

DFS HOUSING SUPPORTS

Advisory Social Services Board

September 21, 2022



FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
FAMILY SERVICES





COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

SAFETY &
PROTECTION

FAMILY
RESILIENCE &
QUALITY OF LIFE

ECONOMIC
SELF-SUFFICIENCY

EFFECTIVE
& EFFICIENT
GOVERNMENT

STRATEGIC PLAN



ONE FAIRFAX

DFS MISSION ✨ VISION ✨ EQUITY PLAN

DFS VALUES

People-Focused | Equity | Accountability | Partnership | Innovation

VISION

Fairfax County is a community where everyone lives their success story and thrives.

MISSION

The Department of Family Services strengthens the wellbeing of our diverse community by protecting and improving the lives of all children, adults, and families through assistance, partnership, advocacy outreach and quality services.

CORE VALUES

- ▶ People-Focused
- ▶ Equity
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Partnership
- ▶ Innovation

Adult & Aging– Promoting Housing Stability

- ✓ **Aging, Disability, and Caregiver Resource (ADCR) Intake Line 703-324-7948**

- Connects individuals to housing resources such as, Rental Assistance, HUD Housing, or other A&A Supportive Services listed here:

- ✓ **Volunteer Solutions**

Mobilizes and connects volunteers with meaningful opportunities which support older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers in the community with maintaining their housing environment. Services include:

- Trash removal, light housekeeping, and organizing
- Minor household repairs
- Yardwork
- Grocery shopping
- Helping Hands project – which aids individuals in preventing eviction from hoarding or unsafe conditions
- Transportation Support
- Social Visitation and meaningful social engagement opportunities

Adult & Aging— Promoting Housing & Accessibility

✓ Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Advocates for improving care and quality of life for those ages 60 and over who receive long-term care services in their homes

✓ Medical Respite Program (MRP)

Provides care and support for men and women experiencing homelessness as they recover from an acute medical need.

Services are provided in partnership with the following:

- Embury Rucker shelter in Reston
- Bailey's Shelter in Falls Church,
- Fairfax County Health Department
- Office to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Community-based nonprofit partners.

✓ Disability Rights & Resources

➤ Affordable Housing List

This list contains information about apartments in Fairfax County that might provide reduced rent via their participation in an affordable housing program. Including housing sites which accept Housing Choice Vouchers.

➤ Accessible Housing List

This list contains information about apartments in Fairfax County that meet minimum accessibility standards, per the Fair Housing Accessibility Guidelines.

Adult & Aging – Housing Stability & Accessibility

✓ **Lincolnia Assisted Living Facility (ALF)**

A licensed and subsidized ALF for persons in need of supportive services which offers 26 semi-private assisted living facility beds for low income. A DFS liaison dedicated to this site, helps ensure residents needs are met through advocacy. The liaison helps residents maintain their public benefits, which pays a portion of their rent.

✓ **Case Management Support - Housing**

Social Service Specialists support residents housed at various sites including: Herndon Harbor House, Burke Lake Gardens, Lewinsville Retirement Residence, Mount Vernon House, Tysons Towers, Little River Glen, Olley Glen, among others.

A&A also offers assessments for those in need of Nursing Home or Assisted Living Facility. Persons functional and financial needs are evaluated and once qualified, assistance with placement is made.

✓ **Adult Services - Home Based Care (HBC)**

The Home-Based Care program offers a wide range of services and case management support to help people remain in their own homes. This can include housekeeping, grocery shopping, bathing, etc. Services are available on the basis of eligibility after an assessment by the case manager.

✓ **Adult Foster Care (AFC)**

Offers room and board, supervision, and special services to an adult who has a physical or mental health need in the providers' home. The local program is an alternative option to an Assisted Living Facility. A dedicated DFS liaison helps to certify community providers and assist residents with renewals of their public pay benefits.

Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Housing Support Activities

- Assessment for housing insecurity issues among families
- Case management interventions to support housing stability, including providing information about housing programs and low-cost housing options as well as household budgeting support
- Connect families with Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) to access available housing supports, including ongoing advocacy throughout the process
- Provide concrete financial supports to families through grants to maintain housing
- Connect eligible families and foster youth with Family Unification Program (FUP) Housing Choice Vouchers (see next slide for details)
- Exploring Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Vouchers with Housing partners (HUD grants) – future

Family Unification Program (FUP)

Provides Housing Choice Vouchers to 2 populations:

1. Families where housing insecurity is a primary factor in either the imminent separation of children or a delay in discharge of children from foster care
 - Additional criteria:
 - Caretaker employed or attending school at least 30 hours/week, or has a disability / is caring for a child with a disability
 - Caretaker cannot have felony record for drugs or serious offenses or be a registered sex offender
 - All household members are documented
 - Household can remain stably housed without long-term intensive supports
 - No time limit on these vouchers
2. Foster youth 18-24 who have left or will leave foster care within 90 days and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
 - Time limit of 36 months
 - Requirement that supportive services also be provided for 18 months

DSVS Housing Supports: Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline

Crisis Line Specialists and volunteers provide coverage to our 24-hour hotline that assists with information and referral to emergency shelter, family shelter, and other housing and financial needs.

Crisis Line Specialists:

- Share information about and provide referrals to Artemis House and Bethany House.
- Refer to CSP for family shelter, singles shelter, and financial assistance related to rental and utility assistance.
- Complete warm handovers Advocacy Services to connect individuals with housing related needs, including screening and assistance with shelter entry, accessing financial supports to maintain housing, and ongoing supports.

DSVS: Housing and Economic Specialist

DSVS has a specialist position dedicated to assisting the division, partners and clients on complex cases. The Housing and Economic Specialist completes comprehensive assessments, provides information and referrals and engages in the following activities:

- Manages DV Referrals to the Rental Services and Supports Program (RSSP), in collaboration with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS)
- Manages referrals to the Domestic Violence Supportive Housing Prevention Program (DVSH) in collaboration with Shelter House, Inc.
- Represents DSVS on the Housing Continuum of Care Committee
- Implements established screening protocol to refer high danger victims directly to Artemis House

PAES Housing Support – Short-term/One-Time Assistance

TANF Diversionary Assistance	TANF Emergency Assistance
<p>Diversionary Assistance provides short-term, one-time only assistance to resolve a specific emergency due to temporary loss of or delay in receiving income.</p> <p>This program is intended to prevent the need for ongoing TANF assistance for families if immediate intervention can resolve a one-time emergency or crisis related to basic needs, such as shelter expenses.</p>	<p>Emergency Assistance provides payment assistance to TANF eligible households that have experienced a natural disaster, fire, or facing eviction resulting in immediate unmet needs for maintaining the household.</p> <p>This program is intended to aid needy families in crisis who are eligible for TANF or are receiving TANF.</p>
<p>The amount of assistance provided can be up to the maximum TANF amount for four (4) months or \$1,500, whichever is greater.</p> <p>The amount of the payment is based on the immediate needs of the applicant.</p>	<p>The amount of assistance provided can be up to the \$1,500 to meet the household’s declared needs.</p> <p>The amount of the payment is based on the immediate unmet need for maintaining the household.</p>
<p>Receipt of Diversionary Assistance results in a period of ineligibility for TANF.</p> <p>Diversionary Assistance can only be received once in a 12-month period.</p>	<p>Receipt of Emergency Assistance results in a period of ineligibility to the applicant for 365 days beginning 30 days after the first issuance is made.</p>