

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
HUMAN SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
MEETING BRIEF  
JANUARY 19, 2010

1. Legislative Update

Governor Brewer's recently released budget proposal includes a \$575 million reduction to the education system. The proposal also includes cuts to Kids Care affecting 46,000 children and Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) services affecting 17,000 individuals. The proposal to roll back Proposition 204 would eliminate healthcare coverage for at least 350,000 individuals. The proposed budget also affects the Arizona Department of Economic Services by reducing Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits from 60 months to 36 months; eliminating Social Services Block Grant planning funding for the councils of governments; and more. Also included in the proposal is the elimination of the Department of Juvenile Corrections and the closure of 21 state parks.

2. Maricopa County Special Transportation Services Close-Out Report

The County decided to eliminate this program because the program was not sustainable. They worked actively with cities and towns to shift clients into alternative services. The Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) is providing services for residents in unincorporated areas. The trips have been prioritized for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) eligible individuals and those needing medical, dialysis and adult day care services. RPTA has provided an average of 302 trips per month for residents of unincorporated areas since STS shut down.

3. FY 2011 MAG Regional Human Services Plan

The Committee unanimously recommended approval of the plan, including the SSBG allocation recommendations. The draft plan for FY 2011 was distributed for review and comment before the holidays but no public comment has been received on either the plan or the SSBG allocations. Nearly 200 people participated in the service ranking exercise used for the funding formula. A total of \$190,000 will be shifted.

4. MAG Human Services Coordination Transportation Plan

The Committee unanimously recommended approval of the plan. MAG has developed plans to coordinate human services transportation in response to SAFETEA-LU federal legislation since 2007. The plan contains an analysis of the gaps in the region and prioritized strategies to meet human services transportation needs through coordination. The goal of the new strategies is to coordinate the resources of the current system for both the short- and long-term to ensure sustainability of resources.

5. Committee Goals for FY 2011

The Committee unanimously recommended approval of the goals with the caveat of making the outcomes more measurable. The goals include supporting environmental justice Title VI activities at MAG, promoting Livability Act opportunities at the regional level, the continuation of the Human Services Information Station and Virtual Youth Network on the MAG Web site and analyzing the impact of funding reductions on municipal human services

programs. The goal addressing the development of Social Services Block Grant allocations recommendations may be omitted if the DES planning contract is not renewed.

6. Committee Updates

*MAG Human Services Technical Committee*

The Virtual Youth Network and the Human Services Information Station are now available on the MAG Web site. The goal of both projects is to help MAG member agencies and community partners bridge to other community resources so people will receive help more quickly. Anyone may submit material by emailing Rachel Brito at [rbrito@mag.maricopa.gov](mailto:rbrito@mag.maricopa.gov). Anyone who is signed up to receive notification from Gov Delivery may also sign up to receive notification when changes are made to either of these sites.

*MAG Regional Domestic Violence Council*

St. Luke's Health Initiative provided funding for a two-phased process consisting of Appreciative Inquiry interviews and a community forum to develop a new Regional Plan to End Domestic Violence. The forum will be held on February 24, 2010, at the Arizona State University College of Medicine with Steve Twist, ASU School of Law, serving as keynote speaker. The timeline for completion of the plan is October 2010.

*MAG Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness*

The Annual Appreciation Luncheon celebrating the Continuum's tenth anniversary and ten years of accomplishments is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2010. The keynote will be given by Mercedes Marquez, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The event is sponsored by the Stardust Foundation. The Annual Homeless Street Count that will take place on January 26, 2010 in all 25 cities and towns. A shelter count will also occur on the same day. Results are expected to be available by mid-February.

*Elderly and Individuals with Disabilities*

The FTA FY 2010 Section 5310 Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Transportation Program application process has begun. Section 5310 provides capital assistance to organizations providing transportation services to elderly individuals and/or individuals with disability. The application workshop will be held on February 2, 2010, at the MAG offices in the Saguaro Room. The application deadline is March 5, 2010 at noon.

7. Request for Future Agenda Items

Councilmember Sentz requested a report on cost and service efficiencies related to Dial-A-Ride.