

FAIRFAX COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR HUMAN SERVICES

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

SPEAK at one of the public hearings on the FY 2018 Advertised Budget. They will be held in the Board Auditorium at the Government Center on Tuesday, April 4, at 4 pm; on Wednesday, April 5, at 1 pm; and on Thursday, April 6, at 1 pm. Check the County website, www.fairfaxcounty.gov, for up-to-date information.

To sign up to speak, call the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151; TTY: 703-324-3903. To sign up to speak online, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm.

ATTEND one or more of the community meetings on the budget sponsored by supervisors in their districts. These Budget Town Hall meetings are not hearings, but you may have an opportunity to comment about your concerns and issues. For a list of these meetings, go to the County website and click on "Budget." Then go to "Getting Involved."

RECRUIT OTHERS TO SPEAK at or even just attend the public hearings. It is especially effective to have users of services talk about them and how the services have helped them. Even if people don't speak, they can show their support by being present and standing when asked to do so by a speaker.

WRITE, PHONE, AND/OR EMAIL your supervisor, Chairman Sharon Bulova, and Lee Supervisor Jeff McKay (Budget Committee Chairman). Usually letters are the most effective, but phone calls and emails can also help. A list of Board members and their contact information follows on the next 2 pages. If you are not sure who your district supervisor is, go to the County website, click on "Board of Supervisors" and see "Find Your District Supervisor."

You can also communicate via the County website. Click on "Budget," then go to "Getting Involved" and click on "Share your feedback on the FY 2018 Advertised Budget."

SEND this package of information on to others who might be interested and concerned, and urge them to take action. Your friends, colleagues, neighbors, relatives, members of your congregation, members of the social action committee at your place of worship, members of organizations you belong to—all are potential advocates for human services.

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The Board of Supervisors will act on the FY 2018 Budget at the special "Markup" meeting on April 25. That is when the Board will vote to amend the budget and then approve the final package—cuts, increases, tax rates, fee increases, etc. Formal approval will be on May 2, but, for advocates, the important date is April 25. Your advocacy for human services can have an impact even after the budget hearings. Keep those letters, emails, postcards, and phone calls going!

FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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