

**ASSET & Joint Funders Meeting Minutes**  
**CityChurch, 2400 Oakwood Road**  
**September 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.**

Present: Jane Acker, Latifah Faisal, Bryce Garman, Ed Gillott, Linda Hagedorn, Mayor John Haila, Becky Harker, Lisa Heddens, Linda Murken, Rachel Junck, Sandra King, Jean Kresse, Deb Schildroth, Anita Rollins, Mike Lazere, Anneke Mundel, Ron Smith, Nicholas Tansey, Ashley Thompson, Jonathan Wickert, Sarah Schroeder (5:15 p.m.), Scott Dryer (5:30 p.m.), and Lois Vidimos

CALL TO ORDER: Ashley Thompson (Past Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS: Thompson welcomed all, and introductions were made.

TREASURER'S REPORT: In the absence of Treasurer Schill, Schildroth provided the Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$1,643.29. The FY 2022-23 general fund check in the amount of \$600 has still not been received from ISU Student Government. Vidimos reported that she had emailed them a reminder.

PUBLIC FORUM: There was no one present for public forum.

There was not quorum at the start of the meeting, therefore, Past Chair Thompson moved onto the Reports. Each Funder went over their priorities.

REPORTS:

Joint Funders

City of Ames: Mayor John Haila expressed his appreciation for ASSET volunteers and all the good work that has come from this collaboration. He reaffirmed the City's priorities and explained that funding comes from the 40% local option sales tax. These funds also fund community betterment and parks and recreation. The budget amounts for FY24 have not been determined yet.

Story County: Board Chair Latifah Faisal expressed appreciation for the work of all the volunteers.

Iowa State Student Government: Garman stated that the ISU Student Government priorities added Mental Health Services. Other priorities stayed the same with a few additional bullet points or priority change of bullet points.

United Way of Story County: Board Chair Wickert spoke on the United Way of Story County priorities and commented on the following:

Campaign Kickoff is set for Friday, September 16th @ 8 a.m. at Cornbred – please come if you are able. We do need the RSVP for breakfast, so please call or email Jean Kresse. Priorities for United Way of Story County did not change from last year:

- Education focus – Children enter school developmentally on track and children exit 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading at or above grade level (both are equal in priority) and learners develop the skills needed for life & career
- Financial Stability – Access to basic needs; increasing income; and increasing financial capability
- Health – Children, youth and adults are emotionally/behaviorally and social well; access to healthy food; and physically well

The United Way board of directors appreciates the work of the agencies to provide services to individuals and families in our community. He stressed the importance of data collection, accountability, and attention to the ASSET process. He stated that United Way's constituents are the donors, and we take pride in assuring them that their gifts are invested in programs that not only make an impact, but that address the needs. He thanked the ASSET Volunteers for the work they have done and will be doing.

Schildroth went over the City of Ames' priorities explaining an emphasis on low to moderate income in all categories and services. She also thanked the volunteers for their time and mentioned upcoming meetings which they'll be part of.

King went through Story County's priorities covering new priorities and notes added:

- Under Services addressing safety and well-being needs – an additional item was added: Programs and services that empower, eliminate barriers from the path of, and support individuals and families.
- Under Services promoting self-sufficiency – the following was added at the end of the second bullet: "...as well as training that enhances an agency's ability to provide quality services to an increasingly diverse County population."
- Under NOTES for Agencies and Volunteers –a third note was added: The Board of Supervisors is interested in knowing how agencies are embedding equity into programs. Annual reports should include implementation and data collection methods, particularly those designed to show the effectiveness of new programs.

Mayor Haila asked how the County defines equity? King answered fairness and added it includes the recognition that individuals and groups start from different places and that race or gender should not determine their outcome in life. Others added, all should have opportunity to achieve, and a lengthy discussion ensued. Many in attendance expressed their opinion or definition. It was agreed that each agency/group is at a different point in determining equity. Some are just starting the discussion, and some are in the process of getting training. Kresse stated they will be giving scholarships to for The Building Inclusive Organizations training on November 1. This is a topic which volunteers can discuss with their agencies for the liaison reports. King added that agencies could share information on equity during the agency's annual report to the Board of Supervisors and noted this is separate from what ASSET requires.

Quorum was met at 5:30 p.m. so Past Chair Thompson returned to action item APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Heddens moved approval of the January 20, 2022, Joint Funders Meeting Minutes and Junck seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Lazere asked that the wording of 'for 14-18 year-olds' under The Community Academy on page 3 of the August 11, 2022, ASSET Board Meeting Minutes, be changed to 'kindergarten to 18-year-olds.' Harken asked for her name to be added as being present for the meeting. King asked that Nikki Garman be corrected to Nikki Fischer. Harken moved approval of the minutes with noted changes and Lazere seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### REPORTS (CONTINUED)

##### Administrative Team

Mayor Haila asked for an update on The Bridge Home (TBH) and its transitional living program (TLP) and/or supportive housing services. Schildroth explained that the ASSET Funder staff (King, Kresse, and Schildroth) have been meeting with TBH (Jodi Stumbo and her team) monthly. At the August 11, 2022 ASSET Board meeting, Stumbo stated that TBH is no longer providing TLP. Service codes and definitions for supportive housing vs. transitional housing were discussed. All three Funders, City, County and United Way (ISU Government is not a current Funder for

TBH) have agreed to hold their claims that include this service until this is resolved. Comments followed from Funders and Volunteers:

- Funders may not be tolerant of going through the same scenario as with the shelter conversations
- Misuse of ASSET process – are they worthy of our trust? Are they just using ASSET to advance their own goals?
- Breach of contract.
- Breach of trust.
- Failure to notify us – did not allow the Funders to look elsewhere for the service
- County is losing the Transitional Living service. They didn't provide ASSET & Funders appropriate notice that the service would no longer be provided.
- Frustrated with timing—right after new contract.
- Funders are aware of the issue and aren't happy.

Mayor Haila stated his appreciation to King, Kresse and Schildroth for their extra time spent with TBH and that at this point he feels that TBH needs to be put on notice and the Funders need to explain that their changes after their ASSET contract has been signed will not be tolerated. Schildroth stated that since this issue involved contracts, each Funder would need to handle notice with TBH. They will discuss this with TBH at the next monthly meeting.

Schildroth shared TBH's new campus plans which will include two wings with 40 shelter beds and 18 apartment units. It will also include common areas and meeting spaces.

Volunteer:

Harker thanked the ASSET team for the agency training held in August, it was very useful.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None

#### NEW BUSINESS

ClearImpact Scorecard Review: Mundel gave an overview of ClearImpact Scorecard and stated that she will host meetings with each of the Volunteer teams (education, financial stability, and health) in December. She showed United Way's website which includes Scorecards for the indicators related to goals. Mundel will provide one-on-one support to those who need it.

Murken moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m., Harker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Mayor Haila mentioned a Mental Health Expo which will be held on September 20, 2022 (6 p.m. at ISU Memorial Union). A community conversation on suicide will be held on October 4, 2022, at the Ames Public Library.

King, Kresse and Schildroth provided volunteer training following the meeting.

#### INFORMATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. September 9, 2022 – Begin Liaison Visits
- b. September 28, 2022 – Deadline for Agency Budget Requests FY2023/2024
- c. October 3, 2022 @ 8:30 am – ASSET Admin Team Review of Budgets – United Way of Story County, 315 Clark Ave, Ames
- d. October 10, 2022 – Deadline Revised Budget Requests Due
- e. November 1, 2022 – Liaison Visits Completed

- f. November 2, 2022 @ 12:15 pm – ASSET Admin Team Meeting – United Way of Story County, 315 Clark Ave, Ames
- g. November 10, 2022 @ 5:00 pm – ASSET Board Meeting – CityChurch, 2400 Oakwood Rd, Ames
- h. November 10, 2022 – Liaison Reports Due
- i. November 18, 2022 – Deadline Restated Budgets Due
- j. November 30, 2022 @ 12:15 pm – ASSET Administrative Team Meeting – United Way of Story County, 315 Clark Ave, Ames
- k. December 8, 2022 @ 5:00 pm – ASSET Board Meeting – CityChurch, 2400 Oakwood Rd, Ames
- l. December 15, 2022 – Mid-Year Updates Due

