



City of Scottsdale
Human Services Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting - **MINUTES**

Thursday, September 10, 2026, 5:00 P.M.

Community Design Studio
7506 E Indian School Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

As a member of the Scottsdale community, I will genuinely listen; speak respectfully; and be accountable for my words and actions.

The public will have physical access to the meeting place 15 minutes prior to the meeting.

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

STAFF: Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, Chad Beougher, Housing Supervisor, Jessica Rapp, Human Services Manager, Sue Oh, Human Services Manager, Eugenio Munoz-Villafane, Human Services Manager, Kristy Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager, Nick Molinari, Senior Director, Parks Recreation and Human Services and Elizabeth Heavenrich, Human Services Operations Supervisor.

Call to Order

Chair Lurie called the meeting to order at 5:00 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

Approval of August 13, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

VICE-CHAIR COOLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 13, 2026, HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL VOTE, CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS JUNG, SHEARER, HILL, ROE AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Election of Officers

Commissioner Shearer nominated Lee Cooley for the position of the Human Services Advisory Commission.

COMMISSIONER JUNG MOVED TO ELECT LEE COOLEY TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER SHEARER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED A SECTION (7) TO ZERO (0) VOTE. CHAIR LURIE, VICE-CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS JUNG, SHEARER, HILL, ROE AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

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

COMMISSIONER SHEARER MOVED TO ELECT MARY JUNG TO SERVE AS THE VICE CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION. CHAIR COOLEY SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED A SECTION (7) TO ZERO (0) VOTE. CHAIR COOLEY, VICE-CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS LURIE, SHEARER, HILL, ROE AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.



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For additional information visit: www.scottsdaleaz.gov/council/meeting-information

2. Scottsdale Community Partners Overview

Jenny Adams, Executive Director of Scottsdale Community Partners, provided an overview of numbers served through the partnership between the Human Services Department and Scottsdale Community Partners for FY25/26. 920 youth were served through Back to School and 412 Scottsdale Unified School District students received healthy packs. 24,134 food boxes were provided across all food programs to include healthy packs, food boxes, ready-to-eat bags, brown bags and bread racks. 206 families were supported through Adopt a Family and 255 Scottsdale residents received utility assistance. For the senior population 393 seniors were adopted through Adopt a Senior Program, 162 for Brown Bag Program and 112 for Beat the Heat. Also shared the 18 board members for Scottsdale Community Partners provided 2,192 hours of volunteer time at a value of \$79,2188.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Adams talked about the 50th anniversary celebration in Fall 2025 and Sponsorship was open on the website for Adopt a Family and Adopt a Senior. SCP is working on obtaining funding through grants for FY 26/27 for a walk-in fridge/freezer for the expanded foodbank space and the budget is estimated to be around \$200,000.

3. A New Leaf Presentation

Kathy DiNolfi, Chief Program Officer and Dana Martinez, Director of DV and SV Services provided a presentation on the DV STOP Program and the East Valley Men's Center.

Dana Martinez presented an overview of the DVSTOP program, which provides short-term emergency shelter and crisis support for domestic violence survivors using hotel partnerships across Maricopa County. In FY 2025–2026, the program served 290 survivors, provided 1,164 bed nights, and reported that 93% of participants felt better equipped to access safety and emotional resources, with 10 Scottsdale residents receiving immediate shelter. The City of Scottsdale awarded \$20,000 in General Funds, of which \$18,023.20 was spent. The presentation also highlighted challenges, including longer wait times for survivors with pets and limitations in offering overflow shelter in preferred locations.

Kathy DiNolfi presented an update on the East Valley Men's Center (EVMC), the region's only emergency shelter for men experiencing homelessness in Maricopa County's East Valley. The shelter provides 110 beds and allows stays of up to 120 days, serving individuals with complex needs such as behavioral health challenges, limited income, and medical concerns. In FY25/26, EVMC served 29 Scottsdale residents, with 3 served so far in FY27 and 12 projected. The program expects to provide 35,000 bed nights and reports that 85% of clients meet basic needs and experience improved housing, health, and safety outcomes. A New Leaf received \$12,000 in Scottsdale CDBG funds for EVMC but has not yet begun spending these funds. Challenges highlighted include limited affordable housing availability and shifting federal and local funding priorities.



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Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Martinez talked about what is considered safe housing for DV/SV survivors when they exit program. Survivors are checked in through an alias, and they have partnerships with hotels across the Phoenix Metro area. Their main need for donations is for comfortable clothing for all ages and sizes, activities for children and microwavable meals. DVSTOP Program has a partnership with ASU Sorority Alpha Chi Omega, and they receive over 1,000 jars of peanut and butter on a yearly basis through this partnership. The program is now serving more singles.

Ms. DiNolfi shared the EVMC on any given day is 90% full and there are 2-3 beds open on any given day. Referrals for this program are handled online and are assisted based on this list. A New Leaf in partnership with the City of Mesa has added 30 affordable transitional housing units and there is workforce development on site.

4. Family Promise of Greater Phoenix Presentation

Pamela Hyde, Chief Executive Officer, and Ambria Hammel, Grant Writer, provided a presentation on Family Promise of Greater Phoenix.

Ambria Hammel presented an overview of its Emergency Shelter and Step-Up Housing programs, which support families with children experiencing homelessness by providing 60-day shelter, case management, employment assistance, childcare support, and housing stability planning. In FY25/26, the CDBG-funded shelter program assisted 56 families, provided 1,820 family nights of shelter, and supported 18 pets, fully expending \$39,360 in funding. The family-focused shelter model keeps families together, offers two Scottsdale locations, and includes community hospitality through an interfaith network. The Step-Up Housing Program, funded with \$20,000 in Scottsdale Cares funds, offers up to 90 days of affordable housing for families transitioning from shelter, with FY26/27 progress including service to 5 families, 27 people, and 3 pets, and a projection of 31 families and 1,054 household nights. Challenges identified include underemployment, childcare affordability, moving fees, and overall housing market barriers.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Hyde talked about the challenges and that one of the changes being explored is in longer time in the Step-Up Program due to difficulty taking time for finding employment. Also adding \$25.00 to the account each time the family pays their portion of rent in the transitional unit each month. Also discussed joint referrals and working together with Scottsdale Human Services.

5. Identification of Future Agenda Items

No new items identified.



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6. Adjournment

CHAIR COOLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VICE-CHAIR JUNG SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED A SECTION (7) TO ZERO (0) VOTE. VICE CHAIR JUNG, COMMISSIONERS LURIE, SHEARER, HILL, ROE AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.



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