



# Alexandria's Community Health Improvement Plan 2025

Prepared by the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria

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What is a Community Health Improvement Plan?

A community-centered and data-driven blueprint for better health.

# Plan Summary

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2025 is our community's roadmap and action plan for addressing the most important health issues in Alexandria. The City's 2019 Community Health Assessment, found that most Alexandrians are healthy. However, there are clear and sometimes significant health differences among Alexandrians depending on their income, race or ZIP code.

Over the course of 17 months, hundreds of community members came together to address priority health issues in our City—housing, mental health and poverty. Community members identified the root causes of these health issues and developed strategies and tactics to address them over the next several years.

During the CHIP's development, our community and the nation were impacted by three historic crises—the COVID-19 pandemic, an economic crisis and a racial and social justice crisis. Although a large part of the CHIP was developed in 2019, community members virtually convened in 2020 to ensure that the final CHIP reflected the reality of health, economic and racial and social issues.



# Plan Summary Cont.

This CHIP was also influenced by the work of related City plans. In 2019, the timing of revisions to three major city-related plans coincided—the Alexandria City Public Schools' Strategic Plan, the Department of Community and Human Services' Children and Youth Master Plan and the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria's CHIP. These organizations established a Unified Planning Team to collectively develop these plans, to maximize collective community engagement, share important data and focus on shared outcomes.

Hundreds of community members came together to develop this community-centered health plan to address the root causes of housing, mental health and poverty and that is a major accomplishment to celebrate. However, the publication of this plan is not the end, but rather the beginning. Many community members and organizations signed on to implement the plan's strategies and tactics.

The Partnership and the Health Department will monitor the progress of the CHIP's strategies and tactics and periodically report out to the community. The CHIP is also not a static plan. There will be opportunities for the community to revise part of the plan to address new issues and challenges that did not exist when the CHIP was developed.

This CHIP doesn't work if it sits on a shelf. We need as many community members as possible to get involved in implementation to make a difference. You can have an impact. Start today.











# Where We Are

Within the City of Alexandria, there are health differences based on income, race, and ZIP code.

These differences are a result of decades of discriminatory policies and systems that are now built into City processes, our environment, and how community and organizational decisions are made. The global pandemic, economic crisis, and racial and social injustice in 2020 only exacerbated these differences in health.

# Where We're Going

The CHIP is a blueprint to address poverty, mental health, and housing policies and systems. With the right conditions in place, we will improve health and well-being for everyone who lives, works and plays in the City of Alexandria. It was coordinated by the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, and built by a diverse group of residents and stakeholders who committed their time, experience, and passion.

Join us to implement these solutions and create the healthiest possible Alexandria for both today and tomorrow.

# CHIP DEVELOPMENT AT A GLANCE



#### **OCT 2019**

Community members
narrow the 2019
Community Health
Assessment's 10
health issues to three
priorities: mental
health, housing, and
poverty. Meeting
attendees analyze
the root causes of
those issues.



#### **NOV 2019**

Hundreds of mental health, poverty, and housing solutions are submitted during a series of public brainstorms.

Solutions address the root causes of current issues.



#### **JAN 2020**

Community member workgroups score the solutions on whether the ideas address equity and could have community support. Workgroup members contact potential champions to lead and support these efforts.



#### **MARCH 2020**

Workgroup
members and
strategy
champions
research best and
promising
practices to
identify which
tactics will work
for Alexandria's
specific needs.



#### MAY 2020-MARCH 2021

Workgroups revisit
CHIP strategies
with a COVID-19
lens and modify
tactics
accordingly.



#### **JUNE 2021**

CHIP implementation and monitoring begins.

# **Building the CHIP**

# Consulting the Experts: Alexandrians

#### **SELECTING PRIORITIES**

More than 100 community members gathered on October 5, 2019 to review the findings from Alexandria's Community Health Assessment during a public meeting. Attendees included a mix of residents, non-profits, civic associations, faith-based groups, city agency staff, and business leaders. Participants learned about the City's top ten health issues and the disparities that underlie each one. After considering the data, each participant cast votes selecting the top priority areas for the CHIP: mental health, poverty, and housing. The meeting participants then discussed the root causes behind each priority area.

#### UNDERSTANDING THE ROOTS

Health Department staff and Partnership Steering Committee members used community member feedback to develop root cause fishbone models for each priority area. These models explore the policies and systems leading to poor mental health, poverty, and unaffordable housing in Alexandria.

#### **BRAINSTORM SOLUTIONS**

Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership hosted a series of public meetings on November 4, 6, and 12, 2019 to brainstorm ideas that address housing, mental health, and poverty. About 30–60 community members attended each meeting, representing a variety of residents, advocacy organizations, schools, non-profits, boards and commissions, and city agencies. Prior to each meeting, the Health Department and the Partnership did intentional outreach to ensure a diverse racial and ethnic makeup to reflect Alexandria's population. Participants were encouraged to raise solutions that directly addressed root causes rather than the surface level needs. Over the three meetings, participants generated more than 700 ideas. Health Department staff categorized and sorted all the solution ideas into buckets of strategies and tactics for consideration.

# **Building the CHIP**

# Scoring the Strategies

Following the brainstorming sessions, dedicated community members joined topic-specific workgroups to prioritize the strategies based on equity, impact, and community support.

The workgroups scored the strategies using a survey tool to consider:

### **Equity**

Does this solution directly reduce an existing disparity, or difference, in outcomes, opportunities, or quality of life between groups of people?

Potentially impacted groups of people include—but are not limited to—people of color, women, people with disabilities, seniors, and those who are LGBTQ+.



### **Community Support**

Does this strategy fit with Alexandria values and could it have support from our community?

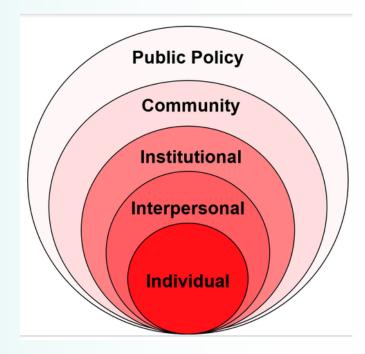
Could education and engagement build community support for this strategy?

# Building Scoring Strategies by Impact

How likely is this strategy to achieve community-wide results?

A group of Health Department staff and Partnership Steering Committee members also rated each strategy by impact. How likely is this strategy to achieve community-wide results?

- Individual = Strategy impacts an individual's personal knowledge, skills, and beliefs.
- Relationship/Organizations = Strategy impacts networks, such as peer groups (e.g. family and friends) and social networks, or institutions such as faith-based organizations, schools, and workplaces.
- Community/Society = Strategy impacts community-level conditions, such as the built environment, access, relationship between agencies/organizations, and public policies, regulations, and laws.



### **Building the CHIP**

# Grounding in Data and Reality

#### **RESEARCH METHODS**

The Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership Steering Committee developed a research guide to help identify whether any of the selected strategies or tactics have been implemented in other communities. Workgroup members were encouraged to conduct research so that the group could design the most effective intervention possible and measure whether anyone is better off. Participants submitted dozens of studies or examples of these interventions implemented in other communities. The workgroups met on February 25, 2020 to discuss research and continue identifying champions and metrics of success.

#### **ADAPT TACTICS**

Although the CHIP was nearly finalized at the end of February 2020, all work on the plan was paused to quickly shift Alexandria Health Department staff to pandemic response efforts. In May 2020, the Partnership Steering Committee began revisiting the CHIP strategies and tactics to determine if they were still appropriate. Community workgroups were reconvened virtually in October and November for a final discussion on how the CHIP should adapt based on the effects of COVID-19, racial and social upheaval, and the economic impacts of a global pandemic. Additionally, the CHIP was reviewed to ensure alignment with the principles and concepts included in the Alexandria City Council's Resolution No. 2974, All Alexandria: Committing to Race and Social Equity, adopted on January 23, 2021.

Using this feedback, the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership Steering Committee updated the CHIP to reflect Alexandria's new reality.

### **Building the CHIP**

# Coordinating Plans

In 2019, the timing of revisions to three major citywide plans coincided—the Alexandria City Public Schools' Strategic Plan, the Department of Community and Human Services' Children and Youth Master Plan, and the Alexandria Health Department and the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria's Community Health Improvement Plan. These organizations established a Unified Planning Team in the spring of 2019 to develop their plans collectively. This coordination provided added value to each by maximizing community engagement opportunities, sharing important data, and focusing on shared outcomes.

While developing these plans is important, implementing them successfully is even more critical. As a result, the Unified Planning Team will evolve into a Unified Implementation Team to continue the partnership over the next five years and ensure alignment of actions, community engagement, data use, and resource sharing, when possible. These plans will also be implemented in tandem with shared commitments to racial equity, trauma-informed care and a developmental assets approach. Learn more about the Children and Youth Master Plan 2025 and ACPS' Strategic Plan 2025 online at the Partnership's website.











Assessment's top 10 health issues.

# Putting the CHIP into Action

Each priority area is connected to strategies, tactics, timelines, progress measures, and tactic owners.

Developing strategies and tactics, measuring progress and identifying owners is the difference between wishful thinking and getting things done.

The Partnership's Steering Committee will provide periodic reports to the community of the progress in addressing the CHIP's three priority areas. The Steering Committee and Health Department will also help overcome any obstacles or barriers that might slow the implementation of a tactic or strategy.

### **Timeline**

Sets the parameters for when a tactic will be started and completed.

# Progress Measures

How we know we are making a difference even before the project is complete. Progress measures include both outputs and outcomes when possible.

### **Tactic Owners**

Organizations and individuals who will facilitate the work. The tactic owners report their progress, successes, and challenges to the Partnership Steering Committee.

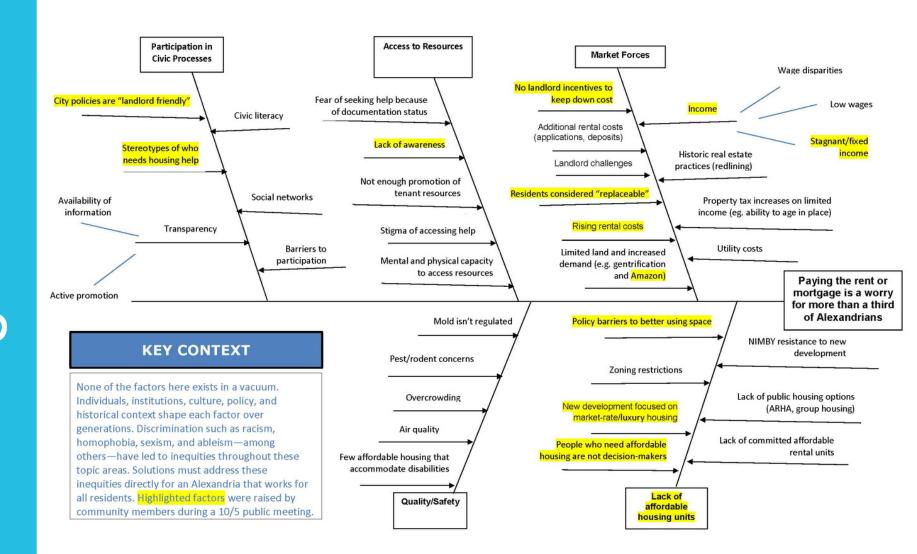


Goal: Affordable, safe, and high-quality housing

# Housing

Community conditions can create either opportunities or barriers for a healthy life. Clean, safe neighborhoods with ample green space, complete sidewalks, and low crime rates support physical activity. Housing quality, cost, stability, and safety can significantly influence health. For example, poor quality housing with issues such as lead paint, mold, and pests can trigger asthma flare-ups, particularly in children.

The high cost of housing is also a major issue in Alexandria, and individuals or families are often forced to make difficult decisions between paying their rent and affording medical care, groceries, childcare, and other basic necessities. Local data shows that housing stability is more difficult in certain ZIP codes within Alexandria.



# Taking Action: Strategy A <u>Identify and support creative land use and other models for affordable and market-rate housing.</u>

#### Tactic 1: Co-location: Add affordable housing units to new City and recreational buildings.\*

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Increased percentage of public support of co-location of affordable housing units; Number of affordable housing units co-located with new City buildings and recreation centers; Occupancy rate of co-located units
- **Owners:** Office of Housing; Neighborhood Health

# Tactic 2: Assess and promote viable zoning changes that will help to increase the supply of affordable housing.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Assessment of potential zoning changes to increase affordable housing supply completed; Assessment findings presented to a variety of community organizations; Assessment findings presented at Planning and Zoning and City Council; Percentage of proposed zoning changes adopted by City Council; Number of new affordable housing units built as a result of the zoning
- **Owners:** Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee; Alexandria Economic Opportunities Commission; Office of Housing; Office of Planning and Zoning

<sup>\*</sup>Tactic relates to an action in the Alexandria Housing Master Plan

# Taking Action: Strategy B <u>Provide sustainable and predictive housing for individuals and families across incomes.</u>

# Tactic 1: Increase eviction prevention education activities and provide case management for individuals and families at risk of eviction.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of individuals and families at risk of eviction receiving eviction prevention education; Number of evictions prevented; Reduction in racial/place-based disparities in evictions; Number of Unlawful Detainer filings; Percentage of Unlawful Detainers resulting in a Writ of Possession; Number of families who faced eviction remain in stable housing 6 and 12 months after the initial eviction warning
- o Owners: Alexandria Eviction Prevention Task Force; Alexandria Eviction Prevention Partnership

#### Tactic 2: Utilize community land trusts and land banks.\*

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Meeting is held with Joint Facilities Master Plan and community members to discuss public land use for affordable housing; Number of affordable housing units created; Square footage of City-owned land zoned not residential vs. square footage of zoned residential
- Owners: Office of Housing

<sup>\*</sup>Tactic relates to an action in the Alexandria Housing Master Plan

# Taking Action: Strategy B <u>Provide sustainable and predictive housing for individuals and families across incomes.</u>

#### **Tactic 3: Develop alternative forms of security deposits.**

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Alternative forms of security deposits identified; Best practices for Alexandria identified; Findings shared with Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee and the Landlord-Tenant Relations Board
- **Owners:** Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority; Department of Community and Human Services

# Tactic 4: Adopt a linkage fee ordinance—a fee on institutional and commercial properties—plus property tax increases to fund affordable housing.

- **Timing:** Start in 2023, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: New fees on institutional and commercial properties adopted; Total dollar amount of fees collected; Property tax increased (percentage and dollar amount increase); Percentage and dollar amount in funds from property taxes that went towards affordable housing annually from 2021 – 2025
- **Owners:** Alexandria Economic Development Partnership; Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee; Office of Planning and Zoning; Office of Housing

# Taking Action: Strategy C <u>Provide additional needed services in housing to reflect</u> <u>community needs and values.</u>

Tactic 1: Offer services (e.g., health clinic, day care, quality food access, etc.) in multi-functional space at housing units and apartment complexes.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Develop a list of needed services by geographic location; Approve agreements to provide specific services at housing units or apartment complexes.
- **Owners:** Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance; Neighborhood Health; Alexandria Health Department; Hunger Free Alexandria; Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission

#### Tactic 2: Work with landlords to create pet-friendly policies regardless of socio-economic status.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of landlords contacted; Number of positive changes in rental agreements for pet-friendly policies; Increased number of Alexandria renters who adopt pets
- Owners: Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

# Tactic 3: Explore local use of Certified Organization for Resident Engagement and Services (CORES) at rental properties.

- Timing: Start in 2021, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Number of rental properties that obtain the CORES certification; Percentage of socially vulnerable residents residing in CORES certified properties; Percentage of affordable housing units in CORES certified properties.
- Owners: Alexandria Housing Development Corporation

# Taking Action: Strategy D <a href="Increase funding for housing development">Increase funding for housing development</a>.

# Tactic 1: Increase use of financial tools and funds for affordable housing as identified in the City of Alexandria Housing Master Plan.\*

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Advocacy group formed; Funding for affordable housing increased (dollar amount and percentage change from 2021 to 2025)
- Owners: Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance

# Tactic 2: Property tax abatement for developers reserving a portion of their units for affordable housing.\*

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Number of developers seeking property tax abatement; Number of affordable housing units developed as a result of property tax abatement; Percentage of occupied affordable housing units developed as a result of property tax abatement in 2025
- Owners: Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance; Office of Housing

<sup>\*</sup>Tactic relates to an action in the Alexandria Housing Master Plan

# Taking Action: Strategy D <a href="Increase funding for housing development">Increase funding for housing development</a>.

# Tactic 3: Monitor and engage with the Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority (ARHA) Redevelopment Work Group.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of Steering Committee meetings ARHA redevelopment projects are discussed; Percentage of proposals submitted about redevelopment projects that are adopted
- Owners: Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Steering Committee

#### Tactic 4: Explore the use of closed hotels for additional affordable housing units.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Best practices research completed; Number of units and occupancy (e.g. 1 bed; 2 bed) of closed hotels suitable for conversion into affordable housing units identified; Estimated cost of conversion and number of residents potentially served by conversion developed; Results of research shared with appropriate City Boards and Commissions; Results of research shared with the Alexandria Economic Development Partnership and City Council; Several hotels are converted to affordable housing; Increased number of individuals and families are living in affordable housing units
- **Owners:** Alexandria Economic Development Partnership; Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness

# Taking Action: Strategy E <u>Support healthy, high-quality, energy-efficient housing.</u>

#### **Tactic 1: Promote energy efficiency policies.**

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Concepts and opportunities for retrofit initiatives identified; Policies that would be feasible & beneficial for Alexandria residents are identified; Energy efficiency policies, concepts & opportunities presented to City Council
- Owners: Virginia Cooperative Extension; Economic Opportunities Commission

### Tactic 2: Develop and implement a coordinated, healthy housing program.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Partners for the program identified; Funding secured; Gap analysis conducted; Structures in place for ongoing healthy homes network
- Owners: Alexandria Health Department; Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance

# Taking Action: Strategy F <u>Build appropriate supports for those experiencing homelessness.</u>

# Tactic 1: Increase permanent supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of new permanent supportive housing units available to residents experiencing homelessness annually from 2021 to 2025; Total number of permanent supportive housing units available in 2025 compared to 2021; Occupancy rate of permanent supportive housing units measured annually from 2021 to 2025
- Owners: Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness

### Tactic 2: Increase rapid re-housing to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of new rapid re-housing units added annually from 2021 to 2025; Occupancy rate of rapid re-housing units measured annually from 2021 to 2025; Average length of stay in rapid re-housing units measured annually from 2021 to 2025
- **Owners:** Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness

# Taking Action: Strategy F <u>Build appropriate supports for those experiencing homelessness.</u>

# Tactic 3: Create a systematic process to increase employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Annual ratio of individuals, experiencing homelessness, lacking employment, who become employed; Number of new job opportunities; the total number of job opportunities for people experiencing homelessness annually from 2021 to 2025; Percentage of individuals experiencing homelessness who are unemployed and underemployed
- **Owners:** Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness

# Tactic 4: Advocate at the state, City and foundation levels for more housing resources for people needing mental health and substance use services.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Best practices identified and advocated for at the state, city, and
  foundation level; Number of housing units available to serve residents in unstable housing who
  receive mental health services increased; Occupancy rate of housing units available to serve
  residents in unstable housing who receive mental health services decreased; Percentage of
  individuals receiving mental health services who report unstable housing conditions decreased
- **Owners:** Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness



Goal: Accessible, culturally appropriate, and normalized

# Mental Health

Mental health is important at every stage of life, and includes conditions and illnesses that affect thoughts, feelings, mood, and/or behavior. Mental health also includes emotional, psychological, and social well-being. An individual can experience poor mental health at different periods of their life and not be diagnosed with a mental illness. Similarly, a person living with a mental illness can experience periods of physical, mental, and social well-being.

Mental health conditions and illnesses can be long-term, short-term, and can be recurring. Mental health and physical health are closely related—mental illness increases the risk of physical health problems and living with a chronic condition can increase the risk of mental illness.

#### Resilience **Toxic Stress KEY CONTEXT Factors** Self-medication None of the factors here exists in a vacuum. "ism's" Individuals, institutions, culture, policy, and Self-efficacy historical context shape each factor over Trauma generations. Discrimination such as racism, Social connections homophobia, sexism, and ableism—among Cost of living/financial stress others—have led to inequities throughout these Limited stress management skills topic areas. Solutions must address these inequities Parenting concerns directly for an Alexandria that works for all Additional health conditions residents. Highlighted factors were raised by Pressure to achieve community members during a 10/5 public meeting. Built environment (particularly in youth) Diet and exercise One in five Lifestyle factors Cultural adjustment to new adults area or country Sense of purpose Sleep habits experience five or more days of Availability Mental health isn't discussed in Limited health literacy poor mental Bias some communities health **Providers** Reflect the community Culturally appropriate Language barriers Culturally appropriate providers Money Time Resource limitations Not treated like physical ailments Transportation Unaware of resources Lack of awareness Childcare Medication and other Fear of being judged treatment options Quality Insurance coverage **Stigma** Uninsured Clarity of Access to Care (Equity benefits issues throughout)

### Taking Action: Strategy A

# <u>Assure culturally appropriate and trauma-informed mental health</u> <u>resources, services, and support for all Alexandria's communities.</u>

# Tactic 1: Partner with the faith community to increase access to mental health resources among communities of color.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of faith-based community partners; Reduced number of poor mental health days among Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) residents
- **Owners:** Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center; Social Responsibility Group; NAMI Northern Virginia

#### Tactic 2: Provide trauma-informed trainings to community groups.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2023
- **Progress measures:** Number of community members trained; Number of trainings delivered in the community; Number of trainees who increased their knowledge and skills in traumainformed approaches
- Owners: RAISE

# Taking Action: Strategy B <u>Advocate for mental health services and education funding.</u>

#### **Tactic 1: Assess mental health services and education gaps and capacity.**

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2024
- Progress measures: Assessment of services, gaps and capacity completed; Assessment results presented to appropriate City Boards and Commissions; Assessment results presented to various community organizations; Assessment results used to advocate with City Council to address the identified gaps for mental health services and education
- **Owners:** Alexandria City Public Schools

#### Tactic 2: Educate residents on available mental health resources.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Education/awareness campaign created; Education/awareness campaign implemented; Number of City residents who access the information on available resources
- Owners: Youth Development Team, Department of Community and Human Services

# Taking Action: Strategy B <u>Advocate for mental health services and education funding.</u>

#### **Tactic 3: Train residents on how to advocate for services and funding.**

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2023
- Progress measures: Number of people trained on advocacy skills and techniques; Number of training sessions; Percentage of trainees who increased their knowledge, skills & confidence in advocacy; Percentage of trainees who advocated for policy changes
- Owners: RAISE; Northern Virginia Community College

#### Tactic 4: Advocate for needed funding for mental health services and education.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Annual presentations to City Council during the budget process; Level or increased funding approved by City Council annually
- **Owners:** Friends of the Alexandria Mental Health Center

# Taking Action: Strategy C <u>Expand opportunities to free and low-cost physical activity.</u>

#### **Tactic 1: Promote walking and other physical activity through ALEXMoves.**

- Timing: Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Social media page created; Platform created for community members to engage in physical activity together; Number of people who participate in ALEXMoves events annually; Key engagement measures (number of likes and shares, audience growth, followers/following ratio, audience mentions)
- **Owners:** Inova Health System; Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Animal Welfare League of Alexandria; Running Brooke; Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Alexandria Families for Safe Streets

# Tactic 2: Partner with ACPS to sponsor monthly "walk the block" events for students, parents, staff and community members.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of people participating in "walk the block" events; Number of likes, photos and videos on social media
- Owners: Running Brooke; Inova Health System; Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities; Animal Welfare League of Alexandria; Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Alexandria Families for Safe Streets

# Tactic 3: Leverage physical activity groups such as Meet-Up to create walking groups and a walking route database.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Library of free/low-cost physical activities created; Catalogue of walking routes created; Number of views/downloads
- Owners: Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Inova Health System

# Taking Action: Strategy C <u>Expand opportunities to free and low-cost physical activity.</u>

#### Tactic 4: Develop a dog walking program for owners.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of people engaged in the dog walking program; Number of participants per quarter; Number of walks held annually
- Owners: Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

#### Tactic 5: Advocate for safer streets for people of all ages.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of walk audits done; Number of deficiencies identified as a result of walk audits; Number of improvements made to streets due to walk audits' findings
- Owners: Alexandria Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

# Tactic 6: Establish and implement a youth physical activity scholarship program to cover all fees for eligible youth.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Program established; Fundraising started; First scholarships awarded; Number of eligible youth who receive scholarships in the first year; Number of eligible youth who receive scholarships over three years; Fundraising goals met to sustain the program
- **Owners:** ACT for Alexandria; Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

# Taking Action: Strategy D <u>Expand early intervention programming and counseling</u> <u>in the community.</u>

#### Tactic 1: Expand behavioral health screening for youth (5th grade and up).

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Assessment of current behavioral health screening is completed; New age-appropriate screening tools are made accessible to youth both online and in person
- o Owners: Alexandria City Public Schools; Alexandria Community Services Board

#### Tactic 2: Expand behavioral health counseling services for youth (5th grade and up).

- **Timing:** Start in 2023, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Assessment of current behavioral health counseling services completed; Funding for additional behavioral health counseling provided; Increase in the number of youth receiving behavioral health counseling
- **Owners:** Alexandria City Public Schools; Department of Community and Human Services; Alexandria Health Department

# Taking Action: Strategy D <u>Expand early intervention programming and counseling</u> <u>in the community.</u>

### Tactic 3: Expand mental health screenings for adults.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Assessment of current behavioral health screening is completed; New screening tools are made accessible to adults both online and in person
- Owners: Alexandria Community Services Board

### Tactic 4: Expand mental health counseling services for adults.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Assessment of current behavioral health counseling services completed; Funding for additional behavioral health counseling is provided; Alternative or in-kind resources for behavioral health counseling provided; Increase in the number of adults receiving behavioral health counseling
- **Owners:** Alexandria City Public Schools; Alexandria Community Services Board; Neighborhood Health; George Mason University Center for Psychological Services

### Tactic 5: Expand programming for seniors to reduce social isolation.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Increase in the number of seniors participating in the programming; Percentage of program participants indicating that the programming has been helpful in reducing symptoms of depression or loneliness.
- Owners: Senior Services of Alexandria

# Taking Action: Strategy D <u>Expand early intervention programming and counseling</u> <u>in the community.</u>

#### Tactic 6: Advocate for mental health treatment in youth and adult detention centers.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Quantified existing need for mental health services in Alexandria/NOVA detention centers (e.g. number of patients in treatment, on waitlists, and unmet treatment needs); Best practices for increasing access to mental health care in detention centers identified; Best practices are shared with the community and discussed; State and local policies aimed at improving access to mental health services in youth and adult detention centers are adopted; Number of patients treated annually, number of encounters (patient visits), number of prescriptions, and number of services/resources provided since implementation of new policies and programs
- **Owners:** Department of Community and Human Services, Alexandria Community Services Boards, Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Services Unit

## Taking Action: Strategy E <u>Incorporate mental health strategies into the school day.</u>

Tactic 1: Integrate Social, Emotional and Academic Learning (SEAL) activities across many different types of programs and classrooms.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Youth Risk and Behavior Survey data provided; ACPS Equity Audit complete
- **Owners:** Children and Youth Master Plan Prevention Work Group (ACPS Student Support Teams staff)

Tactic 2: Invest in professional development so educators and support staff can learn how to incorporate social-emotional learning approaches into the school day.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number/percentage of educators and staff trained in trauma-informed approaches; Number/percentage of educators and schools staff trained in mental health awareness; Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data; ACPS Equity Audit (climate survey)
- **Owners:** Children and Youth Master Plan Prevention Work Group (ACPS Student Support Teams staff)

## Taking Action: Strategy E <u>Incorporate mental health strategies into the school day.</u>

#### Tactic 3: Streamline the youth mental services referral process.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Assessment of existing services, waitlist, and referral process completed;
   Service redundancies and gaps identified; Plans to create greater efficiencies and close gaps developed and implemented; Increase in school referrals to DCHS Youth Central Intake;
   Reduced wait time for appointments; Number of ACPS referrals to the DCHS Family
   Assessment and Planning Team
- **Owners:** CYMP Prevention Work Group (DCHS Child and Behavioral Health Services)

## Tactic 4: Strengthen school and community-based education, outreach and access around family mental health.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of mental health support partnerships established to provide services to children and youth; Number of calls/emails to DCHS Youth Central intake; Number of youth and families receiving mental health services (in school and not) through CFBHS; Percentage increase in funding for public family behavioral health services; Percentage of youth and families receiving CFBHS services reporting their needs were met; Average wait time for students referred for DCHS services; Percentage of race and ethnicity DCHS provider/client match; Rates of depression and suicidal ideation among youth as measured by the Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- **Owners:** CYMP Prevention Work Group (DCHS Child and Behavioral Health Services)

## Taking Action: Strategy F Normalize conversations about mental health.

### Tactic 1: Provide Adult Mental Health First Aid training to community providers and residents.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Total number of people who complete the training; Total number of targeted populations and sectors who complete training; Percentage of people who successfully complete youth mental health first aid training annually
- **Owners:** Department of Community and Human Services

### Tactic 2: Provide Youth Mental Health First Aid training to community providers and residents.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Total number of people who complete the training; Total number of targeted populations and sectors who complete training; Percentage of people who successfully complete youth mental health first aid training annually
- Owners: Department of Community and Human Services, Youth Development Team

## Taking Action: Strategy F Normalize conversations about mental health.

### Tactic 3: Provide evidence-based simulated trainings for having conversations on mental health.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- o Progress measures: Number of people, including youth, who complete the training
- **Owners:** Department of Community and Human Services, Youth Development Team; Suicide Prevention Alliance of Northern Virginia

## Tactic 4: Create and deliver a mental health literacy program to eliminate mental health stigma.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Evidence-based Health Literacy program created; Number of youth who
  attend a program annually; Number of adults who attend a program annually; Percentage of
  youth whose health literacy increases (pre- and post-tests) as a result of attending a program;
  Percentage of adults whose health literacy increases (pre- and post-tests) as a result of
  attending a program
- Owners: Department of Community and Human Services, Youth Development Team;
   Alexandria Community Services Board; NAMI-Northern Virginia; Public Health Advisory
   Commission; George Mason University Center for Psychological Services



## Goal: Wealth building opportunities for all

## Poverty

Improving or maintaining optimal health requires financial resources. For example, health insurance is crucial for access to many healthcare services, but health coverage can be expensive, especially for those without coverage through an employer. Individuals may decide to postpone care because of these costs, which could lead to worse health outcomes for conditions such as cancer and diabetes.

Outside of direct healthcare, behavior and lifestyle changes such as eating healthier meals and living in neighborhoods with access to parks, healthy foods, and transit can be out of reach. Finally, poverty can take a significant toll on mental health. The constant stress of living in unstable conditions, struggling to pay bills, and long work hours can exacerbate existing mental illness and affect child brain development.

#### Access to **KEY CONTEXT** opportunity Limited Limited wealth Incarceration Language and/or Resilience building literacy barriers None of the factors here exists in a Factors Re-entry barriers vacuum. Individuals, institutions, culture, policy, and historical Generational Awareness of open jobs Medical bankruptcy wealth building Recovery context shape each factor over Transportation programs challenges generations. Discrimination such as Potential loss of public benefits for Community and Payday lenders racism, homophobia, sexism, and slightly higher wage jobs governmental ableism—among others—have led resources Lack of community to inequities throughout these Childcare costs and operating times banking options Financial literacy topic areas. Solutions must address these inequities directly for an Student loan debt Self-efficacy Awareness of job support services Alexandria that works for all Low interest rates There are residents. Highlighted factors were Social networks Racism/Discrimination raised by community members 15,000 Lack of savings during a 10/5 public meeting. **Alexandrians** living in poverty Acquiring work visas Wages (low, stagnant, and/or inconsistent) Social supports that Employers taking advantage of status value learning Decreased union presence **Education tradeoffs Education Costs** (time, transportation, Limited awareness of training Inability to acquire living Lots of service jobs with no childcare) Fear that seeking opportunities upward mobility or benefits wage job with benefits resources could \$ for training and impact status Lack of career exploration certification Unemployment and opportunities in K-12 underemployment Legal status Physical and mental Gap in technical skills conditions that affect Seniors on fixed income (social learning security, retirement funds) Fear of deportation PreK-12 quality People with disabilities on SSI Citizenship Education status/documentation Income

# Taking Action: Strategy A <u>Increase quality, equity, and relevance of education for youth in and out of schools.</u>

#### Tactic 1: Monitor and engage with the Out of School Time/Youth Support Network.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of Steering Committee members who participate in community meetings; Number of health-related proposals submitted annually by the Steering Committee; Percentage of health-related proposals by the Steering Committee adopted by the Out of School Time/Youth Support Network; One government health provider and one nonprofit health provider serve as members of the Youth Support Network and number of Youth Support Network meetings they attend; Number of quarterly check-ins with the Out of School Time/Youth Support Network
- Owners: Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Steering Committee

## Tactic 2: Increase awareness among youth and their parents and guardians on the process, requirements and techniques for participating in higher education.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of youth who attend higher education preparation training programs or courses; Number of adults with children in grades 6-12 who attend higher education preparation training sessions; Percentage of youth with awareness of the higher education application process; Percentage of youth with awareness of the scholarships available for them; Percentage of youth who are the first in their family to attend higher education; Percentage of parents and guardians with awareness of the higher education application process; Percentage of parents and guardians with awareness of the scholarships available to their children
- Owners: Project Discovery; Dream Project; AVID; Alexandria Workforce Development Center

# Taking Action: Strategy A <u>Increase quality, equity, and relevance of education for youth in and out of schools.</u>

#### Tactic 3: Support efforts to advocate for and implement restorative justice in ACPS.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Identified campaigns, events, or workshops focused on restorative justice in ACPS hosted by Tenants and Workers United and/or Alex Teens to support; Number of Tenants and Workers United or Alex Teens community-lead campaigns or events
- Owners: Alex Teens; Tenants and Workers United

### Tactic 4: Integrate ACPS Industry Advisory Boards and Career and Technical Education into middle schools.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Resources obtained to expand career and technical programs into each ACPS middle school (e.g. funds, staff, classroom space, technology); Number of career & technical programs expanded into ACPS middle schools; Number of programs, slots, and participating middle schools; Expand TeensWork! (number of youth enrolled, Youth Employment Counselors and youth on waitlist)
- **Owners:** Inova Alexandria Hospital; Alexandria City Public Schools Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee

## Taking Action: Strategy B <a href="Increase availability and lower costs of childcare and programming.">Increase availability and lower costs of childcare and programming.</a>

Tactic 1: Advocate for policy changes at the federal and state level to make child care more accessible including revising child care subsidy amounts and eligibility requirements.

- **Timing:** Start in 2023, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Case statement developed to show need for policy changes; Policy change to expand eligibility; Increased number of people using the program
- **Owners:** Children, Youth and Family Collaborative Commission

Tactic 2: Develop a multimedia, multilingual resource guide and create an awareness campaign that describes all types of childcare available, including any eligibility requirements.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2023
- Progress measures: Final draft of multimedia resource guide developed and translated;
   Multimedia resource guide published and disseminated to key stakeholders and trusted
   community leaders; Number of multimedia resource guide views, shares, downloads, etc.;
   Percentage of eligible families enrolled in childcare assistance/ subsidy programs (stratify by
   race and ethnicity if possible)
- **Owners:** Department of Community and Human Services, Early Childhood Division; Smart Beginnings Alexandria; Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission; Alexandria Libraries; Inova Alexandria Hospital; Alexandria Employment Commission

## Taking Action: Strategy B Increase availability and lower costs of childcare and programming.

Tactic 3: Advocate for greater investments in childcare at the local and state levels, including subsidies, funding for childcare facilities and higher pay for childcare workers.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Advocacy campaign developed; Funding increase allocated to childcare programs, facilities and workers; Increased median pay of childcare workers in Northern Virginia/Alexandria
- Owners: Alexandria Chamber of Commerce; Smart Beginnings Alexandria; Social Services
   Advisory Board; Commission on Women; Economic Opportunities Commission; Children, Youth
   and Families Collaborative Commission; Public Health Advisory Commission

### Tactic 4: Expand the number of child care providers who operate in the evenings and on weekends.

- **Timing:** Start in 2023, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Benchmark study completed that identifies barriers and solutions to
  providing childcare during alternative hours; Plan to address the barriers is developed and
  results are shared with the community; Number of child care providers who operate in evenings
  and weekends is increased from the time the study was done; Number of families on waitlists
  for alternative hours child care is decreased from the time the study was done
- **Owners:** Department of Community and Human Services; Smart Beginnings Alexandria; Children, Youth and Families Collaborative Commission; Alexandria Chamber of Commerce

#### Tactic 1: Support the sustainability of the Alexandria Treatment Court.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of participants in the Treatment Court program at any one time; Number of participants who graduate from the Treatment Court Program
- Owners: Alexandria Opioid Work Group

## Tactic 2: Sustain the Alexandria Crisis Intervention Training Program to provide jail diversion for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of individuals diverted from jail to mental health services;
   Number of police officers trained in Crisis Intervention annually; Percentage of the total number of police officers trained; Number of annual presentations to community groups about the Crisis Intervention Training Program
- **Owners:** Alexandria Police Department; Department of Community and Human Services; Alexandria Community Services Board

## Tactic 3: Develop strategies and steps that will meet the requirement and goals of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Marcus Alert System Plan.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: City and community organizations and members meet to determine the
  best strategies and steps for Alexandria to achieve Virginia's Marcus Alert Plan; Number of
  annual presentations to community groups Alexandria's Marcus Alert System implementation
  plan, Periodic assessments of Alexandria's implementation work are done and reported to the
  community
- Owners: Alexandria Police Department; Department of Community and Human Services,
   Community Service Board

## Tactic 4: Explore youth criminal justice best practices such as restorative justice, youth court, and other similar programs.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Best practices identified and assessed for their applicability in Alexandria
- Owners: Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Services Unit

## Tactic 5: Monitor and engage in the establishment and implementation of the Alexandria Community Police Review Board.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of Steering Committee meetings that include a discussion on the Community Police Review Board's establishment and implementation; Number of Steering Committee members who participate in community meetings on the establishment and implementation of the Alexandria Community Police Review Board; Number of proposals submitted by the Steering Committee on the establishment and implementation of the Alexandria Community Police Review Board; Inclusiveness and social and racial equity principles and actions included in Alexandria City Council resolution No. 2974, All Alexandria Committing to Race and Social Equity are met
- Owners: Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Steering Committee

## Tactic 6: Advocate for more public data and greater transparency of data and accountability involving Alexandria Police interactions with the public.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Assessment of current data transparency and report sufficiency completed; Conversation held with the Alexandria Police Department regarding results of assessment; Issues or concerns identified in the assessment are satisfactorily resolved
- Owners: Grassroots Alexandria; Tenants and Workers United

Tactic 7: Establish pathways to connect impacted community members to resources to promote a holistic integration back into the community.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of returning residents provided with resource toolkits; Number of returning residents connected to positive supports; Number of returning residents successfully completing probation
- Owners: Friends of Guest House; Project ID

## Taking Action: Strategy D <u>Increase access to employment resources and opportunities.</u>

## Tactic 1: Enhance work-based learning opportunities and expand the number of opportunities for youth.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Implement plans to expand programming; Number of youth work programs expanded from summer-only to year-round; Number of additional slots or available hours for youth work programs; Number slots filled; Number of applicants
- **Owners:** ACPS Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee; ACPS Industry Advisory Boards; Northern Virginia Community College (Alexandria Campus); Urban Alliance

## Tactic 2: Create a neighborhood-based, peer support infrastructure pilot project to advance upward mobility.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Funding obtained for a pilot project; Pilot project evaluated; Program
  expanded to more neighborhoods; Number of peer guides/mentors established; Number of
  individuals linked to peer guide/mentor; Individuals with living wage employment secured
  through program
- **Owners:** Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria; Alexandria City Public Schools; Department of Community and Human Services; Alexandria Health Department

## Taking Action: Strategy D <u>Increase access to employment resources and opportunities.</u>

Tactic 3: Support the City project to collect and map minority and immigrant businesses to strengthen existing businesses and encourage new businesses.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of Steering Committee members who participate in community meetings on the City's project; Number of proposals submitted by the Steering Committee on the City's project
- Owners: Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Steering Committee

## Tactic 4: Identify and assess best and promising practices for providing assistance to small businesses to help ensure their sustainability.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Assessment completed on best and promising practices; Increase
  number of small businesses reporting better assistance; Increased number of small businesses
  succeeding over a three year period
- **Owners:** Alexandria Small Business Development Center; Alexandria Chamber of Commerce; Del Ray Business Association; Old Town Business Association; West End Business Association

# Taking Action: Strategy E <u>Establish policies that advance wage equity and hiring opportunities.</u>

Tactic 1: Advocate for adoption of a \$15 minimum wage in Virginia before January 1, 2026 (the date currently set by Virginia State Code).

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Campaign advocating for adoption of a \$15 minimum wage in VA before 01/01/2026 is developed and launched; Raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in the City's annual legislative agenda; Minimum wage of \$15 per hour in effect before January 1, 2026
- Owners: Economic Opportunities Commission

## Tactic 2: Create and promote a "Hire Alexandrians" initiative for all development/building projects in Alexandria.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Hire Alexandrians initiative created by December 2021; Hire Alexandrians initiative launched; Number of local news stories about the Hire Alexandrians initiative annually; Number of Alexandria development/building projects that meet the employment criteria of the initiative
- **Owners:** Economic Opportunities Commission; Carpenters' Union

# Taking Action: Strategy E <u>Establish policies that advance wage equity and hiring opportunities.</u>

Tactic 3: Advocate for adoption by Alexandria businesses of a voluntary Alexandria Living Wage Certification Program.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of Alexandria businesses that provide wages of (a) \$15.70/hour (gold certification level), (b) \$14.13/hour (silver certification level), (c) \$11.23/hour (aspirational certification level) by December 1, 2021; Number of Alexandria businesses' employees who earn (a) \$15.70/hour, (b) \$14.13/hour, (c) \$11.23/hour; Number of Alexandria businesses that provide wages of (a) \$15.70/hour, (b) \$14.13/hour and (c) \$11.23/hour by the end of calendar year 2025
- **Owners:** Virginia Theological Seminary; Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

## Taking Action: Strategy F <u>Fund tech or other skills training for vulnerable populations.</u>

### Tactic 1: Identify existing opportunities in the City for career exploration and workforce development programs.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Assessment of existing opportunities for career exploration and workforce development programs; A "menu" of options available in the City is developed; Share "menu" with agencies and groups with available programs to ensure that menu is accurate and up-to-date; Disseminate menu; Amount of engagement with menu
- Owners: Alexandria Workforce Development Center

### Tactic 2: Identify sources of financial support for career exploration and workforce development programs.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Funding opportunities for career exploration and workforce development programs are identified; Career exploration and workforce development programs receive supplemental funding; Dollars received compared to total dollars applied for; Number of programs that receive funding; Number of applications submitted
- Owners: Economic Opportunities Commission; Carpenters' Union

## Tactic 3: Explore partnerships with Northern Virginia Community College and nonprofits to provide wraparound services to low-income college students.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Number of partners providing wraparound/case management services to low-income students; Number of students receiving these services; Student retention
- o Owners: Northern Virginia Community College; Educational Opportunities for Alexandrians

#### **Taking Action: Strategy G**

#### Expand opportunities for community-centered financial resources.

## Tactic 1: Expand the Virginia Cooperative Extension's Master Education Financial program to include people who are not fluent in English.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of classes offered in different languages increased; Before and after classes knowledge testing results of participants; Number of non-English speaking students who enroll in new courses each semester
- Owners: Virginia Cooperative Extension; Volunteer Alexandria

### Tactic 2: Advocate for community banking policies that are friendly to low-income individuals and families.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Advocacy campaign developed and launched; Number of banking policies changed that are friendlier to low-income individuals and families
- **Owners:** Economic Opportunities Commission; Credit Union; Alexandria City High School Academy of Finance

#### Tactic 3: Expand access to credit for low-wealth individuals in Alexandria.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of financial training programs provided; Number of individuals who participated in the training programs; Access expanded to micro-businesses
- Owners: Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc.

## Taking Action: Strategy H <u>Remove barriers to public transit.</u>

### Tactic 1: Advocate for DASH to provide free transportation or reduced fares for low-income residents.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2024
- **Progress measures:** Advocacy campaign developed and launched; Percentage of the eligible population who use public transportation before and after the change
- o Owners: Economic Opportunities Commission; Social Services Advisory Board

#### Tactic 2: Support funding for service increases of the 2022 and 2030 Vision Plan networks.

- **Timing:** Start in 2022, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Advocacy campaign developed and launched; Increased funding in the Alexandria City approved budget
- **Owners:** Alexandria Transportation Commission; Economic Opportunities Commission; Social Services Advisory Board

## Tactic 3: Promote community engagement in the Alexandria Mobility Plan development to ensure that the voices of all communities are considered in the Plan's development.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2023
- **Progress measures:** Community engagement plan developed and launched; Inclusiveness and social and racial equity principles and actions included in Alexandria City Council resolution No. 2974, All Alexandria Committing to Race and Social Equity are met
- **Owners:** Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services; Grassroots Alexandria; Tenants and Workers United

### Taking Action: Strategy I Eliminate the digital divide.

### Tactic 1: Institutionalize access to the high-speed internet for low-income individuals and families.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Households with internet subscription
- Owners: Alexandria Commission on Information Technology

#### Tactic 2: Provide devices to under-resourced residents.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of vulnerable residents who need computers annually; Number of computers provided to vulnerable residents annually
- Owners: Computer CORE; Alexandria Workforce Development Center

### Taking Action: Strategy I Eliminate the digital divide.

#### Tactic 3: Provide classes and tutoring in multiple languages to increase digital literacy.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- **Progress measures:** Number of classes held annually; Number of classes held in different languages; Number of tutoring sessions provided; Number of participants in classes and tutoring sessions annually; Number of available seats in classes/tutoring sessions annually (to monitor supply & demand); Increase in digital literacy through before and after classes survey
- **Owners:** Alexandria Libraries

## Tactic 4: Monitor and engage in the creation and implementation of Alexandria's Digital Equity Plan.

- **Timing:** Start in 2021, Complete by 2025
- Progress measures: Number of community meetings on the creation and implementation of Alexandria's Digital Equity Plan; Number of community members who participate in community meetings on the creation and implementation of Alexandria's Digital Equity Plan; Social and racial equity principles and actions included in Alexandria City Council resolution No. 2974, All Alexandria Committing to Race and Social Equity are met
- **Owners:** Alexandria Commission on Information Technology; Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria Steering Committee



### Your Role

One of the CHIP's greatest strengths is that it was developed through conversations and collaborations among a wide variety of community groups, residents of every age, members of City Boards and Commissions, and leaders and staff of Alexandria nonprofits, businesses and government.

While many community members and organizations are committed to implementing the CHIP, making the necessary structural and systemic changes require as many people and organizations as possible. Please consider how much you can and will commit—whether it's an hour, a day, a week, a month or a year—to building an Alexandria that allows everyone to achieve a more healthy and prosperous life.

Sign up online to get involved: www.healthieralexandria.org.

We saved a seat at the table for you.

### Acknowledgements

The Partnership's Steering Committee is thankful for all the time, research, thoughts and ideas that community members, City and Alexandria City Public Schools staff and educators, nonprofit and business leaders provided to the creation of this CHIP. It was built by and for the community. Every person listed here was a part of that process.

\*Any omission of a participant was unintentional.

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#### Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria

#### **Steering Committee Members**

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Canek Aguirre, Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield

Marion Brunken, Executive Director, Volunteer Alexandria,

Derron Campbell, Director, Community Relations, Population and Community Health Services, Inova Health Systems

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