie Mensh**: Is there any sunset provision for restoration of the penny? **Response**: No, it is policy issue. The BOS can change policy and in fact kept ½ penny in this years' budget because there is obligations in the budget.

**Laura McDowell**: Will the county ever take control of school budget? **Response**: No, most BOS members don't want to control it.

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**Kevin Bell:** Does the BOS have a transportation subcommittee? **Response:** Not sure they do. They do have transportation meetings all the time.

**FY 2011 Budget Guidelines: 9:05-9:15 PM**  
**Upcoming Board of Supervisors' Retreat**

The Retreat will be held on June 29-30<sup>th</sup> at Frying Pan Park. The topic of discussion is based on the Budget Guidance Handout. The Board will be discussing priorities and the following issues:

- ♦ Affordable Housing
  - the 1 penny affordable housing tax
    - reviewing a proposal - suspend the 1 penny and return to Housing Authority in 2011 or totally eliminate it. If restored, in 2011 and beyond, what the priorities will be or possible alternative priorities (i.e. homelessness, Section 8, or disabled housing).
- ♦ Foreclosure
  - gaps and challenges in light of current Housing Auth programs

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, there is a Board and Housing Authority meeting at 2:30 p.m. This meeting will be to establish preparatory strategies in preparation for the retreat.

**Update on Fairfax Cares: 9:15 PM**

The Council agreed to skip this presentation and proceed to the presentation by Dean Klein, Director, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. The Council members returned to this agenda item following Dean Klein's presentation.

**Stimulus Funding in Support of Ending Homelessness: 9:15 – 9:25 PM**

Dean Klein, Director, Office to Prevent & End Homelessness

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Supervisors adopted a \$2.4 M allocation for Homelessness and rapid rehousing funds. This will help jumpstart the 10 year plan since it was not allocated for or planned for originally. Housing and Community Development is vehicle for these funds. The community moved very quickly to respond to the new resources and at the end of September; we are looking to receive the funds. Our office will be prepared to use these funds and at present the funds are to be used with housing assistance costs:

- ♦ rental assistance,
- ♦ moving costs,
- ♦ utilities assistance, and
- ♦ database and evaluation (HMIS).

Ultimately it is to be used to prevent homelessness and most of the funding will be used to assist people from becoming homeless. We engaged approximately 60 stakeholders from nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and community-based organizations. The funding can be used up to 3 years, but it must be used quickly.

**Question and Answer**

**Baba Freeman:** There already is a rental assistance program with FISH - \$400 / yr per person. Will these funds still be available? **Response:** Yes, those funds are used by nonprofits and are used to leverage existing resources. CSB and social workers will be able to access these funds. We want the system to continue to work as it is and would like to use these funds for rapid rehousing or ending homelessness versus temporary assistance done now by organizations such as FISH. This money is for ending homelessness in

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accordance with the 10 year plan. Fairfax Cares will be established to assist nonprofits sustain the temporary assistance.

**Update on Fairfax Cares: 9:25 – 9:40 PM**

We are trying to raise \$3M to support basic needs with nonprofits for the next 18 months. We need to work on building philanthropy in our corporate world in Fairfax County. Unfortunately, there is somewhat of a perception that Fairfax County Government will take care of all the needs. It is not just in Fairfax County, as I mentioned earlier, the Town and Country Magazine May 2009 issue is a special issue on philanthropy and increasing awareness, especially in support of programs for school aged children. We will be going out to chambers of commerce meetings in the near future. One of the biggest challenges is to educate the committee members and not the community. We are working to educate on all fronts.

**Question and Answer**

**Donna Fleming**: Only 5 businesses have contributed yet? **Response**: Personally, not corporately. We will put Fairfax Cares in the employee campaigns in fall.

**Kevin Bell**: What about Exxon Mobile, given their strong involvement in the past? **Response**: Now Exxon Mobile's corporate headquarters is in Texas. The corporate idea is that the District of Columbia needs more support than Fairfax County because Fairfax County is such a wealthy county. This is what we have touted and it is both the good news and the "not-not-so-good news" in Fairfax County.

**John Byers**: How much does Fairfax Cares spend on administrative costs? **Response**: The county is expending the costs of Verdia Haywood and Karen Shaban as staff support. Committee members are offering their own time. All administrative costs are covered by volunteers.

**Donna Fleming**: Can we put Fairfax Cares back on the agenda for the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting? **Kevin Bell**: And invite some of the committee members? **Response**: Yes.

**Other Business: 9:40 PM**

**Approval of Minutes**: A motion was made to approve and accept the March 16, 2009 meeting minutes.

**Adjournment: 9:41 PM**

**Staff Support Information (also included on updated roster):**

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