

**BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
MINUTES**

May 4, 2023,
Zoom.

North Bellevue Community Center via Virtual –

8:30am – 10:30AM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Abigail Brown, Beverly Heyden, Diana Thompson, Eleanor Lee, Anne Rittenhouse Gazel Tan, Hannah Kimball, Kira Hackett, Julie Hart, Shana Aucsmith, Barbara Carey.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Phyllis Smilen,

STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Christy Stangland, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

GUESTS:

Kathy Iverson, Alex O’Reilly

PRESENTER(S): Christy Stangland- Human Services Planner. ***Human Services Division Overview presentation.***

RECORDING SECRETARY: Daniel Lassiter, Bellevue Parks & Community Services

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order by Abigail Brown and the roll call taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 2023 minutes approved.

PRESENTATION: Christy Stangland – City of Bellevue Parks & Community Services Department Human Services Planner. ***Human Services Division Overview presentation.***

The roles of Human Services include planning, educating, facilitating, and funding services to individuals in need. The Human Services is responsible for distributing millions of dollars annually. This typically occurs in a two-year cycle. Year one the division spends time updating the human services need assessment of the Bellevue community. This is accomplished by meeting with the public to discover the needs of the Bellevue demographics. The Human Services Division gathers that information in a document titled, The Human Services Needs Update, and creates a strategic plan on how to distribute resources.

Year two, an application process for funding is launched for agencies that provide services in the City of Bellevue. The received applications are reviewed by the Human Services Commission received March and April utilizing the Human Services Update Report with service priorities set on food, safety, health care, and education activity. Funding recommendations are then presented to Bellevue Council for approval, then contracts are developed with the awarded agencies. The required reporting is part of the funding process, and the Human Services Division spends a great deal of time monitoring the contracts, helping the agencies with problem solving.

Funding Sources

Housing stability fund. This is not capital funding and is based on a sales tax charged Bellevue homeowner.

Funding source: Sales Tax

- House Bill 1590 allows the City to request a 10th of a percent sales tax to support affordable housing and related services in the community.

Behavioral Health and Housing-Related Services receives a portion of the City's funding:

- Same-day mental health and substance use disorder assessments and treatment.
- Medically assisted treatments for substance use disorders.
- Culturally specific behavioral health services designed to meet historically underserved populations' needs.
- Services co-located at facilities and/or housing properties.
- \$3,318,844 in 2021 – 2022
\$3,584,964 projected for 2023-2024

Supportive Services Co-Located at Facilities and/or Housing Properties

- Case management that helps an individual and/or family achieve housing stability.
- Employment services

During the pandemic ARPA provided 17million in funding via Human Services Division. Seven million was to be distributed for rental and mortgage assistance.

ARPA Funding

For 2023-24, Human Services Division is allocating \$10 million dollars, which includes:

- Rental & Mortgage Assistance
- Homelessness services
- Critical areas: Basic Needs, Behavioral Health, Civil Legal Aid, Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Survivor Services, Food Insecurity, Fostering Well-Being in the Face & Ethnic Discrimination, Childcare, and Homelessness Services.

CDBG Funding

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), annual allocation provided by HUD.
- Funding needs to meet a National Objective: Low- and Moderate-Income
- Current funding is provided for the following:
 - Planning & Administration
 - Major Home Repair Program
 - Minor Home Repair Program
 - Micro-enterprise Assistance Program
 - Public Services

Major Home Repair

- BELLEVUE'S MAJOR HOME REPAIR PROGRAM
- The City of Bellevue's only direct service program.
- The City partners with KCHA and Habitat for Humanity.
- Zero percent interest deferred loans and grants are available to eligible income qualified homeowners.
- Preserves affordable housing stock and allows people with lower incomes to remain in their homes.

Emerging Needs & Significant Increases in Needs

- Behavioral Health Services
- Homelessness
- Racial and Ethnic Discrimination
- Domestic Violence
- Legal Services
- High cost of living in Bellevue
- Challenges experienced by human service agencies.
- High cost of living in Bellevue
- Lack of access for certain groups
- Increased needs will continue post-pandemic.

In 2022 services for those 0-17 received 52% of the available funding; ages 18 to 34 received 14% of available funding; ages 35 – 54 received 16% of available funding and ages 55 and over received 18% of available funding.

As for percentages of funding received according to race and ethnicity, 27% for white, 23% for Asian, 21% for Hispanic, Latinx or Spanish, 12% for Black or African American, 4% for Pacific Islander, 1% for Alaska Indian/native Alaskan, 6% multi racial and 6% other.

Quarterly Coffee Chats

- **We partner with other East King County Cities to put together in-person events for nonprofit providers on the eastside.**
- **Different providers rotate hosting us in their office spaces.**
- **Typically, a turnout of 15-20 providers/community members.**
- **Great opportunity for relationship building.**

Questions asked by BNOA members:

Are reports of specific expenditures and services available to the public?

Answer: The information is not posted but can be requested. We are looking, when we are fully staffed, to create a dashboard for this sort of information.

What is the transparency and availability of reports and data, according to what has been given to an agency, to the Human Services Division?

Answer: Every agency must show what has been accomplished and then they get paid accordingly. They get paid according to what they achieved.

How do we view the goal for an agency? *Answer: Each contract has a scope of work outlined but it is not publicly posted. A service event report reflects some of the information and can be requested.*

What is the process to request a public record? *Answer: Contact the Public Clerk for records or go directly to the Human Services staff for records.*

Why do the youth receive such a large portion of funding? *Answer: Typically, our youth do not hold employment and therefore require more public funding.*

Also, the percentage amounts received reflects duplicated counts. One kid could get many different kinds of services, so the money spent doesn't necessarily reflect the unduplicated number of people served.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Human Services Report: No further report today.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: *Members were asked to read the following committee reports before the meeting for discussion.*

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Advocacy has invited a member of the GOLD CARD program to speak at the June 4th meeting. Please attend if you would like to hear about this discount program for older adults.

Legislative bills that passed include the Ombudsman, Death with Dignity, limitations on ROBO Calls, extending utilities through hot weather. The bill 1355 raised the income allowance to be eligible for discount on property taxes. It was raised to \$78,000.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The upcoming Resource Fair for Older Adults that will occur at North Bellevue Community Center on June 24th, 11 – 1, was discussed and a call for helpers was called to attention. The fair is being sponsored by the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce. Please see Gazel to sign up as a volunteer for this older adult fair and the Bellevue Farmers Market booth.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

The monthly group discussed affordable housing forum and bill 1110 passing which will allow single family lots to be used to build triplexes and duplexes. More on this coming in the future. The group discussed the issues of the missing middle housing needs. See the monthly notes for details.

COMMUNITY MEETING REPORTS:

Diana reported a Dementia Collaborative Meeting to be held looking at the connection of hearing loss and dementia from a presenter from John Hopkins Research Center. Research shows using hearing aids reduces the risk of dementia. Diana will send and invite to the group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Future BNOA meetings: Should they remain virtual or go live or have a hybrid meeting. The group discussed the pros and cons. A vote was taken, and the majority would like to meet in person as soon as possible. Dan asked for several months to make the change in order to find space for the meetings.

Results of the BNOA at the Leadership Team meeting.

Shelley Brittingham was in attendance and described who attended the meeting, which included the city manager, assistant city managers and most of the directors from most of the COB departments. The concept to remember older adults in planning and services was presented. The idea of having a dedicated staff to ensure older adults were in the various department plannings was brought up but without reply. Michael talked about concepts of buildings developed with universal design in mind and the need for transportation for older adults in Bellevue. The leadership team was very receptive to the subject and many already have older adults as part of their planning and are willing to share with the BNOA. A suggestion that an annual meeting with BNOA or older adults and representatives from each department converge for a summit to discuss the needs of older adults in Bellevue. Dan under Shelley's direction and the assistance of BNOA will develop a meeting in the Fall of 2023. The BNOA Resource book was passed out to all leadership team members who were present.

A discussion by the members led to having June's subject be about what to design for a summit.

NEW BUSINESS:

Older Adults Awareness Month Proclamation will be on May 8th and BNOA members needed to receive the document from city council. Abigail and Gazel volunteered.

World Abuse Awareness Day is June 15th, and a City of Bellevue Council Proclamation will be read. Diana Thompson will receive the proclamation at the

council meeting on June 12th, 6pm and has prepared a statement and will keep it to three minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35am