

Maricopa County Community Services Commission
Monday, January 25, 2021 @ 6PM
234 N Central Ave. #3000 Phoenix AZ 85004
The Advisory Tri-Partite Board of the Maricopa County Community Action Agency

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT		
Public Sector	Private Sector	Consumer Representative
	Jayson Matthews Valley of the Sun United Way	Jessica Gonzalez Low-Income Representative
	Bonnie Temme Salt River Project	Pam DiPietro Low-Income Representative
	Adonis Deniz Jr. Mercy Care	
	Lauriane Hanson Equality Health	
MEMBERS ABSENT		
Public Sector	Private Sector	Consumer Representative
GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT		
Guests	Staff	
Natalia Ronceria Ceballos - VSUW	Sandra Mendez, Community Services Assistant Director	
	Norma Gallegos, CS Eviction Prevention Prog. Coordinator	
	Cathy Chiang, CS Community Action Program Manager	
	Nayeli Martinez, Community Services Commission Liaison	

1. Call to Order

Vice Chairperson, Jessica Gonzalez, called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Nayeli Martinez conducted roll call. Six (6) of the six (6) seated Commission members were present. A quorum was established.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was led by Vice Chairperson, Jessica Gonzalez.

4. CAA Report

Dashboard Indicators (DI) Report

Ms. Sandra Mendez provided an update on the current expenditures for the Utility and Rental assistance programs as of January 6, 2021. A current report demonstrating expenditures through January 25, 2021 will be distributed to Board Members on January 26, 2021.

Ms. Mendez noted that 57% of time has elapsed in the current contract year and all agencies are expending funds rapidly and are on track to fully expend current allocations. Ms. Mendez highlighted that the CARES Act funding for rental assistance and CARES Act funding for utility assistance have been fully expended at 99.98%. In late December 2020, Maricopa County Human Services Department received additional CARES Act funding to complete applications that were pending assistance during the week the program fully depleted funding. Additional CARES Act

Rental and Utility funds as of January 25, 2021 are expended at 52.73%. Ms. Mendez clarified that MCHSD runs 12-month programs and must ensure that all agencies allocated funding from LIHEAP, CSBG and STCS/TANF to provide services all year long. Mid-year amendment funding was received for LIHEAP, CSBG and STCS/TANF in January 2021 and the additional funding explains the variance in expenditure patterns.

Ms. Mendez also shared that MCHSD successfully finalized a contract with the Arizona Public Service utility company to provide utility assistance to households. MCHSD received \$500,000.00 and as of January 25, 2021 10.11% is expended. All Commission Board Members received a copy of the Dashboard Indicator Report electronically.

Sandra added that MCHSD is anticipating additional funding to be allocated from the second COVID Relief and Consolidated Appropriations Act. Ms. Mendez estimated that MCHSD would receive \$38 Million in funding for rental and utility assistance. A program policy is under development and the anticipated launch is March 1, 2021. MCHSD and other state agencies/programs, are working together to coordinate services as much as possible. A primary concern is to ensure benefit levels are constant throughout Arizona, regardless of the Community Action Agency that assists a client.

Commission Board Vacancies Update

Commission Liaison, Nayeli Martinez, announced that the Membership Nomination Subcommittee will be meeting in February 2021 to consider nominees to fill the vacancies in the Public Sector. Ms. Martinez also shared that the recruitment applications and instructions are up to date and are located on the Community Services website (<https://www.maricopa.gov/3791/Community-Services-Commission>)

Ms. Martinez also highlighted that Ms. Pam DiPietro submitted her Intent to Continue Service Form. If approved, Pam will continue to be the Consumer Sector Representative for the North region through September 2021.

Community Needs Assessment (CNA) Update and Commission Board Member Focus Group Session

Maricopa County Human Services Department partnered with Valley of the Sun United Way to conduct the Community Needs Assessment as required by the CSBG Organizational Standards. Jayson Matthews and Natalia Ronceria Ceballos updated board members on the status of the Focus Groups that VSUW is conducting with the Maricopa County population in the MCHSD service areas. Two focus groups in the Southwest and North region are scheduled for the end of January 2021.

Ms. Natalia led the focus group session with the Commission Board members, all board members received a list of focus group questions to consider prior to the meeting. Topics of discussion included Housing and Homelessness, Education, Health, Workforce Development and Employment. Feedback from the Commission Board members will be included in the final Community Needs Assessment report.

5. Action Items

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2020.**
Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for November 16, 2020 was made by Jayson Matthews. Ms. Lauriane Hanson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- **Approval of Intent to Continue Service Form for Pam DiPietro**
Motion to approve Lauriane Hanson's Intent to Continue Service Form was made by Lauriane Hanson. Mr. Jayson Matthews seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- **Approval of the removal of Councilman Ricardo Vital**
Motion to approve the removal of Councilman Ricardo Vital was made by Bonnie Temme. Mr. Jayson Matthews seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
- **Approval of the removal of Councilman John Carnero**
Motion to approve the removal of Councilman John Carnero was made by Bonnie Temme. Ms. Lauriane Hanson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

- **Approval of the removal of Councilman Roland Winters**

Motion to approve the removal of Councilman Roland Winters was made by Bonnie Temme. Ms. Lauriane Hanson seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Call to Public

- **Commissioner Member Updates**

Ms. Sandra Mendez announced that Ms. Nayeli Martinez, Commission Board Liaison, will be leaving Maricopa County at the end of February 2021. Ms. Norma Peterson will be supporting the role until the position is filled.

7. Adjournment

Chairman, Jayson Matthews adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM

**Next Meeting of the Maricopa County Community Services Commission
Monday, March 22, 2021. Location is yet to be decided depending on ongoing COVID-19 situation.**