

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2013
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chair	<i>Present</i>	Robert Gaudian	<i>Present</i>
Colonel Marion Barnwell	<i>Present</i>	Carol Ann Hawn	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop	<i>Absent</i>	Myra Herbert	<i>Present</i>
Steven Bloom	<i>Present</i>	William Kogler	<i>Present</i>
Kenneth (Mark) Deal	<i>Present</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
Jack Dobbyn	<i>Present</i>	Kathleen Murphy	<i>Present</i>
Robert L. Faherty	<i>Present</i>	Dr. Gerald V. Poje	<i>Present</i>
Baba Freeman	<i>Present</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Present</i>
<u>Staff:</u>			
Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive			<i>Present</i>
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>

Other staff present: Dot Groce, Ann Cahill, Robert Easley, Michelle Gregory, Nannette Bowler, George Braunstein, Rosalyn Foroobar, Anne-Marie Twohie.

7:40 p.m. – Fairfax County Service Demands and Trends Update - Michelle Gregory of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services introduced Anne Cahill, who provided information on individuals living in poverty in Fairfax County (attached). Council members requested clarification of several data points included in the presentation. Henry Wulf sought additional information on trends related to the rate of increase of individuals living in poverty. Myra Herbert requested information regarding the impact of migration in and out of county. Ms. Cahill responded that an estimated 10% of our county population moves each year. Pat Harrison remarked on the need for reviewing moves by low income residents, their reasons for moving and implications for services. Population and school enrollment increases are not indicated to be a result of in-migration. Bob Gaudian requested information regarding benchmark data with surrounding jurisdictions. Ms. Cahill responded that Arlington County has a younger, less diverse population and that regionally, Fairfax County lost more residents to Loudoun and Prince William counties. Jerry Poje requested information on poverty trends over time, and noted the importance of the six focus areas for the human services system to be focused on addressing issues of poverty.

General public access to the presented information was discussed; staff indicated that it will be made available in county libraries and that it is located on the county’s website at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/demogrph/datavis/datavis_pdf/poverty_datavis.pdf. After discussion, Council members agreed that as part of the community education and outreach role it plays, that dissemination of this type of information would be an appropriate role for the Council. The group moved to discuss the use of public blogs and ways information could be disseminated on an ongoing basis. Kevin Bell proposed the Council share the infographic with the Board of Supervisors, and without objection, staff was requested to prepare a memo forwarding the data to the Board of Supervisors; staff is to also provide a link to the page on the Council’s website.

Council members noted that they could use information similar to the infographic for decision making and it could be used to build a culture for resource allocation based on data. Ms. Cahill discussed a new initiative for county employees to learn to use the U.S. Census GIS data to map to county services and needs. Bob Gaudian requested clarification on the cost to the county for the issues highlighted in the data. Jack Dobbyn highlighted the need for the county to improve its analysis of demographic data readily available for the county and expressed concern regarding the level of resources

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devoted to gathering and use of the information systems available. He noted that Arlington County utilizes data mining on a regular basis to inform the community and decision makers. Henry Wulf requested further information on the interrelationship of poverty to older adults. (see http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/demogrph/datavis/datavis_pdf/fifty_plus_datavis.pdf for initial demographic information).

Steve Bloom requested further information regarding other themes and data available in this format. Pat Harrison noted that the youth survey information revealed a great deal of valuable information, but that resources in the county to support business intelligence tools and provide support for utilization management activities are limited. Bob Gaudian noted the value of using data visual infographics and that the migration study, with the county's population estimates, housing forecast and capital improvement forecasting would be invaluable. Baba Freeman noted that GIS systems have practical utility, but also noted the importance of using data to inform planning. Technology alone cannot solve by itself the systemic issues in service delivery, it can only inform decision making by using the data that is generated from it. A partnership with a university was brought up as a means to achieve this. Gail Ledford noted that demographic mapping is used by the police department in the crime analysis division to determine where to locate resources.

Basic Needs Trends Analysis – Dot Groce presented the most recent information from the Coordinated Services Planning Division DNCS. (see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/csp/links/csptrends.pdf> and http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/csp/links/csp_fy2014.pdf). As part of discussion, Jerry Poje requested information on meeting needs. How does the system find out if individual needs are met? With diminishing resources over time, is there unmet need because individuals in the community and providers are not making referrals or calls because they are aware that the county and community resources are gone?

Dot discussed the information on whether CSP as a program met client needs, and pointed out the information on “unmet needs” in real time when individuals call for assistance. A factor to consider in this data is that in some cases, the client is no longer eligible for specific assistance as they have received maximum benefits from the various community organizations. Steve Bloom made a motion that the Council send a letter to Chairman Bulova attaching the infographic and trends analysis; Mark Deal seconded. Without objection, motion carried. After motion carried, Henry Wulf identified need for nonprofits to access information as well. This was discussed to be incorporated into the January/February community dialogue meeting.

School Readiness Report (presentation: Anne-Marie Twohie) – Anne Marie Twohie presented findings and recommendations on early childhood development and school readiness. Recommendations included:

1. Creation of a learning network of quality early care and education programs;
2. Support children living in poverty to reach fall kindergarten benchmarks;
3. Improve accountability and opportunities for data-driven decision making through a comprehensive early childhood data system; and
4. Provide place-based coordinated services (early care and education, health, mental health, nutrition, social services, dental) for children and their families in locations near their work or home.

Staff provided additional information regarding the Virginia Pre-School Initiative, and measures of success for various state and local programs designed to provide critical early learning supports to children. The recommendations presented to the Council were provided to the county's Successful Children and Youth Policy Team (SCYPT) on December 4th; at that meeting the members endorse the committee recommendations. Council members noted the importance of the library system in preparing children to read (Baba Freeman); the critical nature of community partnerships, especially members of the business community (Henry Wulf); the benefits of public private partnerships through Fairfax Futures and nonprofit engagement (Carol Hawn). Anne-Marie provided additional information on the relationships between Head Start, early

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Head Start programming and other adopt a school and mentoring efforts. Members were encouraged to read ***Mind in the Making*** by Ellen Galinsky and staff noted that Dr. Mark Ginsberg, former Executive Director of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and dean of College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University is also providing consultation to the county and schools systems.

County Human Services State Legislative Items (discussion) - Kevin Bell noted the County's draft legislative package for the upcoming General Assembly. After discussion, Kevin moved to request staff to draft a letter of support for the noted priorities in the Board's package, particularly early intervention services, disabilities services, and support for behavioral health treatment and primary care services. After second by Jack Dobbyn, the Council voted and approved motion. Staff was asked to provide the council with the final county legislative position documents after Board of Supervisors action on November 19th.

Committee reports - By Laws Committee Chair Carol Hawn indicated that proposed by-law revisions will be presented at December meeting. Budget Committee Chair Steve Bloom reviewed the draft proposal for the second annual community dialogue session, in anticipation of the release of the County's Advertised Budget Plan. Use of the six human services system "results areas" will be used to frame the discussion. Community Outreach and Education Committee Chair Bob Gaudian noted that the committee continues planning for the May 17, 2014 Community Dialogue session. Jack Dobbyn, Council representative to the SCYPT team noted the upcoming strategic planning work the team will do with a consultant.

Meeting Minutes from October 21, 2013 full Council meeting – Bob Faherty moved approved of the October 21 meeting minutes; Mark Deal seconded. Motion carried, with Henry Wulf and Carol Hawn abstaining.

Announcements – The following upcoming meetings were announced:

1. HSC Full committee December 16, 2013 (*NOTE: This meeting was later cancelled on December 13th*)
2. BOS Legislative Committee meeting (Tuesday, November 26, 2013 – 10 a.m.)
3. Board of Supervisors' Human Services Committee (Tuesday, November 26, 2013 – 1p.m.) Agenda: Intellectual Disabilities Day Services, Consolidated Community Funding Pool: Revised process, Early Childhood/School Readiness, Community Health Plan
4. Joint Budget Committee Presentation—Fairfax County Public Schools and Fairfax County Government (Tuesday, November 26, 2013 – 3 p.m.)
5. Community Dialogue: Saturday, January 11, 2014 (*NOTE: later changed to Saturday, February 8th 2014*)

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.