

**Portland Children's Levy
Allocation Committee Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2017 2:30 p.m.
Location: Portland City Hall Council Chambers**

*The full record of the meeting may be viewed on the Portland Children's Investment Fund website:
www.portlandchildrenslevy.org
or YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Vi4TktASfk>*

Attending: Mitch Hornecker, Deborah Kafoury, Dan Saltzman (Chair), Serena Stoudamire-Wesley, Julie S. Young

Welcome/introduction of Allocation Committee and Children's Levy staff

Approval of minutes from May 22, 2017 meeting

Hornecker: So moved

Stoudamire-Wesley: Second

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment

None

Saltzman: We will be discussing what to do with the remaining \$1.6 million in funds. We will not be making decisions about this funding at this meeting.

Allocation of Additional After-School Funds

Saltzman: We have received scored applications from organizations we invited to submit proposals. Staff has reviewed and prepared recommendations for funding. We will hear from staff and go through our preferences for funding. We will take public testimony and vote on funding.

Broderick: A little history to how we got to this point: at its December 2016 meeting, the Allocation Committee voted to allocate \$500,00 for new after-school programs that would begin this fall and run through June 2019. In May, an additional \$300,000 in unspent accrued revenue was added, for a total of \$800,000 available for funding.

PCL used a two-step process for this funding round, where applicants first submitted a shorter Letter of Interest earlier this spring, after which a smaller pool of 14 applicants were invited to submit full RFIs.

PCL staff recruited 12 volunteer reviewers to read and score applications. according to self-reports from survey of the 12 reviewers: 83% identify as people of color, 75% identify as a provider, community member or advocate; 25% as community leader or funder. Each of the three teams included four reviewers assigned to score the same set of 3-6 applications, and each of the three panels included 1-2 reviewers recruited through a partnership with Momentum Alliance, which is a youth empowerment and advocacy group. Staff facilitated reviewer team meetings, and reviewers discussed the applications they read and scored. They had the opportunity to change their scores based on discussion with their peers. Staff averaged the scores for each of the four application sections, then added these averaged section scores to compute the total score.

As in past funding rounds, applications could receive up to 6 bonus points: 3 for serving children in E Portland

and 3 for being a culturally specific program or organization.

Applicants received their scores last week as to give them the opportunity to ask questions and attend today's meeting.

A few caveats before we begin: the issue of geographic boundaries regarding some of the applicants falling outside the city of Portland limit was discussed at the May meeting and a June 2nd memo outlined why staff recommends that all the applicants be considered for funding, and if selected they can monitor residence status of youth participating in PCL funded programming vs those outside the city boundary. Those programs are El Programa Hispano Catolico, Boys and Girls Clubs and I Have a Dream. Staff will be revisiting this issue in the near future and coming back to you with research as we move forward.

The second issue I want to draw attention to surrounds audits: All applicants with at least \$1 million in revenues from their last closed fiscal year are required to submit an audit with their application. Three applicants did not submit audits, as they were under that threshold or submitted a financial review instead.

If the Committee chooses to fund Bravo, REAP or Community Cycling Center, staff recommends that an additional \$10,000 in funding (per applicant) be included in the grant to pay for an audit of the applicant's financial statements from the last closed fiscal year. Staff also recommends that the Committee allow these applicants to receive funds from PCL prior to conclusion of an audit, but that Year 2 grant funding be conditioned on audit results that don't raise any significant financial health concerns.

And lastly, two applicants, Latino Network and Metropolitan Family Service, were moved from Intensive Academic Support to the Enrichment category because they did not make available 60 hours of academic support services to students over the school year.

So, moving on to staff recommendations: we recommend funding all 5 applicants that scored 87 or higher based on: RFI score; Strong program design; demonstrated experience/infrastructure to manage the program fits the program area strategies.

The recommended programs are:

- El Programa Hispano Catolico scored 91 in the Intensive Academic Support category

And the four enrichment applicants recommended are:

- Human Solutions Family Center, scored 94
- Bravo Youth Orchestra, scored 90
- Latino Network's K-3 Success, scored 89
- Pathfinders' Play and Learn, scored 87

These five recommendations total \$712,000 of the 800,000 allocated for two-year investments.

The recommendation would result in 78 percent of the funds going to Enrichment and 22 percent for Intensive Academic Support. Committee's Goal was 60 percent for Enrichment and 40 for Academic Support.

If you would like to fund more than 5, we recommend adding an Academic Support to come closer to your goal, although Enrichment did have more twice as many applicants; or a Culturally specific service.

Before moving on to your slates, does anyone have any questions? Also, I believe most of the applicants are here if you would like to ask them directly.

John Kelly read the programs on which the Allocation Committee members agreed. The programs which Committee members expressed interest in funding are:

Intensive Academic Programs

- El Programa Hispano Catolico – Puentes Primaria
- REAP, Inc. – Reflections

Enrichment Programs

- Human Solutions - Family Center
- Bravo Youth Orchestras
- Latino Network – K-3 Success
- Pathfinders – Play and Learn
- Kairos PDX – Learning Academy

Saltzman: Let's create a provisional slate based on our slates and then take public testimony.

Kafoury: I would like to hear from agencies about these programs and for other programs to advocate for themselves.

Public Testimony

Erin Hubert spoke on behalf of **Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland**.

Allison Dunfee spoke on behalf of **Pathfinders of Oregon**.

Leah Altman spoke on behalf of **Pathfinders of Oregon**.

Kali Thorn-Ladd spoke on behalf of **Kairos PDX**.

Kira Cador spoke on behalf of **Kairos PDX**.

Emily Freedman spoke on behalf of **Human Solutions**.

Patricia Rojas spoke on behalf of **El Programa Hispano Catolico**.

Mark Jackson spoke on behalf of **REAP, Inc**.

Judy Strand spoke on behalf of **Metropolitan Family Service**.

Cassandra Griffin spoke on behalf of **Community Cycling Center**.

Seth Truby spoke on behalf of **Bravo Youth Orchestras**.

Kerry Clark spoke on behalf of **Young Audiences**.

Saltzman: Part of the balance is working with the funds we have available and being mindful of the number of programs funded. We have a small staff and a limit of 5% for administration. We rely on the review committees, but the ultimate judgment is up to the Allocation Committee.

Young: I would support funding a second program under intensive academic support. I have read through all the proposals and am pleased with the quality of work being done. We have an opportunity to fund REAP here. I recommend \$100,000 for that program.

Kafoury: I was really impressed with all the applications. We have a strong group of nonprofits in our community.

Stoudamire-Wesley: \$912,000 is the maximum we have available?

Broderick: We also need to be aware of the number of grants funded.

Saltzman: I am open to revising amounts of the grants. I would like to see us keep the number of new grants limited to 7.

Hornecker: Kairos requested \$200,000 and is up for only \$100,000. I am concerned that we give them enough money to be able to do what they proposed. Knowing that we have other uncommitted funds out there. I prefer to fund them at the amount requested. I propose funding Kairos at \$200,000.

Kafoury: I agree with that.

Saltzman: I see consensus on that.

Hornecker: I am in favor of adding Kairos and REAP. I would like to see the staff work with the new organizations on the front end to help them be successful.

Broderick: That would be part of contract negotiations.

Saltzman: We also need to add the extra \$10,000 per grant for BRAVO and REAP.

Hornecker: I would like to discuss that. We might want to consider adopting a policy of paying for a first audit for new grantee organizations who have not had audits. I think it would encourage new organizations to come forward.

Kelly: Audit expense can be built into grant. It is common that administrative expense might pay for part of an audit.

Kafoury: I agree with Mitch that it would be a great area to explore.

Hornecker: I move that we adopt the revised provisional slate of programs.

Stoudamire-Wesley: Second.

Vote: All in Favor.

Approved allocations added as appendix to these minutes.

Kafoury: I would like a conversation at another meeting with feedback about the two-step process.

Stoudamire-Wesley: I would like to have more conversation around equity.

Allocation of Additional Revenues

Saltzman: We chose to delay decision on the use of the \$1.6 million in accrued revenues until the Oregon Legislature made decisions. We will postpone decisions until our next meeting. Staff will give us updates.

Broderick: State legislature cut ERDC (Employment Related Day Care) services were cut by \$11 million. 30-40% of those families live in Multnomah County. Staff has proposed a few options to mitigate the effects of the cut. We could expand the Levy's childcare initiative, currently administered by Child Care Resource and Referral of Multnomah County. These funds are currently \$2 million over 4 years. If we added the \$1.6 million, then CCI could serve up to 100 children per year. We might cover all costs, with ERDC being cut. We would need to fund a 0.5 FTE position to screen.

Staff has proposed two main options to mitigate those cuts:

Expand the Levy's Community Childcare Initiative, currently administered by the Childcare Resource and Referral of Multnomah County to offset state budget cuts. The Levy originally invested \$2 million over four years in CCI to serve 100 children annually and this past year, served 134 children (84 families). CCI could potentially serve up to an additional 100 children per year (keeping in mind that right now right now paying about \$300 benefit per family so CCI contribution could double or triple without ERDC contribution)

This funding would need to include .5 FTE to help screen/qualify families and applications and would also include funding to offset cuts in Focused Childcare Networks, which support child care quality in Latino, Russian and African American networks. There is also interest in starting a Somali focused network, each network costs about \$72,000. The split would be 70-30 .

The second option would be to expand center-based Early Head Start (0-3) Services, as only 400 current slots in the county serve a fraction of the thousands of infants and toddlers living in families experiencing poverty who are eligible. \$1.6 million would provide 4 additional classrooms serving a total of 32 children each year (8 per class).

The two largest providers of center-based EHS are Albina and Mt. Hood Community College, both current grantees.

A third option is a combination of the two options.

Saltzman: Does anyone wish to testify on this topic. Seeing none, we can discuss the options.

My preference would be to use half the funds to increase funding for childcare through the CCI, and to use the other half to open two new early head start classrooms, one at Mt Hood CC and one at Albina Head Start.

Kafoury: I am wondering that there is funding for the current childcare networks. I would like to know more about whether that funding is certain.

Broderick: We can learn more about that issue.

Supporting System Partners

Lastly, the Levy has a balance of \$75,000 to spend in the next two years on system partner efforts. Staff wants you to be aware of two initiatives that we will be bringing back for you to consider at a future meeting:

1. Development of Training Certification for Community Education Workers
2. Oregon Integrated Child Database

We provided information to the Committee about both of those issues.

Saltzman: I would like to see us meet in late summer or early fall.

Adjourned 3:50 pm

Portland Children's Levy
Allocation Committee
Funding Decisions After School Programs July 24, 2017

Intensive Academic	
Applicant Organization/Program Name	2 Year Grant Amount
El Programa Hispano	\$157,000
REAP, Inc	\$110,000
<i>subtotal</i>	\$267,000

Enrichment	
Applicant Organization/Program Name	2 Year Grant Amount
Human Solutions: Family Center	\$105,000
Bravo Youth Orchestra	\$210,000
Latino Network: K-3 Success	\$150,000
Pathfinders	\$100,000
Kairos PDX	\$200,000
<i>subtotal</i>	\$765,000

Grand Total of Allocations	\$1,032,000
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