

Fairfax County Human Services Council
Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2023, 7 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9971921259?omn=84751300783>,
or telephone 888-270-9936 with conference code: 926143

HSC Members Present: Kevin Bell (At-Large), Barbara Broman (Mt. Vernon), Jane Edmondson (Dranesville), Robert Faherty (Franconia), Thomas Goodwin (Providence), Steven Lam (Springfield), Martin Machowsky (At-Large), Michele Menapace (Chair/Franconia), Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill), Manolya Tanyu (Braddock), Paul Thomas (Hunter Mill), and Edward Yost (Sully).

HSC Members Excused: Maria Posey (Braddock) and Michael Smith (Mt. Vernon).

HSC Members Absent: William Kogler (Springfield).

Staff Present: Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for HHS), Michelle Gregory, Department of Management and Budget [DMB], Chloe Lee (DMB), Javier Jaramillo (DMB), Jill Clark (Department of Neighborhood and Community Services [NCS]), and Viola Coleman (NCS).

Call to Order: Human Services Council Chair Menapace called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Chair Menapace took attendance and made the requisite motions required for all-virtual meetings as part of Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) compliance. The live video and audio Zoom meeting feed were accessible by computer or phone. Chair Menapace moved to approve conducting the meeting electronically. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Approval of the Minutes: The November 20, 2023 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Bell moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried.

Health and Human Services Monthly Update: Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services (HHS), reported that there were no memos (i.e., NIPs) sent to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) this month. The FY 2025 budget forecast was presented at the November 28 BOS Budget Policy Committee joint meeting with the School Board. The advertised budget and the HHS Strategic Allocation of Resources (StAR) Plan will be released on February 20, 2024. The next BOS HHS Committee meeting will be held on January 30, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

Healthy Communities Dashboard: Michelle Gregory, Countywide Data Analytics Division Director and data scientists Chloe Lee and Javier Jaramillo from the Department of Management and Budget presented on the new Healthy Communities Dashboard. The dashboards are designed to inform residents and stakeholders, monitor progress over time, identify any demographic or geographic disparities among residents, and guide community leaders, practitioners, and advocates in making data-driven decisions. Additional dashboards will be released soon and the information will inform the work of the Countywide Strategic Plan. Gregory added that the focus for the dashboard data is not to promote programs or address social issues, but to provide a baseline on what is happening in the community overall.

2024 HHS Stakeholders Retreat: Chair Menapace reported that after recent discussions with Council members and NCS staff, it was decided to name this event a “summit” instead of a retreat, which will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2024. With a combination of three groups (i.e., County government, nonprofit leaders, and HHS BACs), this event will focus on strategies to increase synergy to meet the needs of health and human services in the community. A planning committee will be working on event and more details will be shared soon.

Member Sharing: Poje reported that the [Affordable Housing Advisory Council](#) met on December 15 and focused on development of its 2024 workplan. Thomas reported that the [Successful Children & Youth Policy Team](#) met on December 6 and included a legislative update, presentations on funding for early childhood initiatives, and information on housing and education. An equity improvement plan was also presented at this meeting. Broman reported that the [Health Care Advisory Board](#) is monitoring the Medicaid unwinding and they may have metrics that may be helpful to the Council.

Chair's Items: Menapace reported that Alis Wang resigned from the Council. The Council has two new members: Michael Smith and Jane Edmondson.

Adjournment: Chair Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Minutes captured by Coleman.