



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

February 28, 2024

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 carefully preparing the FY 2025 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 2025 proposed budget and appreciates this opportunity to share our support regarding specific areas of the budget that will impact on our members and the people we serve. Please accept our comments and feedback below regarding the FY 2025 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 \$6,103,634 in FY 2025** 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.

Housing Fund

LHSN **supports the proposed \$7.4 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). We urge the Board to consider increasing that allocation to the equivalent of a full penny of the real property tax rate for the Housing Fund. As our county continues to work through the strategies outlined in the Unmet Housing Needs Strategic Plan, we need a well-funded Housing Fund.

Health and Welfare Resource Requests

LHSN supports the proposed Priority 1 and 2 requests from the County of Loudoun Human Service departments including Family Services, MHSADS, Health Department, Extension Services (VCE Loudoun), and Parks, Recreation and Community Services. The demand for human, health and welfare services continues to grow across all programs and need areas and we support the funding for these community resources.

Best regards,

Loudoun Human Services Network