



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting – **APPROVED MINUTES**

Thursday, September 11, 2025

City Hall Kiva Forum

3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Chair Roger Lurie, Vice-Chair Mary Jung, Commission Members Jeff Jameson, Neal Shearer, Lee Cooley, and Cynthia Hill

ABSENT: Commissioner Sheila Roe

STAFF: Mary Witkofski, Interim Community Assistance Office Manager; Sue Oh, Human Services Manager; Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager; Jessica Rapp, Human Services Manager; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager

Call to Order

Chair Lurie called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

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

A moment of silence was observed in recognition of 9/11, the recent tragic violence occurring in the United States, and the recent passing of Deputy City Clerk Rommel Cordova.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2025

COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 28, 2025, HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. VICE-CHAIR JUNG

SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SHEARER, COOLEY, AND HILL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

1. Election of Officers

Commissioner Shearer nominated Roger Lurie for the position of Chair of the Human Services Advisory Commission.

COMMISSIONER COOLEY MOVED TO ELECT ROGER LURIE TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SHEARER, COOLEY, AND HILL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Chair Lurie nominated Mary Jung for the position of Vice-Chair of the Human Services Advisory Commission.

COMMISSIONER JAMESON MOVED TO ELECT MARY JUNG TO CONTINUE IN THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER COOLEY SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SHEARER, COOLEY, AND HILL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. Homeless Programs and Services Update

Sue Oh, Human Services Manager, provided an update on programs and services for people experiencing homelessness. She gave an overview of Human Services' partnership with Phoenix Rescue Mission, which includes contracting for five caseworkers, providing outreach and navigation, targeted outreach with the Scottsdale Police Department, Community Intervention Court, and case management services. Day Relief Centers offer navigation to resources. Locations are available at Vista del Camino Community Center and Community House and are made available in partnership between the City of Scottsdale Human Services, Community House/South Scottsdale Presbyterian Church, Phoenix Rescue Mission, Scottsdale Community Partners, local non-profit and faith organizations, and through community donations. Ms. Oh gave an overview of the most recent Point-in-Time Count statistics, which showed an increase year over year.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Oh said there has been some discussion about conducting a Point-in-Time Count locally at a different time of year if enough police and volunteer support can be found. She confirmed that the Point-in-Time Count numbers are very low compared to the actual number of homeless individuals in Scottsdale.

Jackie Parks, Executive Director for Community House, presented on the services provided by the Day Relief Center and Community House. She said that Community House has been in operation since July of 2018 and focuses on bringing dignity and hope to people experiencing homelessness, while supporting them on their journey to get off the streets. Ms. Parks talked

about Community House's partnership with Cloud Covered Streets to provide showers, volunteers, and community partners. She reviewed current programs, highlighting the aspects of the workforce development program. She mentioned that they are currently renting the space they work out of and are looking for a more permanent location that can be open more days during the week than are currently available. Ms. Parks played an audio recording that demonstrated one person's experiences with Community House.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Oh explained that the City's shower trailer is not currently available to Community House, because it is being used at Vista del Camino three days a week and it is large and difficult to move. Ms. Parks confirmed that Community House is currently in the process of filing a Form 990. She gave an overview of other locations where people within the community can receive services and food on days when Community House is not available. She said that funds received through Scottsdale's funding process go towards operations, meals, and essential clothing items, as well as to fund the location rental. She explained that there are people that have day labor jobs and will come to the facility at the end of their day. She said that in the current atmosphere, it would be nice if Community House could refer workers to specific trusted organizations that need daylaborers.

Gabe Priddy, Director of Street Outreach for Phoenix Rescue Mission, presented on the contract they have with the City of Scottsdale. His presentation included review of Scottsdale's wide variety of service and program options. He provided information and statistics relating to the Day Relief Centers, case management available at Library locations, Community Intervention Court, and case managers' involvement in outreach and navigation. In order to meet opioid funding requirements the Day Relief Center and Library, he noted, case managers provide clients with opioid awareness and prevention literature, and all case managers provide connection to detox and residential recovery programs. He shared several success stories.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Priddy said that the industry standard database is Homeless Management and Info Services, which is not very customizable, so many organizations use a secondary database to capture information. He explained that not all visitors to the centers are interested in becoming engaged with programs. Case Worker Eddie Durazo explained that they average approximately 200 unduplicated individuals per month. Ms. Oh said that they are exploring non-profits that go into different areas to provide clothes washing services. Discussion ensued regarding people released from hospital care without a place to go. When such a person shows up at a center, the outreach team will be called to engage with them and make connections based on a real-time assessment.

Vice-Chair Jung said that Honor Health Hospitals have navigators that work with individuals experiencing homelessness to coordinate transportation and medication delivery to wherever they go. Mr. Priddy said that the biggest trends include the saturation of fentanyl in communities, high rents and eviction rates, and the elderly homeless population.

Lieutenant. Kevin Quon from the Scottsdale Police Department provided information on police contacts and direction regarding homelessness. He described the police department's multipronged approach, which includes educating the community about the urban camping law that went into effect in September 2024, enforcement practices, and outreach. He said that the department does outreach with Phoenix Rescue Mission once a month. He reviewed statistics related to calls from the public and police interactions with the homeless population.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Lt. Quon said that officers do a good job educating about the urban camping law and offering to connect people with resources. It is not illegal to be in the parks or greenbelt during the day, but it is illegal to set up a structure. He explained that every situation is approached differently. When a call is received about someone on private property, it must be the property or business owner who files a report or the police cannot trespass that person. He talked about the safety risks associated with handing money to a person who is asking for help on the side of the road. He mentioned Scottsdale's mobile panhandler signs, which are intended to discourage citizens from feeling compelled to give money. The sign has a QR code that provides information on where to acquire services.

Identification of Future Agenda Items

Upcoming agenda items could include:

- CAPER Report
- CDBG set-aside discussion
- Director's Report
- Operation FixIt
- Scottsdale Cares

Adjournment

COMMISSIONER COOLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS JAMESON, SHEARER, COOLEY, AND HILL VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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