

**MINUTES  
CITY OF MCKINNEY, TEXAS  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011  
ROY AND HELEN HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY, DELANEY ROOM**

The Community Grants Advisory Commission (CGAC) of the City of McKinney, Texas, held a Public Hearing in the Delaney Room, Roy and Helen Hall Memorial, 101 East Hunt Street, Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Commission members present included Rachelle Campbell (Chairperson), Brenda Carter, Jeremiah Hammer, Kim Hubbard-Hall, Myra Taylor and William Wehunt. Celso Martinez (Co-Chairperson) was not able to attend. Janay Tieken, Grants Administrator; Shirletta Best, CDBG Administrator; and Christine Lawton, CDBG Coordinator represented City staff.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chairperson Campbell; she officially opened the Public Hearing to consider the Community Support Grant funding requests for the 2011-2012 grant year, and she explained the order of the agency presentations. Each agency would receive up to ten minutes for their presentation, including questions from Commission members.

The first presenter of the evening was Kay Pennington, Director of Senior Services for Collin County Committee on Aging. Ms. Pennington gave a brief overview of services and stated the agency's \$20,000 fund request would assist with the nutritional supplementation of homebound seniors, by providing home delivered meals. Ms. Pennington also stated the agency services all of Collin County and McKinney seniors make up 1/3 of the agency's clientele. Ms. Taylor asked for clarification of the personnel hours in the grant request. Ms. Pennington stated the personnel hours are listed for kitchen staff to prepare the meals that are delivered by over 400 volunteers.

The second presenter was JoEllen Zabel, McKinney Noon Lions Club. Ms. Zabel stated the agency has served communities for 91 years and that the \$20,000 fund request would be used for eye exams and glasses to underprivileged McKinney children. Ms. Zabel further stated the McKinney chapter is an all-volunteer program which served 287 McKinney kids last year in 2010. Chairperson Campbell asked what the average cost of is for a child to receive the services; Ms. Zabel replied the cost is \$100 for single vision, \$120 for bifocals. Costs include the exam and the glasses.

The next presenter was Susan Williams, Executive Director of Journey of Hope Grief Support Center. Ms. Williams explained the agency's funding request of \$5,000 would be used for bereavement support groups for children, teens and families experiencing the death of a loved one. Ms. Williams further stated Journey of Hope is the only agency providing this service type to children in Collin County. Mr. Wehunt asked for the number of staff members and Ms. Williams replied the agency has 2 1/2 staff: the Executive Director, Program Director and a part time Administrative Assistant.

The next presenter was Beth Bentley, Executive Director of McKinney Housing Authority. Ms. Bentley stated the Housing Authority is a first time applicant for CSG funds. The \$9,750 request would be used for partial salary of a Grant Writer. Ms. Bentley further stated there is a great need to renovate 25 of the Housing Authority units originally constructed in the 1950s. The grant writer would seek funds to assist with those renovations. Mr. Wehunt asked how many people are included in the administrative staff salary listed under the grant application and Ms. Bentley stated seven people at this time.

Candace Murphy, Director of U-Can Dance Inc. was the next presenter. Ms. Murphy gave a brief overview of the organization and stated the \$50,000 funding request would be used to establish after-school programs for low income children. Programs, classes and workshops would be focused on dance and arts. Ms. Carter asked how the agency recruited students and Ms. Murphy stated they seek recruitment of potential students through churches, community centers, and schools.

The next presenter was Major Robert Winters, Corps Officer for the Salvation Army. Major Winters stated the agency's \$10,000 fund request would be to provide one-time emergency financial assistance to McKinney residents in the form of rent, mortgage or utility payments, and to supplement the agency's food pantry. Major Winters further stated the agency assists approximately 30 families per week with the food pantry and assisted 60 families throughout this year with the emergency funds. Chairperson Campbell asked if the agency had some way to track those receiving assistance from one Salvation Army location to another and Major Winters stated all Salvation Army location utilize the Harmony Database to track clients nationwide.

The next presenter was Kristen Hendrix, Executive Director of Holy Family School. Ms. Hendrix stated the school has been in McKinney for over 60 years, providing quality care for low to moderate income school age children. The \$10,000 fund request would provide emergency tuition to children who live in the McKinney Housing Authority while their parents are seeking employment, or during the interim of parents receiving federal child care supplements. Ms. Carter asked if the school requires documentation from the parents to prove they are looking for a job or awaiting assistance; Ms. Hendrix stated yes and that the McKinney Housing Authority takes charge of the responsibility to document the proof of that information prior to any participation referrals to Holy Family School.

Tanya Greene, Chief Executive Officer for the Boys and Girls Club of Collin County was the next presenter. Ms. Greene stated the \$20,000 fund request would be used for after school transportation services for MISD students to the McKinney Branch of the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Greene explained that data indicates that many children who return to an unsupervised home during the hours of 3 PM to 7 PM are seven times more likely to engage in negative behavior than those who do not. Co-Chair Martinez asked if the agency had staff in place to accommodate the increased number of children that will be brought to

the school and Ms. Greene stated that they do have staff to accommodate accordingly.

Next was Wayne Kirk, President of River Ranch Educational Charities. Mr. Kirk stated the charity provides horse related activities to youth; entertainment and meeting space for other non-profits to conduct events. Mr. Kirk explained the \$300,000 fund request would assist the charity in building an indoor arena to protect patrons from elements, when working with special needs and underprivileged kids. Mr. Wehunt asked about the estimated total cost of arena project and Mr. Kirk stated \$ 2.1 million dollars. Chairperson Campbell asked how much funding was already contributed for the project, and Mr. Kirk stated he contributed approximately \$700,000 of his own money.

The last presenter was Jim Malatich, Director of Operations for The Samaritan Inn. Mr. Malatich stated the \$7,000 request would continue counseling services to (shelter) children who witnessed or experienced abuse. Mr. Malatich further stated there are no other counseling services like this for children and that this counseling is imperative to stop the chain of abuse. Ms. Campbell asked if the counselor is full time and Mr. Malatich replied, "yes".

Chairperson Campbell opened the floor for public questions or comments, in which Shirletta Best commented the commission will deliberate regarding the requests for funding and the recommendations will go to Council in January. Chairperson Campbell then asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hubbard-Hall made the motion and Ms. Carter seconded. The vote passed unanimously 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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Rachelle Campbell, Chairperson