

Response to Questions on the FY 2019 Budget

Request By: Chairman Bulova

Question: Please provide additional information on the Innovation Fund included in the Health and Human Services Resource Plan including options for funding.

Response:

The Innovation Fund is a new initiative proposed by the County intended to encourage businesses and non-profits to team up to implement new and innovative approaches that transform their service delivery practices, create entrepreneurial venues that support the mission of the non-profits, or utilize technology to improve customer outcomes. The fund would provide matched seed funding for up to three years to test new service methods, integrate technology with practices, evaluate approaches, meet franchise fees and outfit small business entrepreneurial services, and other areas that will result in a fundamental change in service/business.

Funding of \$0.2 million for the Innovation Fund is included in the Health and Human Services Resource Plan; however, funding was not included in the FY 2019 Advertised Budget Plan. If funded, the Fairfax County Human Services Council supports using this funding to leverage community resources and further develop an innovative initiative in support of the Original Mount Vernon School. However, it is anticipated that under the direction of the Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services, a process for selecting projects would be developed based on community needs and the opportunity to achieve systems change. If the Board of Supervisors is interested in funding this initiative, it is recommended that funding be included in the *FY 2018 Carryover Review*. This will give staff time to develop a selection process and present the plan at the June 26, 2018 Health, Housing & Human Services Committee meeting.