

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 11, 2012

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tim Cole for Deanna Jonovich, City of Phoenix, Chair
+Christina Avila, City of Avondale
*Mary Berumen, City of Mesa
+Melanie Rustein for Kyle Bogdon, DES/ACYF
*Krista Cornish, Town of Buckeye
*Naomi Farrell, City of Tempe
Jessica Fierro, Town of Gilbert
*Janeen Gaskins, City of Surprise
Laura Guild, Arizona Department of Economic Security
Jeffrey Jamison, City of Phoenix
Jeff Dean for Jim Knaut, Area Agency on Aging
*Margarita Leyvas, Maricopa County, Vice Chair
*Joyce Lopez-Powell, Valley of the Sun United Way

Steven MacFarlane, City of Phoenix
+Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council
+Leah Powell, City of Chandler
*Cindy Saverino, Arizona Department of Economic Security
Carol Sherer, Arizona Department of Economic Security/DDD

OTHERS PRESENT

Nicholina Chaves, Arizona Department of Economic Security / DDD
Rachel Brito, MAG
Amy St. Peter, MAG

+Those members present by audio/videoconferencing.
*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

1. Call to Order
Steve MacFarlane, City of Phoenix, called the meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. Introductions ensued.
2. Call to the Audience
An opportunity was provided for members of the public to address the Committee. No public comments were made.
3. Approval of the September 13, 2012 HSTC Meeting Minutes
A motion to approve the September 13, 2012, meeting minutes was requested. Carol Sherer, Arizona Department of Economic Security, motioned to approve the minutes. Jeffrey Jamison, City of Phoenix, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Update on the Arizona Department of Economic Security Office of Consumer and Family Support and Developmental Disabilities (*This item taken out of order; after agenda item number seven*)
Mr. MacFarlane invited Carol Sherer, DES, to offer a report on the DES Office of Consumer and Family Support and Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Sherer noted many Committee member agencies have provided funding to DES/DDD for many

years. This raised a question as to whether or not individuals understand the purpose and function of the division and of the Office of Consumer and Family Support (OCFS). Ms. Sherer presented a PowerPoint that included the DES Division of Developmental Disabilities mission statement. She referred to additional handouts available on navigating the system and contact information for OCFS and noted the division's goals are not just to provide support and services, but to help individuals live, work, and recreate in their community of choice, rather than to be institutionalized or placed in other types of settings. Arizona has been the top ranked in the nation for the past three to four years as far as having individuals who live in community type settings rather than institutions. Ms. Sherer noted there are almost 33,000 individuals served state-wide by the division.

The OCFS is being revitalized and includes five staff members. Information was provided on who is eligible for services; basic information on the four qualifying diagnoses, and how staff can assist when issues arise. It also offered an understanding of how services are determined.

Ms. Sherer advised anyone who is diagnosed with one of the four eligible diagnoses is qualified to receive services. It is important to note that the four diagnoses are legislated and include autism, epilepsy, cerebral palsy and cognitive disability. Ms. Sherer provided an overview of the requirements for documentation of the eligible diagnoses. Requirements include documentation in medical or school records; determination prior to age eighteen; and diagnoses determined by a Developmental Pediatrician or Psychiatrist. Ms. Sherer noted the disability must also result in substantial functional limitation in three or more areas of major life activities. An overview of the major life activities was provided. They include self care, receptive and expressive language; learning; mobility; self-direction; capacity for independent living; and economic self sufficiency.

A question was raised regarding the ability to apply for services at any age. Ms. Sherer clarified individuals are eligible to apply at any age however, they have to be able to document that the diagnoses occurred prior to age 18 years. Ms. Sherer proceeded with discussion on eligibility restrictions. She noted DDD eligibility is legislatively mandated as nearly all services are based on the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment (AHCCCS) Medicaid eligibility. An overview was provided on the steps the division must take to determine the eligible disability; determine Arizona long term care eligibility, and determine what services are medically necessary.

Where and when services are provided vary by funding source and age. Service areas include the home, community, early intervention, foster care, behavioral health, Premiere (age 50 and over) and state operated services. Ms. Sherer discussed determination for where services are provided.

NOTE: The Committee lost quorum lost at 1:45 p.m. This item will be continued at a future meeting. Ms. St. Peter thanked everyone for their input and attendance. The meeting adjourned.

5. Greater Phoenix Aging in Place Symposium
(*This item was not heard*)

6. City Leaders Institute Guiding Principles (*This item taken out of order; after agenda item number 3*)

Mr. MacFarlane invited Amy St. Peter, MAG, to provide an overview of the principles developed to guide the work of the City Leaders Institute. Ms. St. Peter referred to the Principles and Goals for the Greater Phoenix Aging in Place network. The network is being proposed as part of staff's participation in the City Leaders Institute on Aging in Place. Greater Phoenix is one of five regions in the country to be selected for this institute. It was noted work within the institute is leading to the development of an aging in place network.

Ms. St. Peter advised staff wants to ensure people have the appropriate interventions within their community and are able to be more socially engaged and move more easily throughout the region as a result of the network. The principles and goals were developed to clarify how the project aligns with efforts currently under way. Ms. St. Peter advised there is already a lot of work taking place particularly through the efforts of the Area Agency on Aging, DES, several nonprofit partners, and local government agencies. She stressed the importance of ensuring that no harm is being done to the work already in progress and secondly that the project will promote and leverage the work underway. The guiding principles help clarify the vision for the network and begin to define parameters. The initial goals include implementation of different village pilot projects in Phoenix, Tempe, and the Northwest Valley, specifically in the service areas of Sun Health and Benevilla.

Ms. St. Peter advised that in the long-term, staff wants to research other possible interventions such as Senior Center without Walls and adopting Project Homeless Connect to respond to aging services and older adults. The ultimate goal is to have a wide range of options available. In the short term, immediate interventions will include implementation of pilot projects and development of a website for older adults aged 55 to 70 years. She noted individuals in this age category tend to be more tech-savvy and not go to senior centers.

These efforts outline what is being focused on at this time. Additionally, staff will develop an evaluation measure to determine what works best and to be able to replicate best practices. The principles and goals were presented to the City Leaders Institute team and their recent meeting. No changes were recommended. Having no further questions or comments from the Committee, Mr. MacFarlane requested a motion. Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council, made a motion to recommend approval of the City Leaders Institute guiding principles. Ms. Sherer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

7. Social Services Block Grant Action Plan

Mr. MacFarlane invited Ms. St. Peter to lead discussion on developing the process for the FY 2014 Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) Action Plan. Ms. St. Peter noted it

is time to develop allocation recommendations at the service level for the SSBG. Staff continues to work with DES as an informal conduit for local input and has once again been asked to serve in the same capacity as previous years. The SSBG allocation recommendation development timeline has been adapted from last year. Ms. St. Peter noted, however, that staff is receptive of any changes the Committee wishes to recommend. The process and timeline for developing the SSBG allocation recommendations will be presented to the MAG Human Services Coordinating Committee for action at their next meeting. Input and or changes from the Committee were requested so they may be implemented in advance of being offered to HSCC.

Ms. Guild noted staff would be seeking updates for the fact sheets during this current month. She requested the previous fact sheets be distributed to the Committee for reference. Ms. St. Peter requested those individuals who have provided information in the past to please submit updates to staff. She noted the importance of having current data available as other agencies and community partners also seek this type of information. With regard to ranking the services, Mr. MacFarlane recommended staff determine how the public input will be included so as not to skew the results disproportionately in favor of any one group.

Ms. St. Peter clarified this agenda item was noted on the agenda as an action item to recommend approval of the process. Mr. MacFarlane requested a motion from the Committee. Mr. Jamison made a motion to recommend approval of the process to develop FY 2014 service allocation recommendations for locally planned Social Services Block Grant funding. Ms. Guild seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Committee moved to agenda item number four.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

(This item was not heard)

9. Comments from the Committee

(This item was not heard)

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. due to loss of quorum. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.