

MEETING SUMMARY

REDMOND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, March 8, 2021 - 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioners present: Vibhas Chandorkar, Janet Richards, Rue Khosa, Kristen Muscott, Anny Smith, Arjun Ram, Jacob Brown, Jiwon Kim

Staff present: Beverly Mesa-Zendt, Brooke Buckingham, Alaric Bien

2. February 8, 2020 Meeting Summary

Janet moved to approve the meeting summary; Anny seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Items from the Audience

[Paul Charbonneau](#) with NAMI Eastside thanked the commission for its support and reported on its education in the schools, with parents, community members, and support groups including those for people of color, LGBTQ, and young adults. Commissioners offered connections to Lake Washington School District and also requested more information on how support has changed during the pandemic and how children of color are served.

4. Agency Presentations

- [Bridge Disability Ministries](#), Brenne Shario, ED; Matt Carroll, Myer Medical Equipment Center Director
Programs alleviate isolation through spiritual connection, medical and financial guardianship services, and durable medical equipment distribution.
2,738 individuals with disabilities served last year, down 18% from 2019.
Durable medical equipment for activities of daily living including breathing, personal hygiene, mobility - about \$4M in value each year. Cash expenses are \$1,138,000.
They do not do assessments of patients but use referrals from medical professionals.
They receive no insurance reimbursement.
- [Camp Kindness Counts](#), Dhaarmika Coelho, Founder & President
Started in 2012 with a service camp to increase confidence, happiness, sense of being valued for middle school kids.
Now working with youth, families, educators on prevention via character development, mindfulness, and community service-learning.

Partnered with Bellevue School District since 2015 around social-emotional learning, summer and afterschool enrichment.

Currently running virtual workshops and camps that are open to everyone, virtual family service events with virtual reflection time.

They serve a broad demographics reflective of Bellevue School District, partner with [Turkcha](#) and outreach to other immigrant families via word of mouth.

- [Global Social Business Partners](#), Narima Amin, President
Fostering entrepreneurship around social and environmental issues in youth since 2010.
Worked with [TBUG](#) farm in Bellevue since 2014, helped [Farmer Frog](#) access resources to grow more food, and youth to produce the [Youth Rising Summit](#) for Social Business Innovation in 2018.
Approximately half their participants are Redmond residents, half Bellevue.

5. Strategic Plan

Solicited input on how to evaluate consultants, who are critical stakeholders, what are priorities for the scope of work, and how best to involve the public.

Feedback on need to clearly define what we mean and want regarding racial equity, using a strategic screening tool for the plan, address what has worked and not worked in the last plan.

Implementation of the plan is critical. The ultimate outcome needs to show up in how we fund in the future and that is where it's unclear how this work will guide better funding and services offered in the future. How do we land the strategy so it's felt in the city?

Still will continue to work to refine the request for proposals. Anny and Jacob volunteered to get more involved in the process as well.

6. Centro Cultural Mexicano Proposal

Commission has set aside \$15,000 each year in 2021 and 2022 for services addressing Latino community needs. Staff recommended approval to support this [program](#) as a pilot, and to review program effectiveness and operational needs at the end of six months. Kristen moved to approve \$25,000 for a 6 month pilot; Anny seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Commissioner and Staff Updates

- Staff reported that the family support program, a joint project of Community In Schools Renton-Tukwila, Lake Washington School District, and the Cities of Kirkland and Redmond has hired its first site coordinator at Redmond Middle School. They are in the process of finalizing an offer for a coordinator at Kamiakin Middle School in Kirkland.
- Agencies receiving additional funding that was approved by the commission in January have been notified and are very appreciative of the additional support.

8. Round Robin

- Discussed future agency presentations. Consider preparing 3 questions for them to address, focusing on any application weaknesses, asking presenters if they have any questions for the commissioners, asking how they work to achieve their mission and how equity plays into that.
- This was Arjun's last meeting. His term is expiring, and he will be moving out of state. We all thank him for his service and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

9. Adjourn

Kristen moved to adjourn; Arjun seconded. Motion approved unanimously.