

# MINUTES

## ASSET & Joint Funders Meeting

January 18, 2018

5:00 pm

City Church

The Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team (ASSET) was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Matt Soderstrum at City Church, 2400 Oakwood Road, Ames, Iowa with the following members present: Eric Adelmund, Seth Carter, Sue Draper, Evonne Fitzgerald, Tim Gartin, John Haila, Keith Hobson, Tony Hogan, Tasheik Kerr, Jean Kresse, Tim Lubinus, Lisa McCoy, Judy Meierkord, Dave Morris, Craig Ogilvie, Lauris Olson, Brian Phillips, Rick Sanders, Deb Schildroth, Jen Schill, Karla Webb, and Kirk Youngberg. Also present: Gloria Symons, and Josie Stahlin, and Kimberly Stephens.

### WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions took place.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 ASSET & JOINT FUNDERS MINUTES** – Moved by Lubinus and seconded by Schill to approve the September 14, 2017 ASSET & Joint Funders minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 7, 2017 ASSET MINUTES** – Moved by Fitzgerald and seconded by Hogan to approve the December 7, 2017 ASSET minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – A balance of \$4,546.18 was reported.

**COMMENTS ON 18/19 FUNDING PROCESS** – Mr. Soderstrum asked the group for comments regarding the process. Mr. Ogilvie said he thinks it would be of value to think through a better way of utilizing all CICS dollars that are available. He said agencies need to plan raises and increases into their future budgets, so he believes it would be of benefit to allocate all available funds. He calculated about \$60,000 still available and would like to see those funds utilized. Ms. Webb said those figures were based on history and how they are on track to use funding. She said the majority of the funding involved is for “fee for service” services. So even for the projected services, those are projected high with the hope funds can be utilized. She said the approach taken this year was not to give an increase across the board, but to consider the services. Ms. Fitzgerald asked how regional funding is determined. Ms. Webb said many of the guidelines are set by the state.

Mr. Ogilvie said some agencies have a couple weeks of operating reserves, and some agencies have a year and a half of operating reserves. He said there may be good reasons for a lot of reserve, but wonders about having discussions with agencies about a target range. A natural response to tighter budgets is to increase reserves, but it could mean that citizens of the county are not being served by the funding. Mr. Soderstrum said if they have significant reserves it would be helpful to know if they are planning on moving, adding staff, etc. Mr. Ogilvie said he is just hoping the funds could be utilized to help citizens now.

Mr. Youngberg said he was pleased with the process. Mr. Adelmund said it was eye opening to experience the process for the first time. Ms. Fitzgerald said she was very pleased how it ended up and

how the programs were funded. Ms. Hertz said with the large number of increased requests it was difficult to recommend how ASSET can best fund programs.

Ms. Kresse thanked the volunteers, and said is pleased with how the process worked this year. She told the group that the Education panel saw an increase in requests of \$315,000 for the over 40 programs. \$288,000 increase came from 9 programs. One new agency within the panel (All Aboard for Kids) this year received funding. The work team is recommending \$1,205,622. She reviewed the funder totals for the education panel. She said City, County, and UWSC were able to bring an increase of 5%.

Ms. Schildroth said the Income panel includes daycare, housing, and transportation. The overall increase in requests was \$225,821. She said the ASSET team is recommending funding of almost \$ 1.7 million in the Income panel.

Mr. Phillips said an additional \$219,404 was requested in the Health panel. Three programs with biggest changes are: ARC active lifestyles, adult day center, and MICA dental clinic. The recommendations add up to almost \$1.7 million. Mr. Ogilvie asked about the health panel, saying that it went up about 10% total. Ms. Kresse said it has a higher increase because of CICS funding.

**RECONCILIATION OF 18/19 ASSET FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS** – Mr. Soderstrum told the group after approval of the ASSET recommendation, each funder must consider the recommendations individually.

Moved by Hertz and seconded by Lubinus to approve the recommendations for 2018/19 ASSET funding. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **REPORTS -**

**Joint Funders** – Ms. Webb said Ms. Eaton wasn't able to attend. She thanked the volunteers for their work. Mr. Sanders thanked the volunteers for their work through this special process with volunteers and funders coming together. He said the time and energy put in to benefit the community in the best ways is much appreciated. Ms. Olson said she has been through 12 years of the process, and knows the volunteers put in much work. Mr. Haila said he's appreciative of the process and the work involved. He said many of the requests were fully funded and he's imagining all of the families benefiting from this funding. He said he appreciates Mr. Ogilvie's comments. Mr. Gartin said the way to measure the city and county efforts is by how we take care of the least of these. He said the volunteers are learning a ton as well as working for the community and with the agencies who are making a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable. He said the valuable experience gained here should be taken somewhere else so everyone can continue to make a difference.

Mr. Hogan said as a volunteer, he gives credit to the administrative team who keeps everything on track. Mr. Hobson said the other outside time the administrative team puts in is very valuable. He also said the questions and opportunities to engage with the agencies has been very beneficial. Ms. Kresse said of the United Way volunteers, two must be on the board but all five also serve on the allocations committee, who meet monthly. She also thanked the agencies who provide essential services to the community. Mr. Carter said he appreciates the student government group that visited agencies and completed liaison reports. He said they are very grateful they have a voice in the community.

**Administrative Team** – Ms. Schildroth said there is a request by an agency for the current fiscal year regarding services that are typically funded by Medicaid, but portions of the service are not. An example of this would be therapy services. Medicaid is paying for face to face time with the client, but not for time spent doing other tasks such as speaking with teachers or preparing for the session. She said a committee will be looking at this request and determine how to best proceed. She said many agencies are trying to work on staying afloat and providing services so the team is concerned with how ASSET can best assist.

**Volunteers** – no report.

**Agencies/ Panel Representatives** – Ms. Symons thanked the group and said the agencies couldn't do it without ASSET. Ms. Peterson said she appreciates the effort and time toward the agencies so needs of the community can be met.

**INFORMATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Funding Recommendations Posted: January 19, 2018
- B. Next Administrative Team Meeting: February 7, 2018 at United Way (12:15 p.m.)
- C. Next ASSET Meeting: February 15, 2018 at City Church (5:00 p.m.)
- D. Funding Letters sent: February 28, 2018

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Olson and seconded by Carter to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.