



FAIRFAX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HEALTH: how we build it

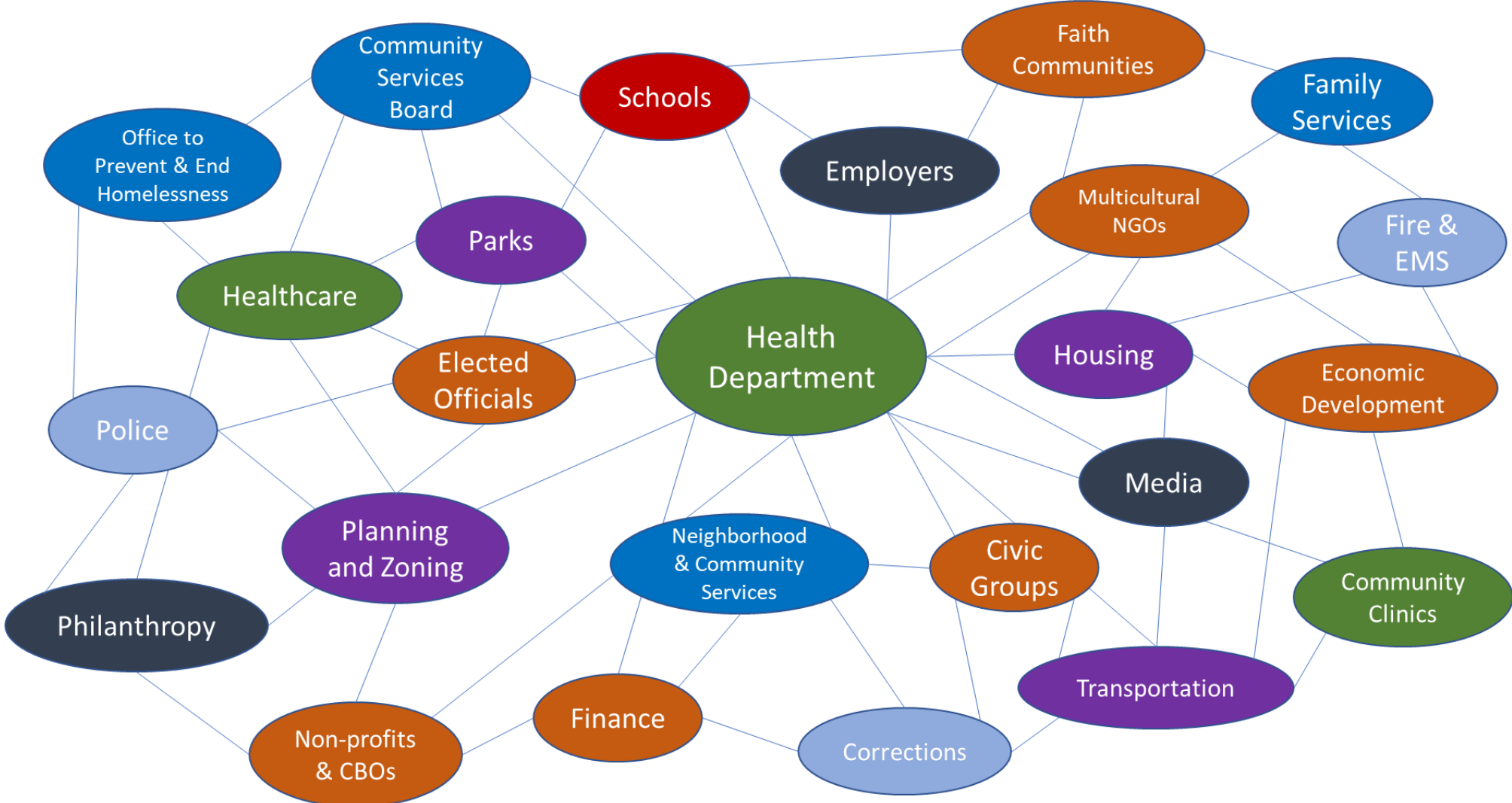
Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu
Anna Ricklin, MHS



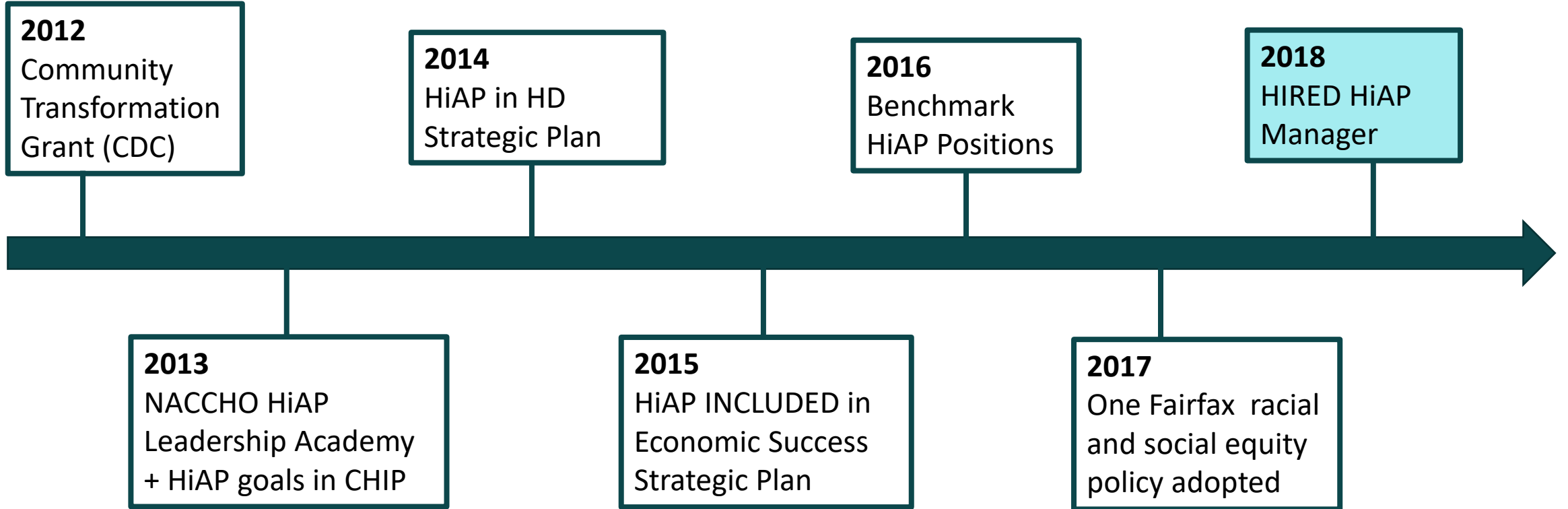
Health impact pyramid



The public health system



Establishing a HiAP platform in Fairfax



HiAP Manager role

- “Ambassador for Health” to other agencies
- Provide direct and indirect education
- Collaborate on projects, plans, and policies *as they develop*
- Identify connections - between people, policies, or resources
- Bring new information and perspective



The Health in All Policies approach in Fairfax

1. Upstream – not programmatic
2. Collaborative – with county partners
3. Educational – to build buy-in & understanding of health impacts
4. Equity-focused – changing culture
5. Iterative – long term investment

Connect on values

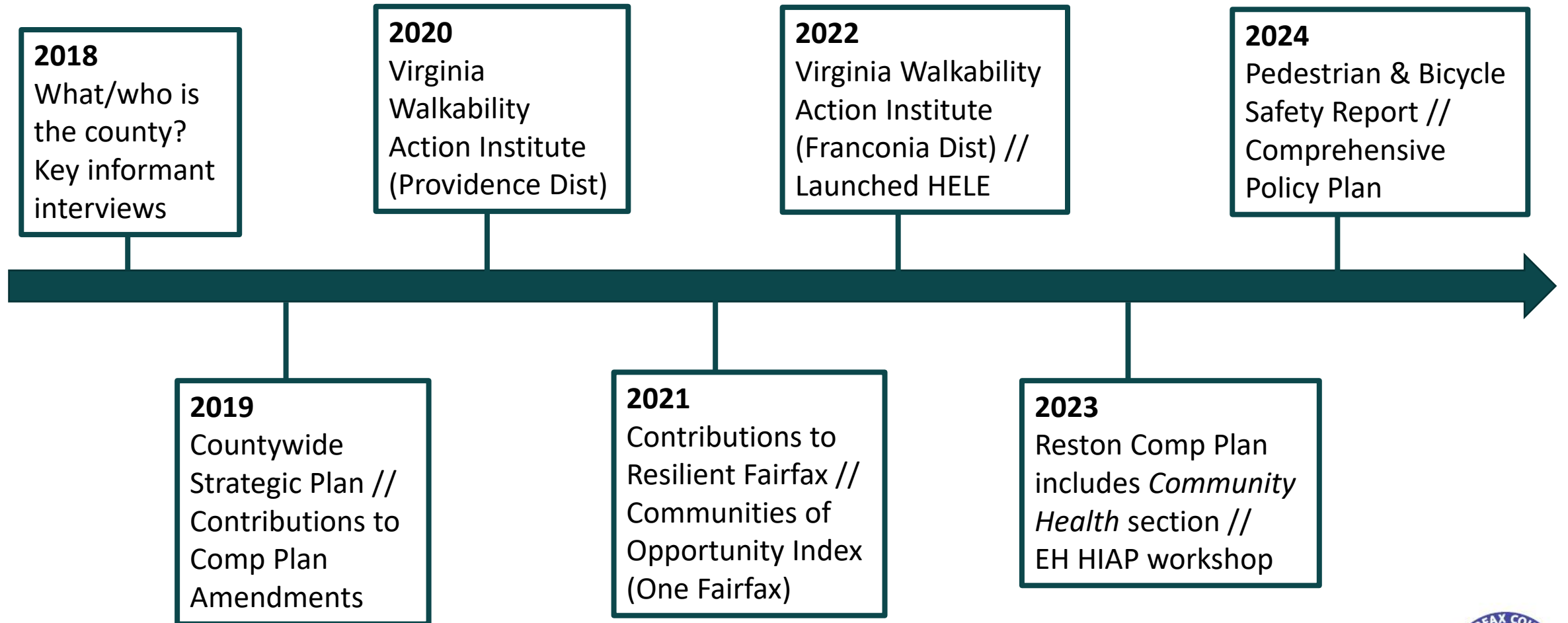
Illustrate the problem

Show what is possible:
examples from other places

Creatively link to existing policy
or process



Examples of HiAP work in Fairfax



Partners are people - the branches of gov't

Land Development

- Transportation
- Planning and Development
- Urban Forestry, Public Works
- Land Development Services

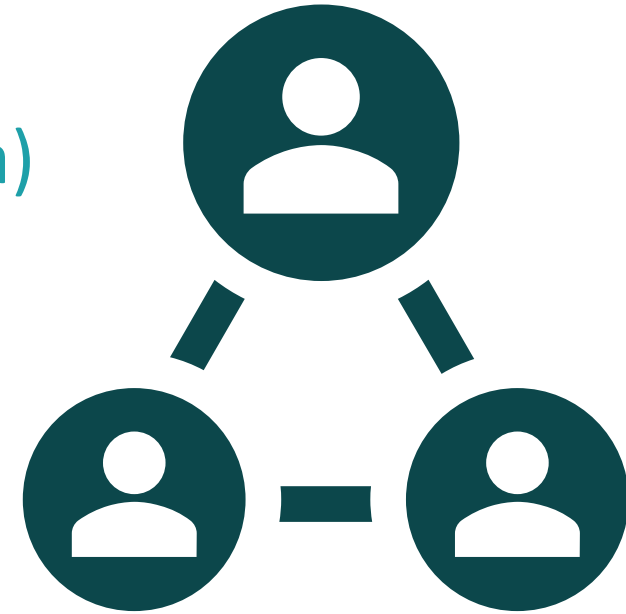
Health and Human Services

- Divisions within the Health Dept
- Housing and Community Dvpt.
- Neighborhood and Community Services
- Parks and Recreation



...What it looks like in real life

- Opportunistic (keep watch)
- Qualitative + quantitative (stories + data)
- Relationship-based (networking)
- Inquisitive (asking questions)
- Methodical (keep showing up)
- Lots of “little p” (reality)





“We are not building monuments”

Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu
Health Director

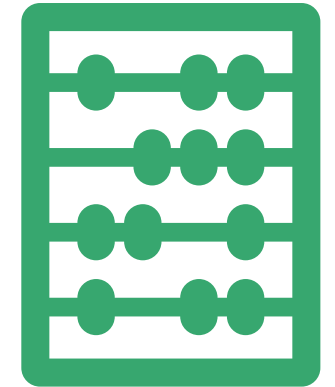


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What's next

- Lead research and development for a new *Community Health* chapter in Comprehensive Plan
- More outreach and education to Board of Supervisors members, their staff, and other boards, authorities, commissions
- Partner with non-profit and advocacy organizations on collective impact initiatives
- Work with Epidemiology colleagues to study healthy housing practices and trends in pedestrian injury
- Increase partnership with Environmental Health





Considerations

HiAP is a journey

Legal or policy restrictions at the state or local level

Government structure – this matters!

Buy-in – especially from obvious allies

Stamina – change takes time



A photograph of two young children, a girl and a boy, running happily on a grassy field in a park. They are holding hands and smiling. In the background, there is a playground with blue and green equipment, trees, and other people. The image has a soft white vignette effect.

Thank you!

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