Finance Meeting

April 20, 2018

9 am

Advent House

Attendees:

Doris Witherspoon, Toni Young, Ashita Ghelani, Maurice Atkinson, Katrina Urista, Julie Shaltry, Susan Cancro, Erin Roberts, Jenny Leaf, Gabriel Biber, Maureen Nagy, Matt Stephenson, Liza Rios, Meaghan Redd

**Call To Order**

Meeting called to order at 9:17am

**Application Scoring**

On the ESG ranking tool, Matt plugged in any ranking scores that were brought to the meeting instead of being turned in via email.

Per our standard procedure, ESG uses percentages to allocate funds because HUD has not released the actual awards for the 2018-2019 funds.

The following categories and percentages were approved at the board level on 3/27/2018 for funds awarded by HUD pertaining to HUD ESG 2018-2019.

Emergency Shelters 57%

Prevention 30%

NO allocation for RRH

HMIS 3%

Admin 7%

Outreach 3%

City gets admin and the HMIS portion. The city matches this money with HUD.

The GLHRN-CoC endeavors to distribute available funds in a fair and logical way. Final allocations are a consensus decision with the application ranking reviews as the foundational step of an open process during the Finance meeting.

We will review percentages from last year and adjust accordingly.

One agency asked for significantly more. It’s a competitive process, so its ok to ask for more but ESG is a limited fund usually restricted to basic needs of shelters and limited by the Board allocations determined in advance.

**Application Ranking**

Street *outreach* ranked at 93% and ranked well and they are the only application.

*Prevention* – They each asked for the same amount of money. They get 30% and will divide equally by both agencies.

*Shelters -* 57% of the total budget needs to be divided between the shelters

We reviewed last year’s budget and adjusted percentages from there based off ranking process.

**Discussion**

Based off these scores.

MMRS requested an increase in funding for added case management/supportive services. Some of the activities were considered therapeutic only but are considered effective for recovery. No new staff, increase available staff time. Most of the current funding for case management is thru billable services, not thru grant services. They have a wellness coordinator that MMRS wanted to use some of this money to increase services. She works between the two houses to support clients. She takes them for a work out, nutrition, mindfulness, using a holistic approach to the treatment. There is a community gardens. They are wanting to extend her role, using the additional funds. Currently she is at 25hours. The additional money is for wellness services.

HAVEN HOUSE- East Lansing funding priorities for CDBG changed with no allocations for shelter programs. EL moved away from funding any agencies and are only funding infrastructure. The additional funding ask is due to a funding gap created by East Lansing’s new decisions. The increased amount was requested for staffing and nominal increases in other areas. It will directly impact shelter services. Families are default priority especially fathers with children and families with older boys who currently are not served elsewhere.

The Haven House Board created a policy so that when many families call at the same time, there is a prioritization of who fit these categories then those families that can be served elsewhere becomes the next priority.

EVE – East Lansing created a funding vacuum that has effected many area shelters including EVE. The request by Eve for ESG funds by no means will fill the funding hole for our shelter. We are losing much more than we are asking for at this level. Applying for same as last year, no staff salary increases.

VOA - the East Lansing budget is impactful. The money was allocated to the shelter will hurt. VOA didn’t apply for staffing dollars, and usually you can use the East Lansing money for a lot of things, and get a bit more money back to some infrastructure issues.

Loaves & Fishes - Did not receive East Lansing funding. ESG request stayed at same level. Donations fluctuate.

For next year’s application, the City is proposing performance be a part of application process

**Voting & Motions**

Katrina proposes that we look at the percentage based off last year, and make adjustments.

Doris moves to recommend and approve the percentages same as last year. Susan seconds motion. Discussion.

A few spoke against the motion.

Vote on the motion. Motion did not carry.

Julie put forth a motion - VOA to 20%, Eve, 7%. MMRS 12.5 based off three top scores and last year’s allocations. Loaves Fishes 6%, Child & Family 6%, and Haven House 5.5% as bottom three.

Erin second the motion. Discussion.

Gabriel addressed the practical terms of how a smaller agency is effected by the loss of a few thousand dollars -VOA vs. Haven House. They are very different agencies who serve very different people serving different people. Not sure the balance comes out the same, the impact is much greater for those at the bottom of the list.

Toni speaks against the motion. Thinks we are close but needs to tweak the percentages.

Vote on the motion. Motion did not carry.

Toni makes a motion-VOA 20%, Eve 6.5%, MMRS 12%, GTWY 6.0%, LF 6.5%, HH 6.0 %

Maurice seconds the motion Discussion.

Toni withdraws her motion after discussion.

Julie makes a motion VOA 19%, Eve 6.5%, MMRS 13%, GTWY 5.5%, LF 6.5%, HH 6.5%

Susan seconds motion. Discussion.

Gabriel is trying to look at the gaps between the agencies and how far off they are.

All in favor of Julies motion

ERIN, JENNY, SUSAN, JULIE, LIZA, KATRINA, ASHITA

Opposed: Doris

ABSTENTION: Gabriel

The motion passes.

This will be the finance committee recommendation to the board next Tuesday. Not final, until approved at the Board.

Thanks everyone for their work.

New ideas/ suggestions:

Incorporating a new percentage scale for the portion being considered for the next process.

We need to look at things in the broader perspective of all applicable funding in the community.

Consideration for the scale of an agency and how it affects them.

Consider removing the question on innovation in the application if it isn’t rewarded in the process.

Please get the suggestions at the board meeting. You do not have to be part of the board to be part of the discussion but you do need to be part of the board to vote.

**Announcements**

MSHDA NOFA came out. Please review. MSHDA has changed a few things. When turning in MSHDA FSR Financial status report, MSHDA wants a copy of your general ledger. A report from your system, they want to see any expenses on that report that you are charging to their grant. That’s proof of payment.

Erin leaving Eve May 31 to move to working at the State level for victims of domestic abuse.

Meeting adjourned at 11:11am.