



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 24, 2024
Community Design Studio Nave
7506 E. Indian School Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Chair Roger Lurie, Vice-Chair Mary Jung Commission Members Jeff Jameson (left at 6:45 p.m.), Patrick Dodds, Neal Shearer, Stuart Turgel and Lee Cooley

STAFF: Kira Peters, Human Services Director; Mary Witkofski, Community Assistance Manager; Chad Beougher, Housing Supervisor; Judy Doyle, Community Services Assistant Executive Director; Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Sue Oh, Deanna Owens, Eugenio Munoz-Villafane; Human Services Managers; Melissa McNeal, Grants Accountant

Call to Order

Chair Shearer called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2024

COMMISSIONER DODDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 10, 2024 HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SHEARER,

DODDS, TURGEL AND COOLEY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Promise of Greater Phoenix, Emergency Shelter Program Update

Ted Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, provided an update on the status of the FY 2024/2025 CDBG funded Emergency Shelter Program. He noted that Family Promise is the only one of its kind that is a community based shelter, working with faith communities to provide places to sleep and food to the families. His presentation included a review of the types of services that are offered through the program, which include prevention services, diversion services, shelter services, and stability services. He gave an overview of the Belleview Shelter site services and an overview of the Earll Shelter site services; mentioned the progress that has come about thanks to the 14-year partnership with the City of Scottsdale; and gave a statistical overview of the FY 2024/25 CDBG performance. He stressed that the Family Promise's goal is to keep people out of the shelter and the key to that formula is their relationship with the community.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Taylor said that the number one limiting factor for Family Promise and for all shelters is the availability of affordable housing, and the increasing difficulty in placing families. He noted that Family Promise is currently in the process of building housing in Glendale for the purpose of housing families in the community. there are currently two congregations in Scottsdale that have requested villages. They are working with developers to work through design challenges and ensure that the concept fits well within the community. Mr. Taylor said that Family Promise is moving from primarily shelter services to primarily housing services, which include cohabitation, bridge housing, and multifamily housing. He explained that all families that are in the financial sustainability program are required to continue training in cashflow management for the duration of their stay.

3. Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS) Program Update

Alexis Smith-Schallenberger, Director of Operations and Ellie Schwartzberg, Vice President of Older Adults and Jewish Community Services, provided an update on the status of the FY 2024/2025 General Funds funded JFCS Older Adult In-Home Program. They reviewed the JFCS Mission and gave an overview of their program including their aging-in-place services, service providers, client profiles, care that is provided, and program successes. They stressed that the JFCS strives to meet clients where they are, serve them as individuals, and offer each individual hope.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Schwartzberg explained that follow-up is done with clients until they are in a safe place, at which time they close the case. Clients know that if there are ever any issues, they can contact JFCS and the case will be reopened. She said that there are no income eligibility requirements, but most of the clients are low income.

4. Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) Program Update

Nathan Smith, Chief Executive Officer, provided an update on the FY 2024/2025 CASS programs funded through the Housing and Community Assistance Office. His

presentation included an review of CASS's programs; demographics served; programs that are Scottsdale based. He gave an overview of what is provided at the Single Adult Shelter and Vista Colina Family Shelter. He talked about the Flexible Financial Assistance and Housing Navigator services and gave a statistical overview of Scottsdale residents served in FY 2024. He reviewed goals CASS has for the Flexible Financial Assistance program.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Smith said that The Haven is a facility for people age 50 and up and will be opening soon. He talked briefly about the recent turnover of the CASS staff and management team and past financial concerns. Mr. Smith explained that many people are afraid to go into CASS shelter, primarily because of fear of going through the campus and the surrounding area to access the shelter itself. He said that it is important to remember that CASS does serve Scottsdale residents.

5. City of Scottsdale Shade and Tree Plan

Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, reviewed the background leading up to creation of the Shade and Tree Plan. He introduced Justin Azevedo with the Design Laboratory to provide a brief presentation of the progress to date in developing a Shade and Tree plan for the city.

Justin Azevedo with the Design Laboratory provided a brief presentation of the progress to date in developing a Shade and Tree plan for the city. His presentation included an overview of existing conditions, which is being documented through field documentation; iTree Canopy, which is a U.S. Forest Service system to determine coverage of large areas; and Tree Score Analyzer (TESA), which is remote documentation utilizing LiDAR data from the city and county, developed with the U.S. Forest Service. Mr. Azevedo said that the plan will identify practical solutions to enhance shade and cooling strategies; will be a user-friendly guide for residents, businesses, city staff, and policymakers; optimize water usage on trees; share integrate practices for longevity, and will enhance community resilience. The primary deliverable of the plan will be The Tool Kit, which will include definition of trees, structures, and water harvesting techniques that can be implemented, and precise locations where they are the most viable and useful. The tree plan will go into detail about types of trees, pros and cons of each tree, and what type to use in certain locations, and will include an appendix including detailed information about each tree species. The shade structure plan will include recommendations about type of structures and the most appropriate locations. The water harvesting plan will provide information on developing on-site water harvesting tools to support trees.

Mr. Azevedo reviewed next steps, noting that they are currently in the "Cultivate" portion of the schedule and producing the final graphics for the document. He encouraged everyone to attend open houses and public events, and to take the online survey. Information regarding the plan can be found on social media sites and at Scottsdaleaz.gov, search "Shade and Tree Plan."

Commissioners asked clarifying questions. In response to a question regarding whether the plan took the homeless population into consideration in designing the plan, Mr. Azevedo explained that the plan looks at shading all spaces, ensuring shade is provided for all, not just for some. He confirmed that Trees Matter is part of the focus group and is a stakeholder of the plan. Mr. Connor explained that the Shade and Tree Plan was implemented as part of the

Sustainability Plan's heat element. He said that there hasn't been public input regarding considering the specific needs of one group of people. Currently, the Green Building Code is mandatory for all commercial construction, and one piece of that regulation requires a certain percentage of outdoor surfaces be shaded.

6. Community House Update

Pastor Jackie Parks, of the non-profit organization, Community House provided an update on the work Community House facilitates for people experiencing homelessness. Jackie shared information on the day relief, weekly dinner, and shower programs as well as the partnership with the City of Scottsdale to provide case management to people in need. Her presentation included an overview of Community House's vision, mission, and goals; the growth of Community House since its inception in 2018; and the partnership with City of Scottsdale and other groups and volunteers. The biggest challenge Community House has is that they are losing their space and are in desperate need of finding a new space in the South Scottsdale area. A new space could provide an opportunity to expand the current program and be open more days of the week.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Parks explained that Community House is an independent non-profit. The space they have been using was sold to a different church. They are hoping to find a 5,000 square foot space with separate meeting spaces and room for their extensive clothing/resource closet. She said that they primarily serve single adults.

7. Day Relief Centers Update

Sue Oh, Human Services Manager, provided an update on homeless outreach and day relief centers. She talked about Vista del Camino's partnership with Community House; partnership with other public, non-profit, and faith groups; and feedback that was received during the recent focus group. Her presentation included a list of services offered through the day relief centers; review of the days and hours for the Community House and Vista Del Camino locations; and Community Impact for the first quarter of FY 2024/25. She mentioned that 12 people have been placed in housing from day relief centers in the first quarter. She shared the day relief center wish list with the Commission.

Commissioners suggested that the wish list be included on social media and on Partners for Paiute website. In response to a question, Ms. Oh said that some churches showed interest in hosting a day relief center, but they were located in an area where transportation would need to be provided.

8. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items could include:

- Discussion about finding a space for Community House
- Agency presentations

9. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER TURGEL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER DODDS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS SHEARER, DODDS, TURGEL AND COOLEY VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER JAMESON WAS NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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