

**HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL / FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD (CSB)  
PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE CSB BUDGET MANAGEMENT PLAN  
SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENT: MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2012**

1	Tofie Owen	The speaker's daughter is employed at a sheltered workshop operated by Mt. Vernon-Lee. Day services are very important to the participants and to their families. The employees are committed to work, and the parents are committed to keeping them working. The Human Services Council (HSC) has a choice and the Board of Supervisors (BOS) have a choice and they should choose to support the CSB.
2	Patricia Rogers	The speaker is a provider for the Infant and Toddler Connection (ITC) program. She enjoys working with the ITC and wants to support them tonight because she supports the work that they do.
3	Lisa Arit Escoto, and daughter	She supports early intervention programs provided by the ITC, and was "shocked" to learn that the CSB Budget Management Plan does not include additional funding for the ITC, including funding to reduce the waiting list for services. Referrals to the program have increased 38 percent over the last two years. The services provided by the ITC save up to seven times the money that it costs to operate them. Had her daughter and her family not received the support that they have received through the ITC, she probably would have required more support from the county than what she already receives. In the long run, services provided by the ITC are cost effective.
4	Lynn Ruiz	The speaker is the director of community relations at the Arc of Northern Virginia, which serves developmentally disabled residents of the county. All of the proposed budget cuts in the CSB plan are distressing and will cause the community a lot of anxiety. This is particularly true with delays in access to services. Her daughter has been on a waiting list for Intellectually Disabled services for ten years. She will graduate from a vocational program in 2014. Ms. Ruiz is worried about the future of programs designed to help residents like her daughter find jobs after leaving school. Ms. Ruiz added that her household budget cannot afford private placement services, sometimes costing upward of \$100 per day. She may have to leave her job and stay home with her daughter. The 64 new graduates cannot wait for services; the CSB needs to open every door to find funding.
5	Judith Dittman	The speaker is Executive Director of Alternative House. Services for at-risk and homeless youth remain a priority of the community. Alternative House's Emergency Shelter for Teenagers receives funding from the CSB to provide mental health services who are not in the system. The mental health issues affecting youth and young adults who are homeless and have an insecure future are great. The CSB has been a partner in providing the continuum of service their young people need, but this continuum is being stretched thin. She is concerned about what further cuts will do. The CSB has sustained more than \$15 million in cuts over the past three years. The increasing needs of children and youth come at a time when financial strains and cutbacks bring increased stress to the continuum of care young people in our community need. Please look closely at placing further cuts on the continuum of service for youth, which may result in increased costs in the future.
6	Jeff Byrne	The speaker is with the City of Fairfax's Human Services Committee. He commended the CSB on a well-developed plan and supports the plan to reactivate admissions to the ITC on June 1. The ITC currently serves 1,300 infants and toddlers, 38 of whom live in the City of Fairfax. The first three years are critically important in the development of children. If additional funding is cut, waiting times will only get worse and with children of this age, time is of the essence. Early Intervention works.
7	Mary Agee	Ms. Agee spoke on behalf of several nonprofit human service organizations who have a vested interest in the success of the CSB and the services that they provide. These organizations depend on the CSB for services in mental health, intellectual disabilities, substance abuse treatment, and support. Generally, clients are low-income, frequently homeless, at-risk youth and adults, and isolated individuals who have no other options available to them. The entire continuum of services is essential. The community is better off with a strong continuum of services, and as a network of nonprofit organizations they hope to participate in a solution. The community's quality of life depends upon a strong CSB--just as we do for police, fire and rescue, and other important parts of the fabric of community support. All of our human services, including the CSB, create opportunities for everyone in the community, regardless of their circumstances, their economic status, or their particular challenges.
8	Debra Tinker	The speaker uses the CSB's intellectual disability services for their son. Their family moved to Fairfax County because of the county's reputation for providing quality and comprehensive services. They were assured that their son would enter specific programs once he graduated from the FCPS, but the Medicaid Waiver program would not approve those services for him. And now, there is a chance that funding for day support programs will be cut. She urged the county not to cut funding for services.
9	Susan Yu	The speaker is an employee of the county's Fire and Rescue Department. Her brother uses day services arranged by the CSB through Mt. Vernon-Lee. If these services are not funded, her brother will stay home during the day. She urged funding be approved for community-based needs programs.
10	Pam and Colin Westfield	The speaker's son Colin is a 17-year old at-risk child for substance abuse. He attended Compass Day Center, and has been sober for nine months. He will now attend Chantilly High School. County-funded substance abuse services funded through the CSB are very important, and have helped turn around her son's life.
11	Tracy Shipplett	The speaker is director and owner of Therapy4Kids, which has been working with the ITC for ten years. They know first hand of the benefits of the ITC. Early Intervention services are strong, but now there are 200 persons on a waiting list for services--a waiting list that has only been in existence for a short time. She is concerned because the state has increased eligibility requirements, and placing babies on waiting lists for services is a huge detriment for their development. If this trend continues, there will be a significant cost in the future. There are other options in the private sector, but the ITC program is different and it works. Private services often have waiting lists of six-to-nine months. Parents going to the private clinics have to pay significantly more and not getting the quality of services provided through the ITC.
12	Michael Ritz	The speaker is a product of New Beginnings and Chantilly Detox. The transition period from detox to New Beginnings is crucial to success. These facilities and the model they use are only available in Fairfax at these sites. Alexandria and Arlington have similar programs, but Fairfax has only one. For individuals to be successful in these programs, one must be able to participate in the medical and nonsocial components. He urged not closing the sites or changing the model. (Lynne Crammer from the CSB explained to the audience the CSB no longer is considering closing the detox facility.)
13	Debbie Robinson	She is a successful graduate of the Chantilly detox facility. This facility, as well as New Beginnings and Crossroads, attract people from all over the county. They cannot be closed without adversely impacting the community.

14	Nathalie Ford	Budget situations such as this are hurtful to peoples' lives. Any required funding reductions should be minimal. All the participants ask for is a purpose to live. He was given that, and is now a successful member of society.
15	Carmel Commendador	The speaker urged continued funding for CrisisLink. Many of their callers are in crisis and considering suicide. CrisisLink receives a lot of calls that require a careful de-escalation. CrisisLink is a part of the county's safety net, and relies on significant participation of trained volunteers. Between July 1, 2011 and May 30, 2012, 3,600 people were assisted by CrisisLink.
16	Susan Lambert	Her daughter is an employee of ServiceSource. The speaker urged that funding be continued to support persons who are currently employed by organizations such as ServiceSource. She supports a tax increase next year to continue CSB programs. (She also mentioned that Montgomery County implemented a tax on wine this year, as an example of raising revenue.)
17	Pat Hannaky	The speaker's children are graduates of the Davis Center. She hopes that future graduates will be able to get the post-graduate support that her children did.
18	Laura (couldn't capture last name)	The speaker urged continued funding for CrisisLink. Many of their callers are in crisis and considering suicide. Resources are limited, and the topic of suicide is unpleasant for many. The Woodburn Mental Health Center wanted her to wait two days to be seen, but in emergency situations one cannot wait two days. CrisisLink bridges that gap. As a recipient of services and as a volunteer, she urged continued funding support for CrisisLink.
19	Brian Eberly	He is a volunteer at CrisisLink and commented that the county needs to continue funding support through the CSB for CrisisLink.

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1	Kevin Holland	Day support services should be properly funded. In fact, instead of cutting funding the county should be increasing funding for these vital services.
2	George Bounakis (ARC)	The speaker's son "graduated to the couch" last year because there were no services for him to go to. Others are in the same situation. A proper support system needs to be in place to help people such as his son. Civilizations are marked by how well they take care of those members with the most needs. Day supports should be fully funded.
3	Theresa Elder	Her son soon will graduate from the FCPS. Since there will be no day support services available for her son if funding is reduced, she will have to stay home and care for her son. He frequently needs emergency medical treatment. Funding for day support programs cannot be cut, especially since these programs are tailored to the specific needs of participants.
4	Mike Kelso	His life benefited from programs at the Detoxification Center. He learned a new way of life, and doesn't know what he would have done had these programs not been available. He urged that funding be retained in full for detox programs.
5	Oliver Montague	The speaker has been unable to find permanent housing since his mother died in 2004. The CSB's Substance Abuse Services office on Jermantown Road directed him into treatment at Crossroads. There, he learned to change his whole way of thinking. Now he celebrates sobriety with others at Crossroads during Sunday night "Family Nights."
6	Patty P.	The speaker shared her personal story about the Solutions program, particularly about being in long-term treatment as a mother with two young children. Any decisions about the Budget Management Plan take into account the impact on youth.
7	Jonathan M.	He is firm in his resolve to fight his addiction. Addiction is a disease, but drugs still make their way into the hands of users. He supports giving an offender the option of treatment over incarceration. Thus, he supports maintaining funding for CSB programs and facilities.
8	Abraham Abdullah	He spoke on behalf of Alcohol & Drug Services. The CSB and its treatment programs reach out to people who struggle with addiction. There is no cure for addiction. It is critical to fund these programs, since he is proof that these programs are effective.
9	Laurie Jane Graham	She is an advocate of the prevention services provided by CrisisLink. Each year, more than 1,100 college students die from suicide. She also referenced a recent article in <i>Time</i> about returning service men and women who have post-traumatic stress syndrome. Funding is critically necessary to keep the suicide prevention resources operating and the centers open.
10	Cheryl Wilson	Her son is graduating from the Fairfax County Public School system this year. If day support services are not funded, some of these graduates will get into trouble because they are idle. They will be much more vulnerable if day support services are not fully funded.
11	Collette Lapierre	The speaker supports continued funding for A New Beginning and Sojourn House. These are life-saving programs. She is a retired police officer, and thanked the Chantilly detox facility and the CSB's Alcohol & Drug Services programs for helping her regain her life because of the availability of non-medical beds at the Chantilly site.
12	Daniel Todd Crone	Alcoholism and drug addiction are legitimate diseases, just like cancer and diabetes. All of the facilities he called for assistance told him there would be a two-month wait for admission--except the Chantilly detox facility. He also supports continuing funding for Sojourn House, which is the only residential facility of its type in the county.
13	Lauren Anderson	Her brother died of suicide at South Lakes High School. What if he had a CrisisLink card and called it? The John Anderson Foundation has been established to promote youth mental health awareness, and is active in five high schools.
14	Greg Landis	The speaker's daughter died of a heroin overdose in 2008. Her death was a catalyst for the FBI and the Fairfax County Police Department to bring down a heroin ring in Centreville. Her death sparked a community to stand up and address the problem. An organization called PROTECT has been established. As a community, we need to stand up to break the silence of mental health, substance abuse, and suicide. Cutting funding for these programs would be like closing an emergency room. Even recently, substance abuse counselors in schools have been removed. The CSB does a wonderful job; please do not cut funding for it or close any more programs and facilities.
15	Joyce Cantrell	Closing the adolescent female program and changing the model of the detox facility are not good ideas. The Chantilly detox facility, A New Beginning, and Supervised Apartment programs helped her. Today, she leads a sober, productive life thanks to these programs.

16	Jeff Moreland	The speaker supports continued funding for CSB Alcohol & Drug Services. He has watched programs be cut, and beds taken away. Now the CSB wants to take away even more? While programs have been cut back, and funding reduced, in recent years new programs and services have added. It's not yet known whether or not these new programs will be successful while long-time programs such as the detox facility and Sojourn House have proven their worth.
17	Dawn Brown (NAMI)	NAMI is concerned by proposals to reduce funding for emergency services and eliminate the day shift for Mobile Crisis Services. The thought that someone experiencing a mental health crisis would be taken across the county to the Woodburn Mental Health Center is disconcerting, especially with no proposed increase in resources at Woodburn. Mental health crises happen at all hours of the day. These dangers include suicides and homicides similar to the recent one that occurred in Tysons Corner. Fairfax County is one of the best positioned counties to provide services such as these. Please do not cut funding for emergency services.
18	Eric Barnes	The speaker addressed the proposed reductions in funding for the New Horizons Center and Pathways. These are excellent programs, helping dually diagnosed and homeless persons. Please don't cut funding for them.
19	Richard Baranis	His daughter graduates from the Fairfax County Public Schools this year, but there are no day support services for her to attend after graduation. What is his family going to do?
20	Kevin Young	His son attended a vocational center the last three years, and look forward to a career in the food service industry. All that will be stripped away if the county cuts funding for day support services. His son is a safety risk with autism and cannot stay home alone. The county should provide assistance, not be yet another challenge to him. Don't balance the budget at the expense of these recent graduates.
21	Mark from Chantilly	The speaker is an executive with ServiceSource. Like many others, he has invested a great deal for his son to pursue transition to adulthood, from the Fairfax County Public Schools to day services. Now, his son has been placed on a waiting list. What happens to the investment in his son? He urged consideration of providing full funding for this year's new graduates. Eliminate the waiting list for graduates, and let's make good on this investment.
22	Linda Lees	Detoxification services offered her the opportunity to go to treatment; it gave her hope. Incarceration is much more expensive than treatment. She asked for continued full funding for detox and treatment services.
23	Vance Baucus	Detox programs deal with people's lives. One of these saved lives just might end up helping you someday. He urged that the Chantilly detox facility not be closed.
24	Lauren	What funding is going to be cut from the State? CSB programs such as group homes serve people in the community who have no where else to go.
25	Alexandra Dixon	The speaker worked in the ITC located in the City of Alexandria. Why is Fairfax proposing to reduce funding for the Fairfax ITC? Early intervention programs are very important for children. Every child deserves a chance to be the best he/she can be.
26	Jeff Steven	He was stabilized in a nonmedical bed at the Fairfax Detoxification Facility, where they also taught him to stop self-destructive behaviors. He urged that funding not be cut for this program.
27	Christian Ianni	Programs such as A New Beginning work, but only if they are in operation. Please continue funding to keep them operating.
28	Doug Johnson	The speaker is a youth minister who volunteers with teens. His son is a participant at the detox facility in Chantilly and at A New Beginning. Alcoholism is a vicious circle. He reminded everyone that the basic issue here is human capital, particularly people in critical need of assistance.
29	Kathy	The speaker is a consumer of services at the Woodburn facility. Just recently, the State of Virginia had a budget surplus. Where did it go?
30	Bridget Keith	The CSB's Chantilly detox facility, A New Beginning, and the Alternative Program at the Northwest facility have provided her with stability. She asked that services and funding not be cut because if that happens, it will leave a void for people who want to become stable. All these services work together to help people in need.
31	Camille Ortiz	The people here tonight have lauded the help that the CSB has given them. For 35 years, she has been helping people who have fallen through the crack. Now she has fallen through the crack. She is living at the Bailey's Crossroads Shelter. As great as the CSB has been, she now hears that funding may be cut. At the same time, the county is planning to subsidize housing in Tysons Corner. What happened to the funding that Fairfax received for homeland security and gang prevention? There are many issues and many needs in Fairfax; money shouldn't be one of them.
32	Linda Gerald	The speaker has been a consumer of services at Crossroads and in a social bed at the Chantilly detox center. She continues to use the services provided by the Woodburn Mental Health Center. Please don't cut funding for these vital services.
33	Ronnie McNeil	The speaker was given an opportunity to straighten out his life at Crossroads and Chantilly Detox. He didn't want to be a statistic by going back to jail. He asked the county to reconsider its plans to reduce funding for the CSB programs.
34	Speaker from Bailey's Crossroads area	These CSB programs were implemented for everybody in the community. Please don't cut funding for the community.
35	David	It is very hard here to enter a homeless shelter, let alone get services at a shelter. But he was successful in entering a shelter and was admitted to CSB services. He is now free of his addiction. He urged the county to provide funding to the CSB so that their programs can continue.
36	Judy Deeves	She is grateful for the assistance that she received at the Chantilly Detoxification Facility. Just as there are no instructions on the back of babies, there are no rules for parents on how to deal with drinking teenagers. She is grateful for the nonmedical beds at Chantilly Detox and the STEPS program. There has to be some money somewhere else to help save the CSB programs. Perhaps homeowners can be charged a little more to help cover the cost of continuing services.
37	James Johnson	The Crossroads program helped him. If he sticks with Crossroads, Crossroads will stick with him.