



City of Seattle
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Human Services Department
John Okamoto, Interim Director

MONTHLY REPORT

Prepared for: Councilmember Sally Clark, Chair
Housing Affordability, Human Services and Economic Resiliency Committee
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Department: Human Services Department (HSD)
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KEY UPDATES: July 2014

- **Release of 2014 Requests for Investment (RFIs):**
HSD released two RFIs on Monday, July 21st, piloting the Outcomes Framework through procurement processes for food & meal and senior center investments. HSD will hold two information sessions for prospective applicants on August 5 and 6. The application deadline is September 15, and award notifications will be available by November 15. These funding processes will result in multi-year contracts, with annual renewals based on funding availability.
 - **HSD briefed full Council on Outcomes Framework July 28, 2014**

CRITICAL ISSUES

- **HSD has been asked to help locate additional shelter facility space**
SHARE Winter Shelter: SHARE learned on July 8th that Plymouth Church is experiencing construction delays and will not be able to host the Winter Shelter October-December. They will be able to accommodate the shelter from January-March. Share will look into a few possible alternatives for the fall.
- **Millionaire Club Shelter needs to relocate:**
Jim Miller, Executive Director of the Millionaire Club, has informed Nightwatch of their plans to repurpose the space currently used by the Nightwatch-funded 80 low-barrier bed shelter. The shelter located at the Club is staffed and managed by Compass Housing. The Club is asking that the shelter be moved by January 1, 2015. At this point, Operation Nightwatch and Compass Housing do not have any options available for moving this shelter. The space is in use from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am with hopes to extend operations to 7:00 a.m. Nightwatch funds this shelter from private resources at about \$15,000 per month.
- **North Seattle constituents request meeting with ADS Staff.**
Representatives from senior centers and community organizations serving north Seattle requested a meeting with ADS staff to discuss potential partnerships and collaborations to expand services to north end neighborhoods without a senior center. Staff were also invited to participate in a discussion about the package of funding recommendations being moved forward by the Seattle Human Services Coalition which includes a request for older adult programming in Lake City. Staff will continue these discussions regarding future investment areas not yet included in the current

NOFA. However, HSD's role during a procurement processes is to remain fair and consistent to all parties (current providers and potential applicants) and to ensure that the process allows everyone access to the same information. In light of the necessity of remaining impartial during an ongoing process, ADS staff encouraged the community agency representatives to bring their questions regarding the current NOFA to the RFI Information Sessions in early August. Agencies participating in the north/northeast partnership development process include: Wallingford Community Senior Center, Phinney Neighborhood Association and Greenwood Senior Center, and Senior Services.

- **Mayor's Challenge to End Homelessness for Veterans:**

CSA staff participated in a call with senior officials from the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, White House Domestic Policy Council, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on Monday, July 14, to discuss the Obama Administration's commitment to ending homelessness among Veterans. CSA staff are working with the Mayor's Office for follow up meeting the week of July 21st to detail how to kick off this initiative in Seattle.

- **HSD addresses situation involving spoiled food in the Summer Food Service Program**

On July 21, 2014 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) staff and meal site staff from the YMCA at Cleveland High School (including the YMCA staff member who sent the initial tweets), met to address the recent situation involving breakfasts that included spoiled food. It was immediately established that this is not currently occurring. In order to move forward not only for this summer, but in the future as well, the group brainstormed to address some other potential reasons more kids (most are 14 years old) aren't eating the meals, causing them to be stored longer, raising the possibility for spoilage, including: the food may, generally, not look appetizing some kids; if a situation arises where spoiling has occurred, kids are hesitant to eat meals, whether or not other meals are affected; it was suggested the packaging itself was not appealing; and that there is, perhaps, a stigma associated with receiving these meals. Staff will be pursuing recommendations to address each of these issues moving forward.

- **Bianca's Place Shelter:**

Staff from HSD, Family Housing Connection (FHC) and Mary's Place/Bianca's Place Shelter met to continue refinement of the referral process from coordinated entry to Bianca's Place Shelter. Being a congregate shelter, a model outside of the usual practice of single unit family shelter, HSD has struggled to line up the Bianca's Place shelter with the coordinated entry system. FHC has one full-time designated referral specialist related to Bianca's Place inside coordinated entry due to the staff time and amount of referrals the congregate model has required.

120 referred families have qualified for the congregate model and have agreed to the Bianca's Place congregate shelter. Of those 120, 26 successful referrals and placements have been accomplished. 10 of those 26 families have exited the shelter due to curfew violations, which is specific to congregate communal living shelter and required for safety as well as to keep noise down during sleeping hours. 2 families moved to permanent housing with more in transition from shelter to permanent housing. The capacity for Bianca's Place is 30 families, so at 8 weeks in Bianca's Place is at half capacity yet FHC labor specific to this shelter has skyrocketed above all other areas of the system. FHC has sent more referrals to Bianca's Place in 8 weeks than the family homeless shelters receive in one year's time.

Youth & Family Empowerment (YFE)

- **Additional youth employment opportunities identified:**
The Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative (SYVPI) and Seattle Youth Employment Program of Human Services Department (HSD) have identified additional youth employment opportunities to meet the goals of Mayor Ed Murray's Summer of Safety Initiative. The Summer of Safety investment of \$30,000 will provide twenty (20) youth employment opportunities.
- **Farm to Table:**
This program was selected to be part of a documentary currently being filmed by a Dutch network as part of a series highlighting progressive Cities around the world. In addition to Mayor Murray being interviewed for the City's \$15 minimum wage initiative, Farm to Table was selected to showcase HSD's innovative work around changing the Food Delivery Systems which seeks to increase access for low-income families and vulnerable populations to affordable, healthy and fresh produce.
- **Upward Bound:**
Upward Bound is in the third of its six week Summer Academy on the Seattle University Campus. Sixty (60) students are earning academic high school credit and taking college prep classes. Four Upward Bound graduates successfully completed a 4-week intensive Seattle University English class and earning 5 transferable college credits.
- **Child Care Assistance Program produced a Public Service Announcement**
The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) unit worked with Seattle Channel to produce a PSA advertising the Child Care Assistance Program. The PSA has been finalized and is currently airing on Seattle Channel and King County TV. This effort builds upon last year's advertising strategy, which involved advertisements on buses and in newspapers.

Community Support & Assistance Division (CSA)

- **Road to Housing (R2H) Stakeholder Meeting:**
HSD staff facilitated the second R2H Stakeholder Meeting on July 1st, which included representatives from Compass Housing Alliance, Seattle Municipal Court, R2H program host sites, and community advocates. The meeting provided updates on program expansion efforts, discussed individual site-specific concerns, and walked through roles & responsibilities for those involved within the program. The next Stakeholder meeting will be scheduled for some time in early October.
- **Safe Harbors now part of the CSA Division:** The Safe Harbors work unit, administrators of the King County Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS), has transitioned within HSD from the Information Technology organization structure within Leadership and Administration Division and will now be supported by the Community Support and Assistance Division. This structural change took effect Tuesday July 1st.
- **Negotiations Continue on Rainier Beach High School Clinic Remodel:**
HSD Community Facilities staff continues to work with staff at Public Health – Seattle & King County to secure Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for remodeling the health clinic located at Rainier Beach High School. While the project's bid package is expected to be available this week, staff continue to address issues relating to the district's lease to the county.

- Quarterly Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Stakeholders Convening:**
 HSD hosted the July Quarterly DV and SA Stakeholders meeting on July 21st. The meeting was attended by 20 community members, stakeholders, and systems providers. Meeting agenda included HSD update, an overview of HSD community engagement, and the facilitation of group activities to assist attendees in prioritizing funding for community-based programming. Members voted for the 3 top immediate needs (to be addressed within 3 years) and engaged in conversations regarding strategies for community or systems-based intervention, outcomes and measurement tools. The group will continue this dialogue at the next DVSA Stakeholders Meeting scheduled for 10/21/14 from 2-4pm at the 2100 Building.
- McKinney Local Application:**
 The 2014 Local Application for McKinney Renewal grants are due to HSD on Friday, June 25, 2014. Each year the Seattle-King County Continuum of Care conducts a local application process in preparation for the national McKinney NOFA competition. This process rates and ranks projects according to their performance in the context of local values and HUD priorities (i.e.; movement to permanent housing; increasing income / access to mainstream benefits) and requirements (i.e.; occupancy; expenditure of funds; HMIS data quality and completeness) as reflected in Safe Harbors HMIS and each project's reporting to HUD.
- McKinney SSO Analysis:** Staff have completed phase 1 of the special review of the McKinney funded Supportive Services Only projects and outcomes. This process was undertaken to inform CEH decision-making regarding McKinney funds for 2014 and beyond particularly in the context of McKinney funding and national HUD priorities. Information and recommendations will be provided to the CEH funders group in August for decision-making related to continued McKinney funding and the availability of other local funding. The Supportive Services Only projects under review are: Medical Respite, Kids Plus, Journey Home, Childcare Resources, ProYouth and the Workforce Development Council

Aging & Disability Services Division (ADS)

- ADS Submits a grant proposal:**
 In partnership with Senior Services, ADS planning staff submitted a \$296,000 proposal, on July 8, to the Administration on Aging (part of the Administration on Community Living) for a falls prevention grant opportunity. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of older people and adults with disabilities at-risk for falls who participate in evidence-based community programs to reduce falls and falls risk, and increase the sustainability of these programs. The proposal highlights partnerships with Group Health, Seattle and King County Housing Authorities, University of Washington Health Promotion and Research Center, Dr. Elizabeth Phelan, Director of the Harborview Falls Prevention Clinic, and several others.
- Exploring Hot Spots Kick Off:**
 On July 8, 2014, ADS planning and case management staff kicked-off a new initiative called Exploring Hot Spots in Seattle Housing Authority Buildings. The initiative will target specific SHA buildings that have a high number of EMS calls. Based on a preliminary look at data, ADS will focus on Lake City House. The anticipated outcomes include reduced # of ER/hospital visits, increased quality of care, lower costs, and better health.
- Regional Planning:**

ADS staff met with Mark Putnam, Executive Director of the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH), to get a better understanding of CEH's organizational structure and its role in coordinating with partner organizations. Mark will be giving a presentation on CEH to the ADS Advisory Council at their August 8 meeting.

- **ADS Advisory Council:**

The ADS Advisory Council Meeting on July 11 was held at the Kent Senior Activity Center. Featured speakers were Senator Karen Keiser and Liz Mercer, from the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors a program of the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner. Senator Keiser praised Washington State as leading the nation in long term care coverage and quality options and providing among the lowest cost services in the nation. She recognized the state has an opportunity to transform of the system and prepare for the increase in older adults needed long term care services.

- **Increasing City Hall access for individuals with hearing loss:**

On July 17, HSD/ADS staff participated in a meeting of the City Clerk's ad hoc advisory committee for the assisted listening system study for Council Chambers and the Bertha Knight Landes Room. Improvements will be installed in late August. The Clerk's office is also developing a comprehensive City Hall accommodations webpage, for which ADS has contributed ideas and sought input from low-vision testers.

- **Mayor's Office for Seniors July Coffee Hour:**

July's coffee hour featured Council Member Sally Bagshaw and Parks and Commissions Board Chair Brice Maryman for a lively discussion about Proposition 1. There were 39 people in attendance.