

Human Services Council Meeting  
Monday, December 10, 2012  
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
<b>Kevin H. Bell, Chair</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Rick Gonzalez</b>	<i>Absent</i>
<b>Colonel Marion Barnwell</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Carol Ann Hawn</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Richard P. Berger</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Myra Herbert</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop</b>	<i>Absent</i>	<b>William Kogler</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Steven Bloom</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Stephanie Mensh</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Kenneth (Mark) Deal</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Kathleen Murphy</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>David Dunlap</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Dr. Gerald V. Poje</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Robert L. Faherty</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Tessie Wilson</b>	<i>Present</i>
<b>Baba Freeman</b>	<i>Present</i>	<b>Henry Wulf</b>	<i>Excused</i>
<b>Robert Gaudian</b>	<i>Present</i>		
<b>Staff:</b>			
Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive			<i>Present</i>
M. Gail Ledford, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Brenda Gardiner, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Ronald McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>

**Guests:** Tom Bash, Mary Lee DiSpirito, Marlene Blum, Ann Zuvekas, Joe Pettit, Lavonne Pherson, Juan Sanchis, Gordon Dean, Sarah Newman, Bob Gibson, Rose Chu, Dr. Michael Trahos. **County staff:** George Braunstein, Bob Eiffert, Susan Shaw, Barbara Antley, Jeannie Cummings-Eisenhour, Michelle Gregory, Tom Barnett, Tom Fleetwood, Karla Bruce, Jim Gillespie, Jacquie Woodruff, Sandi Dallhoff, Evan Jones, Joel Friedman, Bob Easley, Jesse Ellis, Patricia Rohrer.

**7: 10 p.m. - Welcome and Overview**

Kevin Bell, Chairman of the Fairfax County Human Services Council, asked for introductions of those present. He introduced the meeting agenda for addressing perspectives on improving human service outcomes. The meeting is the first of three scheduled events to discuss trends, outcomes, responses, priorities and requirements for the human services system. Staff provided brief overviews of the six cross-cutting results areas – changes from one year ago to today. These six areas include: Affordable Housing, Connected Individuals, Economic Self-Sufficiency, Healthy People, Positive Living for Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities, and Successful Children and Youth. Handouts incorporated information on definitions of the results areas, populations served, targeted approaches, key trends at federal, national, state and local levels, cross cutting work in the selected topic, and activities that support effective approaches, and areas of improvement.

Presenter Bob Eiffert, Health Department, provided an overview of themes affecting the results area for older adults and persons with disabilities. Tom Fleetwood, Department of Housing and Community Development, and Tom Barnett, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, presented issues related to creation of affordable housing opportunities. Karla Bruce, Neighborhood and Community Services, and Jim Gillespie, Office of Comprehensive Services, presented information on supportive services and trends for children youth and families and strategies to ensure success. Brenda Gardiner, Department of Administration for Human Services, presented updated information related to health and community strategies to ensure healthy individuals. Team members from the Connected Individuals and Economic Self-Sufficiency results areas were unable to attend the session, but a brief overview of their materials was presented by Brenda Gardiner. Council members requested electronic copies of all six documents and all six documents were requested to be posted on the HSC webpage for public use.

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Questions on the material were posed and various staff representatives responded to clarify the information. A discussion ensued on ways the council could frame these priorities with the community.

At 8:15 p.m. members of the Fairfax County Health Care Advisory Board adjourned to attend their required public hearing, held concurrently the same evening. Council members thanked the HCAB membership for attending the meeting.

### **Group Discussion**

The group engaged in a discussion of the following questions:

- What community needs should the Human Services system address in FY 14 and in longer term for FY 15 budget?
- How can the community frame the public priorities to address these community needs?
- What are the systems implications for the 2014 budget?

The group discussed the purpose and agenda for the community dialogue meeting on January 26th, 2013 and the expected outcomes. The group discussed strategies to synthesize the significant amount of data and communications strategies. Members proposed various methodologies for compiling data and whether there was interest in specializing in one or more. Bob Gaudian expressed the need for a one-two page summary of information and noted the importance of gathering community information – vs. staff information – on community needs. Examples of community driven discussions were posed to Karla Bruce, who described the South county efforts to engage neighborhoods to develop cooperative efforts to bring interrelated efforts together.

Pat Harrison noted that at the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, department directors will brief the Council members and invited boards and authority representatives on the key budget drivers affecting services. These drivers were requested by the County Executive as a means of communicating to the taxpayers and the governing body the impact on the county budget and services. Steve Bloom requested information on historical trends, areas where programs have been most impacted and what the budget resources have been over the past five years. Ron McDevitt will supply this data at an upcoming meeting after the County Executive's budget information is released. Jerry Poge requested Council members to specialize on areas to take a "deeper dive" into the data. Baba Freeman noted the difficulty of specializing if the Council is ultimately then responsible for balancing all the needs collectively and questioned how the council would evaluate one individual's specialty against others. Dick Berger noted the overlapping nature of the cross-cutting work, the dependencies and interrelationships. He noted that breaking down the topics can become duplicative and repetitive information – thereby diluting the overall message by fragmenting it. Pat Harrison noted the difficulty staff has to respond to detailed analysis requests due to the impact of cumulative resource reductions over the past several years. Chairman Bell requested the Council members to consider the various options and noted that the Executive Committee will work with staff on the January meeting agenda on the budget drivers.

**Announcements:** Upcoming Council meetings were announced:

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Human Services Council monthly meeting

January 26, 2013 – special Saturday forum

February 11th, 2013- Report on progress of CSB Budget Management Plan

**Adjournment:** The Human Services Council meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.