

MINUTES

On June 13, 2022, the **Community Development Advisory Committee** met at **1:00PM** City Hall for **Public Hearing** to review of agenda items and consideration of future agenda items. The board will then meet at **1:00pm** on June 15, 2022 for a **Work Session**.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. METTINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT 2020-2023	NO. OF METTINGS ATTENDED
1.Mildred Darton	Y	3	3
2.Jinger White	Y	3	3
3.Glenda Grisham	Y	3	3
4.Amanda Holcomb	Y	3	3
5.Edna Neal	Y	3	3
6.Lilia Escajeda	Y	3	3
7.Margaret Dejong-Shier	Y	3	3

Also, in attendance were:

- Jason Riddlespurger Community Development, Director
- Stefanie Rodarte-Suto Community Development, Assistant Director
- Vanessa Robinson CDBG Program Coordinator, Community Development
- Amy Dixon HMIS Coordinator, Community Development

ITEM 1: Call to Order. Jason Riddlespurger established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the **Community Development Advisory Committee** to order at 1:00 p.m. CDAC Introduction was a briefing on the requirements and role of the CDAC Committee.

ITEM 2: Community Development Director **Jason Riddlespurger** presented a presentation on the Community Development Department. Discussing the various programs assisting the community. Recognizing the three main objectives for these programs and a few key staff members such as; **Amy Dixon** (HMIS COORDINATOR) and **Vanessa Robinson** (CDBG PROGRAM COODINATOR).

ITEM 3: Each agency presented in a five-minute timeframe of their need and blueprint for funding. Presentations went as follows for **Public Service Agencies**;
 Nikki Rainey & Teresa Noack presented on behalf of **Coming Home**, located at 808 S. Buchanan. Provided a comparison chart for 500 clients served in 2019 to 700 in 2022 thus far. Discussion included families are coming in, in large numbers, 43 clients are chronically homeless. This program has an 85% success rate. It takes about four years for a complete recovery from homelessness to take place and be considered a graduate of the program. Request for additional funding would include: additional staffing to increase the graduation rate, additional therapy services, additional skill assistants, creating a 501c3 organization. Questions from committee: why a 501c3 would help?
 Answer: to have better funding allocation.

Vic Allcorn & Chris Flores (incoming director) **Catholic Charities**, located at 1900 N. Spring St. Vic is retiring & introduced replacement, Chris Flores. The program they are asking for funding for, is the Hunger Project. This project focuses on the senior citizen & disabled populations. 80% served are senior citizens & 20% is disabled citizens. 94% of the population served, is low income. 114 of these clients, are homebound. They are asking for \$30,000, as their prior donation of \$15,000 is running out due to the much higher concentration of need in their new area. This funding will help stock the store where clients can 'shop' for groceries they will utilize and will help with transportation for the homebound clientele.
Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Brian Gillespie, manager, **Guyon Saunders Resource Center**, located at 200 S Tyler St. Introduction of the shelter & available services offered to the homeless population. Some services offered: day shelter, including showers, laundry services, & mail setup Asking for funding to continue those services & others due to continual influx of new clients. Amarillo is located in such an area, many clients are left here/come here with absolutely

nothing and need assistance finding resources to get back on their feet and integrate back into society, on various levels.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Donna Soria, **Maverick Club**-located at 1923 S. Lincoln.

Low-income daycare services offered with a focus on late night/overnight working parents, closing at 1am. Serves 350 kids in an 80 year old building. Serves 750 during school year; with after school pickup services. Offers many activities and programs to help keep kids learning throughout the year. Many clients' parents work at Tyson and employer helps pay part of the daycare tuition to allow them to work. They have 45 children in that program.

Requesting funding to expand number of children they can serve.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Kathryn English , **PRPC Food Net**-located at 415 SW 8th Ave.

In connection with the Area on Aging of the Panhandle. Provides food delivery services for the elderly. Provides one box per week to six senior living facilities in Amarillo.

Each box contains five frozen meals to help prevent hunger and works to prevent hunger in the older citizens population. Serves 420 clients in Randall & Potter counties.

Asking for funding to continue their services and to help alleviate the rising cost for food & gas.

One meal at the beginning of the year cost \$5.14 and now costs \$5.31.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Marin Rivas, **PRPC Child Care**, located at 415 SW 8th Ave.

Low-income childcare resource. They pay a percentage of the cost of day care so that the poor working class can go to school and/or work. They serve 2000 children. This program needs funding in order to receive the matched funding from the federal government. If they do not receive funds from this disbursement, the government will reduce the amount of funds they provide for this program. Requesting funding for assistance in the subsidized rate for clients.

Requirements for assistance with their program is: licensed facility & trained professionals

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Brenna Barrett, director, **Salvation Army**, located at **400 S. Harrison St**

Provides many different services for homeless clientele. They have seen influx of families, children, and elderly. They are asking for funding to add to the services that they currently provide; wanting to add: identification recovery, rental assistance, garden supplies

(to teach self-sufficiency, among other educational attributes with growing a garden)

providing childcare for one month for clients, & an increase in staff wages to match local wages.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Emma Rohrs, **We Find in Love**, located at 3107 Plains Blvd.

A brand new Multi-Cultural Community Center, including the Refugee Language Project and mi2 Square Mile. theplaceamarillo.com

Refugee intake percentage has increased dramatically with high concentration in the Afghan population. Refugees come to the center for resource assistance, language classes, and other services offered, which include mentorship and art programs. Translation services are also offered. Requesting funding for: additional art therapy classes, computer programs, and the Storybook program.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Wendy Taylor & Kirk Daniels, **Don Harrington Discovery Center**, located at 1200 Streit Dr

Educational Access-Discover for a Dollar. Aiming to reduce the cost of admission so the lower income families can come to the center and spark curiosity and education while engaged in play. Discover for a Dollar will allow entrance to the center for \$1.00 per person. Blue Star admission will allow First Responders and their families to enter for \$1.00 also. Partnerships with major employers (Bell, Xcel Energy, & others) help with the discounted rate. Requesting funding for \$15,000 to cover four events throughout the year.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Presentations continued for **Neighborhood Improvements**

Vic Allcorn & Chris Flores, **Catholic Charities**

Moved to new location to help with space. Requesting funding of \$24,000 to renovate the floor at their new location on 1900 N Spring St, Amarillo, TX. This building has been renovated, but the gym floor cannot take the weight of a forklift, or much larger shelving, which is a necessity

in the foreseeable future-in order to serve a larger population. They will have to add ¼ sheet metal to go over the flooring to reinforce the weight the current floor can withstand. Cost may be more with inflation.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Jim Womack, **Family Support Services**, located at 2209 SW 7th Ave.

Serves sex traffic victims, domestic violence victims, substance abuse victims, among many others. After a fire destroyed their building, they moved into another location, but the new location needs additional renovation and would include a new roof & restroom renovations. The funding would also be utilized to add additional counseling services and increased office space.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Mustard Seed Recovery Center-no show

Mike Lister, **MAAC (Martial Arts & Activity Center)**, located at 2009 S Mars.

Has owned the Martial Arts & Activity Center for 38 years. Has expanded to four locations. These are daycare facilities with concentration on martial arts. They service apx 400 children during the school year and offer after school pickup for various schools. Requesting funds to expand newest location at 2009 S Mars; needs to enclose a basketball court and add bathrooms to be able to service additional children.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Alexander's BBQ-no show

Kent Hance, **The Commons at St. Anthony's**-located at the corner of Amarillo Blvd and Polk St. Renovating the old St. Anthony's hospital into low-income apartments for 55+ citizens. There will be a total of 128 apartments and all but 8 of those, will be based upon income.

During renovations, the City of Amarillo requested one building with a basement (old surgical center), to be demolished. Additional demolition costs are due to inflation and the need for specialized asbestos abatement. Apx ribbon cutting will be scheduled for Dec 2024.

Requested funds: \$700,000.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Shayla Sotello, **Building Safety** located at 808 S. Buchanan.

Spoke on administrative duties/salaries, demolition, and inspector positions. Requesting funding for continuation of the two current inspectors for the CDBG target area. These inspectors assist with property violations, abandoned houses & junk vehicles. Goals of these inspectors is to create a safer and cleaner community. Shala also went into great detail regarding the requested funding allocation, with concentration on the administrative fees, per the committee's request. The prior Chief & Amy Dixon assisted in answering the committee's questions on said topic. Administrative fees included: office expenses, grant fee, legal fees, office space charges, etc. Requested funding amount: \$200,000; total cost to employ the current two inspectors, is \$195,432.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Greg Johnson, **Emergency Repair Grants** located at 808 S. Buchanan.

Emergency Repair Grant, will assist low income homeowners with repairs that are less than \$12,000. Examples include; roofs, water heaters, gas lines, etc. Asking for \$211,000 to aid these low-income families with these repairs.

Minor Repair Grant, will assist low-income homeowners with repairs that are between \$12,000-\$25,000. Four projects have been completed this year already.

Rehab Support, requesting \$250,000 to assist with the monitoring & processing the applications for the above grants. This amount would be utilized for: two Grant Monitors (staffing) and two inspectors.

Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Jason Riddlespurger, **Community Development CDBG Admin** located at 808 S. Buchanan.

Has a 20% cap, has oversight of programs, includes salaries

Jason Riddlespurger, **HOME Admin** located at 808 S. Buchanan.

Has a 10% cap, includes one staff member

Jason Riddlespurger, **HOME TBRA- Tenant Based Rental Assistance** located at 808 S. Buchanan.

Primary focus on: disabled, elderly, homes with children, & homeless

Alason Moorhead, **Habitat for Humanity**, located at 2700 S Wilson St. Community Housing Development Organization. Builds affordable homes for low-income families with volunteer assistance. Families will be responsible for the mortgage and all other homeowner responsibilities. They will not pay mortgage interest rates. Qualifications include: debt to income ratio, a housing need, existing home conditions, overcrowding. Requesting funding for assistance building one home this year.
Public Comments: No public comments received at this time

Jason Riddlespurger, **CDHO**
One project request for this term. Qualifications include: 30-60% of median income, debt to income ration, overcrowding, a housing need.

ITEM 4: **Public Comments:** All public comments were added to the end of each agency's proposal. There were no additional public comments.

ITEM 5: **Adjournment:** Lilia Escajeda closed out the meeting at 3:35pm and Jason Riddlespurger provided the proposed agenda for the next scheduled CDAC meeting, for work session and recommendations to be held on June 15, 2022 in room 227, at the SIMMS Building, located at 808 S Buchanan St.

Lilia Escajeda, Chairman

Date