

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES

October 26, 2017 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Human Services Commission was held on Thursday, October 26, 2017, in the Ronald H. Born Auditorium at 170 Otis Street, San Francisco.

MEMBERS PRESENT	SCOTT KAHN, President., President RITA SEMEL GEORGE YAMASAKI, JR.
MEMBER ABSENT	JAMES MCCRAY, JR., Vice President (Excused) PABLO STEWART, M.D (Excused)
OTHERS PRESENT	Trent Rhorer, Executive Director – Human Services Agency Krista Ballard, Interim Secretary – Human Services Commission Chandra Johnson, Director of Communications – Human Services Agency Other department staff and interested citizens
ROLL CALL	President Kahn called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m. noting the Commission was present with the exception of Vice President McCray and Commissioner Stewart who had been excused.
AGENDA	On motion by Commissioner Yamasaki, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the agenda amended as follows: 1. Item VII.E. Request for authorization for the Department of Human Services to purchase and distribute gift cards – continued
MINUTES	On motion by Commissioner Yamasaki, seconded and carried, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the September 28, 2017 regular meeting as circulated.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT	Executive Director Trent Rhorer furnished an update re the State and City's budget processes, and program activities.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Fire Response: Air Quality Health Advisories and North Bay Fire Disaster Response

- HSA participated in the EOC joint information center to develop messaging and citywide disaster response in coordination with the Departments of Emergency Management and Public Health.
- San Francisco issued several public health advisories in response to extremely poor local air quality conditions.
- HSA lead coordination of six clean air respite centers - operational Oct 11-15. Sensitive populations including those with heart disease, respiratory issues, and medically fragile benefit from the respite centers. The general public was encouraged to stay indoors or visit facilities with HVAC systems such as movie theaters or malls, museums, etc.
- HSA coordinated dissemination of air quality advisories and health precaution tips their non-profit providers and programs representing senior centers, skilled nursing facilities, residential care facilities, adult protective services, and home care providers. Meal delivery providers were instructed to do wellness checks on clients and talk to them about air quality, provide the tips and inform them about the indoor facilities that are available.
- An announcement regarding the availability of Disaster CalFresh food assistance benefits for residents in impacted counties will be posted to HSA's website and sent to our community outreach partners. Application assistance is available at the 1440 Harrison service center through November 1.

Internal Communications and Response:

- A call for staff volunteers to deploy and support northern county health and human services agencies was distributed to all staff.
- Deployed a team to help Napa County administer Disaster CalFresh benefits

FEDERAL UPDATES

Affordable Care Act – President Trump's recent actions to undermine ACA implementation, mostly by trying to destabilize insurance markets.

- Administration will stop paying insurers to cover their costs of "cost sharing reductions" (CSRs) as required under the ACA legislation. By removing the federal payments to reimburse insurers, it generally will spur insurers to raise their premiums to recoup the costs. This process also results in higher premium tax credits available to eligible individuals. Impacts will vary state-to-state, but this won't affect California in 2018. Covered California negotiated a new rate structure for 2018 that includes an additional premium increase for silver-level plans only (the second least expensive of the four tiers) as an alternative to broadly raising all premiums.

STATE BILLS SIGNED

SB 282 (Wiener) – CalFresh Employment and Access to Meals

- Bill requires the Department of Social Services to seek a federal waiver that would allow counties participating in CalFresh E&T to offer subsidized employment to ABAWDs and;
- Bill allows us to use CalWORKs dollars to provide subsidized employment for non-custodial parents NCPs of children on CalWORKs. Over 90% of CalWORKs participants are single parents.

AB 236 (Maienschein/Santiago) – CalWORKs Homeless Assistance Program

- Allowing families to receive 16 cumulative days of temporary housing assistance per year (32 days in cases of documented domestic violence). Current law requires assistance to be provided on consecutive days, significantly limiting the usefulness of the benefit.

AB 818 (Burke) – CalWORKs High School Equivalency

- Will ensure that parents in CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work are able to complete their high school diploma or equivalency, as well as a subsequent education or training assignment, within the 24-month time clock. The bill also allows an extension to the 24-month time clock under certain circumstances.

STATE BUDGET

Recently met with City's state lobbyists about funding that has been cut in prior years and any potential risk to further cuts this year. Primarily in CalWORKs, IHSS, and Medi-Cal.

- Working with the legislature on CalWORKs Single Allocation budget methodology
- State is looking at the budgeting methodology for Medi-Cal administrative funding. More about this will be addressed in the January budget.

In child services area, HSA has been working on a solution to the difficulty to find placements for a small percentage of child welfare children that are difficult to place due to severe behavioral or mental health needs. The options are limited and costly, so working with state on options that can be developed through the CDSS and hope to put forward legislation before Governor Brown leaves office in 2018.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

SFBN (CalFresh/Medi-Cal) has recently finished a four day lean process improvement event with the Controller's office. The goal of this process is to find ways to make improvement to our CalFresh carrying customers experience and to revise business processes that create barriers to effective service delivery. From this, several potential projects were identified to reduce the number of inquiries our call center receives and enhance our customer experience.

The City now has four Navigation Centers serving homeless adults. Over the past month the SFBN Outreach Unit has trained the CBOs that run those Centers (Episcopal Community Services, Community Housing Partnership, and St Vincent De Paul) in how to support application assistance for CalFresh and Medi-Cal. The CAAP program taught the CBOs how to support CAAP application assistance during that same training. Currently two SFBN Outreach Worker and a CAAP outreach worker take applications at all four sites. In the first or second quarter of 2018 it is anticipated that two additional Navigation Centers will open which our eligibility workers will also support.

CAAP Health Services is making significant progress in implementing expanded Substance Abuse services funded through ACA Drug Medi-Cal.

- This expansion will enable CAAP clients with substance use issues to easily access treatment through our contractor RAMS onsite at our 1235 Mission Street office, and hopefully move on from there to employment or SSI. During a pilot phase implemented over the last two months, we have already enrolled around 50 people.
- The funding for this pilot is expected to come through Medi-Cal, which will reimburse 90% of the cost of service, requiring only a 10% local match. If we are successful in leveraging this revenue as anticipated, we hope to eventually serve around a hundred clients every month.

OCTOBER 2017
EMPLOYEE OF THE
MONTH

President Kahn announced Medi-Cal San Francisco Benefits Net Eligibility Worker Supervisor Heidi Chu as the October 2017 Employee of the Month. Heidi was recognized for her positive nature, willingness to take on new tasks to ensure excellent customer service is always provided, and admirable efforts to engage her staff in activities and fundraising opportunities within the Agency.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion by Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission ratified actions taken by the Executive Director since the September 28, 2017 special meeting in accordance with Commission authorization of October 26, 2017:

1. Submission of requests to encumber funds in the total amount of \$0 for purchase of services or supplies and contingency amounts;
2. Submission of 1 temporary position for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis;
3. Submission of report of 51 temporary appointments made during the period of 9.16.17 thru 10.13.17.

CHAPIN HALL AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

FCS program Analyst Pamela Salsedo presented the request to authorize modifying the existing grant agreement with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

On motion by Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission granted authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with CHAPIN HALL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO to provide Rapid Support & Housing for Families services; during the period October 1, 2017 through September 28, 2018; for an additional amount of \$104,425 plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$623,306.

ARRIBA JUNTOS

Welfare to Work Community Services Manager Christina Iwasaki presented the request to authorize modifying the existing grant agreement with Arriba Juntos.

On motion by Commissioner Yamasaki, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission granted authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with ARRIBA JUNTOS to provide Interrupt, Predict, Organize (IPO) Services; during the period of October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; for an additional amount of \$193,887, plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$499,276.

YOUNG COMMUNITY
DEVELOPERS

Welfare to Work Community Services Manager Christina Iwasaki presented the request to authorize modifying the existing grant agreement with Young Community Developers

On motion by Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission granted authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with YOUNG COMMUNITY DEVELOPERS to provide Interrupt, Predict, Organize (IPO) Services; during the period of October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; for an additional amount of \$172,344, plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$747,278.

MULTIPLE PROVIDERS

Senior Contracts Manager Justin Cham presented the request to authorize modifying the existing grant agreement with multiple providers.

In response to a question from Commissioner Semel regarding whether the Cost of Doing Business (CODB) increase would apply to actions being approved by the Commission today, Executive Director Rhorer confirmed that it would.

On motion by Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission granted authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with multiple providers to apply the Cost of Doing Business (CODB) increase; during the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019; in the additional amount of \$2,781,465.

DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES

Item E withdrawn and continued

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Kahn's call for public comment did not yield a response.

PUBLIC MEETING
ADJOURNED

On motion by Commissioner Yamasaki, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adjourned the meeting in memory of Randy Roebuck who passed away peacefully at home on October 12, 2017 at the age of 66. Commissioner Yamasaki stated, "Randy was a legend in his own time and, in so many ways, he has left a lasting mark here at the Department of Human Services. He had a 30 year career with the Department, and he did everything with enthusiasm, exuberance, and an unfadingly positive nature. He retired a few years ago but maintained his connection with the activities of the Department, particularly those with foster children and foster parents. I really cannot say enough about Randy and, at Randy's Celebration of Life service, Mr. Rhorer gave a comprehensive and touching Eulogy. I just say farewell and thanks, Randy."

President Kahn adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m. in memory of Randy Roebuck.


Krista Ballard, Interim Commission Secretary
Human Services Commission