



LOUDOUN HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK
P.O. Box 803 • Leesburg, Virginia 20178

February 27, 2023

Dear Board of Supervisors:

The Loudoun Human Services Network (LHSN) is a coalition of more than 50 human services nonprofit organizations serving Loudoun County. First, we thank the county staff for their hard work to carefully prepare the FY 2024 budget. We also appreciate their support of our nonprofit community, as well as our fellow human services providers within the county government who are serving alongside us on the front lines. Second, we thank the Board of Supervisors for the opportunity to participate in the budget process through public input.

LHSN has reviewed the FY 2024 proposed budget and appreciate this opportunity to share our support regarding specific areas of the budget that will impact our members and the people we serve. Please accept our comments and feedback below regarding the FY 2024 proposed budget.

Nonprofit Funding

The LHSN greatly appreciates the Board and staff's ongoing support of the Human Services Grant Program, and **supports the proposed allocation of \$5,229,169 in FY 2024** for the discretionary grants and core services contracts.

The Human Services Nonprofit Grants and the Core Services Contracts grant critical funding to support the safety net of services provided by nonprofits for Loudoun's most vulnerable residents. This funding is often leveraged by local grantees to draw additional private, state, and federal funding into Loudoun County for the benefit of our residents.

It is important to note that this funding supports the ongoing human services programs for Loudoun residents provided by local human services nonprofits and is uniquely different than the ARPA funds recently approved for organizations. The ARPA funds recently approved specifically support COVID-19 recovery efforts and services that mitigate the long-term economic and health-related impacts of the pandemic by those most disproportionately impacted.

Housing Fund

LHSN **supports the proposed \$6.469 million (equivalent to one-half cent of the real property tax rate) in anticipated local tax revenue for the Housing Fund dedicated to affordable housing needs** in alignment with the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan (UHNSP). The shortage of affordable housing in Loudoun is a critical issue that impacts the residents served by our organizations.



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Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center

LHSN appreciates the Board's support of the development of the MHSADS Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center in the Capital Improvement Plan. **LHSN supports proposed funding for the development of the Crisis Receiving and Stabilization Center.** The development of this center will address a critical need in our community for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

Best regards,

Loudoun Human Services Network