

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2008
10777 Main St., Suite 310, Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax, VA

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

Guests and Other Attendees: John Harold, Jim Dedes, Caroline Kerns, Hilda L. Marroquin, Lathan Dennis, Marijke Hannam, John Ruthinoski, Evan Braff, Karen Fuentes, Gloria Prado, Lynne Crammer, Mary Kudless, Ginny McKernan, Anne-Marie Twohie, Nannette M. Bowler, Matthew Spruill, Megan Lebowitz, Evelyn Raxon, Thu Lam, Adam Toobin, Merle Toobin, Michael Toobin, Donna Goldbranson, Norman Hicks, Mary Anne Lecos, Mark Meana, Vera Steiner Blore, Zuri Conroy, Steven Bloom, Terri Williams-Henderson, Luis Rosa-Padilla, and Jack Kauffman.

Call to order: 7:30 PM

Kevin Bell called the meeting to order. Mr. Bell added that the budget deficit numbers are going up at all levels of govt. Deputy County Executive Verdia Haywood updated the Council about the budget deficit. The budget deficit is rising in excess of \$650M. Mr. Haywood added that the National Association of Counties (NACo) is sending a message to President-Elect Obama that any stimulus package should address the needs of localities.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes from November 24th were approved.

Kevin Bell and Henry Wulf stressed to all that time would only allow for the presentation and a few follow-up questions. Any additional questions from council members should be forwarded to staff once the time allocation per testimonial is reached.

Testimony from Boards, Authorities, Commissions and Nonprofits - 7:40 – 9:25

Juvenile Court Citizens Advisory Board

John Harold presented the position of the Juvenile Court Citizens Advisory Board on the proposed reductions for the JDRDC “Citizens Advisory Council Recommendations on Proposed FY2010 Budget Cuts – Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.” Mr. Harold identified Priority 4, Priority 5, &

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2008
10777 Main St., Suite 310, Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax, VA

Priority 6-LOB#81-01 and Priority 7 & Priority 8-LOB#81-06 as being critical specialized services; not easily replicated by any other service provider. If these programs are cut, the harm and cost to offenders, victims, families and the community will be greatly increased.

Question and Answer

Verdia Haywood: What is the average stay at the Boys' Probation House? Response: Jim Dedes- 6-12 months.

Donna Fleming: Do the families pay anything? Response: Jim Dedes– they pay a sliding scale fee; which totals about \$45K.

Stephanie Mensh – Are there any cuts instead, or in place of the ones proposed? Response: John Harold– it is the Advisory Board's position that it is not good to chip away at all of the programs, but rather it is better to cut entire programs.

Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB)

Steven Bloom, Vice Chairman presented the position of the CAAB on the proposed reductions for the DFS – LOBs #67-05, #67-06, #67-07, #67-08, #67-09, and #67-15; CSB – LOB #106-16; DSMHS - LOB #69-01; DAHS - LOBs #68-02 and #68-08; HCD - LOBs #38-02, #38-05, and #38-07; and CCFP – Option 1 and Option 2. The CAAB understands the dire situation the county faces economically and continues to recommend efficiencies and reduce waste in county agency budgets. The CAAB feels many of these proposed cuts will undermine the non-profits with which the county partners and the Human Services agencies should be exempted at this time. Because of uncertain times, citizens need to know a safety net exists and the entire county is behind supporting them.

Question and Answer

Laura McDowall: You highlighted the SAAC program reduction, would you clarify please? Response: This program targets low income children and is primarily a self-funded program. I personally would support higher taxes, if fees can be enhanced to continue to provide a subsidy for low-income children.

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB)

Note: SOC Enterprises in lieu of an oral presentation sent the Human Services Council a written statement responding to the "Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) FY2010 Line of Business Presentation: Proposed Reduction Options in Agency Priority Order (September 17, 2008 Edition)."

Lynn Crammer, Board member of FFC-CSB, presented the position of the CSB on the proposed reductions for the FFC-CSB: Priorities 6-30. It is the CSB's perception that there are no redundancies. Instead; it is a community of inter-related partners, and therefore if reductions are taken it creates a "domino effect"; when any piece is cut, all are impacted adversely and severely. Is this the time to cut services? Instituting efficiencies in the past has allowed us to cut \$3.5M. We are at barebones with FASTRAN now. Transportation must be provided, since Medicaid requires it. The county needs to be conscious of the concept of false economies; what we don't pickup through providing services, the jails and hospitals will need to pick up (i.e. medical detox). It will be hard to reinstate cut programs and services.

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2008
10777 Main St., Suite 310, Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax, VA

Head Start PAC

Meagan Lebowitz, Chairperson of the Head Start Policy Council and a parent representative of the Parent Committee for the Family Childcare Program, presented the position of the Head Start PAC on the proposed reductions for the DFS Head Start program: Priorities 25, 31, 39, and 49 relating to the Head Start, SACC, and Child Care Assistance and Referral Programs.

Question and Answer

Laura McDowall: A request to staff for more information regarding the reduction of 870 children. If these are not enrolled, how many of these potential children would receive subsidies? Response: Verdia Haywood, Nannette Bowler, and Marijke Hannam - 75% of SAAC is subsidies and special needs. Cutting a total of \$4M, of which \$1M is the subsidy costs and \$3M is revenue reduction, so full paying parents are being cut from the program.

Fairfax Futures

Mary Anne Lecos, member of Fairfax Futures' Board of Directors, presented the position of the Fairfax Futures on the proposed reductions for the DFS reductions: Priorities 25, 31, and 39 relating to Head Start and Child Care Assistance and Referral Programs.

Question and Answer

Kevin Bell: A request to staff for more information regarding reductions. What is the current waiting list for the programs? And how many children are being served in the programs (i.e. SAAC)? Response: Anne-Marie Twohie will work with Ron McDevitt and Marijke Hannam to gather information on requests and report back to the Council.

Laura McDowall: I would also like to see the history of tuition charges over the years and what has changed? Additionally, I would also like the number in Head Start? Response: Anne-Marie Twohie will work with Ron McDevitt and Marijke Hannam to gather information on requests and report back to the Council.

Robert Gaudian: What are the impacts of these reductions? Response: The impact is ultimately adverse to academic and social competency. Children are not successful in school and in life. Recommended council members reference the Governor's summary report found on Governor's website.

Richard Berger: Fairfax Futures has a good base of business financial support; do you anticipate a decrease in funding? Response: Yes – some of our strongest support has been from Freddie Mac & Fannie Mae and unfortunately their promised funding has been held up.

Stephanie Mensh: With regards to Kindergarten and 1st grade, what is the impact of losing Head Start? Response: Overtime, children have a hard time catching up and social skills are adversely impacted.

Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)

Norman Hicks, president of ACCA presented the position of ACCA on the proposed reductions for the CCFP and DFS – LOB #67-08. ACCA's family emergency expenditures have risen 45% and revenues have only risen 6%, which means we have been using reserves to cover the additional expenditures. As a Non-Profit we have seen declining support and rising need. The services we provide support the county's plan to end homelessness and provide shelter to the homeless in the hypothermia program. Our Child Development Center (CDC) provides child care and early education for children of the working poor. With a decline in child care subsidies and private funding and an increase in costs, the CDC faces a

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2008
10777 Main St., Suite 310, Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax, VA

\$200K deficit. At the current rate, ACCA faces closure of the CDC's infant/toddler care unit by December 2009.

Question and Answer

Laura McDowall: You mentioned a mandated limit as to what can be charged; who is mandating this and why? Response: Anne-Marie Twohie – It is a statewide mandate for subsidy of rates; Infants and Toddlers rates have not been raised since 2004 and school age children rates since 2000. ACCA picks up the differences for families and costs have increased. Anne-Marie Twohie will work with Ron McDevitt to gather information on requests and report back to the Council.

Community and Recreation Services (CRS)

1) Therapeutic Services

Adam Toobin, participant and Donna Goldbranson, parent, presented the position of the Therapeutic Services on the proposed reductions for the CRS – Therapeutic Recreation Services relating to Priorities 13 and 20–LOB #50-03. The county provides over 1,000 programs for independent individuals; however, participants in need of Therapeutic Recreation Services perhaps can participate in only one of 30 programs because of the specialized services needed.

2) Community Centers

Terri Williams-Henderson, President of the Sideburn Civic Association, presented the position of the Community Centers on the proposed reductions for CRS Priorities 9 and 25-LOB #50-01. With particular regards to the David R Pinn Community Center, the community worked to increase participation by 300+% when faced cuts before in 1999. The historical sacrifices of David R. Pinn and so many in the community will suffer if funding is denied.

3) Teen Services

Luis Rosa-Padilla, participant, presented the position of the Teen Services on the proposed reductions for CRS Priorities 11, 15, 17, and 22-LOB #50-02. The Hideaway (South County) Teen Center did what no other person, not even my mother, could do. It saved my life. At the Teen Center, staff members are prepared to discuss topics with teens that are not addressed in the schools. Teens are our future leaders; without Teen Centers, how many of their lives will be lost?

4) Senior Services

Jack Kauffman, President of the Groveton Senior Center Advisory Council and participant, presented the position of the Senior Services on the proposed reductions for CRS Priorities 4, 18, and 24-LOBs #50-03 and #50-04. Senior Centers afford older adults socialization, camaraderie and a purpose for being. Senior Centers literally help keep older adults alive longer because they battle the trap of isolation and having no purpose to live.

5) Athletic Services

Mark Meana, Chairman of the Athletic Council, presented the position of the Athletic Services on the proposed reductions for CRS Priorities 8, 12, and 21-LOBs #50-05 and #50-06. The community-based youth sports programs run almost entirely by volunteers are a long-term investment in healthy lifestyles. They are an essential component of the county's human services and prevention efforts.

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, December 8, 2008
10777 Main St., Suite 310, Rowland Conference Center, Fairfax, VA

Question and Answer

Comment: Laura McDowall - Adam & Luis, the quality of life depends a lot on people standing up for it; thank you.

Stephanie Mensh: CRS is part of the community of people coming together and supporting people in positive ways. It is not about daily activities only, but rather about long-term health and well-being. Within the state, do we have the ability to tax private health clubs and/or members to support public programs? Response: Pat Franckewitz – We do maintain some partnerships to support our programs.

Comment: Carol Hawn – a developer is coming before the Sully District for an amendment to the comprehensive plan; requesting elimination of promised athletic accommodations. They need to be reminded of their commitment to the comprehensive plan and not be allowed to eliminate their earlier agreements.

Other Business: 9:25-9:40 PM

Henry Wulf – Ron McDevitt and I have been working on the preparation of three documents for distribution to the Council in relation to the LOBS Presentations:

- A summary,
- A summary by dept, and
- A summary by overall categories (3 levels of criteria), which includes programs across the agencies.

These will be handed out on Wednesday, Dec 10th for discussion at the Dec 15th HSC meeting.

Donna Fleming: I have a question for Verdia Haywood - Are the BOS and CEX going to step away from Human Services and call for 15% cuts no matter what? Or will they give Human Services some room?

Response: Verdia Haywood – No, they will not hold Human Services no matter what; they will consider the impact programs on people and the severity of the impact. The Council's recommendations should highlight the LOBs and the ranking. In the cover letter to BOS and CEX, themes should be highlighted.

Baba Freeman: When will we know the advertised tax rate? Response: Verdia Haywood – Some time in March; there will be a range of tax rates announced after the County Executive presents the recommended budget. The advertised budget is always on the last Monday in February.

Next meeting is December 10th at the Government Center, Conference Rooms 2&3. The Council's webpage provides the other December meeting dates and locations.

9:40 PM: Adjournment

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