

Poverty AMIDST *Plenty:*

The Two Faces of Anne Arundel County



A Guide To Action

*Prepared as a Community Service by the
Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County and the
Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families*

2010



**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

Live Here, Give Here



**Anne Arundel County Partnership
for Children, Youth & Families**



The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC) is a non-profit organization focused on facilitating community philanthropy, effective grantmaking and engaging in community problem-solving. CFAAC works

with local donors of all giving levels to establish charitable funds that meet the goals of the donors and the needs of our community. CFAAC is one of the largest funders of nonprofits in Anne Arundel County. We are investing our resources in local nonprofits that are making a real and meaningful impact on disadvantaged residents of our county and those that are improving the quality of life for everyone. We are your foundation!

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The Anne Arundel County Local Management Board (Partnership for Children, Youth and Families) is a statutorily required body formed in 1996 as a collaborative representing community members; government child serving agencies, and private service providers whose mission is to strengthen Anne Arundel families. The members

of the LMB share in the responsibility of identifying community needs, setting goals, and developing strategies for service delivery based on best practices. The LMB acts as the Board of Directors to the Coalition ensuring that substance abuse issues and strategies are highlighted at the highest county level.

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Poverty Amidst Plenty: The Two Faces of Anne Arundel County

A guide to action

Third Edition, 2010

Presented as a community service by
the **Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County**
in cooperation with
the **Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families**

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Prepared for the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County and the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families by Dr. Lester M. Salamon with the assistance of Courtney Conner, Jing Li, and Elizabeth Schiemann

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Acknowledgements

This report is a product of a partnership between the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County and the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families.

Much of the data reported here was assembled by Courtney Conner, Jing Li, and Elizabeth Schiemann, all students in the Johns Hopkins Master's of Public Policy Program, drawing on the Census Bureau's 2008 American Community Survey and numerous other official sources. The report also draws on qualitative data gathered from open-ended interviews with key informants (either the chief or a high ranking official) from the Anne Arundel County Departments of Juvenile Services, Public Health, Social Services; the County Executive's Office; the Public School System; the Core Services Agency; and Centro de Ayuda (Center of Help). All but the latter serve on the board of the County's Partnership for Children, Youth and Families. Additionally, a diverse group of twenty-four community stakeholders representing not-for-profit providers, faith-based agencies, and government programs attended a 90-minute focus group session in March of 2010. We are indebted to the many nonprofit leaders and public officials who made available agency data and internal reports on county social, economic, and health characteristics, granted interviews to the researchers, and/or took part in the focus group session. We are especially grateful to Dr. Pamela Brown, Executive Director of the Anne Arundel Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, for leading the focus group, summarizing the results, and assisting the project in many other ways.

Because this report comes so soon after the previous edition of our Needs Assessment, updated data on a number of variables reported there are not yet available. Rather than delete topics covered in that earlier report due to the unavailability of updated data, we decided to repeat the earlier data here to provide as complete a profile of relevant issues as possible, while acknowledging that circumstances may have changed in the interim. Hopefully, this will become a "living document" with updated interpretations added as new data become available.

Because of the timing of the most recently available Census data, this report likely does not capture the full impact of the economic recession that struck the nation, and this state and county, in 2008 and 2009. Readers are therefore cautioned to take this into account in interpreting various data elements.

These caveats aside, as the author, full responsibility for the interpretations and analyses presented here is mine alone and is not necessarily shared by the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County, the Anne Arundel Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, or the boards, officers, or donors of these organizations or of any other organizations with which I am affiliated. The report has only one fundamental goal: to help frame an informed discussion about trends and needs in the Anne Arundel County community of Maryland, and potentially to contribute to actions that address these needs.

Lester M. Salamon
Arnold, Maryland
May 12, 2010

Preface

The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC) is pleased to bring this Needs Assessment report to the citizens of Anne Arundel County. We are deeply appreciative to Dr. Lester M. Salamon, the former chairman and current Board Member of our Foundation, for contributing his time to pull this extraordinary report together for us with the assistance of an able group of students. We are also grateful to Dr. Pamela Brown and the Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families for supporting this work in a variety of ways.

As this report will show, our county has extraordinary strengths but also significant shortcomings. Those of us who have come together to form the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County believe we can take the initiative to make life better for all of our county's residents, and we hope this needs assessment will motivate you to join us in this endeavor.

CFAAC is growing philanthropy and building community in Anne Arundel County. It is doing so in three principal ways:

- 1) We provide funding to a wide variety of nonprofit organizations in Anne Arundel County in order to address emerging needs and changing community priorities. Through carefully screened grants, we invest in local nonprofits that are making a meaningful and measurable contribution to the quality of life for everyone in the community. Since 2005, we have given over \$1,250,000 in grants, and are one of the largest philanthropic agencies in the county. Our grants tackle projects that will have the greatest impact, now and in the future.
- 2) We help local donors maximize the impact of their giving by establishing charitable, named funds and linking donors to carefully screened giving opportunities in their areas of interest. CFAAC currently holds 42 such funds, including nonprofit endowments, donor-advised funds, and scholarship funds.
- 3) We serve as a leader and catalyst for community problem-solving, convening private, public, and nonprofit partners to develop collaborative solutions to complex issues.

Due to the generosity and foresight of local donors, CFAAC is experiencing significant growth. The 42 charitable funds we now manage have assets totaling \$2 million. But more importantly than our assets size are the grants that we are making to vital nonprofits in our community. Last year, we awarded more than \$420,000 in grants and this year are on track to invest more than \$500,000 in our community. Over the past 5 years we have granted out more than \$1.25 million. We are now one of the biggest funders in the county.

In 2009 we launched our first major community grant program, *Ladders to Success*. Through our *Ladders* grant program we are investing in local nonprofit organizations that provide opportunities for disadvantaged or vulnerable county residents to achieve long-term economic sustainability. In early 2010, CFAAC provide more than \$120,000 to six local nonprofits: Annapolis Area Ministries/Lighthouse Shelter, Anne Arundel Community College, Arundel House of Hope, Center of Help, Langton Green and Sarah's House.

The impact of our grants is real and measurable. Our grant dollars are funding opportunities for disadvantaged and vulnerable residents of Anne Arundel County to acquire job skills, work experience and needed education in a supportive environment, through programs reaching into all corners of the county, all populations, and all ages.

In addition to the actual grant dollars, the Community Foundation has launched a Leaders Circle program that provides each of our grantee's executive directors the opportunity to learn from and share with each other over the course of the grant year. It is our expectation that the Leaders Circle concept, over time, will help build a strong network of nonprofit leaders throughout the County, thereby improving the programs and services available to the neediest among us.

This is just the beginning. Over the next few years, with the continued support of our community, we will launch three more community grant programs for a total of four areas of focus or cornerstones identified by our Board of Trustees: Education & Youth, Arts & Culture, and the Environment (the fourth is Economic Opportunity which is our *Ladders to Success* program).

Join Us

The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County is eager to expand its capacity to improve the lives of Anne Arundel County residents and serve the needs of Anne Arundel philanthropists. We welcome your support and interest.

The Needs Assessment offered here should be a call to action to every Anne Arundel County resident. Despite a life of plenty for many, Anne Arundel County still offers a life of want for many of our citizens. We can do better than this, and we can do it on our own initiative, without waiting for government to require it.

We have built the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County as a place where donors of all sizes and interests can find a home for their charitable passions, and where residents can join together to improve the communities in which we all live. We encourage you to contact us to learn how the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County can help you achieve your charitable objectives and improve the quality of life for all people in this region. We look forward to hearing from you.

David Cyphers
Chairman, Board of Directors

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Foreword

Each of the 24 Maryland jurisdictions is required, by statute, to convene a collaborative Local Management Board of agency representatives and key stakeholders to ensure the implementation of a local interagency service delivery system for children, youth and families. In Anne Arundel County that board is the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families (the Partnership,) established in 1993. Current board members include Anne Arundel County Public Schools, the Department of Juvenile Services, Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services, Anne Arundel Community College, the Anne Arundel County Health Department, the Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, family members, private citizens and representatives from the business community.

The Partnership currently funds 24 programs throughout Anne Arundel County targeting youth from birth to age 21. Some of our current initiatives include middle school after-school programs; the annual free Teen Summit event, held each May to encourage adolescents to “choose to be drug free”; Youth Empowerment Services (YES), a diversion program for status offenders and first time, non-violent offenders ages 12-18; the Network of Care, a “one stop” source for information, communication and advocacy to assess resources for families and providers; Gems and Jewels mentoring institute, and the BEST program for early childhood behavioral issues.

The Partnership is required by statute to perform a community needs assessment every three years to ensure local programs are targeted to current strengths and needs. During these tough economic times, and given the fantastic quality of our well-respected Community Foundation’s *Poverty Amidst Plenty* reports, it made perfect sense for our two agencies to become partners in our needs assessments to ensure no duplication of effort, money, or time. The Partnership board is proud to be a partner in this public- private collaboration between county government and the philanthropic sector and would like to thank the Community Foundation Board for the opportunity.

Pamela M. Brown, Ph.D.,
Executive Director,
Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families
(Local Management Board)

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Summary of Principal Findings

- 1) **General Affluence.** Anne Arundel County, Maryland, is a pleasant, rapidly growing, increasingly diverse, and relatively affluent community with a median income that is 18 percent above the Maryland average. More than 39 percent of all families earned over \$100,000 in 2006, and sizeable proportions are earning more than \$200,000.
- 2) **The Other Anne Arundel County.** Beneath this comforting image of general affluence, however, lies another Anne Arundel County characterized by significant poverty and distress.
- 3) **Poverty.** Over 22,000 Anne Arundel County residents lived in poverty as of the middle of this decade according to recent U.S. Census data, and over 7,000 of these are children.
- 4) **African-American Poverty.** Among the County's African-American population, one in twelve, or 8 percent, on average, lived in poverty during the 2006-08 period, the latest period for which data are available. The comparable figure for Whites was 4 percent. Thus, the chances of being in poverty in the county were nearly twice as great for African-Americans as for Whites.
- 5) **Child Poverty.** The poverty rate in Anne Arundel County is particularly high for African-American children, of whom over 13 percent, on average, lived in poverty during the 2006-2008 period, compared to fewer than 5 percent of White children. The chances of being in poverty in Anne Arundel County are therefore more than twice as great for African-American children as for White children. And among children of whatever race in single-mother homes, the poverty rate stands at 20.5 percent, or one out of every five such children. What is more, this was the case even though the vast majority of the mothers in these families (92 percent) were in the labor force.
- 6) **Impact of the Recession.** The current economic recession has added to these problems. One evidence of this is the 50 percent increase in households receiving food stamps between 2007 and 2009.
- 7) **Public Transportation.** Limited public transportation imposes significant barriers on access to both work and public services for many Anne Arundel citizens. Only 3 percent of Anne Arundel residents utilize public transit to get to work. Access to work, as to many public services, thus depends critically on access to an automobile. Yet, nearly 8,000 families lacked access to a motor vehicle as of 2008.
- 8) **Housing.** Further complicating the lives of low and middle-income people in Anne Arundel County has been the escalation in housing costs that accompanied the growing affluence and population of the county. While the recent downturn in the real estate market has provided some relief, it is also creating as many problems as it solves for those with limited incomes due to the fact that incomes are declining faster than housing costs. In particular:

- The median income of the county's Black households declined by 10 percent in inflation-adjusted dollars between 2006 and 2008 as unemployment levels in the county doubled;
- Perhaps reflecting this, the share of all Anne Arundel homeowners required to devote 30 percent or more of their income to housing increased from 28.7 percent in 2006 to 31.7 percent in 2008, and for renters from 40 percent in 2006 to 50 percent in 2008.
- For some families, the pressures of meeting high mortgage payments in the face of declining economic fortunes has produced even more dire consequences: 795 foreclosure events were filed in Anne Arundel County in the second quarter of 2008, the fourth highest figure in Maryland, and by the first quarter of 2010 that figure rose to 1,131. In the four hardest-hit communities of Brooklyn, Severn, Glen Burnie, and Laurel, the foreclosure rate stood at one out of every 88 owner-occupied homes.
- These developments have placed increased pressures on the county's limited supply of housing vouchers and homeless shelters. The waiting list for the county's 1,808 housing vouchers stood at 6,508 households as of July 2007. By July 2009, the number of households on the waiting list had swelled to 7,399, but the number of vouchers available had shrunk to 1,657. As of January 2010, the number of voucher applicants had expanded again, to 8,082 households. Not surprisingly, the pressures on the county's homeless shelters have multiplied. Most strikingly, the numbers of families with children seeking shelter increased two-and-a-half times between 2007 and 2009 and while the number of people sheltered increased, so did the number turned away.

9) **Health.** In addition to difficulties accessing housing, the share of Anne Arundel residents lacking health insurance swelled to 57,000 people in 2007, or more than 11 percent of the population. Lack of access to health insurance is a particular problem among the county's growing minority populations. One manifestation of this are the significant disparities that exist in mortality rates from treatable diseases among disadvantaged populations.

10) **Mental Health.** Mental health issues continue to strain county services. The number of calls coming into and out of the county's crisis response system reached 19,424, 15 percent more than had been anticipated. The number of persons served by the county's mental health services system jumped nearly 17 percent between 2007 and 2009. Although Anne Arundel County is served by a capable and innovative Mental Health Agency, there is widespread consensus that funding is insufficient to meet the current need and coordination between service systems needs to be strengthened further to improve the delivery of available services.

11) **Crime.** In 2005, Anne Arundel County had the fourth highest number of known violent crimes and the fifth highest number of reported property crimes among Maryland counties. In addition, Anne Arundel County ranks fourth in Maryland for juvenile crime intake cases. The rate of juvenile crime arrests has more than doubled since 1990 for youth between 10 and 17. Drug and alcohol use is

prominent not just in high schools, but in middle schools as well. The number of crimes in Anne Arundel County continued to increase between 2006 and 2008, though some reduction in the incidence at least of property crime and in some types of violent crime was registered in 2009.

12) The Environment. Despite its generally bucolic appearance, Anne Arundel County is hardly immune from significant environmental challenges that increasingly threaten its celebrated quality of life. As of 2008, Anne Arundel County stood in eighth place among Maryland's fourteen jurisdictions in terms of the Environmental Protection Agency's air quality index, much ahead of its twelfth place showing in 2006, but well below the fourth place ranking it enjoyed in 2000. Continued urban and suburban development have increased pollution in the Chesapeake Bay and increased contamination levels in local rivers.

13) Serving the County's Children and Youth. It has long been said that the best measure of any society is the way in which it treats its most vulnerable members. Children and youth are clearly among the most vulnerable members of our society. A special focus of this needs assessment has therefore been on how Anne Arundel County has been treating its children and youth.

Fortunately, there is some good news to report in terms of at least some of the eight objectives that the State of Maryland has identified for assessing child well-being:

- Graduation rates for Anne Arundel students have improved considerably in recent years and now exceed state averages.
- Most encouragingly, after trailing White graduation rates by nearly 10 percentage points during the past decade, graduation rates for African American students closed to within four percentage points of White rates as of 2009.
- Teen pregnancy rates in the county have remained moderate in comparison to state and national levels.

In a number of other areas, however, the record is not quite as encouraging. For example:

- While the share of women lacking pre-natal care in Anne Arundel County is well below the Maryland average, the rate of pre-term births among African-American women in Anne Arundel County is 40 percent higher than that for non-Hispanic Whites, and the rate of infant deaths per 1000 live births is 75 percent higher.
- A third of the county's children are either already overweight or at risk of being overweight.
- The number of children being served by county mental health officials has climbed by 10 percent in the past three years.
- Alcohol and drug use have escalated among county youth.

- Significant racial disparities persist in school readiness of the county's children, and these disparities carry over into later years.
- Child protective services investigations have recently spiraled upward, reaching more than 2400 in 2009. And too many of these investigations have turned up cases of maltreatment—1,000 cases of child physical abuse, over 1,000 cases of child neglect, and nearly 400 cases of child sexual abuse.
- Not only are numerous children and youth not safe in their homes, but also there are increasing problems of intimidation and criminal behavior in the schools, with 617 students arrested at Anne Arundel high schools alone during the 2008-09 school year.

14) **Community Resources.** Anne Arundel County has many resources with which to address the problems identified above. These include the county's governmental institutions and the dedicated public servants who staff them, as well as the skills and resources of the county's private philanthropic institutions and generous donors. However, there are serious concerns about the disjointed character of the available service delivery systems.

15) **Charitable Contributions.** Despite its above average median income, Anne Arundel County lags behind the nation, and behind the Maryland average, in its level of charitable giving.

15) **Nonprofit Activity.** Perhaps reflecting this, the County's charitable nonprofit sector is proportionally the fifth smallest in the state, and nonprofit revenues per person in Anne Arundel County are only two-thirds of the state average.

16) **Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County.** The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County was established by a group of County residents in 2000 to help stimulate charitable giving and channel the considerable wealth of this County into efforts to improve the quality of life for all the County's residents.

Like the more than 700 such foundations nationally, and 13 in Maryland, the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County is a grant-making organization controlled by local citizens that seeks to assist donors to achieve their charitable objectives in a flexible and effective way by building a base of charitable assets that can be used to improve the quality of life of this community over the long term. The Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County invites you to join it in meeting the many needs outlined here.

Introduction

Anne Arundel County, Maryland, the home of the state's capital, Annapolis, is a generally affluent, well-educated community that is, in many senses, living the American dream. The county's 512,790 residents have a median income that ranks them as the fourth richest in this generally affluent state, behind only Howard, Montgomery, and Charles counties.¹ What is more, the economic position of the county's residents has been improving. The popularity of waterfront property has sparked an influx of upper income residents. Reflecting this, median household income increased by 25.6 percent after adjusting for inflation between 2000 and 2008, reaching \$83,285 by the latter year, or 18 percent above the state average. More than 39 percent of Anne Arundel families now earn more than \$100,000.² In 2008, 36.8 percent of residents had a college education (a Bachelor's degree or greater), an increase of 6.8 percent over 2000.³ The number of children in preschool and kindergarten has also rocketed from 8,253 in 1990 to over 16,600 in 2008.⁴

Beneath this comforting picture of general affluence, however, lies another Anne Arundel County, this one characterized by significant poverty and distress. Despite the county's growing affluence, over 22,000 Anne Arundel County residents lived in poverty in 2008, and more than 7,000 of these are children under 18 years old.⁵ The chances of living in poverty are more than double for Blacks in Anne Arundel County than for Whites (8 percent vs. 4 percent).⁶ One out of every eight Black children (13.1 percent) lived in poverty in 2008, while the poverty rate among White children is barely half that at five percent.⁷ And these figures take no account of the higher cost of living in this county, which makes the national poverty line too low to capture the real extent of actual poverty that exists. Although the quality of life is generally quite good in the county, lack of public transit and affordable housing, coupled with lack of access to health insurance, hinder the quality of life for many of Anne Arundel's citizens, particularly senior citizens and low-income groups.

Immigration is also changing the landscape of Anne Arundel County in profound ways. Although Hispanics account for only 4.5 percent of the county's population, the Hispanic population grew by more than 200 percent between 1990 and 2008, placing Anne Arundel among the six highest counties in Maryland in terms of concentration of Latinos.⁸

Fortunately, Anne Arundel County is also blessed with government agencies and private nonprofit groups that are addressing many of the problems county citizens are facing. But these organizations need help from the county's citizens and corporations. Mobilizing that help is the function of a community foundation like the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County and of organizations such as the Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families. The public-private partnership embodied in the creation of this report is precisely the kind of collaboration the Community Foundation has hoped its need assessment reports would help to foster.

More specifically, this report is divided into four sections. Section I outlines some of the strengths of Anne Arundel County as they emerge from available Census and other statistics. Section II then examines some of the social, economic, and environmental strains that the County also exhibits. Section III zeros in more squarely on the well-being of children, youth, and families in this county, focusing particularly on progress to date toward meeting the six outcome measures that the county's Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families has identi-

fied as especially crucial for gauging progress on the problems that this crucial at-risk population faces. Finally, section IV outlines some of the public and private resources available in this county to address the kinds of problems this report highlights.

While we are well aware of this community's enormous strengths, the real test of citizenship is the extent to which a community can also acknowledge its shortcomings and mobilize action to confront them. It is this spirit of citizenship that we hope to mobilize with this report.

Chapter 1: A Community of Plenty

Anne Arundel County is a rapidly growing suburban county with deep historical traditions and an enviable geographic location along the magnificent Chesapeake Bay. It is also a county with huge geographical diversity. There are urban pockets amid large rural expanses, and even within the urban pockets there are considerable economic and social differences. To many, “North County” is a world apart from “South County,” and the communities of Annapolis, Glen Burnie, Severn, Arnold, and Pasadena have their own distinctive populations and “cultures.”

As reflected in **Table 1.1** below, the county has experienced rapid growth in population over the past nearly fifty years, boosting the number of residents by two-and-a-half times from over 200,000 in 1960 to more than half a million by 2008.⁹ The scale and rate of growth has slowed noticeably, however, in recent years, perhaps as a result of the difficulties in the housing market.

Table 1.1: Total Population, Anne Arundel County, 1960-2008

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2008
Total	206,634	297,539	370,775	427,239	489,656	512,790
Change		90,905	72,733	65,464	62,317	23,134
% Change over prior period		44.0%	24.4%	15.2%	14.6%	4.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B01001; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 1, Table P1; U.S. Census Bureau, [Population of Counties by Decennial Census: 1900-1990](#).

Population Composition—Growing Diversity

Like the rest of America, Anne Arundel County has been growing increasingly diverse. Although three-fourths of the county’s population classifies itself in a category that the Census Bureau terms “Non-Hispanic Whites,” this portion of the population grew at a much slower rate than that of the balance of the county’s population between 1990 and 2008.¹⁰ Thus, as shown in Table 1.2, while the overall population of the county grew by 20 percent between 1990 and 2008, the non-Hispanic White population grew by only 6.4 percent while the balance of the county’s population grew by 95 percent.¹¹ This included a 238 percent growth in the Hispanic or Latino population, a 54 percent growth in the Black population, and a 219 percent growth in other segments of the population, including Asian, American Indian or Native Alaskan, persons noting two or more races, and others. In fact, with nearly 85 percent of the county’s population as of 1990, the non-Hispanic White population accounted for only 27 percent of the county’s population growth between 1990 and 2008. The balance of the growth—73 percent in all—came from other population groupings. The non-Hispanic White population thus declined from 85 percent of the total in 1990 to 75 percent in 2008. And between 2000 and 2008, the non-Hispanic White population of the country registered not just a relative, but also an absolute decline in numbers.

Table 1.2: Ethnic/racial composition, Anne Arundel County, 1990-2008

	1990		2000		2008		Percent Change, 1990-2008
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	
Total Population	427,239	100.0	489,656	100.0	512,790	100.0	20.0%
Non-Hispanic Whites	361,609	84.6	390,519	79.8	384,706	75.0	6.4%
Other:	65,630	15.4	99,137	20.2	128,084	25.0	95.2%
Hispanic or Latino	6,815	1.6	12,902	2.6	23,036	4.5	238.0%
Black or African-American	49,954	11.7	65,755	13.4	76,748	15.0	53.6%
Other*	8,861	2.1	20,480	4.2	28,300	5.5	219.4

* "Other" here includes "American Indian and Alaskan Native", "Asian", "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander", "Some other race", or "Two or more races". Therefore, the "White" and "Black" figures are those who were counted as "White alone" or "Black alone".

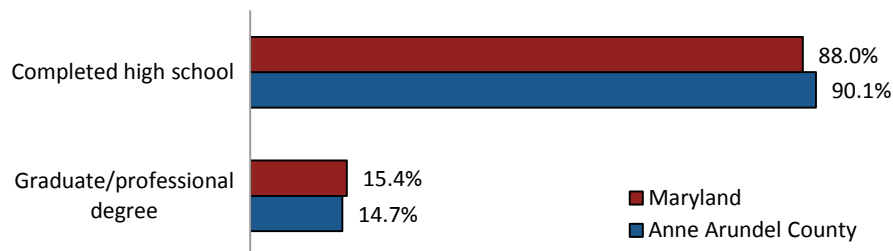
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B02001, B03001, AND B03002; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 1, Table P8; *Decennial Census*, 1990, Anne Arundel County, Summary Tape File 1, Table P010.

Reflecting these population changes, the number of Anne Arundel residents reporting that they speak Spanish at home almost tripled between 1990 and 2008, from 6,927 to 16,766.¹² Although this represents just three percent of the population, the numbers are increasing. What is more, the percentage of Spanish speakers who said they spoke English "less than very well" increased from 31 percent in 1990 to 34 percent in 2008, posing a number of special challenges for the county, as we will see more fully below.¹³

Education

The Anne Arundel County Public School system is the fifth largest in Maryland with about 74,200 students. With 78 elementary schools, 19 middle schools, and 12 high schools, the district had an FY2010 operating budget of \$936.3 million.

Anne Arundel's population is unusually well educated overall. As noted in **Figure 1.1** below, 90.1 percent of the county's residents over 25 years of age have a high school diploma and 14.7 percent possess a graduate or professional degree. This exceeds the Maryland average of 88 percent with high school diplomas and is just below the Maryland average of 15.4 percent with graduate or professional degrees.

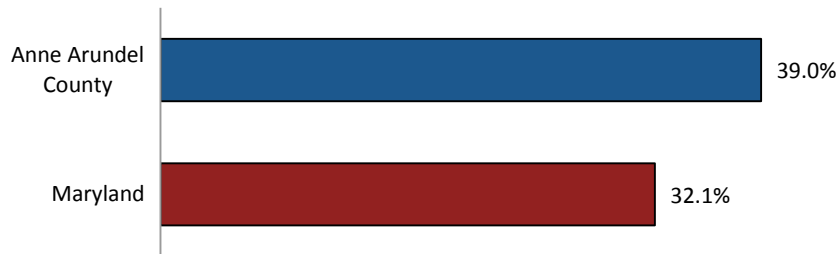
Figure 1.1: Educational attainment, Anne Arundel County vs. Maryland State average, 2008

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, State of Maryland, Detailed Tables, Table B15002

Income

Reflecting its generally high educational level, Anne Arundel County families generally enjoy above average median incomes. Overall, the median household income in the county, at \$83,285, is 18 percent above the Maryland average, and the Maryland average is the highest in the nation.¹⁴ Close to 74,000 Anne Arundel families, or 39 percent, boasted family incomes in excess of \$100,000 as of 2008. This is well above the 32 percent of families with such high incomes in Maryland as a whole (see **Figure 1.2**), and the 39,000 Anne Arundel families who reported such income as of 2000.¹⁵ Additionally, 7.7 percent of Anne Arundel families (14,598 families in all) earned over \$200,000 in 2008 compared to 6.8 percent in the state as a whole.¹⁶

Figure 1.2: Share of families with income over \$100,000, Anne Arundel County and Maryland State average, 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County; State of Maryland, Detailed Tables, Table B19101

In short, Anne Arundel County has much to be proud of. It is a generally affluent county, with highly educated citizens widely experiencing the American dream.

Chapter 2: The Other Anne Arundel County

Comforting though the image portrayed in the previous chapter may be, however, it is only one facet of life in this generally affluent county. Beneath the image of general affluence, Anne Arundel County has another face as well, one characterized by poverty and distress. Indeed, it is the presence of poverty amidst plenty that makes the poverty so painful. Worse than that, the affluence may accentuate and help perpetuate the poverty, by bidding up housing costs, reducing usage of public transit, and fostering racial and economic isolation. Several focus group participants commented that the county is “affluent to those looking from the outside in” yet there are pockets of severe poverty in every part of the county. The general feeling was that “in Anne Arundel County the poverty is overlooked because of the wealth.” As one participant commented, “There’s some really heavy poverty in this county that’s really frightening... The denial is huge.”

All of this makes it essential to go beyond the comforting averages, to delve into the details, and then to see what can be done about them.

Racial Disparities in Income

As a first step in this direction, it is important to recognize that not all families are sharing equally in the county’s overall affluence. Important racial disparities in income are present in the county, and these have apparently worsened as a consequence of the recession that hit the country beginning in 2008. Thus, as shown in **Table 2.1**, after adjusting for inflation, the median income of White households in the county grew by five percent between 1999 and 2008 while that of African-American households grew by only two percent.¹⁷ In fact, the median household income of Black households actually declined between 2006 and 2008, suggesting that the impact of the recession hit Black households especially severely. As a consequence, after closing the racial gap in median household income between 1999 and 2006, African-Americans had fallen farther behind as of 2008, with median family incomes farther below comparable white family levels than they had been a decade earlier.

Table 2.1: Relative growth of white and black median household income (MHI), Anne Arundel County, 1999-2008

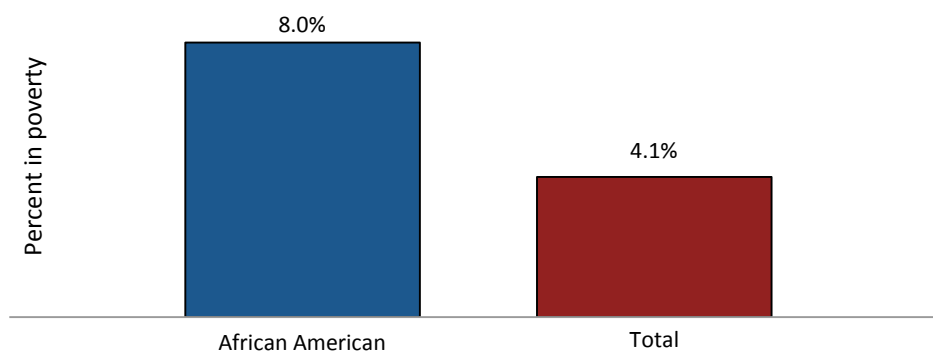
Variable	Median Household Income (MHI)			Percent Change 1999-2008
	1999	2006	2008	
White	\$83,397	\$87,024	\$87,593	5.0%
Black	\$61,063	\$69,887	\$62,518	2.4%
Black as percent of White	73.0 %	80.0%	71.4%	-52%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008 and 2006, Anne Arundel County, B19013A and B19013B; U.S. Census Bureau, *Decennial Census*, 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P152A and P152B.¹⁸

Poverty

These income disparities also show up in figures on poverty. While Anne Arundel County is a generally affluent county, distressing pockets of poverty also exist. Even using national definitions of poverty (i.e., without taking account of the higher costs of living in this generally affluent county), an average of over 22,000 people lived in poverty in Anne Arundel County in 2006-2008.¹⁹ Among the county's African-American population, the poverty rate as of 2008 was almost double that of the overall population (8 percent vs. 4 percent), as shown in **Figure 2.1**.

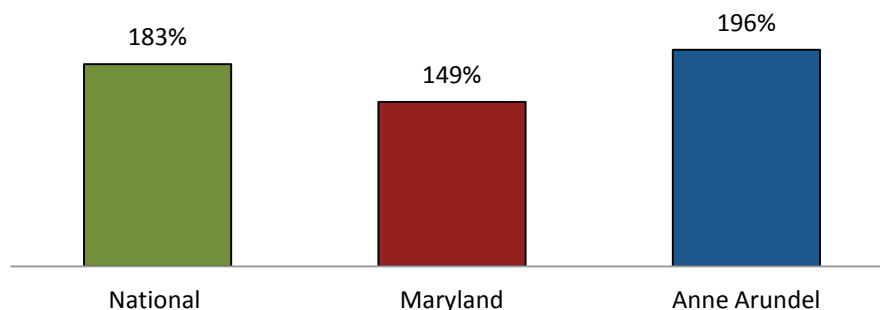
Figure 2.1: Anne Arundel County Poverty Rates, by Race, 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey, United States, Maryland, and Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables B17001 and B17001B.

Although the African-American poverty rate in Anne Arundel County is below the U.S. and Maryland averages, the Black-White disparity in poverty rates is actually sharper in Anne Arundel County than it is either nationally or in Maryland generally. Thus, as shown in **Figure 2.2**, the share of Blacks in poverty is 196 percent of that of Whites in Anne Arundel County, whereas the comparable figures are 183 percent nationally and 149 percent in Maryland as a whole.

Figure 2.2: African American population poverty rate as a percentage of the overall poverty rate, national, state, and county averages, 2008

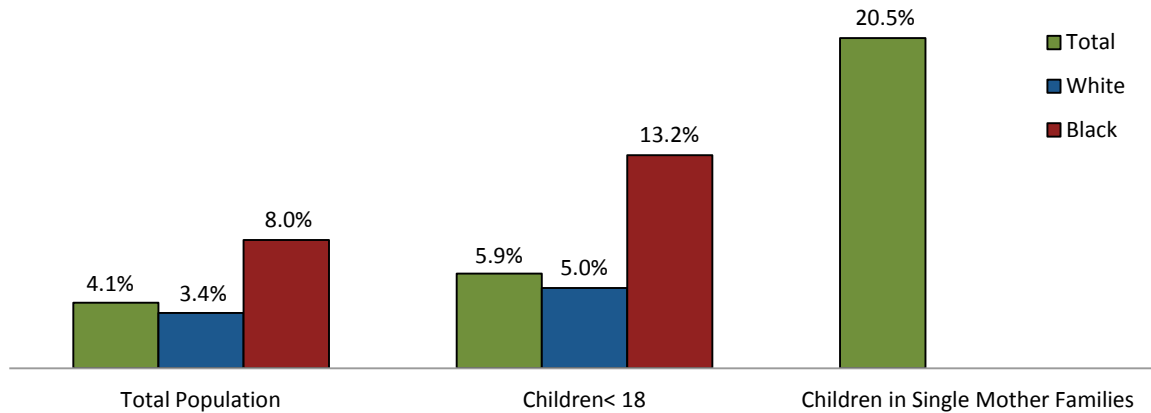


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey, United States, Maryland, and Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables B17001 and B17001B.

Most distressing of all, nearly a third of the people in poverty in the county (7,000 in all) are children.²⁰ The poverty rate for children, in fact, is higher than that for the population as a whole (5.9 percent vs. 4.1 percent as of 2008).²¹ And as **Figure 2.3** shows, among African-

American children, the poverty rate reached 13.1 percent as of 2008. The chances of being in poverty for African-American children in Anne Arundel County is thus nearly two-and-a-half times greater than it is for the average child in the county. These data likely understate the true extent of poverty in the county, moreover, because they use the national poverty line even though the cost of living in Anne Arundel County is well above the U.S. average.

Figure 2.3: Poverty rates in Anne Arundel County, by race, age, and household structure, 2008



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B01001, B17001A, B17001B, B17006, and B17010.

Poverty and Family Structure

One factor contributing to poverty in Anne Arundel County, as in the rest of the nation, is the structure of families. Slightly over one-fourth (25.9 percent) of all children in Anne Arundel County live in single-parent households, and the vast majority of these (80 percent, or 25,744 children) are in female-headed households.²² At least as of the 2000 Census, most of the children in single-parent families in Anne Arundel County were white children but the *proportion* of children in single-parent families was higher for African-Americans than for whites (49.2 percent vs. 17.1 percent as of 2000).²³

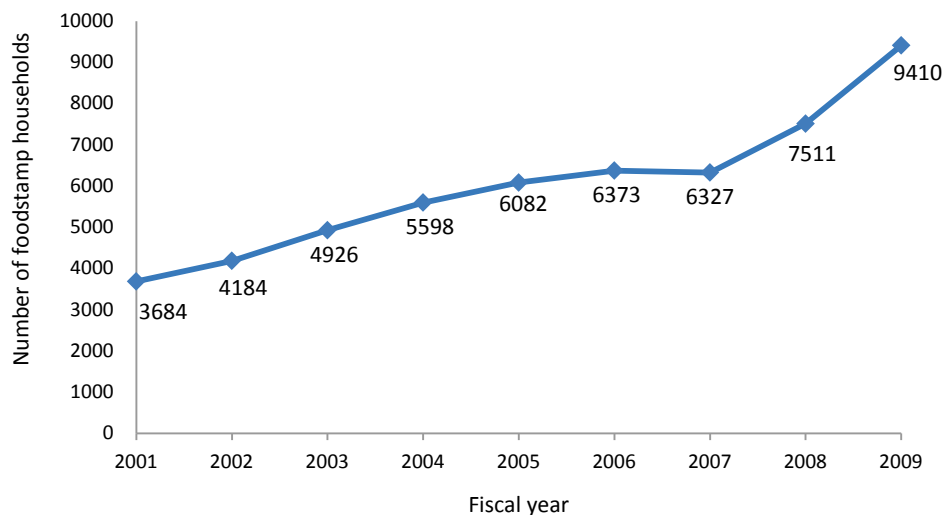
This is particularly significant because the poverty rate among children in single-parent families, and particularly in single-mother families, is extraordinarily high. As shown in **Figure 2.3**, compared to a poverty rate of 5.9 percent among all children in the county, and a poverty rate of 13.1 percent among African-American children, the poverty rate for children in single-mother homes stands at 20.5 percent, or one out of every five such children.²⁴ What is more, this was the case even though the vast majority of the mothers in these families (92 percent) were in the labor force.²⁵ Evidently, the employment opportunities open to single mothers, are not sufficient to lift them and their families out of poverty. And the recession that is currently under way likely accentuated this problem.

Impact of the Recession

The recent economic recession that has affected the nation has also had an impact on Anne Arundel County families. One striking evidence of this is apparent in data on the recent growth of food stamp recipients. As shown in **Figure 2.4**, the number of households receiv-

ing food stamps in the county spiked upward by 50 percent between fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2009 after rising slowly over the previous seven years.

Figure 2.4: Average monthly Anne Arundel food stamp households, 2000-2009



Source: Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services (2009). (www.dhr.state.md.us/county/ann).

Transportation

Another factor contributing to poverty in Anne Arundel County is the public transportation infrastructure. Access to employment opportunities via public transportation is limited for Anne Arundel County residents. The percentage of residents utilizing public transportation to commute to work in Anne Arundel County remains abysmally low at only 3 percent as of 2008 due in important part to the lack of a fully functioning public transit system.²⁶ Clearly, access to work in Anne Arundel County depends heavily on access to an automobile, which is an obstacle for those in poverty. In fact, nearly 8,000 families in the county reported that they lack access to a motor vehicle as of 2008.²⁷

Inadequate public transportation is not only a barrier to employment in the county. It is also a barrier to needed services. Social service providers in the County have described public transportation as “a myth” and cite it as a major obstacle for citizens needing access to services.²⁸ A service provider described how expensive it is to incorporate a public transportation component into their grant applications to make sure service is accessible to target populations. Other service providers agreed that given the diffused services in the county, limited public transportation renders referrals of cases difficult. Most agreed that more must be done not only to fight congestion and pollution, but also to give lower-income residents the means to access jobs and services.

Even those with automobiles encounter significant challenges. The 2006 Census Bureau’s American Community Survey confirmed that average commuting times had increased to nearly 30 minutes for Anne Arundel County residents and little improvement was registered as of 2008.²⁹

It is not just the poor who suffer from inadequate transportation infrastructure. Similar problems confront the county's elderly population, which has grown substantially in recent years. Between 1990 and 2008, the number of people aged 75-84 increased by 87.4 percent in the county compared to the 20 percent growth in the overall population.³⁰ In the past few years, senior centers have opened in Pasadena and Brooklyn Park, but officials note that lack of public transportation has isolated seniors in places such as West Pioneer City and Meade Village. Officials also note that more programs need to be geared toward increasing numbers of Hispanic and Asian elderly.

Housing

Further complicating the lives of poor people in Anne Arundel County has been the escalation in housing costs that accompanied the growing affluence and population of the county. While the recent downturn in the real estate market has provided some relief, it is also creating as many problems as it solves for those with limited incomes.

With increased numbers of families earning over \$100,000, real estate prices spiraled upward at a rapid rate for some time in Anne Arundel County, putting the goal of home ownership out of reach for many residents and creating a potentially serious affordable housing problem. Between 2000 and 2006, for example, the median sale price of a home in Anne Arundel County jumped by 121 percent, from \$151,500 to \$334,900, as shown in **Table 2.2**.³¹ During this same period White median household income grew by only 26 percent before adjusting for inflation and only 5 percent after adjusting for inflation. For Blacks, the comparable figures were 38 percent and 14 percent.³² Although prices stabilized in 2008 and declined slightly in 2009, the price gap between the median house price in Anne Arundel County and that in Maryland as a whole actually increased in 2009, rising from \$16,900 in fiscal year 2006 to \$21,745 in fiscal Year 2009.³³

Table 2.2: Median Sales Price of Houses, 2000, 2005-2009

	Fiscal Year					
	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Anne Arundel County	151,500	289,900	334,900	339,900	339,000	313,745
Maryland State	144,900	265,500	318,000	315,000	310,000	292,000

Source: Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, Online Reports and Statistics, Residential Sales, 2000, 2005-2009.

While home prices have declined somewhat, rental prices have not, at least not as of the date of the 2008 Census survey. In fact the median gross rent in Anne Arundel County increased from \$1,151 as of 2006 to \$1,257 in 2008, an increase of 9 percent. In the period since 2002, moreover, rental costs ballooned by 45 percent 2002.³⁴ During this same period, median household income lagged far behind.³⁵

Complicating the housing picture further is the fact that the supply of affordable subsidized housing has not kept pace with the need. According to the Anne Arundel County Annual Performance and Evaluation Report for FY 2009, "Federal funding, which is needed for the production of affordable rental housing and the preservation of aging units, has decreased significantly over the last 10 years. On the whole, State resources have also dwindled at the same

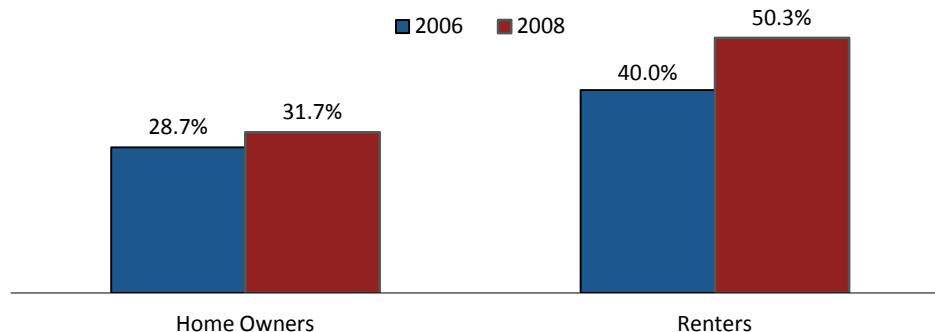
time that federal funds have been reduced, resulting in a decreased number of affordable units being produced and/or rehabilitated.”³⁶ The county has attempted to address the problems of low-income homeownership and rental difficulties by financing low-income housing, encouraging rehabilitation projects, and expanding the market for more affordable multifamily condominiums, but these efforts, too, have been curtailed by the economic downturn.

Even before the recent economic downturn these developments were putting serious strains on family budgets. As one official in the Maryland Association of Realtors noted earlier in this decade: “A working parent [in Anne Arundel County] would have to earn the equivalent of three minimum-wage jobs to pay the rent on an average two-bedroom apartment.”³⁷ This has created challenges even for those in public service jobs, such as teachers, police officers, and firefighters. Keith Wright, head of the Anne Arundel County Professional Firefighters, recently estimated that almost half of the firefighters employed in Anne Arundel County live outside the county as a consequence, with average commutes of 45 minutes to an hour.³⁸

The housing challenge confronting Anne Arundel County residents has become more serious, however, as the economic recession set in. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, after hovering between three and four percent for much of the period between 2000 and 2008, the unemployment rate doubled as of 2009. Although detailed breakdowns by race are not available by county, moreover, it is clear from statewide and Baltimore Metropolitan Area data that the unemployment rate among Blacks is 50 percent higher than this.³⁹

This combination of high housing costs and deteriorating economic conditions has had consequences that were already apparent at the time of the 2008 American Communities Survey. This was evident in the portion of Anne Arundel households pushed into spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing—the threshold typically taken to signal excessive housing cost relative to family income. Despite the stabilization of home prices, the share of homeowners pushed into this predicament increased from 28.7 percent in 2006 to 31.7 percent in 2008, as shown in **Figure 2.5**. For renters, the situation was more serious yet. The share of renters having to devote 30 percent or more of household income to housing jumped from over 40 percent in 2006 to over 50 percent in 2008.⁴⁰ And this was before the most severe part of the recession struck.

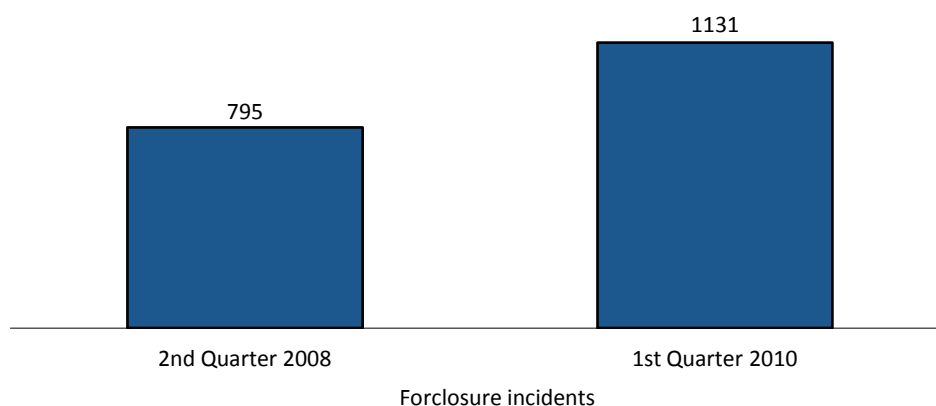
Figure 2.5: Share of Anne Arundel County households required to devote 30 percent or more of household income to housing



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B25074; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B25074

For some families, the pressures of meeting high mortgage payments in the face of declining economic fortunes has produced even more dire consequences. One reflection of this is a growing foreclosure problem as economically strained families pulled into inflated housing investments by the lack of alternatives and the lure of continuing rising prices have come face-to-face with the reality of being in over their heads. According to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, 795 foreclosure events were filed in Anne Arundel County in the second quarter of 2008, the fourth highest figure in Maryland (See **Figure 2.6**). On average, one in 136 households filed a foreclosure in the communities of Pasadena, Severn, and Glen Burnie that quarter. By the first quarter of 2010, this situation had deteriorated further as Anne Arundel County registered 1,131 foreclosure events, the fifth highest number in Maryland. Its four communities hit hardest, Brooklyn, Severn, Glen Burnie, and Laurel recorded an average foreclosure rate of one foreclosure for every 88 households.⁴¹ In all likelihood, however, this is just the tip of the iceberg since far more households are likely in arrears on their mortgages even if their properties have not fallen into foreclosure.

Figure 2.6: Recent foreclosure activity in Anne Arundel County



Source: The HOPE Initiative, Homeowners Preserving Equity, Library of Foreclosure Information, Property Foreclosures in Maryland: 2nd Quarter 2008

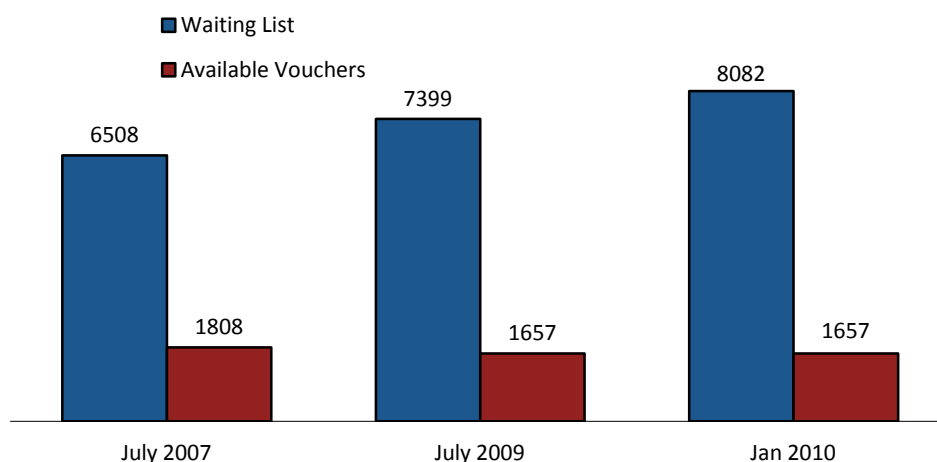
Also revealing has been the growth in the waiting list for so-called Housing Choice Vouchers (formerly known as Section 8 vouchers), the principal federal low-income housing assistance program. As of July 2007, as shown in **Figure 2.7**, the Housing Commission's waiting list for these housing assistance vouchers numbered 6,508 households, but only 1,808 vouchers were available in the county.⁴² By July 2009, the number of households on the same waiting list had swelled to 7,399 households, but the number of vouchers available had shrunk to 1,657. As of January 2010, the number of voucher applicants had expanded again, to 8,082 households.⁴³

A similar story has unfolded for public housing units. As of July 2009, 4046 households were on the waiting list for public housing in Anne Arundel County, over 60 percent of them Black households. As of January 2010, that figure had swelled by another 150 families.⁴⁴

Perhaps not surprisingly, this growing mismatch between resources and need has intensified the homelessness problem in Anne Arundel County. Although there has been a growth in the number of shelters, this growth has not kept pace with the increased need. Many of the shel-

ters have experienced rising usage and higher recidivism rates in recent years, as the spiraling cost of housing has made life difficult for many families and individuals.

Figure 2.7: Anne Arundel County waiting list for housing vouchers vs. available vouchers, 2007-2010



Source: Anne Arundel Consolidated Plan FY 2011-2015, Prepared by Arundel Community Development Services; Anne Arundel Community Development Services, LFY 2009 (Final) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

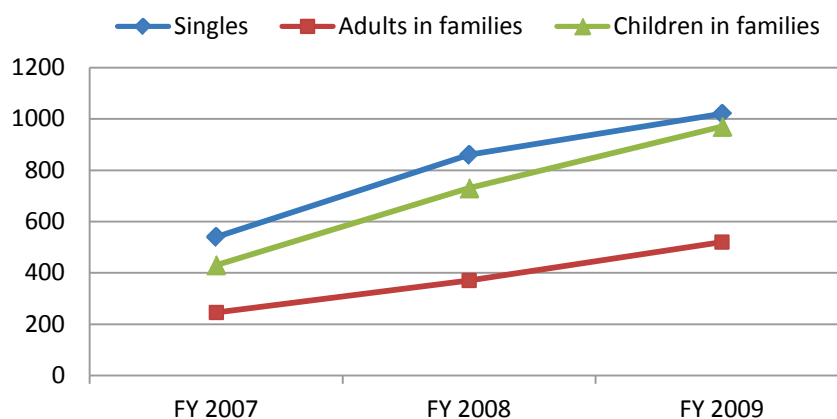
As **Table 2.3** below shows, total shelter beds and people sheltered have increased in the county, particularly between 2006 and 2008. But so have the number of “turn-aways.” This may be because people are staying at shelters for longer periods of time, meaning that chronic homelessness is becoming more of a problem. But it also demonstrates that the growth in need is outpacing the growth in supply.⁴⁵

Table 2.3: Use of homelessness services, Anne Arundel County, 2001, 2006, 2008

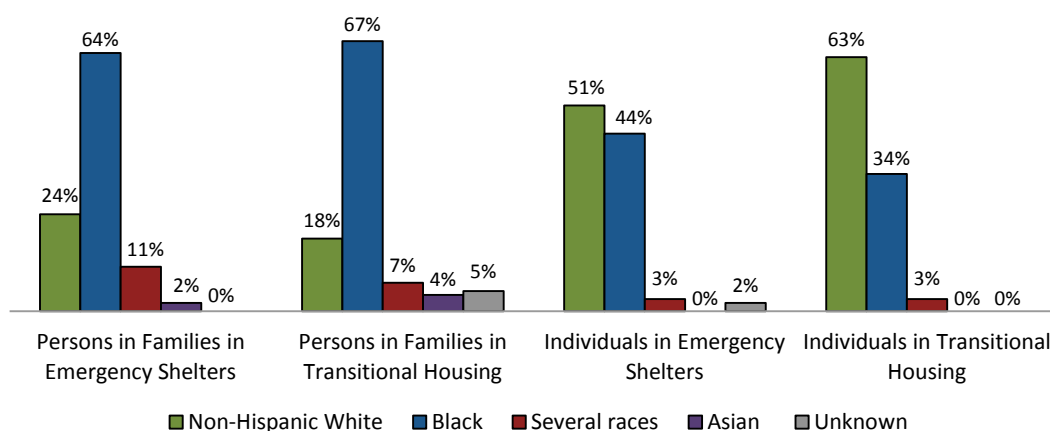
	2001	2006	FY 2008
Beds	234	283	476
People sheltered	1,354	1,087	1,458
Turn-aways	945	1,176	1,245

Source: 2001 and 2006 data are from Maryland Department of Human Resources, Community Services Administration, Office of Transitional Services. 2008 data are from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

Especially distressing has been the recent growth of homeless families, and particularly families with children. As of 2007, as **Figure 2.8** shows, the number of homeless families in shelters was roughly on a par with the number of homeless individuals. Between 2007 and 2009, however, the number of homeless families in shelters jumped by 900 while the number of individuals increased by 400. Among families, it was homeless families with children, moreover, that grew the fastest.

Figure 2.8: Trends in composition of the homeless population in Anne Arundel County, 2007-2009

As **Figure 2.9** below shows, the vast majority of these homeless families, accounting for well over 60 percent of families occupying both emergency shelters and transitional housing, are African-Americans. Among individuals in shelters, by contrast, non-Hispanic whites constitute the largest portion, accounting for 51 percent of individual occupants of emergency shelters and 63 percent of individual occupants of transitional housing. This may suggest a different source of the problem leading to homelessness for these two populations.

Figure 2.9. Racial composition of sheltered homeless persons, Anne Arundel County, 10/01/2007-09/30/2008

Source: Sheltered Homeless Persons in Anne Arundel County, 10/1/2007-9/30/2008, Data from the Homeless Management Information System, p. 14.

Health

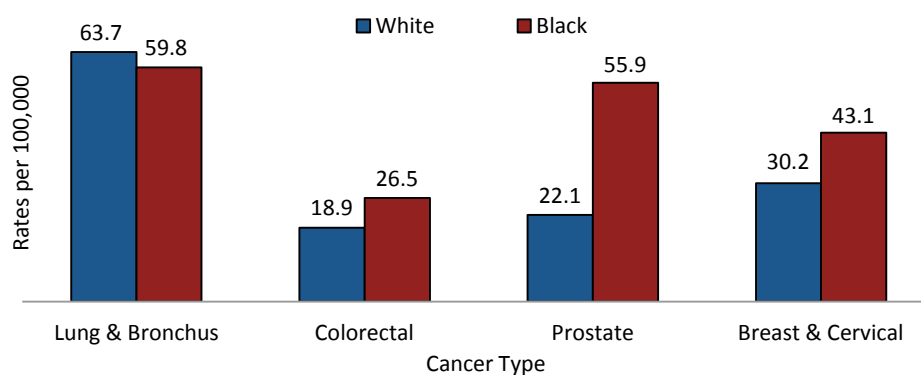
In addition to difficulties accessing housing, more than one in ten adults (11.2 percent of the population) – about 57,000 people – lacked access to health insurance in Anne Arundel County as of 2007.⁴⁶ This leaves them highly vulnerable to medical and other emergencies and deprives them of needed preventative care.

One grim reflection of this are the racial disparities that exist in the incidence of deaths from treatable cancers. As **Figure 2.10** below shows, while White and Black residents in Anne

Arundel have experienced similar mortality rates from lung and bronchial cancers, which tend to be more resistant to treatment, there have been much higher mortality rates among Black residents from colorectal, prostate, breast, and cervical cancers, which can be successfully treated if diagnosed early. This suggests that the Black residents have less access to routine health examinations that could decrease the disparity in these mortality rates.⁴⁷

Similar findings are evident in data on diabetes. While diabetes prevalence is nearly equal between Black and White residents in Anne Arundel County (10.7 percent and 8.2 percent, respectively), the mortality rate from diabetes has been quite disparate. While the mortality rate among White residents was 26.1 per 100,000 residents from 1999 to 2003, the rate was nearly triple that among Black residents at 68.4 per 100,000. This again may suggest that a significant portion of the Black population in Anne Arundel County is not receiving the preventative care and treatment needed to stay healthy.⁴⁸

Figure 2.10: Age-adjusted cancer mortality rates per 100,000 residents, Anne Arundel County, 1999-2003



Source: Anne Arundel Department of Health. 2007

The lack of preventative care does not affect just the county's Black population. The county's relatively new Hispanic residents seem especially vulnerable to medical emergencies. In a survey conducted by the county Department of Health in 2002, just 54 percent of Hispanic and Latino residents said they had health insurance. Forty-eight percent said that within the past year they had needed to see a doctor but could not afford it. Reflecting this lack of access to regular medical treatment, a disproportionate 37 percent of patients at Anne Arundel Medical Center's Annapolis Outreach Center were Hispanic as of 2002, and the number of Hispanics treated at AAMC's main campus had more than doubled 2007.⁴⁹ Since emergency services are more costly than regular preventative care, this situation has posed a fiscal, and not just a moral, challenge to the county.

Fortunately, thanks to a recent grant from the Baltimore-based Weinberg Foundation, the Anne Arundel Medical Center's Annapolis Outreach Center was able to inaugurate a new bilingual program.⁵⁰ But the root of the problem remains the lack of insurance coverage for these new county residents. The recently enacted federal health care reform will helpfully address an important part of this problem, but very likely not all of it.

Mental Health

Mental illness is highly correlated with other problems. Populations suffering from mental health issues are more likely to engage in smoking, have chronic diseases, and be homeless.

Though there are challenges in measuring mental illness among county residents, there is broad consensus that need is expanding faster than the systems available to cope with it. In Fiscal Year 2009, for example, the number of calls coming into and out of the county's crisis response system reached 19,424, 15 percent more than had been anticipated.⁵¹ As **Table 2.4** shows, the number of persons served by the county's mental health services system jumped nearly 17 percent between 2007 and 2009. Among adults, the increase was nearly 25 percent.

Table 2.4: Persons served by Anne Arundel County Mental Health Service System

	FY07	FY08	FY09	Percent Change 2007-2009
Early Child (0-5)	214	216	223	4.2%
Child (6-12)	1,051	1,106	1,203	14.5%
Adolescent (13-17)	847	886	879	3.8%
Transitional (18-21)	303	341	377	24.4%
Adult (22 to 64)	2,310	2,589	2,846	23.2%
Elderly (65 and over)	49	50	45	-8.2%
TOTAL	4,774	5,188	5,573	16.7%

Source: Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, *Mental Health Plan (FY11-13) 2009 Annual Report*. p. 42. (www.aamentalhealth.org/documents/FINAL-AAPLAN.pdf)

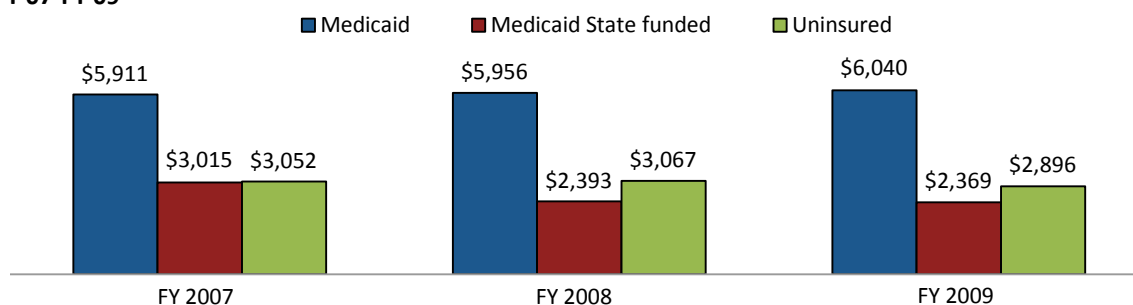
Although Anne Arundel County is served by a capable and innovative Mental Health Agency, there is widespread consensus that funding is insufficient to meet the current need and coordination between service systems needs to be strengthened further to improve the delivery of available services. A series of focus groups assembled by a public mental health system planning committee in 2009 found problems for each of three targeted population groups: older adults, children and adolescents, and mental health consumers and advocates. Among older adults, the focus group of providers identified access, transportation, and cost as major barriers to mental health services for the elderly. For children and adolescents, public providers identified timely information and coordination among service systems as major problems as well as the structure of the fee-for-service payment system, which prevents them from serving families of children with mental illness in a preventative manner and forces them to assist only the most critical cases.⁵²

The Annapolis Coalition's National Action Plan on Behavioral Workforce Development reported a diminishing availability of behavioral health professionals and a shrinking provider network in the county.⁵³ Other observers called attention to expensive psychiatrist service fees as a further barrier to service access.⁵⁴ And there was widespread concern about the adequacy of children's mental health services and the "very long waiting lists" for mental health treatment for children. The consequences too often are "failed adoptions, substance abuse, and an increase in youth suicides."⁵⁵

While expanded funding may not be sufficient to fix all these problems, the fact that per person state funding for mental health services in the county has declined recently has probably contributed to the sense of crisis that pervades much of the professional community on this

issue. In particular, as **Figure 2.11** shows, per person state share of Medicaid funding for mental health services declined significantly in 2008 and was only partially restored in 2009, while per person funding of uninsured coverage of mental health services declined between 2008 and 2009.

Figure 2.11: Anne Arundel mental health service expenditures per person served, by coverage type, FY 07-FY 09



Source: Anne Arundel County Mental Health Department Plan (www.aamentalhealth.org/documents/FINAL-AAPLAN.pdf).

Particularly lacking have been resources for case management and follow-up activities. Service providers are especially unhappy about shortages in this area, but the current fee-for-service payment structure poses a sizable obstacle to this kind of preventative intervention. As a result, service providers have commented that only residents in emergency situations are likely to receive services.⁵⁶

Crime

When this report was last issued, we called attention to the growing problem of crime in the county. In 2006, Anne Arundel County had the fourth highest number of known violent crimes and the fifth highest number of reported property crimes among Maryland counties. This is especially significant since Maryland had the tenth and sixteenth highest rates of violent and property crimes among all 50 states.⁵⁷ The number of crimes in Anne Arundel County continued to increase between 2006 and 2008, as shown in **Table 2.5**, though some reduction in the incidence at least of property crime was registered in 2009. In particular, between 2008 and 2009, total crimes in the county fell by 7 percent, with robberies, burglaries, thefts, arsons and rapes all in decline. Whether this trend will continue, of course, remains to be seen.

Table 2.5: Crime Trends, Anne Arundel County, 2005- 2009

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Homicide	12	16	12	10	12
Rape	75	97	85	101	87
Robbery	679	709	722	680	664
Aggravated Assault	1,939	1,812	1,786	1,812	1,903
Total Violent	2,705	2,634	2,605	2,603	2,666
Burglary	2,805	2,906	3,000	3,124	2,867
Larceny	11,031	10,892	12,053	13,106	12,037
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,351	1,447	1,436	1,398	1,047
Arson	74	92	108	121	97
Total Property	15,261	15,337	16,597	17,749	16,048

Source: "Five Year Crime Trends" (2010). Anne Arundel County Police Department, (www.aacounty.org/Police/crimeTrends.cfm).

Though quantitative data on drug and alcohol use is difficult to obtain at the county level, there is almost universal consensus among service providers that addiction and abuse are major problems in families. In a focus group interview, one service provider emphatically stated, “Drugs. Drugs. Drugs. This is the underlying problem for almost every problem seen in the community.” As Section III will note in more detail, drug use among youth in the county is a particular concern with usage rates of both alcohol and marijuana above state averages.⁵⁸

Racial and Ethnic Segregation

Anne Arundel County also still suffers from a heritage of racial or immigrant enclaves in the county. The county’s Hispanic population, for example, is concentrated in Shadyside, Severn, Linthicum and Londontowne. Anne Arundel’s sizable African-American population is concentrated largely in portions of Annapolis, Crofton, Glen Burnie, and Severn.

A study released in 2000 revealed, in fact, that Annapolis ranks second only behind Baltimore among seven Maryland cities for residential segregation between Blacks and Whites. In Annapolis, Whites live in neighborhoods that are 73.9 percent White, 17.7 percent African-American and 5 percent Hispanic.⁵⁹ Blacks live in neighborhoods that are 33.5 percent White, 57.0 percent African-American, and 6.4 percent Hispanic. Hispanics, on average, live in neighborhoods that are 46.1 percent White, 31.1 percent Black and 18.9 percent Hispanic.⁶⁰ Table 2.6 shows Annapolis’s segregation index as compared to other Maryland cities as of 2000, the latest date for which data are available.

While there is reason to believe this pattern has diminished in recent years, its effects remain apparent.

Table 2.6: Segregation: Dissimilarity Indices, Major Maryland Cities, 2000

Rank	City	Minority Population	White Population	Total Population	Dissimilarity Index
1.	Baltimore city	417,009	201,566	651,154	75.2
2.	Annapolis city	11,205	21,137	35,838	56.2
3.	Bowie city	15,339	30,709	50,269	49.2
4.	Rockville city	4,200	29,342	47,388	43.6
5.	Gaithersburg city	7,457	25,818	52,613	39.6
6.	Hagerstown city	3,661	31,244	36,687	34.9
7.	Frederick city	7,641	39,568	52,767	32.3

Source: Maryland Segregation Dissimilarity Indices, *U.S. Census of Population, 2000*, CensusScope, (www.censuscope.org).

The Environment

Finally, despite its generally bucolic appearance, Anne Arundel County is hardly immune from significant environmental challenges that increasingly threaten its celebrated quality of life. As of 2008, Anne Arundel County stood in eighth place among Maryland’s fourteen jurisdictions in terms of the Environmental Protection Agency’s air quality index, much ahead of its twelfth place showing as of 2006, but well below the fourth place ranking it enjoyed in 2000.⁶¹

In 2006, the Anne Arundel County Department of Health collected water samples from 71 residential wells in the Mayos Saunders Point community after private laboratory tests identified elevated arsenic levels in several community wells. The test results showed that approximately half of the shallow wells (150 feet deep or less) in the Saunders Point community contain arsenic above the safe drinking water standard. The drinking water standard or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb).⁶²

Recent research by the U.S. Geological Survey has identified a renewed increase in the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus in the Chesapeake Bay. There appears to be agreement that this increase in two critical pollutants may be caused by urban and suburban development. As the proportion of the watershed that is covered in concrete increases, rainwater is absorbed into the ground at a slower rate. The polluted runoff then carries nitrogen and phosphorus into bay tributaries.⁶³ Anne Arundel County ranked behind only Calvert County in terms of farmland lost between 1992 and 2002, losing 19 percent of all farmland over those ten years. This trend continued into 2007, by which time Anne Arundel County had lost 17 percent more of its farmland compared to 2002.⁶⁴ As farmland continues to be converted into suburban developments, the county will be faced with serious challenges related to storm-water management and the deterioration of the Bay. This threat has led the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to sign a Memorandum of Understanding in 2007 stating that the two agencies would increase their efforts to work together to prevent increased nutrient and sediment pollution in the Bay, but this will require local support as well.⁶⁵

Not only have the county's air and Bay suffered from increased pollution, but so have its rivers. The Severn, South, and Magothy Rivers have all consistently exceeded the EPA's Total Maximum Daily Load recommendations on nutrient and sediment pollution as well as fecal coliform, a cause of gastro-intestinal impairments. Additionally, in recent testing cycles, the South River has exceeded the maximum daily load of PCBs, a recognized carcinogen.⁶⁶

Summary

Anne Arundel County is a generally affluent suburban county. But it is also a county with another side as well, one characterized by significant poverty, racial disparities, and limited access to decent housing, transportation, and health care. Especially distressing are the limited life-chances for many of the county's children.

As members of the same community, all residents of this county deserve the same opportunities for productive and fulfilling lives. Ensuring that those opportunities are available must therefore be a goal for all of us.

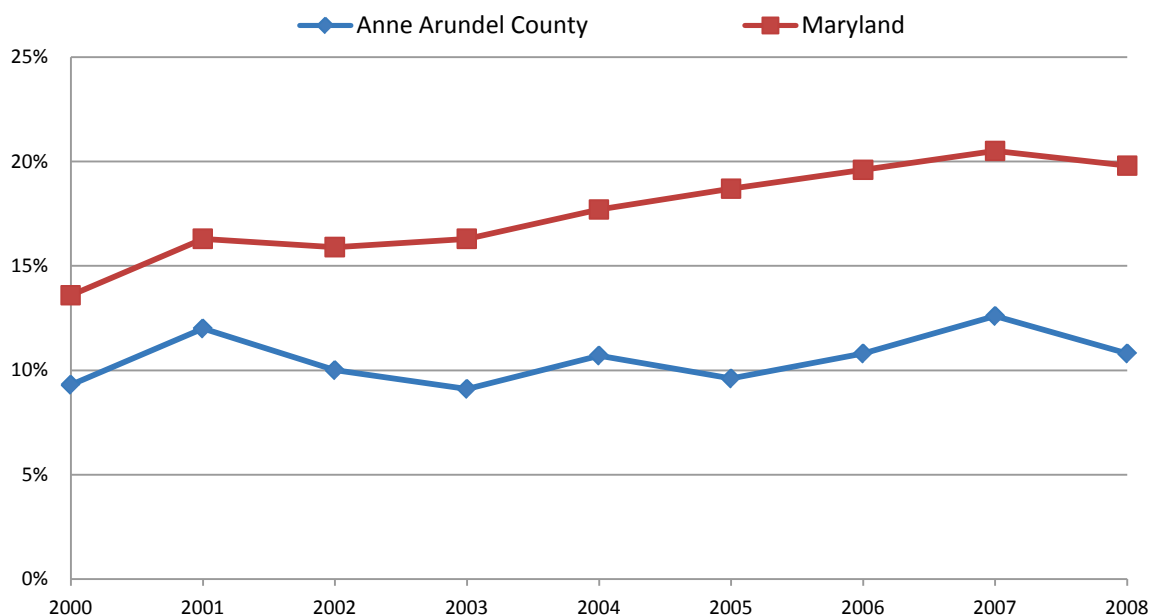
Chapter 3: Special Focus on Children and Youth

A special focus of this report is on the well-being of Anne Arundel County children and youth. The state of Maryland assesses child well-being in terms of eight basic indicators: (1) Babies Born Healthy, (2) Healthy Children, (3) Children Entering School Ready to Learn, (4) Children Successful in School, (5) Children Completing School, (6) Children Safe in their Families and Communities, (7) Stable and Economically Independent Families, and (8) Communities which Support Family Life. This section of the report will attempt to examine how Anne Arundel County is performing in each of these outcome areas.

Babies Born Healthy

A crucial determinant of child health and well-being is the availability of adequate pre-natal care. Fortunately, Anne Arundel County scores better than the State of Maryland generally with respect to this indicator of child health, with 10-12 percent of women lacking pre-natal care as compared to 20 percent for the State of Maryland in recent years (See **Figure 3.1**).

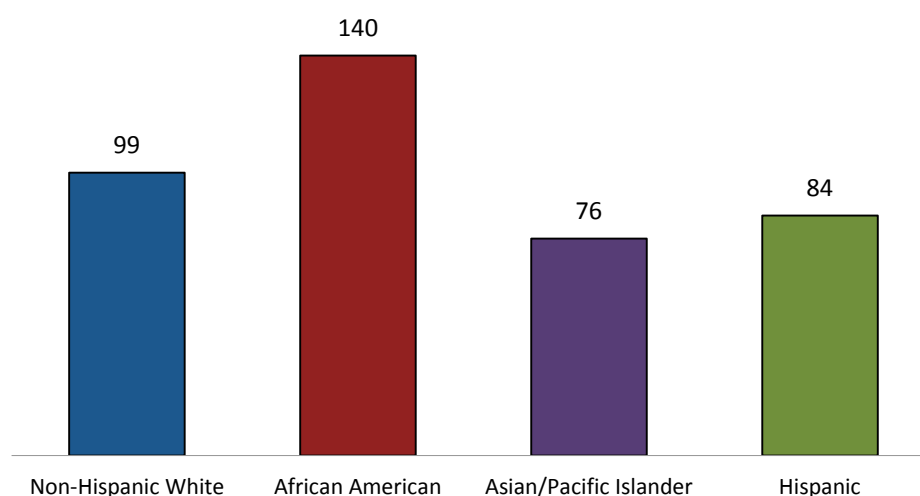
Figure 3.1: Women lacking prenatal care, Anne Arundel County and Maryland, 2000-2008



Source: Kids Count Casey,

(<http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/bystate/stateprofile.aspx?state=MD&cat=910&group=Category&loc=22&dt=1%2c3%2c2%2c4>)

Although data on access to prenatal care is not available by race, one likely indicator of pre-natal care is the rate of pre-term births. And this indicator reveals significant disparities by race. In particular, as illustrated in **Figure 3.2**, the rate of pre-term births among African-American women in Anne Arundel County is 40 percent higher than that for non-Hispanic Whites.

Figure 3.2: Preterm birth rate by 1,000 live births, by race/ethnicity, Anne Arundel County, (2003-2007)

Source: Estimated from Infant Health Report 2009, Health Statistics, AA Health Department (http://aahealth.org/App_pdfs/infanthealthreport2009.pdf).

Pre-term birth rates are significant, moreover, because such births can lead to subsequent problems, including infant mortality. Infant mortality rates have fortunately been declining in Anne Arundel County, but unevenly.⁶⁷ However, as of 2007 the rate for African-American infants remained 75 percent above that for White infants (**Table 3.1**).

Table 3.1: Infant mortality rate by mother's race, Anne Arundel County, per 1,000 live births, 2003-2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
White	5.5	5.9	4.7	5.2	5.6
Black	22.5	18.0	8.1	21.4	9.8
Total	8.1	7.7	5.5	7.7	6.5

Source: *Infant Health in Anne Arundel County*, Anne Arundel County Department of Health, April 2009.

Healthy Children

Child health has many dimensions not all of which can be measured easily. Among the most salient, however, are physical health, mental health, substance abuse, and teen pregnancy.

Although no single measure of physical health exists, one important barometer is the extent of obesity. As of 2006, 15.6 percent of Anne Arundel children aged 2-19 were found to be overweight, and another 16.9 percent are at risk of being overweight. These numbers far exceed national health goals set for 2010. Significantly, moreover, obesity rates for the younger cohort of children (ages 2-11) exceed those for the older age group (12-19), suggesting that the problem may be getting worse.⁶⁸

Children are also a growing presence in the Anne Arundel County mental health system. As of 2009, children aged 0 to 17 accounted for over 40 percent of the persons served by county mental health services, with children in the 6 to 12 cohort accounting for half of these. As **Table 3.2**

shows, the number of children being served by county mental health officials has climbed by 10 percent in the past three years, with a 14 percent growth in the 6-12 age group.

Table 3.2: Children and youth served in Anne Arundel County Mental Health Service System

	FY07	FY08	FY09	Percent Change 2007-2009
Early Child (0-5)	214	216	223	4.21%
Child (6-12)	1,051	1,106	1,203	14.46%
Adolescent (13-17)	847	886	879	3.78%
TOTAL	2112	2208	2305	9.14%

Source: Anne Arundel County Mental Health Department Plan, 2010,
(www.aamentalhealth.org/documents/FINAL-AAPLAN.pdf)

As one other distressing indicator of mental health problems, from July 2008 to April 2009, six suicides occurred in Anne Arundel County, all of them in the 15-22 age group.

An additional reflection of the mental state of the county's children, but also a health indicator in its own right, is the incidence of underage drinking and substance abuse. And this incidence is considerable in Anne Arundel County, prompting the Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families to organize a special Coalition for Safe Communities.⁶⁹ Data from the Maryland Adolescent Survey for 2007 reveal that already by the 8th grade, 32.6 percent of Anne Arundel students reported having used alcohol, 17.6 percent within the previous 30 days. In addition, 17.2 percent reported having used a drug other than tobacco or alcohol (see **Table 3.3**). Among 12th graders, 75.8 percent reported having used alcohol, 49.8 percent of them within the previous 30 days, suggesting a habit rather than a one-time trial. Even more alarming, 49.8 percent of 12th graders reported having used drugs other than alcohol or tobacco and 31 percent reported doing so within the month preceding the survey.⁷⁰ Clearly, alcohol and drugs are prevalent in this county. In each of these categories, moreover, Anne Arundel County youngsters had usage rates well above state averages.

Table 3.3: Drug/alcohol use, Anne Arundel County, 2007

Substance	8 th Grade			12 th Grade		
	Ever Used	Last 30 days	Last 12 months	Ever Used	Last 30 days	Last 12 months
Cigarettes	13.3 (10.6)	5.3 (4.6)	8.9 (6.2)	35.9 (30.8)	20.9 (16.3)	27.8 (2.3)
Any form of Alcohol	32.6 (25.7)	17.6 (12.7)	28.5 (21.3)	75.8 (66.6)	49.8 (42.2)	69.6 (60.6)
Any drug other than tobacco/alcohol	17.2 (15.0)	10.3 (8.6)	15.4 (12.4)	49.8 (42.2)	31.0 (24.0)	42.9 (35.8)
Marijuana	9.2 (8.0)	4.8 (4.6)	7.8 (7.0)	45.9 (38.7)	26.9 (20.7)	38.6 (31.8)

Note: Maryland averages presented in parentheses.

Source: Maryland State Department of Education, 2007 Maryland Adolescent Survey

One final indicator of child health is the rate of teen pregnancies. This is important because teen pregnancies are often associated with female-headed households, and female-headed households are often associated with child poverty, as noted earlier.

In this area, however, Anne Arundel County seems to be performing satisfactorily, at least in comparison the State of Maryland generally. Thus, the rate of teen pregnancy in Anne Arundel County has held steady at just over 2 per 100 births in recent years, below the Maryland average of 2.9, and well below the U.S. average of 3.4. But this still translates into a significant number of births to teen parents in the county, with all the attendant issues of school completion and job readiness (**Table 3.4**).

Table 3.4: Number of teen births per 100 births per year, Anne Arundel County, 2003-2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Anne Arundel	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.0	2.1
Maryland	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
United States	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4

Source: Report Card of Community Health Indicators, Anne Arundel County Department of Health, May 2009

Children Entering School Ready to Learn

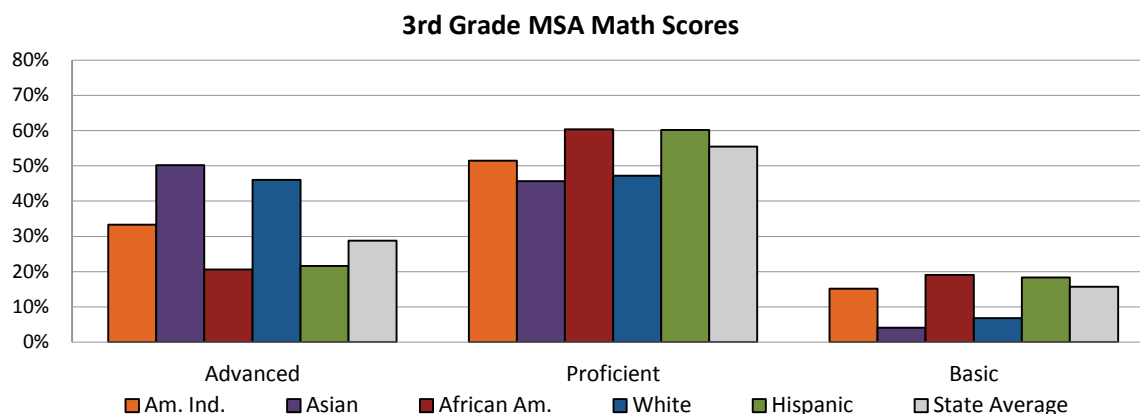
Another key barometer of child and youth well-being is child readiness to learn when entering school. Children who fall behind early in their school careers have enormous difficulty regaining the lost ground, at least without special assistance. In 2008, only 68 percent of males were found to be fully prepared to enter kindergarten in Anne Arundel County, compared to 77 percent of females. Significant disparities existed between African-American and White children, however, with 76 percent of the Whites reported to be fully prepared to enter kindergarten vs. only 67 percent of African-Americans.⁷¹

A key determinant of readiness to enter schools is the adequacy of pre-school training, and here the opportunities for some segments of the population are considerably less than those for other segments. For example, school readiness has been found to be higher among children enrolled in private preschools. According to the Anne Arundel County School Readiness Report, children who attended a “non-public nursery” prior to kindergarten were most likely to be fully prepared to enter kindergarten,⁷² but of course this option is open only to those who can afford it. Increasing the opportunities for enrollment in pre-kindergarten programs has thus become a special priority in the county.

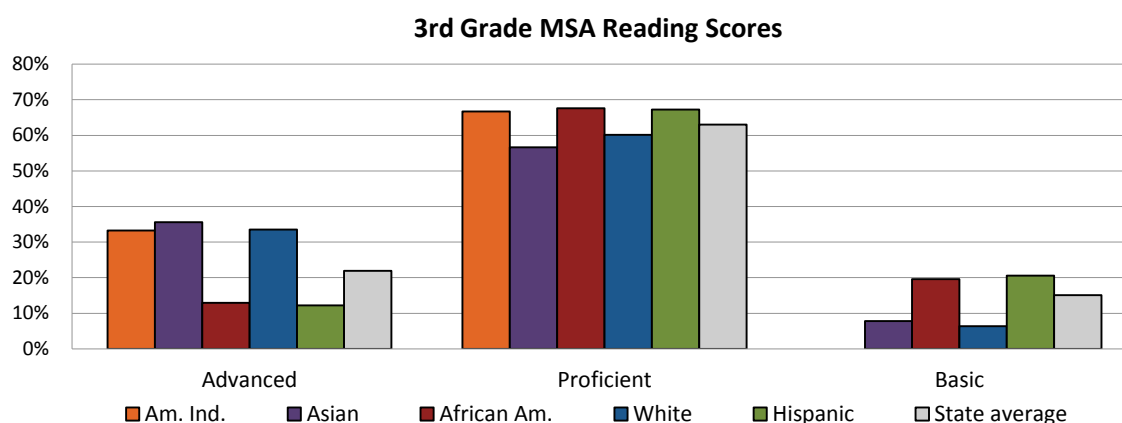
Children Successful in School

While Anne Arundel County schools generally have test scores above the state average, a closer look reveals divergence along racial and socioeconomic lines. **Figure 3.3** indicates that twice as many White students perform at an advanced level on the third grade MSA Math and Reading exam as African American and Hispanic students. These trends are sustained through the eighth grade.

Figure 3.3: 3rd grade reading and math MSA scores (percent of students by race), Anne Arundel County and Maryland average, 2009



Source: Maryland State Department of Education, 2009 Maryland Report Card



Source: Maryland State Department of Education, 2009 Maryland Report Card

Additionally, third grade MSA performance among students eligible for Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) – an indicator of poverty – still lags more than 10 percentage points behind non-FARMS eligible students, though the gap has narrowed over the years. This trend, too, continues through the eighth grade.

An important new challenge to the county's educational system has been the significant influx of Hispanic residents noted earlier (see Table 1.2). The growth of the Hispanic population has resulted in a quadrupling of the number of students enrolled in the county's ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) program, more than two-thirds of whom speak Spanish.⁷³ ESOL teachers have also tripled, but the county still finds itself unable to deal adequately with the ESOL population. While Howard and Baltimore counties try to employ one ESOL teacher for every 15 or 20 ESOL students in middle and high school, Anne Arundel County provides only one teacher for every 30 students.⁷⁴

Despite these continued lags in school performance, county educators are forced to operate with resources that lag behind their counterparts elsewhere. Although Anne Arundel County's wealth per pupil in the public school system is 21 percent above the Maryland average (\$505,264 vs. \$397,614), its expenditures per pupil are almost 8 percent below the state average (\$11,545 vs

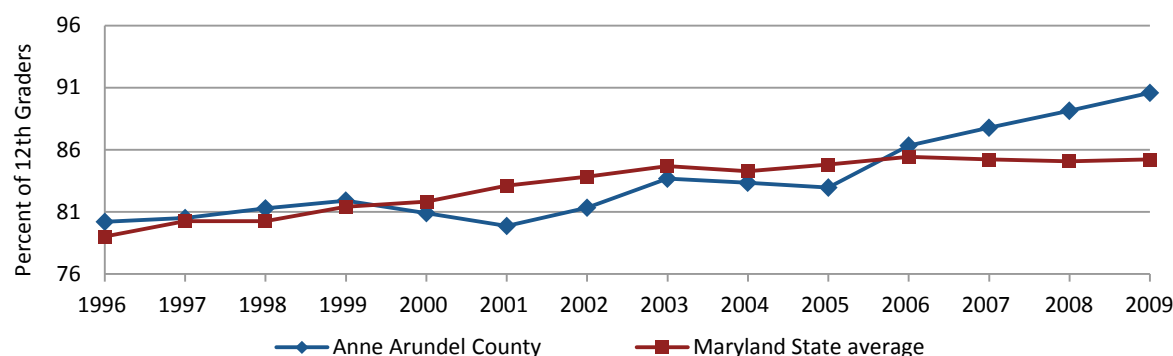
\$12,509). Anne Arundel also ranks below the state average on instructional staff per 1,000 pupils, professional support staff per 1000 pupils, and instructional assistants per 1,000 pupils.⁷⁵

Children Completing School

A key determinant of long-term well-being is school completion. Problems with school completion begin early and manifest themselves along the way in truancy rates. Generally speaking, truancy rates in Anne Arundel County schools are low. However, the truancy rate still exceeded 1 percent during the 2008-09 school year for nine schools. And in two high schools (Glen Burnie High and Annapolis High) it was in the 4-5 percent range.

School officials have made concerted efforts to improve the school completion rate in the county, however, with some notable results. According to the Maryland Department of Education, after lagging behind the Maryland average for a number of years, graduation rates among twelfth graders in Anne Arundel County schools surged ahead of the state average beginning in 2006, and have remained there, reaching 90.6 percent in 2009, well above the state average of 85.5 percent (See **Figure 3.4**).⁷⁶

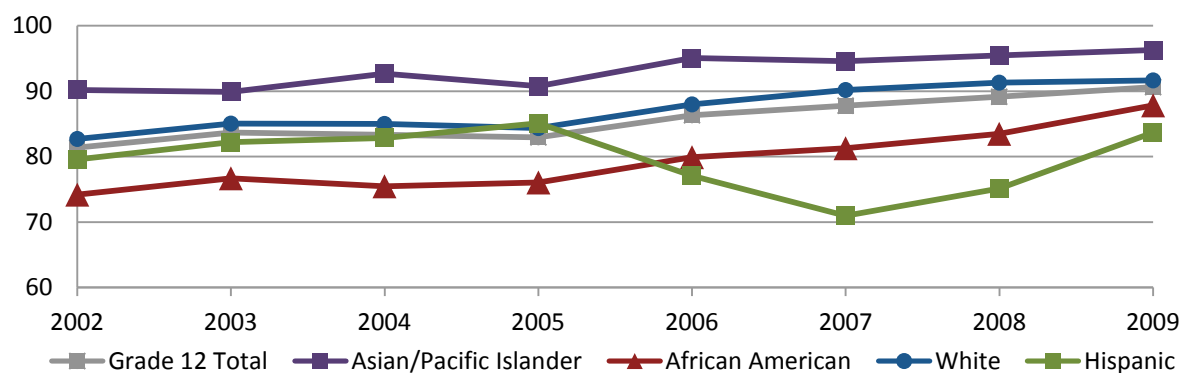
Figure 3.4: High school graduation rates, Anne Arundel County vs. Maryland State average, 1996-2009



Source: Maryland State Department of Education, 2009 Maryland Report Card.

Especially notable have been the improvements in graduation rates among African-American twelfth graders. After trailing White graduation rates by nearly 10 percentage points during the past decade, these rates closed to within four percentage points as of 2009 (See **Figure 3.5**).⁷⁷

Figure 3.5: Graduation rates among selected groups of students, Anne Arundel County, 2002-2009



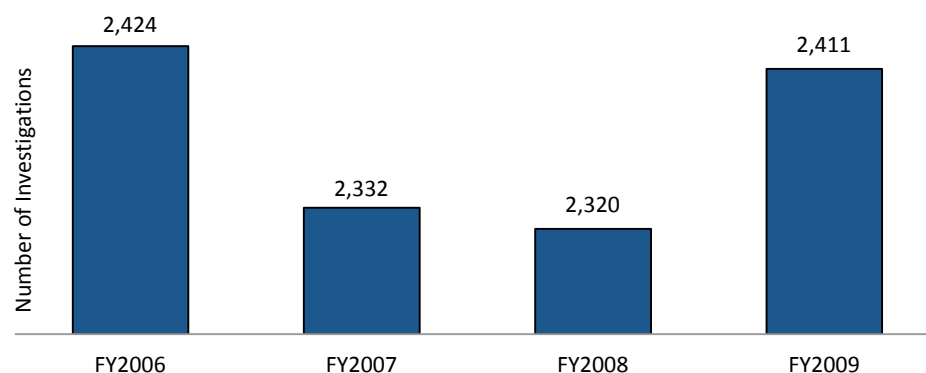
Source: Maryland State Department of Education, 2009 Maryland Report Card.

Children Safe in their Families and Communities

Another crucial determinant of child well-being is a sense of safety for children both in their communities and in their homes. Sadly, for far too many children this elemental source of well-being is not available, necessitating external supports. As one illustration of this, the number of calls received by the Department of Social Services' Screening Unit, after declining between 2006 and 2007, has been climbing again since then, reaching close to 6,000 calls in 2009.⁷⁸

Even more revealingly, a considerable number of these calls led to child protective services investigations. Here, too, after declining between 2006 and 2007, the number of such investigations has spiraled upward, reaching more than 2400 in 2009, as shown in **Figure 3.6** below.

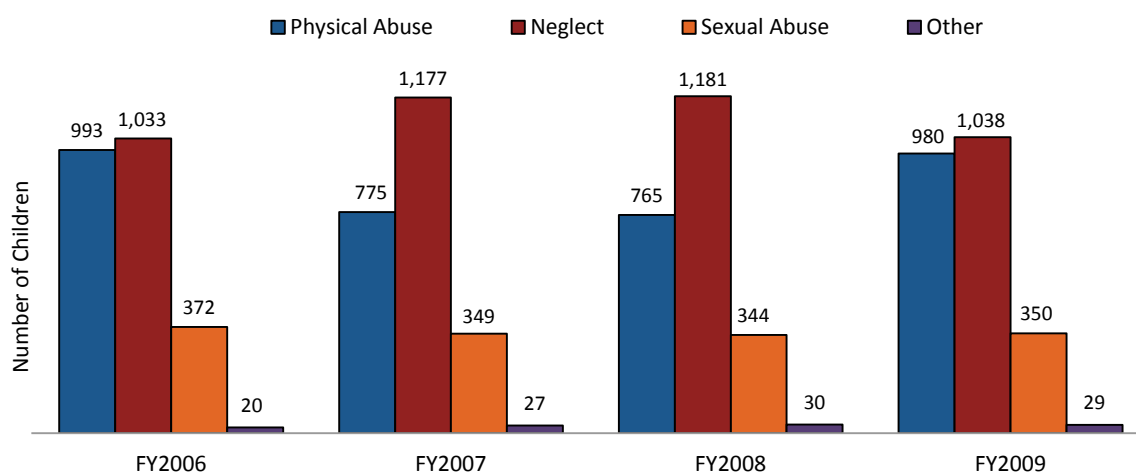
Figure 3.6: Child Protective Service investigations in Anne Arundel County, 2006-2009



Source: Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services, 2009 (www.dhr.state.md.us/county/ann).

In far too many of these cases, moreover, investigations have led to conclusions of maltreatment. As reflected in **Figure 3.7**, child maltreatment remains a problem in the county. As of 2009, the county's Department of Social Services recorded nearly 1,000 cases of child physical abuse, over 1,000 cases of child neglect, and nearly 400 cases of child sexual abuse—levels that have stayed fairly constant, or increased slightly, in recent years.

Figure 3.7: Child maltreatment in Anne Arundel County, by type, 2006-2009

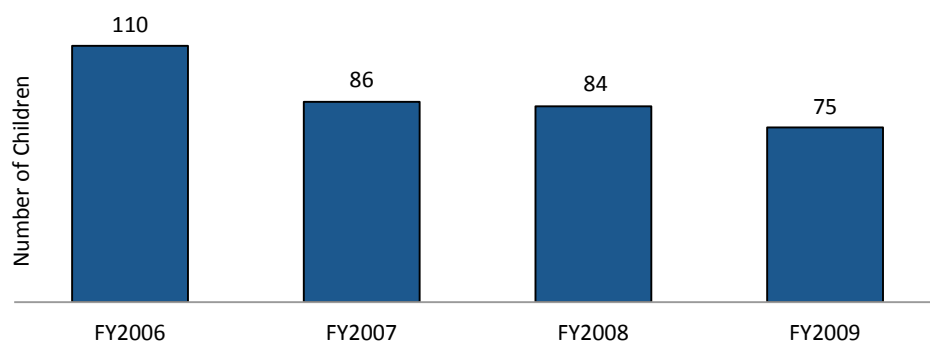


Source: Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services, 2009 (www.dhr.state.md.us/county/ann).

One way to cope with such maltreatment is to locate foster care placements for the children affected. This has long been a problem in Anne Arundel County, however, because the number of foster care placements has not sufficed to accommodate the number of children that need to be placed in out-of-home care. This has led county officials to turn to out of county placements. As of 2009, for example, out of 183 children in out-of-home care, 96, or more than half, are in out-of-county placements.⁷⁹

Perhaps even more strikingly in view of the continued levels of maltreatment in evidence, the overall number of out-of-home placements has been in steady decline in Anne Arundel County, as in the state generally, over recent years. Thus the number of children placed in out-of-home care declined from 123 in FY 2005 to 75 in FY 2009 (See **Figure 3.8**).

Figure 3.8: Anne Arundel County children entering foster care, 2006-2009



Source: Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services, 2009 (www.dhr.state.md.us/county/ann).

One reason for this decline is a state policy called “Place Matters,” which is encouraging county social service departments to reduce the number of out-of-home placements of children, whether in group homes or foster care facilities, and to rely on in-home placements instead, both for children with physical or mental problems and for children experiencing various forms of abuse. While this policy makes good sense budgetarily, and perhaps socially in many instances, it requires a variety of supportive services delivered to the families in order to work optimally, and these have not been available. As one participant in the focus group session organized as part of the research for this report put it, “The problem is we don’t have many resources in the county to help families maintain children in their home.” This appears to be a general problem in the state. According to a director of a state-wide child advocacy organization, “We are hearing that these placements are not successful and that kids are bouncing from place to place to place.”⁸⁰

Not only are numerous children and youth not safe in their homes, but also there are increasing problems of intimidation and criminal behavior in the schools. The Anne Arundel County policy department reported to the Coalition for Safe Communities that 617 students were arrested at Anne Arundel high schools alone during the 2008-09 school year for crimes ranging from disorderly conduct to first degree assault.⁸¹

Juvenile crime in the county is hardly limited to the schools, however. A more widespread problem of juvenile crime has also surfaced in the county. In fact, the number of arrests of youth between 10 and 17 has more than doubled since 1990.⁸² In fact, Anne Arundel County ranks fifth (after Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Prince George’s County, and Montgomery County) in juvenile intake cases, accounting for 6.6 percent of the state’s total, or nearly 5,000 cases in 2009.⁸³

Stable and Economically Independent Families

While Anne Arundel County is a generally affluent county, distressing pockets of poverty also exist, as noted in Chapter Two above. Over 22,000 people lived in poverty in the county in 2008, and the number would exceed that figure if account were taken of the higher living costs in this county. Of these 22,000 people, moreover, 7,000 are children. Among African-American children in Anne Arundel County, over 13 percent live in poverty.⁸⁴

The recent economic recession has intensified the sense of economic instability county families are experiencing. This is evident in an overall unemployment rate of more than 6 percent, and of more than 9 percent for the county's African American community; in an alarming rise in the home foreclosure rate; in the 50 percent spike in the number of households receiving food stamps between 2006 and 2009; and in the substantial increase in the number of families with children forced to seek temporary or transitional shelter. Economic distress of this sort is doubtless difficult for everybody, but it is particularly difficult for children, who bear little if any responsibility for the suffering that results.

Communities Which Support Family Life

Despite the many problems that exist, Anne Arundel County can boast a dedicated array of providers of services for children and families. When participants in the “needs assessment” focus group were asked about the strengths of the county, the word “passion” was used over and over again, as a strong acknowledgment that the providers in the county “genuinely care about the outcomes for the children here,” as one participant put it. That passion was seen to extend to the agency and political leadership. County leadership was described as caring and ‘solutions driven’. As one participant noted:

They are passionate and eager to change practice. It's key – not about what has been but what works ... Children really matter in this county. How do we harness that passion?

In fact, leadership in the county was given high marks for caring and creativity among the majority of respondents and cited as “outstanding” at the school, community college, agency, and county level. Several participants commented that county leaders “share a system of care philosophy” while it was also noted that the philosophy is yet to be fully implemented.⁸⁵

Indeed, focus group participants used words such as “fragmented,” “disjointed,” “complicated,” “unconnected,” and “piecemeal” to describe human service delivery in Anne Arundel County. Most felt that the county had not made the transition to a true integrated system of care and was still operating in an ‘old model.’ While everyone acknowledged that there are many good to excellent services in the county, many felt that there was a lack of coordination between the various agencies so “some families are not being serviced even when the services are there.” Ongoing issues with interagency communication were cited by several participants as contributing to the lack of service coordination.

Most of the disconnection appears to be related to agencies not knowing what other agencies offer in the sort of depth that would be helpful. Noted one participant:

It's interesting how service agencies don't know what other service agencies do and deliver. People don't know what's available. I'm a supervisor and I don't know how to access what's out there. How do we get our clients into the services if we don't know?

Lack of knowledge as to how to access the services extends to the potential recipients. As one participant noted, “I see a lot of strong support systems for people in the community; they don’t know how to access them.”

There was general acknowledgement that bringing together groups of service providers from each of the different agencies is always helpful because “every time we put folks from different agencies and programs together they learn new things.” Every participant agreed that there is a strong desire among all agencies in the county to collaborate in the search for creative solutions and that “home grown initiatives get everyone working together.” As one participant put it: “Kids and families don’t operate in those boxes. Let’s identify the self-imposed barriers and get rid of them.” With attitudes like this, there is hope that family-friendly policies are at least within reach.

Chapter 4: Community Resources for Meeting Needs

While Anne Arundel County has a significant number of problems, it also has enormous resources with which to address these problems. The most important of these are the skills and commitments of the county's residents and the financial and material wherewithal they can muster. Also important are the institutions that this community has created to help it mobilize these resources and bring them to bear on pressing problems.

Public Agencies

The most obvious of these institutions are our governmental agencies at the state, county, and city levels. Anne Arundel County is fortunate to have a strong network of public agencies that serve the needs of this community. This year the Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CFAAC) partnered with one such organization, the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families (formerly known as the Local Management Board) to produce this comprehensive county-wide needs assessment.

The Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families was created in 1993. Each County in Maryland was charged by the Governor's Office for Children to convene a collaborative board to manage the implementation of a local, interagency, community-based human service delivery system for children, youth and families. By design, Partnerships do not provide traditional "direct services" to individual clients but instead work with citizens, public agencies, private organizations, and community groups to expand existing resources and develop new and innovative services. Current partners include Anne Arundel Co. Public Schools, the Department of Juvenile Services, Anne Arundel Co. Department of Social Services, Anne Arundel Community College, the Anne Arundel Co. Health Department, and the Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, to name a few. (For an overview of these Partnership agencies, see **Attachment B** to this report).

The Partnership currently funds 24 programs throughout Anne Arundel County targeting youth from birth to age 21. Current initiatives include: the annual free Teen Summit event, held each May to encourage adolescents to "choose to be drug free"; Youth Empowerment Services (YES), a diversion program for status offenders and first time, non-violent offenders ages 12-18; the Network of Care, a "one stop" source for information, communication and advocacy to assess resources for families and providers; and the Home Visiting Program, a strength-based, in-home intervention program providing child development focused home visiting services.

Nonprofit Organizations and Philanthropy

But Americans have never relied solely on government to solve their public problems. Rather we have supplemented public action with a vibrant tradition of private initiative, of voluntary citizen action, charitable giving, and private nonprofit organizations.

This tradition is certainly evident in Anne Arundel County. The county has an impressive new health complex financed in important part by private philanthropy. It boasts a private arts center, a respected private college, and an impressive array of private human service agencies. Indeed, more than 14,000 people are employed in the county's private, nonprofit charitable institu-

tions—more than in all branches of manufacturing in the county.⁸⁶ A total of 599 such organizations are active in this county boasting combined revenues of \$1.46 billion as of 2007.⁸⁷ The largest number of these organizations operate in the human services field, broadly conceived, followed by education, as shown in **Table 4.1**. The health providers account for the largest share of the revenues, however.

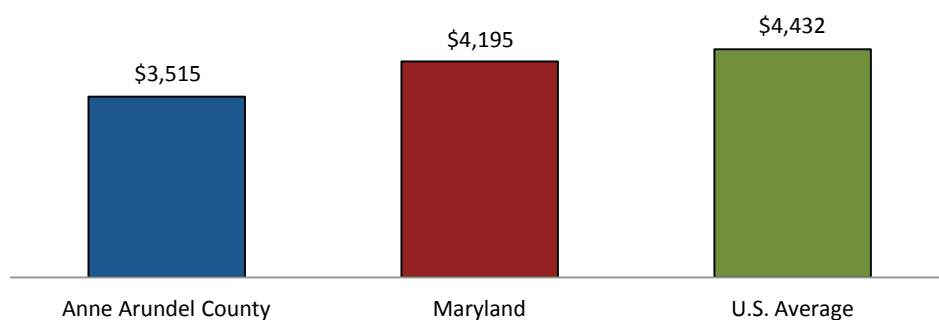
Table 4.1: Anne Arundel County nonprofit organizations and revenues, by field, 2007

	Organizations (n=599)	Revenues (n=\$1.46 bn)
Arts & Culture	11.5%	1.1%
Education	23.4%	17.6%
Environment	6.0%	3.2%
Health	11.0%	58.2%
Human Services	29.2%	14.1%
Societal benefit	12.2%	4.5%
Religion	3.2%	0.3%
Membership benefit	3.7%	1.0%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Internal Revenue Service Micro Data File of Form 990 Filers, 2007

Yet, the record of private charitable activity in Anne Arundel County, while substantial, is still far from what it could be. Indeed, despite its above-average median income, Anne Arundel lags behind the nation, and behind the Maryland average, in its level of charitable giving. In fact, as of 2005, the latest year for which such data are available, the average charitable contribution claimed by Anne Arundel residents on their tax returns was 21 percent below the national average, and 16 percent below the average for the State of Maryland (See **Figure 4.1**).⁸⁸

Figure 4.1: Average charitable donations, Anne Arundel County vs. Maryland and national averages, 2005



Source: See note 66.

In part because of this, the county's nonprofit employment, at 7.3 percent of total private employment, is the fifth from the lowest in the state, and well below the state average of 12.5 percent.⁸⁹ More generally, nonprofit revenues per capita in Anne Arundel County are about half of the Maryland average. All of this suggests a need to bolster the county's private nonprofit sector and leverage the considerable wealth that exists in this county to enable donors to channel their resources into activities that can improve the quality of life for all the county's residents.

Conclusion

Anne Arundel County, Maryland, is a place of enormous beauty and enormous accomplishment. While affording a life of plenty for many, however, it still yields a life of want for many others. Hopefully, this needs assessment will serve to mobilize Anne Arundel County citizens to come together to make this an even better place to live...for all of our citizens and all of our children.

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Carol C. Thompson

A.A. Co. Partnership For Children, Youth & Families Partner Agency List

Anne Arundel Community College	410-777-AACC (2222) www.aacc.edu
Anne Arundel Co. Department of Juvenile Services	410-295-5740 www.djs.state.md.us/southern.html
Anne Arundel Co. Department of Social Services	410-269-4500 www.dhr.state.md.us/county/ann/
Anne Arundel Co. Health Department	410-222-7095 www.aahealth.org
Anne Arundel Co. Mental Health Agency	410-222-7858 www.aamentalhealth.org
Anne Arundel Co. Police Department	410-222-8050 www.aacounty.org/Police/index.cfm
Anne Arundel Co. Public Libraries	410-222-7371 www.aacpl.net
Anne Arundel Co. Public Schools	410-222-5000 www.aacps.org
Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corp.	410-897-3890 www.aawdc.org
Office of the County Executive	410-222-1821 www.aacounty.org/CountyExec/index.cfm

For a complete listing of all County government agencies, boards, and commissions, visit:

www.aacounty.org/Agencies/index.cfm

OR

To navigate community and family services, contact the *Network of Care* at www.networkofcare.org or by calling 410-266-5105 (local)/1-800-485-0041 (toll free).

Anne Arundel Community Planning, May 19, 2010

Sponsored by: Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County/Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth and Families



At the conclusion of the 2010 Community Needs Assessment presentation participants were asked to take part in a community planning and goal setting exercise. The task was to develop three agreed upon goals for the next three years that all agencies and organizations could adopt. The exercise included:

- SWOT (Strengths, Needs, Opportunities and Threats) exercise
- Break out session in six small, randomly selected groups. Each group developed three goals that were then reported to the large group
- Agreed upon amalgamation of the 18 goals to 11 goals
- Nominal voting session during which participants were given three dots to vote on their top three goals The results of the exercise are captured below:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educated population • Potential for greater giving • Families caring for seniors • Seniors caring for kin • Passionate public/private agencies working on behalf of children • Sense of collaboration • Strong employment opportunities • Churches/faith community • Solid community infrastructure • 'Small town' feel • Willingness to break down racial barriers • Highly skilled retirement community • Caring business community • Affluent 'giving' community • Leverage of having state capitol in county 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of resources • Not enough affordable housing • Lack of public transportation • Not enough gainful employment for the poor • Overwhelmed services related to housing • Lack of unity/geographic fragmentation • Public education across the county • Lack of confidence in public schools • Lack of a comprehensive plan • Growth in poverty • Few mental health services • Lack of substance abuse service • Lack of mentoring services
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for a 'Judy' center (one stop shop for young children and their families) • Parenting programs for example 'Strengthening Families' • Partnerships with the business community • Partnerships among and between not-for-profits and government • Amount of training available for young people – we don't know what's out there • Foster a sense of community by breaking down agency and organizational silos • Retirees who could volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tax cap • The aging population – we are losing workers • The speed of change • Classism/racism – all of the 'isms' • NIMBY (not in my back yard) attitude • Hopelessness • Acceptance of difficulties and indifference • Lack of community accountability • Family disintegration

Goal group 1

Goal group 1

1. One stop shop for all services in the community
2. Centralized means of connecting with services
3. Expand available community resources to better meet need

Goal group 2

1. County system for communication and collaboration integrating social services agencies, housing, faith based and so on
2. 'Kids at Hope' including public housing and parenting center
3. Behavioral health for children, youth and adults (mental illness, substance abuse, suicide)

Goal group 3

1. Focus on seniors
2. Target specific communities to focus efforts
3. Build a continuum of solutions that take a child from cradle to college career successfully

Goal group 4

1. Substance abuse prevention and education
2. Job skills training for transition aged youth
3. Communication/coordination/collaboration
4. Establishing better relations between local grantees and grantors

Goal group 5

1. Better access to resources. We need a community wide wish list with transparency and openness and some community education
2. Improve technology access
3. Engage millennial generation in helping others

Goal group 6

1. Central repository for agencies, goals, events, priorities
2. Mentoring children and parents – one stop shopping
3. Focus on homelessness/affordable housing

Final Goal List

- Comprehensive mentoring and nurturing services to create a paradigm shift from 'me' to 'we' **18 votes**
- 'One stop shop' for all services in the community/centralized means of connecting services **17 votes**
- Focus on homelessness/affordable housing **15 votes**
- County system for communication and collaboration including local grantors and grantees **13 votes**
- Behavioral health for children, youth and adults (mental illness, substance abuse, suicide) **12 votes**
- Build a continuum of solutions that take a child from cradle to college career successfully **8 votes**
- Establish an effective county-wide transportation system serving needs of all county residents **8 votes**
- Target specific communities to focus group efforts **7 votes**
- Focus on seniors **7 votes**
- Kids at Hope including public housing and parenting centers **6 votes**
- Job skills training for transition aged youth **5 votes**

TOP THREE GOALS

1. Comprehensive mentoring and nurturing services to create a paradigm shift from 'me' to 'we'.
2. 'One stop shop' for all services in the community/ centralized means of connecting services .
3. Focus on homelessness/affordable housing.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, demographic and poverty data in this report were derived from the 2008 *American Community Survey* conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, the latest such data available. The *American Community Survey* is an annual survey conducted with a sample of residents from the majority of counties in the country. Because the sample sizes are much smaller than those used in the Census Bureau's decennial censuses, certain break-downs of the data are not possible, and the reliability of those available is somewhat reduced, particularly when examining sub-groups of the population.

U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, All Maryland Counties, Detailed Tables, Table B01001

² U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Table S1901. Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2008 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars).

³ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Table S1501. Educational Attainment; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 3, Table QT-P20.

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Table S1401. School Enrollment; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 3, Table QT-P20.

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, 2007, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B17001. Because the estimate of minority poverty varied widely by year during this period, and the error of the estimate increased considerably, the author decided to average several years.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, 2007, and 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B17001A and B17001B.

⁸ The counties ahead of Anne Arundel include: Montgomery, Prince George's, Frederick, Howard and Caroline. U.S. Census Bureau, *Population Estimates Program*, 2008, All Maryland Counties, Table T4-2008; *Decennial Census*, 2000, All Maryland Counties, Summary File 1, Table P4; *Decennial Census*, 1990, All Maryland Counties, Summary Tape File 1, Table P008.

U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B02001, B03001, AND B03002; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 1, Table P8; *Decennial Census*, 1990, Anne Arundel County, Summary Tape File 1, Table P010.

⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B01001; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Population of Counties by Decennial Census: 1900 to 1990, compiled and edited by Richard L. Forstall.

¹⁰ The terminology used to depict different racial and ethnic groups has grown increasingly complex as have the groupings of populations. Throughout this report we will attempt to maintain the current Census usage, except that we will use the terms Black and African-American interchangeably or in combination to refer to the group that the Census identifies as "Black or African American." The Census category "White" includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic Whites. Where the Hispanic population is reported separately, we will note that the White category includes only the non-Hispanic Whites. In order to accurately reflect data collected by sources other than the U.S. Census we will utilize their racial and ethnic categories.

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B01001; U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Population of Counties by Decennial Census: 1900 to 1990, compiled and edited by Richard L. Forstall.

¹² Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B16004; *Decennial Census*, 1990, Anne Arundel County, Summary Tape File 3, Table P028.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County; State of Maryland, Detailed Tables, Table B19013.

¹⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, State of Maryland, Detailed Tables, Table B19001; *Decennial Census*, 2000, Anne Arundel County, Summary File 3, Table P53

¹⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County; State of Maryland, Detailed Tables, Table B19001.

¹⁷ As defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, White households are those in which the householder, i.e., the person in whose name the housing unit is owned, is White; Black households are those in which the householder is Black. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Tables B19013A and B19013B; U.S. Census Bureau, *Decennial Census*, 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P152A and P152B.

¹⁸ All numbers are CPI-adjusted to 2008 dollars using the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index Research Series Using Current Methods (CPI-U-RS), as suggested in the Census Bureau guidance on comparing estimates between years. See Appendix 1.

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- ¹⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, 2007, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B01001, B17001A, B17001B, B17006, and B17010.
- ²⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, 2007, and 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B17001 and B17001B.
- ²¹ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, 2007, and 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B17001, B17001B, and B01001.
- ²² U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B09005
- ²³ “2000 Census Data - Living Arrangements Profile for Anne Arundel, Maryland,” Kids Count Census Data Online, Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.aecf.org. Data on the share of children in single-parent families by race in 2006 are not available.
- ²⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B17006. Data are not available for this variable by race. There is every likelihood, however, that the poverty rates among African – American children in female-headed households exceeds the overall rate.
- ²⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County Detailed Tables, Table B23007
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- ²⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B25044; U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B25044.
- ²⁸ Community Foundation of Anne Arundel County, focus group interview, March 3, 2010.
- ²⁹ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B08303; U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Table B08303.
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- ³¹ Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, Online Reports and Statistics, Residential Sales, 2004-2007. <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/stats/index.html>
- ³² U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008 and 2006, Anne Arundel County, B19013A and B19013B; U.S. Census Bureau, *Decennial Census*, 2000, Summary File 3, Tables P152A and P152B
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- ³⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2008, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B19013; U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey*, 2006, Anne Arundel County, Detailed Tables, Tables B19013
- ³⁶ “Anne Arundel County, Maryland Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report,” Anne Arundel Community Development Services Inc, September 2009, http://www.acdsinc.org/content_files/reports/LFY2009_CAPER_final.pdf, pp. 10-11.
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- ⁴¹ The HOPE Initiative, Homeowners Preserving Equity, Library of Foreclosure Information, Property Foreclosures in Maryland: 2nd Quarter 2008, P4, P13, http://www.mdhope.org/Documents/PropertyForeclosureEventsinMaryland_Q2_08.pdf; Property Foreclosures in Maryland: 1st Quarter 2010, Piii, P18, http://www.mdhope.org/Documents/Property_Foreclosure_Events_in_Maryland_10Q1.pdf
- ⁴² “Anne Arundel County, Maryland Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report,” Anne Arundel Community Development Services Inc, September 2007, pp. 12. http://www.acdsinc.org/content_files/reports/FY2007_CAPER.pdf.
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- ⁵⁸ Coalition for Safe Communities of the Anne Arundel County Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families, *FY 2010 Strategic Plan* (2010). www.aacountry.org/CSC/
- ⁵⁹ Ibid.
- ⁶⁰ Ibid.
- ⁶¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Online Air Quality Index Report; <http://www.epa.gov/air/data/monaqi.html?st~MD~Maryland>
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- ⁸⁵ *Anne Arundel County Needs Assessment 2010 Qualitative Report*, unpublished, 2010.
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