

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES

July 28, 2022 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Services Commission was held on Thursday, July 28, 2022 in person at the Born auditorium at 170 Otis Street, virtually via Zoom and telephonically pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953(e) and Mayor London Breed's 45th Supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON SCOTT KAHN, President
JAMES MCCRAY, JR., Vice President
RITA SEMEL
SALLY COGHLAN MCDONALD

MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM) DARSHAN SINGH

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON Trent Rhorer – Executive Director
Elizabeth LaBarre – Commission Secretary
Dan Kaplan, Deputy Director – Finance and Administration
Susie Smith, Deputy Director – Policy, Planning & Public Affairs
Joan Miller, Deputy Director – Family & Children's Services

ROLL CALL President Kahn called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. noting the presence of himself and Commissioners McCray, Coghlan McDonald and Semel in person in the Born auditorium. Commissioner Singh had an excused tardy and would be present virtually via Zoom shortly.

AGENDA On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

June 23, 2022 REGUAR MINUTES On motion of Commissioner McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the minutes of the June 23, 2022 Regular Meeting as circulated.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT Executive Director Trent Rhorer furnished an update regarding federal, state and local activities.

FEDERAL

The public health emergency has been formerly extended through September. This affects some of the Agency's programs, which Executive Director Rhorer addresses later in his report.

STATE

In his state budget update, Executive Director Rhorer noted that the state restored funding for eligibility in the CalWORKs Single Allocation and increased grant payments for families from 11% to 21%. 11% of the increase is attributed to a cost of living adjustment (COLA) while the remaining 10% increase is to keep children of CalWORKs families out of deep poverty, defined as 50% of the federal poverty level. For example, a family of three currently receives a monthly cash grant of \$1,149. In October, the monthly

grant amount increases to \$1,264. These are state-funded increases that have no impact on SFHSA's budget.

In Family and Children's Services (FCS), the final budget includes: (i) \$100 million over two years (shared among the 58 counties) for flexible supports for resource families, which is similar to the Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention, and Support (FRRS) funding distributed in prior years, (ii) \$150 million for use over five years for family finding and engagement, and (iii) \$67 million on a one-time basis in 2022-23 for targeted family finding for older youth in foster care.

Title IVE backfill funding (\$600 million over two years) from the Legislative budget package Mr. Rhorer mentioned in his June report did not materialize. During final budget negotiations, the governor determined that it made more sense to fund the aforementioned services statewide instead of backfill funding benefitting 10 counties (including San Francisco). Los Angeles ended up receiving \$300 million over two years. It would have been a windfall for San Francisco, enabling a surplus in the child welfare budget, but the loss of the money does not negatively impact the Agency.

The final budget includes \$30 million to increase the number of Master of Social Work (MSW) slots at public schools of social work. All of SFHSA's protective services workers (PSW) for Family & Children's Services (and Adult Protective Services) have an MSW, so this budget increase will help our pipeline. SFHSA is working with San Francisco State University, where many of our PSWs graduate from, to help prepare students for careers in child welfare.

California is the first state in the nation to expand full scope MediCaid (known in California as Medi-Cal) coverage to individuals 26-49 years of age, regardless of immigration status. This means that full scope Medi-Cal will be available for ages 19 and older, regardless of immigration status. The expansion is effective January 1, 2024, which gives the Agency time to ramp up.

CalFresh embarked on a big push during the COVID pandemic to enroll college students. Funding was approved to continue these efforts with the implementation of AB 1326, the County CalFresh Liaisons for Higher Education bill.

There are a few bills for which we advocated that did not pass including a disaster response bill and a supports for children with higher needs bill. However, overall, the Agency fared very well.

Guaranteed Income (GI) programs have become more prevalent across the country. GI is direct, ongoing cash assistance with no restrictions or conditions and no strings attached, whereas for example cash assistance through CalWORKs has a work or other activity requirement in order to receive the monthly stipend. The state included \$35 million to fund guaranteed income pilot programs (between FY21/FY22 and FY24/25),

prioritizing former foster youth and pregnant women. The state relayed its request for proposals this week. SFHSA has been working on a pilot program for a year, reaching out to possible partners. We will apply for this funding to provide an estimated 200 foster youth with \$1,200 per month for 18 months.

LOCAL

In a partnership with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), SFHSA created a Shelter & Navigation Center Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) to pilot bringing multiple services directly to people experiencing homelessness staying at shelters and Navigation Centers. This first-of-its-kind roving team of City and nonprofit staff leverages state and local funding to assess shelter guests for eligibility for permanent supportive housing, screen for and submit benefits applications for CAAP, CalFresh and Medi-Cal, enroll eligible clients in the State's Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), provide SSI application, advocacy, and legal services, assess and enroll eligible clients in the State's HomeSafe Program, and provide housing navigation and intensive case management for older guests served by Adult Protective Services (APS). Over the last few months, MDT has visited four Navigation sites and assessed over 200 guests for permanent supportive housing, screened over 100 guests for benefits eligibility, enrolled 21 people in HDAP and 9 in HomeSafe. SFHSA and HSH are currently developing an MDT dashboard to track service outcomes provided by all team components.

FINANCE

Mayor Breed signed the City budget yesterday (Wednesday) at noon. SFHSA received several Board of Supervisors ("Board") add backs, largely in the DAS community services and food security areas. The Department of Benefits and Family Support ("BFS") received \$15 million from the Mayor after the budget was approved by the Board to continue the food coordination programming that was built up during the beginning of the COVID response. This is in addition to the \$11 million the Mayor had previously approved to carry forward funding from last year. The impact of the pandemic food support programs, such as food pantries and grocery vouchers, on the community so far this year includes 73,400 households (about 180,000 San Franciscans) served along with 150,000 meals and over 1 million grocery bags. The COVID19 Isolation/Quarantine Food Helpline has served over 2,000 households with ~18,000 bags of groceries and ~37,000 meals. Executive Director Rhorer is really pleased that the Board and Mayor were able to work together to keep the food support programs running for another 12 months.

ADMIN

Facilities

RE Walsh, the SFHSA Facilities Director who has done a fantastic job, often behind the scenes, is leaving the Agency for the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) as the Director of Facilities and Operations for the Salesforce Transbay Terminal. His last day at the Agency is tomorrow (Friday). RE has been a key member of the administration team, as well as

the team that has been working during the pandemic to set up, manage, and now demobilize the shelter-in-place (SIP) and isolation & quarantine (I&Q) hotel system. Mr. Rhorer thanked RE for his hard work and wished him well in his new position. There will be an Acting Facilities Director until RE's replacement is hired.

The Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB)

The first cohort of the mentorship program closes this month with a graduation event this afternoon. The new cohort of mentors/mentees begins in August. The program existed about a decade ago. Executive Director Rhorer is pleased that it has been picked up again as it adds a lot of value for not only mentees who want to learn about manager roles and how to move up in the Agency but also for the mentors.

In September, the Agency will conduct its second annual all staff survey on experiences and perspectives on racial equity issues.

ESSS

SFBN

Medi-Cal

The theme this summer in Medi-Cal is expansion expansion expansion. The asset limit for certain Non-Modified Adjusted Gross Income (non-MAGI) Medi-Cal programs is eliminated as of July 1. The Public Health Emergency (PHE) has been extended to October 13, 2022, which means the waivers remain in place.

CalFresh

At the request of the commissioners during the April meeting, Executive Director Rhorer provided follow-up marketing statistics from CalFresh Awareness Month in May. The extra advertising push targeting college students and immigrants reached over 100,000 unique users. There was an increase in the SFHSA website traffic, with 500 visitors to the CalFresh for Immigrants page and more than 800 visitors to the new Food page.

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) implemented federal policy extending CalFresh benefits to Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees, effective May 21.

The SFHSA CalFresh team submitted its annual Disaster CalFresh Plan to meet the state requirement.

CAAP

As mentioned last month, beginning August 1, Care not Cash will be reinstated for new, unhoused CAAP applicants. Shelter will be offered at MSC South and Next Door. Unhoused CAAP applicants will receive shelter along with a reduced grant as part of the CAAP Benefit Package. Since March 2020, CAAP has not been able to guarantee shelter due to a city-wide lack of availability as a result of pandemic policies. Therefore, a majority of CAAP unhoused clients have received a full grant, which is

normally given to housed-only clients. However, a portion of the CAAP caseload over the last 2 years received a reduced grant if they stayed in Navigation Centers or city-run shelters. That availability was limited and CAAP didn't have control over those beds. Beginning August 1, the dedicated group of beds will grow over the next few months to pre-pandemic levels so that guaranteed shelter can be offered to all CAAP recipients and applicants.

WDD

Trent highlighted two COVID-era programs for our families. The Digital Divide Initiative equipped clients with laptops or tablets paired with digital literacy training and technical support. In total, to-date, 245 clients were served through this initiative. Secondly, financial assistance for families with undocumented residents on CalWORKs who most likely did not receive the federal stimulus money ended July 1. In total, 592 families each received \$2500.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES (FCS)

San Francisco foster youth vaccination rates are above the national average; we are trying to reach the San Francisco average.

Darryl McDaniels of Run DMC visited SFHSA yesterday here in the Born auditorium for a meet and greet session with SF foster youth and non-minor-dependents. Mr. McDaniels ("DMC") was in San Francisco to do fundraisers for several nonprofits and promote his new children's book, "Darryl's Dream." He came a day early to share his own journey in the New York foster care system with SF foster youth. DMC spoke to all of the youth and took photos and signed autographs. Executive Director Rhorer then shared a memory from 1984 when Run DMC's first album was released and he went to Tower Records to buy the cassette, which he still owns today. DMC was incredibly gracious, spending over two hours with San Francisco foster youth and Agency employees.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD

President Kahn announced JOSEPH VILLATORO, Welfare Fraud Investigator, as the July 2022 Employee of the Month. The Commission highlighted Joe's role overseeing security contracts for the shelter-in-place hotels during the pandemic. He was awarded an engraved desk clock, which he graciously accepted as the room full of supporters applauded.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved and ratified actions taken by the Executive Director since the June 23, 2022 Regular Meeting in accordance with Commission authorization of July 28, 2022:

1. Submission of request to encumber funds in the total amount of \$6,992,085 for purchase of services or supplies and contingency amounts.
2. Submission of 18 temporary positions for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 6/11/22 to 7/22/22.

3. Submission of 34 temporary appointments for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 6/11/22 to 7/22/22.

FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ANNUAL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Susie Smith, Deputy Director, Policy, Planning & Public Affairs, presented the FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION ANNUAL STATEMENT OF PURPOSE as required under Charter Section 4.102.2.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the Annual Statement of Purpose for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY

Thea Hillman, Communications Specialist, presented the request to enter into new grant agreement with SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with SELF-HELP FOR THE ELDERLY for the provision of Immigrant Outreach and Engagement Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; in the amount of \$500,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$550,000.

MISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (“MEDA”)

Thea Hillman, Communications Specialist, presented the request to enter into a new grant agreement with MISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (“MEDA”).

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with MISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY for the provision of Immigrant Outreach and Engagement Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025; in the amount of \$1,000,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$1,100,000.

SAN FRANCISCO-MARIN FOOD BANK

Cindy Lin, Food Coordination Manager, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with SAN FRANCISCO-MARIN FOOD BANK.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with SAN FRANCISCO-MARIN FOOD BANK for the provision of supplemental groceries to San Franciscans citywide via Pop-Up Pantries; for the period of July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023; in the amount of \$5,725,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$6,297,500.

DOLORES STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES

Cindy Lin, Food Coordination Manager, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with DOLORES STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES.

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with DOLORES STREET COMMUNITY SERVICES for the provision of Mission Food Hub Operator Services; for the period of August 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023; in the amount of \$2,000,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$2,200,000.

CIVIC EDGE
CONSULTING

Mieko Yeh, Social Work Specialist, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with CIVIC EDGE CONSULTING.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new contract agreement with CIVIC EDGE CONSULTING for the provision of digital Medi-Cal Handbook services; for the period of August 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$179,995, plus a 10% contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$197,995.

FAMILY BUILDERS
BY ADOPTION

Casey Schutte, Program Support Analyst, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with FAMILY BUILDERS BY ADOPTION.

Vice President McCray asked if the 25 families and 12 individual children are served yearly, to which Casey responded yes, and that the goal is to always have a pool of 25 families who are available to adopt youth and yes, the number of youth who achieve legal permanency is an annual goal of 12. Legal permanency is what we strive for but there are also goals around relational permanency. Vice President McCray then asked if we anticipate that the numbers will remain constant over the next few years, to which Casey replied the team is always looking to increase the number of youth with legal permanency.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with FAMILY BUILDERS BY ADOPTION for the provision of Adoption Services; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$2,968,336, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$3,265,169.

HOMELESS
PRENATAL
PROGRAM

Geoffrey Nagaye, Program Support Analyst, presented the request for authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with HOMELESS PRENATAL PROGRAM.

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to modify the existing grant agreement with HOMELESS PRENATAL PROGRAM for the provision of the Bringing Families Home Program; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023; in the additional amount of \$2,047,307, plus a 10% contingency, for a new total grant amount not to exceed \$8,076,828.

LOW INCOME
INVESTMENT FUND

Graham Dobson, Senior Policy Analyst, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with the LOW INCOME INVESTMENT FUND.

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new grant agreement with the LOW INCOME INVESTMENT FUND for the provision of administering the San Francisco Child Care Facilities Fund and Technical Assistance; for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$83,151,138, plus a 10% contingency, for a total grant amount not to exceed \$91,466,252.

BLACKBERRY CO.

Alex Leontiev, Business Engagement Lead, Information Technology, presented the request for a sole source waiver and new contract agreement with BLACKBERRY CO.

On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request for a sole source waiver and to enter into a new contract agreement with BLACKBERRY CO. for the provision of UEM and AtHoc Software; for the period of August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2025; in the amount of \$772,922, plus a 10% contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$850,214.

COMMISSION
TELECONFERENCED
MEETINGS
RESOLUTION

President Kahn presented the request to approve the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings with some members possibly appearing remotely under California government code section 54953(e).

RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS TO ALLOW TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS UNDER CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e)
WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 54953(e) empowers local policy bodies to convene by teleconferencing technology during a proclaimed state of emergency under the State Emergency Services Act so long as certain conditions are met; and
WHEREAS, In March, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a state of emergency in California in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic, and that state of emergency remains in effect; and
WHEREAS, In February 25, 2020, the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco (the “City”) declared a local emergency, and on March 6, 2020 the City’s Health Officer declared a local health emergency, and both those declarations also remain in effect; and
WHEREAS, On March 11 and March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued emergency orders suspending select provisions of local law, including sections of the City Charter, that restrict teleconferencing by members of policy bodies; and
WHEREAS, On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that amends the Brown Act to allow local policy bodies to continue to meet by teleconferencing during a state of emergency without complying with restrictions in State law that would otherwise apply, provided that the policy bodies make certain findings at least once every 30 days; and

WHEREAS, While federal, State, and local health officials emphasize the critical importance of vaccination and consistent mask-wearing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City's Health Officer has issued at least one order (Health Officer Order No. C19-07y, available online at www.sfdph.org/healthorders) and one directive (Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33i, available online at www.sfdph.org/directives) that continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, such as masking, in certain contexts; and WHEREAS, The California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health ("Cal/OSHA") has promulgated Section 3205 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, which requires most employers in

California, including in the City, to train and instruct employees about measures that can decrease the spread of COVID-19, including physical distancing and other social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, Without limiting any requirements under applicable federal, state, or local pandemic-related rules, orders, or directives, the City's Department of Public Health, in coordination with the City's Health Officer, has advised that for group gatherings indoors, such as meetings of boards and commissions, people can increase safety and greatly reduce risks to the health and safety of attendees from COVID-19 by maximizing ventilation, wearing well-fitting masks (as required by Health Officer Order No. C19-07), using physical distancing where the vaccination status of attendees is not known, and considering holding the meeting remotely if feasible, especially for long meetings, with any attendees with unknown vaccination status and where ventilation may not be optimal; and WHEREAS, Consistent with the Mayor's orders and State law, the Human Services Commission met remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic through March 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, On February 10, 2022, the Mayor issued an emergency order that (1) requires decision-making boards and commissions established in the Charter (with the exception of the Board of Supervisors) to hold meetings in person at a physical location where members of the public may attend and provide comment, (2) allows members of those boards and commissions to participate remotely in the in-person meetings for COVID-related health reasons, (3) allows but does not require subcommittees of those boards and commissions to meet in person at a physical location where members of the public may attend and provide comment, and (4) prohibits all other policy bodies (with the exception of the Board of Supervisors and its committees) from meeting in person under any circumstances, with limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Commission began meeting in person consistent with the Mayor's February 10, 2022 order, allowing members to participate by video from a separate location for COVID-related health reasons and providing members of the public an opportunity to observe and provide public comment either in person or remotely; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Human Services Commission finds as follows:

1. As described above, the State of California and the City remain in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, the Human

Services Commission has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

2. As described above, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings of this body in person without allowing certain members of this body to attend remotely would present imminent risks to the health or safety of certain attendees due to COVID-19, and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of those members to meet safely in person; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That for at least the next 30 days the Human Services Commission will hold in-person meetings, with some members possibly appearing remotely. All meetings of the Human Services Commission will provide an opportunity for members of the public to address this body and will otherwise occur in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of parties and the members of the public attending the meeting via teleconferencing; and, be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission Secretary of the Human Services Commission is directed to place a resolution substantially similar to this resolution on the agenda of a future meeting of the Human Services Commission within the next 30 days. If the Human Services Commission does not meet within the next 30 days, the Commission Secretary is directed to place such a resolution on the agenda of the next meeting of the Human Services Commission.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings with some members possibly appearing remotely under California government code section 54953(e).

GENERAL PUBLIC
COMMENT

President Kahn's call for public comment yielded no responses.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kahn adjourned the meeting at 10:45 am.



Elizabeth LaBarre, Commission Secretary
Human Services Commission

Posted: August 15, 2022