

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CREATION OF A HUMAN SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is comprised of 24 jurisdictions of the National Capital Region's local governments and their governing officials, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and COG provides a focus for action on issues of regional concern; and

WHEREAS, the COG Board of Directors relies on the expertise of subject area policy committees to review issues and policy priorities on behalf of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, there are currently a multitude of human services issues throughout the region including public health, foster care, child care, housing, mental health, and substance abuse programs; and

WHEREAS, the demand to take a deeper look into these priority issues has emerged warranting a stand-alone committee to provide a venue and opportunity for our jurisdictions to jointly address human services issues on a regional level; and

WHEREAS, the mission of this policy committee will be to develop and maintain all policies, plans, agreements, and programs on all health and human service matters; and

WHEREAS, regional public safety issues will continue to be addressed by our Police Chiefs Committee, Fire Chiefs Committee, 9-1-1 Directors Committee, Emergency Managers Committee, and Emergency Preparedness Council and elevated to the COG Board of Directors for policy actions as may be warranted; and

WHEREAS, as issues emerge, our public safety committees will be asked to provide insight and expertise to the Human Services Policy Committee on cross-cutting issues warranting the valuable collaboration of our human services and public safety experts; and

WHEREAS, the COG Board recognizes the need to maintain a relationship between human services and public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The board approves the creation of a standalone Human Services Policy Committee (HSPC) to develop and maintain all policies, plans, and programs on all health and human service issues and the continuation of the Police Chiefs Committee, Fire Chiefs Committee, 9-1-1 Directors Committee, Emergency Managers Committee, and Emergency Preparedness Council to address issues of public safety. The board recognizes the importance and value of collaboration between human services and public safety experts and directs the Executive Director, or his designee, to ensure continued communication and collaboration between the Human Services Policy Committee, the public safety committees.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors on November 8, 2017.

**Laura Ambrosio
COG Communications Specialist**