

**Longmont Housing and Human Services Advisory Board  
Minutes of October 28, 2019 Meeting**

- Members Present: Ann Baldwin, Jake Marsing, Madelyn Woodley, Graham Steers, Polly Christensen (Council Liaison), Brian Coppom
- Members Absent: Camilo Pineda
- Staff Present: Karen Roney, Nicole Blair, Eliberto Mendoza
- Guests Present: None
- Agenda Item 1: ***Call to Order:*** LHHSAB Chair Brian Coppom called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
- Agenda Item 2: ***Public invited to be heard:*** No public present.
- Agenda Item 3: ***Approve minutes from the September 12, 2019 meeting:*** Ann Baldwin called for a motion to approve the minutes; Jake Marsing seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- Agenda Item 4: ***Review and approve allocation framework for 2020 funding:*** Eliberto Mendoza reviewed previous discussions that the advisory board had earlier this year about allocating 2020 human services funding. Karen Roney reviewed that City Council increased funding to 2.37% for 2020 and plans to increase the percentage of General Fund revenue set aside again in 2021 and 2022, eventually reaching a 3% set aside for 2022 and beyond. We have \$789,957 to allocate to agencies (the remainder is allocated to homeless services), which is about a \$100,000 increase from 2019. Each priority area (Safety and Justice, Education and Skill Building, Housing Stability, Food and Nutrition, Health and Well-Being, Self-Sufficiency and Resilience) has its own weight based upon the results from the Human Service Needs Assessment conducted in 2017. While each priority has its own score range, any agency scoring below 100 did not receive funding. Eliberto Mendoza reviewed the weighting/scoring process and how the totals came to be and offered discussion points for the board to consider. We also calculated the ceiling at 50% (no one agency could receive more than 50% of the amount allocated to focus area in which it was applying for funding). With this formula, there was a small amount of funding remained to be allocated. The advisory board discussed whether or not to lower the floor or increase the ceiling. The advisory board decided to keep the funding formula as is, at this point, and consider other elements that are not represented in the evaluations but are important, such as the agencies overall direction, how well they collaborate with other agencies/groups, etc.
- Eliberto Mendoza reviewed the scoring spreadsheet and pointed out that 60% of the funds are going to top 3 priorities and 40% to remaining 3 priorities, which is what the advisory board established. However, there were variances in the targeted amounts of funding in each focus area. The advisory board supported the funding distribution based on the scores.
- Agenda Item 5: ***Conduct 2020 funding deliberations:*** Staff and advisory board reviewed the draft funding allocation spreadsheet, based on the approach and formulas described above.

Generally, the advisory board concurred with the proposed allocations. There was some discussion about a few applications and recommendations. Concerns were brought up regarding the OUR Center's decision to end their partnership with HOPE in providing Navigation Services to adults experiencing homelessness at the end of 2019. Concerns included: lack of transparency about their decision; lack of consultation, collaboration and communication in their decision-making process; inaccurate information given to the Board of Directors (evidenced at their funding hearing); and overall concern about the agency's future direction in addressing needs in the Longmont community – by becoming a Family Resource Center, who is being left behind that used to be served by the OUR Center? The advisory board acknowledged that the OUR Center Board of Directors has the authority to make changes in direction; other agencies have shifted focus when needed. Their concern was the manner in which it happened and the lack of communication, as well as questioning the need/rationale. The advisory board also acknowledged new agency leadership and the possibilities of re-setting relationships and collaborations. The advisory board ultimately would like OUR Center to be a collaborative partner with the community in general and use their reputation to continue carrying their work forward.

What we are asking of OUR Center should be asked of every agency. Questions included on the application evaluations are very specific about certain aspects of agency and program operations. We may want to consider adding in questions in the future to help determine how the agency holds the trust of the city, brings value into the city, and/or the organizational direction of agency.

There was a discussion about some of the early education agencies not receiving high enough scores for funding. Karen Roney mentioned that some of those agencies will have an opportunity to seek funding from the City's enhanced investment (\$250,000 in 2020) in Early Childhood Education that is being directed by City Council and coordinated through the City's Children, Youth and Families Division. Staff explained that the purpose of this initiative is to help all young children in our community to be ready for kindergarten and reading ready by the age of eight, and the focus will be on underserved populations and to ensure that they have equitable access to quality learning experiences.

Brian Coppom announced that a conflict of interest issue has emerged regarding the Boulder County Farmers' Market application, due to two employees unexpectedly resigning and the subsequent roles he had to take on during the application process. He has been discussing this matter with City staff, and due to the conflict, Boulder County Farmers Market will not be eligible to receive funding in 2020. The advisory board will have to determine how to allocate food access funding at the November meeting.

For agencies that are not recommended for funding there is the opportunity for feedback as to the reasons if the agency desires such. The advisory board indicated that when the recommendations are presented to City Council, the board would like to have the opportunity to indicate concerns about an agency's performance.

The advisory board will hold its next regular meeting on November 14, at which time it will take a final vote on funding recommendations to be presented to City Council on December 3, 2019.

Agenda Item 6:

**Other business:** Karen Roney spoke with Sarah Holt on Friday, October 25, 2019 and Sarah indicated that she needed to resign her position effective immediately. That means we will for sure have three vacancies to fill during year-end Board/Commission appointments. Two other Board terms are up for re-appointment, too. That means there may be five vacancies, so please do outreach with individuals who may be interested in serving on the board.

Site visits have been completed at Community Food Share, I Have a Dream and Boulder County Aids Project in October; we will start scheduling site visit reports at the November meeting.

Longmont Observer is the new public access provider for the City of Longmont. They plan to start broadcasting City advisory board meetings in 2020. Staff will consult with city attorney staff about the funding deliberation process.

To assist agencies with gaining diversity on their boards, Madelyn Woodley compiled a list of 31 community members who may be interested in serving on boards. Staff sent that list to all of the Executive Directors of the 2020 applicant agencies. Thus far, approx. 15 have responded with interest and Madelyn Woodley is working with agencies and providing guidance as requested.

Board wishes to have pictures and short bios completed in 2020.

Agenda Item 7:

**Adjournment:** There being no other business to conduct the meeting adjourned by consent at 9:00 p.m.