Nearly 400,000 Virginians are estimated to be disabled as a result of brain injury. This statistic is coupled with a significant unmet need for specialized community-based assessment/treatment programs.

From January to June of 2019, the Fairfax County Police Department received nearly 4,000 calls that were mental health related. These calls can lead to incarceration for low-level offenses — precluding individuals from receiving the appropriate treatment to address underlying mental health issues. By increasing the availability of community-based crisis services, local psychiatric beds, reintegration services for youth and adults at high risk of rapid re-hospitalization or re-offending, and discharge planning would better address this.

Outcome Statement: To have access to primary, specialty, oral, behavioral, and long-term health care, particularly prevention services. To develop the knowledge and resources to practice healthy behaviors and to take action to prevent and manage disease and adverse health conditions.

Sources:
1. Draft 2020 Fairfax County Human Services Issue Paper, 2019
2. Draft 2020 Fairfax County Human Services Issue Paper, 2019
3. PolicyLink and The Kresge Foundation. Healthy Communities of Opportunity: An Equity Blueprint to Address America’s Housing Challenges. October 2016
4. Fairfax County Youth Survey Data, 2017-2018
5. Fairfax County Youth Survey Data, 2017-2018
6. Fairfax County Youth Survey Data, 2017-2018
7. Fairfax County Youth Survey Data, 2017-2018
8. Fairfax County Youth Survey Data, 2017-2018
9. Fairfax County Human Services Needs Assessment, 2019

With African-American, Hispanic, and Native American residents living disproportionately in disadvantaged neighborhoods, they are more likely to experience chronic stress and other burdens that negatively contribute to health risks.
Prevalence of overall depressive symptoms (28.3%) and suicidal ideation (14.8%) for eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students continued to increase in 2018.4

Sixth-graders reported prevalence of depressive symptoms (24.2%) at its highest rate since 2011.

Over one-third of female students (35.8%) reported feeling so sad or hopeless for two or more weeks in a row in the past year that they stopped doing some usual activities, and 20.3% of male students reported experiencing the feelings.6

In 2018, over one-fourth of students (27.9%) reported vaping at least once in their lifetime. In twelfth-grade, white females reported the highest percentage of vaping (36.1%).7

Approximately one in six female students (18.2%) and one in nine male students (11.2%) reported that they had seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year. Seven percent of Fairfax County female students and four percent of male students reported attempting suicide in the past year.8

In Fairfax County, there were 114 opioid related deaths in 2017. While the count appears to be down for 2018, the proportion of overall deaths that include fentanyl is increasing and higher in Fairfax County, than all of the reporting counties in Virginia. Fentanyl accounted for 62% of all drug deaths for Fairfax County in 2017, compared to 50% in Virginia.9