

- J. **Reynolds, Chair**
- W. Baxter, Vice-Chair
- J. Brown
- C. Ellinger
- T. Fogle
- B. Monarrez
- D. Gray
- F. Brown
- D. Sevigny
- K. Plomin



AGENDA

Social Services and Public Safety Committee

July 2, 2024

1:00 P.M.

- | | | |
|------|--|---------|
| I. | Approval of May 14, 2024 Committee Summary | (1-7) |
| II. | Recruitment, Retirement, and Retention for Public Safety [Sevigny/Armstrong] | (8-23) |
| III. | Eviction Diversion and Right to Counsel [Wu/Wright] | (24-36) |
| IV. | Items Referred to Committee | (37) |

Note: [sponsor/presenter]

"Social Services and Public Safety Committee, to which shall be referred matters relating to the department of social services and its divisions, the department of public safety and its divisions, any related partner agencies, and matters relating to capital improvement projects." - Council Rules & Procedures, Section 2.102 (1) effective January 1, 2023. Adopted by Urban County Council September 22, 2022.

2024 Meeting Schedule

January 23	July 2
March 05	September 17
April 9	October 8
May 14	November 12



Social Services and Public Safety Committee

May 14, 2024

Summary and Motions

Chair Reynolds called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Committee Members Ellinger, J. Brown, Fogle, Monarrez, Gray, F. Brown, Baxter, Sevigny, and Plomin were in attendance. Vice Mayor Wu and Council Member Sheehan were also present as non-voting members.

I. Approval of April 9, 2024 Committee Meeting Summary

Motion by Gray to approve the April 9, 2024 Committee Summary. Seconded by Plomin. Motion passed without dissent.

II. Substance Abuse Intervention Program Update

Carmen Combs Marks, Substance Use Disorder Intervention (SUDI) Program Coordinator in the Department of Social Services, began the presentation with an overview of the program. The city's Substance Use Disorder Intervention Program is a resource for individuals searching for information about substance use, addiction and treatment services. She spoke about the Expanded First Responders and Community Partners Overdose Prevention Project (EFRCPO), and she reviewed the 3 goals under that project. She mentioned outreach efforts and highlighted the distribution of Naloxone in the community. She spoke about challenges and said Lexington - Fayette County ranks 12th among Kentucky's 120 counties burdened by the opioid crisis. She mentioned the increase in opioid deaths in Kentucky from 2018-2019 and she spoke about the need for expanded initiatives to combat drug overdose.

Scott Luallen, Overdose Prevention Coordinator, spoke about outreach efforts and training at various sites in the community. He reviewed those sites which include sober living programs, treatment centers and day missions, and recovery clubs. He spoke about implementing non-traditional outreach at various locations in the community. Luallen pointed out he identifies opportunities based on data and observation.

Marks provided clarification on sober living homes in neighborhoods, and she mentioned an information session taking place on May 21. When asked if we are still seeing an increase in overdose, Marks said it depends on fatal or non-fatal, but she feels it is stable since the pandemic. Speaking about the Opioid Abatement Commission, Marks said they meet monthly and there is a portal on the website where people can submit requests for presentation. She noted there is a time for public comment at the end of the meeting.

When asked if there is a plan to start spending the opioid abatement money, Marks said they are assessing resources to ensure they are making the best decisions. She said there needs to be a good foundation first to determine what is needed. Speaking about state legislation regarding HB248 and required certification for sober living houses, Marks said they are ahead of that, and certification will be required by the end of the year. When asked who to contact to check on certification of a sober living house, Marks said they are working to get information on this as some questions are still unresolved. There was a request for definitions to provide a distinction between recovery centers and sober living homes. No action was taken on this item.

III. Crime Victim Paid Leave Policy

Stephanie Theakston, Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition Coordinator, began by expressing support of the Crime Victim Paid Leave initiative. She explained Domestic Violence is not a private or personal matter, it extends beyond the home to every part of a survivor's life. She noted this is especially true for the workplace. About 1 out of every 3 women and nearly 1 in 10 men have experienced domestic violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime and reported at least one violence-related impact, such as Injury, posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, concern for safety, ongoing fear, needing help from law enforcement, and missing at least one day of work. Because employment can empower survivors by making them less financially dependent on abusive partners and counters isolation efforts by allowing interaction with coworkers, people who are abusive often target workplaces to create stress for the survivor. Work also allows for predictability of location and hours so survivors are easy to find. Theakston spoke about how important it is to provide a safe and supportive environment for people who are experiencing violence.

Some of the ways in which this policy benefits the workplace is it leads to less absenteeism, lower staff turnover, greater productivity, fewer safety risks, and better morale. A big part of the *It's Time* initiative is that it provides policies to support survivors and workplace safety such as paid time off to address the effects of abuse, policies regarding confidentiality, workplace safety, and accountability. Theakston reviewed the proposed ordinance and noted Louisville has had something similar in place since 2023. She highlighted paid leave authorized by this ordinance does not roll over/carry forward and there will be consequences for fraudulent requests. Paid leave under this policy will run concurrently with protected leave under FMLA to the extent leave is taken for an FMLA-qualifying condition. Marks explained any employee who has been a victim may request leave to seek medical attention, obtain services, obtain counseling, relocate, take legal action, or take other action to meet needs resulting from domestic violence or crime.

Theakston said she does not feel like this policy has been widely adopted in Fayette County; however she hopes that by LFUCG taking this step, it will encourage other employers to take this step as well. To address which employees are eligible and if this policy is extended to sworn employees, Cravens said the ordinance references classified civil service employees, but there is language in Chapter 22 for unclassified and Chapter 23 for sworn employees that links back to this. Speaking about documentation, Theakston said it would go through Human Resources (HR) so the employee might need to show medical documents but will not be required to submit a police report or protective order. Glenda George, Director of HR, said 240 hours is the maximum unpaid leave after other leave has been exhausted. If additional leave is needed, George said it would still be unpaid leave.

Speaking about documentation and what assurances an employee has for discretion and privacy, George said all records maintained by HR are confidential and these records wouldn't be treated differently. When asked if other types of abuse besides physical would qualify, Theakston mentioned the ordinance references emotional and financial abuse as well. When asked if this would be at discretion of HR on each case, Cravens mentioned examples in the ordinance of the type of documentation that could be provided to substantiate a request.

Speaking about the financial impact calculation for average non-sworn base salary – annually that average would be \$61,372 which results in an hourly rate of \$29.51. 56 hours at that rate would total \$1,652 and the total compensation would be \$2,285 (includes benefits, etc.). Cravens spoke about work-related incidents. He explained this is trying to solve private issues, not work-related because there are already

measures in place for work-related incidents and injuries. Cravens highlighted a proposed amendment to clarify this leave is not available for work-related incidents or work-related injuries.

Motion by Plomin to approve Section 21-37.4 of the code of ordinances of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government to authorize up to fifty-six (56) hours of paid leave and up to two hundred and forty (240) hours of unpaid leave per calendar year for classified civil service employees who are victims of domestic violence or a crime, for needs related to or resulting from domestic violence or the crime [including the following amendment: *leave granted under this section is not available for (1) work-related incidents, or (2) work-related injuries.*], effective upon passage of council. Seconded by Gray. Motion passed without dissent.

IV. Expanding the Mental Health Court with an Aftercare Program

Bill Buckman, Fayette Mental Health Court Coordinator, explained the intersection of mental health and substance abuse with 90% of participants having both mental illness and substance use disorder and 32% of those have multiple drug and alcohol dependencies. He spoke about maintaining sobriety and said 60% of participants manage to stay completely clean during their time in the program. He mentioned the recidivism rate which is close to 50% in Kentucky. One year after graduation, that rate falls to 17.7% and regular participants in the alumni program are down to 7%. He explained the ripple effect which shows as individuals heal and maintain wellness, families, neighborhoods, and communities also heal and become more functional. He mentioned the community block grant in the amount of \$180,000 which has led to an increased number of referrals from judges and attorneys.

The Alumni Group continuing care program is thriving. In the behavioral health field, it's notoriously difficult to get voluntary participation in what is known as "aftercare" or "continuing care," especially with clients who were receiving care as part of a court diversion program or who were court-ordered as a condition of probation. Several committee members applauded the work being done on the aftercare program and expressed support. Buckman explained trauma informed care is a thread that runs through everything they do. In aftercare, there are twice weekly meetings (group therapy) to talk about everything and get feedback from peers. Buckman clarified what they mean by trauma informed care is they want to create a safe place by making it a supportive community for people. No action was taken on this item.

V. Items Referred to Committee

No action was taken on this item.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. _____ - 2024

AN ORDINANCE CREATING SECTION 21-37.4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT TO AUTHORIZE UP TO FIFTY-SIX (56) HOURS OF PAID LEAVE AND UP TO TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY (240) HOURS OF UNPAID LEAVE PER CALENDAR YEAR FOR CLASSIFIED CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES WHO ARE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR A CRIME, FOR NEEDS RELATED TO OR RESULTING FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR THE CRIME, EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE OF COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government has an interest in ensuring that its employees who are victims of domestic violence or crime receive appropriate physical and mental health care and are afforded the opportunity to participate in court proceedings resulting from domestic violence or the crime; and

WHEREAS, LFUCG recognizes that victims of domestic violence or crime may experience physical and mental health care needs related to such incidents; and

WHEREAS, LFUCG recognizes that victims of domestic violence or crime may experience needs related to the court system, such as the need to file for an emergency protective order, to testify in court, or to otherwise participate in the prosecution of a crime, or other similar needs; and

WHEREAS, LFUCG recognizes that those without protected leave from their place of employment are less likely to seek appropriate physical and mental health care in the wake of domestic violence or a crime, less likely to participate in court proceedings related to the provision of emergency protective orders, and less likely to otherwise participate in the taking of appropriate protective steps against domestic violence or imminent domestic violence or the prosecution of crime; and

WHEREAS, LFUCG desires to support victims of domestic violence and crime in receiving appropriate physical and mental health care related to domestic violence or the crime; and

WHEREAS, LFUCG desires to support victims of domestic violence and crime in meeting any court-related needs resulting from that crime.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

Section 1 – That Section 21-37.4 of the Code of Ordinances of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government be and hereby is created to read as follows:

Sec. 21-37.4 - Leave for Victims of Crime and Domestic Violence.

(a) *Definitions.* The following definitions shall apply to this section:

(1) *Domestic violence* includes any physical injury, serious physical injury, stalking, sexual abuse, strangulation, and/or assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, strangulation, and/or assault, or abuse in the form of purposeful use of coercive behaviors designed to exercise power or coercive control, between family members or members of an unmarried couple.

(2) *Crime* means any offense punishable as a criminal offense under the Kentucky Revised Statutes or the Code of Ordinances of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

(3) *Family member* means a spouse, including a former spouse, a qualified adult, a grandparent, a grandchild, a parent, a child, a stepchild, an adult sibling, or any other person living in the same household.

(b) Classified civil service employees shall be eligible to use up to fifty-six (56) hours of paid leave per calendar year if the employee is a victim of domestic violence or a crime for the following purposes related to or resulting from domestic violence or the crime:

(1) To seek medical attention for the employee to recover from physical or psychological injury caused by domestic violence or the crime;

(2) To obtain services from a victim services organization;

(3) To obtain psychological or other counseling;

(4) To temporarily or permanently relocate;

(5) To take legal action, including preparing for or participating in a civil or criminal legal proceeding related to or resulting from the domestic violence or crime; or

(6) To take any other action to meet needs reasonably resulting from the domestic violence or a crime.

(c) If the employee has exhausted the paid leave provided for in subsection (b), and has exhausted any other accrued paid leave specifically including but not limited to sick leave and vacation leave, then the employee shall be eligible to use an additional amount of unpaid leave in an amount up to but not greater than two-hundred and forty (240) hours per calendar year for one or more of the purposes described in subsection (b).

(d) Both the paid leave authorized under subsection (b) and the unpaid leave authorized under subsection (c) are available on an annual basis. Any portion of the leave that remains unused at the end of a calendar year does not accumulate or carry forward to the following calendar year.

(e) In order to be eligible to receive leave under this section, an employee shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) An eligible employee shall give reasonable notice to LFUCG, provided such notice is feasible; and

(2) An eligible employee shall be required to furnish documentation to support the taking of leave under this section, certifying that the employee is a victim of domestic violence or a crime, which shall be furnished no later than two (2) business days after the employee has taken leave under this section; and

(3) An eligible employee shall be required to furnish documentation to support the use of leave for one or more of the purposes described in subsection (b). Examples of appropriate documentation for this purpose include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) A copy of a criminal complaint; or

(2) A copy of an Emergency Protective Order/Domestic Violence Protective Order; or

(3) Documentation from a victim services organization indicating that the employee utilized its services; or

(4) Documentation that the employee received medical or psychological care resulting from the crime or domestic violence; or

(5) Other documentation reasonably demonstrating the occurrence of domestic violence or a crime or that the employee took actions related to the occurrence of the domestic violence or a crime.

(f) A fraudulent request for leave under this section shall be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

(g) To the extent permitted by law, LFUCG shall maintain the confidentiality of any verbal communication, written document, or record submitted by an employee relative to the employee's request for leave pursuant to this section, except when disclosure is required by law.

(h) LFUCG shall not discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against an employee who is a victim of a domestic violence or a crime because the employee takes leave from work under this section.

(i) Leave granted under this section shall run concurrently with protected leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA"), to the extent that the leave is taken for an FMLA-qualifying condition.

(j) Notwithstanding the foregoing, leave granted under this section is not available for (1) work-related incidents, or (2) work-related injuries.

Section 2 – That this Ordinance shall become effective on the date of its passage.

PASSED URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CLERK OF URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLISHED:

4874-1172-6513, v. 6

RECRUITMENT, RETIREMENT, AND RETENTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

Ken Armstrong, Commissioner of Public Safety

Planning and Public Safety Committee

July 2nd, 2024



LEXINGTON



Pay Considerations Starting and Top Steps

Division	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Firefighters (56 hour)	S:\$41,908 T:\$67,765	S:\$42,536 T:\$68,781	S:\$42,536 T:\$68,781	S:\$45,000 T:\$71,878	S:\$51,624 T:\$79,176	S: \$52,942 T: \$85,453
Corrections Officers	S:\$32,000 T: \$48,814	S:\$32,000 T: \$48,814	**S:\$34,235 T: \$48,814	S:\$41,600 T:\$56,179	S:\$50,348 T:\$65,364	S:\$51,858 T:\$67,325
Police Officers	S:\$40,252 T*: \$64,791	S:\$41,057 T:\$66,087	**S:\$41,057 T:\$66,087	S:\$47,000 T:\$70,000	S:\$56,410 T:\$80,100	S:\$57,538 T:\$81,702

*Top Steps: Firefighters 14 years, Corrections 15 years, Police Officers 15 years.

**Police and Fire receive an additional \$4,300 annually from the State Training Incentive

*** All CBA Employee Steps received a base salary increase of between 21% and 31% since 2019. This does not address natural step progression for each employee.



Other Pay Considerations

Fire

1. *Employees receive \$4,300 from the State

Corrections

1. New employees \$3,000
2. Recruitment pay of \$1,000
3. Various overtime based incentives

Police

1. *Employees receive \$4,300 from the State
2. There is currently a \$3,000 lump sum payment for new employees

*All indicated Pay Considerations are not reoccurring with the exception of yearly allocations from the State to Fire and Police.



Fire – Recruitment Activities and Other Initiatives

Recruitment

1. Increased social media presence
2. Enhanced software to actively manage the application process
3. Improved communication and engagement with applicants

Retention

1. Focus on Physical and Mental Health
 - Wellness Coordinator
 - Physical fitness standards established
 - Peer Support established with extended programs offered
2. Expand Paramedicine
 - Kentucky Community Crisis Co-Response Program
3. Authorized Strength Increase with SAFER Grant

Other Initiatives

1. Safe Haven Baby Box
2. Smoke Detector Program
3. Hands-only CPR training



Staffing Levels 2019 to 2024

Lexington Fire Department

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Authorized Strength	597	597	597	599	620*	622
Vacancies	N/A	22	31	8	28	27**
Attrition	22	42	25	47	38	22

* Safer Grant

**Vacancy Numbers are based on data for June 1st of each year-New Class of 25 on June 17th

***Attrition Numbers are based on data from January 1st of each year



Applicant Numbers Lexington Fire Department

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Classes	1	1	2*	1	2*	1
Total Applicants	<u>679</u>	651	565	471	495	<u>619</u>
% Change	N/A	-4	-13	-17	5	25

*One application process was used for two classes



Police – Recruitment Activities and Other Initiatives

Recruiting, Training, Retention Challenges

1. Competitive Salaries (private), Competition among other agencies
2. Physical Preparedness, Desire for the Profession, Lower “calling to serve”
3. Policing remains atop the list of the Presence most scrutinized professions
4. New workforce value different job benefits (personal time, mental health)
5. Senior personnel are leaving for other jobs in similar fields

Recruiting, Training, Retention Successes

1. Overall, seeing an increase in applications
2. Utilizing social media, local media, modernized communication
3. Prep Courses and PT “check-in”
4. Expanding recruiting efforts / base and minimum / maximum hiring ages

Technology / Real Time Intelligence Center (RTIC)

1. Precision Policing
2. Precise police response, adjust resources where they are needed
3. Realized success



Police – Recruitment Activities and Other Initiatives

Staffing Successes

1. Police Retiree Program
2. Update to age requirement for Police Candidate
3. Clerks

Community Partners

One Lexington



Staffing Levels 2019 to 2024 Lexington Police Department

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Authorized Strength	633	633	633	639	639	639
Vacancies	12	19	49	57	91	99
Attrition	<u>39</u>	64	76	<u>77</u>	68	38

*Vacancy Numbers are based on data for June 1st of each year

**Attrition Numbers are based on data from January 1st of each year

*** New class set to starts in August



Applicant Numbers Lexington Police Department

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Classes	1	1	2*	1	3*	1
Total Applicants /Average	472	<u>659</u> **	688/ 334	337	875/ 291	<u>343</u>
% Change	N/A	29	-49	1	-14	17

*Process occurred before social unrest of the Summer

**Each class required a separate application process



Corrections - Recruitment Activities and Other Initiatives

1. Social Media Presence and new PIO
2. Advertisement on City Buses
3. Local Television stations; LeX-18, and WKYT
4. Increased presence at Job Fairs
5. Communicated with Ft. Campbell and Ft. Knox advising them of our interest in separating veterans.
6. The Division is the Co-Sponsor for the Lexington Veterans 5K Run a high-profile event in the city
7. We established relationships with the Faith Based Community to ask for their assistance in attracting candidates.



Corrections - Recruitment Activities and Initiatives

8. Increased Community involvement (Color Guard, Special Olympics charity events, City sponsored Community events...)
9. Interview Now, a software program that allows for the screening of job qualified applicants and contains ease of use communication through text message which can be categorized in numerous ways.
10. Red Tag, a digital software agency that links Division generated messaging (Current events, recruitment, etc.) to social media, television and movie applications and other media sources.
11. Second Chance Academy



Staffing Levels 2019 to 2024 Community Corrections

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Authorized Strength	323	323	323	323	323	323
Vacancies	42	55	70	124	92	32
Attrition	87	78	<u>110</u>	83	<u>29</u>	40

*Vacancy Numbers are based on data for June 1st of each year

**Attrition Numbers are based on data from January 1st of each year



Applicant Numbers Community Corrections

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Classes	8	5	5	5	9	4
Total Applicants /Average	406/ 51	242/ 48	174/ <u>35</u>	264/ 53	583/ 65	329/ <u>82</u>
% Change per Class Average	N/A	-6	-21	51	22	20



Collective Bargaining Agreement Statuses

Division	Expiration Date
Firefighters, Lieutenants and Captains	6/30/2025
Fire Majors	6/30/2026
Correction Officers and Sergeants	12/31/2023*
Correction Lieutenants and Captains	6/30/2024*
Police Officers and Sergeants	6/30/2026
Police Lieutenants	6/30/2026

* Indicates that negotiations are set to begin or have begun

**Most negotiation processes begin 6-10 months before the contract expires

Questions?



LEXINGTON

HOUSING STABILITY SERVICES

*Jonathan Wright, Housing Policy Advisor
Social Services & Public Safety Committee
July 2, 2024*



LEXINGTON

What are housing stability services?

As defined by the federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program:

- **eviction prevention and eviction diversion programs;**
- mediation between landlords and tenants;
- housing counseling;
- fair housing counseling;
- housing navigators or promotoras that help households access ERA programs or find housing;
- case management related to housing stability;
- housing-related services for survivors of domestic abuse or human trafficking;
- **legal services or attorney's fees related to eviction proceedings and maintaining housing stability;**
- and specialized services for individuals with disabilities or seniors that support their ability to access or maintain housing.

Put simply, all the things you might do to prevent an eviction except pay the rent.

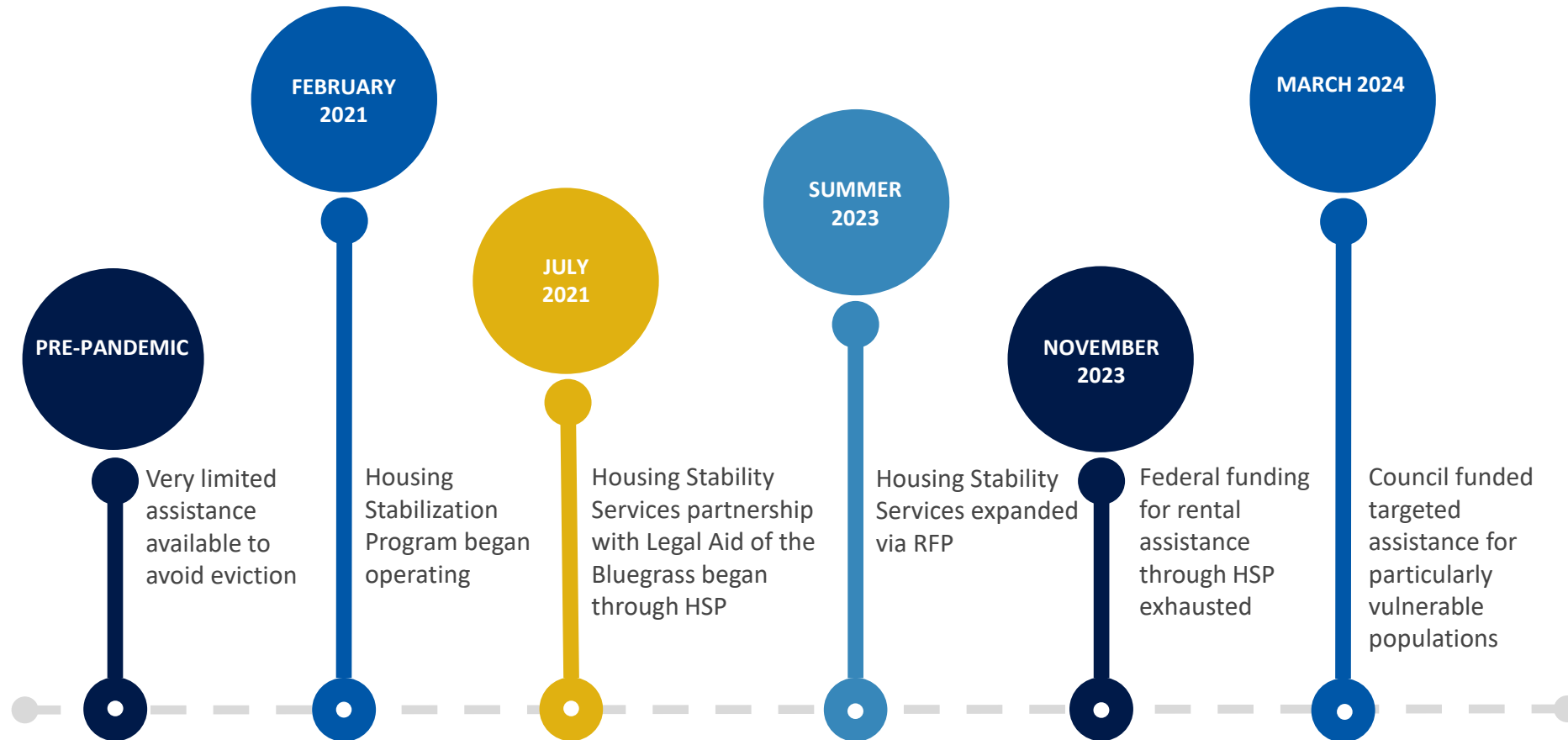


Why are we talking about housing stability services?

- Item referred to the SSPS committee on January 24, 2023 by VM Wu: Eviction Diversion & Right to Counsel - Tenants' Bill of Rights
- Solicited proposals during Spring 2023 via RFP #12-2023 for Housing Stability Services; selected vendors and began implementation during Summer 2023
- Commissioner Lanter presented an update on Financial Assistance Programs to the SSPS committee in January 2024; identified an opportunity for “smaller, targeted programs that work closely with a vulnerable population (seniors, families with children, households fleeing DV)”



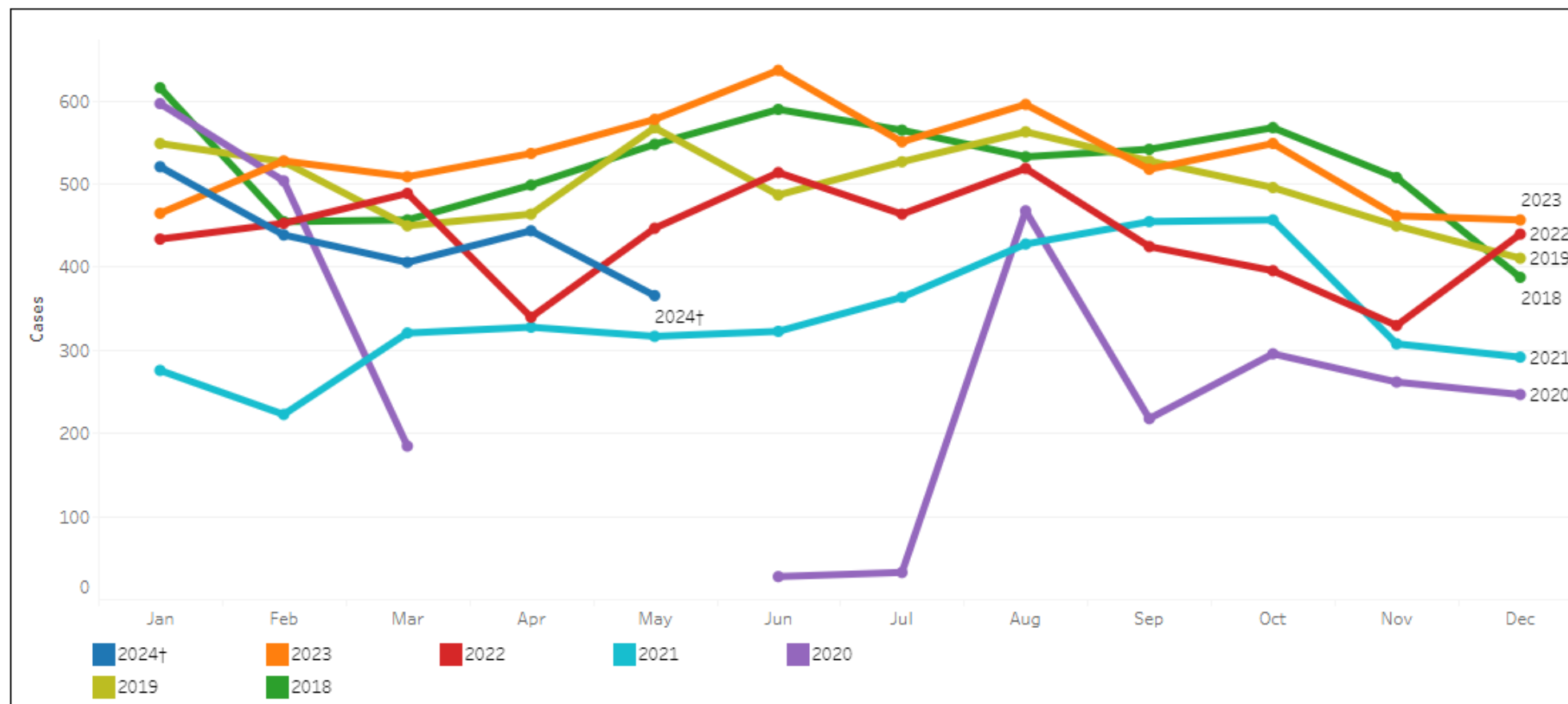
How did we get here?





How did we get here?

Forcible Detainer Cases Filed, Fayette County, 2018-2024



* Data provided from the CourtNet database.

† Data for the current year is reported through the most recent complete month.



How did we get here?

Year	Cases Disposed	Judgment for Landlord	Eviction Warrant Issued
2019	5938	56%	20%
2020	2706	52%	21%
2021	3831	37%	19%
2022	5532	41%	18%
2023	6163	38%	16%
2024	2171	49%	16%



What housing stability services are available today?



-
- Mediation for LHA tenants facing eviction
 - Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
 - Housing counseling/navigation



Kentucky Equal
Justice Center

-
- Tenant outreach/education
 - Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
 - Housing counseling/navigation



What housing stability services are available today?



- Mediation for LHA tenants facing eviction
- Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
- Housing counseling/navigation

Since April 2023:

- **1103** households served
 - Mediations – 78
 - Legal Counsel – 618
 - Counseling/Navigation – 407
- **430** households included children
- **50%** of households had a Black head of household
- **58%** of households had income below the federal poverty level



What housing stability services are available today?



Kentucky Equal
Justice Center

-
- Tenant outreach/education
 - Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
 - Housing counseling/navigation

Monthly average:

- **225** doors knocked
- **90** tenants assisted at Eviction Help Desk
- **43** tenants provided with legal counsel and/or representation in court
- **25** other calls/resource connections with tenants

What other assistance is available to at-risk tenants today?

Legal Aid of the Bluegrass

- Mediation for LHA tenants facing eviction
- Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
- Housing counseling/navigation

Current contract funded by ERA grant through Dec. 31, 2024

HACD Commissioner's Office

- Housing Advocates

Kentucky Equal Justice Center

- Tenant outreach/education
- Expanded access to counsel for tenants in eviction court
- Housing counseling/navigation

Current contract funded by ERA grant through Dec. 31, 2024

Goodwill & FCPS

- McKinney-Vento rental assistance, Hand Up for Housing (**NEW**, funded w/ ERA interest through FY25)

Community & Resident Services

- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Application fee assistance for rental housing (**NEW**, funded by CDBG, likely through FY25)

Lexington Senior Center

- Emergency assistance for senior citizens (**NEW FUNDING** w/ ERA interest through FY25)



DO YOU NEED A HAND UP FOR HOUSING?

Families with students in Fayette County Public Schools who are experiencing homelessness may be eligible for financial assistance to pay their security deposit and first month's rent!



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Families with students in Fayette County Public Schools who are experiencing homelessness as defined by the FCPS McKinney Vento Office, including those temporarily living with a friend or relative, sleeping in a car, or staying in a hotel.

WHAT ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE?

After finding a new apartment or home to rent, eligible families may be able to receive assistance paying their security deposit and first month's rent. Monthly rent may not exceed 50% of a family's gross monthly income (families must have some monthly income to receive financial assistance).

HOW DO I APPLY?

Begin by contacting your child's school. Family Resource/Youth Services Centers or the McKinney Vento point of contact at your child's school can help you begin the application process.

WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT AFTER I APPLY?

After you begin the application process at your child's school, the FCPS McKinney Vento Office will review your application. Eligible families will be referred to the Goodwill Lexington Opportunity Center for program orientation, case management, help finding an apartment, and other supportive services. All security deposit/rental assistance payments will be made directly to landlords by Goodwill.

Additional eligibility requirements, terms, and conditions may apply and are subject to change at any time.

APPLICATION FEE ASSISTANCE FOR RENTAL HOUSING

Eligible Lexington residents can receive financial assistance to pay rental application fees!

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a current Lexington resident
- Household income equal to or less than 80% of Area Median Income

BENEFITS

- Maximum of \$300 or three applications, whichever is less
- Payments will be made directly to landlords

Applicant/tenant must provide all documentation required to determine eligibility, including a completed rental application indicating the fee amount owed and the prospective landlord's contact information. Monthly rent may not exceed 50% of household income. Additional eligibility requirements, terms, and conditions may apply and are subject to change at any time.

CALL 859-300-5300
for more information or to
schedule an appointment

Questions?



LEXINGTON

ITEMS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Social Services and Public Safety

Referral Item	Current Sponsor	Date Referred	Last Presentation	Status	Legistar File ID
1 Expand the Adult Mental Health Court with an Aftercare Program	T. Fogle	July 9, 2020	May 14, 2024		0534-24
2 Crime Reduction Technology	W. Baxter	September 21, 2021	May 2, 2023		1065-22
3 Assessment and Enforcement of Noise Ordinance	H. LeGris	July 5, 2022	August 22, 2023		0840-23
4 Review of Golf Cart Policies	L. Sheehan	October 11, 2022			
5 Eviction Diversion & Right to Counsel - Tenants' Bill of Rights	D. Wu	January 24, 2023		July 2, 2024	0702-24
6 Comprehensive Review of Code Enforcement (looking at ordinances, data, complaints, enforcement, technology, etc.)	D. Gray	June 29, 2023			
7 Coordinated Victim Response Plan	L. Sheehan	May 2, 2023			
8 Domestic & Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition	J. Reynolds	February 27, 2024	March 5, 2024		0239-24
9 Crime Victim Paid Leave Policy for LFUCG	L. Sheehan	March 5, 2024	May 14, 2024		0533-24
Annual/Periodic Updates					
10 Substance Abuse Intervention Update	L. Sheehan	January 12, 2022	May 14, 2024		0532-24
11 Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Annual Report	L. Sheehan	June 7, 2022	August 22, 2023	September 17, 2024	0901-22
12 Annual NAMI - Fayette Mental Health Court Update	D. Gray	February 20, 2018	November 14, 2023	September 17, 2024	0360-22
13 Annual LFUCG Affordable Housing Fund, Initiatives and Projects Update	D. Gray	August 10, 2021	November 14, 2023		1026-21
14 Annual Juvenile Treatment Court Update	D. Gray	July 9, 2020	October 10, 2023	September 17, 2024	1164-21
15 Annual Update on Recruitment, Retirement, and Retention for Department of Public Safety	D. Sevigny	September 22, 2020	June 13, 2023	July 2, 2024	0450-21
16 Annual Update on Community Paramedicine Program	J. Reynolds	July 6, 2021	March 5, 2024		0300-23
17 Annual Review of Code Enforcement	J. Reynolds	October 8, 2019	June 13, 2023		0814-22
18 ONE Lexington Programs Update	J. Reynolds	September 25, 2020	January 24, 2023		0080-23
19 Emergency Financial Assistance program: monitor funding to determine community needs as other funding sources diminish	S. Lynch	May 30, 2023	January 23, 2024		
Subcommittees					
20 Gun Violence Task Force	J. Reynolds	October 11, 2022	April 9, 2024		0375-24

Updated 06.24.24, KJT