



*Approved*

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM

**Social Services Committee**

Members Present: S. Olds Frey, A. Ngola, K. Hayes, R. Philips, M. Fernández, Councilmember Burns

Members Absent: Councilmember Reid, K. Rolling, S. Lackey

Staff Present: M. Johnson, J. Wingader

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**Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum**

Chair Olds Frey called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 13, 2024 and May 9, 2024**

Ms. Hayes moved approval of the June minutes, seconded by Ms. Ngola; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0. Ms. Hayes moved approval of the May minutes, seconded by Ms. Ngola; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

**Mental Health Provider Program**

Staff provided an overview of the program including engaged providers, an overview of services offered and participants served. All shared information is included in the meeting presentation. Staff requested that the Committee vote to approve recommendation to City Council of a FY2025 program budget not to exceed \$125,000 and renewed service agreements with Metropolitan Family Services and Skylight Counseling Center to provide ongoing mental health services in FY2025.

There were questions about where funds would come from and what would happen to funds not expended. Members also had questions about the cultural competency of providers and ethnicity of participants served; staff agreed to provide additional information. There was also discussion about ways to support program participants who use Medicaid or who needed assistance enrolling in insurance.

Chair Olds Frey called for a motion to recommend City Council approve renewal of the Mental Health Provider Program for FY2025 with a program budget of \$125,000 and extend service agreements with Metropolitan Family Services and Skylight Counseling Center to provide ongoing mental health services in FY2025. This motion was moved by Ms. Ngola and seconded by Ms. Hayes; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

**Nomination of Chair/Vice Chair**

Chair Olds Frey nominated Ms. Hayes to the role of Chair, seconded by Ms. Ngola; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0. Chair Olds Frey also nominated Ms. Ngola to the role of Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Hayes; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 6-0.

**Community Needs Assessment Survey Outcomes & 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan Overview**

Staff provided information under the draft 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan including the revised low and moderate income map and defined CDBG Target Area. Staff also reviewed other City and external community needs plans that inform the Consolidated Plan. Staff presented outcomes from the Community Needs Assessment survey which was disbursed to targeted populations in partnership with Evanston Cradle to Career Advocates for Action and case managers working in buildings managed by the Housing Authority of Cook County. Staff provided an overview of needs and survey outcomes and talked about projections for the application of federal funds by the following goals: Affordable Housing, Creating Livable Communities, Homelessness, Public Services, and Administration.

**Staff Report**

Staff noted the performance review measures for case management and safety net programs up for review in November. Staff also provided a draft work plan by month and reviewed meeting topics for November and December.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica Wingader  
Senior Grants and Compliance Specialist