

**Portland Children's Levy
Allocation Committee Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2020 1:00 p.m.
Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

*The full record of the meeting may be viewed on the Portland Children's Investment Fund website:
www.portlandchildrenslevy.org or PortlandOregon.gov at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLS_b7FwJ1I&feature=youtu.be*

Attending: Mitch Hornecker, Jessica Vega Pederson, Traci Rossi, Felicia Tripp-Folsom, Dan Ryan (Chair).

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

Dan Ryan: I am city commissioner Dan Ryan and I welcome you to the Portland Children's Levy Allocation Committee meeting and speaking for the committee, and all of us, we hope that you and your loved ones had a safe holiday as the pandemic does continue. And really, we're just so grateful for our first responders, our frontline medical staff, our caregivers, the many people on the front lines. And it also makes us think about our levy partners and others in the social service community who are working diligently to keep our city's children and families healthy at this time.

We'll be making funding decisions on the small grants fund applications. It was designed to reach more children, youth and families from marginalized communities, those with disabilities and/or with intersectional identities through organizations that haven't received levy funding in the past. So today's funding decisions will go to the City Council in December for final approval.

And I'm happy to say that today, we are joined by the following committee colleagues. Welcome Multnomah county commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson. Let's see -- okay, she's not here yet. Welcome city appointed member Traci Rossi and welcome business leader Mitch Hornecker. So that is the commission, and I also want to acknowledge the levy staffers who are with us today. Lisa Pellegrino, Meg McElroy, Lisa Hansell, John Kelly, John Coghlan and Mary Gay Broderick.

So welcome to everyone. Glad you're all here on this Monday after the holiday.

We want to thank all of the organizations that participated in the Small Grants process. We really appreciate the time and energy that you've put into participating and applying and thank you for all you're doing for our city's children and families. Please know we've learned a lot from everyone that participated.

We also want to thank the Levy Design Team, who helped create the Small Grants Fund process.

And all said, I just want to acknowledge the hundreds of volunteer hours that went into this work, and it truly did come from the grassroots. This was a community-led effort and we're so appreciative of that.

Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2020 Allocation Committee Meeting

So, with that, let's begin approving the minutes from the September 14th meeting. May I ask for a motion?

Tripp-Folsom: I move to accept the minutes from September.

Ryan: Well welcome, Felicia Tripp-Folsom. That's a great way to welcome you to the meeting. Is there a second?

Rossi: Second.

Ryan: I saw Traci before I saw Commissioner Pederson. So, she gets the second. Minutes are approved.

Small Grants Fund Recommendations

Ryan: With that completed, now, we have levy small grants fund manager erica who will provide us an overview of the small grants fund process, and I know you've been living and breathing this for the past few months. We look forward to what will feel like a very short summary of all the many hours that you've put into this. So welcome, Arika.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: Thank you so much, Commissioner Ryan. I'm going to share my screen here for a second.

[power point slides are appended to these minutes]

I want to begin by reviewing the purpose of the small grants fund today. The small grants fund was designed to increase equity by investing in programs of small organizations with budgets of \$1 million a year or less that have not had access to PCL funds before and that arise from marginalized communities, including people who identify as black, indigenous, people of color, immigrant, refugee, LGBTQ+, intersectional, and people with disabilities.

The small grants fund was designed by a six-person design team who incorporated feedback from the community conversations as well as public testimony. The design team members met six times to plan the entire process and they also participated in reviewer meetings and in trainings.

And so now, I want to take a moment to tell you about them. Our first design team member is **Thuan Duong**, the Equity and Inclusion Manager at the Portland Housing Bureau and she spent over 15 years as a researcher program evaluator, primarily examining youth-serving systems, including the child welfare, juvenile justice and education systems. She has the lived experience of being a Vietnamese refugee and a single parent living in Portland. She was also the principal investigator of the review of the PCL grant making process in 2019 and as some of you may remember, one of the primary recommendations of that review was the development of the small grants program. So she brought her valuable insight of PCL operations to the design team.

Next is **Tonisha Toler** and she's a program officer of the Collins Foundation and focuses on building community connections and relationships, specifically with underserved and underfunded communities. Ms. Toler recently developed a small initiative to fund small and

emerging nonprofits in the state of Oregon that are majority led by communities of color and are working at the intersections of community. She has a deep passion for issues impacting homelessness and LGBTQ youth, as well as two decades of experience partnering with communities of color, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ communities. Her experience and uplifting spirit were invaluable in this design team process.

Next is **Frances Sallah** and she works for Early Learning Multnomah, which is a part of the Columbia United Way. She has a passion for supporting kids and families of color. She's fiercely committed to lifting up the voices of those who aren't typically heard to better inform policies, programs and practices in the early learning world. And as she works and partners in equity, she draws on her experience as a social worker, mother, black woman and former member of the military. She skillfully handled operations for the office of self-sufficiency e at the Oregon Department of Human Services for 18 years and through it all and throughout this process, she's got a sharp sense of humor, a gift for keeping it real and the guts to always tell it like it is to all of us.

Next is **Alix Sanchez**, pronouns they/them. Alix is a proud two-spirit person and a member of the little shell band of Ojibwe. They are senior manager at the Multnomah county domestic violence and sexual violence coordination office. Alix has over 10 years of experience in the health and human services field and both direct service delivery and administration and their areas of focus are domestic violence, child welfare and parent education. Alix is familiar with PCL systems and has worked in PCL-funded programs in the past, as well as served as a reviewer for the large grants. They are deeply committed to addressing institutional oppression at all levels of their work and building strong multisector collaboratives to support communities most affected by systemic inequities. Their unique perspective was invaluable in this process.

And fifth, we have **Violeta Rubiani**, a grant director at the Mackenzie River Gathering Foundation. She was born and raised in Paraguay. She's been an Oregonian since 2000. She's dedicated her professional career to improving access to opportunities, services and programs to all Oregonians. She's a 2017 graduate of unite Oregon's pilot training and a passionate advocate for social and environmental justice.

And finally, we have **Saara Hirsi**, an advocacy consultant for the refugee community. She graduated from Portland State University with a BS. In psychology and a Master of Social Work. She participated in the leadership academy in Portland and the disability justice leaders collaborative at the Northwest Health Foundation. Since 2014, Saara has been working as an advocate for the disabled refugee community to bring greater awareness to people about the barriers and challenges for the disabled community. She's done listening sessions about disability awareness and her passion is to get greater equity and inclusion for people with disabilities. She always kept our work focused on the intersectional perspective of disability.

So again, I want to thank all of these amazing members of our design team who participated in this process, brought their unique expertise to the work.

Next, we're going to look at the step 2 process that we just completed in which they participated in designing. So, we received our step 2 applications on October 2nd, and that included the

organizational budgets of each applicant and they were reviewed by PCL staff to verify eligibility amounts and make any corrections to request based on eligibility amounts.

After the budget review, one applicant withdrew their application and then the remaining applicants participated in video interviews with reviewers and PCL staff over zoom. The review team was composed of the six original design team members and six people who were recruited from the community by design team members and PCL staff who had the requisite skills and qualifications that were listed in our community reviewer job description. The job description had been drafted to include qualities that were identified by community members as important during the community conversations.

So, in order to do the scoring, we had the reviewers split into pairs. There were five pairs of reviewers that reviewed two applications each and one pair received one application since we ended up with an odd number. It was worth a total of 84 points, and you can see the breakdown here, the majority were for the application and 20 points were allocated towards the interviews. So, the same pair of reviewers participated in the interviews with the applicant, and PCL staff attended the step 2 interviews, but really only to facilitate and convene.

The interview scores were averaged together, so each reviewer's score was averaged together, and each reviewer's application score were averaged together and they were totaled together to a total step 2 score.

One thing to note, one of the reasons why the interviews were seen as especially important were as an equity balancing tool. The review team and the design team felt it was especially important to have a way that organizations who may not have experience as grant writers or who may come from cultures that value oral traditions above the written word, to give them a chance to really highlight the strengths of their organizations.

So, through this process, eight of 11 applications were recommended for funding. And they were prioritized based on highest overall score; highest interview score, prioritized to include those equity considerations I just mentioned and then also hunger relief. They prioritized food distribution to families during the covid-19 crisis since we know that hunger is really impacting our community at this time.

So, this is just an overview of the whole process. In the beginning, in step 1, we had 31 applications. 12 moved to step 2 and 8 have been recommended for funding. The original request was about \$4.4 million in requests and with the reviewer recommendations, we now have narrowed that down to the \$1 million that's currently available. They are broken down by program area here with the recommended organizations - three being in after-school, four in mentoring, one in hunger relief. In the focus of the application, the disability focused application means that they were an program or an organization that specifically focused on disability and they were asked to take additional steps to include black, indigenous, people of color who have disabilities in their program and the BIPOC focused organizations were organizations that were primarily focused on BIPOC communities and where we're asking them to think of steps to take to be more inclusive of children from their communities who have disabilities.

So, of the disability-focused applications, three originally came in and one has moved forward and been recommended. 28 originally came in, in step 1, 11 moved to step 2 of the BIPOC-focused. And seven have been recommended for funding.

That takes us to where we are today. So, the applicants received their funding recommendations on November 13th and their individual scores on the 17th. The applicants had the opportunity to record video testimony after receiving their scores and the reviewer funding recommendations. The Allocation Committee received these materials and the application summaries as well as access to the video-recorded testimony and interviews.

And then the Allocation Committee members submitted their individual funding references to staff. The staff then aggregated the member preferences in order to be able to facilitate this meeting. The Allocation Committee members have been given those aggregated slates just before this meeting.

When we present in the next step on the spreadsheet, we will be presenting applications ordered for discussion based on the highest score and the greatest number of committee members listing the application. Then we'll go through each one and list tentative amounts per application, and if we need to make adjustments once we get through the whole list, we can go back and make any adjustments to tentative funding amounts. Then Commissioner Ryan will call for a final vote on the full slate of recommendations. So that is all I have. Now, I would like to turn it back to Commissioner Ryan to begin discussion on the funding amounts, unless there's any questions. I'm going to stop sharing my screen now.

Ryan: Thank you, Arika. The floor is open for questions, comments, anyway, let's do some dialogue if you would like at this time. The floor is yours.

Vega-Pederson: Thank you, Commissioner Ryan. Arika, I just want to thank you and everybody who was on the design committee and the review committees for all the work in moving this forward. It was a brand-new process that was created from scratch. I think it was, but it was something that was important that we did as a board and for the Portland Children's Levy to be able to expand access to these programs and I was pleased to see the types of applications we got, the interest in doing this and really appreciate all the work that went into getting the recommendations in to us, but all the help that went along in helping these organizations get through the process, too, so I just think we've ended up in a really good place for this final decision and just am so grateful for all the work that went through and making it happen and making this be an opportunity for so many organizations here in Portland.

Ryan: Thank you, Commissioner Pederson. Appreciate it. Other comments please or questions? And for those viewing in, all of us received the details of this that we're looking at, as well. Arika, I think I'll have you put up the actual listing of the ones that we're funding that totals \$1 million. Maybe on the screen. So, viewers can see what we're looking at.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: Which data sheet do you want, Commissioner Ryan? Just the full one that has the description or the ones with your preferences?

Ryan: The one that totals \$1 million, that has all the ones that you're recommending that we fund. I get to apologize for not thinking about this until now, and I appreciate that you're digging through your work documents in real time.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: There's just multiple spreadsheets. But keep talking while we do that, I'm going to get this going.

Ryan: I just want for the record -- I just want to acknowledge Mitch, you had some really good thinking about this and have decided not to go through with some of the suggestions. But I appreciate that there has been dialogue over the last week about all of these applicants, and so I wanted to put that out. While I have the floor, I want to make a comment on how impressed I am with the design team that you all put together. Maybe I just didn't notice it on my first day of my job when it was mentioned at the last meeting, but what an impressive group of people with really amazing lived experience and professional experience. I just can't tell you how rich it was -- and it was important for me to have them in my mind while I was going through what you have here. I realized they put a lot of effort to get to this and stayed within the confines and the boundaries that we gave them.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: Commissioner Ryan, are you seeing the funding recommendations on your screen?

Ryan: Thank you, it's up on the screen. I should have told you that.

One reason I think it helped me to see this again is just to make sure that we take care of business here and ask my colleagues to state if they have any conflict of interest with any of the organizations on the -- that we're looking to fund? It's a small town and you're all very active people, so I ask that you scan that and for the record if there's any conflict of interest, please let us know.

Hornecker: Hearing no conflict of interest, I'll just jump in and say I really appreciate -- I wanted to second all the comments you made about the folks that put in a lot of time designing this. And the receivers and the whole PCL staff coming up with a new program from scratch that really looks like we hit the bull's-eye in terms of what we set out to do, which is wonderful.

I appreciate you mentioning it. I did try to think outside the box to find a path where we could fully fund these programs, mostly since they're pilot projects and we want to give them every chance to succeed, but definitely after seeing all of my colleagues supporting staff's recommendations with the funding levels there are, I'm very happy to support that level as well and change from what I originally was proposing to correspond with everybody else's supporting staff's recommendations.

Ryan: Thank you, mitch. Appreciate it. And it was a great conversation. Yes, Lisa.

Pellegrino: Just point of clarification because I know this is different than our other processes. These are not staff recommendations; these are reviewer recommendations. So, in the past in our large grant round staff has done the recommending, but we've changed the process. Arika, although she facilitated the meeting, she did not participate in the recommending.

Hornecker: Trapped again by old ways of thinking. I appreciate that correction.

Ryan: Thank you, Lisa and I really appreciate that you allowed us to actually see the faces and the names of those on the design team. Very helpful. Anything else? Felicia, Traci?

Rossi: I'll chime in. I want to echo the appreciation to Arika, staff and the review team for this process. I'm happy we were able to make some time to prioritize our smaller nonprofits that aren't always seen, and I just also wanted to share the difficulty. I would have loved to have recommended all of the wonderful organizations that have been funded and I felt it to be a really, really difficult process to make some harsh decisions that resulted in not all of my recommendations going to all of the folks. And I really tried to do my math and really tried to disburse it. It felt like in order for the organizations who are being funded, the recommendations to fully realize their plans that there needed to be a good amount of funding for them to do that and to have provided funding to all of the organizations that had asked, I feel like we would not have been able to provide enough funding for any of them. So it was a very difficult decision, but I just wanted to share a little bit about my rationale agreeing with some of the recommendations and not being able to fund what I think are phenomenal organizations that I ended up not recommending.

Tripp Folsom: I would have to say, Arika and the rest of the team, what I really appreciated about the small grants process is even the ones that were not funded received support. So, when they go for another round of grant funding, just the level of detail that you put into training, assistance, support even for the ones that we did not fund is greatly, greatly appreciated. Just spending that time, explaining the process going from step 1 to step 2, and now to recommendation, I think it's so critical that it's not only about funding the grant applications that we're funding. You also talked about, Arika, about expanding the capacity of the ones that we don't fund and I want you to know that's the part that I'm really, really appreciative of as well. You and the review team also thought about the people that aren't receiving funding and the barriers around why they're not receiving funding and how you could support them throughout the barriers so that when they come back to us, they're a stronger applicant and for that I just really want to thank you for that, as well.

Ryan: Thank you. I just want to build on what Felicia Tripp said. When you go forward with the ones that are being awarded and you have that amazing design team, what's the process look like in terms of coming to summaries and checking in with them a year from now. Will the design team be engaged in the professional development? Is what I'm taking from the last comments with those that we're providing these grants towards? Because my lived experience is sometimes, you can feel all on your own on the other end and to try to keep that wall down and make sure that we're having transparency so that we can continue to develop their capabilities.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: Thank you, Commissioner Ryan. So, a couple of things. First, I really appreciate all the words of support and encouragement about this capacity building component of the process that really has been a huge part of the whole process. So, at the end of step 1, the organizations who didn't move from step 1 to step 2, I kept -- first of all, I offered meetings to all of them individually through zoom to go over the reasons why they weren't able to move

forward. In some cases it was just you can only take so many, but to do a little bit of coaching around that and referred them to other organizations that could work with them on building their capacity, everything from grant writing to strategic planning to marketing, to whatever. And I plan to follow up with a similar process for the organizations that don't move forward at the end of step 2. To continue to do that as well as sending out resources of other grant opportunities.

As far as design team goes, you know, we really designed the whole process to get us to this point and then forward to the City Council. PCL staff sent out a survey to our review team and to our community members to get feedback about the whole process so far and what could be improved and changed and we're still in the process of doing that analysis. But once we have that, I plan on presenting that to the design team and getting their feedback on kind of changes and next steps. They really didn't commit to needing to be that involved once we get everybody funded, so we'll have to do some thinking about what that looks like. But my plan would be in accordance with whatever resources we have available to offer some trainings to the grantees, as well. We did gather information about all the kinds of technical assistance they want. And even had partnering organizations talk to me about some ways that we can offer ongoing TA in a variety of topics from disability to grant writing and so forth. So, I am still in the process of figuring out what 2021 looks like since 2020 didn't look like anything I anticipated. So, we are adjusting and still figuring that piece out.

Ryan: Thank you, Arika, I appreciate that and we'll look forward to more updates on that. So, it's wonderful to be involved with a pioneer program. All you can do is think out of the box so it's great. Any other questions from my colleagues? Hearing none, would you all like to vote? Would anyone like to do a motion to approve the recommendations.

Before that, you had a question? Commissioner Vega Pederson.

Vega Pederson: I wanted to clarify because I know this process is a little bit different -- Arika, is that what you were going to is talk through the process?

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: Yes. We're going through each -- because we do have commissioner agreement pretty much on who to fund, but at this point, we don't totally have commissioner agreement on amounts in all cases so we need to go through line by line.

Ryan: Okay. Carry on.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: So, John Kelly has a spreadsheet he can share to help us with the process. Okay. So, the first application to discuss is application number SGF 19. It is the African Youth and Community Organization, AYCO. And five of five of you wish to recommend this organization, but one person wanted to fund it at the original request amount of 178,773. One person wanted to fund it at 157,000 and the other three wished to fund it at the community reviewer-recommended amount of 156,000. So, on that one I would like to turn it to Commissioner Ryan for discussion.

Ryan: Okay. Any discussion on African Youth and Community Organization?

Hornecker: Dan, maybe I'll just say again, I'm the one that had the full amount of each grant in my proposed slate, but as I'm seeing Arika, I'll amend that to be the reviewer's suggested grant level for each one of those.

Ryan: Okay. We also had one person recommend it for \$1,000 more.

Vega Pederson: I had a question about that. And I appreciate Lisa sending over the Allocation Committee members' preferences this morning and so I noticed that on Felicia's recommendation, because it looked like there were two -- like -- one was 156 for everyone and yours was 157, and then the other ones where it was switched and I didn't know if that was an error, I've done that before using these spreadsheets or if it was intentional.

Tripp Folsom: That was an error. Sorry.

Ryan: Thank you for being human, felicia.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: So then we have the tentative amount for that one. The next organization is number 11. Camp Elso. Five of five of you wish to fund that and everyone agreed at \$157,000, except mitch, I'm hearing that you'll go with the reviewer-recommended amount? Okay.

Hornecker: Correct.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: So, then the next one is number 16, Portland tennis and education. And that one was -- all five of you wish to fund that. We had one person went to fund it at 156 and everyone else at 157. I think that 156 was Felicia and you said it was a mistake that you inverted those? True?

Tripp Folsom: Yes, that is correct.

Bridgeman-Bunyoli: So, then that tentative amount remains.

The next one is number 8, Brown Girl Rise, and the reviewer-recommended amount for that organization was \$57,000. And all five of you are listing wanting to fund at that amount.

The next one, number 14, Elevate Oregon. And the recommended funded amount that it looks like you're all in agreement on is \$144,000.

Next is number 18, Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural Resource Center. And the reviewer-recommended amount is \$85,000. And all five of you have said that you wish to fund that.

Next is Urban Gleaners. That's number 13. And that's the reviewer-recommended amount is \$100,000. And you were all in agreement on that.

And then last but not at least is number 20, Native Wellness Institute. And it is the reviewer-recommended amount of \$144,000.

And that completes our slate. So, if there's any discussion of those tentative amounts, you can lead that, Commissioner, or you're also able to call for a vote.

Ryan: Thank you, Arika. Okay. Now, that we see it in front of us, and everyone else can see it as well, are there any other questions before we move this forward? Hearing none, would anyone like to provide a motion? Please.

Vega Pederson: I move this slate of small grants funding decisions as shown on the spreadsheet and recommended by the reviewers.

Hornecker: Second.

Vote: All in Favor

Ryan: This passes 5-0. Thank you. Applause. Everyone's clapping right now. Or do this, there you go. Okay. That's exciting.

Pellegrino: I want to give you a chance, but yes, I've got some updates for folks. I've got a few updates to put forward and then John Coghlan is going to show a video.

Ryan: Actually, before you go forward, I do want to take a breath with all of you. This was a big deal. I wasn't here for the creation of this. Many of you were. And the way Lisa, you and your team, Arika, driving, it really is impressive, and these are organizations that many people don't know about, and so as an organization, we're lifting them up, and helping them build some resilience at a very important time. So, I know -- I speak for all of us that we're very proud to be a part of this organization at this moment in time.

And I really want to thank all of you and I also want to thank those that did not receive the grants. I know that can sound -- I've been in your shoes before, but based on what I keep hearing from the staff and from Arika in particular is that we are building relationships with all of you, and it's more -- always look at the long term, always turn a no into a yes. That's what you learn when you're in the nonprofit sector. So, thank you for your engagement. We need you.

And so next up is Lisa Pellegrino who will provide updates on a few miscellaneous items.

Pellegrino: First of all, I'll join the chorus of thanks. Thank you, Arika for leading the discussion, for leading the process and for bringing a lot of new thinking and different ways of doing things. I really appreciated it personally, and I think it's done enormous credit to the levy. So thanks again, and I really look forward to seeing -- getting to know a lot of new organizations that I don't personally know so that will be an enrichment for all of us and the committee will get to hear next time we get together.

On the large grants, I wanted to let everyone know we are still in process. We've got all but one agreement through the city process and fully signed, so that shapes up to be able to pay people, be able to move money into organizations and support for the community. We are working on budgets for 20% of the grants. So our budget process is a little bit longer this year, due to some changes in the guidelines that we made and also because of Covid and everything is seeming to take longer with not many people in offices together with their finance staff being able to put together and get answers to questions and then, of course, various people have illnesses. It's been a challenge. I want to commend the organizations that have really worked hard to get us what we need, and we are nearly there. We're almost at the finish line so we're also actively

processing and paying invoices on Q1 for people so money is moving out, which I thought you would want to hear from your decisions in April and May and the city council in June.

Upcoming business, a preview. We will at our next meeting move -- which will likely be March, we're going to be shooting for quarterly meetings and a number of you have asked for us to set the meetings at the beginning of the year for everybody so we will do that this year. Recognizing that if we can't get a quorum, we may have to switch some down the line, but we will do that quarterly meetings this year and at the next one, March-ish we'll be looking at the annual grant performance report which we usually give in January, February. We'll have some quantitative data for the first three quarters of the year, qualitative data for the final quarter of the year. We're going to be doing some theming of what we've heard in the reports and give you a sense of how people coped with that first quarter of Covid.

We will also have a revenue forecast in January, so if you just -- if you can put yourself back, in April or May of the year, we made the grants based on the 2020 revenue projections that we had, knowing they may not be correct so we'll hopefully have some new ones, and then we'll have analysis for you and possible effects on whether or not we have to do anything with that depending on what the news is. That should be coming in March as well and those are the two main things, coming up for next meeting.

Last update is around staffing changes. So Mary Gay Broderick, who is up on screen, is going to be leaving her position at the end of the year after 16 years with the levy as a Communications and Outreach Director. So very long tenure. And during that time, Mary Gay has done an amazing job at publicizing the incredible work that the partner organizations do, getting media stories, doing annual community reports with lots of photography and videos, and assisting grantee communications staff and publicizing their agencies and their work and also organizing community projects like the mural about a year ago which seems like an eternity ago that we could all be together painting anything. I'm glad you guys did it before Covid hit. Mary Gay has been a really committed team player and always willing to pitch in with any duty or project that might come up and there have been many miscellaneous projects over the years, including even facilitating a funding meeting, which is not her job, when my husband had a stroke so I have to personally thank her for that. She had to take on the role you just saw and jump in at the last meeting when other people were out of town so that's the spirit in which she has participated in our staff and on behalf of the staff, I really wanted to thank her for her years of service and true passion and commitment to children and that is kind of square one for everyone on our staff, and so thank you, Mary Gay. And just so you know, John Coghlan, who is also up on the screen, is going to be transitioning to handling the communications duties for the levy and over the next month and a half will be looking for that transition project to take over fully in the new year. That is the staff update and news so upcoming business, I'm happy to take any questions or hear anything and pass it to John Coghlan for the video.

Hornecker: Thank you, Mary Gay. Really appreciate working with you.

Broderick: It's been great. I'll miss you all. It's been a great ride. My youngest was pre-k when I started and she's a sophomore in college now. So, we've been through a lot together. It's been

wonderful and it is a great staff, great community partners, and I've learned a lot and it's been really humbling actually to work with the grantees. They're just an amazing group of dedicated organizations and so but carry on. I'm in Denver now: My husband retired last month and we're going to be hitting the ski slopes soon so --

Vega Pederson: I want to add my thanks. Thanks so much, Mary Gay. It was so wonderful working with you as I was coming on board and learning things and going on visits to some of the grant recipients and I just really appreciate your support and all the work that you've done over the years. I mean, your kids grew up with the Portland children's levy it sounds like so that's a huge part of your life and so I wish you all the best in Denver and recreating and all the fun things you'll get to do.

Tripp Folsom: Ditto what Commissioner Pederson said. I want to say Mary Gay, you have been a delight and you will be forever missed, but I am so happy that your next part of your life is one where you get to do fun things and focus on yourself and, you know, have fun. My husband's from Colorado. You've gone to a great state and I wish you nothing, but the best.

Rossi: And this is Traci. I'll chime in, even though Mary Gay I didn't feel like I had the opportunity to get to know you because I started last spring I guess, it seems like forever ago, but having said that, you were certainly so helpful as I did my onboarding and it was just a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the levy and you're just so professional and a breath of fresh air so I will miss you, as well.

Ryan: Let me join in the chorus. Mary Gay, it's hard not to take this personally. I've known of you in your e-mails over the last 16 years, and I actually knew your kids got through the k-12 system because I happen to know things like that from my last job, and I'm really happy for you and I'm bummed for Portland, personally, that you and your husband are leaving our market. So it's really a gain for Denver and I just don't think you guys are going to be quiet so I don't think that's in your DNA and I hope it's not so I look forward to hearing about the impact that you and your husband make on your new state that you're moving to. And I am bummed that you're moving so I get to say that, too. Anyway, thank you for all that you've done for the city of Portland, both you and your husband. Thanks.

Now, we're going to turn it over to the next thing on our -- let's see. John, take it away. You're going to show us a video?

Coghlan: I'm going to show a quick video here. I'm just setting it up.

Ryan: And congratulations, John.

Coghlan: Oh, thank you. Big shoes to fill.

I want to show a quick video, it's a three-minute video, Spanish-language video produced in collaboration with one of our community partners. Familias en Accion has adopted its hunger-relief services during the pandemic. This is a Spanish language video so there's English subtitles there so you may want to, if you can maximize your screen, which I'll do, too.

[video can be found on the PCL website <https://www.portlandchildrenslevy.org/videos.org>]

Ryan: Okay. Thank you so much, John, that was wonderful. Anyone like to comment on that before we close out the meeting? We have the applause going again. That was wonderful. It was wonderful to see it in Spanish. Thank you for doing that.

Coghlan: There's an English version, too, on our YouTube channel, with the English captions if you want.

Ryan: I just think it was great it was in Spanish and there were subtitles. That was wonderful. Everyone liked it? You're all happy about that. Hey, guess what? We're going to give you some time back on this Monday after the holiday weekend.

Before we close, I just want to say that, you know, my hope is that when we reconvene in March, and I so look forward to that, but in the meantime, I hope all of you have a really safe and gentle and even some joy as you celebrate, however you celebrate the end of the year. And I also know who's on this call and in this meeting and I just want to thank you for stretching, for doing all you can to be helpful to so many families that are struggling right now for some really deep, profound reasons. I'm just really thankful to be a part of this body, this group and I want to thank the staff for reflecting and moving forward on how we'll adjust to this time that we're in, and I know to Mitch's point, more out of the box thinking as we really just take care of one another and it all starts locally. So I'm just grateful to be a part of a community that has a really big heart and I know all of you are, too. So, on that note, if you want to stay up to date on all of the activities, please look at the information through the levy website. And all other outreach communication, which will somehow continue even though Mary Gay is moving forward. John will make sure that happens. And until we meet again, please stay safe and well and we'll see you soon. If not for sure in March of 2021. Doesn't it feel good to say 2021 already? Yeah. All right. Be well, everyone. Take care. Thank you.

[meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m. Pacific]

Portland Children's Levy
Small Grants Fund Decisions 9/30/2020

Total Allocated

\$1,000,000

Application Number	Applicant Organization	Grant Amount
19	African Youth and Community Organization	\$156,000
11	Camp Elso	\$157,000
16	Portland Tennis & Education	\$157,000
8	Brown Girl Rise	\$57,000
14	Elevate Oregon	\$144,000
18	Ethiopian & Eritrean Cultural Resource Ctr	\$85,000
13	Urban Gleaners	\$100,000
20	Native Wellness Institute	\$144,000

Thuan Duong



Tonisha Toler



Frances Sallah



Alix Sanchez



Violeta Rubiani



Saara Hirsi

