

## **Attachment C6. Housing Stability Responses to Questions from the April 1, 2025 Work Session.**

1. Could you provide additional information on CDBG applications #21 Odyssey House Bus Passes and #25 Wasatch Community Gardens Green Team? For example:
  - A. How many bus passes would be provided by Odyssey House, and what are the requirements to receive one? How many bus passes were provided in past years?

In their FY26 application, Odyssey House stated that, if fully funded, they would be able to provide 4,000 bus passes. Beth Branson, from Odyssey House, clarified in the CDCIP Board meeting on December 2, 2024, that they anticipated distributing approximately a total of 3,000; 2,000 of which to clients in their residential and outpatient programs and the remaining 1,000 would be distributed to individuals through their outreach programming. Beth clarified today that the monthly passes are for Odyssey House clients only and the day passes are given to those that they meet through the outreaching programming. They also have a check-in and check-out process for using the bus passes to make sure the bus passes are used for the intended purposes. In the application, they also stated that these bus passes are only provided to low-income and extremely low-income individuals.

Odyssey House was first awarded funding for this program for the current fiscal year, FY25 with similar funding and output goals, and current subrecipients have only reported on the first two quarters. In the first two quarters of this program year, Odyssey House provided bus passes to 127 extremely low-income individuals.

- B. Understanding that there may *not* be anything specific, can you identify any reason that #25 scored one point lower than #21 in the CDCIP Board ranking?

The CDCIP Board reviewed each application and awarded points based on several criteria, such as how well the applicant will meet an identified community need, how effectively the project will serve vulnerable and underserved populations, etc. Looking at the average board scores in each of these categories, Odyssey House scored higher in six of the nine categories. However, Odyssey House's and Wasatch Community Garden's scores are generally very close, staying within one and half points of each other in each category. During the board's final funding night, the board did not make any specific comments about why they wanted to award funding to Odyssey House over Wasatch Community Gardens; however, they did briefly discuss both of those applications separate from each other. Regarding Odyssey House's Bus Pass application, the board noticed that the recommended amount was below the minimum ask for this project but discussed how they were previously told that Odyssey House would be able to scale their project according to how much funding is awarded, so the board members felt comfortable awarding an amount below the stated minimum ask from the application. The only comment made specifically about Wasatch Community Gardens is that they are a great fundraiser and that the board member speaking would rather put the remaining funds toward South Valley Services.

2. To what extent is Housing Stability and the CDCIP able to assess the quality and impact of individual programs offered by the community organizations?
  - A. Housing stability has a robust, publicly noticed (including the Utah Purchasing and General Services portal), and competitive application process for these programs. Staff also provide technical assistance and application training for the applicants. Attached is a sample blank application for the CDBG program.
  - B. Housing Stability admin conducts: 1) eligibility review based on HUD requirements, 2) admin review to comply with City and technical requirements, and 3) risk analysis based on HUD guidance for each application. These documents are attached to this email.
  - C. The CDCIP board reviews the applications, invites the applicants to the board meetings to ask direct questions and holds "nano sessions" which are short interviews with each applicant. They then score each application with the scoring criteria attached.
3. Is there a quarterly report template for funded programs which Council Members could review? Or copies of reports filled out by a few of the organizations for FY24?
  - A. Attached is a copy of the reporting template for the upcoming year. These are quarterly reports, and reporting is strictly enforced.
4. Does the Division provide any way for clients of the HUD Grant programs to make complaints (anonymous or not) directly to the City?
  - A. All programs are required to have a Grievance Policy for each program. They are required to provide this policy to each client they are serving, along with posting this policy around their service areas that show where and how individuals can share issues or complaints. Housing Stability verifies compliance with these policies in our annual sub-recipient monitoring.
  - B. Additionally, the City has a consumer complaint portal that anyone in the City, including clients of HUD grants, can contact about complaints. Website, <https://www.slc.gov/housingstability/consumerprotection/>
5. If needed, would the Division be able to gather information on the overall impacts of the HUD Grants on the City and its residents?
  - A. Attached is a flyer that Housing Stability recently shared with Utah's Senators and Representatives when advocating for FY26 HUD funding, which briefly highlights the impacts of the HUD funding within the City.
  - B. Housing Stability maintains a public-facing dashboard, <https://www.slc.gov/housingstability/housing-stability-dashboard/> ), that tracks and breakdowns the impacts of HUD funding in Salt Lake City over the last 10 years. The Dashboard allows granular analysis, including information on specific grants, demographics of those who receive services, awarded funding, and outputs for each program or project.
  - C. If Council is interested, Housing Stability staff would be happy to present and review this dashboard with Council in small groups and receive their feedback.

6. Does the Division track whether there is duplication of services among funded programs, including those that the City provides directly?
  - A. Under federal law, specifically the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), CDBG and other HUD funds cannot duplicate benefits received from other sources. This is a requirement that our subrecipients are notified of during training, technical assistance and while we monitor their programs.
  - B. In the application process, applicants are asked to identify unmet needs, leveraged funding, and how applicants coordinate and partner with other community providers. Staff and the CDCIP board, then taking this information into consideration when scoring applications and providing recommendations.
  - C. If Council is interested, Housing Stability staff would be happy to present and review unmet needs for the City and services with Council in small groups and receive their feedback.