

MINUTES

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

H&HS Charnelton Building, Room #258
151 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene

October 21, 2019
12:15 p.m.

PRESENT: Marilee Woodrow *Chair*, Shaun Londahl *Vice Chair*, Chris Pryor, Gabrielle Guidero, Pat Farr, *Members*; Tami Kinman, Katie Giles, Susan Paiement, David Saez, Mike Fleck, Bob Teter, *Presenters*; Stephanie Jennings City of Eugene Staff, Erin Fifield and Josiah Broomfield City of Springfield Staff; Steve Manela, Alex Dreher, Amanda Borta, Lyn Oliver, Robin Scott, H&HS Staff; Chris Pickering, Kris McAlister, Mike Yoshioka, Susan Ban, Susan Turner, Tim Black and Tom Mulhern, *Guests*.

ABSENT: Joe Berney and Claire Syrett Members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marilee Woodrow convened the meeting at 12:21. Those present introduced themselves.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- Minutes of September 16, 2019
- Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as of September 30, 2019

Chris Pryor moved to approve the consent agenda.

Pat Farr provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

III. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Manela referred members to the memorandum in the meeting packet, *Use of HSC Funds*, from Accounting Analyst Lyn Oliver. This was by request from Councilor Claire Syrett at the September 16, 2019 Human Services Commission (HSC) meeting. The memorandum noted the staff requests and Commission actions to distribute unallocated Emergency Housing Account (EHA) funds in the prioritization order as presented at the May HSC meeting. Commission members approved restoring Rent Assistance (limited duration), Housing Access Center Childcare Respite and Transitional Housing Youth. Staff's primary goal is to expend more restrictive grant funds before utilizing flexible HSC funds or reserves. However significant changes in funding levels from year-to-year necessitates adjustments in order to match projects with the most appropriate funding available based on eligibility criteria and data collection requirements. State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) funds are specifically intended for shelters and drop-in center. Although other grant funds may be allocated, the eligibility and reporting requirements for those funds are prohibitive for emergency projects such as shelters. Mr. Manela explained that the value of flexible funding is to use them in a way that allows contract to remain whole and for the division to respond to the needs in the community regardless of the funding available.

Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS) Executive Director Bob Teter noted that SOS was recently audited by the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Justice (DOJ). There had been some federal legislative changes from the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in which domestic violence (DV) services must now be completely separate from the SOS Multiple Service Center. As a small agency, SOS has traditionally cross-trained all staff to provide information on any of the SOS programs. As a result, SOS will be hiring additional staff and creating a process to provide DV services completely separate and confidential from the rest of SOS.

IV. PUBLIC CHARGE & SNAP ELIGIBILITY

Program Services Coordinator Alex Dreher reported that a pending change to the Department of Homeland Security's federal public charge rule was to go into effect October 15, 2019, however due to court challenges, the changes are stayed until the court cases have been settled. This change would impact access to essential services such as Healthcare for some immigrant communities in Oregon and Lane County. Public Charge is a term used in immigration law to describe an individual who is likely to become dependent on government benefits in the future. The final rule was published in August 2019. If the changes go into effect, they will not be retroactive.

At Mr. Farr's request, Ms. Dreher will send the link out to members and encourage them to comment.

V. BASIC NEEDS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS PANEL

Ms. Dreher noted this is the second of three panel discussions in which we invite individuals who are working on programs funded by the HSC in preparation for the discussion on anti-poverty funding. She introduced the panelists:

- 1) Catholic Community Services (CCS) serving Eugene/North Central and Springfield/East Lane; Executive Director Susan Paiement, Eugene Community Service Center Manager Katie Giles, and Springfield Community Service Center Tami Kinman
- 2) Centro Latino Americano (CLA) serving Low-English Proficiency and Culturally Specific Services; Executive Director David Saez
- 3) Community Sharing (CS) serving South Lane County; Executive Director Mike Fleck
- 4) Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS) serving West Lane County; Executive Director Bob Teter

Ms. Dreher referred to the full memorandum in the meeting packet, *Basic Needs Assistance for Low-Income Households*. The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) in chart format starts on page 15.

Q) Please give a brief overview of the basic needs assistance program(s) funded through the HSC.

Catholic Community Services CCS has Community Service Centers in Eugene and Springfield. Both locations are on bus lines. HSC funding pays for staffing, operation and space costs, and direct client assistance with basic needs. Ms. Paiement referred to the brochure and handout for details on services such as hours of operation and the number of individuals and households served.

Centro Latino Americano (CLA) receives HSC funding to support basic needs case management services in a culturally and linguistically responsive way. Mr. Saez said Centro has one full-time and one part-time case manager who help clients address immediate, basic needs, connect to resources, increase life-skill capabilities, and meet self-sufficiency goals. Bilingual case managers provide culturally specific intensive support to help families increase stability and ensure access to transportation, health care, food assistance, safe housing, employment, and other resources. Centro served 946 unduplicated individuals last year and had 3,080 visits.

Community Sharing (CS) uses HSC and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds to serve low-income residents of South Lane County in three categories: basic needs, housing assistance, and energy assistance.

Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS) receives HSC funds for 4 FTE, 3 PTE and 37 volunteers who provide over 11,000 hours per year. Mr. Teter said that SOS will often receive a call from the police department or other entities to provide Domestic Violence or homeless services to individuals. Services partially funded by HSC are financial aid for rent and utilities, prescription vouchers, transportation vouchers and transportation to shelters, and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). SOS served 3,001 unduplicated individuals in 2018, and saw 7,738 walk-ins.

Q) How does the ranking of Basic Needs as third most important need as identified by the Community Needs Assessment (CNA) compare with your experience regarding demand for basic needs assistance and services?

CCS: Ms. Giles noted that they often see clients who are housed but need help month-to-month or they would become homeless. Basic needs assistance is often the safety net that allows families and individuals to pay their rent and utilities. General items they often disperse are laundry soap, toilet paper, food boxes, utility and rental payments.

Centro: Mr. Saez said that the overall basic needs are the number one priority for Centro, in particular healthcare, transportation, legal services navigation, and food access. There is an occasional visit from someone who is unhoused, but individuals and families Centro supports are often living with family or friends, so they are not considered homeless.

CS: Mr. Fleck noted his concern that the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) income guidelines are at 125 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), and can sometimes exclude SSI. An increase in HSC funds would provide a needed offset to offer assistance to people with income 125 percent over the FPL.

SOS: Mr. Teter related that housing is a critical issue in Florence. While jobs are stabilizing, they are not at an income level that is sustainable or are often part time for the employer to avoid paying for benefits. Rents continue to increase, but Mr. Teter said he is thankful for a proactive City Council who has partnered with DevNW (formerly NEDCO) to provide a 12 home complex.

Q) What do you think are the unique needs within Lane County regarding access to basic needs assistance for low-income households?

CCS: Ms. Kinman said that transportation assistance as in an LTD pass or gas voucher is needed by a great many clients. and sometimes home deliveries are arranged for those without any way to get to CCS.

Centro: Mr. Saez said that families who come to Centro need a trusted, safe place to receive help. The trauma experienced by individuals and families from the immigrant or Latinx community is very different from that of the majority population. Just this month a client's husband was detained by immigration enforcement and taken to the detention center in Tacoma. The help offered by staff could pay rent and help her find a job as the husband was the primary breadwinner.

CS: Water bills in the Cottage Grove/Creswell area place a huge burden on low-income families with the average water bill over \$100 per month. CS distributed over \$20,000 in water assistance last fiscal year.

SOS: West Lane has a high number of seniors and disabled population with many people living only on Social Security as well as people seeking help for mental health or addiction services. In addition to HSC funds and other grants including LIHEAP and TBA, over \$400,000 went out in direct assistance to the West Lane community.

Q) The HSC funding has been level for quite some time. What challenges does your agency face to be able to meet the demand for services.

CCS: With HSC funding remaining level, it is difficult for CCS to operate at full capacity due to the rising costs of employee wages and benefits, and in July staffing was reduced by 1.5 FTE. With the staff cuts, this makes it even more difficult to keep the food pantry open every day, and the lines continue to grow. On an average day, there are 100 households who come to CCS for food or energy assistance. Often a JOBS Plus or a volunteer must fill in the gap.

Centro: Centro has been unable to grow to meet the need for services in rural Lane County. Even the inability to provide a location in Springfield makes it hard for low-income households to get to Centro in Eugene. Mr. Saez said that Centro is often in the position to train bilingual staff but unable to retain them as other organizations can offer higher wages. Other nonprofits or organizations reach out to Centro to provide culturally appropriate services and language assistance. Centro is unable to meet the demand for assistance from other providers due to limited staffing.

CS: Minimum wage increases and even utility costs make it a challenge to continue providing services to clients.

SOS: Increased costs make it more difficult to provide services. However the requirement now to hire additional staff in order to provide housing and DV services separately. There is case management provided to every individual who steps through the doors, which means only three staff have been handling caseloads of 30 to 40 individuals a day.

Members discussed the difficulties faced in social services with the increased number of people requesting services, the increasing costs to provide those services, and the decreased or flat funding.

VI. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly HSC meeting is *Monday, November 18, 2019*

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- *Kris McAlister* said that people are afraid to access services. If they leave their camping spot or car it is likely to be removed. Also if they drive they are likely to be pulled over.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

*Recorded by Diana Alldredge
HSD Staff*

Lane County, Oregon
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
 Report: CY-0434 - Division by Account
 Department: Health and Human Services
 Division: Human Services Division
 As of October 31, 2019

11/12/2019 2:36 PM

Percent of Year
33.61%

Account	Description	Budget	MTD Actual	YTD Actual	Variance Over (Under)	Percent of Budget
451251	Department Of Energy	697,474.00	88,129.75	88,129.75	(609,344.25)	12.64%
451301	Fema	-	-	3,693.00	3,693.00	100.00%
451351	Health & Human Services	3,650,806.00	207,117.00	284,780.00	(3,366,026.00)	7.80%
451369	SAMHSA	446,627.00	44,821.43	44,821.43	(401,805.57)	10.04%
451401	Housing & Comm Development	2,701,134.00	259,422.68	428,762.70	(2,272,371.30)	15.87%
451901	Miscellaneous Federal	1,178,261.00	68,069.06	194,011.63	(984,249.37)	16.47%
453120	Community Services Block Grant	535,905.00	55,764.00	106,376.00	(429,529.00)	19.85%
453143	Coordinated Care Org-CCO	200,000.00	-	100,000.00	(100,000.00)	50.00%
453190	Miscellaneous State	1,243,696.00	194,343.90	226,237.76	(1,017,458.24)	18.19%
453403	Homeless Shelters	2,557,429.00	219,405.00	293,607.00	(2,263,822.00)	11.48%
453830	Veterans Affairs	255,546.00	-	3,000.00	(252,546.00)	1.17%
453910	Miscellaneous State Revenue	186,214.00	12,014.00	24,184.00	(162,030.00)	12.99%
455120	Eugene	2,007,710.00	-	-	(2,007,710.00)	0.00%
455160	Springfield	227,658.00	-	-	(227,658.00)	0.00%
466740	Trillium/OHP FEES	449,400.00	29,212.08	111,753.57	(337,646.43)	24.87%
466910	Miscellaneous Svc Charges	177,799.00	14,912.00	38,185.00	(139,614.00)	21.48%
466915	Special Projects	63,819.00	7,128.59	7,128.59	(56,690.41)	11.17%
466950	Private Donations	-	12.00	12.00	12.00	100.00%
486100	Investment Earnings	-	8,523.99	8,523.99	8,523.99	100.00%
496110	Fund Balance Carryover	1,473,403.00	5,106.62	1,731,247.25	257,844.25	117.50%
498510	Transfer Fr General Fund (100)	1,940,538.00	460,134.50	920,269.00	(1,020,269.00)	47.42%
498520	Transfer Fr Spec Rev Fd (200)	11,130.00	-	11,130.00	-	100.00%
498900	Intrafund Transfer	500,737.00	38,696.93	111,892.38	(388,844.62)	22.35%
Total Revenues		20,505,286.00	1,712,813.53	4,737,745.05	(15,767,540.95)	23.10%
Personnel and Fringe		4,306,342.00	299,750.86	1,183,430.55	(3,122,911.45)	27.48%
512111	Professional & Consulting	130,483.00	777.88	777.88	(129,705.12)	0.60%
512173	Training Services	259,023.00	61,808.09	90,648.47	(168,374.53)	35.00%
512178	Support Services	64,660.00	12,693.46	14,682.64	(49,977.36)	22.71%
512179	Subscriptions	600.00	-	212.15	(387.85)	35.36%
512181	On The Job Training - Services	290,500.00	15,581.79	29,109.92	(261,390.08)	10.02%
512201	Intergovernmental Agreements	11,802.00	-	-	(11,802.00)	0.00%
512211	Agency Payments	9,232,081.00	695,389.79	1,759,435.23	(7,472,645.77)	19.06%
512214	Client Support Fund	2,761,184.00	45,877.94	224,099.13	(2,537,084.87)	8.12%
512216	Agency Payments Prior Year	-	-	14,712.46	14,712.46	100.00%
512341	Refuse & Garbage	1,210.00	135.56	318.99	(891.01)	26.36%
512343	Light, Power & Water	17,920.00	929.57	3,056.61	(14,863.39)	17.06%
512344	Telephone Services	30,710.00	2,914.83	5,753.66	(24,956.34)	18.74%
512345	General Liability	12,388.00	1,032.34	4,129.36	(8,258.64)	33.33%
512354	Maintenance Of Equipment	40.00	-	-	(40.00)	0.00%
512357	Maintenance Agreements	-	-	65.71	65.71	100.00%
512366	Real Estate & Space Rentals	2,519.00	282.99	1,131.96	(1,387.04)	44.94%
512531	Fleet Equipment/Vehicle Svcs.	4,260.00	291.52	874.77	(3,385.23)	20.53%
512536	Copier Charges	4,820.00	1,939.37	3,552.82	(1,267.18)	73.71%
512537	Mail Room Charges	5,670.00	247.94	581.30	(5,088.70)	10.25%
512551	License Replacement	11,152.00	929.35	3,717.40	(7,434.60)	33.33%
512552	TS Indirect	218,882.00	17,917.40	71,669.60	(147,212.40)	32.74%
512553	Infrastructure Replacement	6,232.00	519.33	2,077.32	(4,154.68)	33.33%
512554	County Indirect Charges	571,425.00	47,618.75	190,475.00	(380,950.00)	33.33%
512556	Dept Support/Direct	100,969.00	8,414.08	33,656.32	(67,312.68)	33.33%
512611	Office Supplies & Expense	23,380.00	752.62	5,823.74	(17,556.26)	24.91%
512613	Professional Licenses	14,500.00	8,693.41	16,849.41	(2,349.41)	116.20%
512614	Printing & Binding	8,900.00	937.74	3,664.74	(5,235.26)	41.18%
512615	Advertising & Publicity	600.00	-	-	(600.00)	0.00%
512617	Photo/Video Supplies & Svcs	4,945.00	-	-	(4,945.00)	0.00%
512618	Postage	420.00	4.65	1,066.65	646.65	253.96%
512619	Radio/Communic Supplies & Svcs	5.00	-	0.56	(4.44)	11.20%
512621	DP Supplies And Access	113,750.00	111,401.49	117,033.25	3,283.25	102.89%
512622	DP Equipment	1,700.00	(386.32)	147.65	(1,552.35)	8.69%
512626	Small Office Furniture	1,300.00	-	(465.04)	(1,765.04)	-35.77%
512712	Food	600.00	146.62	733.68	133.68	122.28%
512716	Miscellaneous Supplies	-	2,313.78	2,313.78	2,313.78	100.00%
512721	Special Supplies	6,100.00	-	-	(6,100.00)	0.00%
512727	Safety Supplies	250.00	-	-	(250.00)	0.00%
512751	Medical Supplies	-	-	34.84	34.84	100.00%
512811	Business Expense & Travel	20,423.00	1,977.15	5,650.28	(14,772.72)	27.67%
512815	Committee Stipends & Expense	8,100.00	862.00	2,050.81	(6,049.19)	25.32%
512821	Outside Education & Travel	40,832.00	4,692.64	15,176.73	(25,655.27)	37.17%
512822	County Training Classes	1,937.00	(42.18)	(7.18)	(1,944.18)	-0.37%
512823	Training Services & Materials	23,705.00	479.61	2,374.61	(21,330.39)	10.02%
512911	Miscellaneous Payments	54,364.00	-	326.57	(54,037.43)	0.60%
512914	Parking	500.00	-	-	(500.00)	0.00%
Materials and Services		14,064,841.00	1,047,135.19	2,627,513.78	(11,437,327.22)	18.68%
Capital Projects/Outlay		-	-	-	-	100.00%
Debt Service		-	-	-	-	100.00%
532120	Transfer To Spec Rev Fd (200)	305,929.00	25,494.09	101,976.36	(203,952.64)	33.33%
532900	Intrafund Transfer	500,737.00	38,696.93	111,892.38	(388,844.62)	22.35%
Other Expenditures		806,666.00	64,191.02	213,868.74	(592,797.26)	26.51%
992920	Operational Reserves	1,327,437.00	-	-	(1,327,437.00)	0.00%
	Reserves	1,327,437.00	-	-	(1,327,437.00)	0.00%
Total Expenditures		20,505,286.00	1,411,077.07	4,024,813.07	(16,480,472.93)	19.63%
Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		-	301,736.46	712,931.98	712,931.98	