



Fairfax County Human Services Council

Educating ♦ Supporting ♦ Engaging
the Fairfax Community

MEETING AGENDA

March 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Fairfax County Government Center
Conference Room 11

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| I. | Call to Order | Michele Menapace, Chair |
| II. | Approval of February Meeting Minutes | Michele Menapace, Chair |
| III. | Monthly HHS Update | Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for HHS |
| IV. | HHS Partners Summit Debrief and Next Steps | HSC Members |
| V. | HSC Budget Committee Report Out | Paul Thomas, Vice Chair |
| VI. | 2024 General Assembly Recap | Jill Clark, HHS Policy & Planning Manager |
| VII. | Chair's Items | Michele Menapace, Chair |
| VIII. | Member Sharing | HSC Members |
| IX. | Adjourn | Michele Menapace, Chair |

**Next HSC Meeting: April 15, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Government Center in
Conference Room 11**

Fairfax County Human Services Council
Meeting Minutes
February 26, 7 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9971921259?omn=89044620838>
or by telephone: 888-270-9936 (US Toll Free) with Conference code 926143

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

HSC Members Excused: Jane Edmondson (Dranesville) and Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill)

HSC Members Absent: William Kogler (Springfield) and Michael Smith (Mt. Vernon).

Staff Present: Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services (HHS)), Christina Jackson (Chief Financial Officer), Katie Horstman (Department of Management and Budget), Lloyd Tucker (Director, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)), Sarah Allen (Deputy Director, NCS), Jill Clark (NCS), and Viola Coleman (NCS).

Call to Order: Chair Menapace called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Chair Menapace took attendance and made the requisite motions required for virtual meetings as part of Virginia FOIA compliance and in accordance with the Council's bylaws. The live video and audio Zoom meeting were accessible by computer or phone.

Approval of the Minutes: The January 22, 2024 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Bell moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried.

FY 2025 Advertised Budget Presentation: Christina Jackson, Chief Financial Officer, presented highlights from the FY 2025 advertised budget. She shared information about revenue and new spending in the proposed budget. Targeted investments include contract rate increases, early childhood, and affordable housing. She then reviewed the opportunities to provide input to the Board and the timeline for the budget adoption. Katie Horstman, deputy director, Department of Management and Budget, responded to questions on HHS agencies' reductions and employee recruitment/retention challenges.

Menapace reminded attendees that there will be an opportunity to ask more budget questions at the HHS Partners Summit on Saturday. She noted that due to the reduction in Board Budget Committee meetings this year, the Council will not have the opportunity to present its budget recommendations during a Budget Committee. Menapace and Paul Thomas will instead be presenting during the public budget hearings. Thomas noted that the Council will also be sending a letter with their budget recommendations to the Board.

FY 2025 StAR Plan: Jill Clark, HHS Policy and Planning Manager, provided an overview of the newly-released [FY 2025 Strategic Allocation of Resources \(StAR\) Plan](#), which will be covered more extensively at the HHS Partners Summit. She provided some background information on the evolution of StAR and its three goals. Clark explained the three components to each item in the Plan and the enhancements that were added to this year's plan. There was some discussion on how to capture Capital Improvement Program projects in the StAR Plan.

Health and Human Services Monthly Update: Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for HHS, reported that there was a memo (i.e., NIP) with an update on Medicaid unwinding sent to the Board

today. He reminded members that the next BOS Housing Committee meeting will be held on February 27 at 9:30 a.m., which will include a comprehensive update on rental assistance and eviction prevention and mitigation efforts. There will also be a Budget Policy Committee tomorrow at 3 p.m., which will be a joint meeting with the School Board.

HHS Partners Summit: Leonard reported that the HHS senior leadership team will be in attendance to answer agency-specific questions about the FY 2025 Advertised Budget. Menapace reminded attendees that this event is also an opportunity to identify ways that the Council, other HHS [Boards, Authorities, and Commissions](#), community partners, and County agencies can strengthen their relationships, identify emerging needs, strategize on how to enhance collaboration on key priorities, and identify how the HSC can facilitate this collaboration.

Adjournment: Chair Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes captured by Coleman.

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HHS Partners Summit Breakout Session Notes

How does your BAC or organization currently engage with other stakeholders?

- Typically work in silos and advocate for issues with Board of Supervisors (BOS)
- Advocate as a system to communicate system-wide needs so county staff can equitably address needs
- Talk to County staff and BOS regarding needs and ask them to equitably distribute resources
- Service delivery & engage with constituents through public-facing events
- Each group engages differently
- Constituents/public facing: needs better communication
- Coordination of services provided by multitude of providers
- Workforce development
- Coalitions, engaging in advocacy

What are the most pressing needs of the constituency that you represent? What emerging trend or issue is your BAC/organization seeing that would benefit from greater collaboration between BACs, community partners, and County agencies?

- Meeting basic needs (housing, transportation)
- Serving different groups (victims of DV, women, immigrants)
- Integration
- Lack of ability to work due to immigration status
- Basic needs (food, rent)
- Medicaid, SNAP, etc. to have needs met
- Transportation and child care
- Access to services
- Promoting willingness to apply to services
- System navigation
- Language barriers
- Explain the process
- Have more navigators to promote long-term stability and recovery from trauma (ex. violence in home countries and violence in the United States)
- Connecting community members to mental health and housing to get them out of a crisis
- Workforce development
- Housing
- Additional Mental health services, Substance use, detox
- Transportation
- Getting into technical details of how we make resources available work more efficiently
- Connective tissue between resources

What would be helpful in the path forward to address those needs (beyond the obvious: more money!)?

- Establish collaborative paths forward for BACs to plan
- FOIA and the need to meet formally is a barrier for members of public bodies
- More in-person meetings and opportunities to collaborate
- Supporting access to services for those without documentation
- Support for students with English as a second language
- Evaluate services from the user perspective
- Understand the lack of trust the community may have with government as a lens and an opportunity for trust building
- Prevention-first mindset
- Apply the same principle used in land use to community development services
- Housing, healthcare
- Affordable housing, minimum wage, mental health (especially children and the implications for future generations)
- Addressing student engagement and truancy
- Mental health as a basic need
- High-quality teachers in schools where there are high needs
- Incentives for good teachers to stay in schools where needs are highest
- More flexible funding
- Less restrictions placed on funding
- Helping nonprofits catch up with County salaries
- Systems changes
- Avoid policies and procedures as barriers
- Ways to combine services to provide more efficient resource allocation

What role would you like to see the Human Services Council play in promoting collaboration among the BACs and community partners?

- BACs should come together more often and this should occur more frequently since more system-wide topics can be discussed (youth mental health, housing, economic mobility)
- Invite relevant BACs and community members for discussions at HSC meetings
- More nonprofit perspective to enable richer discussion to allow more advisory work
- Not all of us are aware of the function of the Human Services Council
- More time to think about surveys and engage participants in contributing
- Are there too many BACs? Can the organizational structure be rethought?
- Jurisdiction vs. topic: move toward having BACs centered around topic rather than geographic area

Housing council has many real estate developers and agents
Combine with focus on healthcare
Bring in medical professionals such as doctors and nurses
Creative approaches to providing innovative housing solutions
Upcoming example: combined senior and student housing
Seniors who can provide daycare
Provide more input from county residents to inform decisions and focus on their needs
This was a great opportunity to collaborate and we should continue to come together
Service providers and community members
Learning from other jurisdictions and how they are addressing change and diversity
Learning from nonprofits, community members
How do we engage private enterprise in funding and resource allocation?
Consider increasingly diverse Fairfax community, make sure that people understand each other
Different needs are brought to the table
Adding spaces where people can engage with one another
OneFairfax as a tool to promote conversations around equity
How do we engage with partners so they understand the issues and can be part of the development of solutions?
As a convener of sessions like this one
To talk about problems but, most importantly, follow up and take action on what is discussed
dedicated personnel to integrate, streamline, and enact systems change
navigators, peer support specialists who can be the connective tissue

HSC Budget Committee

March 6, 2024, 11:30-12:30 via Zoom

Meeting Summary

Attendees: Michele Menapace, Paul Thomas, Tom Goodwin, Bob Faherty, and Jill Clark

Call to Order: Paul Thomas, Budget Committee chair, called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.

Timeline/Process: The committee reviewed the timeline for the development of the HSC's budget letter and the process for engaging stakeholders, including HHS BACs and community-based organizations, about their budget priorities to ensure that the HSC's budget letter wholly reflects the community needs and priorities. Jill Clark confirmed that an online survey has been sent to HHS BACs and community-based organizations for their input.

Draft Letter: The committee reviewed a draft letter and provided input. Tom Goodwin volunteered to incorporate that input into a new draft letter. The committee will also be developing talking points that HSC members can use for individual meetings with their Board members.

Next Committee Meeting: The next HSC Budget Committee meeting will be held on March 22, 11 a.m.

Adjournment: The committee meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.