LOUDOUN HUMAN SERVICES NETWORK

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P.O. Box 342 • Leesburg, Virginia 20178

February 26, 2026

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Loudoun Human Services Network—a coalition of more than 50 human services nonprofits serving residents across Loudoun—thank you for the opportunity to share comments on the proposed FY 2027 Budget.

Nonprofit Human Services Funding

We appreciate the proposed 3% increase to the FY27 Human Services Nonprofit Grant (HSNP) Program and the Board and staff's continued commitment to strengthening this investment over time. It is critical that this funding pool keeps pace with growing community need.

Question and Area of Concern

This year, the Board approved a staff-recommended change increasing the maximum request amount for FY27 HSNP applications from $113,000 to $135,000—an increase of nearly 20%. While we welcome the higher request ceiling, we respectfully ask whether a financial analysis has been conducted to understand how this change may affect overall funding availability.

Specifically, could the higher ceiling result in fewer organizations being funded, or in lower-ranked applicants losing support so that higher-ranked applicants receive larger awards? We want to ensure the policy change strengthens the program without unintentionally reducing access for valued community partners – and ultimately, needed services for Loudoun residents.

Requests

1. Conduct or share an analysis of how the increased request ceiling may affect the number of grantees funded in FY27.
2. If the analysis indicates that organizations may be defunded as a result of this change, consider either increasing the funding pool to address any projected shortfall or returning the ceiling to the previous level of $113,000.

We are also deeply grateful for the Board's $5 million investment to the Community Foundation for nonprofit grants addressing increased service demands and the impacts of federal policy changes. Those funds are already supporting critical programs for residents. At the same time, this supplemental funding is a one-time investment for specific purposes and is distinct from the HSNP program, which provides essential operating support that keeps organizations functioning day to day, ensuring service continuity for Loudoun residents.

Housing Services for the Most Vulnerable

We appreciate the Board and staff's ongoing efforts to address affordable housing in our community. We have made significant strides as a community in addressing this issue under your leadership. However, we remain concerned that Loudoun's investment in homelessness services, rapid rehousing, and especially permanent supportive housing continues to lag behind neighboring jurisdictions.

The proposed FY27 budget does not appear to include additional resources to expand services or permanent supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness, particularly those with serious mental health conditions. We encourage the Board to prioritize additional funding and resources to ensure our most vulnerable neighbors have access to safe, stable housing and the supportive services they need to thrive.

Human Services for the Community

We were not surprised to see that Mr. Hemstreet included a slide about the 24% of Loudoun households living at the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold or below. This means that one quarter of households cannot afford basic living costs. We strongly urge and welcome a robust collaborative process between the County, nonprofits, LCPS and other stakeholders to develop a human services strategic plan. It's time to work together to address the human service needs of so many Loudoun residents.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued partnership with the nonprofit community in serving Loudoun residents.

In partnership,

Lisa Max, Chair

Loudoun Human Services Network