

MEETING SUMMARY
REDMOND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, January 10, 2022 - 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioners present: Vibhas Chandorkar, Janet Richards, Kristen Muscott, Jacob Brown, Rachid Erekaeni, Marilyn Lazaro, Anny Smith

Staff present: Alaric Bien, Amber Lehman, Brooke Buckingham

2. December 13, 2021 Meeting Summary

Rachid moved to approve the meeting summary; Marilyn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Items from the Audience

None at this time

4. Agency Presentations

- [4 Tomorrow](#), Presented by Monik Martinez, Executive Director.

This organization started 2019 and serves Latino, underserved youth in East King County. They have 4 full paid staff, 1 open position, and working board of 3 people- all women of color. Each speak English and Spanish. 4 Tomorrow has had 1200 households pre-registered for rental assistance since May 2021, and processed 800 household applications. They provide funding for move-in expenses for low income families affected by COVID in Bellevue.

Monik went over specific culture supports and program successes. They partner with ELAP for immigration processes and hosted their 1st virtual seminar on Immigration 101. (Will share flyers.) Mental health is important and they launched a mental health line, host events and provide education. This year their goal is to break out of the margins and host a monthly virtual event with the Bellevue School District. As for Redmond they provide packets of resources provided to Latino community members regarding COVID outreach and education.

4 Tomorrow is fast growing and ready to extend into other cities. Their main focus is life coordination and mental health services, to manage goals, support with case management, and help individuals connect with resources.

- [Immigrant Women's Community Center](#), Presented by Nura Adam, Executive Director & Jennifer Karls, President of Board
 IWCC was formed in 2020 and received their 501(c)(3) this past year. They have 5 people on the board and Nura and Jennifer are the co-founders. IWCC's Mission: provide a safe community gathering center for immigrant women and their families. They promote financial independence and mental health and help navigate systems that are complicated for those new to the community and country. They also provide employment navigation and connection individuals to services.
 Founded by women for immigrant women. Taking care of the family starts with supporting the women, but work with men of the families too. The wrap around service comes with bi-lingual case management, direct service, legal support, and mental health support. A peace building department was created with mediation and healing circles as a safe space.
 There are 80 different nationalities represented among their clients and they do a monthly story sharing for people to share their journey. Each month, they focus on different countries. Workshops are offered for service providers and also for new community members to know about their new country. IWCC is growing with the need so they have staff that can relate to the various individuals. They work with the immigrant community in Redmond, Bellevue, Kirkland, and Issaquah. They also work with other organizations so as not to duplicate work. Funding for IWCC comes from some grants, but mostly through community donations.
- [Vine Community Services](#), Presented by Kathy Falzetta and Marcus Lima, service directors
 This organization started in March 2020, in response to the need in the Brazilian immigrant community during the COVID outbreak.
 They provide services in Portuguese and help with food housing, and other basic needs. They also provide life groups to touch on spirituality.
 Lake Washington School District reached out to them to help close learning gaps, school needs and family needs for Brazilian students. They are moving to the high school level as well. Family outreach provides bridges with schools and housing, baby needs, etc. They have served 200+ families, helped with getting over 1000 Brazilians vaccinated, and also helped children get health insurance. Kirkland and Redmond have a large Brazilian population and it is growing out to Renton and Lynnwood.
 Vine's affiliated church has a 501(c)(3) and Vine Community Services are on their way to get one too.

5. Gracious Space

Janet presented: Do you have a resolution or a word that you would like to share for 2022?

6. Upcoming Funding Cycle

Presented by Alaric Bien, Senior Planner

Overview of application process, including timelines and explanation of City Supplemental Form. Began discussion of funding priorities for 2023-2024 cycle.

- Every 2 years there is a funding cycle. This year it opens March 14, 2022 online and is a joint application with 16 different cities. There is only 1 application and the organization checks the boxes for cities they chose to apply for funding.
- There will be 2 funder workshops on March 15 and 16.
- The applications close Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 4:00p.
- Starting May 9 the Human Service Commission will meet 2 times a month through October. Approximately 15 applications will be reviewed every 2 weeks.
- September meetings will be used to decide how to allocate the funds.
- The Commission will present its recommendations to Council at a study session on Oct 25, 2022.
- The budget will be adopted by Council in early December 2022 and contracts will begin on January 1, 2023.

Equity training will be done in March/April, jointly with other human service commissions.

The supplemental information sheet will list approximate funding available as well as technical assistance to organizations.

Last cycle's values were a welcoming community, and supporting community led and informed work. The commission will determine it's values or areas of focus at the next meeting.

Questions presented by and to the Commission:

Should we have a minimum amount that people can apply for, or potentially a different application pool for smaller nonprofits with different criteria?

Discussion about organizations need for 501(c)(3).

It was suggested to focus funding on organizations directed on mental health for youth and domestic violence.

How do we make the informed decisions during application cycle?

7. Budget Planning

Presented by Brooke Buckingham, Human Services Manager

Provided overview of current allocations, both in operational and one-time COVID-response. Identified funding gaps to plan for requesting a potential per capita adjustment in 2023-2024.

- The City had \$2.7 million to work with for the last 2 year cycle, then COVID happened and different federal funds were received: CDBG-CV1, CV2, CV3.
- Also up to \$2.5 million was awarded by the Council from the city fund balance. This was used to close funding gaps for homelessness, mental health, basic needs, as well as some one time grants such as the Together Center capital request.

\$400,000 was spent to support ongoing grants. We will probably not get a \$400,000 increase for 2023/2024 and may not be able to cover continuing gaps.

- A large amount (39%) of Human Service funds go to homeless services and 20% to mental health. Seven out of 10 BIPOC agencies that applied received funding. Eleven new programs added last cycle. The total allocation for 2021/2022 was over \$4.7 million.

Human Services is taking advice from the Mayor on what to do with the extra funds that are still available.

Janet advocated for community education and awareness on what funds were given and how funds were used.

8. Commissioner and Staff Updates

- NONE

9. Adjourn

Vibhas moved to adjourn at 8:30p.
