

## 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 2022

**DATE:** October 20, 2022

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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 did not meet in August due to members being on summer vacations. Otherwise, the ASSB meets virtually every month and has done the following:

- In September, Keisha Dotson, Division Director for Neighborhood and Community Services presented on the state of the county's Housing and Emergency Assistance.
  - Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) has disbursed a total of \$93.3 million in federal emergency rental assistance to those impacted by the pandemic.
  - Keisha provided an overview of the spending for eviction prevention and basic needs resources – including rent, utilities, mortgages, and food.
- Senior Manager for Strategic Initiatives Melanie Fenwick reviewed the DFS Housing Supports that promote Housing Stability and Accessibility, including providing information about housing programs and low-cost housing options as well as household budgeting support.
- Brainstormed a working committee to potentially work on pointing out what's missing and what we'd like to see as the ASSB in the 2022 Annual Report.
  - According to DFS Communications Director Amy Carlini, first draft is expected by November 16, giving us a month to make any edits.
  - Final draft is scheduled in December for our final review.
- DFS Director Michael Becketts informed the ASSB of an expected report from the State Inspector General about the consistency of the protection of children across the Commonwealth.
- In October, Assistant Division Director Teebe Negasi provided Adult & Aging (A&A) program updates.
  - Wraparound services include chore provisions so older folks can stay in their homes, meal deliveries, and actions to promote the wellbeing of people with disabilities.
  - The major limiting factor is the agency hiring and retaining talent, as they're competing for the same people with sister agencies and losing out to more attractive outside employers.
- Division Director Toni Zollicoffer also provided program updates on Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (DSVS).

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- She shared her group's priorities, especially looking into how to engage more with community partners and work together to provide a coordinated response to domestic violence and stalking.
- 36% of homicides in Fairfax County this year were related to domestic violence (we do have generally low homicides compared to the nation, but the percentage is a spike from 25% of typical past trends).
- DFS Communications Director Amy Carlini shared our subcommittee plans for the Annual Report this year.
  - We will explore adding a special section on Housing.
  - Amy will look into how we can add client stories for every agency (space permitting) in their performance measures sections.

## 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, July through September 2022

**Date:** October 16, 2022

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The CSB Board and its committees are meeting in-person. The CSB Board did not meet in August.

### CSB Workforce Crisis Is Easing

The CSB is finally starting to see reductions in the number of vacancies. There were 142 vacancies at the end of September compared to the high point of 181 vacancies in April. The CSB has employed many strategies to strengthen their workforce and it appears the strategies are showing results. These strategies have included position reclassifications and salary increases as well as creative recruitment and selection practices.

### Healthy Place to Live

Fairfax County was listed by US News as among the top communities for Mental Health in the Nation. The US News recognized that Washington DC, Maryland, and Northern VA all have high scores in that area, with Fairfax County leading the way as No. 1 in Mental Health. The rankings incorporate measures of issues such as health, the economy, public safety, infrastructure, education, housing and more. Read the report at <https://www.usnews.com/news/healthiest-communities/virginia/fairfax-county>

### National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline telephone number has transitioned to 988 and is now known as the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline — available to all individuals, including veterans and civilians of all ages. Individuals who dial 988 are connected with counselors for emotional support and other services. [Online chat services also are available at 988lifeline.org](#). Read more at <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/Home/Components/News/News/11971/18>

### Federal funding of \$3.2 Million

1. \$800,000 will be used to create a Data Warehouse to allow for all required data to be reported to the state using business intelligence tools in an efficient and timely manner.
2. \$375,000 will be used to modernize the LIPOS (Local Inpatient Purchase of Services) and DAP (Discharge Assistance Plan) systems.
3. \$2,000,000 will be used to redesign space within the Sharon Bulova Center to implement a program to de-escalate individuals' level of distress and provide an alternative to an emergency department/inpatient/residential level of care.

**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:** October 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 September 2022, they did not meet in August or October 2022. The meetings are now in person with two pre scheduled virtual meetings per year.

The FA-DSB continues to work on the following priorities 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. Governor Glenn Youngkin- announced the implementation of an alternative hiring process for individuals with disabilities.

(<https://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/docs/default-source/hrpolicy/policyguides/alternative-hiring-process-guidance.pdf> )

The process embeds employment of individuals with differing abilities as part of standard hiring policy and the state work culture. Applicants with documented disabilities, as certified by a DARS certified rehabilitation counselor, are eligible for consideration. Interested applicants when applying to state jobs will upload a Certificate of Disability to their application. The applicants may receive priority consideration during the recruitment process. Agencies are strongly recommended to provide a 6 month provisional period to these new hires to ensure accommodation needs are met and employees are set up for success.

4. Improved regional transportation options (public and private/rideshare) for people with disabilities- Starting in September there will be a “Wayfinding system” installed within Metro stations for individuals who are blind or with low vision. It will allow accessibility via an app called WAYMAP.

There is a new app that helps disabled individuals with pumping gas: Fuelservice  
Fairfax County has an initiative called TOPS Pilot that is a limited time program to introduce older adults and those with disabilities to TOPS, a program that issues subsidized funds on a transportation debit card to access a range of transportation options and services. Visit: [fairfaxcounty.gov/NCS](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/NCS) (search TOPS PILOT)

5. The September 2022 meeting focused on meeting with the Fairfax County Board of Elections on Accessibility for voting. **Who would I connect with in Fairfax City to ensure the needs of people with disabilities are being met?**
6. Resilient Fairfax- Resilient Fairfax is a program to help Fairfax County become more resilient to changing conditions and climate change-related hazards such as extreme heat, severe storms, and flooding. They asked for input from the Disability Services Board.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/environment-energy-coordination/resilient-fairfax>

7. Training other boards- we are looking at having a disability awareness/etiquette program that would be available to all the boards/commissions in Fairfax County.

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

**Fairfax Area Commission on Aging (COA): Quarterly Report to the Mayor and City Council**  
Submitted by Carolyn Sutterfield, City of Fairfax Representative, October 2022

**Fairfax Area Agency on Aging (AAA)**

The Fairfax Area Commission on Aging does not meet in August. The following reports from the AAA were submitted at the September COA meeting.

Next steps for SHAPE the Future

- Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church are inviting further public input on the topics addressed in the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA) distributed randomly by vendor Polco earlier this year to local households with members aged 50+. Results will be used to inform the proposed SHAPE the Future of Aging Plan, a new strategic framework for addressing the needs of older area residents.
- In addition to conducting small focus groups with stakeholders, AAA consultant Health Management Associates (HMA) will hold in-person Town Hall meetings for up to 60 participants in the following locations:
  - Reston Community Center (Oct. 31, 10–11:30 am)
  - Hybla Valley Community Center (Nov. 1, 10–11:30 am)
  - Fairfax County Government Center (Nov. 4, 1:30–3 pm)
  - Annandale Heritage Center (Nov. 10, 1:30–3 pm)

Local residents are invited to participate in any of these SHAPE the Future sessions. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/older-adult-survey>.

CASOA and the Commonwealth

- Over the summer, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitation Services (DARS) used the same CASOA survey and vendor to reach a random sample of Virginia adults aged 60+. With those results in hand, DARS is also inviting additional public input. A link at <https://polco.us/va2022> will receive comments through October 27. Results of both processes will inform development of the next State Plan for Aging Services, guiding the Commonwealth's implementation of Older Americans Act programs and services from Oct. 1, 2023, to Sept. 30, 2027.

**Fairfax Area Commission on Aging (COA)**

CASOA results discussed at the Government Center

- On September 20, COA members attended the Board of Supervisors' Older Adults Committee meeting at the Government Center. Representatives of the AAA, the Department of Family Services' Data Analytics Unit, and SHAPE project consultant HMA

presented preliminary results of the 2022 CASOA. Of the 22,000 surveys mailed randomly to area older adults, 2,919 were returned either online or by mail, for a 13% response rate. (That is considered typical; the 22% response in 2019 was unusual.)

- A few points worth noting: Areas of more concern in 2022 than in 2019 included availability of (and access to ) information about older adult resources, financial/legal planning services, daytime care for older adults, quality mental health care, and opportunities for fitness and social engagement. These are not surprising after two years+ of Covid. The number who rated our community as a good place to live remained the same (over 90% in both), but the percentage who said they planned to remain here in retirement dropped from 62% (2019) to 59% (2022). [Presentation slides](#) are available online. More detailed results, including breakouts by districts, will be forthcoming.

### SHAPE the Future of Aging revised timeline

- At the September 21 COA meeting, Barry Jacobs and Ana Bueno of HMA described the revised process for completing the SHAPE the Future of Aging plan. After collecting data from the focus groups and town halls, HMA, with input from the COA and AAA, will present a draft to the Older Adults Committee in March 2023. Final approval by the Board of Supervisors is expected in May 2023 to coincide with the annual celebration of Older Americans Month.
- COA chair Cathy Cole called a special meeting of the COA on October 14 to review draft HMA scripts for the Focus Group and Town Hall sessions for SHAPE. Comments were submitted to the consultants.
- The bulk of the October 19 COA meeting was devoted to a SHAPE the Future focus group session led by HMA's Barry Jacobs and Sally White. Commissioners' input was captured to be used in development of the SHAPE the Future of Aging Plan.

### **Fairfax Village in the City**

- The Village continues to grow a little more each month. We now have **21** members and **22** vetted volunteers, with more of the latter entering the background-check process available to us through NV Rides. Requests for service have begun to pick up.
- Members of the Village Advisory Board attended a retreat in September led by consultant Kristi Dooley. In addition to the official mission statement for the Village, we agreed on the following vision statement for our Board: "We envision a trusted, caring community where older adults and adults with disabilities successfully navigate life's challenges on their own terms."
- Jason and Village reps continued to meet the public at Saturday farmers markets and monthly Funky Flea markets, and we staffed a booth of our own at the Fall Festival on October 8, greeting the public and handing out membership and volunteer application forms.
- At the October 26 Advisory Board meeting, we will continue planning for our scheduled "Aging in Place Expo" to be held at the Sherwood Center on March 31, 2023.

# Memorandum

**To:** The Honorable Mayor David L. Meyer 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 23, 2022

**Re:** Report for October 2022

- The JDR CAC made revisions to the CAC bylaws, which passed unanimously.
  - The revisions were needed to clarify the role of the Chief Judge on the CAC and provide clarifying language to many parts of the bylaws.
  - The revised bylaws are attached.
- Judge Clayton has announced his resignation effective April 2023.
  - Northern Virginia state legislators are aware of the prospective vacancy and will act to fill the position in the upcoming legislative session.
  - With the retirements of several judges in the past few years, the overall experience of the presiding judges has gone down considerably.
- Moving toward electronic docketing continues.
  - All eight judges are using electronic docketing for all civil cases
    - No paper files are brought into the courtroom
    - Information for the judge and their clerk are on computer monitors on the dais.
  - Four judges are using electronic docketing for criminal cases with the goal of all judges using electronic docketing for all cases in the future.
- Judge Carr was elected president of the National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ).
- At the Federal Bureau of Investigation's request, the CSU and JDRDC hosted a delegation from Thailand, which consisted of the Thai equivalent of the U.S. Attorney General and a group of public prosecutors interested in learning about victim-centered approaches to the prosecution of criminal cases.
- At this past general assembly session, the general assembly funded a 5% COLA for judicial employees for this year and next, which combined with the supplement provided by the County, helped to bring salaries into a more

competitive range, which will hopefully assist with employee recruitment and retention.

- A major domestic violence symposium is being planned for February 2023.
  - Judge Carr and Chief Davis from the Fairfax County Police Department are spearheading this effort.
  - The symposium will consist of training for law enforcement and staff and providers working with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.
- The JDRDC has experienced an uptick in youth charged with violent or serious offenses. While the overall number of referrals remains low, anecdotally, the types of referrals seem to be for more serious charges, including weapons offenses. At the same time, the court continues to divert away from the system low-risk youth charged with minor crimes, so those youth formally charged and processed through the system are generally higher-risk youth with more serious offenses and prior court involvement.
- The Court Services Unit (CSU) recently decided to consolidate the number of juvenile probation offices from three to two due to lower juvenile caseloads.
  - The CSU has temporarily redeployed staff from its other residential programs to assist with staffing challenges in the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC).
  - The Code of Virginia requires the CSU to provide certain mandated services, including intake, probation, and parole supervision, and juvenile detention services, to name a few.
  - When staffing challenges occur, the CSU reallocates staff and resources to continue to provide mandated services.
- Due to some turnover on the JDRDC CAC, tours of JDRDC facilities will be conducted during the next few meetings.
  - These visits give CAC members a better idea of JDRDC operations.



**TO:** City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Suzanne Levy, Fairfax City Representative for the Library Advisory Board  
**SUBJECT:** Quarterly Report from the ASSB, August through October 2022  
**DATE:** October 25, 2022

Below are some upcoming events and the City of Fairfax Library:

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### **Friends of Fairfax City Library Fall Book Sale November 12-14**

Join the Friends of the City of Fairfax Regional Library for the Fall Book Sale. Choose gently used books for all ages for yourself or as gifts.

Ticketed Preview Sale, November 9 (contact [folfairfaxcity@gmail.com](mailto:folfairfaxcity@gmail.com) for details)

Thursday, November 10, 10-4

Saturday, November 12, 10-4

Sunday, November 13, 10-3 (Bag Sale)

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### **Virginia Room Friends Fall Book Sale November 10-14**

Join the Friends of the Virginia Room for the Fall Book Sale, located on the second floor of the City of Fairfax Regional Library. Choose gently used books for all ages for yourself or as gifts

Thursday, November 10, 10-4

Saturday, November 12, 10-4

Sunday, November 13, 10-3 (bag sale)

The profits from these sales are used to supplement programs and materials at City of Fairfax Regional Library.

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### **English Conversation Group**

This group meets every Tuesday at 7 pm. Hone your English skills with others and a coordinator. Rooms A and B.

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## **CAP Medicare Presentation- In Person at the City of Fairfax Library**

Medicare 101 training for individuals and their care partners who will soon be eligible for Medicare or would like to learn about it.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

3:00pm - 4:30pm

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### **TEEN ADVISORY BOARD**

Help plan library events! Teens - you can earn credit hours and gain leadership experience. City of Fairfax Regional Library wants your advice. Help us brainstorm program ideas and help with library activities.

*For Ages 12-18.*

Please register so we know you're coming.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

7:00pm - 8:00pm

City of Fairfax Conference Room 103, City of Fairfax Regional Library