



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting – **DRAFT MINUTES**

Thursday, October 23, 2025

City Hall Kiva Forum

3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**PRESENT:** Chair Roger Lurie, Vice-Chair Lee Cooley, Commission Members Mary Jung, Neal Shearer, Cynthia Hill, and Sheila Roe

**ABSENT:** Commission Member Jeff Jameson

**STAFF:** Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director; Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager; Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager

**Call to Order**

Chair Lurie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Members present as listed above.

**Public Comment**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Approve the October 9, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONER COOLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 9, 2025, HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, BOARD MEMBERS JUNG, SHEARER, HILL, AND ROE VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

### **1. Career Services Update**

Sheila Williams, Human Services Case Worker, presented an update on the Career Services program. Her presentation included a list of volunteer career coaches, an overview of services that are offered, and statistics related to the program. She talked about activities related to the continuing partnership with College and Career Corner, Scottsdale Teen Employment, the new workshop developed for senior job seekers, and support offered to City of Scottsdale employees.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Williams said that Scottsdale Teen Employment works with students who are either still in high school or have graduated and are not planning to go to college. College and Career Corner aids with career coaching, as well as applying for college, trade school, or employment following college. Financial literacy is offered by career coaches on an informal basis. Career Services offers a list of employer sites and recommended employers to participants but does not have any public-facing opportunities on their website.

### **2. Scottsdale Cares Update**

Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, provided an update on Scottsdale Cares. She said that on December 6, 2025, and in March of 2026 the Children's Entrepreneur Market will require anyone who has a booth to donate \$25 to Scottsdale Cares in lieu of paying for their booth. Staff will be drafting a memo to the City Council updating them on the increase from \$1 to \$2 for those contributing to Scottsdale Cares through their water bill. The Human Services Advisory Commission will have an opportunity to see the final presentation before it goes to the City Council for approval on December 11th.

### **3. Director's Report**

Interim Director Witkofski provided an update on activities in the Human Services Department. Her presentation highlighted the following items:

- Youth and Family Services
  - Red Ribbon Week, October 27th through 31st, 2025: Youth and Family Services is partnering with the Scottsdale Police Department resource officers and Scottsdale Unified School District to host student and community engagement activities.
  - The Third Annual Mental Health Matters Conference, held September 27, 2025: the program is in honor of Suicide Prevention Month.
  - Opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Plan Update: focus groups met October 11th and will meet on October 29th. The consultants are providing a data brief that will be presented during a future Commission meeting.
  
- Senior Centers
  - Granite Reef Senior Center will host the Annual Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday, November 1, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

- Memory Lounge program is being hosted at Granite Reef Senior Center on October 8th and at Via Linda Senior Center on October 22nd.
- Upcoming senior trip to Western Spirit Museum for Coffee with Seniors.
- Paiute Neighborhood Center
  - Hosted a College and Career Fair on September 20th in partnership with Scottsdale Public Libraries, Scottsdale Career Center, and Scottsdale Unified School District.
  - Family Resource Center hosted Music Class and Fun with Math and Science and will host Halloween Family Fun in partnership with Scottsdale Library on October 27th.
  - Science on Wheels programs update.
  - Paiute Legal Night was held on September 9, 2025.
  - City Hall Selfie Day.
- Vista del Camino
  - The wait to meet with a Social Services team case worker is now between five and ten business days.
  - Human Services is developing and cross training in all centers. She showed photos of a Paiute case worker helping process funding from the Department of Housing and a Granite Reef senior case working assisting in understating the community action programs.
  - Fall recreation programs.
  - Photographs of healthy packs volunteers at the food bank.
- Housing and Community Assistance Office
  - Landlord Connection event held on October 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Granite Reef Senior Center.
  - Veterans Advisory Commission has adopted Veterans Affairs to Supportive Housing participants and will provide 15 veteran participants with Thanksgiving and holiday meals.
- Proposition 314
  - Voter-approved initiative that was on the November 2024 ballot that became effective January 1, 2025. The Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) is mandatory in the State of Arizona and must be used by the City before providing any state, local, or federal benefits.
  - In July of this year, an executive order changed the definition of public benefits. The State of Arizona, along with other states, is challenging the definition of public benefits through the Department of Justice. There is an injunction on the definition being upheld; however, at this time the City of Scottsdale is moving forward conservatively and proceeding to use and discuss all public benefits provided by the City. City of Scottsdale Human Services and Housing programs with applications are contingent upon income, and any applicants voluntarily applying shall comply with SAVE verification. The City of Scottsdale began using an affidavit in 2010 and used it at face value. In 2025 the documentation is being run through SAVE to confirm that they have lawful presence in the United States. If they do not have lawful presence, the City would be mandated to report to Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Applicants have the option to voluntarily withdraw their application if they choose not to proceed.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Witkofski said the laws require City staff to report an individual who submits an application and is found to not have lawful presence. It is a misdemeanor if staff is aware and does not report, and it is a class 6 felony for someone who is not found to have lawful presence to apply for benefits. The mandate only applies to programs that require applications, not those that are based on residency in Scottsdale.

**4. Identification of Future Agenda Items**

Chair Lurie mentioned that due to the holidays, there will be only one November meeting, on the 13th.

**5. Adjournment**

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

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

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