

ADVOCACY & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

6:00 PM Thursday, August 15, 2024

JP Coughlin Center

625 E. County Road Y, Oshkosh

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

Connie Anderson, Gary Will, Danielle Viau, Michael Will, Tonya Hitz

ABSENT/EXCUSED

Deb Neet, Raina Lyman

STAFF

Tanya Marcoe, Tony Beregszazi, Joe Lougher, Brian Jacobson, Deb Shepro, April Mullins-Datko, Justin McArthur, Jason VanderVelden, Becky Heldt

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Gary Will. A quorum of 5/7 was present.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Connie Anderson with a second by Michael Will to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE 20, 2024, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Michael Will with a second by Connie Anderson to approve the June 20, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. Gary Will abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

2024 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) PROGRESS REPORT

Deb Shepro presented the CSBG progress report summary to the Committee for their review and approval. Deb informed the Committee that we are doing well with our projections/goals and in some cases are exceeding our goals for example in our homeless prevention department we have exceeded our goal of helping low-income families who received financial support to pay their mortgage, we have helped 36 families so far this year and the goal was 20. In the Weatherization department we have exceeded our goal of helping 160 individuals by providing low-income individuals help with improving energy efficiency in their homes by receiving weatherization services, we have helped 173 individuals. There are many other goals that we have exceeded in other departments as well, and there are many goals that we are still working towards achieving in all departments. Overall, we are on track to meet our goals for the 2024 year.

A motion was made by Connie Anderson with a second by Gary Will to approve the 2024 Community Services Block Grant Progress Report as presented. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- a) Agency-wide: 2025 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)- Deb Shepro presented to the Committee the 2025 Community Services Block Grant renewal to the Committee for their review and approval to submit the application. She informed the Committee that the Department of Children and Families is the entity who receives the CSBG funding and distributes it through grants to Wisconsin's 16 local Community Action Agencies. CSBG funding helps to carry out agency wide services and new initiatives, including planning activities, and we are looking to receive about \$356,198.51 in funding.

A motion was made by Connie Anderson with a second by Tonya Hitz to approve submitting the Community Services Block Grant Renewal as presented. Motion carried.

- b) Homeless Prevention: Grants to Housing & Urban Development (HUD)- Becky Heldt presented to the Committee that ADVOCAP is looking for their approval to accept funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care, and the Fox Cities Housing Coalition. The funding will be used for Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, Supportive Services for Coordinated Entry, and the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project. The total funding if awarded equals \$1,320,730.

A motion was made by Connie Anderson with a second by Gary Will to approve accepting funds in the amount of \$1,320,730 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Balance of State Continuum of Care, and the Fox Cities Housing Coalition as presented. Motion carried.

- c) Volunteer Services: Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Grant- Brian Jacobson presented to the Committee a Renewal Grant for Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), to be submitted to AmeriCorps in the amount of \$187,454. The grant would require a 30% match which is provided through state funds, ADVOCAP's Food and Nutrition program and local donations. RSVP volunteers help area agencies to increase their efficiency, effectiveness and program reach, and focus on providing volunteer support for increased nutrition, companionship, and transportation. They also assist area food pantries and provide in school support for elementary age students.

A motion was made by Michael Will with a second by Connie Anderson to approve submitting the AmeriCorps Renewal Grant for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program in the amount of \$187,454 as presented. Motion carried.

- d) Head Start: Office of Head Start Base Grant- April Mullins-Datko presented to the Committee informing them that ADVOCAP is looking to submit Head Start's 2025 Federal Renewal Application grant that is used for program operations and training and technical assistance. She also informed the Committee that ADVOCAP is looking to submit a waiver request from a 20% non-federal share requirement to a 15% non-federal share requirement.

The ADVOCAP Board of Directors' Advocacy and Operations Committee reviewed and approved ADVOCAP Head Start's Federal Renewal Application grant #05CH012448 for 2025 on August 15, 2024.

The ADVOCAP Board of Directors' Advocacy and Operations Committee reviewed and approved ADVOCAP Head Start's request for a waiver from 20% to 15% of the non-federal share requirement to be embedded in the 2025 grant.

ADVOCAP is requesting a non-federal share waiver that would make our responsible portion of in-kind to be \$483,631.

A motion was made by Connie Anderson with a second by Gary Will to approve submitting ADVOCAP's Head Start Federal Renewal Application grant #05CH012448 and Waiver application as presented. Motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS

Tanya Marcoe informed the Committee that Chad Dull will be presenting at the September 5th Board Meeting on Poverty Informed Practices.

- a) Board meeting, September 5, 2024, at the ADVOCAP Office, 19 W. 1st. St., Fond du Lac, held in the First-Floor Activity Room
- b) Committee meetings, October 17, 2024, at the JP Coughlin Center, 625 E. County Rd. Y, Oshkosh, held in Room B

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Gary Will with a second by Connie Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes By: Pam Ziegler