Human Services Policy Committee

Presentation to the COG Board of Directors
June 9, 2004

J. Walter Tejada, Committee Chair

Human Services Policy Committee
R51-02 November 13, 2002

Resolution Establishing the Human Services Policy Committee

WHEREAS, this date the COG Board of Directors has determined to sever the functions and jurisdiction of its long-standing Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee (HSPSPC) into two separate policy committees and to place the additional functions recommended by the Task Force on Homeland Security into one of the new Committees.

Bylaws of the Human Services Policy Committee

ARTICLE II

- Authority

  The HSPC is the principal policy advisor to the Board on all human services issues, and the HSPC shall submit to the Board for its review and approval on all major policies, plans, agreements, and programs within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III

- Purpose and Mission

  The HSPC's purpose shall be to develop and maintain, in accordance with Article II, all policies, plans, agreements, and programs, other than those specifically assigned to other units within COG, concerning human services issues.

HSPC Members

J.Walter Tejada	Arlington County
Sandra Allen	District of Columbia
Rob Krupicka	City of Alexandria
Gail Lyon	City of Fairfax
Ron Parsons	City of Falls Church
John Thompson	Frederick County
Sidney Katz	City of Gaithersburg
Sarah Kurtz	Loudoun County
George Leventhal	Montgomery County Council
Carolyn Colvin	Montgomery County Executive Office
Thomas Hendershot	Prince George's County Council
James Dula	Prince George's County Executive Office
Heather Mizeur	Takoma Park
Anne Healey	Maryland General Assembly
Michele McQuigg	Virginia General Assembly
Hilda Barg	Prince William County
Karen Hampton	College Park
Edward V.J. Putens	Greenbelt

Potomac Regional Education Partnership (PREP)

PREP Background

History

- PREP was founded in 1997 and became an official COG program in November 2001.
- PREP has enhanced the region's capacity to provide world-class education and training to meet the demands of the 21st century.

Goals

- To work to overcome the digital divide in education,
- To build a strong regional collaboration in support of education and training,
- To increase the capacity of regional school systems, and
- To partner with local institutions of higher education to support high standards in local education.

PREP Programs

Past projects:

1. Intel's Teach to the Future
2. Potomac Technology Empowerment Center (PTEC)
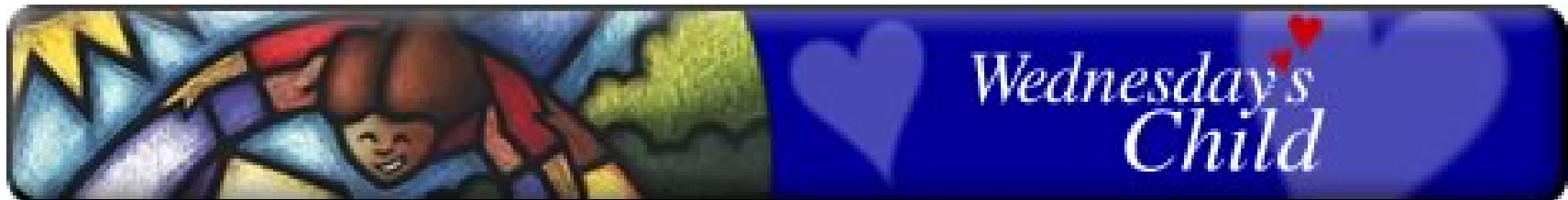
Current & Future Projects

1. Mentors in Technology
2. Community Technology Centers in Schools
3. High Schools and Community Technology Centers
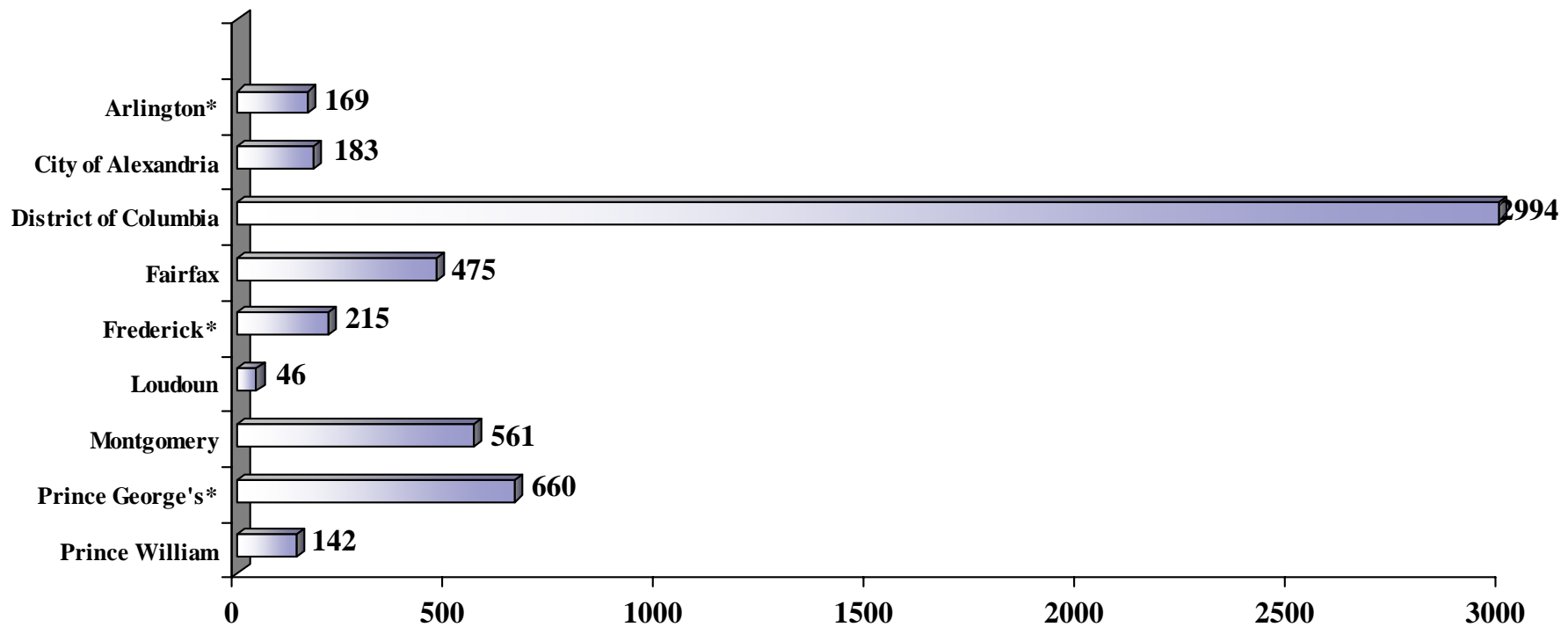4. Recruiting New Teachers

The Future of PREP

■ PREP plans to establish a **Regional Office for Education** that will develop regional solutions to educational and workforce challenges with the region's education stakeholders.

■ Regional projects will emphasize technology as a solution to the challenges we face in such areas as:

- ☐ Out of school programs utilizing computer labs for students
- ☐ Group technology purchases for PREP partners
- ☐ Professional development in technology for teachers
- ☐ Training IT support personnel for schools
- ☐ Online school to career programs for PRE partners
- ☐ Online Regional School to Careers Program
- ☐ Online homeland security programs for PREP partners

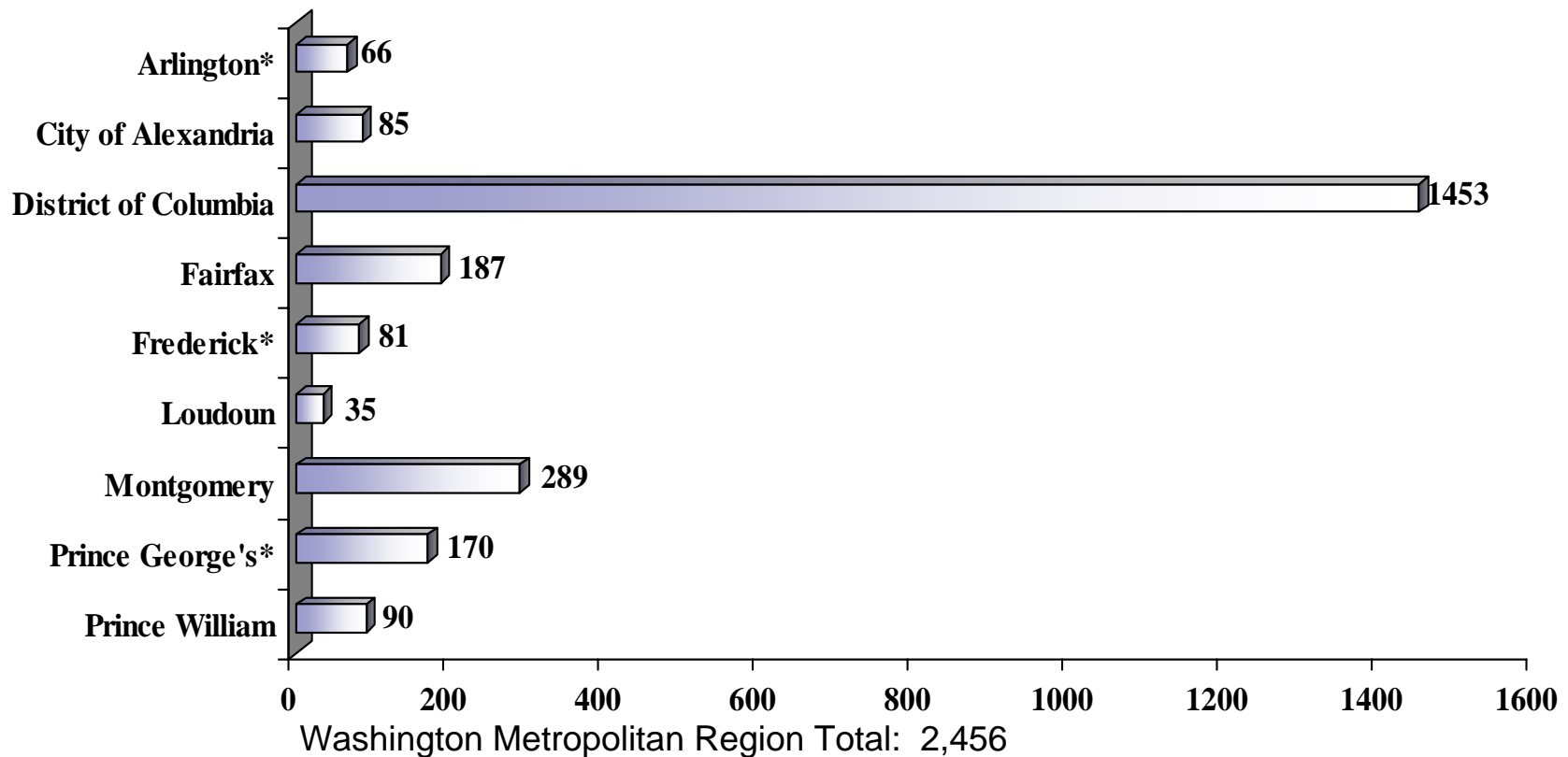# Foster Care, Adoption & Child Care Programs

Number of Children in Foster Care Metropolitan Washington Region 2003

County	Number
Arlington*	169
City of Alexandria	183
District of Columbia	2994
Fairfax	475
Frederick*	215
Loudoun	46
Montgomery	561
Prince George's*	660
Prince William	142

Washington Metropolitan Region Total: 5,445

*Based on 2002 data

Number of Foster Families
Metropolitan Washington Region 2003

County	Number
Arlington*	66
City of Alexandria	85
District of Columbia	1453
Fairfax	187
Frederick*	81
Loudoun	35
Montgomery	289
Prince George's*	170
Prince William	90

Washington Metropolitan Region Total: 2,456

Foster Parenting:
Specific Needs of the Washington Region

- The Washington Metropolitan Region needs a focus on quality over quantity

- More than 350 specialized therapeutic homes are needed to care for teens and special needs children

- Training of new recruits needs to be enhanced and streamlined

- 85% of children adopted from the foster care system are adopted by their foster parents, so more parents are needed who may follow this track

Child Care Activities
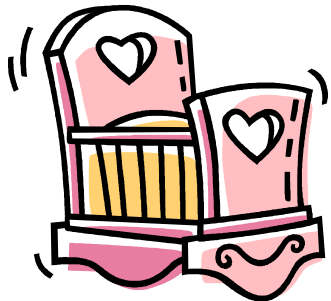
- Grant renewed with the DC Maternal and Family Health Administration for the Safe Cribs Project

- Recruited Southeastern University to participate in the Child Care Higher Education Scholarship Program (HESP).

- Seek additional funding for the HESP program to increase student participation

- Additional funding will be solicited to provide Spanish language early childhood education training seminars

Health and Substance Abuse Programs
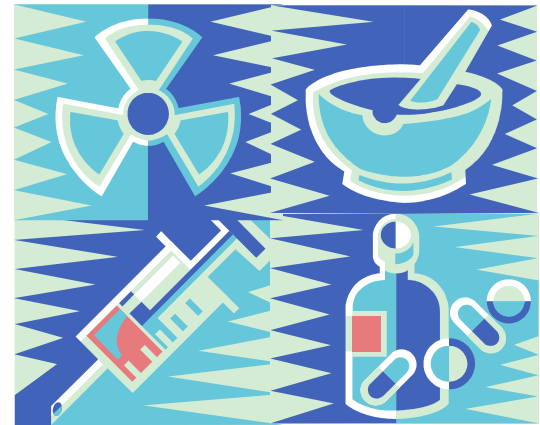
Health Committees

- **Health Officials Committee**
  - ☐ Heads of each local Public Health Department
  - ☐ State Representation
  - ☐ Federal Representation
  - ☐ Friends of Public Health (non-voting members)

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Committee**
  - ☐ Treatment and Prevention Providers
  - ☐ Local Jurisdictions and Non-Profits

Regional Health Issues in 2004

Emergency Preparedness

- Syndromic Surveillance
- Surge Capacity
- Risk Communications
- Training
- Personal Protective Equipment

Emerging Disease Planning

- West Nile Virus
- SARS
- All Infectious Diseases

Regional Health Issues (cont'd)

Healthier Communities

- Less Gang Activity
- Fewer Impaired Drivers
- Safe Drinking Water
    - Problems After Hurricane Isabel
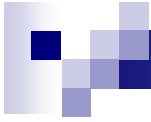   - Lead in Drinking Water
- Air Quality Recommendations

Regional Health Issues (cont'd)

Building a Stronger Health System

- Health Information Infrastructure
- Access to Care and Financially Strong Hospitals
- Workforce Development
- Status Reports and Data
  for Better Policy and Planning

Housing Programs

COG Housing Programs

WASHINGTON AREA HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Housing Directors Advisory Committee

- Study regulatory barriers to affordable housing

- Determine unit allocation in each jurisdiction

- Collect data on residential development

- Collaborate with WAHP on public education campaign

COG Housing Programs

Housing Choice Voucher Directors Committee

- Respond to proposed program changes

- Coordinate activities, such as utility rate survey

- Organize seminars for housing agency staff

- Recognize best practices in the region

COG Housing Programs

Community Development Work Study

- COG administers for 3 universities
  - □ University of the District of Columbia
  - □ University of Maryland
  - □ George Mason University
- Students receive stipend
  - □ Up to $14,000 per year
- Public or non-profit agencies provide internships
- Application due June 16, 2004

Thank You