



Human Services Commission Regular Meeting

Date: June 23, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Rose Hill Room, Kirkland City Hall, 123 5th Ave Kirkland, WA 98033

The commission is directed by the City Council to advise the Parks and Community Services Department, City Manager, and City Council in leading the City's efforts to support a socially sustainable community through health and human services and programs that fulfill the basic needs of all people and enhance the quality of life in our city now and into the future.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. June 11, 2026
5. **ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**
6. **BUSINESS**
 - a. 2027-2028 Application Review - Goal Areas 1 & 2
7. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - a. Commissioner Reports
 - b. Staff Reports and Announcements
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upcoming Commission Activities

Special Meeting July 9, 2026

Regular Meeting July 28, 2026

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
Minutes Commission Special Meeting
June 11, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sriram Rajagopalan called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Sriram Rajagopalan, Vice Chair Cristian Liu, Commissioner Gabriela Lopez Vazquez, Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew, Youth Commissioner Eric Dodd.

Absent: Commissioner Shannon Quinn

Commissioner Jory Hamilton arrived at 6:06pm

Staff Present: Human Services Manager Jen Boone, Human Services Supervisor Becky Gilley, Homeless Outreach Coordinator Meli Paulo, Housing Navigation Coordinator Alex Bundrick, and Human Services Office Specialist Kerry Lam.

Human Services Coordinator Regi Schubiger and Human Services Coordinator Amanda Judd attended virtually.

Meeting Recorder: Human Services Office Specialist Kerry Lam.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commissioner Jory Hamilton read the land acknowledgment. Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew will read the land acknowledgement for the June 23th meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5. Chair Sriram Rajagopalan requested a motion to approve the May 12, 2026 minutes, Youth Commissioner Eric Dodd motioned for approval, Commissioner Jory Hamilton seconded. Motion carried (Yes: 6; No: 0; Abstention: 0).

Chair Sriram Rajagopalan requested a motion to approve the May 26, 2026 minutes, Youth Commissioner Eric Dodd motioned for approval, Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew seconded. Motion carried (Yes: 6; No: 0; Abstention: 0).

6. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Public comment was received from Emily Goodright (Imagine Housing); Lila Sternberg-Sher (Communities in Schools); Cyrus Malapajo (Communities in Schools); Jessica Williams (Communities in Schools); and Isabel Smokov.

7. BUSINESS

a. 2027-2028 Application Review – Goal Area 1

The Human Services Commission discussed a set of 19 applications within Goal Area 1: Food to Eat and a Roof Overhead. Commissioners reviewed programs addressing food insecurity, homelessness, and housing stability in preparation for the June 11, 2026 special meeting. Staff emphasized use of the ShareOne review portal and the Communities Rise Stoplight Tool to support an equity-focused evaluation process. Commissioners were reminded to submit their individual scores for Goal Areas 1 and 2 by June 22 for compilation prior to the June 23 meeting. Questions regarding applications may be sent to HSGrants@kirklandwa.gov.

The following applications were discussed:

Goal Area 1:

1. 4 Tomorrow- Emergency Temporary Housing & Homelessness Recovery Program
2. 4 Tomorrow-Eviction Prevention-Rental, Mortgage & Move-in Assistance
3. Archdiocesan Housing Authority-New Bethlehem Program
4. Eastside Legal Assistance Program (ELAP)-ELAP-Housing Stability
5. Essentials First-World Food Program
6. Friends of Youth-The Willows Youth Services center(WYSC)
7. Friends of Youth-Youth Haven
8. Friends of Youth- Transitional Housing for Young Adults & Young Families
9. Hopelink-Family Development
10. Hopelink-Financial Resiliency
11. Hopelink-Food Programs
12. Hopelink-Housing
13. Imagine Housing-Activities of Daily Living
14. Imagine Housing-Behavioral Health
15. Imagine Housing-Resident Services
16. KidVantage-A Strong Foundation for Kids-Basic Needs
17. Lake Washington Schools Foundation-Lake Washington Schools Foundation Pantry Packs Program
18. LifeWire-Housing Stability
19. LifeWire-Shelter

Staff reminded Commissioners to submit individual application review scores prior to the next scheduled discussion.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Jory Hamilton encouraged fellow commissioners to volunteer in the upcoming July 4th Parade.

Youth Commissioner Eric Dodd attended the King County Youth Leadership Summit and shared key takeaways.

Commissioner Gaby Lopez Vazquez shared an update regarding federal changes affecting eligibility for Apple Health. She informed the Commission that immigrants, refugees, and individuals with asylum status may no longer be eligible for Apple Health beginning October 2026 due to the federal policy changes.

Vice Chair Cristian Liu announced the upcoming event “Night Out for Kinderling” scheduled for July 23rd in Woodinville.

b. Staff Reports & Announcements

Human Services Supervisor Becky Gilley introduced Homeless Outreach Coordinator, Meli Paulo, and new Housing Navigation Coordinator, Alex Bundrick. Housing Navigation Coordinator, Alex Bundrick, shared her professional background and the work she completed prior to joining the City.

Human Services Manager Jen Boone provided an update on the open commission seat. City Council has decided to defer recruitment for the vacancy until March 2027, as determined at the most recent council meeting. She emphasized the continued importance of commissioner attendance; quorum remains at five members. Noted that a future commission photoshoot for group and individual photos will be scheduled.

Human Services Coordinator Amanda Judd reported that the first update to City Council regarding Sheila Stanton Place will take place at the Tuesday Council meeting, and that City staff prepared and served a meal at Sheila Stanton Place earlier today.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Sriram Rajagopalan asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Jory Hamilton motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
123 5th Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300
www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Human Services Commission

From: Jen Boone, Human Services Manager
Antoinette Smith, Human Services Coordinator, Equity

Date: June 9, 2026

Subject: **2027-2028 Application Review - Goal Areas 1 & 2**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Human Services Commission review application submissions that meet Goal Areas 1 & 2 objectives in preparation for the June 23, 2026, meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The City of Kirkland received 142 applications for the 2027-28 Human Services Grant Funding cycle, requesting over \$7 million in funding per year, a historic high for the City of Kirkland.
- The City of Kirkland Human Services Commission (HSC) is tasked with reviewing every application for funding requests moving forward in the process.
- The HSC will review applications that cover Goal Areas 1 & 2 as described in the memo.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Kirkland has five community goal areas that all community members should be able to achieve. First developed by the United Way of King County, and later adopted by several local jurisdictions including Bellevue, Redmond, Seattle, King County, and Kirkland, these Community Goal Areas reflect the belief that all people should have:

- 1. Food to Eat and a Roof Overhead**
- 2. Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods and Communities**
3. Safe Haven from All Forms of Violence and Abuse
4. Health Care to be as Physically and Mentally Fit as Possible
5. Education and Job Skills to Lead an Independent Life

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

At the June 23, 2026, meeting, Commissioners will discuss the remaining applications in Goal 1: Food to Eat and Roof Overhead and begin discussion of applications in Goal Area 2, Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods and Communities. Goal Area 1 applications focus on addressing food insecurity, homelessness, and housing instability. Goal Area 2 applications focus on programs that foster supportive relationships within families, neighborhoods, and communities

There are 20 applications to be reviewed; 15 in Goal Area 1 and 5 in Goal Area 2. Please reference **Attachment 1 and Attachment 2** for a comprehensive list of agency name, program name, and a brief description of the program. Of the 20 applications, one application is a first-time request. First-time request is **bolded** in **Attachment 1 and below**.

Please review the following applications and submit your scores for the **June 23rd** meeting:

Goal Area 1:

1. Eat Happy Now- Eat Happy Now Food Rescue
2. MAPS Community Services (MCRC)- Emergency Rental Assistance
3. MAPS Community Services (MCRC)- Food & Gas Assistance (Food & Gas Cards)
4. MAPS Community Services (MCRC)- Transitional Housing for Single Women
5. Overlake Christian Church- Financial Aid & Assistance Program
6. Overlake Christian Church- Safe Parking & Day Center Emergency Shelter
7. Porchlight- Enhanced Shelter Program
8. Porchlight- Housing
9. Porchlight- Housing Navigation
10. Porchlight- Rotating Shelter
11. Renewal Food Bank- Culturally Relevant & Linguistically Diverse Grocery Style Food Bank
- 12. Solid Ground Washington- Housing Stability Project**
13. Sound Generations- Meals on Wheels
14. The Sophia Way- Helen's Place - Enhanced Shelter
15. The Sophia Way- Sophia's Place: Extended-stay shelter

Goal Area 2:

1. 4 Tomorrow- Life Services Program
2. Africans on the Eastside- WRAP-Wraparound Support & Advocacy Program
3. Catholic Community Services- Volunteer Services
4. Chinese Information & Service Center- North & East King Community Resource Center
5. Chinese Information & Service Center- Russian Speaking Senior Day Program

Commissioners will use the ShareOne App portal review tool as well as the Stoplight Tool, created by [Communities Rise](#), as an additional support for considering equity in the review process and to help move through any challenges with potential biases that may come up during this process.

Additional review resources included in this packet for reference during your review and Commission discussion are **Attachment 3**, 2027-2028 HSC Grant Funding Priorities, **Attachment 4**, Stoplight Tool for Review, and **Attachment 5**, HSC Group Expectations 2025. For a summary of agency programs currently funded for the 25-26 cycle, please refer to the [Kirkland Human Services Dashboard](#).

NEXT STEPS:

The HSC are being asked to review the listed applications within Goal Area 1 & 2 and submit their individual review scores in ShareOne Application portal no later than Monday, June 22nd by 5:00PM for review at the June 23rd Regular meeting. Staff will then provide a compilation of review scores for the group conversation.

Please send questions to HSGrants@kirklandwa.gov **as soon as possible** if responses are crucial to review decisions ahead of HSC application review meetings.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1: 2027-2028 Goal Area 1 Application Summary
- Attachment 2: 2027-2028 Goal Area 2 Application Summary
- Attachment 3: 2027-2028 HSC Grant Funding Priorities
- Attachment 4: Stoplight Tool for Review
- Attachment 5: HSC Group Expectations 2025

ATTACHMENT 1

Goal Area 1 - Food to Eat and Roof Overhead (Housing Stability and Food Security)			
Organization Name	Program Name	Description	Goal Area
Eat Happy Now	Eat Happy Now Food Rescue	Uses technology to rescue healthy food and redirect it to food insecure community members.	1
MAPS Community Services (MCRC)	Emergency Rental Assistance	Emergency rental assistance to families who are below 50% of AMI and less than 30% of AMI categories to prevent eviction.	1
MAPS Community Services (MCRC)	Food & Gas Assistance (Food & Gas Cards)	Provides food and gas cards.	1
MAPS Community Services (MCRC)	Transitional Housing for Single Women	Socially and culturally appropriate transitional housing for single women.	1
Overlake Christian Church	Financial Aid & Assistance Program	Financial assistance for mortgage, rent, utilities, and eviction prevention	1
Overlake Christian Church	Safe Parking & Day Center Emergency Shelter	Emergency shelter for men and couples living in their vehicles, includes Day Center offering food, showers, and basic necessities.	1
Porchlight	Enhanced Shelter Program	Low barrier emergency shelter and day center for men experiencing homelessness.	1
Porchlight	Housing	Permanent supportive housing and housing navigation services for chronically homeless men.	1
Porchlight	Housing Navigation	Housing navigation and case management for men experiencing homelessness.	1
Porchlight	Rotating Shelter	Recovery-focused, medium-barrier shelter program serving single adult men experiencing homelessness.	1
Renewal Food Bank	Culturally Relevant & Linguistically Diverse Grocery Style Food Bank	Grocery Style Food Bank Open to All, focused on Immigrant and Refugee communities	1
Solid Ground Washington	Housing Stability Project	Financial assistance for past due rent to prevent eviction, or move in costs for those exiting homelessness or needing new stable & affordable housing	1
Sound Generations	Sound Generations Meals on Wheels	Meal delivery to homebound elders.	1
The Sophia Way	Helen's Place - Enhanced Shelter	24/7 enhanced shelter and housing stabilization services for women experiencing homelessness.	1

ATTACHMENT 1

The Sophia Way	Sophia's Place : Extended-stay shelter	Extended-stay shelter, drop-in resource services, and weather emergency shelter for women experiencing homelessness.	1
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Goal Area 2 - Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods and Communities			
Organization Name	Program Name	Description	Goal Area
4 Tomorrow	Life Services Program	Case management and legal navigation.	2
Africans on the Eastside	WRAP - Wraparound support & Advocacy Program	Crisis support, self-advocacy programing, community building, short term case management, referrals for ongoing supports for African immigrants	2
Catholic Community Services of King County	Volunteer Services	Chore and transportation program for low-income older adults and adults with disabilities	2
Chinese Information & Service Center	North & East King Community Resource Center	Free cultural and systems navigation to access vital basic services.	2
Chinese Information & Service Center	Russian Speaking Senior Day Program	Community connection for Russian- and Ukrainian-speaking seniors through culturally and linguistically reflective programming.	2

2027-2028 Human Services Commission Grant Funding Priorities

- **Access to Basic Needs**
 - Food assistance
 - Healthcare access-Whole person health
 - Behavioral/Mental health services for children, youth, and adults
 - Substance Use Disorder treatment services
- **Homelessness and Affordable Housing**
 - Includes emergency shelter and associated wrap-around services
 - Affordable housing supports
 - Includes legal services for housing
 - Emergency financial assistance
- **Access to Critical Services**
 - Domestic Violence/Sexual assault survivors support and services
 - Legal assistance
 - Includes immigration support
 - Aging and Disability services

Additional consideration will be given to organizations and agencies that are new, small, and/or Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC)-led/serving. There will be additional emphasis on funding programs focused on services and support to those who identify as immigrants, refugees, and/or asylum-seekers as well as folks who are part of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Those service approaches are often more nuanced, culturally responsive, and rooted in community.

 Red Light	 Yellow Light	 Green Light
I am reading this application as a judge looking for reasons that they should not be funded.	I am reviewing this application as both a judge and an advocate.	I am reading this application as an advocate of this organization and the community it represents.
I am unaware of what my implicit biases are as I begin this application review process.	I am just beginning to or practicing my skills in identifying and discussing my implicit biases.	I am aware of and can name to my peers how my implicit biases may impact my analysis of an application.
I am judging a program's effectiveness on their prior ability to attain grants.	I am starting to recognize some systemic reasons for an organization's lack of prior funding.	I am able to recognize the systemic reasons that a program may have been historically excluded from funding opportunities.
I am assuming mainstream solutions are the best way to solve the issue being addressed in this application.	I prioritize mainstream solutions but am open to additional ideas.	I am open to new ideas and solutions and recognize that organizations that are closest to the issue are best suited to solve it.
I am looking for only weaknesses represented in this application.	I catch myself looking critically at an application and push myself to look to identify strengths.	I am looking for strengths represented in this application.
I am looking for a broad overarching solution to meet the needs of our community.	I prefer broad solutions but am interested in adding on a few additional approaches.	I recognize the importance of multiple approaches and community-specific tailored approaches in working to collectively meet the needs of our community.
I am basing my assessment of the organization's competency on their ability to communicate in written English.	My assessment of competency is influenced by how well or poorly this application is written.	I am not factoring in the writing style to my assessment of organizational competency.

Human Services Commission Group Expectations

Updated 05-27-2025

- Be curious, don't be afraid to ask questions
- Listen to understand
- Share ideas with respect
- Respect others' boundaries
- Reiterate goals to ensure we are on the same page
- Be open to constructive feedback
- Take care of yourself, take time and space as appropriate.
- Show compassion to others and yourself.
- Assume positive intent
- Be honest
- Speak your truth, and acknowledge there may be multiple truths
- Acknowledge feedback through verbal or nonverbal cues
- Receive feedback without taking it personally.
- Keep feedback focused on the idea not the person
- Agree to disagree
- Work together to find a solution
- Reflect back what you heard to ensure understanding and give grace
- Be respectful of differences; differences add value