

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2021

Date	Time	Location	Preparer of Minutes
9/24/2021	8:30 am – 11:30 am	ZOOM	Carrie Hennen & Kelsey Paolini

Attendance			
Committee Members		TST Staff	Others
<p>Present</p> <p>Robert Almada Bob Jones Sfirah Madrone Marilyn Roberts Wendy Tanner Gina Thompson</p>	<p>Absent</p> <p>Chanita Jackson Priscilla Terry Steven Thomson</p>	<p>Carrie Hennen Kelsey Paolini</p>	

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>Welcome & Introductions</p>	<p>Staff provided an overview of the meeting, noting that the key task was to finalize the committee’s recommendations for the 2022-2023 budget cycle.</p> <p>The Committee approved the minutes from the September 14th, 2021 meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that, after all of the decisions made by the committee over the previous two meetings, there is an additional \$700k per year that could be invested and still maintain adequate fund balance over time. The group discussed options for investing those funds in critical community needs.</p>
<p>Options for Investing Remaining Funds- Housing</p>	<p>The committee discussed information provided by partners related to three projects related to development/ acquisition costs of housing that could benefit from TST support. The three housing projects included permanent supportive housing at 2828 Martin Way, a partnership between Thurston County and Lacey to acquire a hotel and convert it to permanent housing, and a partnership between the Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (TM BHASO) and Homes First to acquire single family homes as permanent housing for Trueblood class members and others with serious behavioral health needs. The group agreed that lack of housing is the most critical issue facing the population served through TST, and agreed that this should be a priority for TST investment.</p> <p>The committee agreed to recommend funding for the TM-BHASO project, particularly because the mission of addressing behavioral health needs is most</p>

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

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	<p>aligned with TST’s mission and because it was agreed that the partners involved could act swiftly to create a new housing resource. It was clarified the funding recommendation will be a single \$500k investment in 2022.</p> <p>Upon further discussion, the committee agreed to recommend an additional investment of \$500k in 2023 in a project to be determined closer to that date. Options could include additional investment in the ASO partnership noted above, or another project identified in partnership with the PHSS Office of Housing and Homelessness Prevention.</p>
<p>Options for Investing Remaining Funds- Enhancing Funding for Other Requests</p>	<p>The group revisited two proposals discussed in previous weeks for consideration of additional funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Resource Hub</i>- the group did not support adding additional funds to this new program to support stipends for provider participation. - <i>Wraparound with Intensive Services</i>- Staff noted that this program has been a longtime recipient of funding to support services for non-Medicaid youth, and that there has always been a waiting list for these slots (waiting list of 13 Medicaid ineligible youth as of Sept 2021). The group agreed this program is a high priority, providing critical treatment services to youth with significant needs, and agreed to recommend an additional \$80,000 per year to fund two additional non-Medicaid slots.
<p>Options for Investing Remaining Funds- Innovation Fund</p>	<p>The group discussed options for investing the remaining funds- based on decisions noted above, this amounts to \$120k per year. There was discussion of various options for an “innovation fund”.</p> <p>The group agreed that issues of racism and inequity continue to be critical priorities, and therefore these remaining funds should be added to the funding already recommended to support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) focused grants. The committee had already agreed to recommend \$200k a year to support DEI efforts (including \$50k a year for DEI training and consultation and \$150k/year for DEI grants) and agreed that the remaining \$120k/ yr should be added to expand this investment.</p>
<p>Additional Discussion of Budget Recommendation to BOCC</p>	<p>Summary of Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>The group reviewed and approved of draft language summarizing the Committee’s perspectives on challenges and opportunities for inclusion in the budget presentation to the Board of County Commissioners. One committee member recommended adding stronger language noting that the Committee’s budget recommends investments designed to ameliorate the impact of racism on access to services for people of diverse backgrounds.</p> <p>Recommendation re: Mid-Biennium Review</p> <p>The Committee asked staff to include an “*” denoting that the Committee recommends a mid-biennium review of certain programs to ensure continued</p>

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item	Notes
	<p>utilization in light of the 2021 WA Supreme Court Blake decision. This asterisk will be applied to the DUI/Drug Court and LEAD programs.</p> <p>Mental Health/Veterans Court Care Coordinator The committee agreed that a proviso regarding the recommendation for an additional care coordinator position in 2023 for this program should be added. The proviso should state that the position will only be created if 55 participants are enrolled in the program at the time of the midterm adjustment.</p>
<p>Additional Discussion</p>	<p>Staff provided an overview of next steps, including the October 13, 2021 (1:30pm) date on which the Committee’s recommendation will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners and the upcoming meeting schedule (1 meeting remaining in 2021: November 19, 2021, 8:30am).</p> <p>Staff noted that Steven Thomson would be resigning from the committee due to work conflicts, leaving a vacancy on the committee. Group members asked staff to explore options for recruiting individuals with lived experience of behavioral health challenges and compensating them for their participation in the committee.</p>

Next Meeting:

November 19, 2021
8:30 am – 11:30 am
VIA ZOOM