

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, February through April 2022

DATE: April 13, 2022

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 meets virtually every month and has done the following:

- Was introduced to the Public Assistance and Employment Services (PAES) team under Division Director Lisa Tatum in February, which was PAES Appreciation Month.
- Was provided updates by Deputy Director of Programs and Services Alycia Blackwell on the General Assembly and by Chief Equity Officer Karla Bruce on the Chairman's Task Force on Equity & Opportunity (of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors).
 - As a reminder regarding the latter, the task force was charged to better understand the drivers of inequity in Fairfax County and to develop recommendations for accelerating the county's progress towards becoming One Fairfax.
 - Karla highlighted specific recommendations, which largely lined up with those the ASSB earmarked.
 - The ASSB re-emphasized the intersection of housing inequity and mental health and engaged in issue discussion related to the recommendations.
- Reviewed the state of homelessness in Fairfax County and the services of the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness with Deputy Director Tom Barnett and subsequently with Director Tom Fleetwood of the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- Unanimously nominated and elected Hasan Shah as 2022 ASSB Secretary (note: Joe Koszarek was previously elected in January but had to resign shortly thereafter due to work travel commitments).
- Formed the subcommittee assisting ASSB Chair David Jonas to draw up his presentation for the FY 2023 Budget hearings before the Board of Supervisors in April.

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- Was updated about the end of the Public Health Emergency by Lisa Tatum, Division Director of Public Assistance and Employment Services as it pertains to Medicaid and SNAP – such that:
 - The normal processes/renewal requirements for enrolling in Medicaid will soon resume (TBD, so DFS will be encouraging Medicaid members to update their information to confirm eligibility), and
 - SNAP Emergency Supplements may sunset (lasting through April 16, but TBD whether they will be extended).

Fairfax Area Commission on Aging: Quarterly Report to the Mayor and City Council

Submitted by Carolyn Sutterfield, City of Fairfax Representative/COA Secretary, April 22, 2022

Fairfax County and Fairfax Area Agency on Aging news

No cuts to existing programs for older adults were listed in the advertised Fairfax County FY2023 budget. The COA expressed its appreciation at an April 13 testimony session, while noting that four positions requested by the Adult & Aging Division remain unfunded. The Board of Supervisors will adopt the FY 2023 budget at its May 10 meeting.

The AAA has implemented two new service programs:

- Launched March 1, Chore is a contracted program designed to aid clients of the Adult & Aging Division aged 60+ who need help with heavy housekeeping or de-cluttering but cannot afford to hire help. It fills a gap not previously addressed by the Light Housekeeping or Renovation & Repair programs. The goal is to help clients avoid code issues and potential evictions.
- Volunteer Solutions is offering animatronic pets (dog or cat) to current A&A clients and Senior Center and Adult Day Health Center participants aged 60+. Each center has two pets on site for demonstration purposes.

To help supervise AAA programs, Lauren Elcesser, LCSW, has been hired as Assistant Program Manager. She was most recently Interim Director of Geriatrics at Inova Health System.

Community Survey Update

In February 2019, a nationally normed Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA) was distributed to 22,000 households in Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church with at least one member aged 50 or older. The resulting data was used by the Fairfax County Executive's office to inform the new Countywide Strategic Plan adopted in 2021. It was also intended to inform development of the next action plan for older adults, to be called "SHAPE the Future of Aging." Then came COVID-19. The new plan was put on hold indefinitely.

Three years have passed since the previous survey, so it seemed wise to conduct a second CASOA, with some modified questions, to determine if needs and attitudes have changed before going ahead with the planning process. A new survey was mailed to a new set of randomly selected households on March 9, 2022. The deadline for submitting the survey online or by mail was April 20. Results are expected later this spring. SHAPE planning will resume then.

COA Interim Workplan: Analysis to Support "SHAPE the Future of Aging" Plan Development

In the meantime, the COA has been doing background research into strengths and weaknesses of what is currently being provided for the Fairfax area's older adults in key service areas.

1. *Fairfax County Vulnerability Index*. In February, One Fairfax program director Katherine Miga introduced commissioners to a map developed with data from the 2015–2019 American

Community Surveys to rank Fairfax area census tracts (including the City of Fairfax) from Very High (most vulnerable) to High, Average, Low, and Very Low (least vulnerable). Rankings were based on eight ACS indicators: People of Color, Low English-Speaking Ability, Low Educational Attainment, Household Income, Households without a Vehicle, Population without Health Insurance, Cost-burdened Renter Households, and Severely Cost-burdened Renter Households. Presentation slides, including the Vulnerability Map itself, are posted in the [February COA meeting materials](#) on the county website. County departments have used the map as an overlay to determine where services are most needed.

2. *COVID-19 Update:* In March, Fairfax Health Department. Colin Brody, Assistant Public Health Emergency Management Coordinator, spoke on key issues still arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Slides from his presentation are on the county website in the [March 2022 COA meeting materials](#). Some key points:

- Virginia is at the tail end of the omicron surge from late 2021. As of March 16, there were 433 currently hospitalized COVID patients, 75 on ventilators. Numbers seeking ER care for COVID had dropped steadily since January.
- Statewide, only 2.8% of fully vaccinated residents have developed COVID. Since January 17, the unvaccinated have been hospitalized at 4.1 times the rate of vaccinated.
- In the Fairfax area, nearly 2,900 homebound and long-term care facility residents were vaccinated by the Medically Fragile Task Force. In all, the Health Department has administered 2.2 million doses of vaccine to area residents.
- The Health Department continues to investigate outbreaks in communal living facilities and hopes be able soon to vaccinate children aged 6 months to 4 years.

3. *State of Housing in Fairfax County.* In April, three speakers—Regina Coyle from Housing and Community Development; Sharon Williams from Planning and Development, and Candice Bennett from the Planning Commission—spoke on current and planned affordable housing projects throughout the county. Older adults and people with disabilities are one of four populations designated for housing. The others are the homeless, low-income families, and workforce families earning up to 60% of AMI. The county has recently raised its goal for 2034 from 5,000 units to 10,000 units (that may go up in 2023). Challenges identified include lack of available land, resistant neighbors, and inflexibility in the existing zoning ordinance. Speakers encouraged the COA to advocate for older adult housing by addressing misunderstandings.

Fairfax Village in the City

The newly constituted Village Advisory Board will meet on April 27 to formalize its bylaws, elect officers, and set priorities for coming months. We are still seeking representatives from the business, nonprofit, and faith communities. Coordinator Jason Scadron has been working to draft volunteer and membership applications. The city has submitted its Memorandum of Understanding to join NV Rides. We anticipate an official launch of the Village in mid-May.

On a personal note, I was honored on April 12 to be one of two city residents to receive a “Woman of Influence” award for 2022 from the City of Fairfax and its Commission for Women.

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

From: Sandra Slappey Brown, Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax/Falls Church CSB Board

Re: Quarterly Report from the CSB Board, January through March 2022

Date: April 18, 2022

The CSB Board and its committees have returned to in-person meetings as of April 2022.

FY 2023 Budget Highlights

- Employee compensation of \$13.4 million in funding for a 4.01% market rate adjustment for all employees, performance and longevity increases averaging 2.15%,
- Diversion First \$695,364 for 4 new positions and \$212,800 in operating expenses.
- Detoxification and Residential Treatment Services will receive \$612,310 for 4.5 new positions,
- Emergency Services \$150,364 for 1 new position,
- Co-Responder and Behavioral Health Crisis Calls \$2.1 million in ongoing funding to pay for the 17 positions that were added at the FY 2022 budget mid-year review.
- Transfer of \$375,950 for 2 positions which facilitate countywide Diversion First and response to the opioid epidemic.
- Mid-year adjustment includes the following:
 - Developmental Disability Specialists and Behavioral Specialists were given a two S-Level increase (which is a 10% increase),
 - Nurses and Business Analyst positions were given a one S-level increase (which is a 5% increase).
 - The number of CSB staff impacted by this change in compensation is 756.

CSB Workforce Crisis

This continues, and the number of vacancies continues to rise. This is having a serious impact on the number of clients who can be served. One strategy to assist has been the temporary closing of the Partial Hospitalization and New Generations Programs so that staff can be reassigned to other programs that are gravely affected due to vacancies. HR is also beginning to do generic job ads instead of multiple ads for various positions so that candidates can be considered for multiple positions. A longer term strategy has been that staff compensation increases have been made by the county, increasing salaries by 5-10%.

TO: Mayor and Fairfax City Council
FROM: Judith C. Turcott,
City of Fairfax Representative to Fairfax Area Disability Services Board
SUBJECT: Fairfax Area Disability Services Board Report
DATE: April 2022

The Fairfax Area Disability Services Board (FA-DSB) vision: To include people with disabilities into mainstream community life by identifying, communicating, and advocating their diverse capabilities and needs to state and local governments and the private sector; and to help and provide resources to meet the needs of persons with physical and sensory disabilities.

The Board met in February and March 2022, they did not meet in April 2022. The meetings continue to be virtual.

Fairfax County continues to offer many services through the Department of Family Services either on-line or by phone. Here is a link to the website and the information included in SKIP the TRIP:
<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/>

The FA-DSB has updated the Board Priorities to include the following for 2022

1. Educational campaign regarding reasonable accommodations and lease-breaking measures
2. Increased housing for residents with disabilities— particularly multi-bedroom housing
3. Increased employment by county government of people with disabilities, with putting needed supports in place
4. Improved regional transportation options (public and private/rideshare) for people with disabilities
5. Ensure all county buildings and facilities meet ADA requirements
6. Accessibility of all county websites and online services and activities
7. Accessibility education for area businesses
8. Increased participation in other boards and committees and ensure that they are accessible to all persons with disabilities
9. Training other boards

Please let me know if you have additional questions on any of these initiatives.

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Mayor David L. Meyer and Fairfax City Council

CC: Lesley Abashian

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

Date: April 25, 2022

Re: Report for the Period January 2022 - April 2022

- There is no longer a backlog for case docketing in the JDRDC
 - Same day docketing commenced on April 1, 2022
 - File paperwork and have a court date docketed on the same day.
 - Before, one would submit paperwork, then you would be notified of your court date on a later date.
- Paperless court is being piloted by half of the JDRDC judges for civil cases
 - Paperless criminal cases for the pilot judges will be next
- The Circuit Court in Fairfax County has also opted to adopt the Hope Card
 - For protective orders
 - Instead of carrying around paperwork, a person with a protective order against a person just shows the card to a police officer and it has the information the police need regarding who the protective order is against.
- Health Minds Fairfax – Jim Gillespie, Director, Youth and Family Services, CSB
 - Numbers are up for youth mental health emergency room visits
 - Shortage of school psychologists and counselors
 - Predicts a youth mental health crisis looming
- The CSU was awarded a grant through the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to complete a top-to-bottom probation system review of adult probation and pre-trial services with the purpose of identifying areas to enhance and improve supervision and services to the public.

FCPL Launches Yearlong Grant-Funded Pilot with Streaming Service Kanopy

- FCPL cardholders can now access thousands of streaming videos during the library's yearlong grant-funded pilot with Kanopy. After creating a Kanopy account using library credentials, FCPL cardholders can enjoy Oscar-nominated, international and critically acclaimed films and documentaries, the Great Courses and Kanopy Kids.
- Kanopy Kids provides parental controls and unlimited educational options including Sesame Street, language learning videos and more!
- Kanopy works on PCs and Macs, on mobile devices and on many smart TVs.
- Each account is assigned 5 "Play Credits" per month.
- [Directions for signing up are available here.](#)

Summer Reading Adventure Kicks Off June 10

- Dive into Oceans of Possibilities and explore the depths of your library with FCPL's Summer Reading Adventure beginning June 10.
- This year's summer reading program offers participants two options: they may complete reading- and library-related activities, or they may log the time they spend reading. Both paths lead to prizes!
- FCPL offers four categories of summer reading activities: preschool, school-age, teen and adult. Finishers in all categories will receive coupons for summer treats and activities, including ticket vouchers for a Washington Nationals game, entry to Mount Vernon, outings at Fairfax County Park Authority facilities, and more!
- [Sign up now](#) to participate in the Summer Reading Adventure online or through the Beanstack app. Paper logs will be available at FCPL branches upon request beginning June 10.
- FCPL's Summer Reading Adventure includes both virtual and in-person events for all ages and interests. [Browse our events listing.](#)

Earth Day and Beyond: Celebrating Environmental Literacy in May

- FCPL has made 2022 a Year of Literacy, highlighting a different type of literacy each month. In May, we're celebrating environmental literacy with an [array of programming](#). These events will kick off around Earth Day and continue into May.
- Be a citizen scientist as part of the 2022 [City Nature Challenge](#) competition April 29 through May 2 using the iNaturalist app. [Several FCPL events](#) will get you ready to take part.

- Aspiring or established gardeners can sign up for [in-person or virtual events](#) focused on incorporating native plants.
- Join FCPL and Dr. Ted Dumas virtually on Thursday, May 12, at 7 p.m. for [“I’ll Miss Coffee and Chocolate the Most: How About You?”](#) This discussion about Dr. Dumas’s book *If Food Could Talk* addresses how favorite delectable and delicate foods may disappear as a result of climate change.
- An expansion of FCPL’s Library of Things is tentatively planned for May 2022-the Conserve Kit! Conserve Kits will provide a one-stop-shop of items for residents to check (and in some cases fix) the efficiency of common household items and spaces, such as socket gaskets and moisture readers. More info coming soon!

Finishing up in April is **Read and Feed**.

To Learn about it see: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/read-and-feed>

Suzanne Levy

TO: Mayor and Fairfax City Council
FROM: Judith C. Turcott,
City of Fairfax Representative to Fairfax Area Disability Services Board
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5. Ensure all county buildings and facilities meet ADA requirements
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