

MINUTES OF THE
MAG HUMAN SERVICES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
March 10, 2016
MAG Office Building, Chaparral Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Kristina Blea, City of Phoenix
*Andrew Carlson, Town of Gilbert
#Caterina Daneri, Tempe Community
Council
Naomi Farrell, City of Tempe
#Janeen Gaskins, City of El Mirage
#Jessica Gonzalez, City of Phoenix
Laura Guild, Arizona Department of
Economic Security
Jeffrey Jamison, City of Phoenix
Jim Knaut, Area Agency on Aging
Jacqueline Edwards for Bruce Liggett,
Maricopa County Human Services
Department

Joyce Lopez-Powell, Valley of the Sun
United Way
*Debbie Pearson, City of Peoria
Christina Plante, City of Goodyear
Leah Powell, City of Chandler, Vice Chair
Cindy Saverino, Arizona Department of
Economic Security
Cynthia Segovia, City of Phoenix
#Stephanie Small, City of Avondale, Chair
#Carolyn Guffrey for Tim Ward, Arizona
Department of Economic
Security/Division of Developmental
Disabilities

*Neither present nor represented by proxy.
#Attended by telephone conference call.
+Attended by videoconference.

OTHERS PRESENT

Brandee Mead, MAG

1. Call to Order

Leah Powell, City of Chandler, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.
Introductions ensued.

2. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided for members of the public to address the Committee. An introduction by attendee Seth Dyson, new City of Surprise Director of Human Resources and Community Vitality Department, was made to the committee and audience. Mr. Dyson extended his resources to the committee and their work.

3. Approval of the January 14, 2016 HSTC Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the January 14, 2016, meeting minutes was requested. Janeen Gaskins noted that her attendance on the minutes were recorded as City of Surprise, and should be corrected to City of El Mirage. Jim Knaut, Area Agency on Aging, motioned to approve the minutes. Jeff Jamison, City of Phoenix, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Social Services Block Grant Funding Allocation Planning and Process for FY 2018

Mrs. Mead reported that the recommendation for approval for the SSBG Funding Allocations that went to the Coordinating Committee were approved and carried them onto the MAG Management and Regional Council. Final approval took place in February. The funding recommendations were moved to DES.

During this time, a review of the allocation planning and process occurred. Mrs. Mead included research in the meeting packet regarding other communities and the structure of their recommendation/planning processes. Included in the research were examples from PAG (Pima Association of Governments), and WACOG (Western Arizona Council of Governments). WACOG's process was summarized in a handout, in that they hold meetings each year, invite members from the community to identify needs, utilize data and reports to fortify the claims for these needs, and consider that in their funding recommendations. PAG's process includes fact sheets, an overview of the service area, and provisions for their service area culminating in a purpose statement. Mrs. Mead invited input from the committee members, as these processes are not dissimilar from SSBG's current process, but do offer some additional considerations:

Leah Powell - Was there a sense of the level of community involvement as compared to our process? Brande Mead - The general sense is that the other communities do utilize community involvement and feedback, including working groups throughout the year. The information gleaned from their work is incorporated into the fact sheets.

Jeff Jamison suggested reviewing the process and then the tool. He added that the group had been stuck in previous years when making the actual allocations. He indicated that the tool was great at moving money from the categories, but didn't allow for small or no-change scenarios. He suggested possibility of a set schedule where each area of focus knows in advance their opportunity to present and share information regarding their work, including additional needs they might have. This may allow for the committee to have a better sense of which, if any, changes need to be made to the allocations.

Ms. Mead referred to the PAG process which includes a working group meeting to update fact sheets, a kickoff meeting to review previous year's process and outcomes, present the results of a survey, and another meeting to allow for presentations on the service areas. Additionally, there is a sample score sheet that rates the recommended services. She said she

would invite a staff member from PAG to call in for the April meeting to answer questions about their process and provide additional information.

A member stated that in her position, she has the opportunity to review the outcomes to review the outcomes of the COGs throughout the state. The process seems to be adequate. The PAG model seems to be a delineated process, whereas SSBG has more fluidity. The member stated that there is room to add consistency to our work in terms of setting timelines. Support for a stated plan was shared. Janeen Gaskins suggested that we reflect on how our allocations compare to national statistics as a benchmark.

A discussion ensued about zero-based budgets. Mr. Jamison indicated that zero-based budgets are favorable for large budgets, contract renewals, made note to consider that for some organizations, this is a small percentage of their funding and that the amount of work (for all parties) should not offset the benefits distributing these resources. Feedback included support for being responsive to changing conditions in human services. Cited need to better integrate feedback and how presentation/data will be used in the decision-making process to allocate funding.

Brandee Mead indicated that she will continue invite a PAG representative to the next meeting for further discussion. There was no motion made on this agenda item.

5. Update on Human Services Community Initiatives Committee Action on Key Areas of Focus

Brandee Mead provided an update from the action taken at the January 21, 2016 HSCIC meeting, where she and Christina Plante presented the recommendation to focus on coordination. The recommendation was approved, with positive feedback from the trends survey and presentation. The proposal from this meeting is to concentrate the theme of the upcoming (May/June) Human Services conference on coordination over multiple areas and disciplines.

Mrs. Mead suggested this committee act as a technical advisory to the coordinating committee and advise on planning, and possible presentations at the event. Suggestions included the use of technology in our work (shareable databases), a look at HIPPA and how to navigate while sharing information, asset-based community development (strength-based focus), best practices for coordination, linkages between mental/behavioral health, housing and transportation, trauma-informed care, public-private partnerships, collective impact, and the coordination required for each. Identifying overlaps and holes in service between member agencies, potentially using the conference as a tool to connect service providers. May be best served by prefacing the event with a session/discussion on being a good partner. The county has a 'Partnership Principles' document to lead the work which will be shared with the committee.

6. Legislative Update

Item tabled, Samuel Richard (PAFCO) unable to attend.

7. Develop 2016 HSTC Monthly Workflow Timeline

Committee members were given an opportunity to develop a 2016 monthly workflow timeline. Brande Mead provided a draft of the monthly calendar which included the areas of focus from the quarterly schedule. The SSBG process will need to be added after future meetings clarify the timeline. Early June was suggested as a target for the HS conference. Notable calendar points included the goal-setting conversation for next year to be held in October, committee evaluation in November, and committee approval for December. Leah Powell offered the committee to motion on the workflow timeline as drafted. Christina Plante motioned to approve, Jim Knaut seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Request for Future Agenda Items

Committee members were given the opportunity to share comments or information related to community events. No comments were made.

9. Comments from the Committee

No comments were made. The next meeting was announced for April 14, 2016. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.