

**Portland Children's Levy  
Allocation Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2014 12:30 p.m.  
Location: Portland City Council Chambers**

---

*The full record of the meeting may be viewed on the Portland Children's Investment Fund website:  
[www.portlandchildrenslevy.org](http://www.portlandchildrenslevy.org).*

**Attending:** Mitch Hornecker, Dan Saltzman (Chair), Serena Stoudamire-Wesley, Julie S. Young;  
**absent:** Marissa Madrigal

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

**Approval of minutes of May 12, 2014 Meeting**

**Young:** motion to approve

**Stoudamire-Wesley:** second

**Vote:** All in favor

**Explanation of Funding Process**

**Saltzman:** Applicants should feel free to email any members of the Allocation Committee. Our emails are on the Children's Levy website.

There are three important steps in our process. The first step was adopting goals and strategies that informed the Request for Investment Application that we published in January 2014. The second major step is the citizens who reviewed these applications and scored them. And, the Children's Levy staff who made recommendations. The final step is the decisions of the Allocation Committee about which organizations we want to fund and what level of funding. The Allocation Committee are not bound by scores or staff recommendations. We are looking to do our best for the children of the City of Portland. It is a tough but important job.

We will take testimony by subject area. Each organization that has applied may have up to two minutes. It is also an opportunity for us to ask questions.

We will meet again to begin making our funding decision on May 30 and again on June 2.

**Meg McElroy:**

**Overview of Applicant Pool and Demand for Program Area Funding**

The table below frames the overall applicant pool in each of the three program areas and provides key data on how the applicant pool compares to funding goals set by the Allocation Committee.

- Requests total nearly 3X the funds available
- Goal of limiting the total number of grants both to increase impact and to make administration more efficient

Program Areas	Child Abuse Prev/Interv	Foster Care	Early Childhood

<b>Number of Applicants</b>	22	14	17
<b>Total Funding Available</b>	\$6,247,405	\$3,945,729	\$10,193,134
<b>Total Funding Requested</b>	\$16,067,820	\$9,737,521	\$18,229,395
<b>Ratio of Requested to available</b>	\$2.57 : \$1	\$2.47 : \$1	\$1.79 : \$1

#### Program Area Strategies

- PCL conducted an extensive public input process to identify and prioritize community needs
- PCL also reviewed local data relevant to children to inform development of strategies
- Strategies that reflected the highest priority needs for particular types of programming and for particular communities were adopted by the Allocation Committee and incorporated into the RFIs

#### Applicant Scoring

- 80 volunteer reviewers read/scored applications
- Teams of 5 reviewers scored same set of 6-10 applications
- Total application scores reflect the average scores of the 5 reviewers and any bonus points awarded by staff
- PCL staff reviewed the financial health of each applicant agency

#### **Allocation Committee Funding Decisions (No Testimony)**

- Hunger Relief, Mentoring, After School - May 30, 9 – 11 a.m.
- Early Childhood, Foster Care, Child Abuse Prevention/Intervention - June 2, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

#### **Overall Rationale in All 3 Program Areas**

Generally speaking, staff used the following basic criteria in its rationale for all 3 program areas:

- Clearly fit the program area strategies
- Scored highly in the program area
- Strong overall program design
- Convincingly addressed applicable priorities in the program area
- Demonstrated experience and/or infrastructure to manage the proposed program and grant

Applicants not recommended for funding in any of the three program areas typically had more than one of the following issues:

- Did not clearly fit the program area strategy
- Score on the lower end of the score range
- Had several and substantial program design concerns
- Addressed few or no applicable priorities in the program area
- Has limited experience and/or infrastructure to implement and manage the proposed program

## **Additional Rationale by Program Areas**

### **Early Childhood**

#### *Rationale for funding:*

Staff prioritized high scoring applications. Staff also gave weight to Levy-wide priorities of supporting culturally specific programs/organizations, and programs serving primarily East and/or North Portland. For the three strategies, nearly all applicants met all priorities, so priorities had little role in informing staff recommendations. Similarly, among applicants that are current grantees, there were no or minimal concerns regarding past performance so it also played little role in recommendations.

Generally speaking, applicants addressing the Intensive Home visiting strategy scored highly (e.g. 6 of 10 applicants with score of 90 or higher proposed home visiting services).

- **Intensive Home Visiting Strategy**  
Staff recommendations for this strategy direct resources toward increasing service intensity of some programs to better align with best practice, to funding a new program that fills a service gap in the community, and preserving Levy-funded Early Head Start capacity in the community.
- **Preschool/Head Start/Preschool-like Experiences Strategy**  
Staff recommendations for this strategy direct resources toward expanding availability of “structured preschool-like experiences”, while also preserving Levy-funded Early Head Start capacity in the community. Staff’s recommendations for this strategy balance all three approaches: preschool classroom services, Head Start, and structured preschool-like experiences.
- **Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Strategy**  
Staff’s recommendation for this strategy gave weight to the application score, past performance as a grantee, and proposed expansion to work with new early childhood partner sites in East Portland.

#### **Lisa Hansell:**

### **Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention and Foster Care**

#### *Rationale for funding:*

Staff only recommended funding for applicants that clearly fit within at least one of the strategy areas. Staff prioritized applications that were high scoring. Staff also gave weight to applicants that propose to provide services to populations overrepresented in the child welfare system and/or services to high risk populations, address other stated priorities, have a strong program design, offer intensive services, have no or minimal concerns regarding past performance and have the experience and infrastructure to deliver the proposed set of services.

## **Early Childhood Testimony**

**Sadie Feibel** and **Maria Reymos** of **Latino Network** testified in support of the application for the Juntos Aprendemos (EC-8).

**Elise Sanchez** of **NAYA** and **Rebecca Brown Schroeder** of **Social Ventures Partners** testified in support of the application for Early Childhood Program Services (EC-15).

**Chris Russo** of **Reynolds School District** testified in support of the application for Reynolds/Children’s Museum/I have a Dream Pre-Kindergarten (EC-21).

**Kathy Keim-Robinson** of **Parkrose School District** and **Maria Perdomo** of **Metropolitan Family Service** testified in support of the application for Ready, Set, Go at Shaver Elementary (EC-10).

**Ken Dale** of **Peninsula Children's Center** testified in support of the application for Early Childhood Education (EC-18).

**Joy Church** of **Friendly House** testified in support of the application for Friendly House Preschool (EC-4).

**Nancy Parent** and **Peggy Norman** of **Neighborhood House** testified in support of the application for Early Head Start (EC-16).

**Alma Rivera** of **Hacienda CDC** testified in support of the application for Portland Ninos (EC-5).

**Margie MacLeod** of **Morrison Child and Family Services** testified in support of the application for Listos Para Aprender (EC-11).

**Lee Po Cha** of the **Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization** testified in support of the application for Child and Parent Success Program (EC-7).

**Monica Ford** of **Morrison Child and Family Services** testified in support of the application for Early Childhood Mental Health (EC-12).

**Julie Houston** and **Maria** and **Denise** of **Impact Northwest** testified in support of the application for Parent Child Development Services (EC-6).

#### Foster Care Testimony

**Alicia McCall** and **Elise Sanchez** of **NAYA** testified in support of the application for the Foster Care Program (FC-9).

**Mark McKechnie** of **Youth, Rights & Justice** testified in support of the application for School Works (FC-14).

**Tiffany Tucker** of **Janus Youth Programs** testified in support of the application for Insights ECHO Program (FC-7).

**Gerald Deloney** of **Self Enhancement, Inc.** testified in support of the application for the SEI Foster Care Program (FC-12).

**Julie Houston** and Meg Wells of **Impact Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Safe and Together Program (FC-6).

**Michael Balter** of Boys and Girls Aid testified in support of the application for the Permanency Recruitment Project and My Story (FC-2 & FC-1).

**Gary Clemons** and **Bill Hitchcock** of **Friends of the Children** testified in support of the application for the Friends of the Children Program (FC-4).

**Dana Spears, Anna** and **Jareth** of **Impact Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Independent Living Program (FC-5).

**Sean Suib** and **Adam Resick** of **New Avenues for Youth** and **Dave Garnand** of **College Housing Northwest** testified in support of the application for Avenues to College (FC-10).

## Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Testimony

**Djimet Dogo** of **IRCO** testified in support of the application for Refugee and Immigrant Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention Program (CA-8).

**Tony Hopson, Sr.** of **Self Enhancement, Inc.** testified in support of the application for SEI Parent Involvement Program (CA-20).

**Amy Corbett** of **Metropolitan Family Service** testified in support of the application for MFS Nurturing Parenting Program (CA-14).

**Tawna Sanchez** of **NAYA** testified in support of the application for Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Services (CA-16).

**Julie Houston, Danita** and **Zeo** of **Impact Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Parent Child Involvement Project (CA-6).

**Chelsea Holcomb** of **Albertina Kerr** testified in support of the application for the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Program (CA-1).

**Ann Rothert** of **Volunteers of America** testified in support of the application for the Family Relief Nursery Program (CA-21).

**Leslie Brown** of **Lifeworks Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Children's Relief Nursery Program (CA-12).

**Kat Kelley** and **Ingrid Gonzales** and **Alejandro Lara** of **Catholic Charities** testified in support of the application for the Parent Child Involvement Project (CA-5).

**Kate Blackmore** of **Impact Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Communities for Safe Kids Program (CA-7)

**Amy Penkin** and **Mark Lewinsohn** of **Lifeworks Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Family and Community Alliance Program (CA-11).

**Deborah Steinkopf, Robin Davis,** and **Renee Anderson** of **Bradley Angle House** testified in support of the application for the Family Advocacy Project (CA-3).

**Linda Arata** and **Michelle Reynolds** of **Volunteers of America** testified in support of the application for Home Free Child and Youth Advocacy Services (CA-22).

**Kevin Dowling** of **CARES Northwest** testified in support of the application for the Child Abuse Intervention Program (CA-4).

**Kerry Ellis** of **Native American Rehabilitation Association** of the Northwest testified in support of the application for Child and Family Services (CA-15).

**Fay Schuler** of the **Salvation Army** testified in support of the West Women's and Children's Shelter Parent Child Involvement Project (CA-19).

**Tiffany Tucker** and **Wendy Torres** of **Janus Youth Programs** testified in support of the Insights Teen Parent Services SEEDS Program (CA-9).

**Saltzman:** As you know, we have many more requests than funds. I want to thank the staff for their hard work. I also thank the reviewers for doing a great job reading and scoring applications.

Our next meeting is Friday, May 31 at 9:00 am at Portland City Hall Council Chambers for funding decisions in the hunger relief, mentoring and after-school areas. And then we will meet on Monday, June 2 from 1:30 to 3:30 here at City Hall to make funding decisions on early childhood, foster care and child abuse prevention and intervention.

Updates on the process can be found on the Portland Children's Levy website – [portlandchildrenslevy.org](http://portlandchildrenslevy.org).

All of our email addresses are available on the Children's Levy website, so anyone who wishes to contact us can do so.

**Adjourned 2:10 p.m.**