



Meeting of the

Pima County Community Action Agency Advisory Board

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

5:30 p.m.

Kino Service Center, 1st Floor Meeting Room 123
2797 E. Ajo Way, Tucson, AZ 85713

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present

John Vasquez Bedoy, Chair
Paul Appleby
Imelda Pines
Dick Katz
Annabelle Nunez

Willie Blake
Pastor Jeff Inniss
Diane Brown
Roy Tullgren
Gloria J. Valenzuela

Members Absent

Lori Bable
Cynthia J. Nahsonhoya
Maria Elena West

Guests and Pima County Staff Present

Rosemary Cora-Cruz
Linda Leatherman
Erina Delic

Charles Casey
Anna M. Cunes
Manira Cervantez

- I. Called to Order: 5:41 p.m., John Vasquez Bedoy, Chair
- II. The Pledge of Allegiance: All
- III. Action Item: To Approve November 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes. Dick Katz Motioned to approve; Imelda Pines seconded the motion; and all were in favor.
- IV. CAAB Business/Updates: Pima County Staff
 - A. Message from Charles Casey, Director, Pima County Community Services, Employment and Training, reported that the CSET administers the One-Stop System. There are a lot of baby boomers and this is the year that 10,000 baby boomers per year, who will be retiring and it will continue for 12 more years. There are not enough young people to replace these people who are planning to retire. There are 13,000 in Pima County alone who will be retiring. It creates a lot of opportunity for younger people to get good jobs if they will take advantage of the training opportunities. Current workforce will have opportunities to move up within in their organization. This is going along with the current strong economy. There are also some policy changes that will be taking place and that are important for the CAAB to be aware of because of the low-income people who benefit from the program and services offered under the CAA. The group of able-bodied Adults who are able to work but are not, may be forced to go to work. There are some able-bodies adults who do receive SNAP and/or Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) benefits and may be working already. The CAAB and the WIB need to be ready to work with this group of people. It will be a philosophical shift and the CAAB needs to be aware of it. The Tucson community organizations and employers need to understand the shift and be ready to assist these job seekers which may mean offering part time work and/or training.



COMMUNITY SERVICES, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING DEPARTMENT

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More than half of the current SNAP and AHCCCS recipients are working but there are 5% who will be asked to return to the workforce.

John Vasquez Bedoy believes that there are some employers who are asking applicants if they possess a medical marijuana card or not. If the applicant does possess a medical marijuana card, they may or may not hire the applicant.

Charles Casey said that some employers are also discontinuing the drug testing prior to employment to help avoid addressing the issue.

Dick Katz asked Charles Casey if Pima County is working with the Tucson Metro Chamber and others and he replied that the WIB is currently working with the Arizona D.E.S. Vocational Rehabilitation and Pima Community College Adult Basic Education for College and Career.

Charles Casey said that it may be 200 to 300 people in Pima County who we will need to be prepared for entering the workforce which may happen as soon as July 2018. If the Arizona Governor requests a waiver, Arizonans may need to

Note: An able-bodied adult between the ages of 18 to 49 without dependents is considered an ABAWD. Individuals with children in the household or who are mentally or physically unfit for employment are not considered ABAWDs. ABAWDs may qualify for a maximum of three months of Nutrition Assistance in a 36 month period, unless they either comply with the work or training requirements or qualify for an exemption. See <https://des.az.gov/services/basic-needs/food/able-bodied-adult-without-dependents-overview> for additional information.

Rosemary Cora-Cruz reported on the following:

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will be available again this year. VITA offers free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.

Pima County is hosting a LOOP "Completion Celebration" on 03/17/18. Two locations are hosting free activities for all ages with family-friendly fun, live music, dancing and food trucks. One will be at the Kino Sports Complex - North and the second will be at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park. Please visit pima.gov/Loop Celebration for more information and see the flyer.

Reentry Simulation to be presented by ARIZON@WORK Pima County on Friday, 03/23/18, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Abrams Public Health Center. RSVP is required – see flyer.

- B. Introduction of new CAA Program Coordinators - Erina Delic and Gloria Valenzuela. Rosemary Cora-Cruz introduced Erina Delic who has experience working with refugees and Gloria J. Valenzuela who used to be a CAAB member. Gloria announced that she was hired in December 2017 with the Pima County CAA so she will be resigning from the CAAB and providing her formal letter to John Vasquez Bedoy. Gloria was a Low-Income Representative for Districts 1 and 5 and she was the Vice-Chair. Gloria is working with the utilities and mortgage assistance applications for the Pima County CAA.
- C. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Agency Funding Status SFY 2018 - Rosemary Cora-Cruz reported that the CSBG funding budget will have a very minimal decrease for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The CAAB does not have oversight responsibility for the Emergency Services Network (ESN) RFP but two CAAB members were invited to serve on the RFP Review Committee including; John Vasquez Bedoy and Paul Appleby along with one outside person, Ramona Williams, a Section 8 Housing Manager with the City of Tucson. The following organizations submitted proposals:

Chicanos Por la Causa, International Sonoran Desert Alliance (AJO, AZ), Interfaith Community Services, Primavera Foundation, Portable Practical Education Preparation, The Salvation Army and the Tucson Urban League.

Awards will be determined once the Allocated funds report is received from the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

- D. Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Update - The LIHEAP had received \$2,504,100 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and it is anticipated the award will be reduced to about \$2,000,000 for the new fiscal year.
 - E. Recruitment – Membership. John Vasquez Bedoy reported that there are two categories to be filled and three vacancies. Rosemary Cora-Cruz suggested that a subcommittee be formed in order to help fill the three vacancies. Ramona Williams, Section 8 Housing, City of Tucson may be able to fill the vacancy. Ramona has Request for Proposal (RFP) experience and has experience working with foster children. Rosemary Cora-Cruz asked members to recommend anyone who may be interested and eligible to apply.
- V. Organizational Standards Review – Rosemary Cora-Cruz reminded the members about the Standards that were previously distributed. The U.S. Department of Economic Security audited the CAA in September 2017.
- A. Community Action Agency Board of Directors and the CSBG Organizational Standards - Rosemary Cora-Cruz distributed an informational flyer.
 - B. CAA Training - there will be a CAA training on 03/30/18 for CAA staff.
 - C. Strategic Planning - needs to be specified as an Agenda Item and it will be on a future CAAB meeting agenda.
 - D. Customer Feedback Survey – current Survey distributed to members. Rosemary explained how the front desk staff will keep track of the Surveys and if there are any complaints or requests for call/feedback, Pima County staff will handle and respond. Rosemary said that Survey feedback will be provided to the CAAB in the future.
 - E. Needs Assessment – it is a formal assessment that will be sent to clients to find out about their needs and must be completed before 06/30/18.
 - F. Assets Survey – to be sent to the agencies and a copy will be sent to the CAAB members.
 - G. Whistleblower Policy against Retaliation – the County has a policy on against retaliation.
 - H. Rules of Conduct for Clients – behavior while in a Pima County property/building. Weapons must be locked in a lock box that is available. Name tags have been required since the 01/08/ incident. Visitors are escorted from the lobby to the office appointment and escorted back to the lobby area.
 - I. Conflict of Interest – all forms have been
 - J. Mission Statement Review – Pima County CAA in Pima County. CAA connects self-sufficiency. The members will review at the next meeting if anyone sees the need for revisions.
 - K. CAA Plan for 2018-2019 – Rosemary will distribute via email and it will include the list of funded agencies.

- VI. Community Services Block Grant 2018-2019 Request for Proposals Preparation – Rosemary Cora-Cruz suggested that John Vasquez Bedoy work with Manira so that the CAAB will look into and consider using the online ZOOM Grants software that is available.

John Vasquez Bedoy reminded the members that there may be organizations such as Littletown that will not have access to a computer and/or printer. Rosemary replied that organizations would have access to use Pima County computers.

Rosemary suggested that the CAAB should further discuss using the ZOOM Grants software and process during the next CAAB meeting. The Pima County CAA would need to pay to expand the current license.

- VII. Call to the Audience: Linda Leatherman, Faith-Based Program Coordinator, announced a presentation that she recently attended. It was provided by Marcy Flanagan, Pima County Health Department, and she said that the Health Department never asks a person for their status. The Health Department will provide any service and never ask if a person is a U.S. citizen, or if they receive federal or state assistance. They want to help keep everyone be and stay healthy in order to help keep Pima County healthy.

Roy Tullgren, Gospel Rescue Mission (GRM), will be sending invitation for an Open House at the property that used to be the Holiday Inn Holidome off S. Palo Verde Road. HSLopez purchased the hotel on Palo Verde. GRM has been looking for a new men's shelter. Rentals will include free electric. La Frontera will run the permanent housing for 150 and asked the GRM men and woman's shelter to provide services and to be the anchor organization for this location. Twenty partners including DES will offer their services on site. A design team will be going in next week to begin work. Pima County will have One-Stop staff on the property also. Services for veterans will be available. Special needs clients will also be on the property such as families with children and those who need service dogs. The banquet room will be transformed into dormitory for 150 beds. Medical and Dental services will also be added. Free dental for anyone in need vs. other organizations who charge fees. Behavioral health services will also be available. Mr. Lopez also offered the existing hotel furniture for distribution to nonprofit organizations. The VIP Open House will be on May 5 or 12.

Dates to Remember:

CAA Annual Conference at the Scott in Phoenix, AZ

Arizona Community Action Association Annual Conference Dates:

CAP Board training session Wednesday, **July 18**

Annual Conference Thursday & Friday, **July 19-20**

- VIII. Adjourned: 7:23 p.m.

- IX. Next Meeting: Tuesday, 05/15/18, 5:30 p.m.