

From: [Michael Borash](#)
To: [Abashian, Lesley](#)
Subject: Quarterly ASAP Report
Date: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:19:59 PM

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council

Re: upcoming quarterly meeting for Human Services Committee

To: Lesley Abashian <Lesley.Abashian@fairfaxva.gov> Cc: Andre Lee
<andreivanlee@gmail.com>, Andrew Wankum andrew.wankum@gmail.com

From: Michael Borash, Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax County Alcohol Safety Action Program

Re: Quarterly Report from the ASAP, October 2023 to January 2024

Date: January 17, 2024

The ASAP Policy Board met virtually for their quarterly meeting on January 17, 2022.

A Bylaws revision proposal was submitted for review (copy attached). It was noted that the ASAP Bylaws had not been reviewed for many years. Mr. Borash asked for

a clear statement of purpose for the ASAP Policy Board. No other major revisions were noted.

The ASAP is currently preparing for a third year Certification Review by the State VASAP office in Richmond. No substantial problems are anticipated.

It was noted that the State VASAP office has implemented a testing policy for all ASAP employees. It is a 100-question test and employees must pass the test to

maintain active employee status. Mr. Elwood Jones, Director of Fairfax ASAP, volunteered that he had scored a 94 on the test. The Policy Board was relieved that

he had passed the test.

The financial report indicated that current weekly and monthly revenues were on target and meeting projected numbers.

The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for April 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Michael H. Borash, Fairfax City Representative to the Fairfax County ASAP Policy Board.

DRAFT

Draft of January 1, 2024

Comment: Comments such as this one appear throughout this template, and are included to inform drafters of bylaws about the purposes of each Article, and to provide further instruction on content. They are to be deleted from any working or final draft.

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is the Alcohol Safety Action Program by the Board of Supervisors in establishing this body], hereinafter referred to as the “ASAP Policy Board.”

Comment: Sets forth the official name of the board, authority, or commission.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The ASAP Policy Board has been established by the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia (“Board of Supervisors”), pursuant to Virginia law for the purpose of [insert the purpose stated by the Board of Supervisors in establishing this body].

These bylaws replace and supersede the ASAP Policy Board bylaws adopted on [January 17, 2007] prior bylaws’ adoption by the Board of Supervisors] and are effective as of [insert date of these bylaws’ adoption by the Board of Supervisors].

Comment: Sets forth the official purpose of the board, authority, or commission. This can most typically be found in, and should be based closely on, the Board of Supervisors’ action creating the body. If these are the first bylaws for the body, the second paragraph should be deleted. If this is a new body, or one for whom no prior bylaws exist, replace the second sentence with, “These bylaws are effective as of [insert date of these bylaws’ adoption by the Board of Supervisors].”

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND TERM OF OFFICE

Appointments. Membership and appointments to the ASAP Policy Board shall be made by the Board of Supervisors and one member by appointed by the Fairfax City Council, and members shall serve for such term or terms as established by the Board of Supervisors.

Resignations and Vacancies. In the event a member cannot serve or resigns from office, then the Chairperson, the clerk or the secretary, or the County staff coordinator shall advise the Clerk for the Board of Supervisors of the vacancy in writing.

Holdovers. In the event a member completes his or her term of office, remains qualified to serve as a member, and the Board of Supervisors has not reappointed that member to another term or appointed a successor member, then that person may continue to serve until such time as the member is reappointed or a successor member is appointed.

Comment: Sets forth the membership of the board, authority, or commission, and imposes a requirement on the Chairperson, the clerk or the secretary, or the staff coordinator to advise the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors of any vacancies. If the Board of Supervisors has established specific offices, terms, or qualifications, they should be detailed above, and the model language under “Appointments” should be revised accordingly. This section also ensures that the Board of Supervisors will receive timely notice of the need to appoint persons to fill any vacancies that may arise. Finally, this section sets forth the “hold-over rule” to prevent a hiatus in government pending the appointment of a successor member.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Elections. The ASAP Policy Board shall be served by three officers: a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary. The Chairperson shall be elected in accordance with the voting provisions of Article V by the ASAP Policy Board members annually and such election shall be scheduled at the first meeting of each calendar year. Two months prior to the election meeting, a slate of candidates shall be nominated during a meeting held pursuant to Article V. After nomination, each candidate shall be polled on his or her willingness and ability to serve as Chairperson of the ASAP Policy Board. At the election meeting, the Chairperson shall be elected from among the willing nominees in accordance with the voting provisions of Article V. At the meeting immediately following the election of the Chairperson, the Chairperson shall nominate the Vice Chairperson and Secretary. After nomination, each candidate shall be

polled on his or her willingness and ability to serve as an officer of the ASAP Policy Board. The Vice Chairperson and Secretary shall then be elected from among the willing nominees in accordance with the voting provisions of Article V.

Chairperson. The Chairperson presides over meetings of the ASAP Policy Board and is eligible to vote at all times. The Chairperson has the authority to delegate appropriate functions to ASAP Policy Board members and to request assistance from the County staff supporting the ASAP Policy Board.

Vice-Chairperson. In the absence of the Chairperson at a meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chairperson. In the event that neither the Chairperson nor the Vice-Chairperson is available, the member present with the longest tenure on the ASAP Policy Board shall act as Chairperson.

Secretary. The Secretary, or a duly appointed agent, shall be responsible for recording the minutes of meetings.

Replacement Officers. If an office becomes vacant for any reason, it shall be filled by an election at the next regular meeting having a majority of members present. The newly elected officer shall complete the unexpired term of the officer succeeded. Prior to the election of any replacement officer, all members shall be provided with notice of the proposed election before the meeting at which the replacement is elected.

Comment: Sets forth requirements for a presiding officer who shall be the Chairperson, for a Vice-Chairperson to preside in the absence of the Chairperson, and for a Secretary. As with Article III, any specific officers, election/appointment procedures, or other requirements of officers set forth by the Board of Supervisors or applicable law should be included here, and the model language revised accordingly. As a template and in lieu of any other requirements, this Article provides that election of those officers shall be done at the beginning of each calendar year, and any time thereafter, after prior notice, to fill a vacancy in the event such an officer resigns or is unable to serve. Also, please note that Article V requires that actions be taken in public session and that no vote be taken by secret or written ballot or by proxy. Those voting requirements apply to the election of officers.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

VFOIA. All meetings shall be open to the public except as provided under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-3700 *et seq.*, as amended ("VFOIA"). "Meeting" or "meetings" means the meetings including work sessions, when sitting

physically, or through electronic communication means pursuant to the VFOIA or other applicable Virginia law, as a body or entity, or as an informal assemblage of (i) as many as three members or (ii) a quorum, if less than three, of the constituent membership, wherever held, with or without minutes being taken, whether or not votes are cast, of any public body. The [insert short name] may hold public hearings and report its findings to the Board of Supervisors on [insert short name] issues that affect the public interest.

Notice and Agenda. Notice and the agenda of all meetings shall be provided as required under the VFOIA. All meetings shall be preceded by properly posted notice stating the date, time, and location of each meeting. Notice of a meeting shall be given at least three working days prior to the meeting. Notice of emergency meetings, reasonable under the circumstances, shall be given contemporaneously with the notice provided to [insert short name] members. Notices of all meetings shall be provided to the Office of Public Affairs for posting at the Government Center and on the County Web site. All in person and remote participation meetings shall be conducted in public places that are accessible to persons with disabilities. Public access via electronic communication means must be provided for all-virtual public meetings.

Frequency. The ASAP Policy Board shall meet quarterly or as determined by the Chairperson. Meetings shall be held at a time agreed to by a majority of the ASAP Policy Board members, and at a place arranged by the staff of the supporting County department.

Members: The Policy Board shall consist of not more than (16) members. The Policy Board shall be comprised as follows:

The Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney or their designee;

The Fairfax County Chief of Policy or their designee;

A representative from Mothers Against Drunk Driving;

A representative of the Fairfax County Executive;

A representative of the Fairfax/Fall Church Community Services Board or designee;

The Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney or his designee;

A representative of the Fairfax Bar Association;

A representative of the Fairfax City Council;

Up to eight (8) at large representative appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

Voting. A quorum is necessary for a vote. A 2/3 of the members of the ASAP Policy Board must be in attendance to constitute a quorum. In making any recommendations, adopting any plan, or approving any proposal, action shall be taken by a majority vote of ASAP Policy Board members present and voting. Upon the request of any member, the vote of each member on any issue shall be recorded in the minutes. All votes of [insert short name] members shall be taken during a public meeting, and no vote shall be taken by secret or written ballot or by proxy.

Conduct. Except as otherwise provided by Virginia law or these bylaws, all meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, and except as specifically authorized by the VFOIA, no meeting shall be conducted through telephonic, video, electronic, or other communication means where the members are not all physically assembled to discuss or transact public business.

Public Access. For any meeting, at least one copy of the agenda, all agenda packets, and, unless exempt under the VFOIA, all materials furnished to [Fairfax ASAP Policy Board] members shall be made available for public inspection at the same time such documents are furnished to the [insert short name] members. Pursuant to the VFOIA, any person may photograph, film, record, or otherwise reproduce any portion of a meeting required to be open, but such actions may not interfere with any [insert short name] proceedings.

Records. The Secretary or an appointed representative shall ensure that minutes of meetings are recorded as required under the VFOIA. Minutes shall include: (1) the date, time, and location of each meeting; (2) the members present and absent; (3) a summary of the discussion on matters proposed, deliberated, or decided; and (4) a record of any votes taken. Such minutes are public records and subject to inspection and copying by citizens of the Commonwealth or by members of the news media. The supporting County department shall provide staff support to review and approve records and minutes of the meeting.

Attorney-Client Privilege. Records containing legal advice from counsel to the [ASAP Policy Board], and advice provided in closed session by legal counsel to the [insert short name], are protected by the attorney-client privilege and from disclosure under the VFOIA. Any such records or advice should not be disclosed by members of the [insert short name] to any third party, or the privilege against disclosure may be waived. Questions regarding the handling of records or advice subject to attorney-client privilege should be directed to the [ASAP Policy Board]'s legal counsel.

Comment: This Article sets forth and highlights the basic statutory requirements for meetings of public bodies that are imposed by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Also, it establishes *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, as the standard for questions of parliamentary procedure. *Robert's Rules* is a standard procedural reference for such bodies.

ARTICLE VI - ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Any member who misses ASAP Policy Board three consecutive meetings or more than half of the scheduled meetings within a 12-month period, or who fails to participate in the work of the without good cause acceptable to a majority of the other [ASAP Policy Board] members may be subject to removal from the ASAP Policy Board.

ARTICLE VII - REMOVAL

Any ASAP Policy Board member(s) may be recommended to the Board of Supervisors for removal from the ASAP Policy Board for cause, including but not limited to cause as set forth in Article VI, by a two-thirds majority vote of all of the ASAP Policy Boards members. The members' authority to recommend removal under these bylaws neither limits nor waives the Board of Supervisors' authority to remove members from the ASAP Policy Board as provided by law.

Comment: This Article is included at the request of the Board of Supervisors, and should be retained unless in conflict with applicable law.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

Standing. The Chairperson may appoint standing committees and a chairperson for each with the consent of a majority of the ASAP Policy Board members present and voting.

Special. The Chairperson may appoint special committees and a chairperson for each with the consent of a majority of ASAP Policy Board members present and voting.

All meetings of any such committees shall comply with the notice and other requirements of the VFOIA. To the extent practicable, any such committees shall be composed of at least four members. Committee meetings may be held at the call of the Chairperson or at the request of two members, with notice to all members.

Comment: This Article permits the creation of committees, but it encourages all such committees to have at least four members. The reason for this is that if there is a committee with only two or three members, then those persons could not meet or communicate by telephone without triggering the notice requirements of VFOIA. Having committees of at least four members will allow any two members to communicate. A meeting of three or more members of any committee with more than three members would be a public meeting that would require notice and public access.

ARTICLE IX – ANNUAL REPORT

The ASAP Policy Board shall prepare an annual written report that describes the actions of the plan for future actions of the ASAP Policy Board and activities. This report shall be provided to the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors for distribution to the members of the Board of Supervisors and to the County Executive.

Comment: This Article requires preparation an annual written report to the Board of Supervisors, which is typically – but not always – required by the Board.

ARTICLE X – COMPLIANCE WITH LAW AND COUNTY POLICY

The ASAP Policy Board shall comply with all Virginia laws, including, but not limited to, the VFOIA, and the Virginia State and Local Government Conflict of Interests Act, Virginia Code § 2.2-3100 *et seq.*, as amended, with all County ordinances, and with all County policies concerning the activities of its boards, authorities, and commissions. In case of a conflict between a provision of these bylaws and any applicable ordinance or law, the provisions of the applicable ordinance or law, as the case may be, shall control.

Comment: This Article requires compliance with all Virginia laws, County ordinances, and County policies.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended by the ASAP Policy Board by adopting the proposed amendment or amendments and by presenting those proposed changes for approval to the Board of Supervisors. Any such amendments to bylaws shall become effective upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Comment: County policy requires that all bylaws of County boards, authorities, and commissions, and any amendments to any such bylaws, be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

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: January 22, 2024

Re: Report for January 2024

- Adult cases take up approximately 80% of the caseload of the Fairfax Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.
 - The concensus of the JDRDC CAC was to learn more about programs related to the adult side of the court.
- The court continues to implement programs related to the philosophy and science of hope.
 - Court staff will be given monthly articles or other information related to the philosophy and science of hope.
- The Northern Virginia Regional Justice Transformation Symposium was hosted by the Fairfax JDRDC in October.
 - Nearly 150 Virginia judges, prosecutors, public defenders, schools personnel, social services, court services personnel and nationally recognized speakers attended.
 - Presentations included national-level data on youth justices, elements of an ideal youth justice system, growth focused case management, and race and equity.
- The court is seeing more juveniles with more complex needs who are higher risk to reoffend.
- There is an increase of youth charged with possession of firearms.
- Fentanyl continues to be a major issue with juvenile cases.
- Increasing caseload sizes couples with staffing shortages and the increased intensity of the needs for the current population of youth on probation is taking a toll on court staff.
 - The court recently partnered with thee Faorfax County Police Department to offer staff additional training. Instructors from the FCPD provided ICAT (Integrated Communication, Assessment, and Tactics) training for all JDRDC adult and juvenile probation staff.

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council
From: Carolyn Sutterfield, City Representative to the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging
Re: Quarterly Report, November 2023–January 2024
Date: January 18, 2023

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

At the November 2023 meeting, Supervisor Herrity (Springfield), chair of the Board of Supervisors' Older Adults Committee, presented Fairfax County's proclamation of November as National Family Caregivers Month and took queries on topics being addressed in the SHAPE the Future of Aging (SHAPE) plan.

In December, the COA saw a video about the CARE Mobile operated by ServiceSource with support from the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. With a paid director and volunteer assistants, the CARE Mobile offers screenings and activities and provides information on resources to residents at senior centers and retirement communities.

The COA is joining with NVAN and other county boards, authorities, and commissions (BACs) to support changes to Virginia FOIA laws restricting virtual meetings and assembly of more than two BAC members without public notice. The Board of Supervisors supports loosening restrictions on virtual meetings.

The main focus of the last three COA meetings has been on reporting by the five "SHAPE the Future of Aging" Initiative Development Committees. The IDCs (or "Teams"), each co-chaired by two COA members, hold hybrid meetings at the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging once a month. Team members include county staff, expert advisors, and members of local interest groups. Their charge is to develop short-, medium-, and long-term proposals addressing the more than 40 recommendations in the SHAPE plan approved by the BOS in May 2023. The following is a summary of their work so far.

- Services for Older Adults & Family Caregivers: **S Team** identified as short-term goals the production of a Disability Resource Guide and a redesign of the Older Adults page on the Fairfax County website. Longer-term efforts focus on a needs assessment survey and broader dissemination of support information through multiple agents.
- Housing and Neighborhood Supports: **H Team** has two short-term goals: working with GMU and the National Homeshare Resource Network to put out information on existing home-sharing services, and creating a "fact sheet" on home repair services for homeowners not eligible for free assistance. They also are in dialogue with county planners about expanding access to affordable housing.
- Access to Mobility Options: **A Team** has identified short-term goals of extending walk signals at busy intersections to accommodate slow walkers and providing some financial support for volunteer drivers. Longer term, they are discussing better ways to communicate transportation options to potential users. Eligibility requirements are not always clear, and the county currently interviews applicants.
- Personal Well-Being: **P Team** conducts all of its meetings virtually to accommodate members with disabilities. Short term work is promoting the [StrongerMemory](#) program created by Goodwin Living (a

series of daily activities aimed at bolstering cognitive ability) through senior centers and public events. Longer term plans include [SAGE](#) certification (to support LGBTQ+ elders), a “food insecurity” resource guide, and a revival of the 50+ Community Ambassadors program from the previous county plan.

- **Economic Stability and Planning: E Team** (of which I am a co-chair) includes representatives from county staff, local financial institutions, GMU’s OLLI, the Positive Aging Community, and the nonprofit contractor that currently offers financial planning services at South County Community Center. The team is adapting that program for delivery to older adults at senior centers and in non-English-speaking communities, starting next spring. A second short-term goal is distribution of a fact sheet on home repair scams in a mailing to county homeowners and taxpayers. Longer term, E Team will coordinate with elder law experts and local financial institutions to create a presentation on end-of-life planning.

All five IDCs devoted a portion of their January meetings to discussing how their current efforts conform to the “Equity Analysis Questions for SHAPE Initiative Development Committees” (copy attached), adapted from the Department of Family Services’ “Equity Analysis Framework for Proposed DFS Policy and Business Process Changes.”

Finally, in a continuation of the COA’s long-time tradition of inviting a magisterial district or city to “host” each monthly meeting of the Commission, the City of Fairfax will be the “host” of the February 21, 2024 COA meeting.

Before COVID, the COA used to hold its meetings at libraries or district offices to extend its outreach to local neighborhoods. Now that all meetings are held at the Government Center, commissioners appreciate the opportunity to hear from county Supervisors (or their staff) and city officials, either live online or in a video, about how our work affects their citizens and the Fairfax community at large. I am inviting Mayor Read and/or City Council member Ross to continue this tradition in February. I look forward to introducing our city’s leadership to the rest of the commissioners.

Equity Analysis Questions for SHAPE Initiative Development Committees

- Relatedness to Department of Family Services' Adult & Aging work:
 - What programs, services, consumers, or stakeholders are impacted by this proposed initiative? Is there a disproportionate impact to any of these groups?
 - Are there fiscal implications related to A&A or the community served by this initiative?
 - Does the proposed initiative remove or add any additional services or programs to A&A?
 - If the proposed initiative is not related to DFS/A&A, which department may champion this and why?

- Objective Elements – affordable, actionable, achievable:
 - Does the proposed initiative amount to an unfunded mandate?
 - Is there a significant administrative burden?
 - Is there an existing program that already addresses the issue?
 - Is there supporting data, studies or policies in support or opposition of what is being proposed? Is disaggregated data available?
 - What information is missing to help make an informed decision?
 - Is there a similar initiative or program in other jurisdictions? What is their experience?
 - What positions do key partners have on the proposed initiative and why?

- People Impact:
 - Consider the initiative's proposed outcome, benefit-burden, and stakeholder impact.
 - Proposed outcome
 - What, specifically, is this proposed initiative going to change?
 - What impact does it have to services provided?
 - What is the expected outcome of the initiative and for whom?
 - Benefit-Burden
 - Is there a disproportionate impact to a specific group of people?
 - What does the data say about geographically based or population-based communities that might benefit or be negatively impacted by the proposed Initiative?
 - What may be some of the unintended consequences of the proposed initiative?
 - What specifically needs to change to make the initiative more equitable?
 - Stakeholder Impact
 - Which groups might oppose the proposed initiative change and why?
 - When consulting with stakeholders or organizations on a position, ask them how they leveraged community engagement to inform their position(s).

- Root cause:
 - What problem is the proposed initiative truly intending to solve?
 - Does the proposed initiative address the root cause of the issue or just a symptom of a larger systemic issue?
 - What would truly remediate the issues related to the burden?

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 (Soon to be named Coordinating Council of Aging and Adults with Disabilities – CCAAD), October to December, 2023
Date: January 20, 2024

This report will cover Q4 of 2023.

The LTCCC committee met in person for the November 15, 2023 meeting. In addition to these meetings of the LTCCC, the Social Connections Sub-committee of the LTCCC also met in person October 4, 2023, November 1, 2023, and December 6, 2023.

The LTCCC met in person on November 15, 2023. Presentations by were made by the following:

1. **No Wrong Door (NWD) Report: Technology and the Digital Divide** – Myles Nienstadt, Chair of the Communication and Technology Committee, Carolyn Cukierman, Chair of the Social Connections Committee, and Robert O’Quinn, PhD, Digital Access and Literacy Coordinator, Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) presented on the Digital Divide. An activity during the meeting asked members to identify their biggest technology difficulty – there were many – accessibility, new equipment/features, new technology, affordability, setting up new equipment, need a helpdesk, passwords, social media, migrating from one system to another, pdf use, etc.

Their presentation focused on what the Digital Divide is. It can refer to systemic issues of affordability, accessibility, and/or equity. It can also refer to personal differences between individuals who were born as “**Digital Natives**” surrounded by tech devices and the Internet as opposed to “**Digital Immigrants**” who came of age before widespread Internet availability and connected devices.

Consequences of the digital divide for older adults and adults with disabilities include people having decreased communication and increased isolation, reduced opportunity to learn and have differing experiences, and increased emphasis on social differences and gender discrimination.

Presenters also provided information on resources that are available both nationally and locally follows:

- The Affordable Connectivity Program passed in 2021 and provides support for internet service. (<https://www.fcc.gov/acp>)
The LTCCC has prepared a guide for technology help.

Fairfax County is closing the digital divide by:

- Defining the digital divide by identifying places in the county where access and digital literacy needs are evident. This is a focus area in the One Fairfax Policy, the Strategic Plan and the SHAPE Plan.
- Having ATT, Comcast, COX, T-Mobile, and Verizon as partners in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).
- Being the recipient of a \$1M grant (The Bridging the Divide grant from August 2023-July 2024) to increase digital literacy in general, buy equipment (such as 3D printers, Cricut machines, VR glasses, VEX Robotics, and high-end video production equipment) and supplies for all NCS Community Centers, Senior Centers, and community-based non-profit sites, provide training on how to use these technologies, and provide for at home use when appropriate.

After the presentation, LTCCC members shared comments and concerns as follows:

- The FFX Co. website should improve access to information for various languages
- Policy and practice for protection for how equipment is used needs to be developed.
- A sustainability plan that includes financial support for ongoing maintenance, training, support personnel and replacement of equipment must be developed.
- A communication plan should also be developed to inform citizens of this opportunity.
- Because of the digital divide for most older adults and adults with disabilities, basic training will still need to be developed and implemented.
- There needs to be a clear investment in lifelong learning - promote digital literacy at all levels at all centers.
- People can see the 3D printers at the libraries and can be used onsite.

2. **Committee Collaboration and Coordination for 2023-2026 LTCCC Strategic Plan** – The Steering Committee process for the development of the strategic plan was presented by Carolyn Cukierman and Myles Nienstadt. The draft Strategic Plan was presented in May 2023 to the LTCCC and was approved in July 2023. Implementation will be completed by using an integrated and collaborative approach among all the committees (Advocacy, Communication and Technology, Equity in Aging and Disabilities, Membership, and Social Connections). The committees are now getting assignments and will be working on strategies related to the goals of advocacy, equity, and communications. Once the strategies and action plans have been developed for the work, the various committees will examine how each can contribute to them. Efforts to achieve the activities outlined will be monitored and reported on to the Steering Committee for approval.

The Social Connections Committee met in person October 4th, November 1st, and December 6th.

The primary work of the committee during this quarter has been to keep informed of the progress of the development of the SHAPE Plan and its impact on the work of the Social Connections Committee and to create messages that will be included in a Social Isolation Awareness Campaign that is also in support of the LTCCC Strategic Plan. These draft key messages are:

- Social Isolation reduces life expectancy!
- Engaged individuals result in healthier communities!

- Connected communities experience higher levels of economic prosperity!
- We all have a responsibility to build social connections in our community to address social isolation.

These will be further defined, revised, and finalized over the next several months. As co-chair of this sub-committee, Anita Light has worked on drafting the action plans, PPTs, and the key messages draft document for review by the sub-committee.

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Fairfax Village in the City Advisory Board met on October 25th and November 29th (we did not have a December meeting).

During the October meeting, the Advisory Board:

1. Approved moving forward with the development of a member satisfaction survey, a volunteer satisfaction survey, and a Board satisfaction survey. Manisha Maskay will be the lead on this project and will be supported by Anita Light, Jason Scadron, and Eric Forman.
2. Agreed to conduct a bylaws review to be reviewed at the January Advisory Board meeting and voted on at the February Advisory Board meeting.
3. Received updates on the Volunteer Appreciation Event held at Blenheim, the Expo (we are on target with communications, sponsors, speakers, and exhibitors) to be held in April 2024, and the status of recruitment of the members (76 of 85) and volunteers (40 of 51).
4. Was encouraged to attend the November 14th City Council meeting at which time the Proclamation on Caregivers Month prepared by the Advisory Board will be read by the Mayor.

During the November meeting, the Advisory Board:

1. Discussed how best to be clear about how we serve adults with disabilities. It was agreed that we can only serve our members with disabilities when we have a volunteer who is willing to provide the service. Jason is to use ‘reasonable judgement’ to determine if the request for services is something we can do. If we cannot provide the service, we can refer the member to a service offered by the city/county.
2. Agreed to support a quarterly Member Engagement activity. In December, volunteers were asked to contact all members to wish them happy holidays and to make sure they know about all of the services available to them.
3. Received updates on the Expo, the newsletter topic (Library services for our members), and recruitment of members (78 of 85) and volunteers (43 of 51).

Anita Light was selected to serve on the Villages Healthy Aging Research Ambassadors Group. This health care research project (funded by the Rand Corporation in partnership with Rutgers School of Social Work and the Village to Village Network) is focused on how Villages nationwide can positively impact health outcomes for older adults. The Ambassadors will meet twice a month for 6-12 months to assist in the development of research questions, develop content material to enable the Ambassadors to conduct regional summits with Villages nationwide to share information healthy aging and the research project, and help facilitate the summits.

MEMORANDUM

To: City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council
From: Diane Monnig, City Representative to the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board
Re: Quarterly Report
Date: January 18, 2024

The FA-DSB meets on the second Monday in the months of February, March, May, June, September, November, and December.

In October, the DSB had a presentation from INOVA health staff on accessibility tools available to patients. Information on these tools can be found at <https://www.inova.org/access-patients-disabilities>.

In December, instead of a meeting, FA-DSB held a ceremony and reception to present the Martha Glennan Disability Inclusion & Equality awards in three different categories to persons or groups whose work has benefitted the lives of persons with disabilities in the Fairfax area. The Individual Award was presented to Cheryl Johnson, Director of Services at The Arc of Northern Virginia. The business award was presented to University Mall Theaters and Cinema Arts Theater. The Self-Advocate Award was presented to Jeremy Smith.

FA-DSB Initiatives Update for the Quarter

Housing: the DSB is advocating to the board of supervisors to increase the number of accessible units in the County.

Employment: the DSB is working with the County's Human Resources Office to see if there is potential to creating a position for someone who could help recruit and onboard persons with disabilities. Members of the DSB will be meeting with the HR office to brainstorm ideas to support the hiring and training of people with disabilities.

Transportation: regarding Improved Regional Transportation and Parking Options Initiative, specifically, the FA-DSB's request is that the county preserve the current accessible parking rules.

- Winter Reading Adventure ends January 31, 2024
<https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/reading-challenges/Winter-Reading>
- Library of Things has Conserve Energy items <https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/lot/conserves>
- Children's Spring Book Sale, April 6-7
- Adult Spring Book Sale, April 11-14 (preview by appt. April 11) Donations welcome
- We are looking for Library Advocates to speak out to BOS representatives in support of the library budget (contact me if you are interested in helping)
- Check out all the great programs at Fairfax City Library
<https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar?cid=6524&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6524&cm=3439&inc=0>

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, October – December 2023

Date: January 22, 2023

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Service Board (CSB) coordinates publicly funded mental health and substance use services for Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. The CSB is committed to ensuring the doors to treatment and recovery are open for everyone. Below are the five legislative priorities of the CSB Board for the 2024 General Assembly session.

- 1. Develop and maintain the essential behavioral health workforce through enhancing the workforce pipeline in Northern Virginia by providing funding to remain competitive with the market rate, support tuition repayment for clinicians and MDs, and support student loan repayment programs. Additionally, focus on reducing the regulatory and administrative burdens in the hiring process.**

Discussion: Public and private health and human services systems across the Commonwealth have consistently highlighted workforce shortages as a core challenge affecting their service delivery. This challenge manifests both as an inability to retain experienced staff and difficulty in recruiting new professionals. These shortages, particularly in critical positions, greatly impact service delivery. While focused local efforts and increased local investments did decrease vacancies during FY 2023, vacancies remain around 121. The state must enhance the workforce pipeline and also address regulatory requirements (e.g., DBHDS-mandated trainings, QMHP clinical supervision requirements) that lead to staff inefficiencies and hiring process delays in the public sector.

- 2. Invest in programs and services that increase community capacity and expand community-based crisis programs in Northern Virginia.**

Discussion: Despite the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) making improvements in the number of state psychiatric hospital beds that have been brought online, there continues to be a significant lack of availability. The county's ongoing local investment into community behavioral health services ensures one of the lowest per capita hospitalization rates in Virginia (four per 100,000 locally compared to the statewide average of 11 per 100,000). A critical investment is needed in Region 2 (Northern Virginia) to ensure individuals in a psychiatric crisis have access to the appropriate care. CSBs are working to expand community-based crisis programs but need targeted regional funding. Regional crisis programs serve individuals throughout Northern Virginia, accept individuals under a Temporary

Detention Order, and offer an alternative to hospital admission or boarding in an ER while awaiting an available bed. A \$2.8 million investment is needed for Fairfax County's well-established short-term Crisis Center.

3. Eliminate the Priority One Developmental Disability waiver waiting list with a focus on areas where waiver assignments to localities are not keeping pace with the growing waiting list.

Discussion: Fairfax County currently has 2,948 individuals with developmental disabilities severe enough to qualify them for Medicaid waivers. Of those, 1,150 individuals are designated as Priority One. Priority One individuals have been determined to need services *within one year* and require the most urgent support needs. The allocation of waiver slots each year is insufficient and fails to address the escalating numbers on our Priority One waiting list, leaving some families without the support they need for years. Over 500 individuals have been on our Priority One waiting list for *more than five years*.

4. Provide sustainable core behavioral health services through fully funding the state's System Transformation Excellence and Performance (STEP-VA) initiative and prioritize Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic implementation.

Discussion: Virginia's CSBs are still implementing the state's STEP-VA initiative. At no point during STEP-VA implementation has the Commonwealth provided adequate funding for any of the newly mandated services. The gap in funding needed versus funding allocated greatly impacts our CSB because of the population size of our constituents. The state continues to use an inconsistent allocation method that at times provides the same funding to each of the 40 CSBs, and at other times uses alternative funding formulas, irrespective of size. Future state funding amounts should be regularly revisited to ensure they are adequate for CSBs to consistently deliver vital behavioral health services (including the increased staff positions needed to meet growing demands). Additionally, a renewed dedication to having Virginia become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) state is critical. This proactive step ensures the adoption of best practices and access to alternative funding and billing mechanisms for the Commonwealth and CSBs.

5. Address the ongoing opioid epidemic through providing funding for medication assisted treatment across all treatment settings, with a particular focus on youth.

Discussion: The number of fatal overdoses in Virginia remained elevated in 2022, with 2,600 fatalities from overdoses - an increase of 60 percent from 2019. In the Fairfax County Health District, there were 88 opioid-related deaths in 2022, nearly all involving fentanyl. Youth non-fatal overdoses and youth opioid use continues to trend upward. The region lacks a residential treatment facility to provide withdrawal management and medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for youth with substance use disorders.

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, November 2023 through January 2024

DATE: January 17, 2024

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 did so virtually in December due to members’ schedules – and has done the following:

- In November, we learned about DFS’s new guaranteed income project, with first cash disbursement that happened on October 26.
 - DFS administered eligibility and disbursements due to general relief statutes. United Way is performing the support and outreach components of the program. George Mason University will evaluate the outcome of this pilot.
 - Latreice Prince-Wheeler asked about funding and eligibility.
- Director Becketts gave an overview of the DFS Customer Engagement survey and noted that satisfaction remained high despite the reduction of SNAP benefits.
- Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Assistant Division Director Sandi Slappey gave a presentation about her group that provides a full continuum of child welfare services for the county: Prevention Services, Child Protective Services, In-Home Services, and Foster Care and support through age 21.
 - Notably, the county has a great record relative to the rest of the country – three of every 10,000 children in Fairfax County referred through foster care will be placed in the care of the state, compared to the national average of 50 of every 10,000 children.
- Child & Youth Wellbeing Director Toni Zollicoffer introduced the Domestic and Sexual Violence Service and discussed the Fairfax County coordinated response to domestic violence and stalking, highlighting its various programs including the Lethality Assistance Program and the Step Up for Kids Coalition for supporting children that witness or experience domestic violence.
- In December, we discussed the draft ASSB cover letter for the DFS annual report.
- Nominations were made for the 2024 ASSB Chair, with current Chair Laura Martinez as the only nominee. Voting will take place in January.
- The group discussed the future purpose of DFS and brainstormed strategic planning for next year (perhaps conducting a survey of other boards of how we can collaborate with them). DFS Director Becketts wants to make sure we align

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with the strategic plans of the county – question of how to organize and mobilize along those lenses.

- In January, Director Becketts informed the ASSB that he is working on a purchase order for strategic planning by consultant Christie Dooley (who developed the DFS's strategic framework and understands the department's work).
 - Christie will explore with the ASSB how they can better serve the public and add value beyond just receiving and reviewing information.
 - Christie will meet the ASSB as a group in February (ASSB meeting date TBD), and then consideration will be made for a potential subcommittee.
- Amy Carlini, Director of DFS Communications, provided the text only version of the FY23 Annual Report, with a request for edits by next Tuesday.
 - Member and Vice-Chair Ray McGrath said it would be great to reframe certain sections positively (e.g., how there was greater SNAP uptake because the public was better informed rather than just mention the presence of greater numbers).
- Yonas Wondwossen, Director of Childcare Assistance and Referral, updated the ASSB on the county's Childcare Fund, traditionally funded by the block grant but now boosted by ARPA and how his team is paying attention to future families entering the county.
 - The ASSB moved that language about this be added to the Annual Report.
- Vice Chair Ray McGrath and Secretary Julian De Phillips were reelected without opposition.