



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
www.cityofdenton.com

## Meeting Minutes

### Human Services Advisory Committee

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Thursday, March 12, 2020

11:00 AM

City Hall East  
Second Floor Conference Room

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Members Present: Gretchen Busl, Hannah Garcia, Rhonda Love, Amy Morgan, Roy Onyebetor, Christie Wood

Members Not Present: Pamela Barnes, Patricia Barrington, Angela Bennett-Engle, Laura Mauelshagen, Jane Upshaw

Staff Present: Anja Taylor, Grants Program Coordinator and Danielle Shaw, Community Services Manager

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A quorum was established. Hannah Garcia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

#### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. HSAC20-003** Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the Human Services Grant applications, applicant presentations, and funding options.

Taylor projected the 20-HS-HSAC-Application-Review Form for committee review. Taylor reminded the committee that although this document has been used in the past to provide preliminary funding recommendations, it is not a required tool. Taylor then informed the committee that the HSAC Chair, Hannah Garcia, will facilitate today's discussion.

Garcia recommended that the committee utilize the 20-HS-HSAC-Application-Review Form to provide preliminary funding recommendations – deliberating, in order, each of the nineteen (19) Human Services Grant applicants. Members requested that staff display the Excel spreadsheet so that applicant names remain on the screen when scrolling through the application information and proposed funding request.

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) requested \$40,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia asked the committee to share their recommended award amounts for CASA. Member Onyebetor stated an initial proposed amount of \$32,000. Member Morgan reminded the committee that the total requested amount for the 2020-2021 Grant Year is almost double from the previous year. Therefore, Morgan suggested that the committee reconsider higher funding amounts. Garcia stated that she does not want to fund agencies for less than their 2019-2020 award. Members held a discussion on the best way to provide funding recommendations. Afterwards, it was decided that a proposed amount of \$32,000 be awarded to CASA.

**City of Denton – Parks and Recreation requested \$70,623 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from Parks and Recreation and current award amount. Members estimated the number of summer camp scholarship that would be funded based on various award amounts. It was determined that Parks and Recreation would be awarded a recommended amount of \$30,000 for the 2020-2021 Grant Year.

**Communities in Schools of North Texas requested \$32,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

To allow for a small increase (\$2,000) from the 2019-2020 award year, members decided to provide a recommended amount of \$32,000 to Communities in Schools of North Texas.

**Denton City County Day School requested \$54,212 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from Denton City County Day School and current award amount. Member Onyebetor suggested a proposed amount of \$38,000, which is the same as the 2019-2020 Grant Year. Members supported this recommendation.

**Denton Christian Preschool requested \$37,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from Denton Christian Preschool and current award amount. Member Wood recommended a proposed amount of \$30,000, which would allow for a small increase (\$2,000) from the 2019-2020 Grant Year. Members supported this recommendation.

**Denton County Friends of the Family requested \$50,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from Denton County Friends of the Family and current award amount. Member Wood asked for clarification on what the funds would be used for. Garcia explained that the funds would provide salary support for the Director of Crisis and Residential Services. Garcia proposed an initial amount of \$40,000, which would allow for a \$5,000 increase from the 2019-2020 Grant Year. Members supported this recommendation.

**Denton County MHMR Center requested \$20,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Member Wood suggested that the committee award the full request from Denton County MHMR Center (\$20,000) based on the presentation received and the services provided by the LOSS Team. Members supported this recommendation.

**Fred Moore Day Nursery School requested \$110,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Taylor provided members with an update on their follow-up questions for Fred Moore Day Nursery School. Taylor announced that the Executive Director of Fred Moore Day Nursery School, Kayti Porter, was contacted on two separate occasions to obtain answers to committee questions, but staff had not yet received a response. Members asked staff about the communication between the City of Denton and Fred Moore Day Nursery School. Staff provided responses to committee questions regarding communications, timeliness of reporting, and the partnership with the agency. Members decided to move forward with deliberations and return to Fred Moore Day Nursery School at the end of the discussion.

**Fred Moore Day Nursery School requested \$110,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021 (Continued).**

The HSAC returned to the request from Fred Moore Day Nursery School after further deliberation. Based on the updates from received from staff and past patterns exhibited from the agency, members agreed to recommend a proposed amount of \$30,000 to Fred Moore Day Nursery School.

**Grace Like Rain requested \$40,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members held a discussion on committee guidelines used to establish partnerships and fund new agencies. Members also discussed the agency budget, request for rental/utility assistance, and proposed Grant Writer position. Shaw reminded the committee that, as of now, there are minimal housing resources in the community. Shaw stated that rental assistance is a community need that the committee should consider when deliberating on various initiatives the City should fund. Shaw also reminded the committee that if they choose to fund Grace Like Rain, or other agencies that have not previously been funded, there is an expectation for continued financial assistance. Members decided to put a placeholder of \$10,000 as an initial funding recommendation and return after further discussion.

**Grace Like Rain requested \$40,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021 (Continued).**

It was decided that Grace Like Rain would be awarded an additional \$2,000 for rental assistance – which brings the total draft recommended amount to \$12,000.

**Health Services of North Texas requested \$60,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from Health Services of North Texas and current award amount. Taylor reminded the committee that the current award amount includes an additional \$6,200 that was granted by the HSAC in November 2019. Member Love asked about the funding options available to Health Services of North Texas. Shaw informed the committee that as a federally recognized Health Center, Health Services of North Texas has the opportunity to apply for federal, state, and local funding. As an initial recommendation, the committee decided to award Health Services of North Texas \$55,000, but advised staff that they would potentially reconsider this amount if there was a gap in funding at the end of their deliberations.

**Health Services of North Texas requested \$60,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021 (Continued).**

The HSAC returned to the request from Health Services of North Texas after further deliberation. It was decided that in order to fill some of the funding gaps, Health Services of North Texas would receive \$50,000 instead of the initial \$55,000 proposed award amount.

**Monsignor King Outreach Center requested \$50,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members asked staff about the modified request since the application was originally submitted for \$255,000. Taylor explained that Monsignor King Outreach Center revised their original request to better fit current agency needs. Members decided to recommend Monsignor King Outreach Center an initial \$50,000, which matches their current Human Service award for Grant Year 2019-2020.

**Our Daily Bread requested \$50,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced that the \$50,000 request is to provide salary support for a security guard and case worker. Shaw explained to the committee that as a result of the Enhanced Shelter Model implemented by Monsignor King Outreach Center, Our Daily Bread was awarded an additional \$18,500 to provide salary support for a security guard to be present during the modified hours of operation. This funding will continue for the 2020-2021 Grant Year. However, Shaw reminded the committee that there is an opportunity to focus on how the City invests money, and Our Daily Bread is on the growth and serves a key priority in the community. Thus, if the committee funds Our Daily Bread for their full request, it would be a great investment. Members held a discussion about potential funding options based on available funds. It was decided that Our Daily Bread would be recommended \$40,000, a \$15,000 increase from the 2019-2020 Grant Year.

**PediPlace requested \$20,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members commended PediPlace on their presentation, ability to respond to follow-up questions, and strong partnership with the City of Denton. Members also recognized that PediPlace has remained consistent in their ability to report and meet program objectives, and has proven to be a good investment. Members decided to recommend a proposed award amount of \$15,000, which is a \$5,000 increase from the 2019-2020 Grant Year.

**RISE: Reaching Individuals Through Service and Education requested \$50,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members held a discussion on committee guidelines used to establish partnerships and fund new agencies. Members also asked staff for clarification on what the funds would be used for. Taylor reminded the committee that Human Service funds cannot be used to pay for equipment, which is one of the line items included on the application. Members decided to recommend an initial award amount of \$5,000 to RISE – similar to previous funding recommendations for new agencies.

**RSVP: Serving Denton County (Volunteers) requested \$12,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members reviewed previous requests from RSVP, as well as award amounts that have been granted. The committee recognized that while RSVP has consistently requested \$12,000, they have received \$5,000 from the City of Denton for the past several years. Thus, members decided to recommend an initial award amount of \$6,000 to RSVP, which would be a small increase (\$1,000) from the 2019-2020 Grant Year.

**North Texas Solutions for Recovery, Inc. requested \$91,460 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members held a discussion on committee guidelines used to establish partnerships and fund new agencies. To remain consistent with funding recommendations for new partner agencies, the committee decided to recommend an initial amount of \$10,000 for North Texas Solution for Recovery.

**Special Programs for Aging Needs (SPAN) requested \$25,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Member Wood suggested that the committee award the full request from SPAN (\$25,000), which is the same as the current award amount for the 2019-2020 Grant Year. Members supported this recommendation.

**The Salvation Army of Denton requested \$35,000 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Garcia announced the requested amount from The Salvation Army of Denton and current award amount. Taylor reminded the committee that the current award amount includes an additional \$6,200 granted by the HSAC in November 2019. The committee commended The Salvation Army's efforts to lower barriers to serve those in need. Garcia announced a proposed award amount of \$35,000. Members supported this recommendation.

**Trinity United Methodist Church requested \$10,511 for Grant Year 2020-2021.**

Members commended Trinity United Methodist Church for their efforts to provide meals for children in need through the Backpack Benevolence Program. However, Garcia explained that the program does not match the profile to receive City funds, and therefore recommended that the program not be funded. Members held a discussion on ways that Trinity United Methodist Church could collaborate with other local nonprofits in the community who provide similar services. Members agreed that, at this time, the program would not be funded by the City of Denton.

Members then reviewed the proposed award amounts to provide final recommendations and re-allocate funds as needed. These modifications are documented above.

At final calculation, the current draft recommendations total \$500,000. This is a little below the projected \$500,087 available for the 2020-2021 Grant Year.

Member Onyebetor asked about the final HSAC meeting scheduled for March 30, 2020. Members discussed the process for delivering a presentation to City Council, and verified with staff that the recommendations discussed today are not final until the recorded HSAC session. Taylor reassured members that the purpose of today's discussion was to provide preliminary funding recommendations, so there is still time to modify the recommendations before the final meeting.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Anja Taylor, Staff Liaison for the Human Services Advisory Committee

Minutes Approved:

