

Joint Budget Committee

November 4, 2014

1:30pm – 3:00pm

555 S. 10th St. Suite 107

AGENDA

1. Call meeting to order – Leirion Gaylor Baird, Chair
2. Approval of the Minutes
3. Human Services Activity Report – Kit Boesch
4. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Homeless Connect Event
 - B. Keno \$1M Fund
 - C. Other
5. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. The Sudanese Communities 501c3 designations
 - B. Other
6. Reports:
 - A. United Way – Brian Wachman/Robin McDannel
 - B. Region V – C.J. Johnson
 - C. Urban Development – Olga Kanne
 - D. Stronger Safer Neighborhoods – Jon Carlson
7. Next Meeting:

*Regrets only to jryan@lancaster.ne.gov

Human Services Activity Report

October 2014

Submitted by: Kit Boesch, HS Administrator

1. I hope those of you who visited Homeless Connect 2014 were greeted with awe. It's quite an undertaking. Pinnacle Bank Arena opened even better opportunities. It will be there again in 2015. The Arena staff were wonderful to work with. 146 registered as homeless; 119 of the participants as near homeless; and 28 registered as Veterans.
2. I met with Nebraska Wesleyan personnel to discuss increasing class sizes in juvenile justice. I recommended talking to LPD, who has a project currently going on with LPS to recruit police officers; particularly youth of color. I suggested they contact Superintendent Joel to get in front of "career: classes for Seniors.
3. Alternative Response (to child abuse/neglect) has met again. Several of their committees are doing well. Agencies like The Hub or navigators at Community Action are meeting with many youth aging out of the system and directing them to resources. They have put out an incredible directory of available statewide services which I forwarded to HSF and all our committees.
4. El Centro's Super Soccer Tournament was held Oct 19, 2014. Over 60 youth, boys and girls participated. Its purpose was to "engage" parents with their children in a health activity. This office got the medals from Rixstine's (free) and roughly \$500 in give away prizes, free. Ameritas bought all the t-shirts.
5. The New Americans Task Force now has a NEW website. <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/natf/> Justin Kohmetscher was a great help from the City. NATF also held its second Business Tour. It toured four immigrant owned businesses in Lincoln: Emsud's Clothiers (Bosnian), Little Flower Child Care Center (Vietnamese), The Parthenon (Greek), Pan Dulce Bakery (Bolivian), and TMCO. We are getting evaluations in as we speak. Next year, NATF will open both tours to the public. In addition there is talk of a 3rd tour, touring immigrant markets. A special thank you to Lutheran Family Services for use of their 2 vans and great staff. Finally, the NATF is pulling together a "Celebration Committee" to discuss a large celebration in Lincoln around our newest neighbors, immigrants & refugees.
6. Keno HS Prevention Funding is up once again. It appears we will have requests for \$147,893 "continuation" grants/projects.
7. Both the Southern Sudanese Soccer Association and the Sudanese American Community have their 501c3 letters. The latter is now located at 3130 O St, the former still at 27th & Holdrege. There are historical struggles between the two groups. My goal is to get them working together but this may exceed my timeline here at HS. ☺
8. I talked briefly with Steve Hubka. He said the Keno \$1M fund is currently in the city's Idle Fund Pool earning very low interest. They have put out an RFP to manage/invest these funds but he wasn't sure of its status. He promises to do this "for my bucket list" before I leave.

Juvenile Justice Report:

9. The Nebraska Community Aid & Juvenile Justice Conference was held Oct 29-31, 2014 in Lincoln. Thanks to Sara Hoyle, Jenni Ryan and their committee, over 370 participants will hear the “latest information” on areas of truancy, status offenders, diversion, mentoring, gang prevention/intervention, and other evidence based programs.
10. Sara Kliewer, Early Assessment Specialist, continues to receive tickets from both City & County Attorneys. Her report is attached.
11. Ryan Dvorak supervises pre-adjudicated youth and is drafting the Lancaster County prevention plan for gang intervention. Ryan is grant funded through the Nebraska Crime Commission. His reports follow: Pre Adjudication: For the month of October 2014 we have 4 youth on the electronic monitor, with a total of 10 youth served over all since the Program started in July 2014. We are working with the City/County Attorney’s office to include 3 b truancy and ungovernable youth into the PACS program. We continue to make efforts to enhance and improve the program. I have a meeting scheduled with the Lancaster County Separate Juvenile Court in November 2014 as we continue to take suggestions from the court.

Operation Tipping Point: is a collaboration from the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County Human Services and 15 Lincoln Community Youth Programs with the goal of gang prevention. The target group is Middle school youth ages 11-15 years old who are at risk of gang association and /or violence. OTP is in the begging stages or setting up a referral process amongst its stakeholders, this will include case management to help determine progress and collecting data to determine outcomes. On October 29, 2014 the OTP committee along with LPD personnel will listen to Ralph Womack , Operation Peacekeeper, present his program on gang prevention and mentoring. Ralph is here for the Nebraska Juvenile Justice and Community Treatment Conference beginning October 29-31, 2014. The next OTP meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2014.

12. As of today I have 48 days until I retire. Should you decide not to meet in December, this will be our last meeting. The JBC is a very important committee. Human Services in Lincoln depend on A) The cooperation we have in the United Way partnership; B) the oversight and genuine interest in the state on Lincoln/Lancaster County’s safety net; and C) in the genuine concern for the people served by these dollars. At minimum, these dollars need to remain the same amount. But as Lincoln now surpasses a population of over 300,000, know this amount will require an increase. Agencies cannot meet growing needs with decreasing dollars. You are their voice for city/county funds.

To say it has been a pleasure to work with this group would be an understatement. You have taught me patience (ok – I’m not the best student!), stretched my imagination in making ends meet, and have always kept me on my toes with questions and challenges. Thank you.

Early Assessment Specialist Report - (July 1st – September 30th):

10/28/2014
09:57

ASSESSMENT TICKET CASELOAD
07/01/2014 - 09/30/2014

PAGE 1

TOTAL TICKETS - COUNTY: 145
CITY: 48
OTHER: 0

TOTAL: 193

TOTAL INTERVIEWS: 122 From Prior Referral: 0

AVERAGE AGE OF YOUTH REFERRED : 14.02
AVERAGE AGE OF YOUTH INTERVIEWED: 14.39

10/28/2014
09:58

ASSESSMENT CITATION TYPES
FOR REFERRALS 07/01/2014 - 09/30/2014

PAGE 1

3 3rd Degree Assault
3 3rd Degree Sexual Assault
1 3rd Degree Arson
1 Arson
24 Assault
1 Body Art Practitioner
1 Body Art Restrictions
3 Burglary
5 Conceal Merchandise
2 Criminal Mischief
5 Disturbing The Peace
8 Disturbing The Peace by Fighting
1 Domestic Assault 3rd Degree
7 Failure to Comply
3 False Information to Officer
3 False Statement
2 Fireworks restricted discharge
2 In Park After Hours
1 Inhale intoxicating compound (K2)
13 Larceny
1 Larceny-Shoplifting
12 MIP
2 MIP-C
2 Minor smoking tobacco
2 Open Container
1 Possession Controlled Substance
1 Possession Destructive Device
16 Possession Drug Paraphernalia
23 Possession Marijuana
1 Possession Narcotics
1 Public Nudity
1 Resist Arrest
14 Shoplifting
8 Theft
28 Trespassing
2 Unauthorized use of a motor vehicle
4 Unlawful discharge of fireworks
14 Vandalism
7 Theft by shoplifting
1 Possession Illegal Fireworks
1 Destroy Property

JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

November 4, 2014

Attendees: Deb Schorr, County Board , Kerry Eagan, County Board; Doug Emery, City Council; Leirion Gaylor Baird, City Council; Jon Carlson, Mayor's Office; CJ Johnson, Region V; Olga Kanne, Urban Development; Kit Boesch, Human Services; Robin McDannel, United Way; Brian Wachman, United Way; and Jenni Ryan, Human Services

Excused and Absent: Rick Hoppe, Mayor's Office; and Jane Raybould, County Board

Leirion called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed as written.

Activities Report – Kit Boesch:

Kit pointed out a few items on her Activities Report for October:

- #1 references Homeless Connect. 146 registered as homeless; 119 as near homeless; and 28 as Veterans. The first Youth Homeless Connect took place on 11/3 at The Bay.
- #4 references the Super Soccer Tournament. There were over 60 kids who participated and the stands were filled with parents. Ameritas provided t-shirts.
- #5 references NATF's new website. It was designed to be a helpful resource to New Americans. <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/natf/>
- #9 references the Nebraska Community Aid & Juvenile Justice Conference planned by Sara Hoyle, Jenni Ryan, & committee. There were numerous national speakers and over 370 people in attendance. Both Deb Schorr and Jane Raybould welcomed participants.
- #10 references the Early Assessment Specialist's report. Average age of youth is 14.
- #12 references Kit's retirement. She retires Dec 22nd, less than 48 days from now.

NEW BUSINESS:

Keno Round 39 – Kit Boesch:

Last year (Round 38) we did 2-Year Keno grants for the first time. Therefore, most of this year's funding (Round 39) has already been committed, contingent on successful review of how Year 1 funding was used and the availability of funds in Year 2. This year (Round 39) we have \$153,000 available to allocate; \$147,893 of which is committed as Year 2 funds for last year's Keno recipients. That would leave us with only \$5,107 left to allocate as an open grant cycle. Year 1 also included \$87,000 of interest earned on the \$1 Million. We do not have this again for Year 2.

Therefore it is Kit's recommendation that there is no new funding cycle this year. Only Year 1 Reports will be reviewed to secure Year 2 funding. Discussion followed. All agreed. In 2015, the JBC & Keno Advisory Board can re-examine the pros and cons of 2-year funding.

Sudanese Communities receive 501c3 designations – Kit Boesch:

There are two separate Sudanese groups in Lincoln which have now received 501c3 designations; the Sudanese American Community (SAC) and the Sudanese Socio Soccer Association (SSSA). The SAC is unwilling to collaborate with the other group and is made up of those who held a higher socio-economic status in Sudan. They have been working with the Mayor and can be very demanding. The SSSA is more relaxed with a focus on youth and adult programming. We should expect to start seeing these two groups applying for City/County

funding. Currently, Salvation Army has received funding for Sudanese programs and they have done a wonderful job implementing them.

HS Administrator Job Description – Deb Schorr:

Deb shared the Job Description that is in the process of being approved for the position of Human Services Administrator (see attached). The intention is to broaden the scope of this position to include oversight of both General Assistance and Veteran's Services along with a more direct partnership with Aging Services. The Director of GA and Veteran's services will be retiring at the end of next year so this may be a good time to implement this reorganization. The offices would still be located in a variety of locations and Juvenile Justice would still function fairly independently under Sara Hoyle's position as it does now. The announcement should go out next week. They hope to have interviews done the week of Thanksgiving or the 1st week of December. The person hired would then have 1 or 2 weeks transition time to work with Kit.

REPORTS:

United Way, Robin McDannel/Brian Wachman: The campaign is going well; there is some concern that Allied Insurance is downsizing over the next few years. Public schools are up 12% this year. The new grant cycle is coming up for FY 2015-2017. Letters of Intent for new programs will be due the end of November. Applications are due mid-Jan to mid-Feb; then citizen review teams will meet.

Robin, Kit & Jeff Chambers (CCFL) met to discuss what to do with funds set aside for Food Security Data Tracking. There are \$10,000 from JBC & \$10,000 from UW they would like to use towards homelessness assistance. The plan is to give out mini-assistive grants of up to \$300 per family in need, in an effort to keep them out of transitional housing. These grants would be managed by the Rent & Utilities Task Force and monitored using a module of Service Point called Fund Manager. We estimate the ability to work with 60-65 families.

Region V, CJ Johnson: They are preparing for the upcoming legislative session. The Department has essentially been on shut down this past year in terms of initiating anything new in anticipation of a new Governor. They didn't want to leave a committed burden on a new Governor. The Region will be working on getting back the \$5M dollars that was taken out. They will be looking at legislation on child systems, sex offender-community based legislation, and providers looking for rate methodology legislation. Region V questions why the Region (public funds) would be paying for things that should be covered by Medicaid? There are also questions of rate increases, etc.

Urban Development, Olga Kanne: Shared two events that are coming up; Cultural Center Coalition 2nd Annual Luncheon on Nov 12th from 11-1 at El Centro; and a Latino Mixed Media Art Exhibit on Nov 7th from 6-9pm at The Isles.

Stronger Safer Neighborhoods, Jon Carlson: Jon shared about the recent issues they've encountered with properties that have been red tagged and emergency relocations of tenants in response. There is currently no real system in place for those tenants as far as support for what they should do next after their homes are red-tagged and they have to find somewhere else to go. Landlord/Tenant Laws put the burden on the tenant to press charges against landlords. Chances are if a building is red-tagged due to a landlord not keeping up with bills or maintenance then they won't be able to pay any court judgments either. Also, oftentimes the tenants in these situations are low income and unable to pay the cost of pressing charges. The suggestion was

made that perhaps a Housing Navigator role needs to be created for this type of housing issue, similar to what we have for Healthcare.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 9th; 1:30-3:00pm; Human Services Room 107

Respectfully Submitted,
Jenni Ryan
Lancaster County Human Services