

# Community Involvement Committee

November 16, 2021 6:00-8:00 pm Google Meet

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Angel Brophy, Sasha Burchuk, Desiree' Duboise, Patrick Nolen, Kimberléa Ruffu, Jenny Shadley, Kien Truong, Kristina Edmunson, Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie, Pau Thang, Michelle Kosta, Ilima Nitta & Malcolm Hoover

Staff: Dani Bernstein, Olivia Kilgore

Guests: Kim Melton (Chair's Office)

**Excused:** Richard Barker

Agenda Item	Action Item
Introductions, Group Agreements Olivia provided a brief orientation to Google Meet.	
Desiree' opened the meeting, reviewed the group agreements from the retreat and asked members to share what the agreements mean to them.	
Desiree' asked members and staff to introduce themselves with their name, pronouns, and a group agreement they want to focus on today.	
Input and Community Engagement on FY23 COVID-19 Priorities & Response Funds Kimberly Melton, Chief of Staff in Multnomah County Chair's Office Kim helps create the framework for our departments and our community for the distribution of ARPA funds.	
In the next couple of months, we're looking at the priorities developed 9-10 months ago - we want to think about what still resonates, what lessons we've learned, and what is most relevant right now.	
Multnomah County received \$157 million in ARPA funds, split into two buckets over two fiscal years.	
The County's guiding principles for COVID-19 response and recovery included inclusively leading with race, using an equity and racial justice approach, engaging and listening to the expertise of community partners and employees closest to the	

work, embedding a public health approach, and partnership with jurisdictional partners, community leaders and community-based organizations.

We are looking at that set of principles to decide if anything is missing. One suggestion is to add a principle around data and measuring impact.

The County came up with five big areas for ARPA funding: the public health response, core services supporting people in our care, restoring services impacted by budget reductions, crisis response and community recovery, and critical county infrastructure.

Almost \$60 million were spent in the public emergency response area - that includes emergency operations, testing and vaccination, contact tracing and disease investigation, and isolation, quarantine and wraparound services. The County's vaccination work focuses on BIPOC communities, and we have worked with partners to run vaccine clinics.

The second large area is \$11.4 million for core services supporting people in our care, through the Joint Office of Homeless Services, the Sheriff's Office and Corrections Health, and the Department of Community Justice.

The last large area is around crisis response and recovery and it includes a lot of different things - it's the area where we will probably get a lot of feedback from our Board, our community and departments in the coming months.

Over the next month or two, we want to explore where there are gaps, if there are places where we should do less and shift the dollars, where we should make new investments.

In next steps, we're updating the principles as needed, preparing our draft priorities for FY23, asking departments to share the impact of the dollars they have used so far, and will gather input and get the Board's approval on priorities.

Desiree' asked about the UBI program with moms - Kim said it's just launching and they're hoping to work with fifty people this year.

Jenny was curious about money set aside for looking towards the future. Kim said the place in the current package we see that is in community recovery. Public health staff have also said that they have learned lessons in this response that will lead to permanent shifts in the future. For this next year, we're in a significantly different place - so there will probably be more this year. We currently have \$5-10 million in more innovative programs, but it is a small fraction of the dollars. We could be thinking about the investments in ways that help us change practice.

Kien asked if the projects presented were already determined. Kim said those are

the projects that were approved in June 2021, and we are now looking at the projects next year and we'll have about the same amount of money to do some of the same programs, and some new ones.

Kien also asked when the already approved programs will be done. Kim said programs have been asked to use the dollars by June 2021. We will ask for people for their data in January, about 4-6 months into their work. It won't be a complete picture, but it will give an idea of the impact - and for some of the programs, we do know the impact.

Sasha was very excited to see the cash assistance programs, and was curious to know more about this pilot. Kim thinks it would be great if we could expand - the person working on the project just started a month ago, and will be working with partner organizations to recruit moms into the program. It's based off a program in another state. Kim hopes they can move quickly so we can demonstrate to policy makers that we can continue this work and expand it.

Amanda asked how the information was being shared with non-English speaking communities, and if services were available to undocumented community members. Kim said that the way the County provides services, it is accessible to people who are undocumented. Some of the public health pieces, particularly around vaccines, have been challenging and that's where we've tried to work closely with community partners to build trust. And while the County pays a premium to employees who speak multiple languages, we also rely on community partners with those cultural and linguistic connections to get the word out.

Thang asked about the County's strategy for reaching out to new refugees and immigrants in respect to COVID-19 and public health. Kim doesn't know if we have a full strategy around that - we have been engaging around Afghan refugees. We have refugee health, but Kim isn't sure how connected that is to public health. We have gotten advocacy around playing a bigger role with refugees.

Desiree' asked if Kim sees less of a need for dollars to go to vaccines now and if that money can go elsewhere. Kim has asked that question of the public health team. So far, they've said we probably won't have as high a need for vaccination and testing and Kim thinks some dollars will be freed up. The CDC has also been giving additional money to public health authorities for ongoing work, so if the County receives those dollars that would free up more ARPA funds.

Kien asked about different ways to engage with undocumented communities to address challenges, and about the level of disaggregated data for communities. Kim said we can drill down to community specific data, and we used that data to address outbreaks and ask community leaders for help to do outreach to specific communities. That's one of the reasons we've talked about adding data as a core approach/principle. Outside of the public health space, not all of the data gets

community specific beyond African American or Asian American, for example. Around the undocumented population, we've tried a couple of strategies. We've recently invested in navigation support, paying people in the community - similar community health workers - to help community members access resources.

Patrick asked in the chat about vaccination in the houseless population. Kim says we do not have that data. We have done several dozens of vaccine clinics in shelters and outside shelters, but because of the transience of the population, it has been difficult to track. The City and the County have been grappling with that.

Kien asked about whether the challenge around houseless data is unique to Multnomah County or common. Kim said it's a common challenge - the County does do a point in time count - it's coming up in January. It's a count, but we recognize it's only a proxy.

If members have additional questions for Kim, they can email them to Olivia and they will be passed along.

Desiree' asked if we could get the slides that Kim shared. Olivia will ask Kim for the slides and send them out.

### Approving Minutes from the October Retreat & Agenda Review

Desiree' asked members to approve the minutes from the two October retreat days. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously by consensus.

Desiree' reviewed the agenda for the remainder of the meeting. Olivia shared that Robyn wasn't able to attend this meeting to share information on food access and equity, but she can reschedule for the January meeting.

## Reflections on FY23 COVID-19 Priorities & County Response

Olivia split the committee into breakout rooms to discuss:

- What's something new you learned during Kim Melton's discussion about the County's COVID response funds and priorities?
- What are priorities you feel are critical to address the impacts of COVID on our communities?

Olivia asked groups to share out.

Desiree's group talked about the importance of mental health care, and if we're moving away from vaccination clinics, if we can transition to more mental health care and addressing with the rising need from COVID.

Thang thought about whether the County has done any studies on how

effectively they are reaching out to communities using non-profit organizations. Those organizations have limited capacity, and he would be curious to know about any studies.

CIC Co-Chair Elections
Desiree' shared their experience serving as a co-chair.

Thang asked about the time commitment. Desiree' shared there is an extra meeting every two months to prepare for the main CIC meetings, a prep meeting and the meeting with Chair Kafoury, and a prep meeting and the presentation to the Board. Dani added that occasional daytime availability is helpful.

Olivia shared that currently Amanda and Kien are nominated for Chair, and Olivia asked if anyone else wanted to nominate or self-nominate. Thang self-nominated.

Each nominee shared with the group their interest in serving in Co-Chair.

The committee voted to elect Kien and Amanda as co-chairs.

### Google Chat Record:

Olivia Kilgore6:07 PM Hi Kristina, Welcome :)

- -Acknowledge intent, address impact
- -Listen to understand

Olivia Kilgore6:09 PM

- -What is said here stays, what is learned here leaves
- -Think intentionally about what you want to say before sharing
- -Speak from your own experience and prioritize using "I" statements
- -Consider earned/unearned privileges that inform lived experiences
- -Be willing to make mistakes and be accountable for missteps
- -Move up, move back elevate your participation, elevate your reflection
- -Take breaks and prioritize what you need to fully participate during meetings

Desiree' asked for any feedback on the meeting and any appreciations.

-Celebrate accomplishments

Sasha Burchuk6:11 PM I like that Malcolm Malcolm Hoover6:17 PM having some tech diffi

Brb

Sasha Burchuk6:22 PM

I don't think I got that document:) Olivia Kilgore6:22 PM I'll resend to you Sasha! Sasha Burchuk6:23 PM Thanks!! Olivia Kilgore6:35 PM Welcome Kimberlea! Kimberlea Ruffu6:43 PM Thank you! Hi y'all - hope everyone is doing well Malcolm Hoover6:47 PM sorry my audio has been out. I just got it to work! Olivia Kilgore7:00 PM Welcome Michelle! Angel Brophy7:01 PM Hi all so sorry I have to go to another work meeting now! Thank you Michelle for all your helpful info! Desiree' Jane7:01 PM Thanks Angel! Have a good night! Patrick Nolen7:03 PM Is there some way to guess at the percentage of homeless people that are vaccinated and how that relates to the overall population? who would i ask to get that answer? Sasha Burchuk7:04 PM I don't even know if we have an accurate count of homeless residents Patrick Nolen7:05 PM thankyou! Sasha Burchuk7:06 PM Can I volunteer on that initiative? Pau Thang7:06 PM https://www.multco.us/joint-office-homeless-services/point-time-counts Patrick Nolen7:06 PM hard to count cars and rural, suburbs, etc Jenny Shadley7:07 PM Thank You!!! this was very informative. Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie7:07 PM Thank you, Kimberly! Sasha Burchuk7:07 PM

Yes, and people who are unhoused but living with someone else/bouncing around

Kimberlea Ruffu7:07 PM Thank you Kimberly! Sasha Burchuk7:07 PM THANK YOU KIMBERLY!! Pau Thang7:07 PM Thank you for all your hard work! Ilima Nitta7:08 PM mahalo nui kimberly!! Kimberly Melton7:08 PM Thanks for your time! I enjoyed it:) Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie7:09 PM 5 Kien Truong7:09 PM Patrick Nolen7:09 PM 5 Desiree' Jane7:09 PM 5 Jenny Shadley7:09 PM Sasha Burchuk7:09 PM Kimberlea Ruffu7:09 PM 5 Malcolm Hoover7:12 PM i can always, with a little advance notice talk or get someone else to talk about Food Equity and Food Justice Olivia Kilgore7:13 PM What's something new you learned during Kim Melton's discussion about the County's COVID response funds and priorities? What are priorities you feel are critical to address the impacts of COVID on our communities? Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie7:25 PM BRB Desiree' Jane7:27 PM Populations to consider- immigrant communities, people with disabilities, esp. COVID-caused Also digital equity Kimberlea Ruffu7:49 PM <3

Olivia Kilgore7:52 PM

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(971) 346-0959

Patrick Nolen7:55 PM

Asa great person once said, vote early, vote often.. (or maybe a not so great person?)

Kimberlea Ruffu7:58 PM

Desiree' your earrings are so good! Just had to note that before we end :)

Jenny Shadley7:59 PM

I appreciate all of your commitment to this community, I am hopeful knowing you all are here doing good work!!

Sasha Burchuk8:00 PM

Thank you Desiree!!!

Kimberlea Ruffu8:00 PM

\*snaps\* to all of that

Patrick Nolen8:00 PM

go team!

Malcolm Hoover8:01 PM

Big Love to all my committee members! Thank you for all your hard work Desireé!