

**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION**

**DSS Board**

Paul McCulla, County Administrator

**DSS Director**

Janis K. Selbo

**DSS Program Managers**

Laura Brown  
Mimi deNicolas  
Mittie Wallace

**DSS Administrative Manager**

Azita Fetterer

**CSA Community Policy & Management Team Chairperson**

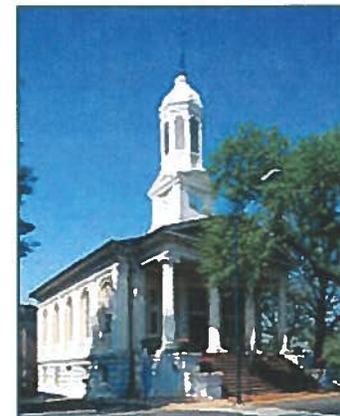
Katie Heritage, Deputy County Administrator



**FAUQUIER COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT**

**FISCAL YEAR 2014-15**



**FAUQUIER COUNTY**  
**Department of Social Services**  
320 Hospital Drive, Suite 11  
Warrenton, VA 20186

[www.fauquiercounty.gov](http://www.fauquiercounty.gov)  
[www.commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov)

State websites for additional information:

[www.dss.virginia.gov](http://www.dss.virginia.gov)    [www.csa.virginia.gov](http://www.csa.virginia.gov)



## CHILDREN'S SERVICES

### ADOPTION

Provided adoption services to natural parents, children in need of adoption and to couples seeking adoption.

- 20 children adopted

### FOSTER CARE / PERMANENCY PLANNING SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Provided temporary placement of a child outside the home.

- An average of **64** children received Foster Care services monthly
- **40** children entered foster care
- **11** children returned to the care of relatives or parents
- **19** children in Foster Care, ages 14-21, received independent living services
- **32** families received services in their homes to stabilize the family

*Five siblings entered foster care because of neglect due to their mother's substance use disorder. The department assisted the mother in locating and funding a residential program to treat her substance abuse. The mother successfully completed her treatment and her aftercare program. The foster parents worked closely with the department to provide weekend visitation with the mother as she continued to demonstrate sobriety. The family was successfully reunited. The department continues to provide support services for the family. The mother is working now and the family just moved into a new town house. The children are settling in with their mother who has created a safe and nurturing home for them.*

### Mission Statement

*We promote self-reliance and protection through the provision of community based services.*

*We acknowledge that our customers are part of a family system, that our services must build upon the strengths of the individuals and families we serve, and that the active involvement of our community is essential to our success.*

## PROTECTIVE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES

Investigated reports of child abuse or neglect.

- **206** valid reports and referrals were received
- **164** family assessments were conducted
- **42** reports of child abuse and neglect were investigated
- **22 (52%)** confirmed investigations of child abuse and neglect
- An average of **19** families received services to prevent abuse or neglect each month

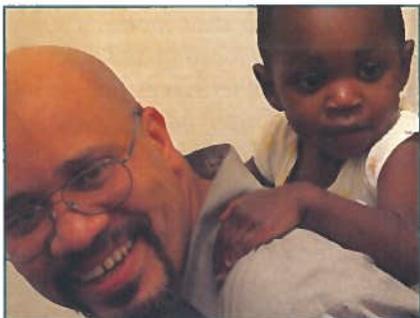
*Almost ten years ago, in 2006 the Child Protective Services team removed four children from the home of their mother due to severe neglect. Despite diligent work, the effort to reunify the children with the mother was not successful. The agency returned the two older children to the care and custody of their father who resided in another state. Through interstate cooperation, the two younger children were sent to their paternal grandparents in a third state. In 2015 the third youngest child contacted the department. Now 19 and in her second year of college, she called to thank the CPS worker and the foster care worker for "saving her life" by removing her from danger and placing her safely with her grandparents. She said all the siblings still maintain regular contact and her younger brother is soon to graduate high school at the age of 17. The grandmother said that if the agency had not taken action she could not imagine what could have happened to all of the children.*

## FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTIVE TRAINING AND APPROVALS

Provided opportunities for families to serve as agency resource (foster/adoptive) families.

- **15** new resource families were trained and approved

*In 2012 four children were brought into foster care because of abuse and neglect. The abuse had been so severe that therapists recommended that the children be placed in separate homes so that each child could begin to heal. The children maintained contact and continued to enjoy regular visits with one another. Parental rights were terminated and all the therapeutic foster parents adopted their children in 2015. All four are flourishing within their families and communities.*



## SERVICES TO ELDERLY AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

### ADULT SERVICES

Provided and purchased services for the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and their families to assure protection, maintain community based living, and access to healthcare.



*Three elderly homeless people were clients of three different Adult Services Workers. One, homeless for several years and unable to find and pay for housing, was sleeping in the cemetery. Another had been homeless for several years, at one time living in the crawl space of a house. The third person had survived cancer but was not able to keep housing. A local landlord was willing to work with the three on a rooming arrangement that allowed each his and her own room with shared access to a living room, kitchen and bathroom. The department administers a Rapid Rehousing grant program to house the homeless through partnerships with non-profits. Community Touch, Inc. assisted the three with funding and case management to move in. Meeting weekly, the three Adult Services Workers helped the group make the considerable adjustment to communal living in a home after so many years outside on their own. Companion services, also administered through Fauquier DSS, help assure the home is suitably maintained.*

### ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Investigated reports of adult abuse, neglect and exploitation.

- **338** reports received and investigated
- **237 (70%)** of those were assessed as needing protective services
- **190 (80%)** adults received protective service

*An elderly female client had been living in Warrenton for a number of years before being evicted for non-payment of rent. Left homeless, the client moved from couch to couch of family and friends. The client worked with the adult services team to find permanent housing. She wanted to go to Birmingham Green's Willow Oaks, the assisted living unit co-owned by five localities includ-*

ing Fauquier County. The client was assessed, but initially denied by the facility. The APS worker was able to work with the client to provide better information to the facility for reconsideration and she was placed in the facility. After a few weeks, the facility had concerns that she was going out with family members, who they suspected were using her prescription pain killers. The APS worker was able to advocate for the client and work with the facility to provide the client with minimal dosages for visits. The client has now settled in and is doing well.



## IN-HOME SERVICES

Provided in-home services to assist adults in self-care and prevent abuse, neglect or institutionalization.

- An average of **29** adults served each month
- **8** approved companion providers
- **\$76,899** total expenditures for the year

The family of an 83 year old man with Parkinson's disease called the department to inquire about services. The immediate concern was that he was still driving to medical appointments. The Adult Services Worker paid him a visit to assess his needs and spoke with him about in-home services to help him stay in his home. The client agreed to meet the companion but said that he doubted he would use the service because he was certain he didn't need it. Two weeks later services began. After two months the client agreed to be screened for in home health services. He was approved for Medicaid and began receiving more care at home. At a follow-up visit, the client said how happy he was to be able to remain at home instead of going to a nursing facility. He thanked the department for providing him with a companion until he was approved for Medicaid home health care.

## GUARDIANSHIP / ADULT ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

Monitored reports by guardians of incapacitated adults who need a surrogate decision-maker. Provided placement assistance and case management.

- **54** guardianships monitored for the year
- A monthly average of **15** adults received Auxiliary Grant payments
- **\$84,289** Auxiliary Grant payments
- **3** clients in Adult Foster Care Homes
- **118** adults screened and assessed for Long Term Care under Medicaid

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY PROGRAM

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

Helped victims of domestic violence improve their safety through emergency intervention and ongoing support services and advocacy.

- Provided advocacy assistance for **46** individuals

An elderly woman was receiving companion services for four years after a stroke which impaired her ability to communicate. Over that period, the department investigated a number of reports of physical and sexual abuse of the client by her husband. Her children, her physician and other medical providers confirmed a 40 year pattern of abuse marked by threats against the children as well as neighbors. Despite the assistance of law



enforcement, the client retracted allegations or denied abuse several times. Throughout this period, the in-home companion continued a supportive relationship while providing care for the client. In 2015, the companion noted further signs of abuse and the client confided that her husband raped her. This time, with the comfort and assistance of the in-home caregiver and the department, the client was able to follow through and obtain a protective order that enabled her to obtain medical care. She left the home to live with one of her children and his family. She is now in a safe and nurturing environment.

## EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

### DAY CARE FOR CHILDREN

Subsidized quality day care for children.

- **\$668,487** total expenditures
- Provided funding for daycare for approximately **459** children (infant through school age)
- Provided child care services to an average of **143** children per month, with approximately **98%** in licensed or regulated child care settings



### VIEW INDEPENDENCE SERVICES FOR PARENTS

Provided services to TANF recipients.

- **81** families received employment services
- **70** parents participated in work activities
- **54** parents found employment averaging **\$9.16/hour**

*The single mother of three children applied for TANF and began participating in the VIEW program within one month of eligibility. She had excellent skills in accounting but had been a stay at home mom for several years and needed a little financial support, Child Care assistance, supportive services in the form of gas cards and rental assistance. Within a few months of beginning the program she was able to find employment working as an accountant making wages that allowed her to support her family of four.*

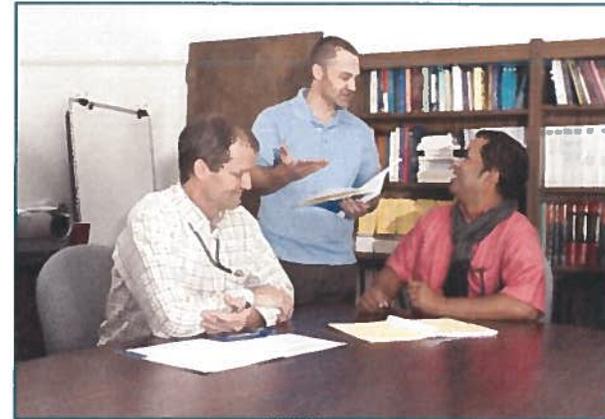
### THE WORK PLACE

Fauquier County's Career Resource Center offers the community resources to perform job search activities. The Work Place partners with various community programs, such as Literacy Volunteers of Fauquier, to provide one-stop shopping for job and career needs.

- **2,553** Visits to the One Stop

*This man first visited the Work Place in the fall of 2014. Due to downsizing of his former employer, he lost his job. Fortunately his wife was employed and though*

*money was tight, his new job became finding a job. He met on several occasions with volunteers and personnel from Literacy Volunteers of Fauquier to work on his resume. He was also referred to the Workforce Investment program for re-training, but declined their services. After several months looking for employment, he found a full time job, including benefits with a company in a nearby county. He stopped by The Work Place after receiving the job offer to let us know about his new position. He was very thankful for the help and assistance provided by the Work Place, including use of the computers, copy and fax services, job listings, coaching and support.*



***"I'm sending this to tell you the deep appreciation I have for this program. Eight years ago I experienced a life changing event that left me on disability. This however has fallen short of fulfilling my needs. I was given the opportunity to come to your program and was amazed. In one short meeting and a month later I am now working at a position I believe is perfect for me. I also am enrolled as a student at Lord Fairfax Community College to better my skills. Your support and assistance was amazing to say the least. I cannot truly put into words how grateful I am to have been part of this program."***

**- Work Place Client**

## BENEFIT PROGRAMS

- **10,044** Fauquier county residents received benefits.

### MEDICAID

Paid medical care for low-income children, elderly or disabled individuals.

- **\$44,171,173** total expenditures
- Average of **3,150** cases monthly
- Average of **5,290** individuals enrolled monthly
- Processed **1,542** applications for the year



*Navigating the Long Term Care program within Medicaid can be difficult for those who are already dealing with the emotional issues of caring for an elderly parent. The team recently assisted a son who was struggling with the necessary paperwork needed to determine his mother's eligibility status. The case was further complicated due to his mother's resources and ability to make payment to the nursing home under private pay. Several meetings took place to explain Medicaid policy and the process to request a hardship exemption which, once approved, allowed for Medicaid to assist this family with both past and future payments for the mother's care.*

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

Provided nutrition help for low-income families.

- Issued **\$5,332,786** in SNAP benefits
- Average of **1,633** households served monthly
- Average of **3,662** individuals enrolled monthly
- Processed **1,477** applications for the year

*This year SNAP focused not only on meeting the needs of our families but on realigning processes and systems as the department reorganized. The result is that a SNAP application can be processed, if not immediately, then within a few days of the intake appointment. This effort affords our families the needed food items quickly and has expedited the process for the department in a time when the SNAP workload remains well above pre-recession levels.*

### TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

Provided TANF financial assistance to families with children in need.

- **\$362,432** total expenditures
- Average of **81** families served each month
- **86** applications approved
- Processed **323** applications

### GENERAL RELIEF (GR)

Provided financial assistance to individuals who are not eligible for TANF or SSI.

- **\$18,806** annual expenditures in General Relief
- Processed **76** applications for the year

### ENERGY / CRISIS / COOLING ASSISTANCE

Provided heating subsidy for low income families and cooling help for health impaired individuals.

- **\$123,239** Fuel/Crisis expenditures
- Processed **587** Fuel/Crisis Assistance applications
- **\$20,817** Cooling expenditures
- Processed **178** Cooling Assistance applications
- **\$45,401** distributed from Dominion Virginia Energy Share Program

### FRAUD / ERROR REFERRALS AND COLLECTIONS

- **6** Fraud/Error investigations conducted
- **2** Fraud/Intentional and **4** Error/Non-intentional program violations determined
- **\$10,353** in overpayments established
- **\$17,572** collected





## CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (CSA)

### ASSESSMENTS

Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT) assessed the strengths and needs of individual youths and families to identify services to be provided.

- **216** children and families assessed and served

### CASE MANAGEMENT

- **101** cases managed by the Department of Social Services
- **100** cases managed by Schools
- **5** cases managed by the Department of Juvenile Justice
- **10** cases managed by Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services

*This child first began showing symptoms of withdrawal at an early age. By fifth grade the family sought private counseling for school anxiety and school avoidance. Over the next two years the youth participated in outpatient therapy but social anxiety continued to grow. Eventually seen by a psychiatrist and diagnosed, the child was placed on medication. The schools tried several interventions but finally the youth was hospitalized following a serious episode. A FAPT meeting was held the day after discharge from hospital and services were approved to provide support in the home. A second severe incident subsequently occurred and the youth was placed in a residential facility for six months of treatment. Extensive in-home services funded by both Medicaid and CSA were provided to the youth and family upon return home. Private day school was added to ensure academic success. The youth's team of counselors, FAPT and*

*other professionals working with the youth met regularly to monitor progress. In the fall of 2015 the youth transitioned successfully back to public school and in-home services were incrementally reduced. The family is extremely grateful for the supports they received and so pleased to see their youth back in the community, in public school, and able to enjoy typical teenage pursuits.*

### PURCHASE OF SERVICES

Purchased services in residential and community settings for high-risk youth and provided timely reimbursement for services delivered.

- Residential placement expenditures of **\$1,599,024**
- Purchased **\$2,451,188** education day placements and wrap services for students with disabilities
- **\$675,266** therapeutic foster care expenditures
- **\$182,665** family foster care payments
- **\$418,447** community based services expenditures

### ALTERNATE FUNDING SOURCE

- **\$1,038,037** of potential CSA expenditures were funded by IV-E federal funding and administrated through the Department of Social Services



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- **\$322,646** total funds distributed to regional housing grant funds to prevent or shorten homelessness
- **\$28,000** contributed to Healthy Families Fauquier
- **\$18,000** contributed to Aging Together
- **\$355,003** to Birmingham Green Assisted Living and Northern Virginia Healthcare Center

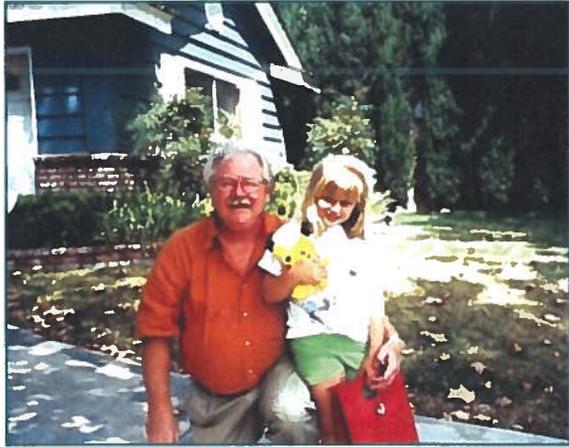


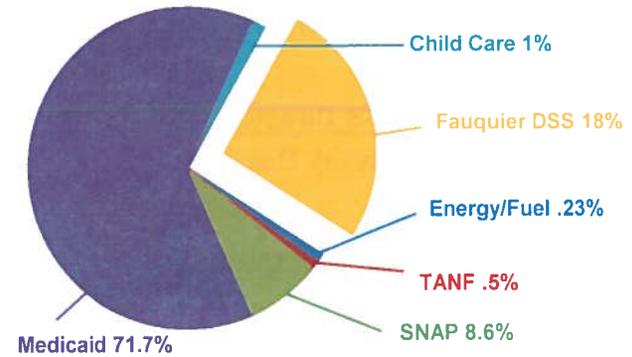
Photo sources:

Page 1 Fauquier County file photo; Pages 2, 5, 12, 13 U.S. Census Bureau; Page 3 publicdomainpictures.net; Page 6 National Cancer Institute; Pages 4, 7, 8, 9 Public Health Image Library; Page 10 USDA; Page 11 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

## PROGRAM EXPENDITURES 2014-2015

### Non-Departmental Expenditures

Medicaid	\$44,171,173
SNAP	\$5,332,786
TANF	\$362,432
Energy/Fuel Assistance	\$144,056
Child Care	\$668,487



### Fauquier DSS Expenditures

Operations & Direct Services	\$3,674,597
Assistance	\$1,752,805
Purchase of Services	\$165,096
CSA Purchase of Services	\$5,326,590

