



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 12, 2021**

<b>Directors Present via Video Conference</b>	<b>District Staff Present via Video Conference</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Chair Evett PerezGil Vice-President Karen Borja	Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, Chief Executive Officer Chris Christensen, Chief Administration Officer Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Director of Outreach Meghan Kane, Programs and Research Analyst Erica Huskey, Administrative and Programs Assistant Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board	Director Carole Rogers, RN

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>I. Call to Order</b>	The meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by Chair PerezGil.	
<b>II. Approval of Agenda</b>	Chair PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	<b>Moved and seconded by Vice-President Borja and Director PerezGil to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.</b>
<b>III. Meeting Minutes</b> <b>1. December 08, 2020</b>	Chair PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the December 08, 2020 meeting minutes.	<b>Moved and seconded by Vice-President Borja and Director PerezGil to approve the December 08, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.</b>
<b>IV. Public Comment</b>	Heather Vaikona, Chief Executive Officer, Lift to Rise, explained that on behalf of Mike Walsh, Deputy Director, Housing Authority of the County of Riverside, and Miguel Romero, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, they are grateful for their participation in the prior Program Committee meetings regarding the Housing Fund and the possibility of the District making a catalytic investment. Over the holiday break Lift to Rise made progress with the Department of Finance and the Treasury with the partnership of	



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	<p>Assemblymember’s Garcia and Mayes. As part of the potential investment from the state, feedback with the potential difficulty of structuring a zero percent investment with the District, and in conversations with the state and the treasury, there is a prospect of zero percent funding from the treasury that would alter the nature of the request to the District, resulting in the best catalytic investment to the fund with grant monies given the feedback from the District.</p> <p>Miguel Romero, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia explained the Assemblymember's support, as well as Assemblymember Mayes working to support funding to the region with Lift to Rise through the state budget and Treasurer Maus’ office, further describing an opportunity for the District to engage in the interception of housing and health.</p> <p>Mike Walsh, Deputy Director, Housing Authority of the County of Riverside highlighted the feedback from the Program Committee and District Counsel concerning the original structure and how to leverage greater funding from the state with additional information forthcoming to provide the committee with an update.</p>	
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<p><b>V. Old Business</b></p> <p><b>1. Funding Requests</b></p> <p><b>2. Grant Payment Schedule</b></p>	<p>Chair PerezGil summarized the funding requests and the grants payment schedule with Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer answering questions from the committee.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja inquired on the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) letter of intent request for \$700,000, a continuation of the District’s funding match to assist with sustaining the Coachella Valley Housing First program, the Barbara Poppe assessment, and the District’s efforts regarding the discontinuation of a formal structure.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, explained the meeting with Greg Rodriguez, Government Affairs and Public Policy Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, and the District’s concern with the Barbara Poppe expenditure and the discontinuation of the efforts to create a formal structure specific to the Coachella Valley. The regional collaborative approach is still in place with Riverside County and the continuum of care. The purpose is the same, according to Ms. Poppe but in a different manner with the crisis stabilization unit.</p> <p>Greg Rodriguez, Government Relations and Public Policy</p>	
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<p><b>3. Lift to Rise Rental Assistance Program</b></p>	<p>Advisor, Office of Supervisor Perez, described his call with Barbara Poppe and the meeting with District staff concerning the benefits of Barbara’s report that has led the county on the right path with a regional collaborative approach. Over the past year, the county has identified which organizations qualify for state, county, federal funding, and augmentations where the District can assist.</p> <p>Ms. Craig also answered questions from Vice-President Borja concerning the Youth Leadership Institute’s withdrawal for funding.</p> <p>Conrado Bárzaga, MD, CEO, described Lift to Rises’ efforts to obtain more rental assistance funding with additional information forthcoming in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Heather Vaikona, Chief Executive Officer, Lift to Rise, described the work with the county to leverage additional resources with the cities of Indio and Palm Springs, who are allocating Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) funds to assist with the program that has \$5M of applications on the wait list. The continued need is incredibly high, and Ms. Vaikona will provide Dr. Bárzaga and Ms. Craig the data analysis from the last six months to better</p>	
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	understand the demographic impact.	
<b>VI. Program Staff Updates</b>		
<b>1. Community Health Needs Assessment and Health Improvement Plan</b>	Meghan Kane, Programs and Research Analyst explained that the focus groups are complete with Health Assessment and Research for Communities (HARC) conducting 40 virtual focus groups with 205 participants of community residents, and 8 of the focus groups with the advisory council consisting of service providers throughout the Coachella Valley. HARC is currently analyzing the data and the visualization component. HARC is also preparing to present updates and findings to the strategic planning committee, including the health needs tool kit to combine the feedback and secondary data.	
<b>VII. Grant Funding Requests</b>		
<b>1. Consideration to approve Grant #1136 – Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House – Temporary Housing and Family Support Services – \$119,432</b>	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of the Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House grant request, which is a continuation with 20% of the clients in the Coachella Valley for case management and some travel for the clients.	<b>Moved and seconded by Vice-President Borja and Director PerezGil to approve Grant #1136 – Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House – Temporary Housing and Family Support Services – \$119,432 and forward to the Board for approval. Motion passed unanimously.</b>
<b>2. Consideration to approve Grant #1147 – Alzheimer’s Association Critical Program Support – \$33,264</b>	Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the Alzheimer’s Association caregiver training program grant request and consideration for approval by the committee.	<b>Moved and seconded by Vice-President Broaj and Director PerezGil to approve Grant #1147 – Alzheimer’s Association Critical Program Support – \$33,264 and forward to the Board for approval.</b>



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<p><b>3. Consideration to approve Grant #1162 – Cove Communities Senior Association dba The Joslyn Center – Joslyn Wellness Center Program Support – \$109,130</b></p>	<p>Vice-President Borja thanked the Alzheimer’s Association for their work, reaching out to the staff for consideration of the grant request, to continue their work with the District given the important work they do, and thanking the reviewers for evaluating the grants.</p> <p>Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the Joslyn Center’s grant request to support behavioral health assessments and treatment plans through telehealth and targeting food insecurities through meals on wheels with an increase during the pandemic.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja thanked the Joslyn Center for their work describing the Indio Senior Center’s participation in the meals on wheels programs and the going beyond food and providing other resources.</p>	<p><b>Motion passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><b>Moved and seconded by Vice-President and Director PerezGil to approve Grant #1162 – Cove Communities Senior Association dba The Joslyn Center – Joslyn Wellness Center Program Support – \$109,130 and forward to the Board for approval. Motion passed unanimously.</b></p>
<p><b>VII. Committee Members Comments</b></p>	<p>There were no committee member comments.</p>	
<p><b>V. Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Chair PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Audio recording available on the website at <a href="http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents">http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents</a></b></p>

DocuSigned by:  
  
 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evelt PerezGil, Chair/Director  
 Program Committee

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board*