

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting: in-person at Center for Community Health and through Webex online platform
September 6, 2023

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>EXCUSED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Amy Roark	Karyn Kameroff	Alishia Topper, vice chair	Rebecca Royce
Bridget McLeman	Jamie Spinelli		Janet Snook
David Poland			Michael Torres
Diana Perez			Kayla Williams
Ernie Suggs			
Joyce Cooper			
Lance Carter			
Megan Mulsoff			
Nickeia Hunter			
Melanie Green, chair			
Rob Perkins, secretary			

Guests: Shane Scaff, Nicole Fuller (Family Promise); Ann Hawkins (City of Vancouver); Abby Molloy (Clark County DCS); CODAs interpreters

I. Welcome/Introductions

II. Approval of July 2023 Minutes

Bridget McLeman made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Rob Perkins and carried.

III. Task Force Updates

- Legislative Advocacy
No updates. Board members interested in participating in the committee can contact Amy Roark.
- CNA (Community Needs Assessment) Task Force Update
Survey of Needs data has been reviewed by the consultant. Focus groups are being formulated and scheduled to start mid-October.

IV. Eviction Prevention Rent Assistance (EPRAP) RFA Updates

The Request for Application (RFA) closed July 22 and applications have been reviewed and scored by the subcommittee. Three applications were received from By & For organizations with funding requests that exceed the 10% requirement set by Commerce. Two applications were removed from consideration; one was incomplete and the other was an ineligible entity. Awards are as follows.

Targeted Prevention			Anticipated: \$3,781,094	
Applicant	By & For	Score	Requested	Recommended
Native American Youth and Family Center	Y	82.8	\$559,623	\$559,623
Pacific Islander Community Assoc of WA	Y	81.6	\$485,000	\$485,000
Janus Youth	N	81.2	\$561,467	\$561,467
Cascade AIDS Project	Y	80.2	\$114,533	\$114,533
Impact Northwest	N	78.6	\$768,778	\$768,778
Share	N	75.0	\$977,500	\$977,500
YWCA	N	74.0	\$390,000	\$314,193
Lifeline Connections	N	68.6	\$509,226	\$0
Council for the Homeless	N	63.6	\$1,500,000	\$0
Mullen-Polk Foundation	N	20.8	\$1,854,802	\$0

V. Emergency Housing Fund (EHF) Program overview

Approximately \$4M of additional funds intended to maintain current levels of emergency housing services. Funds can only be provided to programs who were providing services as of February 2023. Due

to the funds being from a federal source, a competitive application process is required. Staff plan to open a Request for Applications in September. A subcommittee is needed to score applications in October, with contracts start in November.

Amy Roark, Bridget McLeman, Joyce Cooper, Megan Mulsoff, and Lance Carter volunteered to serve on the subcommittee, and Ernie Suggs volunteered to be an alternate. Ernie Suggs made a motion to accept the subcommittee. Motion was seconded by Rob Perkins and passed.

VI. July 2022 – June 2023 Outcomes Report (Org. Std. 1.3, 4.4, 5.9, 8.7)

Most programs completed the year on track for spending and outcomes. Some numbers reflect COVID-impacts, new programs getting established, and requirements to spend some funding first. Staff work with those agencies whose numbers were outside the target range. Eighty-nine percent of participants completing a satisfaction survey indicated a positive experience working with their program.

VII. City of Vancouver Consolidated Plan update (Org. Std. 5.9)

Ann Hawkins with the City of Vancouver presented the city's Consolidated Plan, a five-year strategic plan required by HUD to set goals and priorities for funding. Information is used to establish an annual Action Plan and then reported through the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). Approximately \$1.4M of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$800,000 of HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program funds are allocated annually to projects and programs within the city of Vancouver. The Consolidated Plan involves community participation, and the city is looking for feedback. City priorities include affordable housing, housing stability, neighborhood improvements, and economic opportunity. The Plan will be submitted to HUD in May. Please contact Ann Hawkins with any questions or feedback.

VIII. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing and Homelessness updates

Ann Hawkins provided a brief update.

- Three applications recommended for affordable housing fund use.
- Applications for funding opens in October.
- Safe Stay 3 and 4 begin construction.

IX. Board Membership update

Four positions are up for reappointment and two vacant positions need to be filled. A subcommittee of three board members is needed for the application review process. David Poland, Amy Roark, Melanie Green volunteered. A motion made by Rob Perkins and seconded by Amy Roark to accept this committee carried.

X. Open Forum

Amy Roark informed the board that changes are coming to the SNAP program beginning October 1. The most impactful change is that SNAP benefits will be limited to three months every three years for people aged 18 and above who are able-bodied and without dependents.

XI. Other Business

- WSCAP Legislative Advocacy Training, 3-5pm, September 19, via Zoom
- Next meeting, Wednesday, November 1

Rob Perkins, Secretary

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