

Family Day Care Homes

Number of Children & Development Review

1

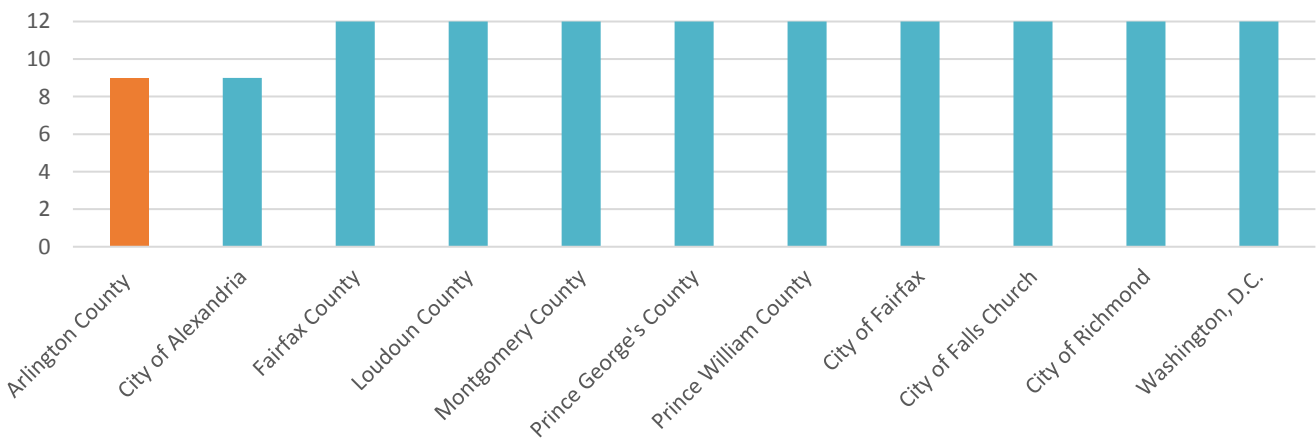
Child Care Challenge

Arlington County has a significant gap between child care supply and demand, as supply can only accommodate 51% of Arlington's population under the age of five (5).

Background Data

- The Commonwealth of Virginia allows up to 12 children within Family Day Care Homes, however, Arlington County allows up to nine (9) children.
- The majority of jurisdictions in the Washington metro region allow up to 12 children, with the exception of the City of Alexandria which allows up to nine (9).
- The number of children permitted within a Family Day Care Home is further limited by licensing regulations and the building code, which requires 35 square feet per occupant.

Family Day Care Home Maximum Number of Children



CCI Action Plan

Availability Action Step 2. Determine if there is a need to update Arlington County's General Land Use Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and/or Residential/Commercial Permit Review process.

- Review the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance and/or the Residential/Commercial Permit Review Process and identify possible changes to streamline the process of opening and/or expanding a child care business.
- Review and address opportunities to expand the capacity of Family Day Care Homes (e.g. removing the requirement for a Use Permit, allowing Family Day Care Homes to care for a maximum of 12 children).

Family Day Care Homes

Number of Children & Development Review (cont.)

To learn more about Arlington's Child Care Initiative, visit

commissions.arlingtonva.us/child-care-initiative.

Existing Zoning Ordinance Regulations

The Arlington County Zoning Ordinance allows up to nine (9) children in Family Day Care Homes, and requires the County Board's approval of a use permit for Family Day Care Homes with six (6) to nine (9) children.

		Number of Children											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

LEGEND

By-Right

Use Permit

Prohibited

By-Right: Projects that are permitted under their current zoning and do not require approval by the County Board; by-right projects are approved administratively by the Zoning Administrator and do not require public hearings.

Use Permit: Required for uses that may be essential or desirable, but which are not allowed by-right within a zoning district. Use permits allow the County to review the use through a public hearing process, and may allow flexibility within a zoning ordinance.

Use Permit Findings

For Family Day Care Homes with six (6) to nine (9) children, the County Board must determine that the use will not:

1. Affect adversely the health or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed use;
2. Be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property or improvements in the neighborhood; and
3. Be in conflict with the purposes of the master plans of the county.

Alternative Regulations

Below are six (6) alternatives to the existing Zoning Ordinance regulations. The seventh option shows the existing regulations for comparison.

Option		Number of Children											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit
2	Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
3	Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit
4	Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right
5	SF-Home Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right
	MF-Home Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
6	SF-Home Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit
	MF-Home Family Day Care Home	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
7	(NO CHANGE)	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	By-Right	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Use Permit	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

LEGEND

By-Right

Use Permit

Prohibited

SF Single-family

MF Multi-family

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