

Minutes

Developmental Disabilities Resource Board of Directors

Finance Committee Meeting

November 2, 2021

The **Finance Committee** met on November 2, 2021, at 5:30pm in person and by Zoom Conference. The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Rick White. Present at the meeting, in addition to Rick, were Committee members Stephen Elliott, Gary Steinman, Janet White, Marlene Leonce. Present also were Alan Naylor and Sonja Bennett.

The Finance Committee convened to review the 2022 funding applications.

Guests included:

Marla Nelson with Ability KC

Cassidi Jobe and Dan Mathews with Summit Future Foundations

Danielle Shulte with Children's Center for the Visually Impaired

Randy Hylton and Kimbel Mothershead with Vocational Services

Aaron Martin with Job One

Nancy Carter with UMKC ACED

Shaney Othic with Northland Therapeutic Riding Center

Karrie Duke with Center for the Developmentally Disabled

Laurie Brewer with City Wide Transportation / Della Lamb

Casey Melancon and Tec Chapman with Easterseals Midwest

Kendra Musgrave with TNC Community

Julie Edlund, Mark Bertrand, Brian Watson, Jim Huffman, Sandy Degase, Amy Taylor and Amy Young with Life Unlimited

Brea Connett with Northland Early Education Center

Ability KC – Workshop Services

Marla Nelson advised the Board that they will continue with the CoViD19 protocols in 2022. All employees have yet to return to work and they anticipate only one Clay County employee in 2022. The funding request for 2022 is less than the previous year. Marla confirmed that the regular employee wages are at \$15 or more. **The total request for 2022 is \$3,287.86.**

Gary Steinman motioned the Committee to approve the ABKC funding request in the amount of \$3287.86 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Stephen Elliott and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Children's Center for the Visually Impaired – Early Education and Intervention Therapy

Danielle Shulte advised the Committee that CCVI's funding request for 2022 decreased from last year due to the number of children they anticipate serving. The lower attendance is a lingering effect of the CoViD19 pandemic. She explained that the unit cost is higher than last year as they are retaining employees to be prepared when attendance returns to "normal". Danielle confirmed that all employees' wages are at \$15 or more. **The funding request for 2022 is \$50,365.71.**

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the CCVI funding request in the amount of \$50,365.71 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Marlene Leonce and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Vocational Services Inc. – Workshop Services, Rehabilitation, Work & Personal, Supported Employment

Randy Hylton and Kimbel Mothershead represented Vocational Services Inc. (VSI) in requesting funding for the 2022 calendar year. The request by program is:

Workshop Services	\$ 1,218,632.00
Rehabilitation	\$ 246,358.00
Work and Personal	\$ 430,291.00
Supported Employment	\$ 135,037.00

The total funding request is \$2,030,318.00 which is 1.45% less than 2021. The Workshop Services program is lower because all the employees have not returned since CoViD, nor do they expect them to return in 2022. Randy confirmed that their sales were up, and they anticipate no downturn in 2022 with the one concern being the supply chain delays which influences cardboard and glass availability. Randy also confirmed that all his regular employees are paid \$15 or more per hour.

Gary Steinman motioned the Committee to approve the VSI funding request by program as requested for a total in the amount of \$2,030,278.89 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Stephen Elliott and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Job One – Supported Employment

The application for funding for 2022 for Job One is 1% higher than the previous year. The program was started in mid-2020 and growth has been slower due to CoViD. Aaron Martin said they do intend to expand the program to Platte County in 2022. **The funding application request of \$26,322.68** fairly represents Clay County’s part of the program not funded by other sources.

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the Job One funding request in the amount of \$26,322.68 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Marlene Leonce and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

UMKC-ACED – Adult Continuing Education

Nancy Carter represented the UMKC ACED program **requesting funding for two sessions in 2022 for a total amount of \$46,500**. The program is also supported by Platte County. She explained the program will be held on the NWMSU campus in the Northland. She said that they have had 45 students “roll in and out” of the program this year.

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the UMKC ACED funding request in the amount of \$46,500.00 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Marlene Leonce and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Northland Therapeutic Riding Center – Therapeutic Horseback Riding

Shaney Othic provided the 2022 funding request for **Northland Therapeutic Riding Center (NTRC) in the amount of \$62,759.50**. This represents a 5.5% increase over last year and primarily due to the increase in personnel due to the growth of the program.

Gary Steinman motioned the Committee to approve the NTRC funding request in the amount of \$62,759.50 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Rick White and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Summit Future Foundations

The request from Summit Future Foundations (SFF) was presented by Cassidi Jobe and Dan Mathews. Cassidi had previously addressed the Board and introduced the organization who is applying for funding the for first time in 2022. Cassidi explained that they are an approved vendor for the Department of Mental Health (DMH) applying for CARF certification for all their programs, the expense of which is included in their budget. Rick White explained that, even if the Board approves funding, no funds can be released until the certification is received. He explained that we could pay up to six (6) months in arrears of notice of certification.

Cassidi explained the program for which they are requesting funding is the Young Adults Connections which is for those 18 and older providing a social/recreational day program that is 100% community based and includes transportation to and from any outing. The program is open to Clay and Platte County residents, and they anticipate 25 Clay County participants in 2022. **The total funding request for Clay County is \$44,901.00.**

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the Summit Future Foundations funding request in the amount of \$44,901.00 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Marlene Leonce and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Center for the Developmentally Disabled

The request from the Center for the Developmentally Disabled (CDD) was presented by Karrie Duke. The organization provides residential housing and support to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in Jackson County with both Group Homes and ISL's. They also provide a day program and community integration. They are building a new home in Clay County which they hope to have open and occupied by January 1, 2022. The home is a duplex, ISL, in which both sides will be occupied by Clay County residents with developmental and intellectual disabilities for a total of 6 residents. **They are requesting funding for an anticipated shortfall from Medicaid in the amount of \$32,765.54 for operation of the homes.** In addition, they are requesting a grant for an accessible van to provide transportation for all six (6) residents in the amount of \$65,000.00. **The total funding request is \$98,165.54.** The organization is an approved provider by DMG and CARF accredited.

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the Center for the Developmentally Disabled funding request in the amount of \$32,765.54 for residential housing support and the grant for a vehicle in the amount of \$65,000.00 and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Janet White and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Della Lamb / City Wide Transportation

Laurie Brewer presented the request for Della Lamb / City Wide Transportation Service for funding the transportation to and from the Workshops and Day Hab programs and for Supported Employment. Sonja provided the Committee with a 5-year study on the cost of transportation for these programs in Clay County. She also reminded the Committee that the transportation costs are primarily fixed and are paid on a monthly allocation basis and not by ride although all that information is provided and tracked. She also reminded the Committee that any Medicaid Waiver funds received by Della Lamb are credited to DDRB and reduce the monthly obligation and transportation costs. **The total transportation costs requested for the Workshop/Day Hab transportation are \$1,076,634.01 and for Supported**

Employment in the amount of \$203,999.45. The increase is due primarily to the increase in pay for the drivers and the increase and insurance costs and the price of fuel.

Gary Steinman motioned the Committee to approve the Della Lamb / City Wide Transportation funding request in the amount of \$1,076,634.01 for Workshop and Day Hab programs and \$203,999.45 for the Supported Employment program and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Janet White and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Easterseals Midwest

Tec Chapman and Casey Melancon represented Easterseals Midwest request for funding for multiple autism programs as well as a revision of previously funded programs – Employment Support. They advised that they anticipate an increase in participation in the programs in 2022 resulting in a significant increase in funding needed for all the Autism Therapy programs. Tec provided an update on the first year of the ABA Clinic. Sonja advised that the request for funding this start up program fit within the guidelines for funding. Tec also advised that they were requesting funding this year for the Employment Program for support in job retention. **The total funding request is \$467,250.92** and noted by program as follows:

Total	\$467,250.92
Early Intervention Therapy	\$ 54,162.00
Family Autism Support Services	\$179,769.40
Family / Sibling Support Services	\$ 7,349.34
Employment Services/Retention Services	\$ 14,248.59
ABA Clinic Grant	\$211,721.59

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the Easterseals Midwest funding request in the total amount of \$467,250.92 allocated by program and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Marlene Leonce and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

Life Unlimited

Presenting the funding request for Life Unlimited, LU, were Julie Edlund, Brian Watson, Mark Bertrand, and Jim Huffman. Julie explained that the request for funding included an increase in hourly wages to \$15 for all staff. She explained that the Medicaid reimbursement rate had been increased by the State but did not achieve the \$15 per hour which is likely to be mandated by the Federal Government as the minimum wage. Sonja advised that she had worked with Brian Watson to complete the application and garner the required information the Board needed to approve the increase in funding. She advised that, from the information provided by LU, she thought this fairly reflected the unfunded amounts for each program and the Clay County portion of those programs. The application provides for detailed personnel wage information, expenses, and income as well as comparisons to the prior year. The request includes a grant of up to \$18,550 in CARF certification expenses. The request by program is as follows:

Total	\$1,018,266.18
Community Support	\$ 71,413.52
ISL Residential Support	\$ 193,318.89
Group Homes Residential Support	\$ 278,081.92
Therapeutic Recreation	\$ 303,770.05
ILAP Services	\$ 65,131.80
Maintenance Personnel	\$ 36,000.00
Maintenance Residential	\$ 26,000.00
Maintenance Vehicle	\$ 26,000.00
CARF Accreditation	\$ 18,550.00

Rick White motioned the Committee to approve the Life Unlimited funding request in the total amount of \$1,018,266.18 allocated by program and recommend to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Stephen Elliott and approved by unanimous consent by the members.

TNC Community

Kendra Musgrave represented TNC Community in their request for funding for residential support services (Group Homes / ISL) in the amount of \$103,640.57. Kendra advised that the increase is due in large part as the organization is increasing the staff wages to a minimum of \$15 per hour. They are also anticipating adding a new home in Clay County in 2022 increasing the number of clients served from nine (9) to twelve (12). After reviewing the information provided, the Committee asked Kendra to provide additional payroll information on the wage increase by employee with a comparison to last year. The Committee agreed to review on November 30, prior to the Board meeting. **Approval was pended.** The **ILAP program was pended** for final approval with the residential program.

Northland Early Education Center

Brea Connett presented the funding request for Northland Early Education Center in the total amount of \$827,751.58. Brea had advised the Board previously that she was encountering difficulties in hiring and retaining staff due to the \$15 per hour wage being offered at multiple businesses throughout the area. The Committee agreed that funding the \$15 per hour might be necessary but they were not necessarily willing to fund larger increases for other staff. They asked Brea to provide additional information of what the request would look like if all employees were raised to the \$15 minimum and those at that level or above received a 4.2% increase. **Approval was pended.**

With no further business, the Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Sonja Bennett, November 18, 2021