

- Service Provider Working Group (SPWG) met on August 23 to discuss and identify key needs and funding priorities given the loss of the full allocation of the Dignity Fund this year. Mike Zaugg, Director of the Office of Community Partnerships, was present.
  - \$3million annual allocation of the Dignity Fund was suspended for FY 23-24 due to budget deficit.
  - Due to the lack of anticipated funds coupled with the suspension of funds in FY 22-23, DAS has indicated that to fill gaps, there might be savings and One-time-only (OTO) funds available once the Controller and the Department have resolved the budget.
  - The suspension of the annual allocation for FY 23-24 primarily means that new programs and suggested expansion of existing programs will not be instituted; no existing programs were cut from the budget.
  
- Based on these realities, the needs and funding priorities will be presented to the Dignity Fund Oversight and Advisory Committee in the September meeting. Key needs identified were:
  - Case Management/Intensive Case Management
  - Safe and Reliable Transportation
  - Access-technology training
  - Mental Health (on-site and remote)
  - Language Capacity Building
  - Resources for Continued Hybrid Programming
  - Nutrition Services
  - Home Care
  - Outdoor Programming
  - Housing, with the knowledge the DF does not fund brick and mortar. Just services.
  
- Though it is helpful to understand the needs in the community and discuss the aforementioned list of services, SPWG feels it's also important to evaluate the sustainability of these programs and perhaps focus on making the status quo better in terms of existing services and waitlists, especially not knowing the amount of funding available.