



17th February 2025

Dear City of Hayward Commissioners,

Subject: Urgent Request for Increased Funding Allocation for Peace Haven Freedom Store

We are writing to express our deep disappointment and concern regarding the recent funding recommendations for our organization, Peace Haven Freedom Store.

While we submitted a request for \$50,000 to continue providing critical services to the Hayward community, we were only recommended for \$10,000—identical to last year's allocation. This decision does not reflect the significant needs of the individuals and families we serve, nor does it align with the city's previous discussions acknowledging the importance of our work.

As an organization dedicated to alleviating food insecurity, Peace Haven Freedom Store serves over 2,500 individuals every month. We recover and distribute large amounts of food, ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry.

Our services are not only essential but also growing in demand. The rising costs of food, transportation, and operations have made it increasingly difficult to sustain our efforts with the limited funding we receive. Last year, we struggled to meet the needs of those relying on us, and with the current recommendation of \$10,000, we fear that our ability to serve the community will be severely impacted.

We distinctly recall the city council meeting where the Mayor and several Council Members voiced their support for increasing funding to our organization. There was a clear recognition of the vital role we play in the community and an acknowledgment that more resources should be allocated to support our work. Yet, despite these discussions, the recommended funding remains unchanged from the previous year.

This outcome is disheartening, as it does not reflect the city's stated commitment to strengthening social services for Hayward residents.

The reality is that the demand for our services has increased. Families facing financial hardship, seniors on fixed incomes, and individuals experiencing homelessness all rely on the food and resources we provide. Every dollar we receive goes directly toward helping those in need.

However, with limited funding, we are faced with difficult choices—whether to cut back on the amount of food distributed, reduce our operational capacity, or limit outreach efforts. None of these options are acceptable when so many people depend on us.



We strongly urge the city commissioners to reconsider our funding request and allocate the necessary resources to support us and ensure we can continue making a meaningful impact.

Peace Haven Freedom Store is a lifeline for thousands of residents, and it is crucial that the city stands with us in supporting this work. We are not merely asking for financial assistance—we are asking for a commitment to the well-being of our community.

We appreciate your time and consideration of this matter and look forward to your response.

We remain hopeful that the city will honor its commitment to supporting organizations like ours, which work tirelessly to meet the needs of Hayward's most vulnerable populations.

Sincerely,

Shubbie Aishida
Executive Director

EIN: 85-3455182

1063 A Street, Hayward, CA 94541 * www.thepeacehaven.org * (408) 680 6577

From: [Christina Antos](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Cc: [Estephania Urbina](#)
Subject: # II. RPT 25-014, Attachment II Preliminary Recommendations (TVHC)
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:38:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

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Good afternoon, Emily:

I hope you are doing well. I sent the below to Amy for the meeting tonight, but the instructions you sent last week say to also reach out to you as well.

On behalf of Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, Inc. (TVHC), I am providing written commentary to agenda item **# II. RPT 25-014, Attachment II Preliminary Recommendations**.

We appreciate the City of Hayward's commitment to youth health and well-being and respectfully request reconsideration of the preliminary recommendation to award \$0 of our \$50,000 request for health education at Hayward High School's School-Based Health Center.

Our program delivers essential health education on preventive care, sexual health, substance use, nutrition, and chronic disease prevention—critical topics that directly impact students' well-being and academic success. Many students at Hayward High face barriers to accessing reliable health information, making our full-time, on-site Health Educator a vital resource for informed decision-making.

While Alameda County provides partial funding for our school-based health centers, our contract requires us to match at least 50% of the costs. To bridge this gap, TVHC actively secures local and private funding and bills Family PACT and other insurance programs. Support from the City of Hayward has been crucial in maintaining and expanding our youth health services over the years, and we urge you to continue this support.

Without this funding — and with anticipated reductions in federal, state, and county resources over the next couple of years — TVHC may be forced to make difficult decisions, including workforce reductions and cost-saving measures that would significantly impact students and the broader community. We urge the city to reconsider and support this vital program.

Thank you for your time and understanding. Please let us know if you need any more information.



Christina Antos

Director of Business Development

Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center

1260 B Street, Suite 150

Hayward, CA 94541

Cell: (925) 768-3721

Email: christinaantos@tvhc.org



From: Aine Minihane Smith <AMinihane@eldercarealliance.org>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:14:52 PM

To: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>

Cc: Janice Roberts <JRoberts@ElderCareAlliance.org>

Subject: Agenda Item I: Public Comments for City of Hayward Community Services Commission

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Dear Amy,

We would like to submit three comments for public comment from two of the agencies we serve in Hayward—Hayward Senior Center and La Familia.

Additionally, Janice Roberts, our Director, will be attending in person and would like the opportunity to speak during the public comment section. Please let us know if there are any specific procedures she should follow to participate.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best wishes,

Aine Minihane-Smith

Development Manager

"Having a Mercy Brown Bag pickup location at the Hayward Senior Center has truly been a game-changer for our seniors. It provides a much-needed opportunity for them to access healthy groceries much closer to where they live, making it easier for them to stay nourished. The best part is that our seniors really enjoy it and look forward to it each time. It's become an important part of their routine, and we're so grateful for this partnership that helps us support their health and well-being."

— Susie, Coordinator, Hayward Senior Center

"Hello, my name is Roberta Crawford. I am 66 years old and live with my adult disabled daughter. We are on a very limited income—I receive only \$660 per month in survivor benefits from my late husband.

I want to express my deep gratitude for the **Mercy Brown Bag Program** and the food distribution at the Hayward Senior Center. The quality and variety of food were

outstanding—fresh fruits, vegetables, rice, eggs, cheese, even catfish and greens. It's been a long time since I've had groceries like that.

Beyond the food itself, the people running the program were so kind and welcoming. It truly made a difference for me and my daughter.

I also want to sincerely **thank the City of Hayward for making senior nutrition a priority.** **Mercy Brown Bag Program** is a huge asset to our community and to my household specifically. For people like me, this isn't just about food—it's about dignity, health, and survival. Your continued support means the world to us.

Thank you."

Roberta Crawford, Mercy Brown Bag Recipient

"Since partnering with Mercy Brown Bag, La Familia's older Latina residents now have access to fresh, nutritious food twice a month. This funding ensures that vulnerable seniors in our community continue to receive the healthy meals they need to thrive. We deeply appreciate the City of Hayward's commitment to supporting food security for older adults."

- Evelia Servin, Coordinator, La Familia

From: Carl Gorringe <carl@sungallery.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:51:05 PM
To: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>
Subject: For CSC Meeting tonight (Agenda item II)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please forward this to the CSC meeting tonight:

Dear Community Services Commission:

Hi, my name is Carl Gorringe, and I'm currently on the Board and now Treasurer at the Sun Gallery since last November. We at the Sun Gallery have had to deal with some issues this past year, and so I came to your meeting last November 20th to let you know that we had removed the individuals causing the problems. Unfortunately, it had to come down to a recall of the Board, which our members did with a unanimous vote. We haven't had any issues since and have a really wonderful Board now.

The Sun Gallery is celebrating our 50th year as a gallery and 60th year as an organization this year, one of only 2 art gallery organizations in Hayward. We will be showcasing pieces and representing some of Hayward's finest artists, including our very own Andrew Kong Knight, with an upcoming reception on Saturday March 15th 2-6 PM. You may have seen some of his murals along the B Street movie theater!

I wanted to bring to your attention a couple of items:

1. The Sun Gallery's previously awarded grant of \$20K for FY2024-25 contract had been canceled by city staff mid-term. We received the first 50% last December, but it looks like we won't be receiving the rest that we were expecting this spring.
2. We sent in an application requesting \$20K for FY2025-26 by the due date last December. I heard that the application may not have been forwarded to the CSC. I also submitted documentation that staff requested from us, as much as we could do given the circumstances we had to deal with. We understand the staff had a process they needed to follow.

We are currently in a dire financial situation. We can no longer afford to have paid staff to manage the gallery, so I, our board President Dorsi Diaz, and others have had to volunteer our time doing tasks that would normally be paid for. We didn't expect the half that was already awarded to be cut. We're finding it difficult to obtain other grant funding. We're fortunate that HARD (our landlord) had offered to give us rent relief, but it isn't enough.

We'd like to continue hosting art receptions, school field trips, Summer Art camps for the kids, and do more with our new Makerspace and courtyard event space. We'd like to continue to be a 3rd space for the community, which there aren't very many in Hayward.

The Sun Gallery brings all of this to the community on a shoe-string budget so a \$30K cut is a major blow for us!

I'm asking that the CSC please help provide us funding and not cut us off during our anniversary year!

Thank you,

Carl Gorringer, Treasurer
Sun Gallery Board of Directors
carl@sungallery.org

From: Jung-Sun Kim <kimjungsun925@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 3:49 PM

To: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>

Cc: Mark Salinas <Mark.Salinas@hayward-ca.gov>; jroberts@eldercarealliance.org

Subject: Comments about Mercy Brown Bag Program (MBBP)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

My name is Grace Kim and I am the recently retired (as of Jan. this year) Resident Services Coordinator of Eden Issei Terrace in Hayward - a 100-unit community for low income seniors 62 and older, and owned/managed by Eden Housing, Inc. of Hayward. I would like to say a few words about the unique value of the Mercy Brown Bag Program as I was privileged to experience it for the past 7 years.

I started working with this organization in 2018, when I organized resident volunteers to drive their cars twice a month and pick up bagged groceries from the local senior center to distribute to fellow residents back at Eden Issei. The next year, Eden Issei was chosen to be part of MBBP's pilot program to have their mobile pantry truck come directly to the property to distribute groceries. I had a regular team of resident volunteers (up to 6) and 1 volunteer from the outside community work at the truck twice a month bagging groceries (about 40 bags) to be delivered to two other Eden Housing senior properties, providing help to Eden Issei's residents while choosing/bagging their own groceries at the truck, and making a few home deliveries to fellow homebound residents.

Throughout the years, the Mercy Brown Bag Program has been very solid and the best partnership by far that I've experienced in my 24 years as Eden issei's Services Coordinator. The MBBP not only provides nutrition and well-balanced and free groceries, but they provide peace of mind and added financial security to seniors on their very small incomes, and the program is its own special social event! It is something very much looked forward to twice a month and very much missed the rest of the month. I attribute this social value to the great team of resident volunteers who work at the truck - they work for the right reasons to serve and give back and help as much as they can. They provide great customer service! They have told me repeatedly how much the work means to them - their sense of pride is palpable. The 1 outside volunteer told me that it is her favorite volunteer work and she volunteers at numerous places. She has stayed on with Eden Issei for 5+ years.

To sum it up, I have never seen something that the seniors look forward to so much and rarely fail to remember attending. Services Coordinators, especially ones who work with

seniors, tend to worry about seniors' ability to remember to come to events/be willing to participate, and that is not an issue with the Mercy Brown Bag Program. Along with the 40 bags consistently provided to the two other senior sites in Hayward, Eden Issei's attendance at every Brown Bag event consistently is at 75-85 households! The consistency tells me everything - that the program has immense value for the individual and for community life at Eden Issei Terrace.

I hope MBBP continues to be supported as much as possible. Thank you very much.

Best,

Grace Kim

hs6mik@gmail.com

From: [Mark Batenburg](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Cc: [Kim Olson](#); [Cynthia Arrington](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Support for SOS Meals on Wheels CSC Grant
Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 10:01:33 AM

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Community Services Commissioners,

I'm a resident of Hayward and a volunteer driver for SOS Meals on Wheels. I'm writing in support of the Commission's recommendation to fund Service Opportunities for Seniors (SOS) Meals on Wheels (MOW).

Before I became a volunteer driver, I was unaware of how many homebound seniors there are in Hayward who need food. It's a huge but largely invisible problem. MOW not only provides a healthy meal every day of the week, but we, the drivers, are often the only people the seniors see all day, providing much needed human contact.

These grant funds will help produce the 80,000 nutritious meals SOSMOW will deliver to roughly 500 of Hayward's homebound seniors next year. The Meals on Wheels program reduces food insecurity, enhances nutrition, and decreases feelings of isolation for Hayward's senior population. I strongly support this investment from the City of Hayward, because it fosters a healthier, more connected community where our older neighbors can thrive.

Thank you,
Mark Batenburg
1592 D Street
Hayward 94541
510-750-8991



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510 887 1147

www.edenyouth.org

680 W. Tennyson Rd.
Hayward, CA 94544



March 19, 2025

Investing in the Future – Support for The Clubhouse at Eden Youth and Family Center

Dear Mayor Salinas and City Council Members,

For more than 40 years, Eden Youth and Family Center (EYFC) has proudly partnered with the City of Hayward to create opportunities for youth and families to build community and thrive. At the heart of our mission is The Clubhouse, EYFC's longest-running program. For 21 years, The Clubhouse has provided Hayward youth a safe space for mentorship, creative exploration, and engagement in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math).

To youth participants, The Clubhouse is more than an afterschool program—it's a "second home." We asked current Clubhouse members how the program has impacted their life, and this is what they shared:

- "The clubhouse introduced me to a safe place that I continue to consider as my second home. I continue to show up to the clubhouse at times whenever I can, working on personal passion projects and learning more about myself on what I want to do in life."
- "The clubhouse for me is like a second home. I can come here and be loud, or quiet and everything in between. It means community and equity, I love the clubhouse and feel good when I'm here. Thank you, clubhouse! Thank you, Kevin and Erik!"
- "The clubhouse is a place that I can go to and just talk to people and a safe place for me to go to after school and during summer. It has impacted me because I have met new people who are now my friends."
- "At The Clubhouse, I learned how to better talk to people, better solve problems, and inspire other people to be creative."

Why This Funding Matters

The Clubhouse is a transformative space where youth gain confidence, build relationships, and access new opportunities. Through trauma-informed practices and holistic support, we create an environment where young people thrive, which includes:

- **A Safe, Supportive Environment:** The Clubhouse provides a structured refuge after school and during the summer, strengthening peer relationships, promoting mental wellness, and advancing anti-bullying initiatives.
- **Impactful Mentorship:** Local college mentors, trained in restorative justice and positive youth development, offer personalized academic support and social-emotional learning to help youth succeed.



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Hayward, CA 94544



- **Civic Engagement and Leadership:** Youth take an active role in their communities, leading initiatives like weekly food distributions and youth-driven media projects that amplify their voices on issues impacting their lives.
- **Bridging Equity Gaps:** Serving over 90% BIPOC youth, The Clubhouse offers crucial exposure to STEAM careers for groups historically underrepresented in these fields, directly addressing systemic inequities.
- **Building Tomorrow's Workforce:** The Clubhouse nurtures the next generation of engineers, artists, and community leaders who will shape Hayward's culture and economy.

Proven Impact in 2024:

- 74 Hayward students served
- 2,150 free meals distributed by participants and staff to address food insecurity
- 100% of youth participants were matched with a college mentor
- 90% of youth said they are now equipped with the tech skills to be successful in their future careers
- 92% of youth said they have increased belief in their own potential

Without Your Support

Loss of funding would severely limit our capacity, leaving vulnerable youth without critical support and mentorship to build self-esteem and skills at a time when mental health, substance use, and economic challenges are escalating.

We understand city resources are limited. However, we firmly believe this investment will deliver immediate, tangible benefits by improving mental health outcomes for youth, while generating long-term social and economic returns as these young leaders innovate within Hayward's economy and transform our community.

Please stand with us and continue supporting this vital resource for Hayward's youth.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and ongoing partnership.

Sincerely,

Karen Halfon
Executive Director

From: [Linda Stewart](#)
To: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#); [Emily Hwang](#)
Cc: [Mary Bergstrom](#)
Subject: Public Comments
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 12:06:56 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-e54h551f.png](#)
[Hayward CDBG Public Comment March 2025- MWRP \(1\).docx](#)

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Good morning Emily and Amy,

Attached and below please find our written public comments on our CDBG funding recommendation, agenda item IV.

CDBG Public Comment March 2025- Magnolia Women's Recovery Programs

Magnolia Women's Recovery Programs (MWRP) is a trusted, community-based organization in Hayward providing safe residential housing and recovery support for mothers and their children in crisis. We serve pregnant, postpartum, and parenting women facing substance use disorders, mental health challenges, domestic violence, and homelessness. Our mission is to break cycles of economic instability by providing housing, therapy, parenting support, and job-readiness programs that empower women to rebuild their lives.

Thanks to the City of Hayward's initial investment on April 20, 2009, our facility has become a vital resource for women and families. We need critical facility improvements to maintain a safe and stable recovery environment.

MWRP is the only recovery program tailored specifically for women in southern Alameda County and one of just three gender-specific programs across the county. Yet, Hayward faces a severe shelter bed shortage, with only 115 beds available, covering just 24 percent of the need. Research shows that women with stable housing and structured recovery programs are far more likely to achieve long-term independence, reducing homelessness, incarceration, and child welfare interventions (Jacobsen et al., 2024).

In FY 2023-24, MWRP served 30 women and 30 children at the Hayward facility, with an average stay of 9 to 12 months. All 60 received wraparound case management services. In 2024 alone, MWRP served 57 women, with nine completing the program, six securing stable housing, and 17 reuniting with their children. Investing in MWRP strengthens Hayward by reducing crime, alleviating pressure on emergency services, and helping women achieve long-term stability and independence.

We respectfully request the City of Hayward to continue its investment in Hayward families and MWRP through this funding. MWRP seeks support for critical infrastructure improvements at its Hayward facility to ensure safe operations in a structurally sound, code-compliant space. The project includes selective demolition,

foundation reinforcement, framing, insulation, flooring, painting, and upgrades to wiring and ventilation. These upgrades are essential to maintaining a safe, stable environment for women and children in crisis. The requested improvements will strengthen families and ensure that Hayward remains a place where women and children can regain independence, recovery, and economic stability.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Linda Stewart

Dr. Linda Stewart, EdD, LMFT

Executive Director

Magnolia Women's Recovery Programs, Inc.

(510) 535-1344

magnoliarecovery.org | [Donate](#)



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From: [Christina Antos](#)
To: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#)
Cc: [Emily Hwang](#); [Estephanie Urbina](#)
Subject: FW: #IV ACT 25-018 Attachment II Final Funding Recommendations
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 1:42:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
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Good afternoon, Amy:

I hope you are doing well.

On behalf of Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, Inc. (TVHC), I am submitting written commentary on agenda item **#IV ACT 25-018, Attachment II – Final Funding Recommendations**.

Again, we respectfully request that the Community Services Commission reconsider TVHC's request for \$50,000 to support health education services at the Hayward High School-Based Health Center. We appreciate Austin Bruckner Carrillo's advocacy for Hayward students and his efforts in urging the commission and council to reconsider funding for TVHC's school-based clinic at the last meeting.

TVHC's Hayward High School-Based Clinic is a vital access point for both healthcare and health education for students. Beyond providing primary and sensitive care services, as well as referrals to specialty care and community resources, the clinic plays a crucial role in delivering comprehensive health education on preventive care, sexual health, substance use, nutrition, and chronic disease prevention—key topics that directly impact students' well-being and academic success. Additionally, the clinic serves as a gateway for students interested in pursuing careers in healthcare—an industry facing significant workforce shortages but offering stable, long-term employment opportunities for Hayward students. Given the barriers many students face in accessing reliable health information, our full-time, on-site Health Educator is an invaluable resource, equipping them with the knowledge and support they need to make informed decisions about their health and future.

I'd like to share a recent story that highlights the vital role of school-based clinics as a resource for students, connecting them to essential services. A school counselor at Hayward High referred us to a student who had just turned 18 and was forced to leave her grandmother's home, leaving her unhoused. With no stable housing, she was couch-surfing at friends' houses while struggling to navigate her next steps. Upon learning about her situation, the Hayward High School-Based Clinic immediately stepped in, connecting her with our street health outreach team, who assessed her eligibility for housing assistance. She qualified for housing support, and our team is actively working to secure stable accommodations for her. Beyond housing assistance, the clinic served as a gateway

to additional services crucial for her well-being. We guided her through the process of becoming a patient at TVHC, ensuring she had access to both medical and behavioral health services. She was connected with counseling and mental health support to help her process the emotional and psychological challenges that come with housing instability. Recognizing the additional barriers she faced, we also assisted her in obtaining vital identification documents, including her California ID and birth certificate—key resources needed to access stable housing, employment, and other critical services. Additionally, we provided her with food, hygiene supplies, and other necessities to help meet her immediate needs as she transitions to more stable living conditions. This story underscores the essential role that school-based health clinics play in students' lives. More than just a place for medical care, these clinics act as trusted access points to a wide range of support services, helping students overcome barriers to health, education, and stability. By providing a direct connection to housing, mental health support, and essential resources, our school-based clinic ensures that students don't have to navigate these challenges alone.

While Alameda County provides partial funding for our school-based health centers, our contract requires us to secure at least 50% in matching funds. To meet this requirement, TVHC actively pursues local and private funding while also billing Family PACT and other insurance programs. The City of Hayward's support has been instrumental in sustaining and expanding our youth health services over the years, and we urge the city to continue this critical investment. Without this funding—and with anticipated reductions and changes in federal, state, and county financial resources in the coming years—TVHC may be forced to make difficult decisions, including workforce reductions and other cost-saving measures that could significantly impact students and the broader community.

We recognize the challenges in allocating limited resources among many deserving programs and organizations. Understanding these constraints, we are open to receiving a reduced amount from our initial request, if at all possible.

Thank you for your time and understanding. Please let us know if you need any more information.



Christina Antos

Director of Business Development

Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center

1260 B Street, Suite 150

Hayward, CA 94541

Cell: (925) 768-3721

Email: christinaantos@tvhc.org



From: [Dorothy Dominique](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Increased Funding for Creative Arts Program - Hidden Jewels Unleashed
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 2:04:52 PM

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Community Services Commission,

I am Dorothy Dominique, representing Hidden Jewels Unleashed under the fiscal sponsorship of Fractured Atlas. We appreciate your support in our year-round Creative Arts & Youth Development program.

To further enhance our program's impact, I respectfully request an increase of \$3,000 to our current award, raising the total to \$13,000. This additional support will help us hire a dedicated new teacher, enhance the curriculum, and improve operational efficiency. We are currently conducting interviews as we prepare to hire a new staff member to accommodate the families we serve. We believe in providing value.

Since launching this initiative, we've been thrilled to see increasing interest from families, thanks to our recognition. We accommodate families enduring financial hardship and can not afford our programs, and we don't believe in turning families away; that is why the Hidden Jewels Unleashed year-round Creative Arts & Youth Development program is crucial to our community.

Thank you for considering this request, which will significantly strengthen our program.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Dominique

From: [Valerie Caveglia](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Re: Tonight's CSC meeting
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 3:18:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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yes, thank you, Emily!

HEF has a public comment and thank you for reading it:

Hayward Education Committee thanks the committee for their dedication, time and effort spent in reviewing all the applications, and sends gratitude to the committee for supporting the Foundation's goals for arts and music projects in Hayward schools. We have hinted to the Visual and Performing Arts teachers that support might be coming and everyone is excited to get involved and get started!

Valerie Caveglia
Hayward Education Foundation
President, Board of Directors

We raise money to bring equity to Hayward schools, ensuring an enhanced learning experience for all.



On Wed, Mar 19, 2025 at 2:29 PM Emily Hwang <Emily.Hwang@hayward-ca.gov> wrote:

Hi there Valarie,

I'm following up on our conversation around public comment. There are multiple options for you that don't require you to join the meeting in person. As you mentioned on the phone, the meeting is also virtual. You also have the option to email a public comment to me before 4PM today and we will share it with our Commissioners.

Here is the meeting information to attend virtually:

<https://hayward.zoom.us/j/84072966198?pwd=JqSTFoROvaKbwi2gSjFZg0zZAPxHel.1>

Password: huJH+3Mar (for link above)

From: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#)
To: [Yuliana Wiser-León](#)
Cc: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: RE: Agenda item IV Public Comment for City of Hayward CSC
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 3:29:55 PM

Thank you, Yuliana! Your comment has been received and will be shared with the CSC.

Best,

Amy

Amy Cole-Bloom, PhD (she/her/hers)
Community Services Manager
City of Hayward
amy.cole@hayward-ca.gov | 510.583.4201

Please note: Although I may send emails outside of regular business hours, I do not expect a response until your normal working hours.

From: Yuliana Wiser-León <yuliana@edenucc.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 2:33 PM
To: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>
Subject: Agenda item IV Public Comment for City of Hayward CSC

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Hi Amy,

Please find my public comment below for the CSC's meeting tonight. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Yuliana Wiser-León, and I am the Director of the **Newcomer Navigation Center at Eden United Church of Christ**, a program dedicated to serving newcomers in Hayward. First, I want to sincerely thank you for your continued support—your investment has made a profound difference in the lives of unaccompanied minors and children of migrant families in the Hayward Unified School District.

Eden Church has been a strong and reliable community partner in Hayward for many years,

providing a trusted space where immigrant families can access vital services. We are deeply concerned about the proposed reduction in funding from \$50,000 to \$12,500 on a program that the City has supported since 2019. At a time when newcomer communities face growing challenges, this decrease would significantly impact our ability to provide case management, housing support, and medical and social services referrals with the cultural humility and trauma-informed care these children need. We are a vital partner to HUSD's Newcomer program and we believe the decrease in funding will have a negative impact on HUSD's students and families at a time when the school district will be losing family engagement staff as well. Most newcomer families don't have a safety net as they are not eligible for many governmental programs, and we believe our programs serve to fill in the gaps.

We respectfully ask the Council to consider increasing our funding allocation and to work with the City's staff to consider other funding sources to ensure that Hayward's most vulnerable students continue to receive the critical support they deserve. With your help, we can continue serving newcomers residing in Hayward and accompany them on their path to success in their new home.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to serving all members of our community.

Very best,

Yuliana Wiser-León

--

In Solidarity,

Yuliana Wiser-León, Psy. M. | *Hablo Español*

Director

Newcomer Navigation Center

Eden United Church of Christ

21455 Birch St. Hayward, CA 94541

510.582.9533 | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

pronouns: she/her/hers/ella ([Why is this in my email sig?](#))

From: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#)
To: [Carol Morgan](#)
Cc: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: RE: comment about Arts and Music funding
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 3:34:41 PM

Hi Carol,

Comment received! This will be shared with the CSC and published as documents received after agenda publication.

Best,

Amy

Amy Cole-Bloom, PhD (she/her/hers)
Community Services Manager
City of Hayward
amy.cole@hayward-ca.gov | 510.583.4201

Please note: Although I may send emails outside of regular business hours, I do not expect a response until your normal working hours.

From: Carol Morgan <cwmorgan@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 1:19 PM
To: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>
Subject: comment about Arts and Music funding

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hi Amy,

I didn't see an agenda item number for the Commission meeting tonight. I'd like to submit this comment:

As a representative of the East Bay Youth Orchestra, I'd like to express our appreciation for the support the City has given us since our founding. I especially want to thank the City Services Commission for the time they put in to reading through and evaluating all the proposals they receive every year.

I'd also like to confirm that City staff has worked very closely with our organization to try to

overcome obstacles to reporting demographic information as much as possible. I was pleased to see the idea of a two-year funding cycle as well.

We very much appreciate the thoughtful approach of the CSC and City staff. Thank you.

Carol Morgan

East Bay Youth Orchestra (EBYO)

Please let me know if this works, Amy. Thanks!

Carol Morgan, EBYO

From: [Jennifer Dow Rowell](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment re: SAVE's CoH Funding FY26
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 3:54:13 PM

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To Whom it May Concern

It is profoundly disturbing that after 30+ years of serving the Hayward community and providing culturally responsive, linguistically appropriate care to survivors of domestic violence, the Community Services Committee has elected not to fund SAVE's critical work. This was done despite no performance issues with our work and no transparency or feedback. We are incredibly proud of the work we have done for the city and of the care we have provided Hayward residents, including the 130 we served last year, the 76 we have served, and the halfway point this year. Given the shifts at the federal level, now is not the year to turn your back on organizations that have provided decades of support and who need your support now more than ever. I encourage you to reconsider this decision. thank you

Jennifer Dow Rowell
Executive Director

SAVE (Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments)

1900 Mowry Avenue, Suite 201

Fremont, CA 94538

www.save-dv.org



SAVE provides safety, support & resources for people to live free from Intimate Partner Violence and engages Communities in the work to end violence.



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From: [Fayeth Gardens](#)
To: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#)
Cc: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: REVISED: Agenda Item #IV. ACT 25-018: Community Services Commission Meeting of 3/19/25 at 7PM
Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 3:55:15 PM

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Greetings Dr. Bloom and CSC Members:

Thank you for recommending the Kwanzaa Project for \$10,000 funding for 2025-2026.

I respectfully would like to request that you reconsider this 50% cut of our proposal; as it presents acute challenges to raise additional funding for a community cultural program of this nature due to the current economic and political climate that does not recognize, nor support, the value of diversity as an important factor in strengthening our society.

It is our hope that Hayward will not subscribe to the erasure of the value that the African American community and its cultural attributes has brought to this Nation and hope that *it* will recognize and value the importance that the Kwanzaa Project contributes by bringing this community front and center to the larger Hayward community, in order to increase its visibility and hence, participation in all civic, cultural and employment opportunities in this City that we ALL call home.

Warmest regards,

Velda Goe
Founder
FAYETH GARDENS
Est'd 2014