

February 06, 2024

To: Community Services Commission of Hayward, CA

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is sent with great appreciation and support for the 5 Sikh Seva program. I am the Community School Specialist at Park Elementary School in Hayward, California. My job is to integrate support services into our school community, engage families in school activities and to collaborate with community programs to support students to address the whole student's well being.

Last year, we collaborated with wonderful community partners to create a Multi Cultural Night for our students & families. One of the providers is 5 Sikh Seva. I reached out to the program and we immediately arranged a Zoom meeting to discuss the needs for the event. I was told that my proposal would be considered by the Board of 5 Sikh Siva and within a short period, I was contacted by the program and we arranged logistics for the day of our event. Our school was honored to have 300 meals delivered to our event. Not only did the program help to nourish our often hungry students, but it helped to bring our families together in a positive way. Families sat on our campus lawn and enjoyed a hot meal together.

I highly recommend continued funding for this vital program that supports so many families in our community.

Regards,

Julie Pineda

Community School Specialist

Park Elementary School

411 Larchmont St

Hayward, CA 94544

(510) 723-3875 ext 30



Hayward Unified School District Made in Hayward





HAYWARD PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS

Strong Kids. Strong Families. Strong Communities.

CAL STATE
EAST BAY

February 9, 2024

Dear City of Hayward Community Services Commission,

I am writing to express our heartfelt appreciation for the remarkable contributions that 5 Sikh Seva has been making to support the community of South Hayward through their collaboration with Hayward Promise Neighborhoods (HPN), Hayward Public Library, Hayward Area Parks and Recreation District (H.A.R.D.), and the Eden Youth and Family Center. The commitment of 5 Sikh Seva to providing free warm meals to families in our neighborhoods every week since Summer 2023 has undoubtedly strengthened families facing food insecurity in our community.

As the Executive Director of HPN, a federally funded collaborative initiative led by Cal State East Bay, I understand the importance of food access in our Hayward neighborhoods. For example, HPN's existing Fresh Foods for Families program in partnership with the Alameda County Community Food Bank serves 100-150 families once per month with fresh vegetables, fruits, grains, and proteins. Providing families with fresh food is especially important in South Hayward, where 60% of families HPN surveyed in 2021 expressed access to healthy food as their number one household need. Adding a warm meal every week helps reduce the stress of accessing meals and brings greater joy to the neighborhood.

I have had the privilege of witnessing the positive effects of 5 Sikh Seva's efforts in collaboration with our volunteers and partners. The dedication of 5 Sikh Seva staff in preparing the delicious food and often going above and beyond with additional grocery products twice per week at the Eden Greenway Park has not gone unnoticed. HPN has coordinated volunteers from Cal State East Bay and agencies such as Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center to help prepare and distribute the meals. The volunteers work together with 5 Sikh Seva and Cal State East Bay staff to engage with community members, who look forward to the weekly distributions. In 2023 alone, this collaborative effort served a staggering 29,675 warm meals across 109 events, a testament to the dedication and effectiveness of 5 Sikh Seva.

In conclusion, I want to express our support for 5 Sikh Seva's efforts in seeking additional financial resources to help continue food distributions in South Hayward and potentially new sites across the city. Every dollar donated is supported by Hayward Promise Neighborhoods' community of partners, volunteers, and families.

Sincerely,

Edgar Chávez, Ed.M.

Executive Director, Hayward Promise Neighborhoods

California State University, East Bay

edgar.chavez@csueastbay.edu

Hayward Promise Neighborhoods (HPN)

California State University, East Bay, 25800 Carlos Bee Blvd., Hayward, CA 94542-3074

hpn@csueastbay.edu | www.haywardpromise.org | facebook.com/haywardpromise



February 9, 2024

To Hayward Community Services Commission:

It is with great pleasure that I submit a letter of support on behalf of 5 Sikh Seva. I am the Director of the TRIO Educational Talent Search program as well as the Hayward Promise Neighborhoods (HPNs) Grant Coordinator at Chabot College. Both programs are federally-funded, equity initiatives designed to support first-generation and low-income students along the K-12 pipeline with school, college and career readiness. I first encountered 5 Sikh Seva during the 2022-23 academic school year where they were providing hot meals at one our HPN's elementary school's resource fairs and then weeks later at the Hayward Library's annual Trunk-or-Treat festival. At that event, I sampled their food and was delighted by how delicious it was and that it was entirely free for the community. During that event, I introduced myself and became an instant fan!

5 Sikh Seva has been a much-needed source for free, hot, and nutritious food for our community and they have thoughtfully partnered with organizations and institutions in order to ensure that community residents who are most in need can access their food. Last Thanksgiving, they had a generous, but last-minute funder who supported 400 meals during the Thanksgiving holiday and through their partnerships and relationships with me and other HPNs partners, we were able to find a safe and accessible location through the Eden Youth and Family Center and through Hayward Unified School District notify our HPNs families about the opportunity. Needless to say, all 400 meals were devoured!

They are a passionate organization, addressing rampant hunger in our community and filling critical gaps for our local schools, libraries, non-profits and other community gathering places. Their partnerships and model of working has enabled us to braid other supports and resources alongside their meals and the hot meals are a substantial draw for our families and residents. Given some of our institutional structures and limitations, we often are challenged in providing food at our events and 5 Sikh Seva has been an essential collaborator. In fact, we are currently exploring ways in which for them to address food insecurity on our college campus. However, as an emergent nonprofit addressing tremendous need, they are working diligently to scale, expand and deepen their reach. As someone who has worked in all manner of nonprofits, I know how challenging this time is in a nonprofit's trajectory and know that investment is key to their survival and growth. Finally, beyond the food that they provide, they are great partners who listen, are open to feedback, are curious and willing to grow alongside and with community. In short, I love working with them!

I wholeheartedly support their efforts for funding and in-kind support and urge you to do the same! If I can provide any further information or clarity, please do not hesitate to contact me at: 510-723-7570, rgalas@chabotcollege.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Galas".

Robin Galas

Director TRIO Educational Talent Search/ Hayward Promise Neighborhoods Grant Coordinator
Chabot College

From: [Kris Kingsbury](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:28:22 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Kris Kingsbury . I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos at Twinings Vineyard. .

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by bringing wonderful entertainment experiences to us close by. .

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because they're passionate about their work and have a true commitment to the arts. .

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kris Kingsbury

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Club Anywhere](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:29:08 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission, My name Robert Hoffman. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos in 2022. Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by allowing me a creative outlet. I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because Hayward needs more positive avenues for residents to thrive in positive creative ways, rather than being involved in lethargy, crime and violence. I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Robert @ Club Anywhere!

Learn More:

https://www.gigsalad.com/club_anywhere_-_mobile_music_lighting

<https://www.facebook.com/clubanywhererentals/>

<https://www.clubanywhere.net/>

From: [Amber Kuipers](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 8:44:38 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission, My name is Amber Magdael. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos during their run of Avenue Q last year. Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by giving my family & I the opportunity to participate in the arts. I support their development of a live performing arts center in Downtown Hayward because it would make art a more obtainable ideal for everyone here in Hayward. We have so many people who generally cannot afford additional luxury like the theater or acting camps, & to have a local theater would open doors for people of all ages. I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants. Thank you for your consideration,
Amber Magdael

From: [Abbygail Carcallas](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:02:29 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Abbygail Maglaya. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos in 2023 while watching their production of Avenue Q.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by bringing laughter, fun, and overall joy with their entertainment.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because I believe it would promote diversity in theater arts, prosper business and positively impact our east bay community.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Abbygail Maglaya

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Valera R.](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:04:12 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Valera Robertson.

I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos last fall.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by choosing a wholesome production. They were highlighting diversity of talent and size, gender and ethnicity. The costumes were appropriate and colorful.

Most of all the cast, production crew, directors and producers, etc exuded camaradery. It was so much fun!

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward because I support the arts due to the history and culture. Additionally, I lived in Hayward years ago and appreciated their parks, sports, and outdoor “hootenannies”!

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration!

Best Regards,

Valera Robertson

From: [Jay Krohnengold](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 11:49:12 AM

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Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Jay Krohnengold. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos when I participated in one of their excellent theater productions, in support of our American history.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by providing the opportunity to express my artistic and creative skills, so important to my own goals, while offering entertainment and important social messages through the vehicle of good theatre.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because having their own home, Plethos can focus more on their offerings to the public and all that work entails, while taking its rightful place in the community it serves.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,



Jay Krohnengold

From: [Kathleen King](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:32:40 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission, My name is Kathleen King __. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos last summer . Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by providing great local theater experiences __. I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because Hayward is desperately in need of more arts. I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants. Thank you for your consideration, _____

From: [Jessica Stark](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 1:45:59 PM

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Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Jessica Stark, I am a resident of San Leandro. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions.

I first connected with Plethos last year when I saw a flier for one of their plays posted at my gym. I have since been able to go to several of their performances. Having local theatre groups of this caliber is essential to a community. I am impressed by their caliber of performances and overall enthusiasm to engage the community and to share their joy of theater and comedy.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because it would give them a home that would allow them to thrive and expand, as well as a centralized place to bring the community together.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jessica Stark

The Peacehaven
Freedom store.
1063 A Street,
Hayward. CA
20th Feb 2024

City of Hayward

Committee Members

Dear Committee members,

RE: Public comment on CSC Interview.

My names are Shubbie Aishida, I am the director of The Peacehaven corporation, a non-profit based In Hayward.

First and foremost, I would like to say thank you for your hard work, and supporting non-profit and businesses in Hayward. We all are working to make sure our city remains the model city that it has been. I have had the opportunity of working in downtown Hayward for many years, and I have noticed a lot of individual needs based on the economy .

Hayward is rich in diversity, and we are big on racial equity. These are some of the reasons why I am proud to be a resident of this great city.

I am writing based on my experience during the interview, I felt like a few of the members of the interviewing committee had an hostile approach during the interview. A particular person was really unhappy with the location of the Freedom store. (the freedom store is meant to serve low to moderate income individuals and families).

The reason why we placed it at this location is because we want people to be able access it easily, with or without access to transportation.

Besides, this is a flagship model for our city. The model is to create a unique shopping experience for individuals and families even though they are receiving free groceries and goods. This is help preserve individual dignity in this challenging times.

Since the soft launch of the Freedom store in December we have noticed increasing number of families and individuals that show up, and the happiness to shop for free at the Freedom store. Giving them a right to choose items as needed.

This is a store front model, we are also occupied a once empty building that at some point had been taken over by homeless individuals.

We are working with other agencies to further support homeless individuals and try and get them help and move them away from these location. The interviewer In question was hostile about the location and mentioned (in her words) “why should you place a food bank/ Freedom store In this location, when we are trying to bring businesses downtown, don’t the other businesses have a problem with this?”

My questions are

1. So would you rather have the building empty and have homeless encampment there?
2. So what is your understanding of racial equity?

Our freedom store does not attract homelessness, instead this is to support individuals, families, and also work to reduce homelessness .

One other interviewer had a negative approach to our funding application, I felt if she had a better understanding of her position as

an interviewer, she could have addressed us in a more polite way, other than being rude about our funding request.

Although I would be intentional about saying there were other people on the panel that had an understanding of their roles, and had a better approach during the interview.

Our Freedom store works actively on food recovery, we also work with the Alameda County Food bank to get food to low-moderate income families and individuals that are in need.

At the moment we are working with the food bank on a system that tracks data on the individuals we serve. We have been working in the community since the start of the pandemic in 2020, and this has been an individual effort, but we came up with the Freedom store project when we realized there was a lot of need in the community.

We have never applied for any funds from the city. This is our first time applying, this is because this is a new and big project that changes the face of food donation in our community.

Based on our funding request, and the committee's recommendations, I believe the recommendation is unfair and biased. We need this funding so that it can better help us to meet part of our goals of recruiting individuals for the Freedom Store.

Also to help us toward offsetting some of the bills that come with running the Freedom store.

Since we opened the door of the Freedom store, we have served up to 415 individuals daily. And the number keeps increasing. Because of staffing and funding constraints, we have had to hold back on some other services as we do not have permanent staff doing the job. At the moment, we are using private vehicles to do our food

recovery and donation pickups. Which is a lot of inconvenience to donors and volunteers.

We have a lot of need as a new project, and we are hoping the committee would be able to support us with appropriate funding to help us better serve the community.

The \$10,000 funding recommended by the committee is not sufficient based on our application. It does not even pay a part-time driver or office staff in today's economy based on the minimum wage.

The Freedom store purpose and mission is to help combat hunger and climate change. This is because we ensure to recover food and get them to individuals in a dignified way, while ensuring a client choice model.

Ensuring that we reduce the food that goes to landfill, so as to combat climate change. Our work is very important to the community and it changes the face of donation in our city

We do not only do food, we do household items, New clothing, new shoes, personal hygiene items and much more. This project is not about the non-profit, this is to support individuals in our community. This is one of the main reasons why we decided to rent an empty building downtown. This is also to ensure our downtown properties are not left empty. And it is been put to good use that would benefit the community and create jobs and volunteering opportunities for individuals.

I hope our project would be supported by the city. We hope we would be allocated sufficient fund of up to \$50,000 to help push the success of the Freedom store and better serve the community.

I appreciate being given the opportunity to make a public comment.

Thank you again for all you do for Hayward. Your labor of love does not go unnoticed.

Thank you

Shubbie Aishida

The Peacehaven

From: [Erika Cospin](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 3:09:53 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Erika Cospin. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos a few years ago as an audience member. I loved their quality and diversity displayed in their productions.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by providing a community in my hometown. They have also provided quality art and opportunities for artists in Hayward and surrounding areas.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because I want to see the organization continue to grow to be an amazing arts institution in the Bay.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Erika Cospin

--

Erika Cospin she/her/hers

California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo
B.S. Business Administration | B.A. Comparative Ethnic Studies
erikabriannacospin@gmail.com | [LinkedIn](#) | (510) 329-9355

2/21/24 Amy Cole Bloom CSC Item 2-CAF
(9) Pages

Applicant: Ruby's Place (FS) - The Kwanzaa Project: (Re) Creating the Cultural Arts of Africa in America

1. Can you describe your agency's plan to support this proposal with such little staff?
2. The proposed budget includes \$19,000 for professional services. Is that intended to compensate participating artists? How much are artists in this program compensated?
3. Can you describe how this proposal will serve low-income Hayward residents and your plan to track and record this? 3a / 3b
4. Have other funding sources for this program been pursued? Can you provide details of any other potential funding?
5. Has your organization reached out to other Black cultural organizations who may be able to help fund this project, such as Delta Sigma Theta or the NAACP?
6. How will the Kwanzaa Project bring together people from diverse groups, including those who may have preconceived biases, to participate and engage with African American cultural music and art? 6a
6b / 6c
7. The application mentions a potential to 'make monetary contributions toward discount coupons at local studios and exhibition venues.' Can you provide examples of studios and exhibition venues your organization has in mind?

APPLICATION TYPE
City of Hayward Common Application for FY 2023/24

SECTION I. ADMINISTRATION

1. Applicant Name:	Ruby's Place (FS)		
2. Program Name:	The Kwanzaa Project: (Re) Creating the Cultural Arts of Africa in America		
3. Program Address:	P.O. Box 924 (Mailing Address)	City, State, Zip:	San Leandro, CA 94577
4. Contact Name:	Velda Goe dba Fayeth Gardens	5. Contact Phone:	(209) 808-8601
6. Contact Title:	Program Manager		
7. Contact Email:	FayethGardens@gmail.com		
8. EIN Number:	94-2212241	9. SAM/UEI Number:	11-443-2776 (Get a SAM/UEI #)

10. Is the Applicant a fiscal administrator for another organization? Yes
 Please provide the name of that organization: Fayeth Gardens

11. Is Applicant currently an IRS-approved non-profit entity? Yes
 What type of non-profit? 501c(3), 501c(6), 501c(7), etc. 501c(3)

12. Is Applicant currently a State of CA-approved nonprofit entity? checked

13. Has Applicant completed a fiscal audit within the past 12 months? Y
 (Attach a FY 2022-2023 independent fiscal audit, below)

All applications requesting more than \$20,000 are required to submit a complete fiscal audit or must partner with an agency that can meet this standard serving as a fiscal administrator. Agencies that do not have a current audit can apply for up to \$20,000. The fiscal administrator must apply for funding, and if granted, the fiscal administrator may utilize up to 10% of the grant for its own expenses.

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

14. What is the proposed program or service your organization seeks funding for?
Agencies should provide a clear description of the specific program or service they seek funding for. Describe if the program or service is preventative and/or responsive.

Leading Program Participants in the exploration and (Re)Creations of their Individual and Group artistic projects centered around African and African American Art and Music. (1) (3a)

The contextual framework of the Artistic Projects stem from the Kwanzaa Celebration as defined by the 7 Principles (Nguzo Saba) of Kwanzaa; which serve as a guide for a productive, Afro-culturally influenced lifestyle: (3a) (6a)

Umoja - Unity
 Kujichagulia - Self-Determination
 Ujima - Collective Work and Responsibility
 Ujamaa - Cooperative Economics
 Nia - Purpose
 Kuumba - Creativity
 Imani - Faith

'A People without Knowledge of their Culture is Like a Tree without Roots' (3a) (6a)

Kwanzaa is the only African-American cultural holiday that was created in 1966 and is now celebrated by millions around the globe to recognize and regain the African cultural traditions that were lost to the African descent peoples during the African Diaspora; due to the practices of the enslavers to separate families, communities, prohibit the speaking of their indigenous languages and the practice of their cultural traditions and culinary diets. (3a) (6a)

These cultural alienations have intentionally caused a gargantuan chasm in the African American communities that do not share the advantage of indigenous cultural ties that unify other groups who have transplanted to the United States and therefore can form immediate bonds with other members of their community - wherever they live. (3a) (6a)

This Program is responsive; using the Arts to help resolve the cultural dilemma of the African American community in Hayward as being largely invisible, in terms of civic matters, cultural, social and commerce organizations that focus on the specific needs of their community. (1) (3a) (6a)

15. This application requests funding for an activity in the following category. City staff may reassign the selected category to a different category should staff determine that such reassignment is needed and warranted.
Arts & Music

16. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds local community development activities with the goal of providing affordable housing, anti-poverty programs, and infrastructure development. CDBG is a federal funding source, and as such, has more complex reporting requirements and requires monthly invoices. Are you applying for CDBG funding?
No

17. Which National Objective does your program support?

Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight

18. Describe how your program supports the National Objective selected above.

B. AGENCY PERFORMANCE

19. CDBG INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICANTS ONLY:

19a. Does the proposed project involve a change of use to an existing property?
Examples may include but are not limited to adding shelter beds, expanding services and offerings on the site, increasing the number of individuals served at a site, etc.

19b. Does the proposed project involve expanding the size or footprint of an existing property or interior modifications to allow for an expansion of use? Examples may include but are not limited to construction of an addition to an existing building, construction, or installation of new structures on a site, installation of interior tenant improvements within an existing building to expand useable space, etc.

20. What is your organization's mission?

Agencies should provide a clear and succinct mission. The mission should provide a clearly stated purpose of who the organization is, what they do, and how they benefit the Hayward community.

Fayeth Gardens' mission is to provide refuge for the mental, spiritual and social well-being of the beleaguered African American Community in Hayward and provide them with tools to stand and be counted as a productive, strong and unified participatory component in the local civic landscape. (3a) (6a)

The 1st step of many in such a process is self-definition - modelled in the Nguzo Saba as Kujichagulia - Self-Determination. Until one is aware of who they are; where they come from and what the tenets of their culture represents, they will be on shaky ground as a strong and valued participant in the larger society and scheme of things, in terms of their role and what specific attributes they can bring to the table. (3a) (6a)

Using Art, Music and Culture to aid the Hayward African American community in self-identification promotes the confidence needed to jump in the stream of things, and the rekindling of cultural memories of strength awaken the ability to swim upstream; when need be. (1) (3a) (6a)

In addition to the benefits of using the Arts to aid the African American community in the self-knowledge of their cultural specificities, Art and Music are Universal Ice-breakers that can ease others outside of the Community into coming closer and even experiencing the nuances of the culture, that may have heretofore, seemed foreign, daunting and even threatening only to find that such participation breeds the knowledge that, while different, the basis of cultural expression of any group is more similar, in terms of human desires and needs. (6a)

21. How many years has the service organization been providing services in Hayward? 2

22. How many years has the service organization been providing the proposed services in Hayward? 0

23. Describe how program performance is assessed and maintained.

The City is interested in learning how data driven outcomes are used in your program management and planning. How do you track outcomes? How do you use data to improve upon your service delivery?

The Kwanzaa Project proposes to use a Registration, Program Retention and Project completion data collection models to gauge the success of the program. (3b)

Targeted marketing will be a big factor to inform and promote the program in the community and engage them to register and participate in the program. (3a) (6b)

The strategy will be to use locally known artistic and musical personalities and/or entities to lead some of the Nguzo Saba sessions and offer long-term incentives to extend beyond the programs, such as discounted studio time coupons; exhibitions and possible sale of their works in the Hayward Library, at the Hayward Farmers Market and other Hayward events or public spaces that offer the opportunity for exhibition - such as the Kwanzaa Celebration on January 1, 2025, Juneteenth on June 19th, 2025, City Hall Art (1) (2) (3b)

1/30/24, 10:19 AM

City Data Services - Hayward, CA

Gallery, etc..

Based on the outcomes of registration, program retention and project completion using the above noted strategies, feedback polls will be periodically solicited from the Program Participants; the results of which will be applied as appropriate to further refine and modify the Program utilizing their input.

(3b)

24. Use this space to share anything that the City should know.

Did you have any organizational changes in the past year that may have impacted your organization's performance?

While there have not been any organizational changes in the last year as we are a New Agency, we will be exploring working collaboratively with the Hayward Main Library for this project, insofar as utilizing Meeting Rooms, the Makers Space, Promotion in terms of related talks with the Service Providers and Exhibition of the finished projects.

25. Describe how the Applicant would verify, document and report that the clients benefiting from the City's funding would be low-income Hayward individuals, households, or businesses.

The City requires that federally funded programs serve 100% low-income. How would your agency verify and document low-income status if offered funding?

26. Describe how the organization plans to expand or enhance services in comparison to existing services with proposed funds. Will this funding allow you to provide a new service or expand your service delivery?

C. FUNDING

27. What is the total organizational/agency budget?

(Attach a board-approved, line-item, agency-wide budget)

28. What is the total cost of the proposed program or project? \$30,000

29. Of the total budget from question 28, what amount is being requested from the City of Hayward? \$30,000

(Minimum grant amount is \$10,000)

D. FUNDING SUSTAINABILITY

30. Describe your efforts to diversify funding and other sought-out revenue sources.

The City of Hayward has limited funding to distribute through the Community Agency Funding process. City funding should not be an agency's sole funding source. We are interested to hear how you currently or plan to diversify your funding stream and leverage City funding as part of your total revenues.

Fayeth Gardens plans to solicit additional sponsorship funding to help implement the Kwanzaa Project; underwrite known cultural artists to help lead the sessions and guide participants in their Arts and Music endeavors, as well as make monetary contributions towards discount coupons at local studios and exhibition venues. (1) (2) (4) (5)

31. Describe the impact funding would have for your agency and program.

The City is interested to hear how this funding impacts your agency. What does funding allow you to accomplish? If partial funding is awarded, how would this impact your organization and program? The City is interested to hear how your organization would adapt should you receive less funding than in previous years.

As Fayeth Gardens is a New Agency for this funding initiative and the Kwanzaa Project, the receipt of funding from the City of Hayward would enable this program to come into fruition and allow the citizens of Hayward to benefit from its' creation. (4)

As Fayeth Gardens has not applied for this funding previously, there is no residual budget to draw upon for the Program implementation, so any amounts less than what is requested would result in either a reduction in Program Scope or a solicitation from outside funding sources to meet the Program needs as outlined herein.

SECTION II. CITY STRATEGIC ROADMAP & COMMUNITY ALIGNMENT, INCLUDING RACIAL EQUITY

A. CITY STRATEGIC ROADMAP ALIGNMENT

32. Describe how the proposed program or service aligns with greater City priorities.

The City is interested in learning how the specific program or service aligns with the priorities identified in the City's strategic plans (Strategic Roadmap, Let's House Hayward Strategic Plan, Economic Development Strategic Plan, etc.)

The Kwanzaa Project aligns with the greater City Priorities as follows:

- 1) it fulfills the City Council's priorities identified in June of 2022 of funding up to \$30k for New Agency and Innovative Programs in the Arts and Music Category (5) (4)
- 2) it aligns with the City Strategic RoadMap as follows:

Item #1: Enhance Community Safety and Quality of Life:

the Kwanzaa Project implements community enrichment by exposing the African American and larger Hayward Community to the cultural practices in Art and Music - thereby inviting them to actually engage in these practices that usually reveal that although unique in their cultural expressions, they are based on the Universal Values that hold consistently throughout all cultures (6c)

Active Public Spaces: by exhibiting the Kwanzaa Project finished works in Public spaces, that engages the larger community in healthy discourse as well as the acknowledgement of cultures that may differ from their own,

Strengthen Justice and Belonging: by sharing the African American cultural Art and Music traditions with the Hayward Community at large - this introduction breeds familiarity and provides a non-threatening groundwork to dispel myths, unfounded biases and forms a communal basis to come together to share experiences as a foundation for belongign, justice for all and new alliances.

B. COMMUNITY NEED

33. Describe how the proposed program or service meets a community need

The City is interested in learning how the specific program or service addresses needs within the Hayward community. Does the proposed program or service provide a unique service or address an unmet need.

The Kwanzaa Project addresses the unmet need of the African American community in Hayward to offer a multi-faceted program that speaks to the cultural gaps in their toolbox that acquaints them with their indigenous roots; forming a common denominator base within that community from which a multitude of other community efforts can be spawned, i.e., an African American Chamber of Commerce, an African American Cultural Society, an African American Resource Bank, etc. (3a)

Art is a non-threatening base that can unify, educate and stimulate human interaction and bridge the cultural gaps of alienation into unifying bridges that can be shared with others in the Hayward Communities to familiarize them with the cultural traditions and practices of those, who on the surface, seem to differ from them, but once the ice is broken through shared experiences in engaging artistic ventures; the usual outcome is revealed that we are more alike than different - and our cultural unquenesses are still based in shared human values. (6c)

34. Describe the indicator(s) that gave rise the proposed program or service.

The City is interested in learning what motivated your agency to implement the proposed program or service. Provide data to support the basis for the proposed program or service.

When I observe the racial demographic engagement of African Americans in Hayward, in terms of employment in our local banks, grocery stores, retail outlets, governmental bodies, City Council, Owned businesses and restaurants, etc., I find the participatory representation to ne dismally inadequate. (3a)

As an African American who has resided in Hayward for 16 years, I STILL am not aware of where our communal gathering places are, what actively engaged social, entrepreneurial, and supportive organizations exist in Hayward for African Americans and what if any, initiatives exist in Hayward to elicit, initiate and engage African Americans in this City to be full participants in the civic activities and processes involved in the governance of this City. (3a)

Hayward is home to 17.6K African Americans - that is 11.4% of the Hayward population, as juxtaposed against the 5.85% of Californian African Americans. This demographic in Hayward is certainly an adequate number of citizens to have a more visible and supportive standing in this community. (3a)

35. Describe how the proposed activities strengthen community collaboration to the benefits of clients served. List any organizations you partner with and the services provided.

The City is interested in how agencies work with other agencies to strengthen collaboration and impact in the community.

As it is proposed that the Kwanzaa Project will engage with the Main Library in terms of utilizing Meeting Rooms, the Makers Space, and host talks presented by the Service Providers during the Project. This will benefit the Clients by exposing them to the free resources the Library has to offer and encourage them to fully utilize this valuable resource. (1) (3b) (7)

Also, during the Exhibition Phase of the Project, the Clients may find their works exhibited in City Hall, the Library, other governmental offices, as well as have the opportunity to sell their works at Community Festivals and in the Farmer's Market, (7)

This exposure and engagement with broad based activities within the Hayward Community will promote the Clients inclusivity and standing, as well as their visibility and impact in the Community at large. (3a) (7)

C. IMPACT

36. How many units of service did you provide in FY 2022-2023? (i.e., meals provided, classes taught, etc.)
-0-

New Agency

37. Describe specific goals, intended outcomes and impacts of the proposed program or service.

Describe the program goals, intended outcomes, and impacts on the Hayward community. What is this program or service intending to accomplish in Hayward?

Kwanzaa Project Goals:

Introduce and engage the African American Community and the Hayward Community at large to the cultural Art and Music traditions of Africa and the derived traditions of the African American people (3a)

Intended Outcomes

The African American Community will become familiar with and execute some of the African based Arts and Music traditions and exhibit their finished works in a variety of local venue in the Hayward Community (3a)

Impacts on the Hayward Community::

By being exposed to and having the opportunity to engage with the African American Community, the unknown will become known in Hayward and open the doors to more joint communal and shared activities involving the African American Community and others (3a)

Intended Accomplishments of Project in Hayward:

To elevate the African American Community in Hayward to the stature of a fully participatory Hayward Citizen in all facets of the Hayward Community at Large (3a) (3b)

38. Does your organization provide:

Prevention Services: services intended to prevent something from happening. For example, health education to prevent spread of illness.	
Responsive Services: services intended to respond to something that has already happened. For example, medical treatment for persons with a medical condition.	100%
Both: a combination of prevention and combination services/the service is both prevention and responsive	
Other: not applicable	

D. PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND GOALS:

Performance Measures and Goals:

39. How many unduplicated low-income Hayward residents (individuals) would directly benefit in FY 24-25 100 from the proposed program?

40. How many unduplicated low-income Hayward residents (households) would directly benefit in FY 24-25 85 from the proposed program?

E. RACIAL EQUITY DATA

41. In alignment with the City's Racial Equity Action Plan, we are collecting demographic makeup of funded agencies. Please enter the demographic make-up of your agency leadership and staff.

Ethnicity	Agency Race and Ethnicity Demographics			
	Leadership	Hispanic	Total Staff	Hispanic
White				
Black/African American	1		1	
Asian	0	0	0	0
Chinese				
Filipino				
Asian Indian				
Vietnamese				
Korean				
Japanese				
Other Asian (e.g. Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.)				

Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native				
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isl.	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian				
Samoan				
Chamorro				
Other Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isl.				
Amer. Indian/White				
Asian/White				
Black/White				
Amer. Indian/Black				
Other Multi-Racial				
Declined To Answer				
TOTAL	1	0	1	<0

Gender Demographics of Employees

Gender	Leadership	Total Employees (including leadership)
Female	1	1
Male		
Other	>	

PRIOR YEAR DEMOGRAPHICS

42. Client Race and Ethnicity Demographics Data (data from 2022-2023)

Provide client specific demographics from your previous year's program

Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Annual Served	
	# Served	Hisp.
White		
Black/African American		
Asian	0	0
Chinese		
Filipino		
Asian Indian		
Vietnamese		
Korean		
Japanese		
Other Asian (e.g. Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.)		
Amer. Indian/Alaskan Native		
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isl.	0	0
Native Hawaiian		
Samoan		
Chamorro		
Other Native Hawaiian/Pacific Isl.		
Amer. Indian/White		
Asian/White		
Black/White		
Amer. Indian/Black		
Other Multi-Racial		
Declined To Answer		
TOTAL	0	0

Gender Demographics of Hayward Clients

Gender	Annual Served
Female	
Male	
Other	
Total Unduplicated Clients	0

43. Describe efforts your organization is undertaking to address Racial Equity, including any integration of Racial Equity into Strategic Planning and Implementation processes.

The City is interested in learning how your agency uses a racial equity lens in program delivery. If your agency has a Racial Equity Plan, please upload a copy.

We are a New Program so do not have a Racial Equity Plan, but want to focus on offerings to the African American Community to redress past cultural gaps, while still including other members of the Community to participate in the programming.

F. INTERVIEW LOGISTICS

Part of the Community Agency Funding Process includes an interview conducted by the Community Services Commission in January 2024. The City wants to ensure that applicants are aware that interpretation services are available upon request. Please indicate if the representative performing the interview on behalf of the applicant organization would like interpretation services.

44. Would the person from your agency who will be interviewing applicant's representative like interpretation services during their Community Agency Funding interview? No

G. FY 2024-2025 BUDGET

Budget Instructions

REVENUE SOURCES

	Hayward Request	Total Funding Other Sources	Total	Committed?
City of Hayward Funding Request	\$30,000		\$30,000	
Other Government Revenue Sources (please list each source).				
Other Grants e.g., foundation, corporate (please list each grant). How many lines do you need?				
Private Donations. How many Private Donation lines do you need?				
Total Revenue	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	

Program Budget - Period of July 2024 through June 2025

A. Salaries

Social Security (FICA & Medicare)			\$0
Medical			\$0
Worker Compensation			\$0
State Unemployment (SUI)			\$0
Subtotal Salaries and Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0

B. Operational Expenses

Maintenance			\$0
Service Contract	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
Utilities			\$0
Service & Supplies			\$0
Consumable Office Supplies			\$0
Field Supplies			\$0
Rent	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
Special Services			\$0
Organizational Dues & Pubs			\$0
Insurance			\$0
Mileage			\$0
Staff Training Specific to Program Delivery			\$0
Communications			\$0
Professional Services	\$19,000	\$0	\$19,000
Administrative Overhead (Cost Allocation Plan Required)	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
Other Costs.			
Total Expenditures	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000

(1)(2)

F. ADDITIONAL FACTORS - Staff Use Only

1. Does this applicant provide basic safety net services?
2. Is this applicant Hayward based? :
3. Is this program/service new or innovative?

Rec'd 4:17pm

Attachments

- 2022-2023 Audit
- Agency Budget (1)(2)
- Racial Equity Plan
- Collaboration Agreement
- Other - xyz

Rubys Place - Audited Financial Statements - 2022_06_30.pdf
FAYETH GARDENS.docx

Program Manager Signature

Velda Goe

Date Signed

12/04/2023

Initially submitted: Dec 4, 2023 - 09:26:30

From: [Elizabeth Hayes](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 4:14:11 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Elizabeth Hayes. I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos _____ 2 years ago _____.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by _____ community laughter and connection _____.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because it adds to our community's places to gather laughter, celebrate and be with family and friends. _____.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

____ Elizabeth Hayes _____

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jamil Blackwell](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 4:54:59 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is _____ Jamil _____. I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos _____ last year, 2023 @ Twining Vines Winery in Castro Valley _____.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by _____ having extremely enjoyable and entertaining productions. _____.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because they're productions have been educational as well as entertaining

_____.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

_____ Jamil Blackwell _____

Sent from my iPad

From: [jagdeep deol](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: CSC Funding - Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:31:39 AM
Attachments: [Cal State, Chabot College, and Park Elementary.pdf](#)
[5 sikh seva log for hayward app.xlsx](#)

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

Hi Emily,

I would like to provide additional information for Council to consider when approving the annual funding recommendation provided by the CSC. Please share the below information and attachments with Council.

I believe 5 Sikh Seva should receive \$50K in funding instead of the \$10K recommended by the Services ARC for the following reasons.

1. 5 Sikh Seva provides food to the City of Hayward which is an essential need. They have partnered with the Hayward City Public Library to provide hot meals to the needy on every Monday and Thursday at Eden Greenway and every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Eden Youth and Family Center. More information on 5 Sikh Seva's collaboration with the Hayward Public Library can be found on the Hayward website, see link.

<https://www.hayward-ca.gov/services/city-services/food-access-free-hot-meals>

2. 5 Sikh Seva has worked with Cal State East Bay University, Chabot College, and Park Elementary School to provide free meals. At Park Elementary, 5 Sikh Seva provided 300 meals during a single event. Julie Pineda, Community School Specialist, was honored to have 5 Sikh Seva nourish hungry students. Cal State East Bay Executive Director, Edgar Chavez, noted in his appreciation letter that the organization has served 29,675 meals across 109 events in 2023. I have attached the letters provided by Cal State, Chabot College, and Park Elementary for your reference.

3. 5 Sikh Seva served 4,000 meals to communities in Hayward during the month of October 2023 during their Halloween Holiday special event.

The above three points provide background into the impact 5 Sikh Seva has in the City of Hayward. Food is an essential need for everyone. There are residents or community members in Hayward which do not have access or are not able to afford food to feed themselves or their family members. The Council should provide \$50,000, which is the maximum in funding a service organization can receive, to 5 Sikh Seva because they provide a very valuable service to Hayward. Ensuring everyone in Hayward has access to food is inline with Enhancing Community Safety and Quality of Life under the Hayward Strategic Roadmap.

I also like to mention there are organizations which apply and receive far more funding than 5 Sikh Seva but provide a less essential service and reach a much smaller number of individuals in Hayward.

The Services ARC has mentioned that 5 Sikh Seva has not provided proof that their services serve specifically low-income individuals and Hayward residents. 5 Sikh Seva has provided data along with their application which shows the date and number of meals provided in

Hayward. Generally, individuals who come to service organizations, such as 5 Sikh Seva, for food are those who are in need of food or are low-income. I have attached an Excel file which shows 5 Sikh Seva did track the meals they provided in 2023. Based on the file, it shows the organization provided 22,805 meals within Hayward during 2023.

Thank you,
Jagdeep Singh
Commissioner

From: [Erica Johnson](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: public comment to Hayward city council
Date: Monday, March 4, 2024 1:48:28 PM

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

Dear city council,

I am a single mom who lives in Hayward, and I'm writing to you about a big problem many families like mine are facing: finding childcare.

I work two jobs, and they're not regular 9-5 jobs. They're at different times, so I need childcare that fits my schedule. But the problem is I can't afford the childcare options available in Hayward. If I can't find someone to watch my kids while I work, I might lose my job. That's really scary because then I won't have enough money to take care of my family.

I know lots of other parents who are in the same situation. It's really hard to find someone to watch our kids when we're working hard to support our families. We need help from the city, but I'm not sure what you can do.

I'm writing to ask you to please think about how important affordable childcare is for families like mine. If we can find affordable childcare, we can keep our jobs and take care of our kids better. Maybe you can find a way to help us get childcare that we can afford and that fits our work schedules.

Thank you for listening. I hope you can help us find a solution to this problem.

Signed,
Erica Johnson

From: [Ashley Nunes](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public comment for Community Services Commission
Date: Saturday, March 2, 2024 12:34:16 PM

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

Dear Hayward City Council Members,

As a resident of Hayward, a working mother, and a concerned citizen, I am writing to bring attention to the critical issue of affordable and accessible childcare in our city. Despite my efforts to find suitable childcare options for my two children, I have encountered numerous challenges that are not only affecting my ability to maintain employment but also impacting the well-being of my family.

One of the most pressing issues is the exorbitant cost of childcare in Hayward. Like many families, we are struggling to afford the steep prices associated with quality childcare facilities. The financial burden is significant and often results in a substantial portion of our income going towards childcare expenses, leaving little room for other essential needs.

The availability of childcare slots is severely limited, with long waitlists being the norm rather than the exception. This situation leaves many parents, including myself, in a constant state of uncertainty and stress as we try to secure a safe and nurturing environment for our children while balancing work responsibilities.

The lack of childcare options with flexible or extended hours presents a significant barrier for working parents. Many of us are faced with inflexible work schedules that do not align with traditional childcare operating hours, forcing us to seek alternative, often unreliable arrangements or make difficult decisions regarding our employment.

It is imperative that the City Council takes proactive measures to address these pressing childcare challenges. Access to affordable and high-quality childcare is not only crucial for the well-being of our children but also essential for the economic stability of families and the overall prosperity of our community.

I urge the City Council to prioritize the development of initiatives that promote the expansion of affordable childcare options, reduce waitlists, and support flexible hours to accommodate the needs of working parents. By investing in childcare infrastructure and implementing supportive programs, Hayward can become a more inclusive and thriving city where families can thrive without sacrificing their financial security or career advancement.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing positive steps taken to address the childcare crisis in Hayward.

Sincerely,

Ashley Nunes

From: [Angelica Torres](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public comment to support early education
Date: Friday, March 8, 2024 9:56:24 AM

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

Dear Hayward Community Services Commission,

As a recent college graduate with a degree in child development, I am deeply passionate about working in the field of early childhood education. However, I am writing to bring attention to a pressing issue that is hindering my ability, as well as many others', to pursue careers in childcare - the shockingly low pay for childcare workers.

Despite the importance of the work that childcare providers do in nurturing and educating young children, the compensation for this vital profession is disproportionately low. As someone who aspires to work in childcare and potentially own a childcare business of my own in the future, I am disheartened by the financial challenges that accompany this career path.

Like many recent graduates, I am burdened with thousands of dollars in student loan debt. The prospect of entering a profession where the pay does not support a living wage is daunting and unsustainable. It is disheartening to realize that the dedication, time, and effort required to work with young children are not adequately reflected in the compensation received by childcare workers.

The low pay for childcare workers not only affects individuals like myself who are eager to enter the field but also has broader implications for the overall childcare sector. It contributes to high turnover rates, as many qualified professionals are forced to seek higher-paying opportunities elsewhere, leading to instability and inconsistency in childcare settings.

I urge the Hayward Community Services Commission to recognize the critical importance of fair pay in the childcare sector and to take proactive measures to address this issue. Investing in the well-being and professional development of childcare workers is essential for ensuring high-quality early childhood education and care for our community's youngest learners.

By advocating for fair compensation and better support for childcare workers and daycare owners, the city of Hayward can demonstrate its commitment to valuing the crucial role that childcare providers play in shaping the future of our children and our community.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,
Angelica Torres

From: [Michelle Martinez](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Community Services Commission Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:00:37 AM

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

Dear City Council,

My name is Michelle Martinez. I am a resident of Hayward and I support our child care businesses!

I'm writing to express my support for Upwards childcare! There is a pressing need for childcare FOR ALL families in our community. I believe quality childcare providers should be an area of focus and effort because it is SO important!!

Parents are working hard to support their families, but it's sad to see that no matter how hard they work, so many of them still can't afford childcare! Upwards opens up so many child care options for families who may not qualify for other types of programs. They also assist childcare providers with actually maintaining and growing their businesses which is an incredible help!

There is a shortage of childcare in our community! The number of families in need of childcare is concerning and needs attention! We need to invest in expanding childcare services if we want to see our community thrive!

There is also a huge opportunity for job creation here! If we open more childcare centers, there will be more childcare jobs! We need more women in the workforce! Let's help them out!

I would be so excited if you gave Upwards the opportunity to help our community! Their programs have the potential to help so many families and providers who really need it!

I would love to see city council prioritize childcare by working with Upwards! Accessible childcare for ALL families should be of high priority and concern! We need to address this NOW! Let's help families and the working class!

Thanks so much!

Sincerely,
Michelle Martinez

From: [Linda Timmons](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Community Services Commission
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 3:51:57 PM

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

Hi. My name is Linda Timmons. I'm a child care advocate in Hayward.

Child care is a much needed service in our community.

Parents are having a hard time paying for child care. Many of them can't even afford it! There are no options for the middle class. Affordable day cares are full! We really need to invest in our child care owners and also welcome organizations like Upwards to assist our community to open more day cares.

Families are hurting because of the lack of affordable care for their kids. They are being put on waitlists and forced to call into work if they can't find care. Some parents struggle to keep jobs because they can't find a place to put their kids while at work. This only creates more hardships for families! We need to address this issue and offer more affordable child cares in our community. More people would be able to maintain jobs if they had reliable child care, which helps families have a steady flow of income.

We must take action or face the negative consequences. Parents are stressed. If we invest in expanding child care and help the child care workers, we will be providing the support that families need to thrive and succeed!

I hope you support Upwards and invest in some solutions for child care for the families in our community. Recognizing the impact that child care has on both the well-being of families and our overall community is very important. I am encouraged by the efforts of Upwards. I've read articles about what they've done in other cities and they could do that here! I believe that supporting their programs will help existing child care businesses and hopefully open more centers and help more people!

Thank you.

Linda Timmons

From: [Jeanette Montross](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:55:22 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Jeanette Montross. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos when my child, now 23 yrs old, began acting in Plethos productions last year.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by enriching my child's life and allowing them to gain on-stage experience with this lovely organization who all share a common passion for performing arts.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward because of the community spirit they demonstrate and the joy they bring to the communities around them. In the age of streaming, gaming and remote forms of entertainment, keeping live theater vibrant is SO important.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeanette Montross

From: [Jamari McGee](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 10:34:18 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Jamari McGee, I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos back in May when i got cast for their production of Avenue Q.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by letting me be myself and to express myself creativity.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, CA because they deserve it. I know great things will come Plethos and i will forsore audition for them again in the future, maybe even do some directing. Maybe I'm not expressing my words well but I will say I can't think of a more deserving theatre company to recieve this grant.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jamari McGee

From: [Rob Hughes](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 9:22:11 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is _____ Rob Hughes _____. I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos _____ to see their production of Jane Austin's Pride & Prejudice last year. _____.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by _____ their passion for that project. _____.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because _____ I love local, amateur theatre. I used to write theatre, film, and classical music reviews for the SF Examiner. Their enthusiasm for Jane Austin was palpable & infectious. The staff was professional & engaging. The revised & compressed script made sense & moved along quite trippingly. It was a pleasure to attend this event with 12 of my pals & all had a terrific time; even the cynical teenagers among us. We need **more** local theatre productions such as this here in Hayward, where I now reside. Please consider this request for funding this local company with enthusiasm.

_____.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

_____ Rob Hughes. _____

From: [y.xie](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:55:01 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is ___Yinxing Xie_____. I am submitting a public comment to voice my

support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos ___when my daughter Melanie joined Plethos' summer camp last year ,it's amazing. she's learned much more than what I expected _____.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by__The summer camp my daughter joined is fun ,educational, and very well organized. It is really impressive that they have such wonderful programs to offer kids with opportunities to know and learn about musical dramas and performances _____.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because ___it will help more neighborhoods kids and adults to learn about performance and different kinds of dramas__ I_____.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Best
Yinxing

From: [Yuyi Li](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024 12:19:22 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

I am writing to submit a public comment in support of Plethos Productions. My initial connection with Plethos was through their low-cost theater program in the Castro Valley school district. Since then, my daughter has participated in several of their programs. The staff at Plethos Productions are not only nice but also caring, and the quality of their programs has been consistently excellent. These programs have inspired my daughter to explore acting, singing, and performance further, shaping her personality and igniting her creativity.

I am supportive of Plethos Productions' initiative to develop a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward. I believe that such a wonderful program deserves a dedicated place to operate, ensuring that it remains available to and serves a large community.

I strongly believe that Plethos Productions would be an excellent candidate for the 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thanks you very much for your consideration!

Yuyi Li

From: [Iona Childers](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Tuesday, February 27, 2024 10:52:10 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Iona Childers and I'm submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I was reared in the Bay Area (Union City) and currently live in San Leandro with my husband and our newborn baby. As we think about her future, one thing we wonder about is what she'll be interested in. My husband hopes for practically all of the sports, especially golf, but I'm open to her possibly being a bookworm or theatre kid. We also can't wait to introduce her to things like ice cream or her first ballet (probably SF's rendition of *The Nutcracker* during the holidays).

I first heard about Plethos through a friend who held the leading role of Elizabeth Bennet in Plethos' recent production of *Pride and Prejudice* last September. I was one month away from giving birth to my daughter, but I still managed to make the trek down the small slope to the meadow area of Heirloom East Bay where the play was being performed. The ascent back up was a little more difficult, but so worth it for such a delightful evening. It meant so much to watch my friend breathe life into a much beloved character alongside other passionate actors and actresses.

Plethos Productions is making such a positive impact in their lives and the lives of people like us who come to experience theatre communally - to laugh and to cry and to ponder together. After years of COVID distancing and separation, it would mean a lot to have Plethos develop a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward. It will be such a special hub meant to nurture the creativity of so many people from all walks of life and through the generations.

I believe they are truly worthy candidates for the 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Iona

From: cindycarb@yahoo.com
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 6:13:13 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is ___Cindy Carbonetti_____. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos ___for comedy next to Trader Joe's in Castro Valley_____.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by_____offering a generous variety of entertainment_____.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because _____the area would benefit immensely for access the the 'arts'_____.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

___Cindy Carbonetti_____

Sent from my iPad

From: [David Patino](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Grant for Plethos Productions
Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024 9:26:32 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is David Patino and I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos years ago volunteering for one of their first few shows, and I have been an active member ever since.

From the very beginning Plethos have been committed to making a community where all are represented; to this day they have not faltered in their mission statement and actively seek to create more opportunities for all that want to be involved. I have had my fair share of work with different communities, and the Plethos community is by far the most amiable, caring, and honest.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward because, if we want to keep and encourage companies to be open, welcoming, and invested in the well being of their communities, we need to fill our city with role models that set that standard. Plethos is very much deserving of helping set what the ideal is.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
David J Patino

From: chess613@icloud.com
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Cc: [Karin Richey](#)
Subject: Support for Plethos Productions to receive a Grant from the City of Hayward
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024 11:44:25 AM

Ms. Hwang -

My name is Reg Clay, a long time resident of Alameda County and an actor and creative. I'm writing to you to voice my enthusiastic support for Plethos Productions in getting a grant from the City of Hayward.

I arrived in the bay area from Washington DC in 1997 - from that point up to now, I've been involved in several theater companies throughout San Francisco and Oakland, as a stage manager, sound designer, actor and writer. In 2017, I had written a play (Four Men In Paris) that spoke to the black community, a story of Richard Wright, James Baldwin and two other legendary black writers and members of the pre-King civil rights movement. I was excited about the play, and I had done several play readings, in hopes of having one company take a chance, read the play, and produce it. Plethos was the company that took a chance on my play, and on October 12-14, 2018, we performed the play to a near full audience at the Douglas Morrison Theatre. The African American community in Hayward came out in full force to see a play that spoke to them - quite a few young folks came to me after one performance to inquire more about the history of these four black men who left the USA to find a new life in France), and the interaction and excitement of the play was something I had not seen for a play done at the Douglas Morrison (and I had been involved in four prior plays at the DMT). It would never have happened without the enthusiastic support of Karin & Jon Richey.

Plethos has a strong record of producing plays that speaks to minorities and is inclusive to all races and cultures. They've lifted up artists to take their careers to a new level. As a result of Plethos producing my play, I'm now a published author and can place a produced play on my resume. The most that we can ask of a theatre company is more than giving the community a good show - but to open their doors to new artists and to tell stories other companies won't tell.

I am very proud to be a fan and a contributor to Plethos and I'm hoping my letter to you motivates you and the City of Hayward to give a grant to Plethos Productions. Karin and Jon Richey not only tell stories, but they help others like me tell our stories.

Please write back if you have any questions or comments.

Reg Clay

From: [Melani Facundo](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Sunday, March 10, 2024 5:48:29 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang & the Community Services Commission,

My name is Melani Facundo and I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions.

I first connected with Plethos in 2022. Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by providing me with a strong community of like-minded, passionate individuals and has served tremendously well as a creative outlet for me. I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because we need more 'third places' and common spaces for the community to gather & create.

I strongly and whole-heartedly believe Plethos would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Melani Facundo

From: [Ben Stevens](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Plethos Productions
Date: Monday, March 11, 2024 8:35:22 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Ben Stevens. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos as a first time actor who they accepted despite my lack of experience. I continued to work with the company through the COVID-19 pandemic helping with video recording and editing as they adjusted to the new safety protocols.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by providing new experiences, a sense of community, and helping to develop my love of theater and the arts.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because they have always worked so hard, and been so creative in finding places for the community to share their talent and having an established space would allow them to be able to put extra focus on the artistic aspects of their projects and less energy into constantly figuring out logistics.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,
Ben

From: [Cory Ervin-Stewart](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Re: Public Comment Period ends March 20 for funding recommendations and changes to virtual participation at the CSC Meetings
Date: Wednesday, March 13, 2024 11:25:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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

Dear Emily

On behalf of my team at East Bay Agency for Children, I would like to say how grateful we are and have been over the last several years for your continued support. Through your generosity and investment, we can continue to support underserved, low-income Hayward families with services and resources that prevent, respond to, and reduce health disparities and strengthen resilience and well-being. We leverage relationships with school and school district staff to provide:

- 1) Service Navigation: Care coordination, Resource Linkage. Staff will lead these supports until the family reaches their goal or is referred to other services. Goals are co-developed and promote increased access to medical, dental, mental health, food/employment/housing services, and increased protective factors. Families will be assessed for: Grief/loss and linked to EBAC resources: grief workshops; facilitated parenting discussions; evidence-based Resilient Parenting for Bereaved Families groups to strengthen coping skills and prevent physical/mental illness and/or family violence; and evidence-based Ready4K texts.
- 2) Assistance with health coverage and food stamps enrollment, translation/interpretation, systems navigation, food/health resource referrals
- 3) Family Wellness and Parenting Workshops to support increased social connections and supports. Most workshops will center on grief and loss.
- 4) Ready4K parenting/child development texts. Caregivers receive facts and activities to boost their child's learning. Texts will be sent in Spanish, English, Arabic, Vietnamese, and Chinese.
- 5) Concrete needs such as food, clothing
- 6) Targeted outreach to expand engagement in and impact of each of the above services on populations underserved by the FRCs, focusing particularly on African American families and families who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused (McKinney-Vento program).

Again, thank you so much for your support, and do let me know if you have any questions.

Kindly,
Cory

Cory Ervin-Stewart
(she/her)

Associate Director of Development
East Bay Agency for Children (EBAC)
<https://www.ebac.org/default.asp>

510-292-6752 (cell)

EBAC
2828 Ford Street
Oakland, CA 94601

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Emily Hwang** <Emily.Hwang@hayward-ca.gov>

Date: Wed, Mar 6, 2024 at 9:50 AM

Subject: Public Comment Period ends March 20 for funding recommendations and changes to virtual participation at the CSC Meetings

To:

Cc: Amy Cole-Bloom <Amy.Cole@hayward-ca.gov>, Rick Rivera <Rick.Rivera@hayward-ca.gov>, Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>, Evelyn Olivera <Evelyn.Olivera@hayward-ca.gov>

Dear Community Agency Funding Applicants,

This is a reminder that the Public Comment period for any feedback on the Commission's recommendations for FY 2024-2025 funding will end on March 20, 2024 at the [Community Services Commission meeting](#).

You can submit a public comment through the following options:

1. Email or call in your public comment to Emily Hwang at emily.hwang@hayward-ca.gov or 510-583-4252 **before March 20 at 4PM**, and we will include this to share with the Commission at the March 20 Commission Meeting.
2. Attend the March 20 Community Services Meeting **in person**. The meeting will be live streamed via YouTube; however, virtual participation will not be available for this meeting (see below for more information).

There has been a change to any virtual participation at City meetings. Effective March 4, 2024 the City is suspending public comment via Zoom for all commission, committee, and task force meeting bodies until further notice. The City is obligated to take this action due to the situation that occurred during the February 20 Council meeting when individuals attending the City Council meeting online used the public comment section to deliver hateful speech.

From: mscantua@att.net
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Sun Gallery grant
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:47:08 AM

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

Emily Hwang:

As a long time member and participant of the Sun Gallery, I urge you to continue funding aid to the gallery. It is a tremendous asset in our community, and now more than ever, has a vast array of programs and exhibitions.

I appreciate your consideration.

Yours truly,

Laura Mattos
204 Turlock Way
Hayward, CA 94544
510 782-2659

From: [5sikh.sev](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment for 5 Sikh Seva
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:42:42 AM
Attachments: [5SikhSeva details on collecting info.pdf](#)
[5SikhSeva_Demographic data.pdf](#)
[Community Services Commission.pdf](#)

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

Hi Emily,

Please find attached documents providing detailed clarifications on 5 Sikh Seva's process for identifying low-income families, students, and individuals within Hayward, CA. The second document contains sample data collected. Kindly share this information with community members for further insight. We trust that this clarification will enhance 5 Sikh Seva's eligibility for additional funding.

Additionally, attached is a support letter from the Hayward Unified School District, demonstrating the impact and endorsement of our work within the community.

Thanks

Dear Members of the Hayward Committee, I trust this message finds you well. I am writing to address the feedback provided regarding our funding application for 5 Sikh Seva's operations in Hayward, CA. Firstly, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for the support that has been extended to us, and we fully understand the importance of ensuring that resources are utilized effectively to serve our community.

We appreciate the Committee's focus on transparency and accountability regarding our low-income data collection process. Rest assured, 5 Sikh Seva has taken significant steps to enhance our methodologies to better serve and accurately identify low-income individuals in our community.

Specifically, our low-income data collections efforts have included:

- Conducting comprehensive community research in Hayward to better understand demographics, socioeconomic status, and specific needs.
- Establishing partnerships with local schools, community centers, food banks, and social service agencies to reach individuals in need.
- Implementing direct outreach programs such as door-to-door engagement and community events.
- Providing extensive training on culturally sensitive and trauma-informed data collection practices for staff and volunteers.
- Offering diverse data collection methods to accommodate community preferences and needs.
- Establishing feedback mechanisms to continuously improve our processes.
- Implementing stringent privacy and confidentiality measures to protect sensitive information.

5 Sikh Seva's provision of free meals offers numerous benefits to the Hayward community:

- **Nutritional Support:** Addresses food insecurity and promotes physical health and academic performance.
- **Improved Learning:** Enhances cognitive function, leading to academic success.
- **Reduced Stigma:** Fosters inclusivity by removing stigma associated with assistance.
- **Financial Relief:** Alleviates financial strain, allowing resources to be allocated to other needs.
- **Economic Stability:** Contributes to the community's economic stability.
- **Healthier Community:** Reduces health issues linked to poor diet.
- **Community Cohesion:** Fosters solidarity and support within the community.
- **Educational Equity:** Promotes fairness by ensuring all students have access to free meals.
- We believe that the additional funding will help us expand outreach and support low-income individuals in Hayward. We're committed to improving data collection to better address food insecurity challenges and provide essential resources.

We welcome collaboration with the Committee to advance our shared goal of serving underserved communities. Thank you for your ongoing support.

5SikhSeva gathers information from schools, and the following data exemplifies what we collect. This data plays a crucial role in helping us pinpoint schools facing economic challenges and low-income demographics. These are the institutions with which we collaborate closely, offering free support to students and families. Notably, all these schools are designated as Title I institutions.

School	Racial Demographics	Gender Demographics	Economic Demographic
Burbank Elementary	73.2% Hispanic/Latino 9.9% Asian/Pacific Islander 7.9% Black/African American 5.2% Two or More Races 2.6% White 0.2% American Indian	56% Female 46% Male	51% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 55% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Cesar Chavez Middle	61.1% Hispanic/Latino 23.2% Asian/Pacific Islander 5% White 4.1% Black/African American 4% Two or More Races 1.7% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 1% American Indian	48% Female 52% Male	47% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 67% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Cherryland Elementary	82.7% Hispanic/Latino 5.6% Asian/Pacific Islander 5.3% Black/African American 3.8% Two or More Races 1.5% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 1.1% White	49% Female 51% Male	56% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 61% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
East Avenue Elementary	51.4% Hispanic/Latino 15.1% Black/African American 11.9% Asian/Pacific Islander 9.8% White 7.1% Two or More Races 4.8% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	45% Female 55% Male	37% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 48% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Eden Gardens Elementary	52.1% Hispanic/Latino 26.7% Asian/Pacific Islander 8.2% Two or More Races 4.9% White 4.7% Black/African American 3.1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 0.2% American Indian	49% Female 51% Male	39% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 43% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Fairview Elementary	52.1% Hispanic/Latino 17.2% Black/African American 12.1% Asian/Pacific Islander 9.6% Two or More Races 5.6% White 3.1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 0.2% American Indian	51% Female 49% Male	49% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 53% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Harder Elementary	76.8% Hispanic/Latino 11.4% Asian/Pacific Islander 4.1% Two or More Races 4.1% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 1.9% Black/African American 1.5% White 0.2% American Indian	42% Female 58% Male	76% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 68% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Park Elementary	66.7% Hispanic/Latino 15.9% Asian/Pacific Islander 6.5% Black/African American 4.9% Two or More Races 3.7% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 2.4% White	49% Female 51% Male	60% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 66% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches
Tyrrell Elementary	82.6% Hispanic/Latino 9.9% Asian/Pacific Islander 2.9% Black/African American 2.9% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 0.9% Two or More Races 0.7% White	50% Female 50% Male	56% of Students are Considered Economically Disadvantaged 66% of Students are on Free or Reduced Lunches



Chien Wu-Fernandez, Associate Superintendent, Student & Family Services
24411 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544 T 510.784.2600

February 20, 2024

Community Services Commission
777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541

RE: COMMUNITY AGENCY FUNDING PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY

Dear Community Services Commission:


Hayward Unified School District strongly supports 5 Sikh Seva's application for a grant through the Community Agency Funding Program. 5 Sikh Seva has brought nutritious, fresh, and hot meals to Hayward Unified School District families and has been serving the community for 2 years. Hayward schools are an important source of food and nutrition for many students, with 71.4% qualifying for free or reduced meals. While students have access to breakfast and lunch during the course of the school day, we know many families rely on community-based resources to provide access to groceries and meals.

5 Sikh Seva has provided 8,345 meals to Hayward Unified School District families and 32,585 meals in Hayward (in addition to the meals served to Hayward Unified School District families). In the 2022-2023 school year, they attended 127 events in Hayward, providing access to hot and nutritious meals. These services are extremely important and needed in the Hayward community. Funding for 5 Sikh Seva would allow them to:

- Expand their meal distribution program
- Enhance quality of service to the community
- Strengthen their infrastructure
- Broaden their outreach to families in the community

For these reasons, Hayward Unified School District is proud to support 5 Sikh Seva's application for a grant through the Community Agency Funding Program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Chien Wu-Fernandez
Associate Superintendent, Student & Family Services
Hayward Unified School District

Made in Hayward

From: [Martinez, Adilene](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Be A Mentor Program
Date: Friday, March 15, 2024 2:48:49 PM

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

Hello Emily,

Hope you are well.

I'd just like to mention a few things about the Be A Mentor Program. We have been working with Faith Blankenship in referring students that are interested in receiving extra-outside of school hours support with a trusted and qualified adult to support them. Students have shared that they like being around another adult that is not their family because they feel heard and not judged. Parents have also shared they like that they can meet the Mentor and feel more comfortable letting their child go out in the community with a trusted adult. I think it is a good program for students to be around adults who are aware of the importance of mental health and are there fully to support the student in their daily life routine in hopes of making a difference in their lives and guiding them on how to react in certain situations.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you

--

Adilene Martinez
Community School Specialist
Martin Luther King Middle School
26890 Holly Hill Avenue
510-723-3120 Ext. 42121
am1158@husd.k12.ca.us
(510) 723-3120 ext 42121

[COST REQUEST FORM](#)
[COST Confidentiality Form](#)

[HUSD](#)



March 15, 2024

Arlo Bushnell, Director of Development

Dear Mr. Bushnell,

I have worked with Be A Mentor for many years, which is an excellent program. I am currently mentoring two people, one of whom my late husband mentored for a long time, until his death. Then, I continued mentoring this vet. My late husband and I mentored all our lives, and we both believed it was, and is, the most rewarding experience we have ever had. I am going to be a part of Be A Mentor again in the very near future.

I was asked if I would mind writing a letter that speaks to how mentoring has positively changed my life, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to do this.

There were many mentors, in my life, starting with my parents, who were my heroes and role models growing up. They were extraordinary people who wanted their children to have a better life than they did. They sacrificed so much for my brother, sister, and me. They were always there for us, and they were the most loving parents a child could hope for. They worked so hard, but always found time to listen to us, advise us, motivate us and share with others in need. I have gotten my values from them.

I have another specific example I would like to share. When I was in college, in New York, I had to take a year off because I was in a horrific automobile accident, in which I broke my neck. When I was able to return to college, I could not go full time, because I was still in a great deal of pain. I was worried about catching up, and if I could complete my studies. I had the opportunity to have one of the best mentors in my life, besides my parents.

Professor Kriegel was my writing professor, and he wanted to do everything in his power, to make sure I was able to graduate. He was an incredible person. He never let me give up on myself, and he pushed me to my limits. He was firm, but empathetic and compassionate. He always motivated me to move forward and overcome my personal barriers to success and make good decisions. He was a great listener and a positive role model. He gave me extra assignments, so I could make up the time I lost. He would even call me to check in with me and make sure I was okay. At this most difficult time, Professor Kriegel gave me the hope I needed to continue with my college studies. I ended up completing beyond my Master's Degree, and I have this wonderful man to thank for that. He truly helped me at the lowest ebb of my life. He helped me plan, organize and achieve my future goals, supported me every step of the way, and we remained friends for many years. He truly made an incredible difference in my life.

That is why mentoring is so critical in anyone's life. I strive to be a positive role model bringing leadership skills, compassion, friendship, and support to the people I have had the pleasure of mentoring. I want to also help and support my mentees, as I was helped and supported, to make the right decisions, good choices and realize the consequences that go along with those choices. I want to make a difference in someone's life and know, that I have touched some lives in a positive way. I, too, have learned so much

Page 2

from my mentees. I want to pass forward the great mentoring opportunities I was so fortunate to have in my life. Mentoring has been more gratifying than anything I can think of in my entire career.

I strongly recommend Be A Mentor for funding by the city council of Hayward.

Sincerely,

Esther Moran

From: [Julia Wright](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: In Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Sunday, March 17, 2024 1:59:48 PM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Julia Wright, and I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos during the summer of 2021 when I was involved in their musical production of Elephant & Piggie's 'We're in a Play!'. Being in that show is one of the highlights of my theatre career, and I am still incredibly close with the rest of the cast and crew of the production. I made friends for life, and even though Plethos is a bit far from where I now live, I always make it a point to support them, see their shows, and participate when I have the chance! Plethos Productions enriches the community in so many ways. It provides affordable and high quality arts experiences, and gives children and adults alike a place where they can perform and find community. There is nothing I would love to see more than for Plethos Productions to find a permanent home, and that is why I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward. As a former Hayward resident, I believe an arts space that Plethos would provide is sorely needed in the community, especially one run with the level of care and inclusivity that Plethos Productions fosters. Please consider awarding Plethos Productions a 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grant and City General Fund Allocation for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants, so that they can continue to enrich the East Bay community for years to come!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julia Wright

From: [Shyanna Bryan](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Public Comment in Support of Plethos Productions
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 11:43:44 AM

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

Dear Emily Hwang and the Community Services Commission,

My name is Shyanna Bryan. I am submitting a public comment to voice my support for Plethos Productions. I first connected with Plethos as a mom who had lost touch with engaging in theatre, and Plethos gave me an opportunity to be a part of a warm and generous theatre family.

Plethos Productions has positively impacted my life by offering opportunities to be on stage that I can be proud of. The productions are amazing quality and have offered the flexibility I need to be a parent and a creative out in the world doing the craft that gives me joy.

I support their development of a live performing arts center in downtown Hayward, because I have seen what they can do with the bare minimum. They have made magic in every temporary space they've worked out of. They deserve a permanent space and Hayward deserves a Theatre company like Plethos that will make Hayward proud, and put it on the map of where you can see excellent entertainment of all kinds, from plays to stand-up comedy shows, to interactive theatre experiences.

I believe they would be an excellent candidate for 2024-2025 Federal Community Development Block Grants and City General Fund Allocations for City of Hayward Community Agency Grants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Shyanna Bryan

From: [Carol Morgan](#)
To: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: public comment for CSC
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 12:42:33 PM

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

Hi Emily,

I'd like to submit this comment for tonight's meeting:

On behalf of the East Bay Youth Orchestra, I'm glad to have this opportunity to thank the Committee for its time and effort in supporting arts organizations in Hayward. Reading through all of our applications for funding is a big task, and the questions asked in our interview showed so much thoughtfulness and concern with the well-being of the community at large and our organization in particular. Thank you so much for taking on this time-consuming and difficult task.

-Carol Morgan

East Bay Youth Orchestra Board of Directors

From: [Fayeth Gardens](#)
To: [Amy Cole-Bloom](#)
Cc: [Emily Hwang](#)
Subject: Written Public Comment for Community Services Commission - Wed. March 20, 2024 - Agenda Item Number ACT 24-024
Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 3:53:31 PM

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

Greetings Community Services Commissioners:

This Written Public Comment is in regards to the \$3,000 Funding Recommendation for the FY 2025 to address the questions posed by you during the February 21, 2024 Meeting, which were left unanswered due to the limited time available for Public Comment.

The intent is also to correct the assumptions, misinformation and the subsequent analyses based on those, which were expressed by you after the Public Comment period and led to a Funding Recommendation *lower* than the minimum funding level published in the the RFP - Item C. Funding #29 Page 9: *Minimum Grant amount is \$10,000.*

While we were encouraged to submit our Proposal: *The Kwanzaa Project: (Re) Creating the Cultural Arts of Africa in America* by our positive past associations beginning in 2015 including the CSC, the City of Hayward various Departments and personnel and particularly, by the stated City Priority of funding New Agencies and Innovative Programs up to \$ 30,000 in financial support for one year - this current process has, to date, led us to believe the City is no longer committed to utilizing the funding for a supportive continuum of diverse, new programming which has not been offered previously and is currently not available to serve the community at large by presenting a series of inclusive opportunities to recognize the African-American and African descent Residents and their culture in Hayward.

It is hoped that you will take the time to *fully* read our Public Comment to address these items which are presented to increase the comprehension of the proposed program, as well as the mission of the 10-year old agency, Fayeth Gardens.

This statement is made due to the fact that most of the questions asked during the Interview, as well as after the Public Comment on Feb. 21 were already addressed in the Funding Application; which prompted the associated Feb. 21 Written Public Comment and included a copy of the Interview Questions and the Application with the notations of the Interview Question numbers showing where the Interview Questions were already answered in the Application. Dr. Bloom said the Application could not be downloaded for editing, so only handwritten notations were used.

ASSUMPTIONS & MIS-INFORMATION:

Dis-organized

The facts, from a New Agency Applicant Point of View are:

(1) set of questions are presented in the Application; all of which were answered

Another set of questions were asked during the Interview - worded differently from those in the Application, but if the Application were read perhaps more thoroughly, as the Feb.21 Written Public Comment notates, the answers are still there.

It seems because the answers were not posed in the Application to specifically address the Interview questions that were not included specifically in the Application, yet were answered within the context of the Application anyway in various places, the Application was deemed *dis-organized*.

And, as during the Feb.21 Meeting presented yet *another* set of questions not included in the Application and queried *after* the Public Comment period (many based on false assumptions), this Written Public Comment is presented to address *those*.

Not a Resident of Hayward
A Resident since 2008

Only presented programs in Oakland
This program was *never* presented in Oakland. Fayeth Gardens has not presented *any* programs in Oakland. Before Hayward Residency, *different* programming was presented in 32 OUSD schools and within many other organizations under my CBO, *New Life Skills Center*.

No experience in Hayward

To Date:

2015 to present: Started *University Campus Neighborhood Association (UCNA)*- successfully worked and continue to work with several Hayward Departments including the Mayor, City Council, the City Manager and a multitude of Hayward Residents to regain safety for this neighborhood and resulted in the Traffic Calming Program in the area

Bret Harte Relocation - UCNA is continuing the Neighborhood Initiative to maintain safety in the area and working with HUSD and the associated stakeholders

Working with the CSC Initiative for Russell City Reparations (the Apology) as a RCRJP Steering Committee since 2022

No Established Partnerships in Hayward

2022 Light Up the Season - Zach Ebadi - City Manager's Office - 1st Kwanzaa Presentation

2023 - Could not participate in Light Up the Season due to illness

2023 - Bret Harte Kwanzaa Program Participant - present an Earth Day Workshop

2023 - partnered with the following for the 1st Earth Day Celebration in City Hall:

GoldenSafari Restaurant

Dennis Muthoni - University of Kenya

ACRCD

Keep Hayward Clean & Green

CSUEB

Hillside Recording

MJ Collective

Karen Allen Realtor

Salvation Army

Adopt A Block

Parker Elementary School

(Others not from Hayward)

2023 Library - Main Branch
Juneteenth
Screening of Earth Day Video

2023 Special Events Grant Awardee

2024 1st Kwanzaa Celebration in Hayward City Hall
over 200 Participants and including many of the same vendors within and outside of
Hayward shown above

2024 Funding from Coliseum Lexus

Budget is Exorbitant

(7) Professional Artists for (1) year @ \$ 2,500 each for the following services is VERY
INEXPENSIVE for the Bay Area:

(10) Two hour Workshops to include:
an Orientation talk in the Library;
an exhibition at the end of the workshops
and all materials for the year

Also if my attached Application Budget was reviewed, several other items re included that I
will not recant here

No Marketing Strategy -or Follow up Process

This is included in our application and reiterated in the Feb. 21 Written Comment that
addresses where this Interview Question can be found in the Application.. To additionally
clarify: "Targetted Marketing" means your specific audience will receive marketing materials
designed specifically *for them* and distributed to them wherever they frequent

This is taught in the Schools

No it is not yet we will advocate for school participation, while we will not be IN the schools

Ethnic exclusive Programming

No - this is a CULTURAL Program as advertised in Arts & Music RFP description so ALL can
learn and experience the African descent culture and be exposed to it BRIDGE ill-founded
cultural barriers.

There are more, but I would rather end here in hopes that you will read this and reconsider.
Hayward can be more inclusive and diverse in many ways if you provide more funding
outside of your typical Grantee Circle.

Respectfully,

Fayeth Gardens

