

02-19-25 Human Services Commission Minutes

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH**  
**Human Services Commission**

6:30 PM  
 February 19, 2025

**MINUTES**

Steelhead Room, 235 1st Ave.  
 SE, Issaquah

**COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Commissioners:*

Jaime Fajardo, Chair, excused absent  
 Trish Bloor, arrived 6:44, virtual attendance  
 Manny Brown  
 Maury Edwards, virtual attendance  
 Madeline Fish  
 Huma Mohibullah, arrived 6:39, virtual attendance  
 Lucretia Choto, Alternate, absent  
 Preston Miele, youth representative, virtual attendance

*Administration/Staff:*

Hannah Roberts, Human Services  
 Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Vice-Chair BROWN called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm. Vice-Chair BROWN opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments or public members in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Minutes of January 15, 2025.

BROWN introduced the minutes of January 15, 2025. Commissioner FISH motioned to approve the minutes of January 15, 2025 as presented. Commissioner EDWARDS seconded the motion, there was unanimous consent to approve the minutes as presented.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

- b) **2024 Annual Human Services Strategic Plan Update (I)**

*Presented by:*

*Hannah Roberts, Sr. Human Services Coordinator*

ROBERTS presented the annual report for the 5-year Human Services Strategic Plan and the staff memo to provide an annual update on the Measuring Success section that reports on the strategic actions derived from the community needs and are intended as significant steps toward the achievement of the City's goals and vision for Human Services in Issaquah. ROBERTS provided a background, reviewed the highlights and challenges of implementation throughout the year. Highlights include cultural events, 2025-2026 Human Services grants, resource fairs, Behavioral Health and Homeless Outreach team's outcomes, improvement of educational events. Challenges included multi-resource center, having physical locations for non-profits to expand to Issaquah and the Emergency Housing Program unexpectedly ending.

- a) **2024 Human Services Grants Performance Review (I)**

*Presented by:*

*Hannah Roberts, Sr. Human Services Coordinator*

ROBERTS provided a 2024 annual report on the performance of the Human Services Grants to discuss outcomes, highlights and challenges. Outcome reports was on timeliness, completeness, service units and residents served. Highlights include collaboration amongst non-profits, being fully staffed and serving

a large amount of Issaquah residents. Challenges included drop of funding, resident needs being more complex and frequent. Trends presented include overall increase in services, a more frequent language being served is Russian and Ukrainian, and basic needs becoming a higher need as the cost of living got more expensive towards the end of the year. Commissioners also discussed current trends in 2025 that include severe weather, immigrant and refugee services and the fear/anxiety members of the community and non-profit organizations are experiencing.

## **REPORTS**

### **a) Chair and Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner EDWARDS provided a report on the City of Redmond Human Services Commission meeting regarding the opioid pandemic and fentanyl crisis. EDWARDS shared alarming statistics and trends presented by Brad Finegood from King County. Commissioner MOHIBULLAH shared a resource from MAPS-MCRC providing food boxes for Ramadan specially for families who are fasting but are also for all. Commissioner provided a flyer during her report.

### **b) Youth Report**

Youth Representative MIELE provided an update on the youth advisory board events including the largest event in June a youth triathlon, a spring youth debate competition and Present to Impress part 2 event in March.

### **c) Staff Report**

ROBERTS shared details about the Black History Month event at the Issaquah Highlands Blakely Hall and the board/commissioner recruitment process.

## **OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner EDWARDS shared his appreciation for the land acknowledgment in the beginning of the meeting by Vice Chair BROWN and requested that we continue that practice in Commission meetings. Commissioners and staff expressed interest in continuing.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for March 19, 2025.