



# LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA 2023 FEDERAL PROGRAM

Adopted May 16, 2023

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
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The County of Loudoun’s 2023 Federal Legislative Agenda for the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress reflects the priorities and policy issues of importance to the County that acknowledge our rich history, and our vision to be a prosperous, inclusive, equitable and sustainable locality where residents feel free to live, work, learn and play. Loudoun County supports legislation, policies and regulatory actions that recognize the important role of local government and equips the County with the resources and flexibility needed to serve our community. The County opposes legislation, policies and regulatory actions that diminishes local decision making, preempts local authority, or imposes unfunded mandates.

## LOUDOUN COUNTY PRIORITIES

### **INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS**

Loudoun County supports efforts to improve our nation’s infrastructure through increased investments, including increased federal funding and matches for projects, that promote economic development, public safety, green infrastructure, mobility. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) works to address these needs by providing pass-through funds and direct funding opportunities for localities related to transportation, water, broadband, energy and power, environmental remediation, and resiliency. The County continues to support opportunities to work with federal agencies in implementing the IIJA, including developing grant programs and criteria that address needs of the County and identifying funds to upgrade infrastructure in historic communities. The County will continue to monitor IIJA program implementation at both the federal and state level.

- *Broadband and Cellular Infrastructure-* The lack of broadband infrastructure in Loudoun County has presented significant challenges to residents and businesses. The County supports additional grant opportunities, dedicated funding, and technical assistance to assist unserved or underserved areas in delivery of digital infrastructure, including addressing drop line costs from fiber networks to the home. The County supports efforts by the federal government to improve the data collection and mapping system, and requests that adequate funding be provided for these efforts. The County supports preserving its local control of right-of-way and siting decisions. The County will continue to monitor regulatory and policy changes by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for impacts and will comment when appropriate. The County supports efforts by the FCC to amend Title II of the Telecommunications Act that would allow the FCC to regulate broadband in more similar ways to a public utility.
- *Transportation Infrastructure-* The County supports timely and transparent implementation of the IIJA. Processes for creating new programs and making changes to existing programs should be transparent and should consider feedback and needs expressed by localities. The County supports efforts to address high dollar construction projects using federal pass-through or grant funds, and concentrated efforts to address bridge weight restrictions through rehabilitation or replacement. The County continues to support major transit state of good repair investments, transit innovations and technologies, as well as expansion projects. The County supports Congressional efforts to address the long-term sustainability of the Highway Trust Fund, including the Mass Transit Account.

### **GSA PER DIEM DESIGNATION**

Reinstate Loudoun County into the Washington D.C. Non-Standard Rate Area (DC NSA). Loudoun was arbitrarily removed from the DC NSA in 2007 and placed in its own NSA.

### **FEDERAL DEDICATED FUNDING FOR WMATA**

Loudoun County commends the reauthorization by Congress of federal dedicated funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The IIJA provides \$150 million per year through fiscal year 2030, matched by funding from Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. The County supports efforts to provide additional federal capital and operating funding for WMATA to support a safe, reliable, and high-functioning system for the area. The County will monitor WMATA legislation for impacts on the County.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The County is supportive of the following legislative and policy actions to promote economic development in Loudoun County and recognizes that other areas of the program such as Transportation and Housing have an impact on economic development within the County and region. This section also outlines items that will be monitored and analyzed and may be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

## **FAA PERIMETER RULE EXEMPTIONS**

Ensure status quo for perimeter rule exemptions at Reagan National Airport

## **GSA FEDERAL FACILITIES**

Ensure that Loudoun County is considered for planned GSA facility relocations and expansions in the National Capital Region

## **HEMP**

Support efforts that address market and regulatory barriers to hemp production and processing while balancing public safety concerns, and ensure states become the primary regulators of hemp.

## **HUBZONES**

Monitor changes to the Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone) Program within federal law, including the National Defense Authorization Act approved each year by Congress.

## **INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- Support initiatives that create new export markets and financing programs
- Support efforts that help attract foreign investment to the County.
- Monitor United States-Mexico-Canada agreement impacts on dairy producers.
- Monitor congressional efforts on comprehensive immigration reform.
- Support efforts that protect worker visas (H-1B, H-2A, H-2B and J-1) necessary to maintain and operate Loudoun businesses.

## **OPPORTUNITY ZONES**

Support opportunity zones and revisions to the program that promote participation by more companies and investors by clarifying rules and simplifying the process.

## **SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

- Support Small Business Administration (SBA) and expand investments in Loudoun by SBA-licensed Small Business Investment Companies.
- Support programming and policies that promote crowdfunding and incentivize private funding.
- Identify and review policy that inhibits small business growth, over-regulation and tax issues that hinder the ability for entrepreneurs to start and grow small businesses.
- Monitor and report on changes to SBA programs and policies.

## **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

The County supports efforts that address the disconnect between job training and needs of companies. The County supports reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and the following work development programs:

- Support beginning farmer and minority farmer programs.
- Support programming and policy to support workforce training, retraining and attraction efforts, and apprenticeship programs. Efforts should be made to train the workforce necessary to fill tens of thousands of vacant technology sector jobs.

The County supports appropriations that provide for the following priority programs and competitive grants, and will monitor the following federal grant opportunities:

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Monitor and pursue funding opportunities for affordable housing.

**BROADBAND**

- Monitor grant opportunities for local governments to deploy broadband.
- Support dedicated funds and/or technical assistance to unserved and underserved areas to assist in delivery of digital infrastructure.
- Support and seek changes in eligibility requirements for grants that would benefit Loudoun.
- Support inclusion of federal funds for broadband deployment in an infrastructure package, not just streamlining principles.

**CYBERSECURITY**

Monitor grant opportunities for cybersecurity services and technologies to enhance system and data protection and operational resiliency against current and emerging threats such as ransomware and nation-state attacks.

**CLEAN ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Support pilot programs and grant opportunities that promote green energy and battery technologies essential for decarbonizing the data center industry.
- Support federal programs and seek federal funding to enable localities to develop independent, local programs providing unrestricted local access to utility-scale carbon-net-zero and sustainable energy.

**FARMERS MARKETS/COMMUNITY GARDENS**

Pursue grants for area farmers markets and community gardens.

**INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Support permanent and increased funding for SelectUSA, which helps attract foreign investment to the County. Support priority programs such as the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

**SPECIALTY CROP MULTI-STATE PROGRAM**

Continue grant funding to enhance competitiveness of specialty crops.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- Support funding for priority programs such as the Department of Labor’s (DOL) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for Adult Employment and Training Activities, WIOA Grants for Youth Activities, and WIOA Grants for Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities
- Monitor grant opportunities that support beginning farmer and minority farmer programs and vocational training opportunities.
- Support programs that provide funds to local educational agencies for before and after-school programs dedicated to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

# TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING

The County is supportive of the following legislative and policy actions to promote transportation and housing in Loudoun County. This section also outlines items that will be monitored and analyzed and may be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

## **BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

Monitor legislation, regulations, and guidelines that address bike and pedestrian safety, to include monitoring changes to the Federal Highway Administration’s Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) that focus on pedestrian and bike crossings.

## **HOUSING**

The County supports Congressional efforts to address the Nation’s Housing crisis, including increasing the funding for existing programs and establishing new programs that address providing housing types across all income levels, both rental and home ownership. The County supports actions that would secure HOME funding for the County, increase neighborhood reinvestment programs in Opportunity Zones, address affordable housing near transit, and allow those who work in the County to live in the County. The County supports efforts that address housing while balancing needs for localities to maintain local land use authority.

## **FAA POLICIES**

- Ensure status quo for perimeter rule exemptions at Reagan National Airport.
- Support the FAA’s NextGen investment and implementation plan and other initiatives to support regional aviation
- Support legislation that reauthorizes the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and other similar programs till the end of fiscal year 2023
- Support federal initiatives to study and mitigate noise impacts caused by flight paths that affect residential neighborhoods and other noise sensitive uses proximate to IAD

## **NEXT GENERATION SYSTEMS**

Monitor legislation and efforts that prepare transportation infrastructure to support new technologies, including electric vehicle and autonomous vehicles.

## **ROAD CONSTRUCTION REGULATIONS**

Support efforts to reduce regulatory impediments to road construction projects, decrease timelines for completion and streamline the regulatory and permitting requirements to assist with project implementation.

## **TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT**

Support federal policy changes to improve regional traffic incident management by updating regional agreements to increase the consistency of traffic incident management laws.

## **WOLF ACT**

Modify the Wolf Act to mandate that transit labor arbitration awards be consistent with the financial conditions of the negotiating agency.

The County supports appropriations that provide for the following priority programs and competitive grants, and will monitor the following federal grant opportunities:

### **HOUSING PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND GRANTS**

The County, at a minimum, requests Congress maintain funding for current housing programs in the federal budget; maintain/or expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program in the Tax Code, and maintain and/or expand the following programs by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

- HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- Housing Choice Voucher Programs
- Community Development Block Grant
- HUDs Continuums of Care Program – Point-in-Time Count (PIT)

The County supports funding and policies that increase access to home ownership and rental housing.

The County supports further measures that increase federal funding for military families living in off-base housing especially, in high-cost of living areas

### **TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT FUNDING**

- Advocate and support program funding and pursue grant opportunities related to transportation such as the:
  - Department of Transportation (DOT) WMATA grants,
  - DOT RAISE construction and planning grants which target economic development through transportation projects,
  - Bus and Bus Facilities Grants,
  - Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants,
  - Surface Transportation Block Grants/Transportation Alternative Program,
  - Safe Routes to Schools Program, and
  - Highway Safety Improvement Program (HISP) grants for targeted safety initiatives.
- Support funding to establish Traffic Incident Management Committees as a subset of the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Support increased funding for highway safety service patrol vehicles and staffing to provide enhanced safety and assist with quick clearance.

### **BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS**

Advocate for program funding and pursue grant opportunities, including funding for sidewalk and shared-use path infrastructure and projects that increase trail access for multi-modal use.

### **POTOMAC RIVER CROSSING**

Monitor opportunities that would provide feasibility studies and funding for regional connectivity in the greater Washington DC area, including but not limited to, a future bridge crossing and a reliable ferry operation.

# Homeland Security and Public Safety

The County is supportive of the following legislative and policy actions related to homeland security and public safety. This section also outlines items that will be monitored and analyzed and may be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

## **DISASTER DECLARATIONS AND HAZARD MITIGATION**

- Support reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program
- Support more consistent interpretation and application by FEMA region in any FEMA disaster assistance reform.
- Support legislation that supports hazard mitigation assistance and ensures adequate federal funding for local disaster mitigation and relief efforts.
- Support the wildfire prevention and mitigation legislation to help communities recover in the aftermath of a fire and help prevent future fires.

## **DOMESTIC TERRORISM**

Monitor legislation and initiatives that address public safety concerns related to domestic terrorism.

## **DRUG-RELATED LEGISLATION AND POLICY**

- Monitor and report on legislative and regulatory efforts related to substance abuse disorders.
- Support legislative efforts to improve access to Narcan/Naloxone to help address the opioid crisis.

## **BODY WORN CAMERAS**

Protect against unfunded mandates; ensure that federal funds can be used for related personnel and storage costs.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

Monitor and report on criminal justice reform including, but not limited to, legislative and policy efforts that implement the Second Chance Act and address recidivism.

## **CYBERSECURITY**

Support programs and initiatives that advance and improve cybersecurity preparedness and response to current and emerging threats by developing resiliency against attacks, including addressing and funding election security.

## **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- Support legislation that promotes firefighter health and safety and legislation that promotes increased behavioral health for first responders.
- Support maintenance of OSHA firefighter safety regulations in 2017 rulemaking (29 CFR 1910.156)
- Monitor and report updates on legislation to study the effect of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in firefighting equipment.

## **FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY**

- Support legislation that promotes smoke alarms, fire sprinklers in residential buildings not currently protected, and increased fire prevention and fire safety education. Support efforts that allow for tax credits for sprinklers in commercial and residential buildings.
- Support changes to the federal tax code that would provide tax credits for businesses that provide building upgrades that incorporate safety features and minimum life safety standards in portions of agritourism buildings or structures used for assembly of 50 people or more.

## **ERPO/RED FLAG LAWS**

Monitor and support grant opportunities for ERPO/Red Flag education and enforcement, for and by law enforcement.

## **REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT**

Monitor and report on legislative, administrative and appropriations efforts focused on resettling refugees.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Support legislation and regulations that support volunteer first responders.



## FY 2023 APPROPRIATIONS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS

The County supports appropriations that provide for the following priority programs and competitive grants, and will monitor the following federal grants opportunities:

### LAW ENFORCEMENT/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS/JUVENILE COURT SERVICES UNIT:

- Priority Programs: Department of Justice Body Worn Camera Grants, Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Grants, COPS Hiring Grants, and Office of Juvenile Justice Programs.
- Advocate for Loudoun County to receive High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area funding.
- Advocate for JAG grants to be expanded beyond law enforcement to community corrections and ensure that grant solicitations for pass through funds are also expanded.
- Monitor grant opportunities for data storage for body worn cameras and to hire additional deputies.
- Identify and pursue private, foundation grant opportunities to expand Loudoun County Search and Rescue's Project Lifesaver program.
- Monitor grant opportunities to further the goals of the Heroin Operations team, including funds to purchase Narcan/Naloxone.
- Monitor grant opportunities to help advance a mental health docket, including DOJ's Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (with MHSADS)
- Monitor grant opportunities to help advance the Veterans Court Docket.
- Monitor grant opportunities for housing for prisoner reentry. Although there is transitional housing for men reentering society, there is little to no housing available for women reentering society.
- Monitor grant opportunities to help advance Drug Court, to improve probation and parole success rates, support GPS/substance use tracking technologies, and to improve reentry programs.
- Monitor grant opportunities to support transitional housing and other support services for victims of domestic violence.

### FIRE AND RESCUE

- Priority Programs: U.S. Fire Administration, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Emergency Management Institute (EMI), and Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighter (AFG), Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) and Fire Prevention and Safety Grants, and the Urban Area Security Initiative.
- Support continued funding for the Public Safety Officers Benefit Program, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Traffic Incident Management Program.
- Firefighter Health and Safety Funding: Support federal funding for personal protective equipment for firefighters/EMT personnel.
- Continue monitoring potential revisions or changes to Medicare that may impact Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Transportation Cost Recovery.
- Response to Drug Overdoses Funding: Support increased funding and grant opportunities for first responders to obtain Narcan/Naloxone, and
- Lab Funding: Support increased funding to Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) labs that would help meet demand of fire investigation efforts. Support funding that would assist state and local crime labs to meet demand.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Priority Programs: Emergency Management Institute, FEMA National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund, FEMA State Homeland Security Grant Program, and FEMA Urban Area Security Initiative.
- National Capitol Region Response: Support initiatives and funding for training needed to strengthen and sustain the National Capital Region's emergency response capabilities.
- Hazard Mitigation: Support programs that fund brush removal and other prevention efforts in open space.

### CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

- Monitor grant opportunities for a legal resource center where self-represented litigants and others can receive discounted or free legal assistance based on income.
- Monitor funding opportunities for historic court records preservation/archives, including the expansion of preservation of records reflecting Loudoun's Black history collection.

# ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND PARKS

The County is supportive of the following legislative and policy actions to address the environment, energy, and parks. This section also outlines items that will be monitored and analyzed and may be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

## **CLIMATE & ENERGY**

Monitor legislative and regulatory efforts that address climate change and energy and how it corresponds with local and regional programs and goals.

## **HIDDEN LANE SUPERFUND SITE**

Support the county's work with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ensure affected residents are protected from exposure to harmful contaminants and the site is mitigated in a timely and appropriate manner.

## **FARM BILL**

Monitor and report on the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization, including programs like the Conservation Reserve Enhancement program and Rural Development

## **FEMA "DEVELOPMENT" ACTIVITIES**

Work with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on allowable activities in the riparian buffer in the County's floodplain.

## **FEMA FLOOD MAPPING**

Monitor and report on reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program

## **FLOOD MITIGATION**

Monitor legislative and regulatory efforts, including appropriations bills, focused on stormwater management and/or flooding issues. Work with FEMA to update guidelines for flood mitigation grants that would allow for proposals that acquire properties for mitigation to be reviewed and scored separately from other resiliency and local flooding projects.

## **WATERS OF THE U.S.**

Work in conjunction with the National Association of Counties to ensure that the review of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule exempts local streets, gutters and human-made ditches and encourages consultation and collaboration with state and local governments.

## FY 2023 APPROPRIATIONS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS

The County supports appropriations that provide for the following priority programs and competitive grants, and will monitor the following federal grant opportunities:

### CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED

Monitor funding opportunities to assist the County in meeting Chesapeake Bay TMDL goals.

### FLOOD MITIGATION

Monitor grant opportunities that address recurring flooding of property including funding that supports Board direction related to flooding at the Selma Estates Subdivision.

### INTERIOR/EPA FUNDING

Advocate for priority program funding for EPA Superfund Program, EPA Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund, EPA Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants, and National Fish and Wildlife Grant Programs.

### PARKS & RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Priority Programs: Department of Interior Historic Preservation Fund
- Monitor grant opportunities to complement disability services provided by Parks and Recreation, such as athletic facilities for disabled children (Miracle League), summer camps and an adaptive playground, and pedestrian and transit accessibility.
- Monitor historic preservation grant opportunities.
- Monitor grant opportunities for land acquisition to provide direct access to water, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Monitor the Recreational Trails Program (Goose Creek Crossing, Broad Run Stream Crossings, Horsepen Run Crossing) and Safe Route to Schools solicitations.
- Monitor grant opportunities to implement the linear parks and trails system program and promote eligibility criteria that provide grants for natural surface trails.

### SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Monitor and support funding opportunities that promote electric vehicle charging infrastructure and solar infrastructure for public facilities and the community.

### WATER/WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

- Monitor funding opportunities for the areas in the County that do not have adequate water and/or wastewater infrastructure.
- Monitor and report on the proposed Assistance to Small and Disadvantaged Communities grant identified in the Interior-Environment Appropriations bill and found within the EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grants Program.

# HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

The County is supportive of the following legislative and policy actions to promote health and human services in Loudoun County. This section also outlines items that will be monitored and analyzed and may be brought back to the Board of Supervisors for further direction.

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ACCESS**

Remove barriers that limit access to behavioral health services for all people. Monitor Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, support network adequacy for behavioral health services on par with medical services in plans to treat conditions across lifespan in private (commercial) insurance products, Medicaid Managed Care products, and in Medicare Plans.

## **CRISIS NETWORK**

Support efforts to expand the Crisis Network efforts within Loudoun County and Region 2 CSBs

## **GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH PROGRAM**

Support legislation to extend and expand the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program as well as any funding tied to the program

## **ELDER JUSTICE**

Monitor and support legislation that addresses perpetrator prosecution and reform, financial exploitation, and fraud against older adults as well as services for victims.

## **FREE LEGAL COUNCIL IN EVICTION PROCEEDINGS**

Support legislation or federal funding to establish free legal representation services for households facing eviction that earn between a certain Area Median Income (AMI) percentage.

## **MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT**

- Explore options to implement Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for individuals battling substance abuse.
- Support efforts to allow medical professionals to prescribe controlled substances via telemedicine.

## **MEDICAID FLEXIBILITY FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS**

- Support greater flexibility in the Medicaid program for incarcerated individuals and suspend rather than terminate their Medicaid coverage. Doing so will allow communities to better coordinate systems of care and treat individuals' illnesses, chronic disease, and pregnancy.

## **MEDICARE RE-ENROLLMENT WAIVERS**

Support legislation or federal funding that reenacts Medicare re-enrollment waivers.

## **PUBLIC CHARGE**

Monitor changes to the definition of public charge.

## **RENTAL ASSISTANCE**

Monitor rental assistance programs (not affiliated with COVID-relief).

## **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**

Support legislation or federal funding that expands access to reproductive healthcare, telehealth reproductive healthcare, codifies the right to travel across state lines to receive reproductive healthcare, codifies the legal right to privacy in all reproductive health medical decisions, and establishes a full repeal of the Hyde Amendment. Furthermore, support legislation or use of federal funds that prohibits anyone acting under state law from interfering, preventing, restricting, impeding, or retaliating against health care providers who provide legal abortion services to out-of-state residents, any person or entity who helps health care providers to provide such services, any person who travels to another state to obtain such services, any person or entity who helps another person travel to another state to obtain such services, or the movement in interstate commerce of drugs that are approved to terminate pregnancies.

**SNAP & WIC BENEFITS**

- Monitor and report on any legislative or executive changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).
- Monitor legislation that expands eligibility of SNAP to students attending institutions of higher education.
- Support modifications to the SNAP program and any federal or state programs offering assistance to food-insecure families such that, for active-duty military families receiving Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS) and Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH), BAS and BAH are not counted as income for the purpose of determining food program eligibility.

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

- Monitor and support implementation of provisions in H.R. 6, “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act,” passed by the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress that provide greater flexibility in the Medicaid program for incarcerated individuals and request that Loudoun County be part of the study group on best practices for states to consider health care related transitions for inmates of public institutions.
- Monitor and support implementation of provisions of the “SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act” that address parity for behavioral services.
- Monitor legislation that provides a process for addressing employment supports and services for individuals in treatment for a behavioral health disorder.

**SUICIDE PREVENTION**

Monitor legislation or policy efforts that work to reduce suicide.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN’S ACT**

Support reauthorization of the Violence Against Women’s Act

**WORKFORCE SHORTAGES**

Support legislation and funding that provides creative strategies and resources to address workforce shortages for hiring and retraining human services personnel.

## **FY 2023 APPROPRIATIONS AND COMPETITIVE GRANTS**

The County supports appropriations that provide for the following priority programs and competitive grants, and will monitor the following federal grant opportunities:

### **FAMILY SERVICES & HEALTH:**

- Priority Programs: Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant, HUD Emergency Solutions Grant, Department of Agriculture (USDA) Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, Health and Human Services (HHS) Head Start, HHS Telehealth, and HHS Aging and Disability Services Program Grants to States.
- Monitor funding opportunities to address human trafficking.
- Monitor grant opportunities for education and awareness around elder abuse.
- Monitor grant opportunities stemming from the Family First Prevention Services Act.
- Monitor grant opportunities for educating residents on WIC eligibility and expanding the number of WIC educators.
- Support legislation or federal funding supporting the reinstatement of universal free meals in schools
- Support legislation or federal funding that would establish universal pre-K or Universal childcare on a federal level
- Support legislation or federal funding for foster children that turn 18 and are put out of their foster home and rendered homeless.

### **MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE & DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES:**

- Priority Programs: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration funding and grant programs
- Monitor grant opportunities for training and staffing needs across the continuum for justice involved individuals.
- Monitor grant opportunities for substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery programs with a focus on programs to address substance abuse disorders.
- Explore funding opportunities for needle exchange and drug take-back programs.
- Monitor grant opportunities that fund evidence-based programs or models of integrated behavioral and medical/physical health care.
- Monitor grant opportunities for transportation services for individuals with treatment needs.

# OTHER PRIORITIES

## **EARMARKS**

Monitor and pursue federal earmark opportunities.

## **EDUCATION FUNDING**

Support legislation and appropriations that increase federal funding for schools.

## **ELECTIONS**

- Monitor legislation that may impact operations of locally administered elections.
- Support efforts to maintain, extend and expand the Election Threats Task force.

## **EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT**

Support Congressional efforts to ratify the Equal Rights Amendments.

## **FINANCING & PROCUREMENT**

- Support tax-exempt municipal bonds.
- Support Congressional efforts to reinstate tax-exempt advance refunding bonds.
- Monitor and promote changes to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules on per diem travel during the day for those actively working.
- Monitor legislation or regulatory changes that address the Brooks Act (Qualification Based Selection).
- Monitor legislative or regulatory efforts related to Commercial or Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs.

## **OAK HILL PROPERTY**

Support efforts to designate the Oak Hill property as a National Historic Site (NHS).