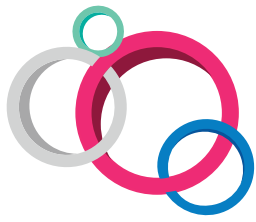


FAIRFAX COUNTY



# PARTNERS IN PREVENTION FUND



FY2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Thank you for your interest in, and continued support of, the Partners in Prevention Fund. Over the years, the Fund has grown to become a key part of our strategy to expand and strengthen our system of prevention. It helps us work together to serve more children and families, promote the use of evidence-based interventions, contribute to the evidence base through pilot programs, and develop an increasingly effective workforce.

*-Patricia D. Harrison, Deputy County Executive*



About \$350,000 was invested through the PIPF in FY 2016, helping to reach children and youth, strengthen systems and collaborative approaches, and implement innovative ideas that will prove to be considered key services in the near future. This report highlights many of these successes.

The Partners in Prevention Fund (PIPF) was established in 2006. Then-County Executive Tony Griffin, in a memo to the Board of Supervisors, described the PIPF as a means to "support a primary prevention-based system [that] can build the community's capacity and augment the county's overall prevention efforts.... This initiative is a creative way to direct existing resources to target prevention needs that are systemic in nature and, with collaboration from multiple agencies and the community, lend themselves to a greater opportunity for countywide impact."

Throughout its history, the PIPF has primarily funded grants to community-based organizations to implement evidence-based prevention programs. But in recent years, the fund's emphasis on capacity building - through the grant program and other mechanisms - has increased. The PIPF is now a key funding source for systems change, networking, and professional development opportunities.

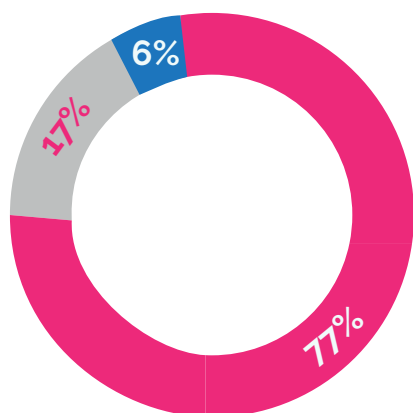
The PIPF is funded annually through Carryover appropriations from the county's health and human services agencies. The use of funds is managed by the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services Prevention Unit, with guidance from the PIPF Advisory Team, which includes representatives of the funding agencies.

PIPF funds initiatives in three general categories:

- **Community Capacity Building:** Funding provides training, technical assistance, capacity building, and payment to community-based organizations and child care providers to implement effective prevention programs in their communities.
- **Strategic Initiatives:** Funding supports cross-system and interdisciplinary efforts to improve services and outcomes for children, youth, and families across the county.
- **System Capacity Building:** Funding provides county agencies and FCPS one-time opportunities to train staff and pilot new approaches and programs to determine their effectiveness and feasibility, without having to divert existing agency funds.

The categories and initiatives were identified by the Advisory Team and staff as those with the greatest potential impact, providing the best opportunity to move the system forward. In all cases, investments leverage existing funds or resources in order to increase reach or expand capacity.

### Funding by Category



Community Capacity Building	\$269,527
Strategic Initiatives	\$58,648
System Capacity Building	\$19,779

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Office for Children
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Department of Housing and Community Development
- ALLISON LOWRY  
Department of Family Services
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Community Services Board
- BARBARA MARTINEZ  
Department of Administration for Human Services
- VIN ROGERS  
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- HEATHER SARMIENTO  
Office for Women and Sexual and Domestic Violence Services
- LORI WINTER  
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# Community Capacity Building

## *PIPF Capacity Building Grant Program*

The cornerstone program of the PIPF is the Capacity Building Grant Program. The purpose of the CBGP is to increase the capacity of community-based organizations to implement prevention programs that align with countywide prevention priorities and strategies. While a side benefit of the CBGP is that more youth and families are served, the program's primary goal is capacity-building. Community-based organizations are provided grants (contracts) to implement evidence-based programs and receive training and technical assistance. At the end of the grant period, grantees are expected to have the capacity to implement prevention programs in an effective and efficient manner.

### **CBGP GRANTEES**

Alternative House  
Cornerstones  
FACETS  
Family Services Network  
Grace Community Center  
HACAN  
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
Wesley Housing

FY 2016 was the final year of a five-year contract cycle for eight grantees. Over the course of the year, they implemented 24 programs, serving over 300 youth and parents. A third-party evaluation found good evidence that the programs met their intended outcomes. Outcomes included learning parental disciplinary skills, identifying the "red flags" of teen dating abuse, engaging in healthy alternatives to screen time, improved critical thinking skills, increased healthy eating and physical activity, and improved recognition of warning signs of suicide and emotional distress.

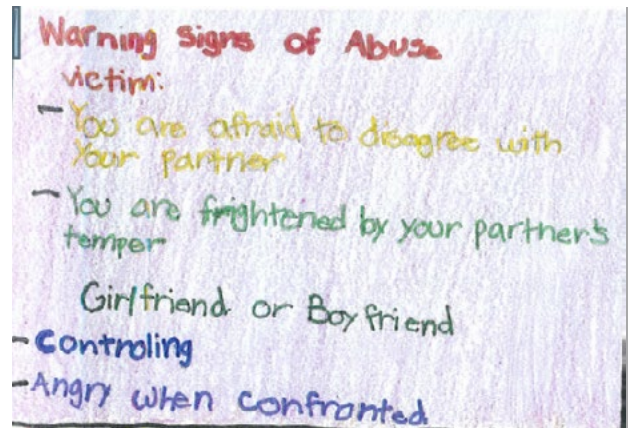
## CBGP PROGRAMS

CATCH Kids Club  
Media Smart Youth  
SMART  
We Can! Energize Our Families  
Safe Dates  
Strengthening Families 10-14  
Parents Raising Safe Kids  
Lifelines  
Signs of Suicide

While the PIPF funds training, direct service staff time, and materials, grantees provide much of what it takes to run these programs in-kind. It is estimated that the PIPF leveraged approximately \$65,000 in services and materials provided by grantees to implement CBGP programming.

An additional, and unexpected, positive outcome was that parents involved in the parenting programs often formed lasting social support networks with their fellow participants.

Program providers expressed interest in opportunities for collaboration, learning from one another, and providing programs to new audiences. These, and other recommendations, are helping to form the foundation of a revised CBGP in FY 2017.



Participants in the Safe Dates program make posters to communicate the warning signs of teen dating abuse.



## Portage Project

Portage Project is a curriculum that prepares children for success in kindergarten and beyond through ongoing assessment and individual planning. The program is implemented in early care and education settings, and has elements for infants and toddlers as well as pre-school-aged children. Through the PIPF, family child care providers are trained to implement the curriculum. They receive ongoing coaching and technical assistance as they implement the program.

Training and coaching are provided through a contract. FY 2016 was a contract transition year; Ginny Holloway's contract ended on December 31, 2016, and School Readiness Consulting, Inc., began providing services in January. Between the two contractors, over 40 child care providers, reaching nearly 300 children, received training and coaching.

In 2016, Manila Consulting conducted a process evaluation to determine if the structure of the program was effectively resulting in long-term changes among providers. Overwhelmingly, providers shared that they were enjoying the program and felt it helped them improve their services. Provider feedback and other evaluation findings have resulted in additional training opportunities for providers and streamlined reporting processes.

"[Implementing Portage has been] a great experience. Children who didn't talk started to do so. Parents saw progress. I would explain what the children were learning and the parents enjoyed it. They would do activities with their children."

*FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDER*

Providers are assessed using the Family Child Care Observation Instrument, which measures providers' practices in establishing an environment that promotes social emotional learning, planning for individual children's goals, employing effective instructional practices, assessing and reporting, and engaging parents and families. Providers' average FCCOI score coming in to the program was 2.02 (out of 3); by the end of the program, their average score is 2.63. This represents a 30% improvement based on the instruction and coaching they are receiving. Each provider served represents another family child care home providing a quality early care and education experience for Fairfax County's children and families.

# Strategic Initiatives

## *Opportunity Neighborhoods*

Opportunity Neighborhoods is the County's signature place-based initiative, engaging communities in geographically-defined areas to achieve identified outcomes for children and youth. In FY2016, the PIPF supported the development of the [Reston Opportunity Neighborhood \(RestON\)](#) and sponsored training for ON-involved staff in both Mount Vernon and Reston on empowering youth as leaders.

FY2016 was a planning year for RestON as Cornerstones worked with the County and Fairfax County Public Schools as the lead community-based partner. In preparation for launching ON, Cornerstones assisted in gathering and evaluating community data, developing key partnerships to support the implementation of the model, and carrying out extensive planning activities in preparation for the official Fall 2016 launch. In particular, strategic outreach to residents and community partners done over the course of FY16 led to the successful launch of ON in Reston.

## *Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout*

The PIPF supported two prescription drug take-back days by translating and printing promotional posters and other materials. The events are a partnership of the Unified Prevention Coalition, Fairfax County Police, the Community Services Board, local pharmacies, the US Drug Enforcement Administration, and others. Over four tons of medications were disposed in Fairfax over the two take-back days, preventing potentially dangerous drugs from reaching those who could accidentally or purposely abuse them.



Picture courtesy of Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County.

## Suicide Prevention Public Service Announcements



Now playing in movie theaters, on cable TV, and over the Internet throughout Fairfax County are [three PSAs](#) developed by the Health Department in collaboration with PRS CrisisLink, the Community Services Board, and numerous youth and young adults. The development and placement of the spots, which encourage parents and youth to reach out for help when a young person is in mental distress, were supported in part by the PIPF.

In June 2016, the first month the PSAs were featured in local movie theaters, PRS CrisisLink reported 161 individuals contacted the CrisisText Connect hotline using the PSA-specific keyword. Of those, 17 were actively suicidal and received referrals and connection to mental health care.



## Collective Impact Approach to Attaining Outcomes for Children and Youth

The [Fairfax County Successful Children and Youth Policy Team](#) (SCYPT) works to set community-wide goals and priorities for public policy as it relates to children, youth and families. They serve as a policy team guiding collective impact approaches on issues such as school attendance, racial and social equity, behavioral health, and school readiness. The PIPF has supported the SCYPT and its work by sponsoring facilitation and technical assistance support from the Forum for Youth Investment, a national leader in youth development and working with local leadership to affect change.

A recent evaluation of the SCYPT illustrated high praise for FYI's role, as members noted the importance of independent facilitation to achieving the team's goals.

"This collective impact approach taps into the strengths of people; they are being heard, included. In my short time, there are so many individuals with skills and expertise that allows us to come together. We can tap into all this in a cohesive way."

"The independent facilitation is crucial" to the SCYPT's effectiveness.

QUOTES FROM MEMBERS  
OF THE SCYPT

## Out of School Time Network

In early FY 2016, a diverse group of public, private, and non-profit providers of out of school time programs convened to discuss the formation of a local out of school time network. There was widespread support and enthusiasm for the concept. The PIPF supported the planning and development phase of this work, sponsoring the involvement of the Weikart Center for Program Quality to provide technical assistance to the planning team. The network, which will focus on promoting access to quality out of school time programs and on sharing resources among providers, is now set to launch in early 2017 with a series of free trainings available to providers across the county.

## Trauma-Informed Community Network

Launched in early FY 2016, the [Fairfax County Trauma-Informed Community Network](#) has over 50 members representing 25 different organizations, including county human services agencies, Fairfax County Public Schools, and representatives from the faith, non-profit, and private provider communities. The network focused efforts during their first full year on the development of training, on increasing communication and collaboration among organizations involved in the network, and on beginning to create support structures for the effective implementation of the principles of trauma-informed care across the human services system. The PIPF sponsored trainings and materials for TICN.

TICN hosted 21 sessions of their 90 minute Trauma Awareness 101 Training, reaching over 600 people. The TICN also hosted four full-day sessions of their Trauma-Informed Supervisor Training, reaching over 100 supervisors from county human

services agencies and their non-profit partners. All TICN trainings were developed collaboratively by cross agency and cross discipline teams, and were offered free of charge to participants.

The TICN worked to increase community awareness of trauma and its impact by developing and publishing a Trauma Awareness Fact Sheet that has been widely distributed, supporting mass printing of a

trauma infographic poster from the National Council for Behavioral Health that was also widely distributed, and hosting a screening of the documentary *Paper Tigers*, attended by approximately 150 staff and stakeholders.

The TICN developed into a "go-to" network, and was made the lead partner for multiple trauma-related initiatives in the new Children's Behavioral Health System of Care Blueprint.



Staff, partners, and stakeholders attend a film screening hosted by the TICN.



# System Capacity Building

## *First Books*

In September, 190 family child care providers attended the 3rd Biennial Family Child Care Conference: Building a Mind Body Connection, hosted by the Office for Children. The conference highlighted the First Books partnership with Mind in the Making that promotes reading to kids in ways that enhance children's learning and the development of social emotional skills. Each participant received a First Books bag, sponsored by the PIPF, which included three books from Mind in the Making's First Books book list, and a corresponding laminated tip sheet. The tip sheet illustrates the life skill represented in the book and provides tips for the early childhood professional on how to support the development of that skill in young children.

Participants learned to use new techniques and strategies that enhance brain development through literature. In the conference workshop, they experienced ways to support children as they make new connections to books, use critical thinking skills with stories, and become more self-directed learners. Participants also received a fourth book as they entered breakout sessions. A total of 760 books were distributed during the conference.



*Child care providers, learning to promote essential life skills for children through reading.*

## *Early Childhood Social Emotional Wellness Training*

The PIPF sponsored a 16-hour professional development course, hosted by the Office for Children, for mental health and early childhood professionals. The course focused on developing a collaborative framework for strengthening social and emotional competencies of young children and families. Through a multi-modal, case study approach, the course created awareness of the importance of social-emotional competencies in young children while helping participants develop practical ways to strengthen families to promote children's success in school and beyond. Seventeen providers completed the course.



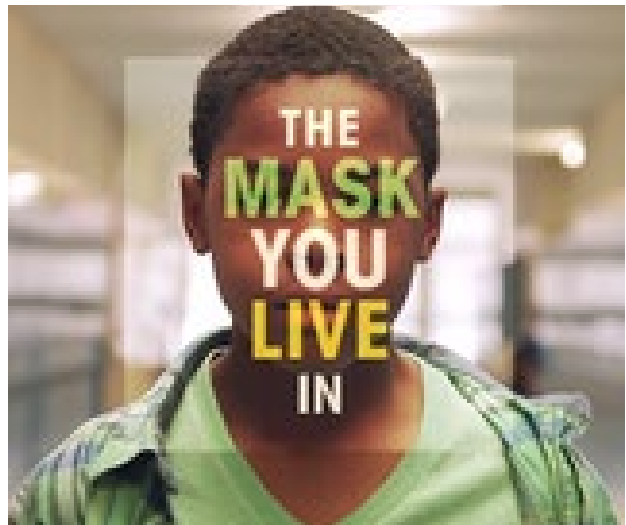
*"As a child care provider, this makes me think very strongly about the way we impact the lives of the children under our care. We may not be able to prevent what happens at their homes, but we can make their lives better when they are with us. At some point, we all have had our own Henry and if we don't have the knowledge to handle the situations, we will keep making the same mistake of labeling children as trouble makers. Thanks to these classes now I can say that I will pay more attention and put in practice every single resource that I have learned (which has been informative, helpful and motivational) to do right with the children. I am very sure that we can make a difference, not only in the future of the children in our care, but also in our community."*

*Participant in the social emotional wellness course*



## The Mask You Live In

In May, the Office for Women and Sexual and Domestic Violence Services hosted a screening of the documentary *The Mask You Live In*, which examines American concepts of masculinity and how boys struggle to define themselves. The film was followed by an interactive discussion with the audience facilitated by Neil Irvin, the Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape. The event, sponsored by the PIPF, drew approximately 75 staff, partners, and stakeholders. Evaluations showed participants increased their understanding of the issues around masculinity and came away with strategies for better supporting and engaging boys in their programs and services.



## Bike Safety

The Fairfax County Public Schools Safe Routes to School program routinely hosts bike rodeos to promote bike safety among children and families. Participants from low income families often are provided with donated bikes, but rarely with helmets. To help enhance the safety messaging and sustainability of the rodeos, the PIPF provided 200 bike helmets to FCPS to give away at upcoming rodeos.



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## LOOKING FORWARD TO FY 2017

Fiscal Year 2017 will bring more great investments and exciting changes to the Partners in Prevention Fund. Stay tuned for:

- A record number of Capacity Building Grant awardees, implementing more programs than ever before;
- An even more enhanced emphasis on capacity building among CBGP awardees;
- Pilot programs focused on parenting skills and preventing sexual assault;
- More great offerings from the Trauma Informed Community Network;
- The launch of the Out of School Time Network;
- And much more!





Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/prevention/pipf.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/prevention/pipf.htm)  
@ffxyouththrive



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