



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, October 16, 2017

6:00 PM

Goodman Maintenance Facility
1402 Wingra Creek Pkwy

NOTICE OF AGENCY PRESENTATIONS

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Staff Present: Jim O'Keefe, Laura Noel, Deon Carruthers, Nancy Saiz, Hugh Wing, Iliana Wood

Guest: Matt Phair

Present: 7 - Shiva Bidar; Sara Eskrich; LaShana M. Miller; Kim Genich; Bridget D. Rogers; Jean M. MacCubbin and Consuelo Lopez

Absent: 2 - Donna C. Bryant and Wali Urehaman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, seconded by Sara Eskrich, to approve the minutes from July 26, 2017. Motion passed by voice vote.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Shiva Bidar-Sielaff will recuse herself from the Peer Support decisions because she works at UW Health. UW Health wrote a letter of recommendation for one of the program applicants. Shiva also disclosed that several of the youth employment applicants have cited UW Health as partner but she is not directly associated with the programs.

Sara Eskrich will recuse herself from the Youth Employment discussion and decisions because she is on the board of directors at Bayview Community Center, and they have applied for funding through Briarpatch Youth Services.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Keetra Burnett expressed her excitement about the peer support initiative for the most vulnerable people in the community. She discussed her father who was incarcerated for much of his life. She is in support of the peer support initiative but was disappointed to learn that the funds would be split between re-entry and crisis support work. It is forcing agencies to compete for limited funds. She would like the committee to support a collaborative proposal and have the agencies work together to lower costs and find the most efficient and effective way to allocate funds.

1. [49127](#)

Peer Support Applicant Presentations

Jim O'Keefe gave an overview of the peer support RFP. \$400,000 was made available in the City budget to reduce violence and recidivism using the crisis support and peer support model. \$325,000 is left for 2017, and is not expected to all be expended. The 2018 budget process is expected to include \$400,000 for services in 2018.

Presentations:

1. **Nehemiah Community Development:** Dr. Rev. Alex Gee, Anthony Cooper, Jerome, Ariel Smith, Myra McNair, and Aaron Hicks discussed the Crisis Response Peer Support Program. Nehemiah is providing coaching for the Focused Interruption Coalition (FIC). Anthony Cooper is the executive director of FIC, and the work they have been doing has changed the perspective of the whole community. Jerome discussed how FIC has been received at emergency rooms and at crime scenes. Violence prevention is high on everyone's radar, and they are helping to get to individuals who are in danger of retaliating. Ariel Smith discussed the partnership with UW Hospital, and they are very supportive of the program. Aaron Hicks discussed how lived experience gives them credibility, and they are able to reach people and walk with them to help them change their narratives. Myra McNair said that Anesis Therapy will provide the counseling.

2. **Nehemiah Community Development:** Dr. Rev. Alex Gee discussed the prisoner re-entry program that they have been doing for 25 years. They work to hire people who can relate to those coming out of incarceration. Nehemiah is the lead on this proposal and they are the primary provider. Focused Interruption Coalition is a partner. Anthony Cooper is the director of re-entry services. The staff all have lived experience, and provide support and wrap-around services. They have worked with 200 people this year. Their holistic approach is the reason for partnerships with FIC and Urban League. What differentiates them from the other proposals is their capacity and ability to make an impact. They are currently fundraising to fund this program.

3. **Madison-area Urban Ministry:** Linda Ketchem discussed that MUM and their partners also has lived experience in this field. They have been offering evidence based programs for prisoner re-entry since 1999. They will leverage services for those coming out of prison. She discussed their partnerships with different agencies and programs. What differentiates them from the other applicants is that they have strong employment programs and training, have lived experience, as well as certification and advanced training, entrepreneurial assistance, are staffed to work with women, and have bilingual staff.

4. **Zion City International Church Ministries:** James Morgan discussed their Renewal After Prison (RAP) program, which brings creative and different ideas to re-entry. The primary issue of re-entry is education. The incarcerated individual doesn't know how to connect to services, housing, employment, etc. RAP collaborates with Urban League, Anesis Therapy, UW Odyssey Project, and others. Anesis provides training on working with all types of people, including LGBTQ+ individuals. What differentiates them from the other proposals is the scope of what they are doing. They have an open door to everyone in the community that wants them.

roll call

Donna Bryant arrived at 7:30 pm. Sara Eskrich left at 7:30 pm, as she was recusing herself from the youth employment presentations.

Present: 6 - Shiva Bidar; Donna C. Bryant; LaShana M. Miller; Kim Genich; Bridget D. Rogers and Jean M. MacCubbin

Absent: 2 - Sara Eskrich and Wali Urehaman

2. [49129](#) Youth Employment Applicant Presentations

Attachments: [Peer Support and Youth Presentation Schedule.pdf](#)
[CEOs of Tomorrow.pdf](#)
[DSS Community Center.pdf](#)
[Mellowhood.pdf](#)
[Mentoring Positives.pdf](#)
[Commonwealth Dev.pdf](#)

5. GSAFE-Sarah and Allie discussed their partnerships for supporting and employing interns. Interns take a class at UW-Madison, then do internships in the community. They are training students with practical skills.

6. Dream Bikes-Adam Kostichka reports that Dream Bikes provides paid job training for youth. They just opened a second location on the Northside of Madison. It is a three year college-ready and career ready program. They have helped 150 kids and have room to help more. The starting salary for teens is \$8.50 to \$9.00 per hour.

7. Goodman Community Center-Keith Pollock and Keelan spoke for Teen-works, a teen education and employment network. Students can earn school credit, and gain job training and job placement after training. They are partnered with the Youth Employment Network. Keelan discussed his experience with the Goodman program.

8. Centro Hispano-Karen Collier described the Escalera high school employment program, which was a pilot program for three years running. Centro has been running it by themselves for the last 1 1/2 years at East and West High Schools. Kids are followed through the years in a small cohort. Most kids come from mixed documented and undocumented families, and are DACA eligible.

9. DSS Community Center-Felicia Davis discussed the work crew program in the Brentwood neighborhood. Participants can earn the employability skills certificate. They partner with Briarpatch Youth Services and Common Wealth Development for employment programs.

10. Common Wealth Development-Rachel Darken discussed Carts for Community which employs students with local food carts, and partners with Briarpatch Youth Services and Let's Eat Out. The Program for Entrepreneurial Agricultural Training (PEAT) collaborates with Neighborhood Food Solutions, and works through an agricultural enterprise lens. It employs teens in the urban agriculture industry on the South side of Madison. Elizabeth Chesney discussed the Youth-Business Mentoring Program which has recently been restructured under a racial equity, social justice lens. Participants receive a guaranteed job placement with local businesses. They are a member of the Youth Employment Network.

11. **Mentoring Positives**-Will Green described the Mentoring Positives programs. Darnel Richards discussed Off the Block Enterprises, and discussed the two programs, one of which is for high risk youth and the other for at-risk youth. He discussed collaboration with Feed Kitchen and others. What makes Mentoring Positives unique is a true trusting relationships, they are after the social, emotional part of the kids.

12. **Briarpatch Youth Services**-Sean Hubbard is the youth employment coordinator, and works with three teams under this initiative. Street Team 1 and Street Team 2 are highly supported work teams of one adult to every 5 kids. They work in crews of 2 adults with 10 kids. UW Credit Union provides financial literacy training, and they are now partnering with BIG STEP and UW Health Hope Program. Sue Summers discussed the Bayview Youth Employment Program which consists of 2 work crews of 23 youth that live at Bayview. The food in the gardening program reflects the neighborhood population of Hmong and Hispanic culture. The Community Arts Crew are trying to solve community issues through arts. Denise Hanson at West High School runs the Roots to Rise program. Last spring's pilot program was extremely successful. It takes kids who are in danger of not graduating and gives them a classroom at Lincoln Elementary to help out and be a leader in the class. High school kids are pushed to graduation and the elementary school kids are helped with one on one time, and more teachers in the classroom.

13. **CEOs of Tomorrow**-Roxie Hinz discussed the partnerships of the program. Summit Credit Union offers financial education and Cardinal Stritch College give the participants college credit for completing the program.

14. **Operation Fresh Start**-Greg Markle says they are a member of the Youth Employment Network. This is the only program that works on transitioning out of high school. The youth they reach are disconnected, not engaged in school or work. Their focus is on 17-21 year olds. He discussed each of the programs OFS offers.

15. **Mellowhood Foundation**-Coach Assad says Mellowhood represents the Meadowood Neighborhood. He discussed how they came to be. Darnell Richards described the gardening program, which is a food to table process. They want to create a business from the produce they grow.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kim Genich, seconded by LaShana Miller to adjourn at 9:54 pm. Motion passed by voice vote.