



## PLANNING FOR COACH FELLOWSHIP Building Capacity & Partnerships

Last summer, the City of Lexington was awarded a 3-year, \$700,000 grant by the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust for the COACH Fellowship proposal. COACH (*Civic Outreach, Advocacy, and Cooperative Hiring*) is an initiative built upon a partnership with the City of Louisville and Cities United, a national nonprofit organization committed to reducing violence impacting young Black males.

The Dept. of Social Services is the city’s designated agent and project lead for COACH. Over the past 8 months, we have led local planning and engagement with key stakeholders. Also, our planning activities have forged collaborative alliances with Louisville leaders, and a network of national partners committed to social justice.



### The William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust

The objective of the 24-month comprehensive fellowship is to engineer resources for underserved Black males, ages 18 to 24. The desired outcome is 30 highly employable and civically engaged young Black men. COACH is designed to cultivate the talents and untapped potential of each fellow, through a tailored curriculum of positive social engagement, case management, and employment training, while reducing risk for exposure and interaction with the criminal justice system.

COACH Fellowship launches September 2018 with the first cohort of 10 Fellows, in conjunction with Louisville’s Thrive Fellowship. Lexington is very grateful to both our national partners and local stakeholders for helping to bring this new platform of opportunity to Lexington communities. Please stay tuned to *The Loop* for future updates.



This month in

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Chris Ford, *Commissioner*  
*Department of Social Services*

## INTRODUCING ADULT & TENANT SERVICES



**Adult & Tenant Services**  
**Black & Williams**  
**Neighborhood Center**  
**498 Georgetown Street**  
**859.500.5300**

*(pictured left to right)*

Kevin Edmonds  
*Social Services Coordinator*

Dolores Madrid-Sanders  
*Social Services Coordinator*

Sharon Smith  
*Case Management Coordinator*

Connie Godfrey  
*Director*

The **Division of Adult & Tenant Services** offers housing cost assistance to residents in need, and facilitates the delivery of human services to vulnerable adults. Our staff of 15 team members includes service coordinators, social workers, and eligibility counselors.

In addition to partnerships with local community agencies, Adult & Tenant Services administers a portfolio of programs in collaboration with several LFUCG stakeholders, including the divisions of Accounting, Code Enforcement, Grants & Special Programs, Planning, Revenue, and the Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention.

## IN MEMORY OF DON BALL

1936—2018

Lexington businessman and philanthropist Don Ball passed away on March 23, 2018. Widely recognized as being an industry leader in home building and construction, Mr. Ball was also active in local charitable efforts, many associated with human services and affordable housing.

*“Lexington’s network of human services is collectively stronger thanks to Don Ball’s vision for expanding opportunities and community team building. I join the Department of Social Services and many local partner agencies in mourning Mr. Ball’s death, and extend my condolences to the Ball family”.*

—Chris Ford, Commissioner of Social Services



## DISTRICT SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL



Commissioner Chris Ford represented the Department of Social Services on the Fayette County Public School's [District Safety Advisory Council](#), a diverse 26-member panel of educators, students, community leaders, and public safety officials. The purpose of the Council is to examine best practices in school safety and develop specific recommendations to ensure all Fayette County Public Schools are safe places to learn and work.

Throughout the month of March, local subject matter experts shared testimony and perspective in the areas of school safety; juvenile justice; mental health; social media; and student voice. Community access and engagement was incorporated into the planning effort, as the Council rotated its meeting sites to each of Lexington's 6 public high schools. Superintendent Manny Caulk and school district leadership anticipate presenting a report with formal recommendations later this spring.

## NEW LEADERS JOIN PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Jim Gray recently announced 2 key appointments in Public Safety: Ken Armstrong is the new Commissioner of Public Safety, and Lawrence Weathers is the new Chief of Police.

Commissioner Armstrong most recently served as the city's Director of Code Enforcement. Chief Weathers most recently served as Director of Law Enforcement for Fayette County Public Schools. Both Armstrong and Weathers have previous career experience with Lexington Police. In addition, Chief Weathers is the past Board Chair of the Partners for Youth Foundation.

The Dept. of Social Services is fortunate to have worked with both Commissioner Armstrong and Chief Weathers, in their previous assignments. We look forward to expanding the collaboration between Public Safety and Social Services. Congratulations, Commissioner and Chief!



*Commissioner Armstrong*



*Chief Weathers*

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## MANAGING DATA MORE EFFICIENTLY

*Social Services celebrates anniversary of new client database*

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, we reached the 1 year anniversary of activating our Case Management Information System, or CMIS. We salute the many Social Services team members who dedicated much time and effort during the design phase, leading to the implementation of the database software.

There are several benefits of CMIS. Our clients should experience a more seamless integration to our programs and service delivery systems. For our staff members responsible for direct services, the advantages include the reduction in data entry; a more efficient method of tracking client outcomes; better reporting options; and the opportunity for cross – agency collaboration.

A recent snapshot of first–year CMIS client data reveals 4,778 clients have interfaced with our service programs. Of this total, our staff has made 569 referrals for service to local partner agencies. Congrats to our project team leaders for promoting efficiency and accountability, via sound data management.



LEXINGTON, KY  
April 28, 2018



art activities  
film screening  
panel discussion  
speak out  
games  
storytime



and so much more!

10am-3pm - Pam Miller Downtown Arts Center - 141 East Main Street  
Free, Family Friendly Festival

**LISTEN UP!** is a new festival in Lexington to support survivors of interpersonal violence and engage the community to prevent future violence. All are welcome to this free, family-friendly event. For more information, contact our Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinator, Stephanie Theakston, at (859) 258.3803 or at [stheakston@lexingtonky.gov](mailto:stheakston@lexingtonky.gov).