

Response to Questions on the FY 2008 Advertised Budget Plan

Request By: Supervisor Gross

Question: Please provide recommendations for changing/modifying the CCAR program if state/federal funding continues to be constrained (i.e. is there another way of providing this service)?

Response: Fairfax County is required to administer the Child Care Assistance and Referral (CCAR) program in adherence with state child care policy (i.e., case management, work and training eligibility, parental choice and other requirements). Since the County must follow state guidelines, the County is limited in changing/modifying the structure of the CCAR program. Additionally, the County must continue to provide services to the mandated population (i.e. those served through TANF/VIEW); however, the County could modify program criteria, such as income eligibility limit, for the non-mandated population (i.e. children from low-income working families). The average income of families in the program at this time is approximately \$25,671; the maximum income eligibility limit for a family of four is 275% of the federal poverty level (\$55,008). However, should state/federal funding continue to be constrained, staff could evaluate the impact of adjusting current income eligibility criteria for the program.