

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2012
MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chair	<i>Present</i>	Baba Freeman	<i>Excused</i>
Donna J. Fleming, Vice Chair	<i>Excused</i>	Robert Gaudian	<i>Present</i>
Colonel Marion Barnwell	<i>Present</i>	Richard Gonzalez	<i>Not Present</i>
Richard P. Berger	<i>Present</i>	Carol Ann Hawn	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop	<i>Present</i>	Myra Herbert	<i>Present</i>
Steven Bloom	<i>Present</i>	William Kogler	<i>Excused</i>
Wendy Breseman	<i>Resigned</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
John R. Byers	<i>Excused</i>	Kathleen Murphy	<i>Excused</i>
Kenneth (Mark) Deal	<i>Excused</i>	Dr. Gerald V. Poje	<i>Present</i>
Robert L. Faherty	<i>Excused</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Present</i>
<u>Staff:</u>			
<i>Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive</i>			<i>Present</i>
<i>M. Gail Ledford, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)</i>			<i>Present</i>
<i>Brenda Gardiner, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)</i>			<i>Present</i>
<i>Ronald McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)</i>			<i>Present</i>
<i>Regina Stewart, Office of the County Executive</i>			<i>Present</i>

Guests and Other Attendees: Telly Whitfield, Janet Hubbell, Nannette Bowler, Ramona Simmons, Javier Jaramillo, Ina Fernandez, George Braunstein, Chris Leonard, Patti Stephens, Sara Brinkmoeller, Karla Bruce, Dai Nguyen, Dwight Curtis, Kevin Filbey, and Kathleen Kelmelis

7:37 p.m. - Call to Order

Henry Wulf called the meeting to order at 7:37p.m. He introduced himself and Stephanie Mensh as conveners for the meeting and introduced moderators Janet Hubbell and Telly Whitfield, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, to present the Connected Individuals presentation.

7:40 p.m. Connected Individuals Round Table (presentation /discussion)

Mr. Whitfield noted that "Connected individuals" means, "Those of all ages who contribute to and are invested in their community. Strong social bonds exist (at the individual, family and community level) which promote positive living and access to services."

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He stated that the Human Service System focuses on the general well-being of all residents of the county and its role is to protect, promote, and improve health and the quality of life to ensure that connected individuals are:

- **safe and secure** (individuals, youth, older adults, adults with disabilities, families)
- **capable of accessing** a range of services, resources and physical places
- **heard and influence** decisions
- **partners** who understand and address pressing human services issues and concerns
- **seeking opportunities** and are willing to give back to their community
- **supportive of** strengthening social bonds at an individual, family, neighborhood and community level

Mr. Whitfield indicated that the role of the Human Services Council is:

- Resident engagement...online, building community interest, forums, education sessions - meeting people where they are in their interest/abilities and helping to grow and sustain their commitment and investment
- Building community through conversation
- Personal involvement through representation of your community
- Using social media to communicate information/gather input from larger community
- Influence policy decisions
- Supporting and leveraging resources
- Evaluating return on investment
- Connecting with other boards, authorities, commissions

The full presentation is available on the Human Services Council webpage
http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hscouncil/minutes/connected_individuals.pdf.pdf.

Ms. Hubbell indicated that Mr. Wulf would discuss the resource guide handout.

Questions/Comments/Concerns expressed by council members

- Hope Center in Herndon is a model for community connectivity
- Envision a one stop entity, interconnected nonprofit center (one location provides opportunity to meet needs comprehensively)
- How can we use the resources of volunteers?
- There is a need to evaluate how we are already connected...Are there collaborations between regional offices and agencies or relationships with schools and nonprofits?
- Fairfax County does a poor job of keeping in contact with its community members - should try to connect with associations
- What is meant by community?
- Schools are the biggest central focus – but others pointed out that resources are especially needed for all age ranges, particularly in recognition of the growing older adult population

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- There are insufficient services for kids with special needs when they start to age out of school based and funded services and transition to adulthood. Schools need to work with human services before these youth reach ages 18-21.
- Most important issue for schools is an education for the kids
- A much greater commitment from county leaders to generate resources is needed
- Collaborations could be formed with George Mason University to build communications strategies to the broader community
- Core infrastructure is needed and when services are housed together it helps with collaborative strategies
- Suggested corporations could be available to provide space in their building to nonprofits
- It is a challenge to put a “face” on the need in the county
- Community coalitions have to take on an identity of their own
- Organizations should be taught how to brand themselves
- The population is changing and there is a need to start building resources for others outside of schools
- What can the Human Service Council do to perform outreach, education, and engagement?
- What are the mechanisms to communicate?
- Are there concepts or goals of what the Human Services Council’s role should be?
- Council should identify priorities for 2012 and focus on those

Deputy County Executive Patricia Harrison indicated the community and staff should be pulled together to determine the key priorities and connect people in the planning process. She said it is a big job to connect with the community. Ms. Harrison said several initiatives are underway to form greater collaborations with schools. She said Opportunity Neighborhood is a program that looks at planning and the delivery of services within a pyramid of schools. Ms. Harrison indicated that the school model works such that when issues are identified, they are addressed with the family as a whole. She said nonprofits and the community should be involved to assist with developing solutions.

8:50 p.m. Executive Committee report (*information*)

9:20 pm. Draft budget schedule:
March 12th – Government Center
March 13th – Little River Glen Senior Center
March 19th - Government Center
March 27th - Human Services Council presents to the Board of Supervisors

9:25 p.m. Approval of December 2011 meeting minutes - The minutes were approved.

New Business: Upcoming HSC meetings, calendar

- Wendy Breseman submitted her resignation from the council
- Supervisor Cook is gathering input regarding selection for the next County Executive via his website
- Mr. Wulf thanked the council members and staff for the engaging discussion

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Next Human Services Council Meetings: February 6th and February 28th at 7:30 p.m.
Conference Rooms 4/5

Adjournment: The Human Services Council meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.