



St. Louis Office for Developmental Disability Resources
Minutes of the Program Committee
March 28, 2024

Board Members Present:

Cynthia Mueller, Committee Chairperson
Sherry Wibbenmeyer

Nina North-Murphy

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present:

Shaelene Plank, Executive Director
Nate Head, Director of Agency & Community Relations

Ebony Young, Agency Relations Representative
Rachel Shapiro, Executive Assistant

Guests Present: None

The meeting was called to order by Cynthia Mueller at 4:15 pm.

- FY25 agency funding requests, Nate Head, Director of Agency & Community Relations
 - a. Currently funded renewals
 - i. We received 77 requests to renew projects, for a total of \$6,468,304. Five requested increases to serve more participants. Details are provided in the packet. 14 projects were recommended for reduction based on usage, to which those agencies agreed. 3 projects were not recommended for renewal due to lack of usage and participation.
 - ii. No questions or concerns.
 - b. New Projects
 - i. Our funding priorities were collaborative projects, employment training, or capital requests that enhanced independent living or increased access to a facility or community. We received eighteen requests. Six were not within our priorities and we do not recommend funding for them. Several are for ongoing projects (see packet). Miriam School is asking for capital for county property, which we do not fund. Horizon North is looking to expand its existing support services to include an LCSW; however, we would like support collaboration for this request.
 - ii. We are recommending funding for twelve projects:
 1. Starkloff – asking for \$17K to support 5 residents in their Dream Big program (transition age youth and adults in preparing for successful careers). Seek to bridge gap between school and employment. We support that request.
 2. KVC MO – facility-based respite for residents with autism, ages 7-21. Nice space. They have a van that takes kids to activities. PLB and Children’s Services Fund both fund the home and provide additional oversight. They requested \$99,462.28 to support 15 city residents at 4,560 units (\$21.80 per unit). Staff recommends we fund it at an award similar to what we fund UCP’s respite program. They have 7 city residents ready to be served.
 3. Promise Community Homes – request to repair property at 5955 Jamieson Ave. We helped purchase and rehab this property in 2011. The home is rented out as a DMH Medicaid waiver ISL home to four adults. They need to repair unlevel and eroding concrete and loose railings. Staff toured and saw the need and recommend one-time capital in the amount of \$74,503.
 4. Southside Early Childhood Center – inclusive early childhood center. 40% have a developmental delay or disability. Requesting one-time funding for adaptive equipment and supplies. Includes some staff development costs. Supporting the request ensures

inclusivity and accessibility. Opens the door to future collaborations. They also requested help to cover wages for an early intervention coordinator position and a program director. We are recommending funding of the equipment at \$17,500, but not the two staff positions. Other funders are KIP academy, Youth in Need, and state funding.

5. Lafayette Habilitation – seeks funding for capital improvements for life safety systems – new HVAC and improved flooring, vehicle, and rewiring the existing generator. They are an intermediate care facility not owned and operated by the state of Missouri. They support 33 individuals with developmental disabilities and supporting this request increases the accessibility and safety of the facility and increases community access for residents. Nate shared resources with them for future facility work and vehicle purchases. Staff recommends funding.
6. Navigate STL schools – assists families in navigating the special education system in St. Louis city. They want funding for a platform for messaging and outreach (video campaign with focus on 45-90 second videos). Staff support this. Will increase access to services in school and the community. Will collaborate with partner schools, which could also increase their referrals to our funded services and help us address one of our strategic goals of doing an awareness campaign. Nate will reach out to see if they are working with SEEM (another resource).
7. Artists First – request support with expanding their studio space. Purchasing adjustable tables, upgraded lighting, and custom shelving. We cannot fund structural work since they are in the county but can recommend the purchase of adjustable tables for \$7,200.
8. The Munny – closed captioning software. One-time funding for Gala Pro Live to make it an inclusive and accessible experience. Benefits those with hearing loss and individuals with autism by offering 2nd input stream and filtering out sounds and distinguish what is relevant and not. Request is for set-up fees and a live transcriber. Will relate to them that the app can be used for more than those with hearing loss.
9. Five-Star - senior center. They partner with AADD for support groups. Five-star would like to offer more programing options for those with IDD. Formed new partnerships. Request for general operations to cover cost of activity staff. Proposal needs more development. Need \$2,500 to install automatic restroom doors. We support installation of the doors. The larger amount is on hold until they can explain the first part better.
10. AADD requested a sponsorship for their 34th annual aging with disabilities conference. We approved the 33rd (this May). This is for the 34th. Intend to submit a request every year within our cycle. We support it.
11. Horizon Housing – Requesting half of the pre-development costs for a Tiny Home project in the amount of \$160,425 – Gateway Housing First is partnering with them to create 25-30 tiny homes on the Northern block of Theodosia. 50% of residents will have IDD and 50% will have a mental health diagnosis. Requested the other half of pre-development costs from the Mental Health Board. Total overall project will be \$5 million – they have proposals to the city’s CDA for an ARPA home grant to cover development costs of \$3.25 million. Also submitting \$250K in operating and support services for two years. They are submitting a grant to the Federal Home Bank of Des Moines for \$1.5 million in construction and development costs. Will likely apply for additional funding elsewhere.
12. Horizon Housing – support services. They seek a two-year commitment. They do not anticipate moving anyone in until Dec 2025. We see the need to bring in the LCSW before the first homes are built but do not see the need for others to start 18 months before they are built. We will not pay for peer support. Program support coming from supported living worker. Staff is not sure funding is needed for support services in FY25. Bill Siedhoff sat in on original meeting with Horizon due to his involvement with some housing initiatives. He expressed some concern with the location. There are not many

resources available nearby. Do we want to put a vulnerable population there? Some money is going into the area to bring life to it. We are asking them to come present to our board on April 10th at noon to get a better understanding of this project.

13. The committee reviewed the FY25 funding portfolio based on staff recommendations for new and renewed projects. No big changes across categories. Under agency supports – number served includes 175 individuals directly served to potentially into the thousands due to Muny and Navigate STL

c. **Nina North Murphy moved to recommend agency funding, minus funding for Horizon Housing, to the full board in May. Sherry Wibbenmeyer seconded the motion. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The Program Committee will meet with Horizon Housing on April 10th to specifically discuss their proposed project.**

• Northview Village Nursing Home Closure

a. Senior services Fund and Mental Health Board responded immediately when the Northview Village Nursing Home had a fire. They completed well-checks, followed-up with certain individuals, and ensured some supplies. Ebony has been to several committee meetings. We identified 19 individuals with DD. They are asking us to cover some basic supplies purchased for those individuals who had to leave the nursing home with nothing. Asking for \$1058.36 to reimburse Mental Health Board for items purchased for people with DD. We can take this money out of the emergency fund. Shaelene has all receipts. Includes clothing, basic living needs, toiletries, etc.

b. **Nina North Murphy moved to reimburse the Mental Health Board \$1,058.36 for expenses incurred to assist Northview Village Nursing Home residents with developmental disabilities. Sherry Wibbenmeyer seconded the motion. All voted in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.**

c. The fiscal department will issue the reimbursement and bring it to the board in May.

Call for a motion to adjourn (Cynthia Mueller) – Nina North Murphy moved to adjourn. Sherry Wibbenmeyer seconded the motion. All voted in favor. None opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

DocuSigned by:



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Nina North Murphy, Secretary

May 9, 2024

Date Approved