Board of Supervisors
Health and Human Services Committee
October 15, 2024, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 11

Meeting Summary

Board Members Present

Jeffrey McKay (Chairman); Andres Jimenez (Mason District); Dalia Palchik (Committee Chairman, Providence District); Walter Alcorn (Hunter Mill District); James Bierman (Dranesville District); Rodney Lusk (Franconia District); Kathy Smith (Vice Chairman, Sully District); Daniel Storck (Mount Vernon); and James Walkinshaw (Braddock District).

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Supervisor Palchik called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m. and opened the meeting with a review of the agenda.

Item 1. Economic Mobility Pilot Update

The first item was a presentation on the Economic Mobility Pilot, which was presented by Karla Bruce (retiring Chief Equity Officer), Michael Becketts (Director, Department of Family Services), and Lloyd Tucker (Director, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services). The presenters reviewed the origins and overview of the pilot. The pilot targeted the County's Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) population and 180 households were randomly selected via a lottery. Participants are receiving a monthly $750 cash payment for 18 months. George Mason University is conducting the research and evaluation component of the pilot and the findings will be presented at a future committee meeting. Staff will present recommendations for Board consideration after the pilot ends.

Board members shared their appreciation for taking an innovative approach to addressing affordability in the County among the working poor. Board members also provided feedback on how this pilot can be used to reimagine other County programs and service delivery. Members also asked questions about the research and evaluation component and timeline for receiving staff recommendations.

Item 2. 2024 FCPA Equity Outreach Executive Summary

The second item was a presentation on the 2024 FCPA Equity Outreach, which was presented by Jai Cole (Executive Director, FCPA), Sara Baldwin (Deputy Director, FCPA), and Daidria Grayson (Marketing & Communications Division Director, FCPA).

The presenters walked through the equity initiative timeline, highlighted how FCPA's historic reliance on fees has impacted equity, and FCPA's approach to addressing barriers. They highlighted the results of a pilot conducted during Summers 2023 and 2024 at the Sully Community Center to improve equitable access for summer camps. They also reviewed the intensive and inclusive public engagement efforts, including the key findings of the 2024 equity survey. Cost was revealed as the top barrier for enrollment. In January, FCPA will brief the Board at the HHS Committee meeting on the implementation plan of the equity initiative.

Board members thanked staff for the work on this initiative and asked questions related to the implementation timeline, sliding scale, and capacity.

Adjournment

The committee meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.