



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board

Memorandum

To: CAAB Members
From: Michelle Jefferson, Chairman
Date: February 25, 2023
Subject: CAAB Meeting – March 7, 2023

The next CAAB meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 7th at 7:30 PM VIA ZOOM**

Fairfax County FY24 Advertised Budget

On February 21st, the County Executive presented the FY 2024 Advertised Budget to the Board of Supervisors, beginning the CAAB's annual budget advocacy efforts. Katie Horstman, Department of Management and Budget, will present an overview of the FY 2024 budget and the CAAB will select priorities about which to testify before the Board of Supervisors. See the complete budget calendar below.

County Executive's Presentation on Budget:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/sites/budget/files/assets/documents/fy2024/advertised/fy2024advertised_finalwithscript.pdf

All Budget Documents: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/fy-2024-advertised-budget-plan>

CAAB Member Sharing

As a reminder, Member Sharing was established for CAAB members to report the "word on the street" - issues that affect the low-income community about which the CAAB should be aware; ten (10) minutes are allocated to this agenda item.

Program Report: CSBG 2nd Quarter Report

Staff will present the CSBG FY23 2nd Quarter report. Included in this meeting packet are:

- Financial report for Federal CSBG and TANF
- Narrative Reports
- Outcome Reports

Membership and Election Committee Report

An update on the actions taken to fill vacancies will be given.

In-Person Meetings

The Board of Supervisors has lifted the County's state of emergency; in-person CAAB meetings will resume in April 2023. Staff will provide a brief review of the All Virtual Meeting Policy and Remote Participation Meeting Policy.

Attachments:

March 2023 Meeting Agenda
February 2023 Meeting Minutes
2nd Quarter Program Progress and Financial Reports
SNAP Flyer
Federal Poverty Level Information
Annandale Resource Center Ribbon Cutting Invitation



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board

Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Budget Process Timeline

- November 22: Joint County/School Budget Committee to discuss FY 2024 fiscal forecast
- January 12: FCPS Superintendent releases FY 2024 Proposed Budget
- January 23: School Board holds public hearings on budget
- February 21: County Executive releases FY 2024 Advertised Budget Plan
- February 23: School Board adopts FY 2024 (proposed) Budget Plan
- February 28: Joint County/School Budget Committee to discuss FY 2024 budget and tax rate
- March 7: Board of Supervisors Advertises FY 2024 tax rate
- April 11-13: Board of Supervisors holds public hearings on FY 2024 Budget
- April 28: Board of Supervisors Budget Committee meeting for pre-markup
- May 2: Board of Supervisors marks up FY 2024 Budget
- May 9: Board of Supervisors adopts FY 2024 Budget
- May 25: School Board adopts FY 2024 Approved Budget
- July 1: FY 2024 Budget Year begins



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board

FY 2024 Budget Town Hall Meetings

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, February 28, 2023	7pm	Franconia District Budget Town Hall	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Thursday, March 2, 2023	6pm	Sully District Town Hall	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Thursday, March 9, 2023	7pm	McLean Citizen's Association Budget Meeting	TBD
Thursday, March 9, 2023	7pm	Mason District Budget Town Hall	Mason District Governmental Center, Main Community Room, 6507 Columbia Pike Annandale
Monday, March 13, 2023	7pm	Braddock District Budget Town Hall	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Wednesday, March 15, 2023	7pm	Mount Vernon District Budget Town Hall	Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86958828950
Thursday, March 16, 2023	5:30pm	Providence District Budget Town Hall	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Monday, March 20, 2023	TBD	Hunter Mill District Budget Town Hall	Teams
Wednesday, March 22, 2023	7pm	Springfield District Budget Town Hall Meeting	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Monday, March 27, 2023	7pm	Dranesville District Budget Town Hall	The Budget Town Hall will be televised on Channel 16 (Cox Channel 1016; Verizon/Comcast Channel 16) and streamed online
Tuesday, March 28, 2023	7pm	Hunter Mill District Budget Town Hall	Madison High School: Warhawk Lecture H



**Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board
Fairfax County Government Center**

March 7, 2023

7:30 PM

AGENDA

TIME	ISSUE	INFO/ACTION	PRESENTER
7:30 PM	Call to Order		Michelle Jefferson, Chair
	Approval of Minutes	Action	Michelle Jefferson, Chair
7:45	FY24 County Budget Overview	Info	Katie Hortsman, Management & Budget Division
8:25	Board of Supervisors Budget Public Hearings	Action	CAAB Members
8:35	Member Sharing	Info	CAAB Members
8:35	Program Report – FY23 CSBG 2 nd Quarter Report	Info	Staff
9:10	Membership and Elections Report	Info	Shari Zamarra, Membership & Elections Committee Chair
9:15	In-Person Meetings	Info	Staff
9:30 PM	Adjourn		

The next CAAB meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB)
Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 3, 2023, 7:30pm
Meeting held electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic
By ZOOM video/audio platform

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chair Michelle Jefferson, who proceeded with doing the member roll call.

Members in attendance with locations: Nermin AbdelWahab, Fairfax, VA; Matthew Bell, Alexandria, VA; Jim Edwards-Hewitt, Fairfax, VA; April Hall, Reston, VA; Hawa Hassan, Fairfax, VA; Kevin Hickerson, Centreville, VA; Caroline Hockenberry, Vienna, VA; Michele “Cookie” Hymer Blitz, Winter Park, FL; Michelle Jefferson, Fairfax County, VA; Maria Leiva, Falls Church, VA; Michael Mahrer, Falls Church, VA; Marcia McDevitt, Reston, VA; Ken McMillon, Dranesville, VA; Phil Rosenthal, Fairfax Station, VA; Heather Thomas, Centreville, VA; Alice Yam, Herndon, VA; Benjamin Zuhl, Dranesville, VA

Absent: Alicia Doe; Mary Ann Floto; Morgan Jameson; Hari Kurup; Ann Macpherson; Michele Menapace; Whitney Richardson; Alex Rodriguez; Shari Zamarra

Guest(s): Michael Becketts, Director, Department of Family Services; Lloyd Tucker, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services; Pallas Washington, Deputy Director, Neighborhood and Community Services; Norma Lopez, Division Director, Neighborhood and Community Services

The motion that all members present were able to be heard was made by Michelle Jefferson, seconded by Phil Rosenthal, and passed with no objections. The motion to allow CAAB business be done via an electronic meeting due to the COVID-19 emergency was made by Michelle Jefferson, seconded by Phil Rosenthal, and was carried without objection.

Minutes – January 7, 2023

The motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Phil Rosenthal, seconded by Ken McMillon and was carried without objection.

CAAB Elections

CAAB members voted on the slate of officers announced at the January 7, 2023 meeting. The motion to approve the slate of officers was made by Phil Rosenthal, seconded it by Michael Mahrer, and was carried without objection.

Changes to Medicaid and SNAPs Benefits

Director Becketts shared that in December 2022, Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 which institutes changes that will impact Medicaid and SNAP benefits.

Medicaid: The federal government notified the Virginia Department of Social Services in January 2023 that starting in May 2023 the Medicaid policies that were in place prior to the pandemic will go back into effect. This means that individuals who require Medicaid renewals will need to ensure that their contact information is correct. The Department of Family Services (DFS) is working with community and system partners to remind and encourage Medicaid recipients to review and update their contact information as needed to avoid a gap in benefits. Ms. Nermin AbdelWahab asked if there is a contact person at DFS who will be able to answer questions about Medicaid applications. Ms. Thomas inquired whether the federal poverty limits would also be going back to pre-pandemic levels. Mr. Becketts will follow up with information for both inquiries.

SNAP: DFS has developed a communications tool kit that can be used to inform SNAP recipients that the emergency SNAP allotment put in place during the pandemic will end in February 2023. Households that received additional SNAP benefits above their eligibility levels, will see those additional benefits end at the end of February. SNAP recipients have received messaging about the changes in benefits from the state, but DFS will also be reaching out to people to ensure they are aware of the changes. DFS is also pushing out the messaging to SNAP retailers in the County. Director Becketts shared with CAAB members the flyer that was developed that includes the Virginia Department of Social Services information line (855-635-4370) and ways to access services locally. DFS is working with the school system that will put the information into their newsletter that reaches 300,000 people in the County. The communications tool kit will be available on the County website ([Changes to SNAP Benefits | Family Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/family-services))

DFS is asking that partners disseminate the above information among their networks to ensure that people do not have gaps in their receipt of services.

Ramona Carroll shared that the Community Provider Strategy Team, as well as the Emergency Food Strategy Team, will be discussing ways in which the County can assist individuals who may be impacted by the changes to SNAP benefits. County staff have been meeting with non-profit partners and houses of worship who provide food in the community to assess ways in which the partnerships can be leveraged, their purchasing power, strategizing the ways in which food can be accessed by the community (e.g. times, locations). The County also has a Food Access Plan that funds food resources in the community. The Emergency Food Strategy Team meets every month and individuals are welcome to join. The information will be sent in a follow up email to CAAB members.

Neighborhood and Community Services Agency Realignment

Director Lloyd Tucker, Deputy Director Pallas Washington and Division Director Norma Lopez provided an overview of the restructuring efforts that have occurred within the agency. The Department of Neighborhood and Community Services has seen changes in recent years (see attached slides for realignment stages). In 2021 NCS worked with a consulting firm to complete an organization assessment analysis to better align with the County's strategic plan, how to be more efficient and effective given the growth caused in the recent mergers. In the winter of 2021/2022, NCS created a new organizational structure that resulted in the creation of a new division and movement of positions. Director Tucker discussed the similarities in the missions and visions of NCS and CAAB and how work of each entity is aligned in the mutual pursuits of equity in the services and programs available for the community. The organizational chart for the agency; the Inclusive Engagement and Targeted Interventions Division, which houses the work of the CAAB, are overseen by Deputy Director Pallas Washington and led by Division Director Norma Lopez.

As a result of tremendous feedback gathered during the 2018 countywide strategic plan community engagement, it became clear that there is a desire for county efforts around community engagement needs to be very intentional. From that, the Inclusive Engagement Framework was developed and will be operationalized by the Inclusive Engagement and Targeted Interventions Division. The division will also be working on strategies to help community residents attain economic mobility. The division will also be working with CAAB to explore ways in which the CAAB can influence funding decisions and supports programs and services available to residents in vulnerable communities.

Deputy Director Washington spoke about the need to always be thinking about the broader community, ensuring that the agency/division is connected to those served but also system and community partners. The four units within the Inclusive Engagement and Targeted Interventions have distinct buckets of work but they are all intended to work in concert with each other, in a matrix model. While CAAB is situated in the Community Resource Development Unit, it may tap into the resources of the Social Impact unit, the work of Opportunity Neighborhoods, and community engagement efforts as a whole. Division Director Norma Lopez shared that the work of the division will be guided by and operationalize Engage Fairfax ([Framework for Inclusive Community Engagement \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)). The division will design and provide technical assistance to other agencies to help them better engage with the community.

CAAB Member Information Sharing

- Michelle Jefferson shared that the Annandale Resource Center will a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Saturday, March 4 at 12:00 pm. Ms. Jefferson and Ms. Leiva provided public comments to the Fairfax County Delegation to the Virginia General Assembly. A video recording of the hearing is available at [Channel 16 Video on Demand - Fairfax County, Virginia \(ebmcdn.net\)](#)
- Michele "Cookie" Hymer Biltz shared that the Rent Stabilization bill has not moved forward in the House. In the Senate, the bill was referred for study.
- Michael Mahrer shared that the English Empowerment Center's registration has closed. This was one of the largest registrations since pre-Covid in all sectors.
- Ben Zuhl shared that he is working on putting together a show focused on the Low Income Housing Coalition. He recommended that the organization be invited to speak with the CAAB.
- Nermin AbdelWahab shared that her work is now focused around education and public benefits. She is still in contact with colleagues who work housing issues; she requested that anyone who has contacts at the Adult and Aging division who could help 2 clients with public housing concerns. She also shared that the Virginia Poverty Law Center is closely following the work on Rent Stabilization.

- Caroline Hockenberry shared that there are currently 10 farmers markets in the county who accept SNAP; with expansions to Herndon and Wakefield coming soon. Will share flyers with CAAB as soon as they are available.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm.

The Federal Poverty Levels used to determine the eligibility income limits was announced effective **January 19, 2023**.

2023 Poverty Limits

100% FPL

Household size	Annual	Monthly
1	\$14,580	\$1215
2	19,720	1644
3	24,860	2,072
4	30,000	2,500
5	35,140	2,929
6	40,280	3,357
7	45,420	3,785
8	50,560	4,214
Each additional	5,140	429

150% FPL

Household size	Annual	Monthly
1	\$21,870	\$1,823
2	29,580	2,465
3	37,290	3,108
4	45,000	3,750
5	52,710	4,393
6	60,420	5,035
7	68,130	5,678
8	75,840	6,320
Each additional	7,710	643

200% FPL

Household size	Annual	Monthly
1	\$29,160	\$2,430
2	39,440	3,287
3	49,720	4,144
4	60,000	5,000
5	70,280	5,857
6	80,560	6,714
7	90,840	7,570
8	101,120	8,427
Each additional	10,280	857



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board

February 7, 2023

Via Zoom

Fairfax County Department of
Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)
NCS Realignment
Lloyd Tucker, Director

NCS REALIGNMENT STAGES

Merger of Office for
Children and NCS
(Spring 2019)

Organizational Assessment
conducted in collaboration
with consulting firm
(Fall 2021)

Senior Management internal
assessment of agency
organizational structure and
position classifications
(Winter 2021/2022)

Merger of Adult Day
Health and NCS
(Summer 2022)

Release of new
organizational chart to staff
(Spring/Fall)

Goals of Realignment

- Allow us to serve residents and communities more efficiently and effectively, while concurrently providing an environment conducive for fully operationalizing organizational values.
- Mirror the connectivity we wish to build across Fairfax County communities. Connected communities is a key tenet of NCS, and in fact our vision statement reflects connected communities where all individuals and families are supported and empowered to thrive.

Alignment of NCS and CAAB Work

NCS Mission & Vision

- Mission** NCS partners with communities, families and individuals to provide opportunities to access a continuum of resources that promote equity and create positive outcomes for people of all ages and abilities.
- Vision** Connected communities where all individuals and families are supported and empowered to thrive.

CAAB Mission & Vision

- Mission** Make a positive difference in the lives of people experiencing poverty by influencing decision makers, providing funding, and taking actions to address the root causes and conditions of poverty and injustice.
- Vision** Fairfax County is an inclusive, just, and equitable community where everyone has a safe and affordable place to live, healthy food on the table, a job they love, and the resources and opportunities to thrive.

Equity

We commit to transforming systems and mobilizing resources to enable equitable access to opportunities, experiences, and services for all to succeed.

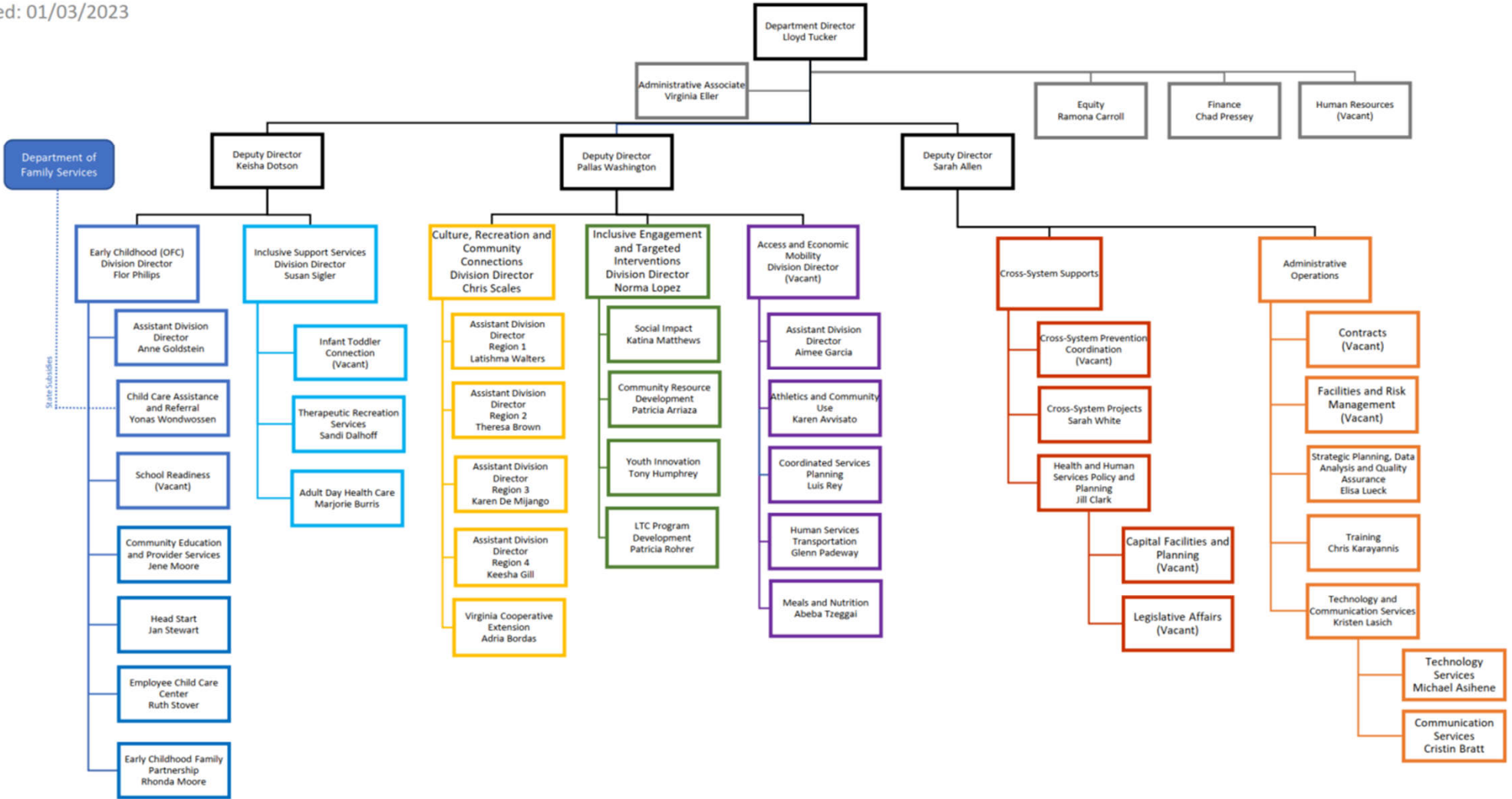
DEPARTMENT

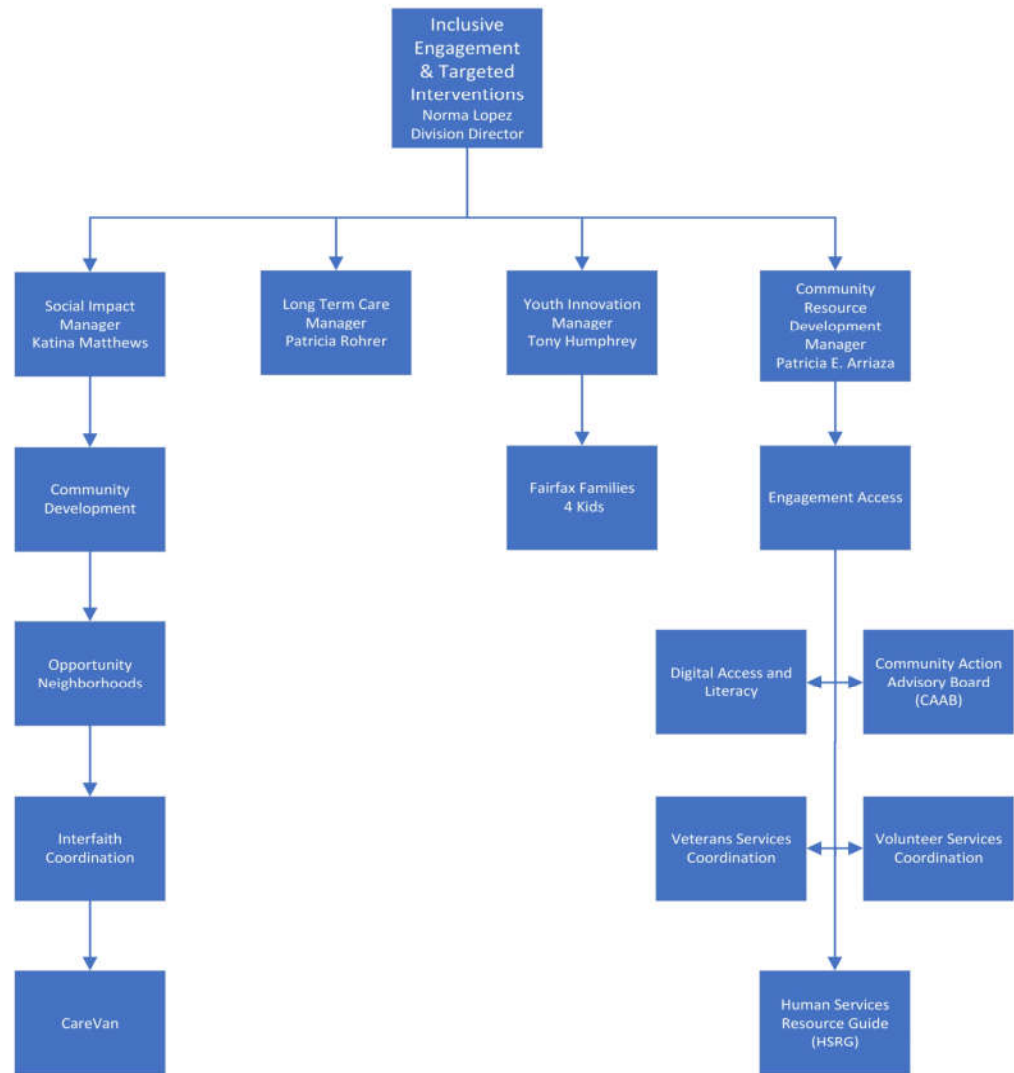
Neighborhood and Community Services Organizational Chart

For Internal Use Only



Revised: 01/03/2023





ENGAGE FAIRFAX: 6 CORE PRINCIPLES OF FAIRFAX COUNTY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 1. Prioritize Equity**
 - 2. Establish and Maintain Trust**
 - 3. Develop Data-Driven Processes**
 - 4. Establish Clear Expectations**
 - 5. Enable Engaged Communication**
 - 6. Promote and Create Accessible Government**
- 

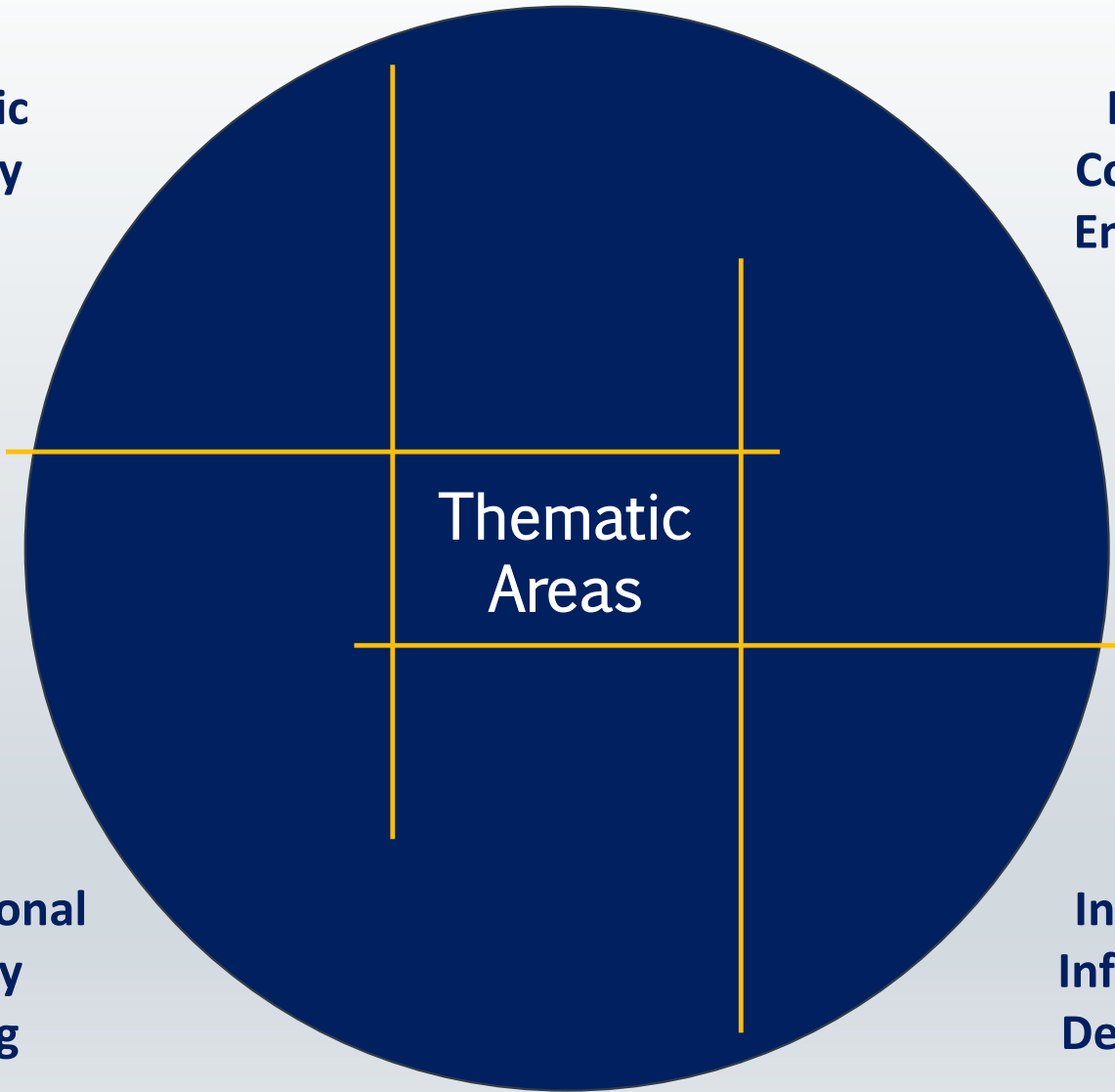
**Economic
Mobility**

**Inclusive
Community
Engagement**

**Thematic
Areas**

**Organizational
Capacity
Building**

**Institutional
Infrastructure
Development**



Braddock District Supervisor

James R. Walkinshaw

and the

Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services

invite you to a

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

for the opening of the new Annandale Community Center on

Saturday, March 4, 2023, 12:00 p.m.

Open house, community activities, and light refreshments to follow.

Located at

7861-B Heritage Dr., Annandale, VA

Behind the CVS at Heritage Shopping Plaza

For more information, visit: <https://bit.ly/AnnandaleCC>

In case of inclement weather, the alternate date is Saturday, March 11, 2023.



Reasonable accommodations made upon request; call 703-324-4600 or TTY 711.



*El Supervisor del Distrito de Braddock
James R. Walkinshaw
y el*

*Departamento Neighborhood and Community Services (Dpto. de Servicios Vecinales
y Comunitarios) del Condado de Fairfax*

le invitan a una

Ceremonia de Corte de Cinta

*para la apertura del nuevo Annandale Community Center
(Centro Comunitario de Annandale),*

el *Sábado, 4 de Marzo de 2023, a las 12:00 del mediodía*

*A continuación, orientación sobre el centro, actividades comunitarias
y refrigerio ligero.*

ubicado en

7861-B Heritage Dr., Annandale, VA
atrás del CVS en el Heritage Shopping Plaza

Para obtener más información, visite: <https://bit.ly/AnnandaleCC>

En caso de mal tiempo, será suspendido y la fecha alterna será el sábado 11 de marzo de 2023.



Se pueden hacer adaptaciones razonables si las solicita; llame al 703-324-4600 or TTY 711.



Community Services Block Grants Worksheet - FY 2023 YTD			
	Federal CSBG	TANF CSBG	TOTAL CSBG
Housing (40%)			
New Hope Housing	\$ 26,515.90	\$ -	\$ 26,515.90
United Community	\$ 118,366.03	\$ 123,197.27	\$ 241,563.30
Subtotal	\$ 144,881.93	\$ 123,197.27	\$ 268,079.20
Health & Social/Behavioral Development (25%)			
Family Counseling Center of Greater Washington	\$ 23,749.00	\$ -	\$ 23,749.00
Food for Others	\$ 184,528.49	\$ -	\$ 184,528.49
Second Story	\$ -	\$ 28,875.00	\$ 28,875.00
Subtotal	\$ 208,277.49	\$ 28,875.00	\$ 237,152.49
Support Services (20%)			
Tahirih Justice Center	\$ 17,542.24	\$ -	\$ 17,542.24
Shelter House	\$ -	\$ 33,085.21	\$ 33,085.21
Subtotal	\$ 17,542.24	\$ 33,085.21	\$ 50,627.45
Education & Cognitive Development (15%)			
Cornerstones	\$ -	\$ 24,913.99	\$ 24,913.99
Second Story	\$ -	\$ 31,798.02	\$ 31,798.02
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ 56,712.01	\$ 56,712.01
Total	\$ 370,701.66	\$ 241,869.49	\$ 612,571.15

Community Services Block Grants Worksheet - 2nd Qtr FY 2023			
	Federal CSBG	TANF CSBG	TOTAL CSBG
Housing (40%)			
New Hope Housing	\$ 13,411.41		\$ 13,411.41
United Community	\$ 56,179.57	\$ 58,472.61	\$ 114,652.18
Subtotal	\$ 69,590.98	\$ 58,472.61	\$ 128,063.59
Health & Social/Behavioral Development (25%)			
Family Counseling Center of Greater Washington	\$ 15,460.00		\$ 15,460.00
Food for Others	\$ 59,636.88		\$ 59,636.88
Second Story - Young Mothers		\$ 14,418.75	\$ 14,418.75
Subtotal	\$ 75,096.88	\$ 14,418.75	\$ 89,515.63
Support Services (20%)			
Tahirih Justice Center	\$ 10,207.62		\$ 10,207.62
Shelter House		\$ 15,481.73	\$ 15,481.73
Subtotal	\$ 10,207.62	\$ 15,481.73	\$ 25,689.35
Education & Cognitive Development (15%)			
Cornerstones		\$ 11,513.03	\$ 11,513.03
Second Story - Culmore Youth Outreach Project		\$ 15,899.01	\$ 15,899.01
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ 27,412.04	\$ 27,412.04
Total	\$ 154,895.48	\$ 115,785.13	\$ 270,680.61

Cornerstones - Kids & Parents Engage

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
Afterschool Out-of-School-Time programming (homework help and enrichment programming)	CSBG	46	35	75%	Improve the academic performance of children and youth. (CSBG Outcome)	0	0	0%
	CCFP	34	26	75%		55	0	0%
	Total	80	61	75%		55	0	0%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Kids and Parents Engage (KAPE)

Contract Analyst: Vincenza Githens

Organization: Cornerstones

Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: KAPE seeks to improve the academic performance of targeted children and youth through afterschool out-of-school time (OST) programming. Services include homework help and enrichment programming.

Program Outcome: 75% of youth have improved academic performance.

Funded Amount: CSBG - \$70,776/GF - \$53,267 **Total:** \$124,043

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 80

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 60

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 55

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 0

Program Activities this Quarter:

Cornerstones Afterschool began daily program activities during the first week of October. Program was structured as follows:

- **Herndon Afterschool**
 - Middle School – Monday to Friday (except 3rd Fridays) 2:45pm to 5:00pm
 - Elementary School – Monday to Friday 5:00pm to 7:00pm
 - High School – Mondays and Wednesdays 5:00pm to 7:00pm
- **Reston Afterschool**
 - Middle School – Monday to Friday (except 3rd Fridays) 2:45pm to 5:00pm
 - Elementary School (2nd/3rd) – Monday to Friday 5:00pm to 7:00pm
 - Elementary School (4th-6th) – Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 5:00pm to 7:00pm
 - High School – Mondays and Wednesdays 5:00pm to 7:00pm

During this Quarter program participants engaged in daily (Monday to Thursday) academic support sessions and discovery zone projects. During October program participants focused on what it means to be Unicorns (Individually Unique, Collectively Unstoppable). The first part of October focused on helping the young people identify why they are unique and what makes them special. They continued through the rest of October learning what it meant to bring this uniqueness together in order to be an unstoppable unit.

Throughout the Fall session program participants continued learning about uniqueness through active learning as they took a deeper dive into holidays such as Diwali; Halloween; The Day of the Dead; Veteran's Day; Hanukah; and Christmas. They also spent the month of November exploring good citizenship and the election process. In preparation for their Dream Workshop Series during Winter Session, Herndon Afterschool participants were divided into City Councils and started creating their own "Towns of Herndon." They began the process by creating their own individual visions and then came together with their other council members to collaborate bringing their individual designs together to create one rendering. They then began the process of creating a physical rendering using LEGOS. Reston Afterschool spent the second half of Fall Session re-engaging with the Write Brain curriculum writing their own individual children's books.

Program Achievements:

Herndon afterschool successfully held 2 Family Engagement nights during October (Welcome Back Night) and December (Fall Session Windup). During the December Family Night, program participants were recognized for perfect program attendance; being homework heroes; meeting individual academic

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

goals; being good team players; and having great attitudes. In addition, we also gave out the “Unicorn” award for the session. Parents were also recognized for their hard work and dedication to their children.

The Herndon Afterschool Education Coordinator worked with the Reston Afterschool team to develop an academic game curriculum using different games and activities to reinforce and build specific academic skills in math and literacy. In Herndon, the Education Coordinator created Tuesday and Thursday Learning in the Lab computer lab sessions for both elementary school groups (2nd to 4th and 5th/6th). They use resources recommended by the school to strengthen their math skills.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

Our biggest challenge this quarter is the lack of staffing. We have been without a Program Aide for 3 years (two of which were during COVID and so we did not recruit as the program was virtual) and without a Program Coordinator for 6 months. It has been extremely hard to recruit for these positions, mainly due to candidates’ salary requirements.

As the program coordinator is the most essential of the two positions, we have restructured the staffing model to eliminate the Aide. This allowed us to create a Senior Coordinator position and increase the salary. However, the change did result in reducing the number of participants while enhancing the direct support they receive during program time.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

Oakton High School KAST (Kids are Scientists Too) Club. Once a month, KAST members facilitate science sessions for the Herndon Afterschool Program Youth. The group leads program participants in a variety of experiments, while teaching science terminology. They will lead these monthly sessions beginning in October 2022 and ending in May 2023. This will be KAST’s third school year serving the Herndon Afterschool Program Youth.

Changes in Client Population:

We have not had a change in client population. However, we are finding that our older youth (specifically High School) are presenting with both Social Emotional (SEL) and academic challenges. To meet this challenge, we are creating 30-minute workshop sessions on Monday and Wednesdays to focus on self-awareness and social-awareness.

Staff Turnover:

We are currently trying to recruit for our Senior Program Coordinator.

Client Story:

During Fall Session, the Herndon Afterschool middle school group started inquiring about Emmett Till and his story. After doing some of their own research and watching PBS documentary, they became more intrigued, especially as they began to find ways to relate to the young Emmett Till. After they discovered that there was an Emmett Till section at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, they were excited by the possibility of visiting the museum.

The result was acceptance of the challenge to finish the 2nd academic quarter with a B- or above in all subjects and no missing assignments (a C+ can be accepted based on individual circumstances). Throughout November and December, the middle school group has been motivated to do homework; stay afterschool when needing additional support; be accountable to one another and encourage each other to make the goal. And what are they working towards: a Day in DC with a visit to the museum to

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

learn more American History through the stories of those found in the African American History Museum.
Stay tuned to see who meets the challenge.

Family Counseling Center of Greater Washington

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
Provide mental health services to low-income adults. Services include mental health assessment, diagnostic psychiatric evals, med management, psychotherapy and collaboration w patient families.	CSBG	26	21	80%	Adults have stable or improved behavioral health (self-reported or professional assessment) (CSBG Outcome)	21	15	71%
	CCFP	14	0	80%		0	0	0%
	Total	40	21	80%		21	15	71%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Mental Health & Counseling Services

Organization: Family Counseling Center of
Greater Washington

Contract Analyst: Vincenza Githens

Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: Provide mental health services to low-income adults throughout Fairfax County. Services include mental health assessment, diagnostic psychiatric evaluations, medication management, psychotherapy, and collaboration with patient families.

Program Outcome: 80% of adults have stable or improved behavioral health (Self-Reported or Professionally Assessed).

Funded Amount: CSBG - \$32,798/GF -\$17,661 **Total:** \$50,459

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 40

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 32

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 21

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 15

Program Activities this Quarter:

Our psychiatrist and case managers/therapists provided mental health services to low-income adults; our services included mental health assessment, diagnostic psychiatric evaluations, medication management, psychotherapy, and collaboration with patient families.

Program Achievements:

Our agency continuously provides mental health services in Korean and English, and we have culturally sensitive staff attentive to our patient's needs. We also accept Medicaid and offer a sliding scale to assist low-income patients.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

Our psychiatrist has announced that he will be retiring at the end of the year (2022), and we stopped accepting new patients in the middle of this quarter. Also, our case managers/therapists have taken time off due to the holiday season, and that had an impact on delaying providing mental health services to some of the patients. We have been trying to hire a new psychiatrist; however, due to the budget limit, it is difficult.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

Starting this quarter, our agency has been working with local adult daycare centers that provide care and/or health-related services and/or activities specifically for older people who are disabled and/or in need. Therefore, those adult daycare centers have been referring our agency to their seniors and families.

Changes in Client Population:

Recently, we have received many inquiries concerning ADHD, adjustment issues, impulsive behaviors, and anger management among children and youths. To provide for the need of this population, we are in the process of recruiting additional therapists who are specialized in these areas.

Staff Turnover:

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Our psychiatrist will be retiring at the end of this year (2022), and we have been trying find another psychiatrist. However, due to limited budget, our agency is uncertain if we could hire someone that can replace Dr. Han.

Client Story:

The female patient, in her late 20s, came to see Dr. Han with her husband due to extreme and frequent mood swings impacting her daily functioning and relationship with her family members. After a psychiatric evaluation, Dr. Han has prescribed appropriate antipsychotic medication and recommended receiving counseling at our agency to help with stabilizing her moods. She reported that her moods have improved with taking medication and seeking counseling once a week. Also, the husband thanked Dr. Han for the proper treatment since he had experienced and noticed fewer mood swings in his wife.

Food for Others

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target %		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
Provide emergency food assistance to clients w referrals from social workers or social service orgs. The boxes provide clients w staples, such as milk, eggs, and non-perishable items.	CSBG	8010	6889	86%	Clients have increased food security. (CSBG Outcome)	4045	4045	100%
	TANF					216	216	100%
	CCFP	990	851	86%		500	500	0%
	Total	9000	7740	86%		4761	4761	100%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Emergency Food Assistance
Contract Analyst: Vanessa Calderon

Organization: Food for Others
Phone #: 703-324-3269

Program Description: Food for Others provides emergency food assistance to clients with referrals from social workers or social service organizations. The boxes provide clients with staples, such as milk, eggs, and non-perishable items, so they can prepare nutritionally balanced meals.

Program Outcome: 86% of persons have increased food security.

Funded Amount: CSBG - \$298,572/GF - \$36,901 **Total:** \$335,473

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 9,000

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 7,740

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 4,545

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 4,545

Program Activities this Quarter:

Food for Others continues to work strategically to continue to grow and better serve our neighbors in need. Last quarter, Food for Others received a surge in demand over the holiday season. An increase in clients served around the holidays is typical, but when comparing 2021 holiday season to the 2022 holiday season, the difference in demand is drastic. In 2021, we served 3,098 households in November and 2,828 households in December. In 2022, we served 4,281 households in November and 4,134 households in December. Food for Others was proactive and began bulk ordering needed supplies towards the end of summer to make sure that supply chain issues were not an issue over the holiday season.

Food for Others was undergoing our expansion effort throughout Q2, developing our new My Market choice marketplace for clients. We began construction in October and expect to open doors at the end of January for this new grocery store-like shopping experience. Clients who receive a referral will no longer receive a pre-packed box of food but will be guided around our My Market by a volunteer while they choose what food they receive and take home. This experience will provide a more empowering experience for our clients and allow the food they receive to be more tailored to their needs/lifestyle.

Program Achievements:

100% of families who came to Food for Others or picked up from a mobile site location with a referral have access to the security net that we provide. Through our survey, we are tracking clients' answers to food security-based questions to assess their level of food security both before and after they receive assistance. Preliminary survey data continues to show an increase in food security through the food provided by Food for Others.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

The biggest challenge being met this quarter continues to be inflation. As mentioned above, we continue to see an influx in demand even compared to COVID times. The bulk order done in the first quarter has helped prepare us to continue to meet the need of the community.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

Food for Others is very active in our community and collaborates with a variety of organizations focused on bettering our community's well-being. Food for Others continues to run 7 mobile sites in our community that accommodate clients who are being affected by accessibility issues and are unable to pick up their emergency food box from our Merrifield warehouse.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Changes in Client Population:

The increased need in our community has remained steady with a surge around the holiday season period. In just the 3 days leading up to Thanksgiving Thursday, we served 937 households just through warehouse emergency food assistance (including both USDA and Referral recipients). We typically serve around 150 individuals a day. Over the past quarter, the daily average has sat at or above 200 households with this new average continuing into the new year. This is all due to the long-term effects of the global pandemic and impact that inflation continues to have on those that were already struggling and then those newly impacted.

Staff Turnover:

We did experience some turnover in our warehouse staff which, again, is not uncommon due to how demanding the role is. We hired a seasonal staff member to help assist throughout the holiday season that was on staff for roughly two months. They are no longer on staff at Food for Others.

Client Story:

Until recently, Michael had never needed food assistance. Michael spent the past year driving his sister to Food for Others to receive food, so he knew who we were and our services. Earlier this year, Michael came down with a severe case of bronchitis causing him to be out of work for over 6-months. He does receive short-term disability though it's not enough to pay for both rent and food. "I always thank the people who are working there. It's incredible that they have a program that's set up to help the people in the community."

CSBG FY 2022 1st Quarter

New Hope Housing

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				TOTAL Through 2nd Q			
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target %	Description of Outcome	Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide affordable and stable housing which includes supports for residents' physical, behavioral, and cognitive needs to live as independently as possible in a community setting.	CSBG	25		88%	Individuals have affordable and stable housing (CSBG Outcome)	21	17	81%
	CCFP							
	Total	25	0	88%		21	17	81%
2. Provide case management services which include referrals to health appointments.	CSBG	25		88%	Adults will have stable or improved physical health	21	17	81%
	CCFP							
	Total	25	0	88%		21	17	81%
3. Provide supportive housing services to enable clients to remain successfully housed	CSBG	25		92%	Individuals and/or families are successfully housed	21	17	81%
	CCFP							
	Total	25	0	92%		21	17	81%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Stable Long-Term Housing for Chronically Homeless

Organization: New Hope Housing, Inc.

Contract Analyst: Vincenza Githens

Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: Provide supportive housing services to enable clients to remain successfully housed.

Program Outcome: 92% of individuals and/or families are successfully housed.

Funded Amount: CSBG \$81,636 **Total:** \$81,636
Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 25
Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 23
Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 21
Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 17

Program Activities this Quarter:

During the quarter, the case management staff (senior and project case managers) continue to meet with clients on a weekly basis to review their individual service plans. For 2 participants, case management assisted with applying for housing vouchers. They are currently awaiting a decision.

Program Achievements:

During the quarter, most participants remained stably housed. The weekly case management meetings have helped improved the daily living skills of participants because there is much less of a lag time between visits and helps continue forward movement.

One example is a participant that was moved from a shared living situation to their own unit. They were having a harder time adjusting to being alone and in a new neighborhood than was expected and they wanted to return to shared living. Part of the weekly case management meetings was to escort them to the supermarket, laundromat and showed them available bus routes. They currently feel more "at home".

Program Challenges this Quarter:

The challenge this quarter has been with two participants. Both participants were accepted in the program with histories of drug use. Both participants started the project year in recovery, but their drug use has reoccurred and increased during the past quarter. Their negative behaviors from this drug use have put New Hope Housing management in the situation having to ask the participants to leave. Both participants have been encouraged to return to a treatment facility but has refused.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

New Hope Housing continues to work with Nu-Start Interventions, an in-home mental health service provider for the clients that have been resistant to seeking mental health services. This service is paid for by Medicare. The representative for this project also helps in completing enrollment with Medicare, if needed. New Hope has an employment and education team, and they recently hired a new case manager that will specifically work with PSH participants across the agency.

Changes in Client Population:

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

The continued trend for this population is related to age. The population served has more age-related ailments. This trend isn't specifically impacting the ability to meeting program objectives, but it has increased the housing case managers involvement with participants related to attending medical appointments or learning how to support on more diverse health issues.

Staff Turnover:

There was no staff turnover during the quarter.

Client Story:

AK originally entered a New Hope Housing project in our HUD funded group home designed project. At the time of enrollment, AK's mental health wasn't under control, and they acted out negatively towards staff. They were in this group home for 2 years, where they reached mental health stability. They were stable enough that they transferred from the group home setting to another PSH project with limited supports. While at this 2nd project, they obtained a part time job and continued in a positive direction with their mental health. In August of 2022, they transferred into this housing project. Since moving in, they have increased their income by obtaining a full time with benefits; started seeing a therapist, has obtained an emotional support animal and on her individual service plan states that they want to take course towards a GED.

Second Story – Culmore Youth Outreach Program

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide homework assistance, tutoring, supervised recreation and enrichment activities to improve academic performance.	CSBG	250	200	80%	Youth served will improve their academic performance. (CSBG Outcome)	172	0	0%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	Total	250	200	80%		172	0	0%
2. Provide job training to 4 youth including resume development, leadership skill building, and increased knowledge of how to maintain employment.	CSBG	4	4	100%	Youth will complete job skills training.	2	2	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	Total	4	4	100%		2	2	100%
3. Provide a safe place for youth during afterschool hours and counseling support, community opportunities, supervised recreation, enrichment activities, homework assistance and employment assistance.	CSBG	250	200	80%	Youth will feel a sense of connectedness to the community as a result of participating in the program.	172	172	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	Total	250	200	80%		172	172	100%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Culmore Youth Outreach Program

Contract Analyst: Vanessa Calderon

Organization: Second Story

Phone #: 703-324-3269

Program Description: Youth participate in activities and receive support that encourages them to improve their academic achievement. These will include homework assistance, tutoring, supervised recreation, and enrichment activities.

Program Outcome: 80% of youth demonstrate improved academic performance.

Funded Amount: CSBG (TANF) - \$63,596/GF -\$0 **Total:** \$63,596

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 250

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 200

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 172

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 0

Program Activities this Quarter:

In the second quarter of the fiscal year the Culmore Teen Center continued to operate in its regular after school hours. Staff connected youth to needed services to support food insecure houses, lacking health care, and other social services. We also continue to offer employment training and connected youth to jobs, apprenticeships and internships with local businesses or Second Story partners. Youth were required to bring in homework for academic support, or complete provided education materials to be able to participate in other programming activities. This encouraged youth to ask for more academic help and have their needs met with tutoring and review sessions.

Also, staff offered daily academic support in Math, Language Arts, Science, as well as ESL tutoring for students learning English. Staff, volunteers, and speakers assists the students in prioritizing education and achieving their academic goals. Some of our clients do not have academic support at home and many are below grade level in certain. The Teen Center provides one-on-one tutoring to the teens from staff, college interns and volunteers, which allows the teens to receive necessary help in completing homework and school assignments.

In addition, staff have continued to help teenagers and their families by connecting them with resources to support them in their daily lives. Staff contacted teens' families and provided information about available health insurance, a COVID-19 equity vaccination clinic offered at the Culmore Resource Center during the holidays. Also, parents learned of workshops available to them such as financial literacy classes, parenting classes and more. Many households continue to struggle with food insecurity and the Teen Center addressed this issue by providing weekly food distributions. The food donation included bags of healthy food with vegetables, fruits, and cultural staple food. In addition, teens received hygiene packs which generally included hand sanitizers, feminine hygiene products, soaps, shampoo and conditioners, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Our Youth Council and Youth Workers continue to be role models in the Culmore community by actively engaging in the various Second Story outreach events, actively participating in local government issues and advocating. Via our Opportunity Neighborhoods programming, the students this quarter focused their weekly sessions on relevant topics such as mental health, leadership skills, importance of school attendance, peer pressure and more. They continued to assist Second Story staff at the final outreach event for the newly immigrated Afghan refugee community in the Bailey's Crossroads area at which Second Story distributed food, provided arts and crafts activities and provided resource referrals. The Youth Council also took lead in help staff sort our annual Thanksgiving baskets and holiday gifts for our afterschool programs and Family Resource Centers.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Our Health Literacy programing has continued to provide informative workshops to educate the youth on trending health concerns. In partnership with the County's Stronger2 Initiative, the youth were offered weekly health literacy led by trained staff from the Fairfax County Health Department. Sessions this quarter included curriculum from Fairfax County's Catch my Breath- Anti-Vaping, consumption of energy drinks, opioid abuse and more. The health literacy sessions offered open discussions, educational videos, interactive group activities and speakers, which encouraged the youth to actively participate. The Stronger2 initiative team provided resources on local health services for low-income households to the youth and their families.

This quarter 17 teens participated in a field trip with our partner, DPR Construction, located in Reston VA. The teens learned about careers and professions in the construction field, had a Career Panel discussion where they described their positions, daily work, educational requirements, and why they wanted to get in that field of work. The teens also took a tour of the facility, had an opportunity to play in the lounge areas and received prizes during activities. The youth connected with the guest speakers to learn more about internship opportunities in engineering available for high school and afterwards.

Program Achievements:

- This quarter 17 teens participated in a field trip with our partner, DPR Construction. Teens learned about careers and professions in the construction field.
- In partnership with the County's Stronger2 Initiative, the youth were offered weekly health literacy workshops. The topics included, opioids side effects, energy drinks, mental health.
- In partnership with the UNITED Bank, 13 youth participated in a financial literacy workshop. Speakers talked about "How to build a budget".
- For Thanksgiving 79 teens received food bags with a chicken or turkey.
- 76 teens received holiday gifts that included gift cards, clothing, shoes, toys.
- Youth Council worked with staff in preparing for and implementing community outreach events, such as Celebrating Halloween with the newly immigrated Afghan refugee community. Also, the Youth Council members supported during the Thanksgiving food distribution at the Teen Center and the Christmas holiday event.
- Teens participated in a Fairfax County Catch my Breath- Anti-Vaping curriculum, consumption.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

Challenges this quarter included:

- Teens experience stress and difficulty prioritizing and dealing with their time when they do homework, take school-related tests, and school projects.
- Food shortages at home due to inflation.
- Teens dealing with bullying, negative peer pressures from their school.
- Lower senior and junior in person participation due to beginning to work after school.
- Some of the teens' families got sick with COVID19.

These challenges are being addressed by the CYOP by:

- Provide referrals and resource information to youth and their families related to Covid 19, food assistance, health insurance, and mental health information.
- Encourage pairing with volunteers and coming to review sessions to have more individualized academic support.
- Continue in wellness checks via phone calls or text with youth and their parents. Provide resources virtually and host upperclassmen sessions on a monthly basis with prizes as further incentives to attend.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

- Providing a safe, supervised and supportive environment for youth to meet new friends who offer positive influences.
- Guidance through mentorship and daily prevention sessions to youth within group settings, especially on mental health issues.
- Offering weekly recreational activities and life skills groups.
- Assisting with increasing employment opportunities, including job search, interviewing skills and resume writing.
- Conducting weekly coaching sessions for youth dealing with self-esteem, anger management, and confidence issues.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

- **UNITED Bank**- Staff offered a financial literacy class to the teens.
- **Fairfax County Partners and Prevention**- Catch my Breath- Anti-Vaping curriculum, consumption.
- **Kentucky Fried Chicken**- Weekly hot meals for the teens and their families.
- **Chick Fil A**- Weekly hot meals for the teens and their families.
- **Food for Others**- Supplies groceries for the teens and their families.
- **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries**- Supplies food for the teens and their families.
- **Rotary Club of Vienna** - Provides monetary donations and opportunities to provide community service.
- **Fairfax County Health Department**- Stronger2 initiative offers training and educational materials for teens.
- **BRAWS**- Delivers feminine hygiene products to young female participants.
- **George Mason University**- Connecting with volunteers and interns to implement upcoming workshops.
- **INOVA Partnership for Healthier Youth**- Helping teens apply for health insurance and receive medical care.
- **MCCP**- Helping teens apply for health insurance and receive medical care.
- **Neighborhood Health**- Helping teens apply for health insurance and receive medical care, Covid19 vaccines.
- **Bailey's Community Center**- To collaborate with events.
- **Legal Aid Justice Center**- Hosting workshops, mentorships, and legal resources for our youth.

Changes in Client Population:

The majority of the current client population we serve continues to be extremely low-income, underserved youth who are first-generation or have newly immigrated from Latin American countries. They speak English, Spanish, other indigenous languages, or a mixture. CYOP has made efforts this quarter via outreach events to connect with youth in the Afghan refugee community who recently arrived in the Bailey's Crossroads area.

Staff Turnover:

No staff turnover.

Client Story:

Joel is one of our newer students who joined CYOP October 2022. Joel is also new to the U.S and has had to face many barriers and needs assistance with learning English, transitioning to a new country, navigate around the area, needing state services such as education, medical assistance, clothes and more. CYOP was able to provide Joel and his family with emergency food bags (weekly), new clothes (sweater and

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

jackets, hat), hygiene packages, feminine items, bookbag & school supplies. We have also done referrals through the Culmore Family Resource Center to help him enroll into FCPS and medical insurance. Joel has successfully been working weekly with staff and volunteers on ESL tutoring & math practice while waiting to fully enroll in school. Joel was able to enroll in Glasgow Middle School November 2022. Joel comes to the program for weekly homework and academic support, reading, participate in daily groups sessions, Fairfax County Partners in Prevention (Anti-Vaping program & Hype program) guest speaker events (Oct-Dec), community events, field trips and more. Joel been receiving mentorship from a volunteer who works with him weekly one-on-one, play board games, and implement coaching sessions. Joel has been adjusting wonderfully within CYOP and has worked with staff on community service activities and is always helpful within the program. Joel has so much leadership potential and qualities and has been a wonderful additional to CYOP. Joel recently had a birthday this month and was so happy that the students made him birthday cupcakes and sang happy birthday to him. He was so surprised of what the teens did for him and was so appreciative because unfortunately his family could not do anything special within his household this year. The program will continue working with Joel during his transition, providing resources, academic support, and guidance.

Second Story – Assisting Young Mothers

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide life and financial skills education, assistance with education and employment, and parenting training.	CSBG	14	11	80%	Young mothers will demonstrate improved family functioning.	18	18	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	TANF	0	0	0%		7	7	100%
	Total	14	11	80%		25	25	100%
2. Provide safe housing, food and clothing. Provide services linking young women to community resources, help with educational goals, job preparedness, financial literacy, a savings plan, life skills training, and medical and mental health care.	CSBG	14	11	80%	Children and youth will have access to safety net or community resources that promote stability. (CSBG Outcome)	18	18	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	TANF	0	0	0%		7	7	100%
	Total	14	11	80%		25	25	100%
3. Provide mental health counseling	CSBG	14	9	70%	Young women served will show improved behavioral health.	18	18	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	TANF	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	Total	14	9	70%		18	18	100%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Second Story for Young Mothers

Contract Analyst: Vanessa Calderon

Organization: Second Story

Phone #: 703-324-3269

Program Description: Young women 18 to 22 years old (transition-age youth) who are homeless single mothers and/or who are homeless and pregnant will receive mental health counseling.

Program Outcome: 70% of children and youth have stable or improved behavioral health (Professionally Assessed).

Funded Amount: CSBG (TANF) - \$57,675/GF – \$0 **Total:** \$57,675

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 14

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 10

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 18

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 18

Program Activities this Quarter:

Safe housing, food, clothing, case management, individual therapy, and life skills and parenting skills groups were provided to 6 adults and their 8 children this quarter. In addition, all children four months and older were assessed to determine if they had any developmental delays using Ages and Stages Assessment Tool. Groups focused on stress management and coping strategies, body image and trauma 101, renting basics, responsible decision making, mindfulness, conflict resolution, car maintenance, cleaning, how to keep children safe during cold and flu season and vaccination 101. The mothers also continue to receive assistance with their educational and employment goals, obtaining full time, on-going childcare, and medical and mental health care. All of these activities had the goal of promoting stability, improving behavioral health, and increasing family functioning.

Program Achievements:

SSYM is excited to welcome a new addition to the family. One of our moms delivered a healthy baby girl. Both mom and daughter are doing well. Big brother is adjusting to sharing his mom. In celebration of the arrival of the baby, SSYM hosted a baby shower. This activity and the baby supplies given to the mother increased her stability and family functioning as well as her positive social interactions. 100% of clients received safe housing, food, and clothing as well as connection with community resources, help with educational goals, job preparedness, financial literacy, a savings plan, life skills training and medical and mental health care.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

SSYM has been working with one of the young mothers to get help for her son. He has been a particularly challenging child and was identified as having Autism spectrum disorder during this quarter. Staff have been challenged to help take care of him and to support his mother in how best to gain consistency and scheduling with a child who seems not to understand or be able to regulate himself. This young mother has also just had a new baby, so the increased stress on this single mother has been daunting. Staff are needing to learn about Autism and to reach out to supports for this struggling family. Thankfully, since being diagnosed, he is starting to get much needed assistance and should be starting school soon.

We are continuing to navigate the licensing requirements of opening up a new location for the program with the newly purchased townhouse. We completed the move out of our rental townhouse into the new townhouse. Now we are preparing for move #2 as we move our office from its current location into the new townhouse. Most of this has been happening with only the Program Manager, a new intern,

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

and a few volunteers. Thankfully, a returning staff member has joined the Young Mother's team as case manager.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

Second Story for Young Mothers is delighted to once again highlight the support from the community. Britepaths continued their life skills groups on financial literacy series which included discussions on borrowing and using credit wisely. Generation Hope helped the young women with school and education support. We continue to be grateful to Women Giving Back for their help with clothing, Food for Others for their help with basic food necessities, and Cake for Kids for making birthday celebrations very special. Our new partner agency Project Belong has been working to connect lifelong supportive mentors with our young women with their Don't Go Alone program which the young women are excited about and which will help foster permanent connections.

Another new partnership highlight is ZP Group, (Parent Company of Zachary Piper Solutions and Piper Companies). The employees came to SSYM to help us pack up, move and unload household items to our new home. We would also like to thank Able Moving for supporting SSYM with the heavy task of moving us to a new location. We appreciate their professionalism, and how effortless they made the move. Able Moving will help us again with our office move in the coming weeks. We also have a partnership with George Mason University's social work department and have welcomed Chelsea, an MSW student, who started in the fall and will be working with SSYM through this spring. Other regular partnerships were also utilized this quarter and include Women Giving Back, Food for Others, BRAWS, Community Services Board and DD services, CPS and DFS, and Medicaid services.

Changes in Client Population:

Two young mother's clients discharged this quarter and three more were added. Second Story's transitional living program was not selected as a grant winner this year and so we were able to accept these three young women and their children who were in our TLP into our Young Mother's program. This has been tremendously helpful for these young women and their children in preventing their return to homelessness and we are happy to be able to bring them on board with help from Second Story's Homeless Youth program.

As the general population is emerging from the pandemic and doing more things in person, SSYM has also started to do more groups in person and provide childcare again. This has increased a sense of community and improved loneliness and isolation. Most of the young women are working and able to maintain employment and childcare situations. One of the young women was working and is currently on maternity leave.

Staff Turnover:

Second Story for Young Mothers was happy to welcome Lauren Freeman to our staff. Lauren is the new Case Manager at SSYM. Lauren is family at Second Story, as she previously worked at Second Story for 5 years, wearing different hats during her previous employment with us. Lauren comes with loads of experience, and we excited to have Lauren on the team!

Client Story:

Second Story for Young Mothers (SSYM) offers pregnant and parenting young mothers in the DMV supportive services for 18 months. Recently, one of our mothers completed her 18-month term with

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

SSYM. While at SSYM, the mother was able to focus on her mental health, which included advocating for therapy that aligned with her needs, such as CBT (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy). The mother was able to complete goals she set for herself as well as goals that SSYM requires. A few of these goals included obtaining and maintaining childcare, obtaining speech therapy for her daughter, obtaining, and maintaining employment and saving her income. The mom was able save over \$5,000 by the time she left SSYM. The day of her exit, the mom was asked her thoughts on her experience at SSYM, and what she would like to see done differently. The mom stated she would like to see changes with curfew and to have a pet fish. The mom further stated that the parenting group was the most helpful to her, as it aided her with a positive parenting technique. Moreover, the mom reported learning to be more patient with her children and to listen to them. The mom also highlighted that she saw growth in her oldest daughter, as the engagement in speech therapy increased her vocabulary. The mom contacted SSYM two weeks after exiting, stating that she obtained new full-time employment, earning more money. SSYM celebrated with her and her successful completion of the program.

CSBG FY 2022 1st Quarter

Shelter House - Artemis House

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				TOTAL Through 2nd Q			
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target %	Description of Outcome	Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide emergency shelter, assistance safety planning, case management, house planning and location assistance, financial assistance and referrals to community resources	CSBG	110	83	75%	Children and youth have access to safety net (community) resources that promote stability. (CSBG Outcome)	115	0	0%
	CCFP							
	TANF					9		
	Total	110	83	75%		124	0	0%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Artemis House
Contract Analyst: Vincenza Githens

Organization: Shelter House
Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: Provide emergency shelter, assistance safety planning, comprehensive case management services, housing planning and location assistance, financial assistance, and referrals to community resources to victims of domestic violence with children.

Program Outcome: 75% of children and youth have access to safety net (community) resources that promote stability.

Funded Amount: CSBG (TANF) - \$138,856/GF - \$24,504 **Total:** \$163,360

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 131

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 98

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 179

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 0

Program Activities this Quarter:

Artemis House has provided case management, financial assistance, and connection to community resources to the households with children staying at its shelter.

Program Achievements:

This quarter 92% over of our CSBG families exited to a permanent destination, mostly rentals by the clients themselves. We have also welcomed a bevy of new case managers to our staff, which has helped us manage client needs much more efficiently.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

Our biggest challenge this quarter was still staffing. While we have hired a number of new staff during the quarter, they are already carrying full caseloads.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

Many of our households have been able to find housing and vouchers with the help of local partners such as Northern Virginia Family Service. We also partner with the Greater DC Diaper Bank for diapers and other baby products.

Changes in Client Population:

Last quarter, we saw an increase in the number of pregnant clients and clients who have limited English proficiency. This quarter, we have served more families and been able, because of our ability to move clients into housing, to move those families onsite, rather than utilizing motels.

Staff Turnover:

Hiring remains a significant challenge for us. With the new case managers aboard this quarter, our existing staff has been able to find a better equilibrium and feel rejuvenated.

Client Story:

Last quarter, we wrote about a client in shelter with her five kids. Literacy and language barriers had made it difficult for her to navigate the housing and legal systems, but she had persevered and received a voucher. Last month, she exited our program and spent her first Christmas in her new unit.

TAHIRIH Justice Center

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target %		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide low-income immigrants with free, holistic legal representation and assistance	CSBG	184	92	50%	Clients will have decreased levels of risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.	102	40	39%
	CCFP	26	13	50%		27	3	11%
	Total	210	105	50%		129	43	33%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Protecting Vulnerable Immigrant Survivors of Violence

Organization: The Tahirih Justice Center

Contract Analyst: Vanessa Calderon

Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: Provide low-income immigrants with free, holistic legal representation and assistance to include immigration legal petitions (e.g., asylum, green card adjustments, work permit, VAWA, U, T, and SIJS visas and their derivatives) and family law matters such as protective orders, child custody, visitation, spousal support, divorce petitions and their modifications/enforcement.

Program Outcome: 50% of persons have decreased levels of risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Funded Amount: CSBG - \$44,555/GF - \$6,076 **Total:** \$50,631

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 210

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 105

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 129

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 43

Program Activities this Quarter:

Building on the activities of our first quarter, in the second quarter of our CSBG funded program, grant-funded staff continued to provide interdisciplinary legal services to support the safety and stability of immigrant survivors of violence. Legal staff provided legal representation to immigrants pursuing legal status through asylum, VAWA protections, and U and T visas. Attorneys also provided access to family legal services, via in house provision or through referrals to our network of peers. Social services advocates responded to immigrant survivors' emotional, physical, social, and other needs, including providing crisis intervention, information and referrals, safety planning, and advocacy and accompaniment, among other supportive services. As we continue to accept new client intakes, we look forward to expanding our program's reach among low-income immigrant survivors of violence in Fairfax County as our program continues.

Program Achievements:

In the second quarter of our CSBG program, we continued to make progress towards our program outcomes.

- We provided legal services to 103 clients in 45 households, including applications for T visas, asylum, adjustment of status, and family sponsorship.
- We provided holistic, comprehensive social services case management to 21 clients in 8 households, supporting the stability of women and their families throughout emergency situations (housing, medical, etc.) and long-term needs (i.e., mental healthcare).

We also celebrate meaningful legal successes this quarter.

- Three clients received approval for their I-765 applications (Employment Authorization), which will enable them to work legally and support themselves and their families.
- One client received approval for their T Visa application, an immigration legal remedy available for survivors of human trafficking.
- One client received approval for their I-751 application (Battered Spouse Waiver), for legal status in the United States.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

As we have previously shared, immigration court backlogs continue to grow, leaving immigrant survivors with delayed court dates and long durations of waiting. The latest data show that more than 1,565,966 individuals are waiting for hearings before judges in the Immigration Courts housed in the Department

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

of Justice or are asylum seekers waiting for hearings before USCIS. Average wait times for hearings have reached nearly four and a half years.

We also find that recent immigration policies implemented by the current federal administration will cause harm to immigrants seeking justice and safety. As organizations strategize to respond to human rights violations and abuses, the effects of federal changes will be felt locally. Moreover, the continuation of bussing of immigrants from states like Arizona and Texas into our region is overwhelming local immigration and social services organizations, stretching our community's capacity.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

In October 2022, we kicked off renewed partnerships under our Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, Services for Survivors of Human Trafficking grant. Under our collaborative project, Tahirih will provide immigration and family legal services to immigrant survivors of trafficking, Legal Services of Northern Virginia will provide additional civil legal services, and Northern Virginia Family Services will provide mental health services. This three-year project will fill gaps in our region's social safety net, particularly for immigrants, including residents of Fairfax County.

Changes in Client Population:

In this quarter, 69% of clients supported by our CSBG-funded program are Hispanic/Latine (a nearly 10% decrease from Q1, 13% Asian, and 15% Black and not Hispanic (a 2.5x increase from Q1). Seventy-four percent are Limited English Proficient, relatively stable since Q1. Even more households are female-led, at ninety-five percent, and over a third of households include children. At the same time, 13% of immigrants served are elderly.

Notably, as in Q1, all clients served are extremely low income, which increases their needs for financial support for immigration filing fees. USCIS is self-funded, and its fees are prohibitory, contributing to the inaccessibility of our legal system and creating barriers that disproportionately impact immigrant survivors in vulnerable circumstances, particularly immigrants experiencing poverty. For example, becoming a permanent resident in the U.S. can cost a survivor nearly \$2,000. Our low-income clients often find themselves unable to continue with their applications because of the financial barriers posed by filing fees or are forced to make difficult choices between necessities and the continuation of their cases. Furthermore, the high cost of applications reinforces systems that use high costs as a filter for who can access justice. As such, high fees create and furthers the gap between privileged demographics and historically marginalized groups, such as low-income, LEP immigrant survivors.

Staff Turnover:

As recruitment is underway for a vacant social services position, we are happy to share our legal team is fully staffed. In addition to permanent staff, we will welcome our Bahai Service Fellow for year 2022-2023 and continue to receive support from our volunteers and interns who offer skills and capacity. We are also happy to have welcomed Dane Foster as staff attorney and Florencia Khomasi as Social Services Advocate to our team.

Client Story:

Camila is a fighter, and her story illustrates the resilience and resourcefulness required to overcome the institutional, compounding barriers immigrant survivors face on their paths to justice and safety in the United States. After surviving decades of domestic violence at the hands of her ex-husband, Camila reported his abuse to the police and sought services from Tahirih Justice Center. Tahirih's advocates worked alongside her as she filed for a U-Visa and was granted sole custody of her U.S. citizen daughter, Sara*. However, Camila was forced to leave the U.S. when her ex-husband and father of Sara kidnapped their daughter to their home country in South America. Camila tried to use the legal system, including

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

the U.S. Department of State, to rescue her daughter, but after a year of attempts, decided to return to South America herself. Camila was also the sole caregiver of her then-minor son, who had to join her.

While they were in South America, both Camila and her son's visas were approved. Even after receiving approval for their visas, Camila continued to face barriers in returning to the U.S., including financial barriers obtaining passports for her children and the attempts of her ex-husband to extort her, because she needed his consent for Sara to travel to the U.S. Tahirih advocates supported Camila for nearly four years after the approval of her U-Visa to assist her in returning to the U.S. with her children. After Camila convinced her ex-husband to consent to Sara's travel, they finally returned to the U.S. mere months before her and her son's U-Visas were set to expire.

Tahirih advocates were thrilled to finally welcome them back at the airport. Camila filed for an extension of her U-Visas for herself and her son, and shortly after she fell ill and needed urgent medical care. Her healthcare access was dependent on her Employment Authorization Card that would enable her to obtain a Social Security card to access medical coverage. Tahirih's advocates worked with her to quickly file a request for USCIS to expedite her and her son's Employment Authorization application, a request that was denied. Her medical condition worsened, and her work permit application continued to face delays, so Camila again made the difficult decision to return to South America where she had medical insurance to cover her surgery. This time, her then-adult son remained in the U.S., while her minor daughter joined her.

Camila traveled to South America as the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread. Her home country declared a state of emergency and cancelled surgeries to open up hospital beds, postponing her surgery for a year. While outside of the U.S., she received the news that her U-Visa extensions had finally been approved for herself and her son, valid for about a year and a half. After her surgery, Camila reached out to the U.S. consulate in South America to schedule a visa interview to return to the U.S. and reunite with her son. She finally returned to the U.S. and is on her way to qualifying for Lawful Permanent Residence, to which her son has already applied.

When she lived in South America, Camila's profession was providing advocacy and supportive services to widowers who needed assistance navigating systems. She is grateful that organizations like Tahirih exist to help immigrants navigate our complex legal and immigration systems. When Camila shared her story, she said "I hope my story is helpful to someone else...and can inspire many women to be stronger. We need to help young women identify toxic relationships, so that there are fewer Camilas that go through such difficult things, let alone have our children suffer."

UCM - Stepping Stones

Description of Activities	Annual Goals				Description of Outcome	TOTAL Through 2nd Q		
		Service Target	Outcome Target	Outcome Target		Number Served	# Achieved Outcome	% Achieve Outcome
1. Provide case management, counseling and referrals to participants	CSBG	120	66	55%	Clients will have access to resources that promote stability. (CSBG Outcome)	85	85	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		0	0	0%
	Total	120	66	55%		85	85	100%
2. Provide financial assistance to eligible participants in the form of rental assistance	CSBG	250	250	100%	Clients will have increased housing stability.	219	219	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		29	29	100%
	Total	250	250	100%		248	248	100%
3. Provide financial assistance to eligible participants in the form of utility assistance	CSBG	250	250	100%	Clients will have improved access to emergency basic needs assistance	425	425	100%
	CCFP	0	0	0%		28	28	0%
	TANF					17	17	100%
	Total	250	250	100%		470	470	100%

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Program: Stepping Stones
Contract Analyst: Vanessa Calderon

Organization: United Community Ministries
Phone #: 703-324-3289

Program Description: Provide financial assistance to eligible participants in the form of rental assistance that prevents eviction and hopelessness so that person have increased housing stability.

Program Outcome: 100% of persons have increased housing stability.

Funded Amount: CSBG - \$391,867/GF - \$0 **Total:** \$391,867

Number of Clients Projected to be served for the year: 250

Number of Clients Projected to Achieve Outcomes: 250

Actual Number of Clients Served YTD: 248

Number of Clients Achieving Outcome: 248

Program Activities this Quarter:

In an effort to meet Stepping Stones program objectives, the following services were provided to the clients during this quarter under review – rental assistance, utility assistance, dental and medical assistance. In addition to helping the clients to meet their basic needs, eligible new clients who received financial assistance were enrolled into Stepping Stones case management service. In collaboration with local faith groups, civic organizations, business and private individuals, Stepping organized the annual Holiday Gift Card event for children registered in the program from ages 0 – 18.

Program Achievements:

As stated above, the program engaged clients in all the CCFP contracted services. These services provided much needed resources that helped clients meet some of their emergency basic needs. Our rental assistance services ensured that households maintained their housing, those that received utility assistance either avoided service disconnection or had their services reconnected. Individuals had their dental or medical needs met. Our case management service continued to be the bed rock of moving households on the road towards achieving self-sufficiency. One client completed her course work towards her Certified Nursing Assistance (CNA) program. She is currently studying for her board examination.

One of our remarkable accomplishments during this quarter was working with a client who had difficulties in finding an employment due to her legal status to begin working towards starting her own child care business. She has completed her orientation, background check and required online courses to become a Fairfax County Home Childcare Provider. Stepping Stones is working with her in preparation for her home inspections with the County Office for Children and the Fire Marshall office. We are hoping that if her home passes the inspections, she will obtain her Fairfax County Home Childcare Permit in the next quarter. We are providing financial assistance to help her purchase required items in preparation for the inspections. All the other clients remained enrolled in their various vocational training programs - ESL, home inspection, and license practical nurse.

The program provided \$30 gift cards to each of the 643 children registered in the Stepping Stones Holiday Gift Card event.

Program Challenges this Quarter:

During this reporting period, a good number of the clients who sought assistance with their utility bills especially, and in some cases, rental assistance, waited until their services went into disconnection or eviction before reaching out to us for assistance. When these cases get to this point, there is not much the program could do to prevent service disconnection. For instance, we had cases of clients whose

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

energy services were scheduled for disconnection the same day they came for assistance. Clients became irate and unhappy if we were not able provide immediate assistance. This put a lot of pressure on staff.

Though the program made significant progress in our eviction prevention service, Stepping Stones was only able to process about 65% of the CSP monthly rental assistance referrals due to funding issues. Some of the needs of majority of the clients who came to Stepping Stones for assistance go beyond basic needs. We identified many clients that would benefit from our short-term solution focused case management service that would give them an opportunity to work one on one with case managers through a person-centered and holistic case management approach. Evidence has shown that the more self-sufficient a household is, the greater their chances of meeting their basic needs. Stepping Stones short-term solution focused case management is aimed at helping clients gain greater self-reliance. An expanded case management service with additional case manager positions will benefit more clients than we currently have, but this is a question of funding.

Describe how local partners are used to enhance your program:

During this quarter, the program partnered with different organizations to fill some gaps in services. The Fairfax County CSP play a significant role in coordinating human services requests especially in the area of rental assistance. This collaboration ensured that a client's entire rental package is completed by involving other organizations in the County through their monetary contribution. Dominion Virginia EnergyShare program remains the program's major partner in providing funding for energy bill assistance. Stepping Stones tries to cover energy bills not covered by the EnergyShare or other utility bills through fundraising. Northern Virginia Dental Clinic (NVDC) provided dental service to program clients. Financial counseling services were provided by Britepaths. Stepping Stones utilized the resources provided by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Neighborhood and Community Services and other agencies to ensure gaps in services are met. Stepping Stones' annual Holiday Gift Card event was made possible by the support of many faith-based groups in providing monetary donations and gift cards to children and youth. Stepping Stones developed a partnership with the newly opened Workforce Innovation Skills Hub (WISH) which will help to provide trades-based skills to program clients. A BSW student intern from George Mason University joined Stepping Stones case management team.

Changes in Client Population:

We did not notice any significant changes in client population other what was reported in the last quarter. However, the number of clients seeking assistance with utility who waited until the day their services were scheduled for disconnection has increased. This makes it difficult for the program to respond to their needs in an appropriate manner. In an effort to address this issue, Stepping Stones are educating the clients on the need to act of on their disconnection notices as soon as they received it including reaching out to their energy service providers to request extension as they navigate ways to pay their bills. We have also communicated this to CSP so that clients are well informed on what their options are.

Staff Turnover:

There is currently no staff turnover issue. However, the program would like to increase the number of Case Manager positions to meet the rising case management needs.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUNDED PROGRAM

Fiscal Year 2023

2nd Quarter Narrative Report

Client Story:

Sindy is a 36-year married woman, a mother of seven children ages 15 – 6, a recent immigrant who came to United Community for food assistance. Both Sindy and her husband are employed. Sindy works in a day care making \$924 monthly and her husband makes \$1200 which brings their total monthly household income to \$2,124. Sindy and her husband struggled every month to pay their rent. Sindy does not qualify for SNAP; their main source of food assistance was United Community weekly food distribution.

One day when Sindy came to United Community to pick up food, Stepping Stones Case Manager met with her and inquired about her and her family. When Cindy introduced herself, the Case Manager realized that she is one of the large families in the program and asked how she would like to improve her family's financial situation. Through their engagement, Sindy disclosed that she liked her day care job, but would like to obtain Child Development Associate (CDA) certification in early childhood education for better job opportunities. The Case Manager suggested that Sindy enroll into Progreso ESL classes to improve her English language prior to enrolling in the CDA program. Sindy informed the worker that she already identified a school in Maryland that specifically caters to Spanish speaking population where her colleagues in her job obtained their training. After the worker contacted the school, verified that they are accredited and that their CDA certification is accepted in the State of Virginia, United Community enrolled her into Stepping Stones case management services. The program paid hundred percent of her tuition, books, and other allied fees. With case management support and regular transportation assistance, Sindy completed 120 hours course successfully and ready to register for her CDA board examination. Stepping Stones paid half of the fees while Sindy paid the balance. Sindy passed her board examination and eventually obtained her CDA certificate.

Sindy contacted her case manager in November and informed her that she was promoted in her job with an hourly income of \$17 bringing her monthly income to \$2,720. Sindy will register in Progreso ESL class in January 2023 when their next class starts. Sindy's story captures the essence of what Stepping Stones aims to accomplish through our short-term solution focused case management with the support of CCFP funding.



Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board
Funding Priorities
FY 2023 – FY 2024

1	Housing Services Housing Payment Assistance, Housing Placement/Rapid Re-housing (Including Shelters), Eviction Prevention Services, Utility Payment Assistance Housing Maintenance & Improvements, Weatherization Services
2	Health and Social/Behavioral Development Nutrition and Food/Meals, Health Services, Screening and Assessments, Reproductive Health Services, Wellness Education, Mental/Behavioral Health, Support Groups, Dental Services, Screenings and Exams, Family Skills Development, Emergency Hygiene Assistance
3	Support Services Child Care, Elder Care, Immigrant Support Services, Emergency Clothing Assistance, Legal Assistance, Re-Entry Services, Case Management Services, Identification Documents, Transportation Assistance, Referrals, Eligibility Determinations, Mediation/Customer Advocacy Interventions
4	Education & Cognitive Development Services Child and Young Adult Education Programs, School Supplies, Extra-Curricular Programs, Adult Education Programs, Post-Secondary Education Supports, Financial Aid Assistance, Home Visits
5	Employment Services Skills Training and Opportunities for Experience, Career Counseling, Job Search, Post Employment Services, Job Supplies
6	Civic Engagement and Community Involvement Voter Education, Leadership Training, Citizenship Classes, Volunteer Training, Tri-Partite Board Member Classes, Getting Ahead Classes