



Early Childhood Education Update

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Board of Supervisors Health and Human Services Committee

July 26, 2021

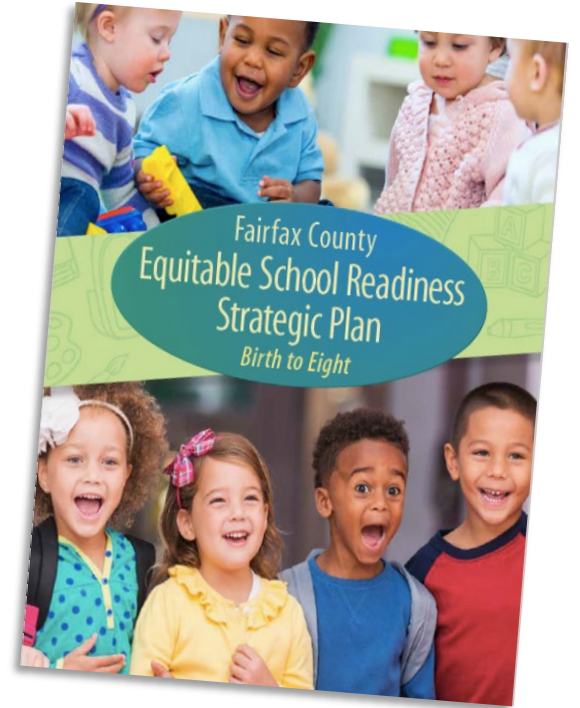


Agenda

1. Equitable Early Childhood System
2. Early Childhood Landscape
3. Early Childhood Program Supply
4. Ready Region Capital Area

Vision: All children enter kindergarten at their optimal developmental level with equitable opportunity for success.

Mission: Families, communities, schools and the county work together to build an equitable, coordinated and comprehensive system that ensures young children in Fairfax County are ready to be successful in kindergarten and beyond.



Guiding Principles

Families

- Families are the experts about their children and their partnership and leadership is key to developing an equitable early childhood system

Birth to Eight

- The period of birth to age eight is critical for a child's health, development and learning

Equity

- All families, regardless of income, neighborhood in which they live, race, ethnicity, linguistic or cultural background have access to high quality, affordable, inclusive early childhood programs and school readiness supports

Early Childhood Workforce

- Early childhood educators who provide quality experiences are foundational to positive outcomes for children

Quality

- High quality early childhood experiences in all settings provide positive outcomes for children

Mixed Delivery System

- Access to public and private early learning and development programs is key to meeting the needs of the community

Children Under Age Five in Fairfax County*

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yr.	3 yr.	4 yr.	TOTALS Children under 5yr
ALL CHILDREN Under Age 5	13,820	15,031	16,150	16,304	15,295	76,600
Under 100% FPL	1,388	1,277	1,393	1,242	1,886	7,186
Under 200% FPL	3,065	3,168	3,923	3,450	3,845	17,451
Under 300% FPL	4,416	4,650	5,765	5,204	5,507	25,542
Under 350% FPL	5,121	5,652	6,843	5,833	6,575	30,024



Disparities in Learning and Development
Can Begin in Infancy

*ACS 2019 5-Year Estimates raw data (PUMS).

Children Birth to Five Served in Publicly Funded Programs

Early Childhood Centers, Family Child Care Homes and FCPS Pre-K

Program	County	FCPS	Community/HS /EHS Program	Total
Early Head Start, Head Start, Community and FCPS Pre-K	791	1,829	224	2,844
Child Care Assistance and Referral (0-5)	2,085	–	–	2,085
Total				4,929

Home-Based and Other Settings

Program	County	FCPS	Community	Total
Nurse-Family Partnership	80	–	–	80
Healthy Families Fairfax	152	–	–	152
HIPPY	–	344	–	344
Early Literacy	–	483	–	483
Family Literacy	–	135	–	135
WeePlay Group	–	89	–	89
Early Head Start Home-Based	–	–	72	72
Total				1,355

Increased by

700

children



Fall 2021: 5,584 Children
Summer 2022: 6,284 Children

TOTAL:
6,284

Source:
Fairfax County and FCPS

Additional Strategies for Increasing Access

- FCPS expanding WeePlay Groups for parents and children
- County offering new weekly pre-K groups in ten neighborhoods throughout the County

Program	Projected Child Capacity	Start Date
Pre-K Groups	120	Fall 2022
WeePlay	70	Fall 2022
Total	190	

- Current capital projects with early childhood facilities

Project Site	Projected Child Capacity	Projected Completion Date
Kingstowne	78	Spring of 2025
Original Mount Vernon	172	Summer of 2025
Willard	124	Spring 2027
Hybla Valley Community Center	75-100	TBD
Total	474	

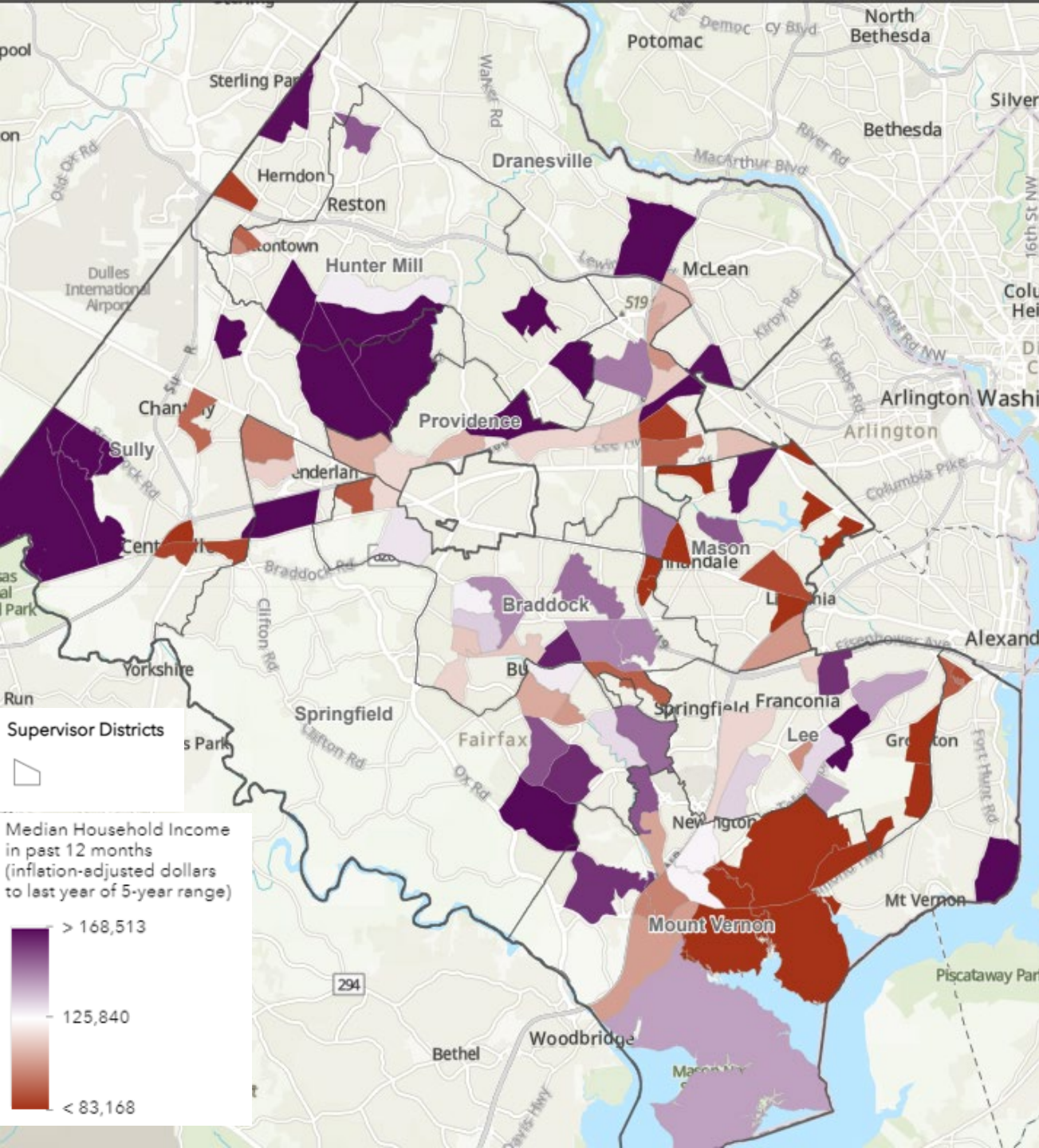
- Potential Projects: Judicial Center and Tysons

Early Childhood Program Supply



Program Type	March 2020	July 2022	Percent change
Early Childhood Centers	419	414	(1%)
Family Child Care Homes	1,502	1,299	(14%)
Total	1,921	1,713	(11%)

Early Childhood Program Supply



Definition: Child care deserts as defined by Center for American Progress & modified to include Fairfax County permitted child care homes : A child care desert is any census tract with more than 50 children under age 5 that contains either no child care providers or so few options that there are more than three times as many children as state licensed/ county permitted child care slots.

Sources:

1. Population: ACS 2019 5 Year Data
2. Provider Capacity: November 2021 OFC Data
 - Includes Fairfax Permitted Family Home Providers and FCPS PreK programs, all other Regulated child care programs except SACC.

Ready Region Capital Area

Fairfax County, Arlington County, Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, and Falls-Church

Unified Early Childhood System

- Ongoing recruitment of early childhood programs - **Join Virginia Quality Birth to Five (VQB5) and RecognizeB5!**
- Providing professional learning and quality supports
- Establishing a governance structure which is inclusive of families and educators
- Developing a coordinated enrollment system for the region
- Engaging the business and philanthropic communities

All publicly funded programs are required to join by July 2023

