

DIGNITY FUND OVERSIGHT AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 18, 2023; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

1650 Mission Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Golden Gate  
Conference Room

Public attendance via Zoom

Minutes

Attending: Marcy Adelman, Allen Cooper, Ramona Davies, Wanda Jung, Martha Knutzen, Diane Lawrence, Sandy Mori, Jennifer Walsh,

Excused: Allen Ng, Vince Crisostomo, Monique Zmuda,

Call to Order: Ms. Jung called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Roll Call: Melissa McGee called roll.

Approval of the Agenda: Members approved the OAC meeting agenda for September 18, 2023

General Public Comment: None

Approval of the Minutes: Members approved the June 17, 2023 meeting minutes.

Service Providers Working Group: Fiona Hinze / Dan Gallagher

Fiona Hinze gave a report about the SWPG Meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> regarding one time only spending funds. Fiona's timeline for hearing staff recommendations on expenditures of one time only funds will be later in the fall (November).

Fiona provided Melissa with the DAS Commission SPWG Report on topic areas for OAC to think about. See attached slides for information.

Fiona recalled Vince Crisostomo suggesting SPWG to consider ranking key needs by priority. Fiona explained SWPG cannot rank key needs at this time without knowing the amount of one time only funds.

Dan added SWPG has a key need for nutrition services. Dan may have ideas for the top 3-4 key needs according to priority, however since one time only funds are unknown, Dan will share these top key needs during the November meeting.

Questions:

Q: Regarding prioritization, it might be helpful to have your presentation cross reference information on the Community Needs Assessment (CNA).

A: We will look at the CNA and try to cross reference as much as we can.

Q: Are you looking at the suggested dollar amounts from what we can expect the allocation to be?

A: Your staff is not able to give the amount of one time only funds. The budget still has to do full accounting of contracts.

#### Presentation on Housing Subsidies Analysis

Linda Choi, from the Human Services Agency Planning Unit provided “DAS Housing Subsidies Analysis Presentation to OAC”. See attached slides for information.

Discussion:

Allen Cooper: Do you interface with Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH)?

Mike Zaugg: There is no client interfacing with HSH. However, if a client is facing trouble, a worker at the community-based organization can refer them.

Allen Cooper: Who else provides subsidies?

Mike Zaugg and Cindy Kauffman: Agencies that provide subsidies include Mayor’s Office of Housing and Community Development (MOHCD) as well as Self-Help for the Elderly (SHE) and Catholic Charities. Additionally, there are groups that have recommendations on how to address affordable housing. These groups include SF Planning Department, MOHCD, HSH, Mayor’s Office on Disability, and DAS.

Allen Cooper: Has there been coordination?

Mike Zaugg: As agencies and providers, we know of each other, however, we are trying to map out better coordination.

Allen Cooper: The lack of coordination has proven wasteful. I think it’s something we should keep focusing on and the Dignity Fund should support it.

Genevieve Herreria: I used to work at HSH, their funding has different eligibility requirements for different programs.

Marcy Adelman: There are disturbing numbers about LGBTQ participation. I am sure you are all struck and talking about it. What have you been thinking about in reduction of staff for LGBTQ clients?

Mike Zaugg: This was a wake-up call. We need to track down a better understanding of how funding amounts go to departments and programs. We see client participation netwide and citywide. Since we share providers, maybe people are being slotted into programs based on demographics. How are we reaching communities? How do we work with providers and structure our contracts to serve communities?

Marcy Adelman: I know it is hard to collect and present that data. I think it will be good to take on that research. I think it would help DAS.

Mike Zaugg: I know where we can ask. I will defer on when I can present. I think just because other programs are handling it, does not mean we will sit back. DAS will still be accountable.

Diane Lawrence: Regarding people with disabilities, we know there is a lot of buckets in the city and there are different eligibility requirements for program placement. Who is falling behind? I hope that the Disability Community Cultural Center will help that. Are there other providers we need to look at to serve the other communities?

Martha Knutzen: Is there data that shows the demographics of people that need services in comparison to client enrollment? It would help us evaluate. The Q foundation has interesting history. They were good at serving the AIDS and LGBTQ community. We would hate to lose that expertise of outreach.

Diane Lawrence: We see reports and we break that data down. It is getting me to wonder if there is any correlation of funding to the city's demographics.

Allen Cooper: 400 (clients served annually according to *DAS Housing Subsidies Analysis Presentation to OAC*) seems like a small number against the overall scheme of what is needed. Does the Mayor's office know how many people get housing and how many people need it? Does anyone in the city have that information?

Rose Johns: Compared to other departments and agencies, DAS has a small amount of clients served for housing subsidies. The best source would be the Aging and Disability CNA. That report pulls in the most information. The Planning Department will have long range planning information such as the plans they are pursuing to provide housing for elders.

Diane Lawrence: We talked about the need for advocacy. It is an education process. Is affordable housing information on the DAS website? - Yes.

Jennifer Walsh: What happens to people who no longer qualify for subsidies?

Linda Choi: During recertification, if there is a change in income, there is a 6-month check-in and a 12-month check-in to make sure income is maintained.

Wanda Jung: There continues to be a need for city departments and CBOs to work together for public outreach. There is a continued gap of education about housing programs. We need to connect with CBOs to coordinate services to our clients. CBOs should work together so there is no gap in services to clients. There also needs to be consistency in administrative practices. It is a strange phenomenon that three CBOs have different calculating methods. You should look into that.

Public Comment: None

Announcements: No Announcements

Adjournment: 4:23 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, November 20, 2023, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.