



Human Services Commission

Outstanding Accomplishments

- The social service programming funded by grants to local non-profit organizations supported services to assist people to remain independent in their own homes, particularly frail seniors and people living with disabilities. In the last year, people in need were able to access an array of City-funded services including meals, mental health services, HIV testing and counseling, legal and mediation services, supportive housing and substance abuse services, to name a few.
- Received semi-annual reports from social services grant agencies on the progress of programs available to the community.
- Part of the orientation process for four newly-appointed Commissioners was to hold discussions with small groups of service providers at each meeting throughout the year. Commissioners also toured many programs.
- Evaluated the City's subsidized transportation programs, with emphasis on improvements to the Cityline program, route, and outreach materials.
- Recommended funding augmentations for enhanced substance abuse programming, immigrant services, and eviction prevention services using contract savings.
- Supported increased funding for social services programming, as contained in the recommended two-year budget. This increase was adopted by the City Council as part of the second year of the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 budget.
- Commissioners were regular attendees at the planning and coordination meetings convened by staff, including the HIV Prevention Collaborative, Food Insecurity, Homeless Services Collaborative, and the Children's Roundtable.
- Received presentations and participated in focus groups on the City's HIV prevention social marketing campaigns and the "In the Moment" web episodes produced by the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center's WeHo LIFE program.
- Commissioners visited the Advisory Boards to discuss their work, involved themselves in key city health initiative programming, and moderated SHE, the Lesbian discussion group.

Looking Forward

- A Community Study will be conducted to provide updated demographics and information on social services, transportation and housing needs. Commissioners will be integral to the study process, which will include a random survey, focus groups, stakeholder interviews, and community meetings.
- A new funding process to award over \$4 million in support for social services programs and the additional \$250,000 added to the budget for enhanced programming begins in the spring. The Commission will recommend service priorities to be addressed by the City's grants, evaluate proposals submitted, and make program recommendations to the City Council.
- Commissioners will keep informed about changes to State and County programs which provide benefits and supportive services for seniors and people living with disabilities, in particular.
- Addressing impacts of homelessness, Commissioners will participate in the County's census of people who are homeless, receive regular reports on the status of the Shelter + Care supportive housing program, and continue to be involved in community education efforts.
- Commissioners will continue involvement with the City's health and wellness initiatives.
- Commissioners will be regularly informed about the evaluation of transportation programs and advise on expanded outreach and publicity to support the new Cityline route and timetable.
- Acting as community liaisons, the Board will engage in outreach activities to educate people about available social services.