



King County

Community Services Division

Department of Community and Human Services

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**Regional Human Services Citizen Oversight Board (RHSCOB) and
Veterans Citizen Oversight Board (VCOB)
Joint Levy Oversight Board
Meeting Summary
December 14, 2016, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm
YWCA Passage Point, 15900 227th Ave SE
Issaquah, WA 98027**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by VCOB Chair Francisco Ivarra at 10:28am.

Roll Call

Regional Human Services Citizen Oversight Board (RHSCOB) Members Present: David Ramsay-Co-Chair, Gary Haines, and Chad Buechler.

RHSCOB Members Excused/Absent: Marilyn Cooks, John Forsyth, Lynette Jordan and Kate Slaminko-Co Chair.

Veterans Citizen Oversight Board (VCOB) Members Present: Francisco Ivarra-Chair, Elbert Reed-Vice-Chair, Sterling Leibenguth, Gary Cashman and Julia Sheriden.

VCOB Members Excused/Absent: Mary Kay Lewis, Chris Porter, Leon Richardson, and Curtis Thompson.

King County Staff Present: Laird Redway, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); April Yee (DCHS); Jon Hoskins (DCHS); Noa Kay (DCHS); Sam Ezeonwu (DCHS).

Guests: Frenchie Loveheart, Sasha Gray, Donald Burnett, Holly Cristina, Mike Wong, Storm Wilder, Marissa Fitzgerald, Dante Pollard and Keshia Johnson.

Site Overview and Tour

Donald Burnett and Keshia Johnson of YWCA Passage Point gave staff a tour of the facilities, which has 46 units of supportive housing for formerly incarcerated parents working towards self-sufficiency, stability, and, when appropriate, family reunification with their children. Mr. Burnett emphasized the importance of restorative justice, which emphasizes accountability and making amends. In addition, he shared that the program currently has a funding challenge of \$120,000 per year to provide shuttle transportation for residents to access to downtown Seattle for appointments; and that there is a strong need for additional funding for “aftercare support: - ongoing support for clients who move out of Passage Point – to help them maintain their success during the transition. YWCA Passage Point currently receives \$415,000 in Human Services Levy funds annually.



Sasha Gray, a graduate of Passage Point, shared her story of incarceration and 19 felony charges, and how through the support of Passage Point, she gained employment and custody of her children post-release. She also shared a recent success of obtaining a lease with her section 8 voucher after 86 rejected rental applications and spending more than \$1,000 in credit score applications.

Review of Meeting Summaries

The following meeting summary was approved as written:

- November 17, 2016 VCOB.

The following meeting summaries could not be approved due to lack of RHSCOB quorum:

- October 26, 2016 RHSCOB.

Approval of the RHSCOB meeting summary was tabled for the January Joint VCOB/RHSCOB meeting.

Board Operating Procedures

Elbert Reed, VCOB Vice-Chair, presented a telecommuting policy to include in board operating procedures. Board members suggested the following changes to the proposed telecommuting policy (changes **highlighted**):

- Board members may participate in board meetings via telephone a maximum of **40%** of all meetings per calendar year.
 - The change from 60% to 40% was based on the Board members intent to convey the importance of meeting face to face as the primary option to continue strong connection. – tweak as you see fit, April, but you get the gist.
- Notify levy staff **no later than two days** prior to the meeting that they will be doing so.
 - Board members added a specific time constraint to convey the importance of being deliberate about requesting the option to telecommute and to allow Levy staff time to assemble the needed technology.

Because the telecommuting agreement needs to be approved by both boards, due to a lack of RHSCOB quorum, they were unable to approve the policy. The boards tabled approval until the January joint board VCOB/RHSCOB meeting.

2017 Board Work Plan

April Yee, Assistant Levy Coordinator, presented a draft 2017 board work plan. She reviewed the expectations that levy staff have of the boards. Add some more here about those expectations.... Due to the frequent need for feedback on levy renewal-related matters, the boards will need to meet jointly nine months out of the year.

Co-Chair Ramsay and Chairman Ivarra led a discussion on how to meet in the remaining three months of the year (May, August and September). The boards agreed to meet separately on those months. The VCOB approved the 2017 board work plan with these changes. Ms. Yee will send the boards a calendar of confirmed 2017 board meetings dates and locations within a week of the meeting. She will also include the final draft of the 2017 work plan on the agenda for the January joint meeting since only three members of the RHSCOB were in attendance.

Presentation: 2016 Veterans and Human Services (VHS) Levy Mid-Year Report

Noa Kay, Performance Measurement and Evaluation staff, presented the Performance Update of the 2016 VHS Levy Mid-Year Report, which documents performance from January through June of 2016:

- The levy served a total of 25,355 individuals (duplicated) across its four strategies.
- The levy served a total of 4,594 veterans and their families (duplicated).
- Across all 42 levy activities, which totals to 80 performance measures, 70 measures are at or above 45% of their annual performance targets and 10 measures are below 45% of their annual performance targets.
- One program that is below 45% of their target is Veterans Court (1.5.C). Ms. Kay shared that program managers are facilitating conversations to expand eligibility criteria and using a new tool to enhance client identification to be able to increase enrollments.

Chairman Ivarra requested for a demographic breakdown of veterans the levy served by service era, race and gender. Ms. Kay may be able to provide this information for the 2016 Annual Report by specific strategies that serve veterans.

Sam Ezeonwu, Business and Finance Officer, presented the Financial Update of the 2016 VHS Levy Mid-Year Report:

- The financial update includes year-to-date expenditures through June 30 and August 31 due to the post quarter invoicing process. Agencies that deliver levy services submit invoices at the close of each quarter (late June or early July). Therefore, expenditures for second quarter 2016 oftentimes do not register until the month of August.

Fiscal Update

Sam Ezeonwu provided an update of 2016 levy expenditures through third quarter with year-to-date expenditures summarized by all four levy activities for the end of June, August and September.

- Board members asked about the decrease in expenditures for Strategy 1: Supporting veterans and their families to build stable lives and strong relationships. Mr. Ezeonwu explained that in general veterans' financial assistance tends to increase during the summer but decreases during the fall.
- Board members asked Mr. Ezeonwu's thoughts on 2016 year-end expenditures for the levy. Mr. Ezeonwu estimated that the levy should expend in the range of mid to high 90 percent.

Staff Report

Laird Redway, Levy Coordinator, reported that Linda Smith resigned as Executive at-large RHSCOB appointee effective November 17. On December 6, Gary Cashman was confirmed by the Health, Housing and Human Services (HHHS) Committee of the Metropolitan King County Council as an Executive at-large member of VCOB. Also on December 6, at the HHHS meeting, Elbert Reed presented brief remarks on the 2015 VHSL Annual Report presentation.

Ms. Redway shared on behalf of Leo Flor, Levy Renewal Manager, that the Council motion response reports are being finalized for transmittal to the County Executive and County Council.

Ms. Yee expressed thanks to board members who gave their feedback on the report that analyzed the levy boards' current structure and explored the possibility of changes to the board structure with a renewed levy.

Ms. Redway shared an updated version of the levy infographic summarizing cumulative data on the current levy (2012-2015). Ms. Yee pointed out changes on pages 2, 3 and 4, which provided clarifying explanations and more accurate data than the previous data.

Ms. Redway gave a summary of 2016 levy financial re-allocations.

2016 Unspent funds available from:

Program	Human Services Levy	Veterans Levy	Total Amount	
2.5A. Forensic Assertive Community Treatment Program (FACT)/Intensive Case Management	\$2,966	\$1,333	\$4,299	
2.5.B. Forensic Intensive Supportive Housing Program (FISH)	\$11,200	\$4,800	\$16,000	
Total	\$14,166	\$6,133	\$20,299	

2016 Unspent funds reallocated to:

Program	Human Services Levy	Veterans Levy	Total Amount	Use
4.5.A Crisis Clinic, 2-1-1	\$10,149.50		\$10,149.50	Towards operating costs.
2.1.C Mobile Medical Van	\$4,016.50	\$6,133	\$10,149.50	Towards one-time motel bed nights for patients in need of temporary medical respite and training materials for MDs, RNs and SWs.
Total	\$14,166	\$6,133	\$20,299	

Ms. Redway shared an updated implementation plan for:

- 4.1.B Healthy Start
 - Expand eligibility for parent age beyond 22 years-old due to the regional decrease in teenage pregnancy.
 - Board members suggested that the program be expanded to south King County especially with the changing concentration of poverty. Laird will convey that feedback to the Healthy Start program managers for consideration.

- 2.6.D HERO Veterans Internship/Fellowship Program
 - Extend funding through 2017-2018 for a total of \$200,000 levy dollars. The dollars would pay wages for 16 Fellowship positions in 2017 and 16 Fellowship positions in 2018.
 - Board members advised removing the word “internship” from the title due to the implication that the veteran would be asked to do menial tasks that do not align with their past experiences.

Ms. Redway prompted that board leadership selections for chairs and co/vice-chairs will take place at the January 2017 Joint Board meeting. She encouraged everyone to consider this before the next meeting.

Chairs' Report

Francisco Ivarra shared about the December 8 opening of the William J. Wood Veterans House in Federal Way, a supportive housing facility for homeless veterans. Mr. Wood was a strong advocate of the levy and a board chair for many years.

David Ramsay expressed interest in further thought-provoking, renewal-based discussions led by Leo Flor in 2017.

Old Business

The VCOB decided upon the use of VHS Levy Citizen Oversight Board pins. Pins shall be given to current and past board members for their service.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

Frenchie Loveheart, a Vet Corps Navigator at Antioch University, shared that he submitted his application for VCOB membership. He expressed an interest in representing and advocating for veterans interests. April and Laird will follow-up with Mr. Loveheart after the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31pm.