

**LEGAL SERVICES TRUST FUND COMMISSION
HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Summary and Action Items
Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
State Bar of California (Conference Call via Zoom)**

Roll Call		
Members Present Chair Christian Schreiber Banafsheh Akhlaghi Herman DeBose Eric Isken James Meeker Richard Reinis Kim Savage	Advisors None Liaisons Bonnie Hough Salena Copeland Public Members None	Staff Brady Dewar Andrea Fitanides Christine Holmes Elizabeth Hom Doan Nguyen Dan Passamaneck ----- Members Absent Amin Al-Sarraf

OPEN SESSION

Chair Christian Schreiber called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken, and quorum was established.

II. CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Christian Schreiber invited members of the public to comment on any items on the agenda. No public comment was made.

III. CONSENT

A. Approval of Meeting Summary and Action Items from November 20, 2020 Meeting

The Homelessness Prevention Committee (Committee) approved the November 20, 2020 meeting summary and action items by unanimous roll call vote (Isken moved, Reinis seconded).

B. Approval of Meeting Summary and Action Items from December 3, 2020 Meeting

This item was deferred to the committee's next meeting.

IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion of 2021 – 2023 RFP Homelessness Prevention Applications that Required Additional Program Follow-Up

Senior Program Analyst Christine Holmes reported on the revisions submitted by the projects tentatively identified for grant awards at the committee's last meeting. A map illustrating the distribution of the RFP funds was shared with the Committee. The map reflected the broad statewide reach of the funding, but staff also noted the difficulty of

depicting this funding visually. Committee members suggested that future versions of the map should reflect the amounts of funding as well as its geographical distribution.

Staff reported that they reached out to the applicants that were tentatively recommended to receive a grant amount lower than their request to confirm that they can still launch the project with the lower figure. Staff also asked applicants to identify changes, if any, to the proposals based on the lower amount and to submit a revised budget. Each project with a tentative grant award was discussed individually specifically noting changes to proposed goals and deliverables, subgrantees, and project staffing.

Staff reported that programs were excited when informed of the tentative allocations and there wasn't much discussion regarding the lower recommended grant amounts. Staff did not advise programs how to revise their proposals or budgets but provided some technical assistance if needed. Overall, the proposed changes to projects were proportional to the lower recommended grant amounts.

The Committee discussed whether the proposed changes altered the original projects too much and if the Committee was spreading the funding too thin by funding more projects at lower award amounts. Executive Director of the Legal Aid Association of California Salena Copeland noted the value added for organizations receiving this funding to build the core of a new project and leverage the project to seek additional funds from other sources. Copeland added that limiting the funding to fewer projects removes the possibility of more organizations being able to leverage the funding in this way.

The Committee also discussed the competitive grant review process. Feedback included:

- Some programs reported difficulty with the tight timeline for these proposals; Chair Schreiber noted the heavy impact of the short timeline on staff as well and suggested that the State Bar try to expand the timeline for distributing any possible future funding. Director Fitanides agreed to have further discussions about the best way to approach the legislature about this issue.
- Future RFPs should include a ceiling for the maximum amount that may be requested.
- Future legislation should be as explicit as possible regarding the relative prioritization of rural populations versus other underserved populations.

B. Recommend Approval of 2021 – 2023 RFP Homelessness Prevention Awards to Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

The Chair invited a motion to recommend approval of the 2021 EAF Homelessness Prevention RFP grant awards as listed in the meeting materials. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote (Akhlaghi moved, Isken seconded).

C. Recommend Approval of 2021 – 2023 Formula Homelessness Prevention Budgets to Legal Services Trust Fund Commission

Staff conducted a thorough review of the 71 formula project budgets submitted and

reported that there were no substantive issues. The Chair invited a motion to recommended approval of the 2021 EAF Homelessness Prevention Formula grants as identified in the meeting materials and as recommended by staff. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote (Reinis moved, Meeker seconded).

V. ADJOURN

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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