

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Human Services Council
GENERAL BODY MEETING

Monday, September 19, 2022

at

7:00 p.m.

will be held electronically due to the
COVID-19 pandemic.

Live Zoom meeting may be accessed:

PC, Mac, Linux, IOS or Android

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81042557383>

Password: HSC202!mtg

or

by dialing:

602-333-0032 (USA)

888-270-9936 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 926143

(Live Closed Captioning Will Be Provided)

Meeting materials will be posted online at
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/human-services-council

or by contacting V. Coleman at
viola.coleman@fairfaxcounty.gov.

This will be a General Body Meeting

For ADA accommodations, please contact 703-324-4600. TTY: VA Relay 711

Human Services Council-General Monthly Meeting

Virtual – Video/Audio Conference

Zoom Information:

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS, or Android:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81042557383>

Password: **HSC202!mtg**

Or telephone: 1-888-270-9936 (code: 926143)

September 19, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

<i>Call to Order</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)
<i>Roll Call (Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting)</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)
<i>Approve August Meeting Minutes</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)
<i>Health and Human Services Update</i>	Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services)
<i>2023 HSC Calendar</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)
<i>Member Sharing</i>	HSC members
<i>Chair's Report</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)
<i>Adjourn</i>	Michele Menapace (Chair)

Next HSC General Membership Meeting: **October 17, 2022, 7 p.m.**

Human Services Council Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81042557383> with password HSC202!mtg,
or telephone 602-333-0032, 888-270-9936 (U.S. Toll Free), conference code 926143

HSC Members Present: Michele Menapace (Chair/Lee), Alis Wang (Vice Chair/Mason), Kevin Bell (At-Large), Martin Machowsky (At-Large), Christopher Falcon (Mason), Rev. Dr. Jerrold L. Foltz (Sully), Thomas Goodwin (Providence), William Kogler (Springfield), Steven Lam (Springfield), Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill), Adwoa Rey (Mt. Vernon), Paul Thomas (Hunter Mill), and Dr. Patrice Winter (Braddock).

HSC Members Excused: Dr. Fatima Mirza (Dranesville).

HSC Members Absent: Steven Bloom (Dranesville), Robert Faherty (Lee), and Leah Ganssle (Sully).

Staff Present: Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for HHS), Sarah Allen (Neighborhood and Community Services [NCS]), Ramona Carroll (NCS), Jill Clark (NCS), Viola Coleman (NCS), Jenifer Henry-Jones (NCS), Norma Lopez (NCS), and Katina Matthews (NCS).

Call to Order: Human Services Council (HSC) Vice-Chair Wang called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Vice-Chair Wang took attendance and made the requisite motions required for virtual meetings as part of Virginia FOIA compliance.

Vice-Chair Wang explained the need to conduct the HSC meeting electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has made it unsafe for the HSC and the public to physically assemble. The live video and audio Zoom meeting was accessible by computer or phone. Vice-Chair Wang moved to approve conducting the meeting electronically. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried. Winter moved for the necessity to move forward with all the matters discussed in tonight's meeting for the continuity and continuation of operations and the discharge of the HSC's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Approval of the Minutes: The July 18, 2022 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Foltz moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried.

Health and Human Services Updates: Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services (HHS) reminded the HSC of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) memos (NIPs) that were recently shared with them. He noted that one of the NIPs outlines resources available in extreme heat for people experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations. He informed that a workgroup was currently exploring strategies to enhance the County's response during heat emergencies. He also reminded the HSC that the next BOS HHS Committee meeting will be on October 4 and the next BOS Housing Committee meeting will be on November 22.

Leonard announced that a webpage has been developed on reproductive health care to inform residents of the status of Virginia law and a link to accessing information about services in the Human Services Resource Guide. He said a new multidisciplinary workgroup will work with Government Relations staff to analyze any new legislation that is introduced during the 2023 session.

He added that the carryover package features several HHS items, including funding for child care, a new community center, and new family shelter. Leonard also noted that the County was able to access additional Emergency Rental Assistance funds from the Treasury Department, which will be used for the County's Emergency Rental Assistance Bridge Program.

HHS Innovation Challenge Fund: Patrice Wood shared the background and history of the Innovation Challenge that she and Tom Goodwin have been championing for the past several years. Jenifer Henry-Jones and Norma Lopez, and Katina Matthews provided an update on the 2022 HHS Innovation Challenge Fund. They shared the fund's purpose, goals, eligibility, process, timeline, and monitoring and communications plan. Henry-Jones noted that by focusing on economic opportunity, the Fund aligns with existing county initiatives and strategies to address barriers to economic mobility among the most vulnerable residents in the County. She noted that \$200,000 will be awarded to businesses and nonprofits with two awards of \$50,000 and four awards of \$25,000.

Matthews reported that there will be a new procurement process and therefore the timeline is still under development. They are hoping to launch this effort in Fall 2022 with an award in Winter 2023. She added that there will be an opportunity for HSC representation on the selection advisory committee to evaluate proposals.

Adoption of the HSC Remote Participation and All-Virtual Meetings Policies: Due to a new state law that takes effect September 1, Chair Menapace announced that the HSC will need to adopt remote participation and all-virtual meeting policies for the HSC to allow members to participate remotely and for certain meetings to be conducted virtually.

Menapace noted that there are exemptions in place that allows for those to participate remotely due to a disability or being a family caregiver to someone with a disability. It would take new legislation to be passed in the 2023 General Assembly session to modify the law.

Chair Menapace stated that there are issues to resolve once the local state of emergency is lifted, including establishing a process to have a quorum in-person, securing meeting space at the Government Center due to vaccine clinics and in-person voting, and ensuring that the meeting space is equipped with technology to support a hybrid meeting.

Menapace moved to approve the two policies as written. Machowsky made a motion and was seconded by Winter. The motion carried.

Member Sharing: Follow-up meeting materials will be sent out tomorrow, including Poje's resources on affordable housing.

Chair's Report: Menapace encouraged HSC members to contact their supervisors and state legislators with any concerns regarding the new state law for remote participation and all-virtual public meetings.

Adjournment: Chair Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Minutes captured by Coleman.

**Human Services Council
2023 Calendar for Meetings and Important Dates**

Date	Meeting/Event
January 23, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting* <i>Meeting date changed due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.</i>
February 27, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting* <i>*Meeting date changed due to Presidents' Day holiday.</i> <i>Form a Budget Committee</i> <i>Invite CFO to present HHS-related budget</i>
March 20, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting <i>Approve HSC budget letter</i>
April 17, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
May 15, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting <i>Establish a Nominations Committee for HSC officers</i>
June 26, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting* <i>*Meeting date changed due to Juneteenth Day holiday.</i> <i>Vote on HSC officers for FY 24-25</i>
July 17, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
August 21, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
September 18, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
October 16, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
November 20, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting
December 18, 2023, 7 p.m.	Human Services Council Meeting




County of Fairfax, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 14, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Christopher A. Leonard 
Deputy County Executive

SUBJECT: Update – Economic Mobility Pilot Project

This memorandum is intended to provide Board members with an update on the development and implementation of the County's Economic Mobility Pilot Project. This project, outlined and discussed at the [June 29, 2021 Health and Human Services Committee presentation](#), is based on the policy approach of guaranteed income, or recurring, unrestricted cash payments, to targeted groups of people as a supplement to existing sources of income aimed at providing economic stability. Funding for the cash payments is being paid from resources available through the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) with other aspects of the program, including optional coaching and support services and a research component, being supported through the Human Services Council's Innovation Fund. The design phase has been somewhat extended as staff have worked through contractual processes as well as state and federal benefits discussions, which had to occur before a Design Team was able to start work on program eligibility and design.

Fairfax County's Economic Mobility Pilot is being implemented in partnership with national non-profit organization [UpTogether](#). UpTogether works from an innovative anti-poverty approach that recognizes the power of communities to create their own solutions and lift people into the middle class. UpTogether trusts and invests in low-income families so they can work to achieve prosperity. This process is facilitated using a technology platform where families can strengthen social networks, access cash, and support each other in achieving mobility. The approach includes three elements: (1) direct cash investments to families; (2) freedom of choice for the families to use the cash as they deem necessary; and (3) developing community using a technology platform for participants to build and strengthen their social networks.

A Design Team (membership attached) facilitated by UpTogether has been engaged for the past several months to develop the key aspects of the pilot effort moving forward. The team is comprised of the County's Chief Equity Officer, Human Services Council representation, County departments (Economic Initiatives, Family Services, and Neighborhood and Community Services), non-profit partners (Britepaths, Cornerstones, FACETS, Second Story, and United Community), philanthropic organizations (Venture Philanthropy Partners and United Way of the National Capital Area), and Community Advisors who are Fairfax County residents with lived experiences of poverty to represent the voices of diverse and modest income families.

Office of the County Executive
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552
Fairfax, VA 22035-0066
703-324-2531, TTY 711, Fax 703-324-3956
www.fairfaxcounty.gov

Board of Supervisors
Update – Economic Mobility Pilot Project
Page 2 of 3

Informed by UpTogether's 20+ years of experience and insights gleaned from recent guaranteed income pilots implemented by jurisdictions in Virginia and across the country, the Design Team has recommended the eligibility parameters for Fairfax County's Economic Mobility Pilot to be residents of Fairfax County (for at least one year at the time of enrollment), are employed, earn between 150 and 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, have at least one child aged 16 years or younger living in the household, and who reside in a zip code currently designated as an [Opportunity Neighborhood](#) or that would qualify as an Opportunity Neighborhood. Given the cost of living in the County and the presumed amount of time it would take to observe and assess the effects of guaranteed income on participant's lives, the Design Team further recommended that pilot participants receive a monthly cash allotment in the amount of \$750 for a period of at least 18 months. It should be noted that it was the preference of most of the Design Team members that the pilot would last 24 months for maximum impact, however, it was ultimately decided to limit the pilot to 18 months to allow for more households to participate in the pilot and to ensure that pilot expenditures are completed within the time frame required for use of ARPA funds.

It is anticipated that 150 participating families will provide this pilot with the data necessary to consider the possibility of proposing to the Board a permanent structure for this type of program. Given the current 18-month timeline upon full implementation, that proposal would be considered as part of the FY 2026 budget, at the earliest. Further, with the Design Team's desired monthly amount, it is anticipated that \$500,000 will be required in addition to the \$1.5 million already allocated from ARPA funds. Staff are working with the County Executive and the Department of Management and Budget to ensure that those funds are available and will be included in the next stimulus update.

In addition, the Design Team members have worked to ensure that the County's pilot avoids any harm to participating families who could suffer from the benefits cliff or the loss of government-provided benefits. The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) has clarified that cash grants to families under this pilot may be counted as a gift to avoid a potential loss or diminishment of most benefits administered by VDSS, except for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), since such a waiver is explicitly not permitted by federal policy. It has been the clear position of the Design Team that while the County wants to mitigate any potential loss in benefits, the ultimate decision to participate in the pilot and risk losing benefits should rest with families.

As planning continues, the Design Team will focus on devising the recruitment and selection process and developing messaging and outreach strategies with an intended recruitment launch in October and enrollment of the selected pilot participants by the end of calendar year 2022. Beyond the design phase, the Department of Family Services (DFS) will serve as the lead agency in implementing the pilot, with ongoing engagement and contributions from Neighborhood and Community Services, the Chief Equity Officer, as well as non-profit, philanthropic and research partners. DFS will work to ensure the collective provision of voluntary support services to participating families, quantitative and qualitative pilot assessment methods and reporting, and the development of policies, practices, and staff training needed to ensure fidelity to and consistency with our "trust and invest" pilot philosophy.

Board of Supervisors
Update – Economic Mobility Pilot Project
Page 3 of 3

A further update will be provided toward the end of this calendar year, after outreach and recruitment processes launch and before the program begins disbursing resources in early 2023. Until then, please direct any questions to [Michael Becketts](#), DFS Director, at 703-324-7749.

Attachment

cc: Bryan J. Hill, County Executive
Christina Jackson, Chief Financial Officer and Director, DMB
Tom Arnold, Deputy County Executive
Rachel Flynn, Deputy County Executive
Ellicia Seard-McCormick, Deputy County Executive
Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Officer
Michael Becketts, Director, Department of Family Services
Rebecca Moudry, Director, Department of Economic Initiatives
Lloyd Tucker, Director, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services
Members, Fairfax County Human Services Council

Fairfax County Economic Mobility Design Team Membership Roster

Name	Organization Type	Organization Name
Nasia A.	Community	Community Advisor
Michael Becketts	County	Department of Family Services
Theresa Benincasa	County	Department of Economic Initiatives
Alycia Blackwell	County	Department of Family Services
Telaekah Brooks	Philanthropy	Venture Philanthropy Partners
Karla Bruce	County	Chief Equity Officer
Stephanie Crane	Philanthropy	United Way National Capital Area
Hanan D.	Community	Community Advisor
Alison DeCoursey	CBO	United Community
Judith Dittman	CBO	Second Story
Keisha Dotson	County	Neighborhood and Community Services
Limya E.	Community	Community Advisor
Joe Fay	CBO	FACETS
Tom Goodwin	County BAC	Human Services Council
Jamie Goucher	County	Department of Economic Initiatives
Dawn Hyman	County	Project Manager (One Fairfax)
Daniel Mekibib	County	Department of Family Services
Iveth P.	Community	Community Advisor
Lloyd Tucker	County	Neighborhood and Community Services
Pallas Washington	County	Neighborhood and Community Services
Lisa Whetzel	CBO	Britepaths
Cecil W.	Community	Community Advisor
Kerrie Wilson	CBO	Cornerstones