

The Disability sub committee met on February 22, 2019. This committee is responsible for Independent Living, Respite and Positive Behavioral support.

The members are Tom McCoy, Stacy Gilbert, and myself.

This committee received 17 applications: 11 for independent living, 5 for respite and 1 for positive behavioral support.

I want to thank all of the applicants for their hard work in providing services and in submitting their applications. It was a pleasure to read each one and I compliment each applicant on their dedication to serving those with disabilities who are underprivileged. Each applicant provided a good description of their service and how they will provide that service to their target population. Some applications were very strong in strategic planning, and some were strong in collaboration. However, not all were strong in every area. If I were to make a recommendation to the applicants, it would be this: each application is a stand-alone document and should describe what you have done and what you will do. That begins with a solid foundation of a board of directors with fiduciary experience, strategic planning, qualified staff and moves to collaboration with other community partners. It must describe how you determine who is eligible for your service, how many people you will serve, where those people are location, how much the service costs, what your past outcomes have been, and what your predicted future outcomes will be. I know that is a great deal of work. I have been involved in many grant applications reviews, but I have also written several grant applications myself.

As I stated, there were three members of this sub committee and each one of us bring a different set of principles and knowledge set to this review process. This was clearly seen in the different scores that each one of us provided. One reviewer was primarily focused on the service delivery, outcome of the service, and area served. Another reviewer was focused on how the funding matched the service delivery. The last reviewer was focused on the determination process of who is eligible for the program and the community collaboration with the program. This was not planned but is worked out well for this committee as I believe each application received a well-rounded assessment of what was provided to us in the application.

Unfortunately, this committee could not fund every applicant as the need is greater than the funds available. Therefore, the committee members provided their scores for each application and the applications were ranked based on the average of all three scores. During the committee meeting, the applicants were ranked purely based on score, but public comment received indicated that this ranking was not appropriate and needed to be revised by category. This committee listened to public comment and the ranking sheet provided today clearly outlines the applications and where they fit into independent living, respite, and positive behavior support.

Knowing this committee could not fund everything, the committee members motioned and approved to have staff review each application with the applicant to identify and reduce indirect costs to determine if more funding could go to direct services. This process completed by staff allowed for a bit more funding at least one additional applicant in both the respite category and the independent living category.

This committee would like to thank each applicant and staff for completing this process. It is this committee's recommendation to fund each applicant in totality, until funding is completed, in each area, Independent living, Respite, and Positive Behavior Support. Thank you.

*under the revision*