



Council For Human Services Meeting

Town of Nantucket

131 Pleasant Street

Nantucket, MA, 02554

www.nantucket-ma.gov

Council for Human Services Members: Veronica Bolcik (Chair), Sue Mynttinen (Vice-Chair) Suzanne Keating, Tara Restieri, Kelly Steffen, Claudia Valle, Amanda Wright, Sarah Wright

Health and Human Services Staff: Jerico Mele (Human Services Director), Alexandria Richards (Office Manager)

~MINUTES~

Thursday, January 23rd, 2025

131 Pleasant St, Trailer

This meeting was held with remote participation using ZOOM

Attendance: Veronica Bolcik, Sue Mynttinen, Amanda Wright, Tara Restieri, Kelly Steffen, Sarah Wright, Suzanne Keating

Staff: Jerico Mele

- I. Establish Quorum
Veronica did a roll call for attendance and established quorum at 4:04pm.
- II. Acceptance of Agenda
Sue motioned to accept the agenda and it was seconded by Kelly and accepted by all members in attendance.
- III. Approval of Minutes from 11.21.24
Tara motioned to approve the minutes seconded by Sarah and accepted by all members in attendance.
- IV. Public Comment
No comments.
- V. Review CRC process and overview of grant submissions
Veronica gave a short report on what the Contract review committee has been focusing on. She confirmed that they have been moving forward on the grant

cycle from hosting bidders' information session, receiving applications and interviewing the applicants individually.

Jerico made members aware of the upcoming Opioid Grant

VI. Next steps in Consultants Report from 10/7/24

The report, developed through stakeholder interviews, benchmarking, and analysis, was accepted between September and October. The report provided two main actionable recommendations:

- a) A mediated discussion between CHS and CRC to clarify their responsibilities.
- b) A comprehensive community needs assessment focusing on human services.

The last community needs assessment was conducted in 2012, and thus the update is critical. Best practices suggest such assessments should occur every 5 years. The goal is to create a system that allows for continuous assessment, not just a one-time process.

The Request for Bids will be sent out shortly, and the goal is to secure a contract with a consultant by the end of March. The assessment will take place in phases, starting in late August and running into the shoulder season, with primary data collection extending into November and December. The final report will include a comprehensive needs assessment and benchmark comparisons with similar communities, to help identify gaps and priorities.

The findings will be used to inform the CRC grant process and to demonstrate the need for increased funding to FinCom.

VII. Human Services Director Report

Mostly given in previous discussion but he updated the committee on the flu and vaccines this year.

VIII. Community Human Services related items submitted by CHS members for updates and discussion

Members gave updates on progress in various programs and organizations on the island such as: The Warming Place, Host Programs for Island Youths, Narcan and Transportation work group.

IX. Other Business

Not discussed.

X. Next meeting February 27, 2025, at 4:00 pm

Veronica confirmed that the next meeting will be at 4:00pm on February 27th.

XI. Adjournment

Sue motioned to adjourn it was seconded and accepted by all members in attendance 5:27 pm