



City of Scottsdale
Human Services Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 24, 2026, 5:30 P.M.

Granite Reef Senior Center
1700 N Granite Reef 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.

PRESENT: Chair Lee Cooley (via TEAMS), Commission Members, Roger Lurie, Neal Shearer, Cynthia Hill, Sheila Roe, and Carlee Schexnayder

ABSENT: Vice Chair Mary Jung

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; and Armando Olivares, Community Grants Specialist.

Call to Order

Chair Cooley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak, nor any written comment cards provided.

Minutes

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2026.

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2026, HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS MINUTES AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER ROE SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED SEVEN (6) TO ZERO (0) BY ROLL CALL

VOTE, CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS SHEARER, HILL, AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Social Return on Investment, Adult Day Health Care

Jessica Rapp, Human Services Manager, presented slide materials regarding the purpose and projected public value of the proposed Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Program. She explained that the program is associated with the 2019 Bond Project and that the analysis represents an independent forecast identifying key assumptions and the information that would need to be measured if the program moves forward. She clarified that the analysis does not assume positive returns for all aspects of ADHC. ADHC was described as daytime support for adults who require structured supervision and health-related assistance, which differs from traditional senior center services. Jessica emphasized the importance of distinguishing senior centers, which primarily serve independent adults, from ADHC, which serves adults with functional and supervision needs, particularly when measuring participant and caregiver impacts.

Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, reviewed the social return analysis, operational considerations, and forecast estimates included in the Social Impact Solutions report. She explained that the anticipated return to the City would be in the form of public value rather than direct monetary returns. Using Desert Mission ADHC (DM) as a real-world benchmark, she noted that the program serves 79 unique participants, with an average attendance of approximately 15.8 hours per week and approximately 90 percent of participants living with dementia. The primary measurable value drivers identified were caregiver respite and the ability for participants to age in place. The utilization model assumes approximately 67 to 100 annual participants attending multiple days per week.

Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, reviewed the forecasted Social Return on Investment (SROI), noting a conservative estimate of approximately \$1.75 in public value for each \$1 invested and a credible operating target of approximately \$3.60 per \$1 invested. The overall sensitivity range was identified as approximately \$0.90 to \$6.70 per \$1 invested. She identified five operating conditions necessary to maintain the projected public value: an appropriate participant mix, reliable utilization, measurable caregiver relief, controlled City capital and maintenance exposure, and strong operator performance.

Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, also reviewed a recommended City–nonprofit partnership model. Under the proposed structure, the city would own the building and provide capital investment, while a nonprofit partner would pursue philanthropy and supplemental capital. A licensed operator would be responsible for care, staffing, insurance, and compliance, with accountability maintained through operator reporting and a use-fee structure. She noted that additional potential value streams, including impacts related to Emergency Medical Services (EMS), emergency department visits, Police Department welfare checks, and Fire Department elder calls, were not included in the base model but would be addressed in the finalized analysis. She emphasized the importance of tracking participants, caregiver outcomes, functional status, reasons for discharge, payer source, and Scottsdale residency.

During Commission discussion, Commissioner Schexnayder asked whether transportation would be included in the program. Mary explained that transportation services at Desert Mission have historically been funded through nonprofit grants. Commissioner Roe asked how the 2019 Bond funds would be utilized and whether income limitations would apply.

Mary stated that approximately \$2.9 million in Bond funding was allocated for construction and expansion and explained that attendance would be open to all, with a potential fee structure that could include Medicaid, sliding-scale assessments, and self-pay.

Commissioner Shearer asked about community skepticism, potential interest from third-party providers, and the location of Desert Mission. Mary explained that Desert Mission is associated with Honor Health and is located in Phoenix. Clarified that next steps include review by the Human Relations Commission and potentially a review committee. Commissioner Shearer also suggested when moving forward with the project, considering a ground-floor senior center with a second or third level for affordable senior housing. Noted that the need exists and suggested considering the architectural design during planning.

Chair Cooley asked whether one or more senior center staff members would be involved and whether the program would affect caregiver respite funding. He also asked about post-discharge services and whether services would address transitions to a higher level of care or end-of-life situations. Mary stated that staff involvement would be necessary due to maintenance and liability considerations and that partnerships with senior services would be explored. Noted that Via Linda is working with the University of Arizona regarding nursing student involvement. Explained that respite and caregiver hours are available and that services may address transitions to a higher level of care or end-of-life situations.

2. FY 25/26 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Chad Beougher, Housing Supervisor, presented the FY 25/26 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). He explained that the City receives federal funding annually and is required to report on the use of those funds, including how they address underserved community needs, support the goals of the five-year plan, and meet the objectives identified in the one-year action plan. He noted that prior-year unspent funds were reallocated. The draft CAPER was published on September 12, and no public comments had been received as of the meeting. The federal submission deadline is 90 days following the end of the fiscal year, which is September 28.

Chad Beougher, Housing Supervisor, reviewed accomplishments for FY 25/26, with additional program allocations, funding utilization, and client service information provided in the accompanying slide presentation. Under Public Facilities, previously allocated food bank funds were moved. Under Public Services, approximately 7,000 individuals gained access to restroom facilities, and funding amounts and the number of clients served were reviewed. The Housing Rehabilitation Program provided \$85,000 in rehabilitation assistance through funding sources that included Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, Scottsdale Cares, the General Fund, and Salt River Project (SRP) contributions. Nutrition Services, supported by SRP funding, provided approximately 5,000 meals during the fiscal year.

During discussion, Commissioner Lurie asked about anticipated federal funding levels for 2027. Mary Witkofski, Interim Human Services Director, explained that federal funding allocations typically occur on an April through March cycle. Commissioner Shearer expressed appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to the process. Commissioner Schexnayder asked whether the Housing Rehabilitation Program utilizes preferred vendors. Chad explained that the City maintains a list of pre-qualified contractors who meet established requirements and standards. He noted that approximately four contractors are currently included in the Purchase Order System (POS) and that contractors bid on common rehabilitation items.

General updates and additional information regarding program allocations, clients served, and funding utilization were provided through the accompanying slide presentation.

3. Human Services Director's Report

Paiute Neighborhood Center Update

Staff provided an update on programming and services at the Paiute Neighborhood Center. Octave Healing continues to provide music therapy programming, and a Trolley Trip activity was offered for families and toddlers at the resource center. NOAH provided on-site assistance and health education on

August 19. Staff also noted the relocation of Youth & Family Services and reported that general community programming remains ongoing.

Youth & Family Services (YFS)

Staff reported that a new season of the Scottsdale Mayor's Youth Council has launched. The Adult Court Program recorded its highest participation in June. Discussion also included youth substance education and an inquiry regarding kratom activity in Scottsdale. Staff reported that limited local data is currently available, with additional information from the Fire Department pending. Kratom was identified as a valley-wide concern, with the Youth Coalition working to address related education and prevention efforts. Preparations for Red Ribbon Week are also underway.

Vista Del Camino / Food Bank

Staff provided updates regarding Vista Del Camino and the Food Bank. The Food Bank truck is now fully refrigerated and wrapped. The Food Bank Trolley service has been discontinued, with taxi vouchers being provided. Staff reported that the City is pursuing grant funding to expand food storage capacity through the addition of a walk-in refrigerator/freezer. Climate control improvements are also underway at the newly acquired space. Additional Vista Del Camino updates were provided in the accompanying slide presentation.

Housing & Community Assistance

Staff provided updates on housing and community assistance activities. A Landlord Engagement Event is scheduled for October 14 at 10:00 a.m. and will feature the St. Vincent de Paul Keys to Home Initiative. Staff also reported that collaborations with nonprofit partners and grant-related activities are ongoing.

Senior Centers

Staff provided updates regarding activities and services at the City's senior centers. At Via Linda Senior Center, ongoing programs include Coffee and Connections, Crafting with Isabella, the Medi Loan Closet, and intergenerational programming with the Boys & Girls Club. At Granite Reef Senior Center, the Veterans Community Series is offered from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A Utility Assistance Day is scheduled for October 8, with applications being processed from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; registration is required. Staff also highlighted the Unbounded Art project, which includes two painted trash cans on display, and an ABC15 program featuring seniors providing weather updates. The Medi Loan Closet is also available at Granite Reef, with revisions to the donation list underway.

Additional Human Services Division Updates

Staff provided additional updates regarding Human Services Division programs and initiatives. A nonprofit-funded day relief program continues to provide services following the conclusion of its funding. First Things First grants were discussed, along with the statewide HSPA committee's work assessing medical needs among older adults experiencing homelessness and discussion regarding the definition of "elderly." Staff also reported on MoCHA, an Arizona State University screening tool designed to assist with cognitive assessments for individuals experiencing homelessness. The City has been invited to collaborate on the initiative in 2027. Additional updates from the Director were provided through the accompanying slide presentation.

Commissioners Hill discussed the Youth Council selection process, youth substance-use trends, and educational efforts related to kratom. Questions regarding the locations of the Medi Loan Closets and acceptance of donations were also addressed. Commission Shearer discussed social return on investment and potential City funding for expanded walk-in refrigeration capacity at the Food Bank. The Chair also inquired about the discontinuation of the Food Bank Trolley and confirmed the time of an upcoming event.

4. Identification of Future Agenda Items

The Human Services Advisory Commission may suggest items they wish to be placed on a future agenda, but the Human Services Advisory Commission may not discuss, deliberate, or take legal action on any matter in the "Identification of Future Agenda Items" unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

No new items identified

5. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER LURIE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER SHEARER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH CARRIED A SECTION (6) TO ZERO (0) VOTE. CHAIR COOLEY, COMMISSIONERS HILL, ROE AND SCHEXNAYDER VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



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