



Program Description

The Health & Human Services department works to promote the health and well being of Arlington citizens and provides a safety net for Arlington citizens who experience difficulty in their lives and need help with those difficulties. The divisions under Health & Human Services are Board of Health, Council on Aging, Disability Commission, Human Rights Commission, Veterans' Services, and Youth Services. The department also oversees the operations of the Whittemore Robbins House as well as the distribution of certain funding sources to citizens and programs, such as The Arlington Assistance Fund, the Widow's Trust Fund, CDBG Human Services funds, and Community Resource Act Low Interest Loan Program.

The Board of Health protects the public health, controls disease, promotes sanitary living conditions and protects the environment from damage and pollution within the Town of Arlington through enforcement of health codes and regulations.

The department inspects all permitted establishments and investigates and follows-up on complaints regarding unsanitary conditions as well as tracks and investigates communicable disease outbreaks.

Additionally, the department works with other public health agencies at the local and state level to prepare for major public health emergencies.

Budget Statement / Future Outlook

In July 2006 the Board of Health Office became the new site for the Department of Health and Human Services as the former Human Services Director retired, and the Director of Public Health was named the new director. Additionally, the department name was changed to include health in the title, and the Recreation Division was taken out from the department.

As a result of the new duties taken on by the department, an additional staff person was hired part time.

The department intends to seek out grant funding to cover new and existing public health initiatives.

FY 2008 Objectives

- Continue to improve risk-based food inspections program.
- Streamline the Medicare reimbursement program for annual elder influenza and pneumonia vaccinations.
- Working with the Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition, perform a needs and asset assessment of the health status of Arlington.
- Through the Local Emergency Planning Committee, work with the Board of Selectmen to develop a communication plan to communicate with the public and town employees during emergencies.
- Complete a long range analysis of the Council on Aging transportation enterprise fund.
- Continue to work with Regional Public Health partners to investigate ways to improve public health services.
- Continue to practice emergency response plans for public health emergencies.
- Continue to improve graduate student internship program within department.
- Continue to assess the Health and Human Services needs within community and develop initiatives to address the needs.

PROGRAM COSTS				
Health & Human Services	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Personal Services	201,034	226,111	233,687	233,687
Expenses	20,045	21,404	19,704	19,704
Total	221,079	247,515	253,391	253,391

STAFFING				
Health & Human Services	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Managerial	1	1	1	1
Clerical	1	1	1	1
Professional/Technical	1.85	2.36	2.36	2.36
Total	3.85	4.36	4.36	4.36

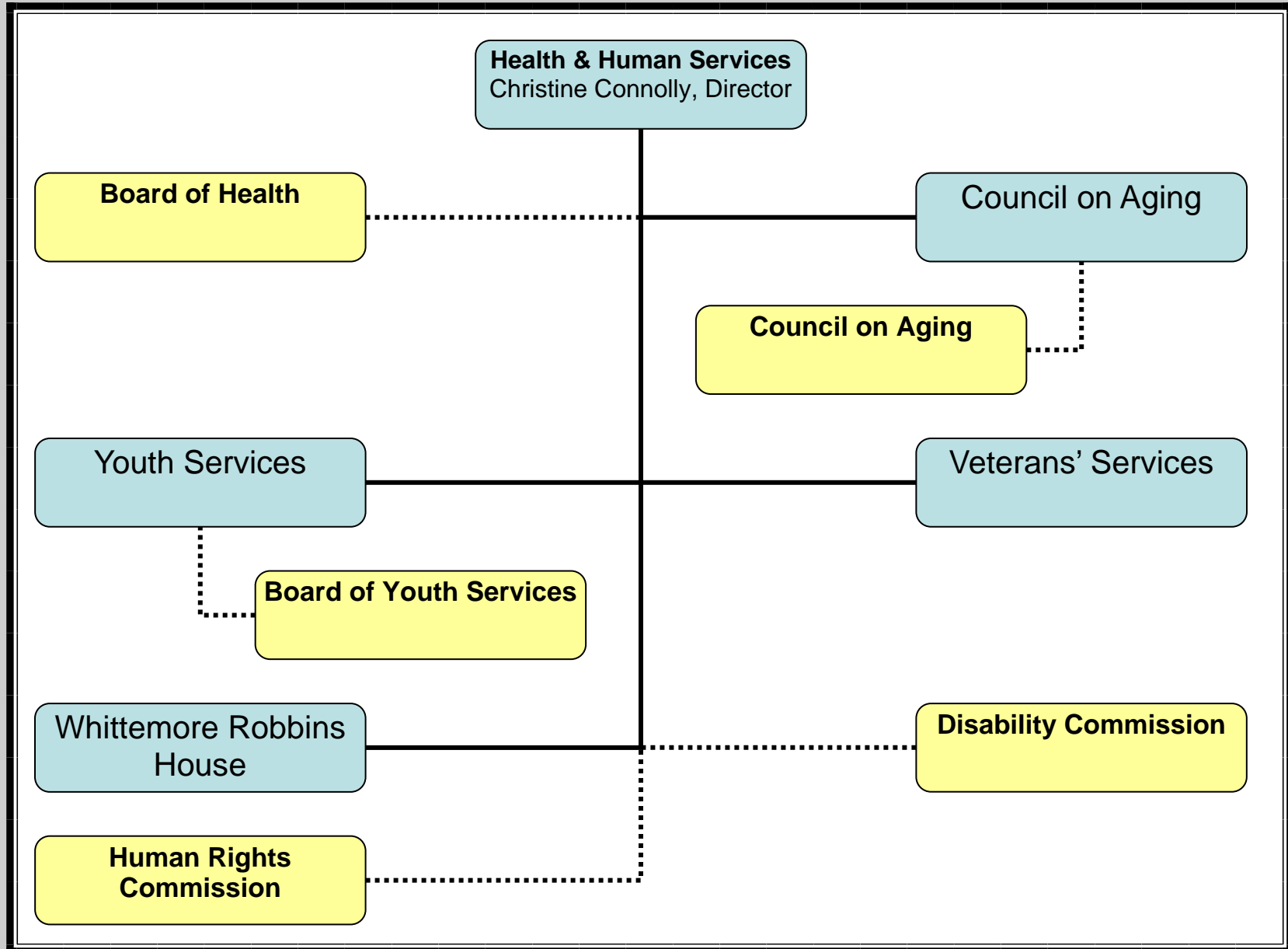


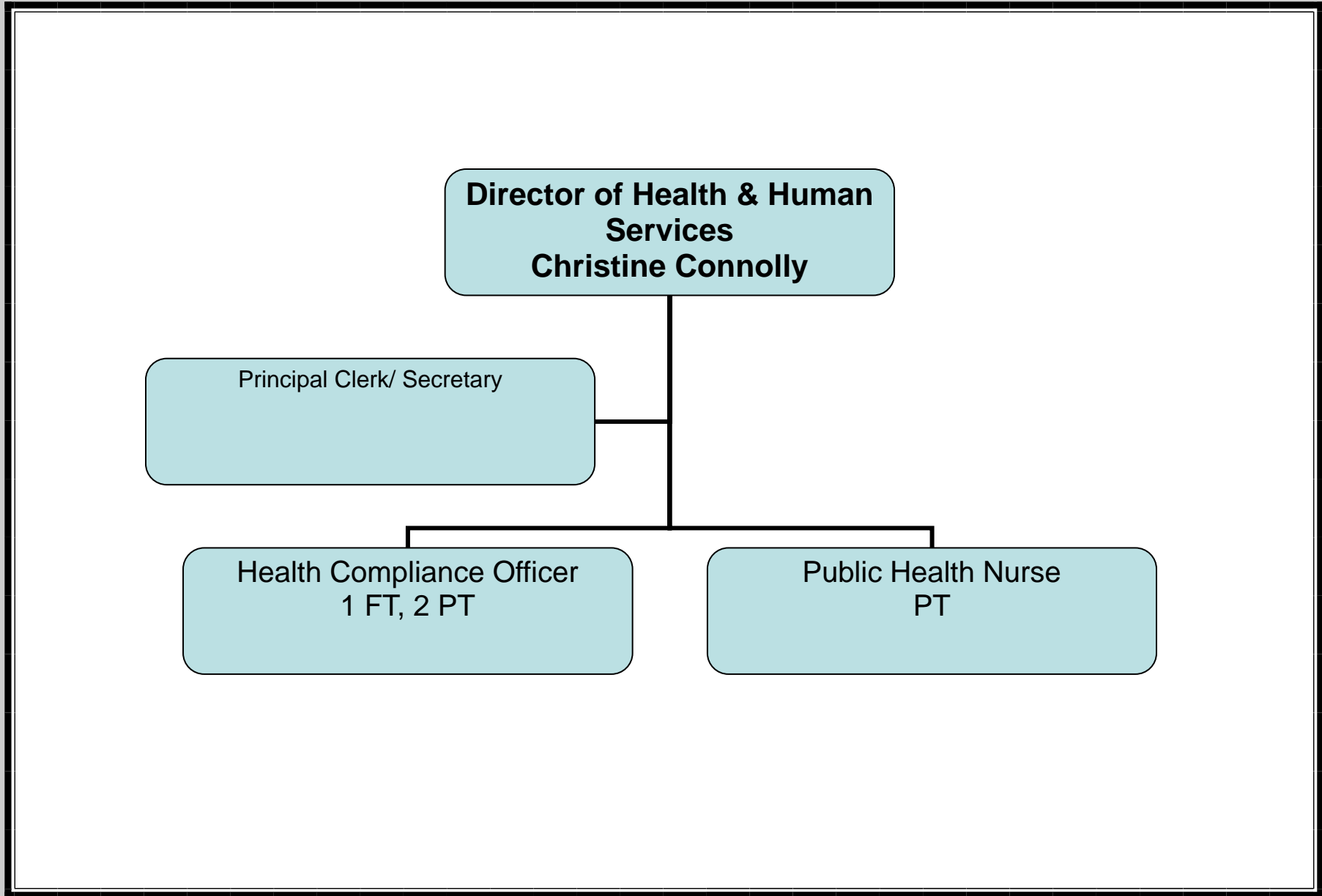
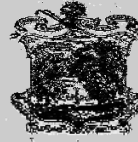
Major Accomplishments for 2006

- Developed a Youth Health and Safety Coalition, in collaboration with the School Department, Police Department and Town Manager's Office, to assess the existing structure in place for youth health and safety and to develop strategies to develop new initiatives for any potential gaps.
- Vaccinated 1200 elders against influenza at the annual elder flu clinic.
- Collaborated with the Towns of Belmont, Watertown, Brookline and the City of Newton to offer a flu and pneumonia vaccination clinic to test emergency dispensing site plans that have been developed by the department for use in the event of a public health emergency where vaccination or prophylaxis of the population would be required such as a flu pandemic or anthrax attack.
- Put into place a public health mutual aid agreement, which was developed to more thoroughly define liability issues for communities that send public health professionals to neighboring communities to assist in public health emergencies.
- Developed a Medical Reserve Corps in town in collaboration with other health departments in neighboring communities. The federally recognized corps has over 100 members from Arlington and has been in place since the beginning of 2006.

Performance / Workload Indicators				
	FY 2005 Actual	FY2006 Actual	FY2007 Estimated	FY2008 Estimated
Food Inspections	375	480	480	480
Tobacco Compliance Checks	58	58	87	90
Massage Establishment Inspections	20	54	66	60
Tanning Establishment Inspections	7	4	4	4
Demolition Inspections	-	13	15	10
Public Pool Inspections	10	9	9	9
Public Beach Inspections	12	11	12	12
Housing Inspections	55	65	65	40
Resident Complaints	325	325	325	300
Communicable Disease Investigation	115	130	150	150
Flu Vaccinations Administered	800	1,000	1,200	1,200

Performance / Workload Indicators				
	FY 2005 Actual	FY2006 Actual	FY2007 Estimated	FY2008 Estimated
Whittemore Robbins House Events	46	50	41	35
Town Hall Auditorium Events	N/A	N/A	20	20







Program Description

The Veterans' Service office supplies aid and assistance to qualifying veterans, their spouses, and dependents through the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services (DVS). The office also serves as a liaison with the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) for federal benefits and assists in filling out forms for such benefits. Within the community, the office is responsible for the graves registration of all veterans buried in the town, coordinating parades, memorial dedications, a veterans' registry, and any ceremony honoring veterans or concerning patriotism. As president of the Combined Veterans Council of Arlington, the director assists the veteran organizations as needed.

FY 2008 Objectives

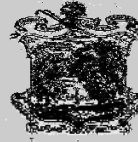
- Request, receive, and account for 75% reimbursement from DVS for all aid and assistance benefits awarded the Town.
- Coordinate and/or collaborate on, attend, and participate in Patriots' Day Parade, Memorial Day Parade, Veterans' Day Parade, and all other ceremonies honoring veterans.
- Increase awareness of DVS and VA benefits available to veterans and/or their dependents.
- Be as available as possible to supply information, forms, and answers to questions concerning veterans.

PROGRAM COSTS				
Veterans' Services	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Personal Services	50,037	50,053	50,053	50,053
Expenses	128,640	143,258	173,258	173,258
Total	178,677	193,311	223,311	223,311

Budget Statement / Future Outlook

While Arlington has not been significantly impacted by "The War on Terrorism", this office shall be ready and able to provide for the military, veterans and their families, as the need arises. Hopefully the war will end soon and those returning home will register with the office, so that they receive all that is due to them. Also at that time, "The Honor Roll" will be updated and refurbished to contain the names of our new veterans and those veterans from previous wars. With almost all veterans since Vietnam over the age of fifty, there are growing requests for medical care from the VA Hospital. These requests will only increase in the upcoming years from both the VA and DVS.

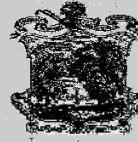
STAFFING				
Veterans' Services	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Managerial				
Clerical				
Professional/Technical	1	1	1	1
Total	1	1	1	1



Major Accomplishments for 2006

- Established "The Vietnam Memorial" in Mt Pleasant Cemetery honoring the ten young men from Arlington who died in Vietnam
- Named the intersection of Broadway and North Union Street "David E. Williams Memorial Square". David Williams was "killed in action" in Vietnam.
- Increased number of recipients receiving DVS aid and assistance from forty-two to forty-seven and assisted in VA claims for forty-four veterans or dependents.
- Received 100% reimbursement for flags decorating veterans' graves on Memorial Day

Performance / Workload Indicators				
	FY 2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008
	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Estimated
Department of Veteran Services				
Clients	42	47	49	52
Veterans' Administration Clients	39	45	45	50



Health & Human Services Director
Christine Connolly

Veterans' Agent



Program Description

The Council on Aging, a division of the Department of Health & Human Services, provides advocacy and support services to help Arlington elders live dignified and independent lives. The division's primary responsibilities are to identify the unmet needs of the community's elder population; to design, promote, or implement services to address such needs; and to coordinate existing services in the community. Projections show a continuing growth of the elder cohort as a segment of the overall population; more will be frail and homebound, and require more monitoring and complex services than at present. Budgetary limitations will continue to impact the division's ability to deliver needed services to Arlington's frail elderly.

FY 2008 Objectives

- Perform a detailed assessment of needs for Arlington seniors, to be used to direct programming and service efforts.
- Make a town-wide informational-outreach effort to inform Arlington's elders and their families of the Council on Aging (COA), its mission, and its programs.
- Continue to assess the Council on Aging's various programs and services and the agency's ability to meet the identified needs of Arlington's elderly through feedback from the Geriatric Nurse, Social Worker and Transportation Coordinator
- Complete a critical review of the community's needs in regard to the division's transportation programs, and adjust COA services to meet these needs in line with the resources available.
- Continue to expand the involvement and community impact of the divisions' volunteers and graduate student interns.

Budget Statement / Future Outlook

No significant changes are expected in the state or municipal budgets in the next few years. The Department will continue to seek out grants and gift funds from private sources.

PROGRAM COSTS				
Council on Aging	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Personal Services	124,610	133,302	130,792	130,792
Expenses	3,634	4,991	4,991	4,991
Total	128,244	138,293	135,783	135,783

STAFFING				
Council on Aging	FY 2006 Actual	FY 2007 Budget	FY 2008 Request	FY 2008 Fin Com
Managerial	1	1	1	1
Clerical	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68
Professional/Technical	0.73	0.80	0.80	0.80
Total	2.41	2.48	2.48	2.48



Major Accomplishments for 2006

- Increased the number of COA volunteers by 12% thus expanding the agency's ability to provide essential services such as volunteer medical escorts, friendly visitors and receptionists in the office
- Secured additional grant/gift funding in areas of health and wellness/exercise, volunteer recognition and support, outreach efforts, and for the needs of very-low-income clientele.
- Coordinated with the 3 other Senior Center agencies (the Seniors Association, the Minuteman Senior Services meal site, and Cooperative Elder Services, Inc.) and formed a Task Force on Outreach for the Senior Center.
- Advocacy on issues affecting seniors continued at the local, regional and state level, through membership and active participation in the Massachusetts Councils on Aging & Senior Center Directors (MCOA).

Performance / Workload Indicators				
	FY 2005 Actual	FY2006 Actual	FY2007 Estimated	FY2008 Estimated
Units of Service Delivered				
Annually	105,110	108,789	110,965	114,294

