

COMMUNITY AGENCY FUNDING FY 2017 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barbara Bernstein - Executive Director, Eden I&R

March 16, 2016 Community Services Commission Meeting

Barbara Bernstein expressed gratitude that Eden I&R had been recommended for funding, but was disappointed that recommended funding had been reduced by \$10,000 from previous years (\$40,000 recommendation for FY 2017). Ms. Bernstein requested that the CSC consider reinstating the funding allocation to \$50,000 which is the amount that Hayward has funded the program each year since 2007, when 2-1-1 began. Ms. Bernstein reminded the CSC about the objectives of the 2-1-1 program and the fact that they are the only information and referral line in Alameda County. She stated that Hayward is the second highest call volume to the program after Oakland. She stated that other cities that contribute financially to the 2-1-1 program look first to Hayward and Oakland, and based upon the Hayward/Oakland contributions, make determinations on their own cities contributions. There were over 12,000 calls to the 2-1-1 line from Hayward in 2014-2015 program. The 2-1-1 program works towards a number of City Council priorities, in particular efforts to end homelessness by using the Health and Human Services Database and the Alameda County Housing Database. City of Hayward calls represent 14% of calls to 2-1-1, but \$50,000 represents 3% of the 2-1-1 budget.

Rachel Pfeffer - Executive Director, Ruby's Place

March 16, 2016 Community Services Commission Meeting

Ms. Pfeffer thanked the commission for the opportunity to speak and for the recommendation for FY 2017 funding, but expressed concern at the reduction in funding from the previous year (\$60,000 in FY 2016 to \$40,000 in FY 2017). Ms. Pfeffer spoke to the recent transitions that Ruby's Place has undergone in the last year. Ms. Pfeffer is concerned that the reduced funding will lead to reduced services, and create staffing issues at Ruby's Place. With the recent transitions at Ruby's Place, Ms. Pfeffer believes it is more important than ever to be able to maintain and attract excellent staff. Additional funding would allow Ruby's Place to offer competitive salaries as well as merit based salary increases to current staff. Ms. Pfeffer requests that the CSC consider reinstating the funding allocation to \$60,000.

Chad Bojorquez- Downtown Streets Team

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Mr. Bojorquez thanked the commission for the funding recommendation for FY 2017 and expressed excitement regarding the development of the Downtown Streets Team program in the Hayward community. They have been working with local businesses and community partners to increase knowledge of the program and better understand the needs of the Hayward business community in relation to homeless issues in the downtown. Downtown Streets Team looks forward to continuing collaboration with the City of Hayward, local businesses, residents and non-profits.