Office of Community Relations



MISSION AND SERVICES

The Office of Community Relations (OCR) provides constituent and mediation services along with conducting community outreach and investigations of allegations of unlawful discrimination in order to promote an active, informed, engaged and vibrant civic culture as well as to foster a strong connection between all those who live, work and play in the County.

CORE SERVICES

- Provide access to government services and information for all County residents and businesses
- Community outreach to inform individuals, businesses, constituency groups and non-profit service providers about the activities of County government as well as their rights, responsibilities and opportunities to participate in improving the quality of life in the County
- Investigation and administrative resolution of complaints of unlawful discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, real estate transactions, financial lending, education, law enforcement and public accommodations
- Mediation and alternative dispute resolution, with a special emphasis on diverting minor civil matters and domestic disputes from the court system

FY 2020 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- \$244,000 awarded for U.S. Census 2020 efforts.
- Call abandonment rate decreased to 1% while service performance rate increased to 97%.
- 2,391 students educated through the Clean County Cadet Program.
- 100 Events of Summer 111 community events attended this summer.
- Call answer rate is approximately six (6) seconds.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AND INITIATIVES FOR FY 2021

The agency's top priorities in FY 2021 are:

- To increase the efficiency and responsiveness to County residents.
- To reduce call wait times and improve customer service levels.
- To expand resource services to all residents by restructuring the TNI model to a countywide program to improve the quality of life in all County neighborhoods that face significant economic, health, public safety and educational challenges.

FY 2021 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2021 approved budget for the Office of Community Relations is \$7,320,300, an increase of \$255,100 or 3.6% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

Expenditures by Fund Type

	FY 2019 Actual		FY 2020 Bud	lget	FY 2020 Estimate		FY 2021 Approved	
Fund Types	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total
General Fund	\$5,252,625	99.9%	\$6,711,000	95.0%	\$6,846,100	95.8%	\$7,260,300	99.2%
Grant Funds	6,841	0.1%	354,200	5.0%	301,000	4.2%	60,000	0.8%
Total	\$5,259,466	100.0%	\$7,065,200	100.0%	\$7,147,100	100.0%	\$7,320,300	100.0%

GENERAL FUND

The FY 2021 approved General Fund budget for the Office of Community Relations is \$7,260,300, an increase of \$549,300 or 8.2% over the FY 2020 approved budget.

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2020 Approved Budget	\$6,711,000
Increase Cost: Operating — Increase in the funding to support contractual needs for immigration legal defense and language access services.	\$400,000
Increase Cost: Operating - Technology Cost Allocation — Increase in charges based on the new methodology to support anticipated countywide costs	290,200
Increase Cost: Fringe Benefits — Increase in the fringe benefit rate from 31.5% to 33.1% and compensation adjustments	45,700
Decrease Cost: Compensation — Decrease in compensation due to increase in attrition and salary lapse for funded vacant positions	(66,600)
Decrease Cost: Removal of One-Time Cost — Elimination of a one-time contract for the modernization of the 311 center	(120,000)
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$7,260,300

GRANT FUNDS

The FY 2021 approved grant budget for the Office of Community Relations is \$60,000, a decrease of \$294,200 or 83.1% under the FY 2020 approved budget. The major source of funds in the FY 2021 approved budget include:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Worksharing Agreement

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2020 Approved Budget	\$354,200
Remove: Prior Year Appropriation — RATE Youth Conflict Management	\$(50,000)
Remove: Prior Year Appropriation — Maryland Census Grant	(244,200)
FY 2021 Approved Budget	\$60,000

STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES

Authorized Positions	FY 2019 Budget	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2021 Approved	Change FY20-FY21
General Fund				
Full Time - Civilian	69	69	69	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	69	69	69	0
Part Time	0	0	0	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0
TOTAL				
Full Time - Civilian	69	69	69	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	69	69	69	0
Part Time	0	0	0	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0

	FY 2021			
Positions By Classification	Full Time	Part Time	Limited Term	
Administrative Aide	5	0	0	
Administrative Assistant	3	0	0	
Administrative Specialist	2	0	0	
Budget Management Analyst	1	0	0	
Call Center Representative	24	0	0	
Call Center Supervisor	3	0	0	
Citizen Services Specialist	2	0	0	
Community Developer	15	0	0	
Community Developer Assistant	1	0	0	
Deputy Director	1	0	0	
Director	1	0	0	
Executive Director	1	0	0	
Investigator	8	0	0	
Paralegal Assistant	1	0	0	
Quality Assurance Analyst	1	0	0	
TOTAL	69	0	0	

Expenditures by Category - General Fund

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY2	20-FY21
Category	Actual	Budget Estimate		Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$3,413,276	\$4,241,000	\$4,144,700	\$4,174,400	\$(66,600)	-1.6%
Fringe Benefits	1,130,639	1,336,000	1,305,600	1,381,700	45,700	3.4%
Operating	708,710	1,134,000	1,395,800	1,704,200	570,200	50.3%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$5,252,625	\$6,711,000	\$6,846,100	\$7,260,300	\$549,300	8.2%
Recoveries	_				_	
Total	\$5,252,625	\$6,711,000	\$6,846,100	\$7,260,300	\$549,300	8.2 %

In FY 2021, compensation expenditures decrease 1.6% under the FY 2020 budget due to mandated salary adjustments including increased attrition and salary lapse for funded vacant positions. The compensation budget includes funding for 64 of the 69 full time positions. Fringe benefit expenditures increase 3.4% over the FY 2020 budget due to an increase in the fringe rate from 31.5% to 33.1% to align with anticipated costs.

Operating expenditures increase 50.3% over the FY 2020 budget due to increases in the technology cost allocation charge and general and administrative contract costs to support immigration legal defense and language access services.

Expenditures by Division - General Fund

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY20-FY21	
Category	Actual	Budget	Estimate	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Community Relations Administration	\$2,022,417	\$2,389,000	\$2,317,000	\$2,437,000	\$48,000	2.0%
Human Relations Commission	1,353,100	1,888,600	2,110,700	2,357,500	468,900	24.8%
311 Call Center	1,877,108	2,433,400	2,418,400	2,465,800	32,400	1.3%
Total	\$5,252,625	\$6,711,000	\$6,846,100	\$7,260,300	\$549,300	8.2 %

General Fund - Division Summary

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY2	20-FY21
Category	Actual	Budget	Estimate	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Community Relations Administ	ration					
Compensation	\$1,407,987	\$1,692,300	\$1,633,000	\$1,663,500	\$(28,800)	-1.7%
Fringe Benefits	460,731	533,100	514,400	550,600	17,500	3.3%
Operating	153,700	163,600	169,600	222,900	59,300	36.2%
Capital Outlay	—	_	_	_		
SubTotal	\$2,022,417	\$2,389,000	\$2,317,000	\$2,437,000	\$48,000	2.0%
Recoveries	_	_	_	_	_	
Total Community Relations Administration	\$2,022,417	\$2,389,000	\$2,317,000	\$2,437,000	\$48,000	2.0%
Human Relations Commission						
Compensation	\$697,247	\$916,700	\$891,100	\$895,400	\$(21,300)	-2.3%
Fringe Benefits	243,240	288,800	280,700	296,400	7,600	2.6%
Operating	412,613	683,100	938,900	1,165,700	482,600	70.6%
Capital Outlay	_	_	_	_	_	
SubTotal	\$1,353,100	\$1,888,600	\$2,110,700	\$2,357,500	\$468,900	24.8%
Recoveries	—			_		
Total Human Relations Commission	\$1,353,100	\$1,888,600	\$2,110,700	\$2,357,500	\$468,900	24.8%
311 Call Center						
Compensation	\$1,308,042	\$1,632,000	\$1,620,600	\$1,615,500	\$(16,500)	-1.0%
Fringe Benefits	426,669	514,100	510,500	534,700	20,600	4.0%
Operating	142,397	287,300	287,300	315,600	28,300	9.9%
Capital Outlay	—	_	_	_		
SubTotal	\$1,877,108	\$2,433,400	\$2,418,400	\$2,465,800	\$32,400	1.3%
Recoveries	—			_		
Total 311 Call Center	\$1,877,108	\$2,433,400	\$2,418,400	\$2,465,800	\$32,400	1.3%
Total	\$5,252,625	\$6,711,000	\$6,846,100	\$7,260,300	\$549,300	8.2 %

DIVISION OVERVIEW

Community Relations Administration

The Administration Division provides the agency's constituent services, community mediation and community outreach. The Outreach and Programs unit is located within this division. The Outreach and Programs unit links residents to County services, programs, resources and information to answer questions, address issues and resolve community concerns. Our focus is serving our community by providing access to quality government service ensuring residents have an active voice in County Government, as well as, offering opportunities for residents to engage one another.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2021, the division expenditures increase \$48,000 or 2% over the FY 2020 budget. Staffing resources increase by one position over the FY 2020 budget. The primary budget changes include:

• A decrease in compensation due to mandated salary adjustments.

- An increase in the technology cost allocation charge.
- An increase in the position complement due to the transfer of one position from the 311 division for additional program support.

	FY 2020	FY 2021	Change F	Y20-FY21	
	Budget Approved		Amount (\$)	Percent (%)	
Total Budget	\$2,389,000	\$2,437,000	\$48,000	2.0 %	
STAFFING					
Full Time - Civilian	22	23	1	4.5%	
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%	
Subtotal - FT	22	23	1	4.5%	
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%	
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%	

Human Relations Commission

The Human Relations Commission Division provides the agency's human rights services that address discrimination through investigation, adjudication, mediation and community outreach.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2021, the division expenditures increase \$468,900 or 24.8% over the FY 2020 budget. Staffing resources increase by one position over the FY 2020 budget. The primary budget changes include:

- A decrease in compensation due to mandated salary adjustments.
- An increase in the technology cost allocation charge.
- Increased funding for general and administrative contracts to support immigration legal defense and language access services.

• An increase in the position complement due to transfer of one position from the 311 division for additional program support.

	FY 2020	FY 2021	Change FY20-FY21			
	Budget	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)		
Total Budget	\$1,888,600	\$2,357,500	\$468,900	24.8 %		
STAFFING						
Full Time - Civilian	12	13	1	8.3%		
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%		
Subtotal - FT	12	13	1	8.3%		
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%		
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%		

311 Call Center

The 3-1-1 Center provides the public with a single threedigit number (3-1-1) to call for County information and services as well as provides the County with an advanced ability to count, track and respond to resident requests in order to enhance the quality of service delivery and accountability.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2021, the division expenditures increase \$32,400 or 1.3% over the FY 2020 budget. Staffing resources decrease by two positions from the FY 2020 budget. The primary budget changes include:

- A decrease in compensation due to mandated salary adjustments and two positions were transferred to other divisions - one to Administration and one to Human Relations Commission.
- An increase in the technology cost allocation charge.

• The elimination of a one-time contract for the modernization of the 311 Center.

	FY 2020	FY 2021	Change FY20-FY21		
	Budget	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)	
Total Budget	\$2,433,400	\$2,465,800	\$32,400	1.3%	
STAFFING					
Full Time - Civilian	35	33	(2)	-5.7%	
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%	
Subtotal - FT	35	33	(2)	-5.7%	
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%	
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%	

GRANT FUNDS SUMMARY

Expenditures by Category - Grant Funds

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY2	20-FY21
Category	Actual	Budget Estimate		Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	
Fringe Benefits			_		_	
Operating	6,841	354,200	301,000	60,000	(294,200)	-83.1%
Capital Outlay			—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$6,841	\$354,200	\$301 <i>,</i> 000	\$60,000	\$(294,200)	-83.1%
Recoveries		_				
Total	\$6,841	\$354,200	\$301,000	\$60,000	\$(294,200)	-83.1%

The FY 2021 approved grant budget for the Office of Community Relations is \$60,000, which is a reduction of \$294,200 or 83.1% below the FY 2020 approved budget. The primary sponsor for the agency is the Equal Employment Opportunity Commision (EEOC) for the Worksharing Agreement. The anticipated grant programs will not support positions.

Grant Funds by Division

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	FY 2021 —	Change FY20-FY21	
Grant Name	Actual	Budget	Estimate	Approved	Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Community Relations Administration Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Worksharing Agreement	\$6,841	\$60,000	\$56,800	\$60,000	\$—	0.0%
Maryland Census Grant		244,200	244,200	—	(244,200)	-100.0%
RATE Youth Conflict Management		50,000		—	(50,000)	-100.0%
Total Community Relations Administration	\$6 <i>,</i> 841	\$354,200	\$301,000	\$60,000	\$(294,200)	-83.1%
Subtotal	\$6,841	\$354,200	\$301,000	\$60,000	\$(294,200)	- 83.1 %
Total Transfer from General Fund - (County Contribution/Cash Match)	—	_	_	_	_	
Total	\$6,841	\$354,200	\$301,000	\$60,000	\$(294,200)	-83.1%

Grant Descriptions

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION (EEOC) WORKSHARING AGREEMENT -- \$60,000

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) provides financial assistance through a work sharing agreement. These funds are provided as a result of investigations conducted by the Commission with regard to allegations of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information that occur in Prince George's County. The EEOC reimburses the Commission a fixed amount per case.

SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN AND PERFORMANCE

Goal 1 — To provide constituent services to residents and businesses in order to resolve complaints, questions and community concerns.

			1 /		
FY 2025 Target	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimated	FY 2021 Projected	Trend
97%	90%	86%	95%	97%	⇔

Trend and Analysis

This objective contains one of the County Executive's Key Performance Indicators [KPI] of the Proud Priorities Proud Results planning process and will be under regular review by the CountyStat team. The KPI is updating the Top Ten Service Request types' Service Level Agreements as appropriate. This KPI is being performed in conjunction with CountyStat and the webpage has been published:

https://tinyurl.com/TopTenCSRs

The agency receives, responds to and coordinates the resolution of customer complaints and questions using the County Click 3-1-1 web and phone portal for government information and non-emergency services. It is crucial that 3-1-1 representatives answer calls and process service requests in a timely and accurate manner. By expanding the 3-1-1 service through the online portal and mobile app, this lets citizens use mobile devices to place service requests at any time. The percent of resolved customer service requests will continue to increase in FY 2021.

Measure Name	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimated	FY 2021 Projected
Resources (Input)					
Citizen service specialists	20	15	17	19	19
Workload, Demand and Production (Output)					
Customer inquiry calls	269,937	284,939	258,195	265,000	265,000
Calls, walk-ins, emails and letters	300,839	317,390	275,799	265,000	265,000
Efficiency					
Time for a 3-1-1 call to be picked up by a call taker	45	158	121	15	15
Call duration (seconds)	178	190	180	165	130
Abandoned calls	16%	9%	5%	2%	2%
Service requests generated via CountyClick 3-1-1	213,517	265,931	257,316	262,578	260,000
Impact (Outcome)					
Calls answered within 45 seconds	85%	90%	86%	95%	97%

Goal 2 — To provide mediation services to County residents and businesses in order to facilitate resolution of community disputes and civil rights discrimination complaints.

Objective 2.1 — Increase the percentage of community mediation cases reaching settlement through ADR tools.

FY 2025 Target	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual			Trend
0%	80%	0%	0%	0%	

Trend and Analysis

In FY 2017, the Office did not procure the grant that supported its mediation services which in turn impacted its capacity to provide mediation services throughout the County. The services are now provided on an "as needed" basis.

The agency is planning to retire this objective during FY 2020.

Measure Name	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimated	FY 2021 Projected
Resources (Input)					
Volunteer mediators	15	0	0	0	0
Workload, Demand and Production (Output)					
Mediation referrals	60	45	0	0	0
Cases mediated	33	36	0	0	0
Mediation cases closed	31	36	0	0	0
Efficiency					
Cases mediated per volunteer	2	0	0	0	0
Quality					
Mediation participants rating "agree" or "strongly agree" with overall mediation	75%	90%	0%	0%	0%
Impact (Outcome)					
Cases mediated that reached an agreement	94%	80%	0%	0%	0%

Objective 2.2 — Increase the percentage of civil rights/discrimination complaints resolved as a result of the effective use of ADR techniques.

FY 2025	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	Trend
Target	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Projected	
75%	64%	45%	45%	45%	1

Trend and Analysis

The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) team provides mediation and conciliation services for complainants. Mediation is voluntary, while conciliation is mandatory. The Office anticipates increasing information about ADR by allowing trained staff to assist in providing written documentation about ADR during intake. This will allow complainants and respondents to see the benefits of mediation at the intake interview as the agency moves to increase expedited scheduling and coordination of mediation sessions. If successful, this will help to drive up case closures and eliminate case overload. ADR staff remains effective at resolving cases through mediation and conciliation when presented with the opportunity.

Measure Name	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimated	FY 2021 Projected
Resources (Input)					
Commission mediators	2	1	1	1	2
Workload, Demand and Production (Output)					
Mediations scheduled	13	15	11	12	12
Conciliations scheduled	5	5	1	2	3
Mediations conducted	15	14	11	11	12
Conciliations conducted	5	5	1	7	8
Mediations closed with settlement	7	9	5	5	5
Cases that reached a resolution through conciliation	3	2	1	7	8
Efficiency					
Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) sessions per mediator	10	14	11	12	12
Quality					
Mediated cases that reached an agreement	50%	64%	45%	45%	42%
Cases that reached a resolution through conciliation	60%	40%	100%	100%	100%
Customers satisfied with mediation services	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Impact (Outcome)					
Discrimination cases that reached an agreement through ADR	45%	64%	45%	45%	42%

Goal 3 — To provide community outreach to individuals, businesses, constituency groups and non-profit service providers in order to communicate information about County programs and service to the public.

Objective 3.1 — Increase the number of citizens, residents and businesses provided information on governmental programs and services.

FY 2025 Target	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual			Trend
62,500	4,950	13,600	50,000	55,500	1

Trend and Analysis

The community outreach staff participates in homeowner association workshops, community parades, health fairs and other local events occurring throughout the County. The agency is committed to having representation available for every event and is planning on attending 500 events in FY 2021.

Since FY 2019, the agency has substantially increased its internal outreach goals and outcomes in an effort to liaise on behalf of County residents with partner agencies to improve communication, education about county government services and improve overall service delivery.

Measure Name	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Estimated	FY 2021 Projected
Resources (Input)					
Community outreach employees	7	9	7	7	7
Workload, Demand and Production (Output)					
Community events attended	257	270	350	500	500
Efficiency					
Events attended per employee	37	30	50	50	50
Quality					
Requested events attended	74%	94%	100%	100%	100%
Impact (Outcome)					
Citizens and residents provided information by community outreach services	4,912	4,950	13,600	50,000	55,000