

Memorandum

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

From: Michael Borash, Fairfax City Rep. to the Fairfax ASAP

Re: Quarterly Report from the Fairfax Alcohol Safety Action Prog.

Date following ASAP Policy Board meeting of November 15, 2023

Director Elwood Jones announced several new VASAP requirements directly affecting the Fairfax ASAP.

1. A quorum representing, at least, two-thirds of the Policy Board membership must be present at each quarterly meeting. This is significant as the

Last two ASAP Policy Board meetings were cancelled due to a quorum not being present.

2. New, additional, certification standards have now been established at the State level and implemented at the local level:
 - A. All ASAP staff will have to pass a background check as a requirement of employment.
 - B. All ASAP staff will have to achieve the designation of “Certified” which includes the above-mentioned background check as well as passing a one-hundred question multiple choice examination.

The ASAP Policy Board will now include representation by the Fairfax

County Drunk Driving Task Force. The Task Force currently consists of four officers.

And is focused on “sobriety check-points” and identification and apprehension of intoxicated drivers.

Fairfax city representative to the ASAP Policy Board, Mike Borash asked Director Jones if it would be possible to obtain Fairfax City DUI arrest statistics either on a quarterly or monthly basis. Director Jones responded that he would make every effort to obtain that data.

No other significant changes were discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael H. Borash

Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax Alcohol Safety Action Program.

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

FROM: Andre Lee, Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax County Advisory Social Services Board (ASSB)

SUBJECT: Quarterly Report from the ASSB, August through October 2023

DATE: October 26, 2023

The ASSB continues to monitor the formation and implementation of social welfare programs, hearing from representatives of the Department of Family Services (DFS) to provide feedback on its various service performances and future plans. The ASSB continues to meet in person – although it only met once during this quarter – and has done the following:

- In August, there was no meeting due to a scheduled summer break.
- On August 9, Dr. Michael Becketts, DFS Director, held an orientation for new members.
- In September, the ASSB was notified by the Director about a concerning issue in the Governor’s budget – the state is over-expended on TANF funds for families by \$56M.
 - Several Fairfax community-based organizations and DFS may lose funding for some programs as a result; we will not know the full impact until the budget process in December.
- Senior Assistant County Attorney Debra Laird introduced Walter Herbert, a court-appointed attorney in Fairfax regarding the desperate lack of court-appointed public defenders – only eleven available with Walter and others rapidly approaching retirement.
 - The compensation PER CHILD CUSTODY CASE is only \$120... The existing model is simply not sustainable for the next generation of lawyers, and there is no plan to address this shortage and its impact on the child welfare system.
 - Director Becketts will discuss the issue with his peers in Virginia League of Social Service Executives (VLSSE) and will take the lead on writing a position letter from the VLSSE.
- Neighborhood and Community Services’ Deputy Director Pallas Washington discussed how NCS works with youth, families, and caretakers in their communities and how her organization has changed significantly to support families intentionally through a lifespan continuum.
 - Deputy Director Washington provided an overview of her organization, its programs, and major initiatives such as targeted intervention via mapped vulnerability indices amongst the county’s population.
- In October, the ASSB meeting was canceled because several members were out of town or ill and so there was a lack of in-person quorum.

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council
From: Carolyn Sutterfield, City Representative to the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging
Re: Quarterly Report, August–October 2023
Date: October 26, 2023

The Fairfax Area COA meets on the third Wednesday of the month (except August); meeting materials are at [Fairfax Area Commission on Aging \(COA\) Meetings | Family Services \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#).

SHAPE the Future of Aging

This year, following the approval of the SHAPE the Future of Aging Plan by the Board of Supervisors in May, it was determined that work on SHAPE needed to continue through the summer. The COA held an in-person meeting in August and also scheduled initial meetings of the five SHAPE category teams.

Each SHAPE Team is comprised of county staff, topic experts, and community representatives and is chaired by two COA commissioners. The five teams are as follows:

- **“S” Team:** Services for Older Adults and Family Caregivers, chaired by Cathy Cole (At-large) and Joanne Collins (Hunter Mill).
- **“H” Team:** Housing and Neighborhood Supports, chaired by Irv Katz (Mason) and Sharron Dreyer (Franconia)
- **“A” Team:** Access to Mobility, chaired by Jim Fitzpatrick (Springfield) and Mike Perel (Braddock)
- **“P” Team:** Personal Well-Being, chaired by Diane Watson (South County) and Cathy Muha (Sully)
- **“E” Team:** Economic Stability and Planning, chaired by Carolyn Sutterfield (City of Fairfax) and Kay Larmer (Dranesville).

(Note: We are awaiting a new appointee to the COA from the City of Falls Church.

In September, the Department of Family Services’s data team visited the COA to explain the system for documenting progress of each recommended SHAPE initiative. The CASOA surveys of 2019 and 2022, along with feedback from the various public forums, will serve as the data basis for our work. All recommendations approved by the BOS have been tracked with the Countywide Strategic Plan. Development of specific initiatives is to be categorized as short-term (first six months), medium-term (first and second years), and long-term (three to five years).

Economic Stability and Planning: An initial in-person meeting of “E” Team to introduce ourselves and share our reasons for choosing this team was followed by a second, hybrid meeting to rank the nine recommendations approved for our SHAPE category in May. We agreed that our two short-term projects would be (1) to develop an insert for the next Fairfax County real-estate tax mailing to warn taxpayers about common home repair scams, and (2) to propagate the financial stability program currently offered at South County Community Center by Maria Cantoni, a Britepaths contractor, to reach audiences throughout the Fairfax area. We are looking into partnering with Neighborhood and Community Services, which runs the senior centers.

Each team presented its short-term goals to the full Commission at the October 18 meeting. We agreed to devote the November and December meetings to fleshing out plans for the initial year of SHAPE.

Health: How We Build It

At the October COA meeting, we had a presentation by Anna Ricklin, MHS, manager of the Fairfax County Health Department's new Health in All Policies (HiAP) program. The equity-focused initiative "recognizes that health is shaped by social and environmental factors outside the doctor's office—and works upstream with partners to create the conditions where everyone can be healthy." Building on the One Fairfax policy, HiAP examines potential impacts of the built environment on human well-being and collaborates with local partners to ensure that both public and private spaces serve the health of the community. To learn more, contact Anna.Ricklin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax Village in the City

The Village has continued to have a presence at the Saturday Farmers Market and the monthly Funky Flea market. We also had a booth at the Fall Festival. On October 18, some 40 members and volunteers attended an afternoon Volunteer Appreciation event hosted by the Village Advisory Board at the Historic Blenheim interpretive center. Mayor Read and Councilmember Ross addressed the group, and attendees enjoyed ice cream from a local vendor truck and played a "Fairfax City History" guessing game. (Tom Ross's team won.) As of October 25, the Village has 76 members and 40 volunteers. In addition to our regular volunteer services, we are already planning the next Home for Life Expo, to be held on April 12, 2024, plus three sessions in a Village Speaker Series to be held at the Sherwood Center in February, June, and November of next year.

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

From: Jim Gillespie, City Representative to the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board

Re: Quarterly Report, July – September 2023

Date: October 25, 2023

Peer and Recovery Services Update

At the September 27 CSB Board meeting Director Michael Lane presented an update on Peer and Recovery Services. They continue to emphasize amplifying the voices of individuals with lived experiences in mental health and substance use challenges, as it remains an integral part of their mission. Recovery and wellness programs are crucial in supporting individuals in their recovery from mental health challenges and substance abuse. These programs provide hope, healing, and the tools to help individuals reach their goals. There are Certified Peer Specialists (CPSs) to facilitate recovery. CPSs are individuals with lived experience in mental health challenges, substance use disorders, or both who have successfully achieved stable recovery. They are trained to assist others on their recovery journey. They provide individual support, helping set career, recovery, health, or financial goals, facilitate effective communication with service providers, connect individuals to community resources, and share their experiences, strengths, and hope. There are also recovery centers, which serve as spaces for individuals in recovery from mental health challenges and substance abuse to find hope, healing, and tools to reach their goals. Peer Recovery Specialists (PRSs) and volunteers at these centers foster an environment where peers support one another in achieving independence in housing, education, and employment. They create a sense of community, share skills and talents, discover available resources, and provide a network for building self-confidence. These centers offer social activities and an informal setting for individuals who have walked similar paths to connect, find inspiration, and continue their recovery journey together.

The Governor's Recently Approved Expanded Budget

- \$58M specified for the enhancement of the crisis system. These funds are anticipated to be apportioned among the five CSB regions throughout the state.
- \$10M for mobile crisis services. These funds will be used to partner with hospitals across the state to establish what is referred to as a psychiatric emergency room.
- Expansion of children's psychiatry services, building on a previously existing VMAP statewide consultation program. The aim is to strengthen this service and facilitate primary care physicians' prescribing and consultation services. This will broaden the range of individuals with the knowledge and access to consultation for enhancing and expanding the psychiatric medication prescription for youth when necessary.

- Expansion of supervised residential care, primarily for individuals transitioning from the state hospital to the community. These individuals will typically require moderate to intensive residential treatment to support their integration into the community. These funds are usually allocated to the region, not individual CSBs.
- \$18M earmarked for CSB staff compensation, doubling to \$36M in the upcoming budget.
- \$4.3M is allocated for System Transformation Excellence and Performance (STEP VA).
- 500 new DD waiver slots; the allocation to the Fairfax-Falls Church CSB is estimated to be between 80 and 100, with precise figures yet to be determined.
- Medicaid services received an increased reimbursement percentage during the public health emergency. When the public health emergency concludes, this bump in reimbursement rates will be reinstated as of January.

Youth-Focused Initiatives in Board of Supervisors (BOS) Carryover

- Expansion of Youth Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services
- Expansion of Youth Mental Health Outreach and Engagement and Intervention Program. This program empowers the CSB to provide outreach, mental health screening, engagement, assessment, therapy, and case management in various community settings across the county. This includes non-traditional settings and different geographical locations, encompassing north, central, and south county areas. The goal for youth services is expanding youth mental health support, particularly in non-traditional settings. The CSB aims to commence this program with a team of six, distributed strategically across areas identified of high need.
- Creation of a Youth Crisis Services and Re-entry Program, which involves establishing a youth crisis stabilization program, including a crisis receiving center. This program will offer crisis stabilization, detox treatment, and aftercare, making it the most financially substantial option. The CSB has been granted permission to investigate establishing a youth 24/7 service and program focusing on detox and residential treatment for youth with substance use issues. The intention is explore a facility capable of holding at least four different licenses while retaining the same facility size.

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Mayor Catherine Read and Fairfax City Council

CC: Lesley Abashian

From: Frank Franz, Fairfax City Board Member, Fairfax County Domestic and Juvenile Relations Court Citizens Advisory Council

Date: October 26, 2023

Re: Report for October 2023

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- JDRDC staff presented to the CAC on pre-trial supervision and the Stronger Together Supervised Visitation and Exchange Program.
 - Judge Carr announced her retirement effective August 2024.
 - The General Assembly is prepared to approve the nominee in January/February 2024, with the new judge joining the bench in August 2024
 - The JDRDC hosted employees from the US State Department
 - The State Department invited Chief Judge Sotelo to do a virtual presentation on juvenile justice to the country of Georgia in November.
 - Judge Sotelo lectured at James Madison University to students on Judicial Decision Making in connection with their Innovation Center for Youth Justice.
 - On October 24th, JDRDC hosted the Youth Justice Transformation Symposium, bringing teams of Judges, prosecutors, police, public defenders, and court personnel from surrounding jurisdictions to continue learning about Youth Justice Transformation.
 - The CSU submitted its FY2025 budget reduction package as required of all Fairfax County agencies. Agency directors were instructed to provide a 7% reduction package. Because the State mandates most CSU programs and services, a 7% reduction would impact non-mandated but essential services if accepted.
 - The CSU is still experiencing some challenges with hiring and retention; however, the situation is improving.

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

FROM: Suzanne Levy

RE: Fairfax City Regional Library quarterly report

DATE: October 2023

Fairfax City Library Book Sale November 2-5

- Presale (paid tickets needed) Thursday, Nov. 2 first floor only (contact fofairfaxcity@gmail.com for details)
- Regular Sale Friday and Saturday, Nov. 3-4, 10-4 first floor and Virginia Room
- Bag Sale Sunday 10-3 \$8/bag

Circulating Board Games

- This fall, FCPL's collection of circulating board games is expanding to all locations!
- These tabletop games for all ages offer no-fuss entertainment, whether for a rainy day or a special gathering. From classics like Chess to new favorites like Catan and Codenames, there is something for everyone to enjoy.
- Board games check out for three weeks and are renewable.

Knitting For Charity

- Experienced knitters and crocheters are encouraged to make adult winter hats to be donated to Shelter House, a local nonprofit organization providing resources to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and domestic violence. Last year, FCPL donated more than 700 items.
- Donations can be submitted to any library branch between Sept. 11 and Nov. 17.

Local Author Book Festival

- FCPL held its first ever Local Author Book Festival on Saturday September 30 from 12-3 p.m. at the Chantilly Regional Library.
- This outdoor festival gave visitors an opportunity to meet and purchase books from 40 local authors. The event will also feature activities such as crafts and a caricature artist, as well as snacks.

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- The festival was preceded by an author talk from David Baldacci at 11 a.m. The author talk was held both in person and virtually, with 100 in-person spots and 250 virtual spots available. Fifty of the in-person spots were reserved for attendees of the Fairfax Library Foundation's VIP Meet & Greet, which will be in advance of the author talk.
- The event was cosponsored by the Fairfax Library Foundation

Fall For The Book Festival

- The 25th Anniversary Festival ran from October 11-14. This year's headliners included authors Katharine Hayhoe, Nick Hornby, Marlon James and W. Bruce Cameron.
- More information can be found at <https://fallforthebook.org/schedule/>

For Library Programs see

Ongoing Programs for Adults

- English Conversation Group – Weekly on Tuesday evenings (7:00-8:30 pm)
- Knitting Group – Weekly on Tuesday evenings (6:30-8:00pm)
- Community Plant Swap – Monthly 2-4pm (Sat 11/25, 12/9)
- Open Genealogy Nights – Monthly 7-9pm (Mon 11/20, 12/18)
- Books & Brews Book Discussion – Monthly at Ornerly Brew Pub 7:30-9pm (Mon 11/20, 12/18)
- Socrates Café - Friendly philosophic conversation! No preparation is necessary. Monthly 2:30pm (Sun 11/12, 12/20)

Ongoing Programs for Children

- Family Storytime – Weekly on Wednesday mornings 10:30am
- GIVE Tutoring (*HS volunteers*) – Sunday mornings 10:15-12:15
- ASL Homeschool Conversation Group, (*Volunteer-led*) – Mondays 2pm
- LEGO Club - Monthly 10:30-11:30am (Sat 11/18, 12/16)
- Bilingual Storytime (Spanish-English) Monthly (Fri 12/1)

What is happening at Fairfax Library

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/city-of-fairfax-regional>

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Anita Light, Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax County Long Term Care Coordinating Council
Re: Quarterly Report from the LTCCC, July - September, 2023
Date: October 30, 2023

This report will cover Q3 of 2023.

The LTCCC committee met in person for the July 12, 2023, and September 13, 2023 meeting. In addition to these meetings of the LTCCC, the Social Connections Sub-committee of the LTCCC also met in person June 7, 2023, August 9, 2023, and September 6, 2023.

The LTCCC met in person on July 12, 2023. Presentations by were made by the following:

1. **No Wrong Door Report: Appropriate Acoustics in Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities, Senior Centers, Adult Day Care Centers and more.** Bonnie O’Leary, Outreach Manager, Northern Virginia Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals presented. The presentation urged more attention to the environment in which seniors hear and the acoustics of these spaces. As community centers, senior centers, retirement communities, nursing homes, and adult day care centers are being planned and or renovated, O’Leary urged attention to the acoustics of the public spaces. O’Leary urged improving acoustics in public spaces where older adults congregate, and in private facilities such as retirement communities, allowing older adults to be able to participate in community life to the fullest.
2. **Fairfax County Health in All Policies Program: County Building Projects Affecting Older Adults & Adults with Disabilities.** Anna Ricklin, Health in All Policies Manager, Fairfax County Health Department presented. “Health in All Policies” broadens the definition of health and how health is shaped by social and environmental factors. There needs to be a focus on health equity. The “Health in All Policies” approach should be a part of all programs and service administration, and in via partnerships with organizations inside and outside of government.
3. **Presentation and Votes to Approve New LTCCC Strategic Plan and Name Change.** The council reviewed and adopted the Draft Strategic Plan 2023-2026 of the LTCCC. Additionally, a recommendation to change the name of the LTCCC to “Coordinating Council on Aging & Adults with Disabilities” was put forward by the 2023 LTCCC Strategic Planning Committee. These two items will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their review.

The LTCCC met in person on September 13, 2023. Presentations were made by the following:

1. **Inclusive Engagement & Targeted Interventions (IETI) Division in Department of Neighborhood & Community Services (NCS.)** Norma Lopez, Division Director, presented an overview of the work of NCS that is focused on Economic Mobility and Social Inclusion. She shared Engage Fairfax Core Principles (Prioritize Equity, Establish and Maintain Trust, Develop Data-Driven Processes, Establish Clear Expectations, Enable Engaged Communications, and Promote and Create Accessible Government)

and how all agencies within FFX County are to adhere to them. Ms. Lopez emphasized how community engagement in Fairfax is intended to ensure all voices that have been historically marginalized are heard and in alignment with One FFX – Engage FFX.

2. **Inclusive Community Engagement.** Katina Matthews, Community Impact Manager, presented the process by which community engagement should be structured to ensure maximum impact for the issue being addressed to achieve diverse outcomes. Ms. Matthews said that pandemic taught us a lot about how to communicate, but that many of the old ways must still be used to address the disparities in communities. She provided the steps for engagement, i.e., (1) Apply the Engage Fairfax Core Principles as outlined above to ensure all voices are heard, (2) define the scope of the problem/issue, (3) understand the local context by gathering information on the community profile and preparing an asset map, noting that the profile is ever changing so should be reviewed periodically to make sure decision-makers are adequately informed. Conducting these activities will enable a more successful community engagement effort. She also focused on how best to identify a stakeholder as the **fourth** step for community engagement and once identified, conduct an analysis of their contribution and ability to influence others and impact the issue being addressed. The **fifth** step is to determine the level of engagement by the decision makers through an analysis of their contributions. The **sixth** step is to determine an engagement method to be used to impact the stakeholders and decision makers, and then finally, the seventh step is to make a project plan using all this analysis.
3. **Vote to Approve Revised LTCCC By Laws** – S. Orlene Grant, LTCCC Vice-Chair presented the draft revised LTCCC By Laws and after approval of the LTCCC, the new bylaws that include the new name of the committee will be forwarded to the BOS for approval.
4. **No Wrong Door (NWD) Report: SHAPE (Shape the Future of Aging) Plan Update.** Cathy Cole, Chair of the Commission on Aging (COA) and LTCCC member provided an update on the SHAPE initiative and what the Initiative Development Committees (ICD) are currently doing. The goals and action plans developed by the ICD's will be operationalized in October and November with short term goals being reviewed to determine the status by December 2023. A draft report of the short-term goals and equity outcomes is due in March 2024 with a final report due to the BOS in May 2024. Common Inter-related themes of the IDC's being addressed are Communication, Housing Needs, Barriers to Mobility, Inclusion and Equity, Access to Physical and Mental Well-being, Encouraging Engagement, and Combating Agism.

The Social Connections Committee met in person June 7th, August 9th, and September 6th.

The primary work of the committee during this quarter was to learn more about the impact of social isolation on the older adult community:

- (1) The committee heard from Raymond Paden, Program Manager, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB), Wellness Health Promotion & Prevention (WHPP) gave a presentation on Social Isolation & Loneliness. The presentation identified who is affected, the risk factors, impacts on mental health, and services provided by the CSB.
- (2) The committee also reviewed the Surgeon General's report on Social Isolation that emphasized the importance of social connection with older adults. The committee briefly discussed how to incorporate this report into the work of the committee that would also be in support of the SHAPE Plan.

(3) The committee was asked to prepare an "elevator" statement on the Social Connections committee to be used in marketing efforts to bring in new members to the LTCCC.

(4) The committee has decided to conduct a Social Connections Awareness Campaign with goals of (a) highlighting for the Fairfax area community that social isolation is a public health issue and to increase awareness of the critical role that social connectedness plays in decreasing social isolation, and (b) to engage all members of the community in learning how best to reduce and/or eliminate social isolation and improve well-being for older adults and adults with disabilities.