



# 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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Friday, May 8, 2020

2:00 PM

City Hall

Work Session Room

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Members Present: Hannah Garcia, Patricia LaBeau, Rhonda Love, Laura Mauelshagen, Amy Morgan, Roy Onyebetor, Christie Wood

Members Not Present: Pamela Barnes, Gretchen Busl, Jane Upshaw

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

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A quorum was established. Hannah Garcia, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

#### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. HSAC20-004** Consider approval of the minutes of the February 29, 2020 and March 12, 2020 meetings.

Chair Garcia asked for consideration of approval of the minutes for the February 29, 2020 and March 12, 2020 meetings.

**Patricia LaBeau motioned to approve the minutes. Christie Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

- B. HSAC20-005** Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the \$618,736 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds made available to the City of Denton through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136.

Taylor presented on the CDBG-CV funds that were made available through the CARES Act for members to review and give staff direction. Taylor explained to the committee that staff is seeking direction on the CDBG-CV funding recommendations and allocation process. The presentation included information on the CARES Act, CDBG-CV eligible activities, brief on City's response to COVID-19, nonprofit impact survey results, CDBG-CV funding options, and CDBG-CV funding timeline.

Member Wood asked for additional information on the Loop 288 facility. Shaw explained to the committee that the plan is to co-locate Monsignor King Outreach Center (MKOC) and Our Daily Bread (ODB) in the Loop 288 facility. Member Wood then inquired about the future of MKOC. Shaw provided further explanation on the plans for the Loop 288 day shelter, as well as the plans for the city-owned MKOC facility.

Member Morgan inquired about the two funding priorities: emergency response and stabilization of nonprofits. Member Morgan asked staff how the funds would be allocated, and if there had been any nonprofit partners who have been

identified as recipients of the CDBG-CV funds. Taylor provided the committee with additional information on stabilization of nonprofits, the second funding priority identified by staff. Taylor informed the committee that the allocation process could look very similar to the Human Services Grant award process, or the committee could decide on another funding process, such as direct allocation. Shaw then spoke on the flexibility of the CDBG-CV allocation process.

Member Love asked about the allocation process for the Loop 288 facility (i.e., caseworker salary, transportation, etc.). Shaw clarified the role of the committee and stated that, as of now, there would be no discussion on the services that would be provided for the Loop 288 facility. Shaw explained that this would come later through written proposals by our community partners.

Members held a discussion on the nonprofit organizations that would be eligible to receive funding.

Member Wood asked for more information on the COVID-19 nonprofit impact survey. Taylor provided additional information received in the survey. Taylor also reminded the committee that out of the thirty-four (34) survey responses, not all responses were from currently funded partners. Member Wood then inquired about the workforce reduction identified by survey respondents. Taylor announced that 58% of respondents identified a reduction to their workforce because of COVID-19.

Chair Garcia asked if the committee could narrow their funding focus to one specific area. For example, homelessness initiatives. Shaw provided further explanation on the committee's funding options for CDBG-CV awards that could include prioritization at committee recommendation.

Member Wood inquired about the Loop 288 facility and asked how the facility would be different from the current services provided by MKOC. Shaw explained to the committee the process of transitioning MKOC clients into hotels to promote the health and safety of people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. Shaw also provided further explanation on the services that have been provided by MKOC, ODB, and Grace Like Rain staff to clients staying at the hotels. Shaw explained that, as clients transition back into the MKOC shelter, MKOC would be limited in their shelter capacity. Shaw explained to the committee how the Loop 288 facility would help our community partners enhance their services. Chair Garcia inquired about the funding needs of the Loop 288 facility. Shaw explained that the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) would have the discussions on the funds for the Loop 288 facility, as the CDAC oversees public facility and infrastructure activities. Chair Garcia stated that based on the information received, it appears the Loop 288 facility will require more funds than the CDBG-CV funding would allow for. Thus, Chair Garcia stated that it might be best to fund another community need at this time. Shaw stated that the CDAC seemed to agree with this recommendation, which is why the CDAC allocated the entire CDBG-CV funds to the HSAC for emergency services.

Chair Garcia stated that she recommends focusing on emergency response and/or stabilization of nonprofits. Members expressed that they agreed with this recommendation. Chair Garcia inquired about a shortened version of a funding application that would cater to the community partners who are focused on serving clients. Shaw stated that the application could be shortened to meet the needs of applicants, much like the Rapid Re-housing (RRH) and Street Outreach (SO) grant applications that were released in October 2019. Chair Garcia asked about the reporting requirements of the CDBG-CV funds. Shaw provided further explanation on the reporting requirements and explained that as of now, only five (5) agencies received CDBG funds through the City.

Members expressed their interest in funding emergency response and stabilization of nonprofits, as well as a shortened funding application. Chair Garcia asked how much direction staff needs in the funding recommendation. Shaw provided

examples of funding recommendations the committee could provide to staff and stated that the more direction that is received, the faster staff can mobilize and get these funds out in the community.

Chair Garcia asked the committee about splitting the funding between emergency response and stabilization of nonprofits. Member LaBeau stated that she agreed with a 50/50 split between emergency response and stabilization of nonprofits, as both are equally important. Chair Garcia asked if the committee should focus the funding on the greatest community needs identified by the COVID-19 nonprofit impact survey. Members held a discussion on the most efficient way to allocate funds based on the current needs in the community. Members also clarified the reporting requirements for agencies who receive CDBG-CV funds for stabilization.

**Patricia LaBeau moved that the committee allocate the CDBG-CV funds in a 50/50 manner to support emergency response (i.e., rental/mortgage/utility assistance, food security, shelter) and stabilization of nonprofits. Roy Onyebetor seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**C. HSAC20-006** Consider approval of a recommendation to City Council regarding final funding for the FY2020-2021 Human Services Grant applications.

Taylor stated that the preliminary funding recommendations for the 2020-2021 Human Services Grant applicants that the committee discussed on March 12, 2020 is included in the agenda packet. Taylor then asked Chair Garcia to lead the discussion on the final funding recommendations for the 2020-2021 Human Services Grant applicants.

Member Onyebetor asked for an update on the applicants and inquired if the funding recommendations would remain the same considering the COVID-19 pandemic. Taylor explained to the committee that she has outreached to all currently funded partners, as well as the 2020-2021 Human Services Grant applicants to verify that funding requests would remain the same. Taylor stated that, as of now, all nineteen (19) requests would remain the same. Taylor mentioned that only one minor change was requested from Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). CASA requested to include IT services in their current funding request.

Chair Garcia read the 2020-2021 Human Services Grant requests, as well as the preliminary funding recommendation issued by the committee on March 12, 2020. The preliminary funding recommendations are documented in the minutes from the March 12, 2020 meeting. The recommendations totaled \$500,000 in both General Fund and CDBG dollars.

Chair Garcia asked if members had any adjustments to the preliminary funding recommendations. With no adjustments presented, Chair Garcia asked for a motion to approve the recommendations.

**Christie Wood moved to approve the recommendations as outlined by the committee on March 12, 2020. Rhonda Love seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Taylor thanked the committee for their recommendations on the CDBG-CV funds, as well as the 2020-2021 funding recommendations for the Human Services Grant. Taylor advised the committee that she would update members on the Human Services Grant application processes as it moves forward to City Council.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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

Minutes Approved: 10/30/2020



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HANNAH GARCIA  
CHAIR  
CITY OF DENTON



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COURTNEY CROSS  
ASSISTANT COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGER  
CITY OF DENTON