



Visitation Grant Advisory Group Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 8:45 AM Central Standard Time

Roll Call & Meeting Called to Order - Audible Roll Call Attendance (via Zoom):

- Members present – quorum established

SDVS Staff Present: Cora Olson, SDVS Program Director; Laura Quasney, SDVS Program Specialist I; Heather Anderson, SDVS Assistant II; Chazzy Smith, SDVS Program Assistant II

Current Appointed Advisory Group Members Present:

Judge Michelle Comer, *Chief Justice Appointment*; Senator Helene Duhamel, *Legislative Appointment*; Representative Tamara St. John, *Legislative Appointment*; Tressa Zahrbock-Kool, *State Bar - Governor Appointment*, Tascha Lamb, *At-Large – Governor Appointment*.

SFY 2024 Subgrantee Representatives: *Avera McKennan Family Visitation Center* – Luke Comeau, Joleen Thompson; *Beacon Center* – Dawn Sikkink, Emily Halvorson; *Mitchell Family Visitation Center* – Jacinda Biberdorf; *River City Family Connections* – Kim Cap, Cassie Nagel; *Safe Harbor (Kids Konnection)* – Brianna Neri, Gina Karst; *Sotera Youth & Family Services Collaborative* – Laura Clark

Guests Present: None

Elect Advisory Group Chair

Sen. Duhamel nominated

- Motion by Judge Comer, 2nd by Tressa.
- Roll Call Audible Vote by remaining members
- Motion Passes

Review of the minutes

- Sen. Duhamel Motioned to approve minutes from meeting held May 2nd, 2022 for SFY23 funding, 2nd by Judge Comer.
- Roll Call Audible Vote by remaining members
- Motion Passes

Review of Briefing Materials – Cora Olson

- Overview of Access & Visitation Program priorities for funding, previous year reported statistics statewide, and explanation of funding overview provided to Advisory Members
- \$104,500 for funds to allocate due to funds reverted for SFY23. The total requests for SFY24 are \$103,000, which leaves an option to reallocate the remaining \$1,500 for

programs to utilize in the remaining month for SFY23, as six of the seven programs have expended all their funds. The other option is for the members to award programs more than the requested amount for SFY24. This will be for consideration following public testimony.

Public Testimony

- **Safe Place- Family Visitation Center:**
 - The goal for SFY24 is to be fully staffed to cover an increased number of services. Funding only lasted until October. Last year they served 61 families. In 2021, 66 families. It required some changes to fee schedule and scholarship to make the grant last longer.
 - Requesting \$12,500 for SFY24
- **Safe Harbor:**
 - This is the only program in Aberdeen that offers these services. Funds were expended in the first six months of SFY23. A steady increase of services being requested. Total service hours 2100.
 - Requesting \$ 20,000 for FY24
- **Avera McKennan Family Visitation Center:**
 - Serve the primary counties around SF. Last year served 171 clients.
 - Requesting \$40,000 for SFY24
- **River City Family Connections:**
 - Three hundred fifty hours this year, steady increase of families, more long term families, 90% of families make less than 20,000 yearly. AV makes up about 82% of client load.
 - Requesting \$12,000 for SFY24
- **Beacon Center:**
 - Six hundred eleven hours, July 1-March 23 provided 338 services, 167 hours to AV funds, absorbed 109 hours through May. SFY23 hours are up 47%.
 - Requesting \$8,500 for SFY24
- **Sotera Youth & Family Services Collaborative:**
 - Sotera is a new center in Pierre providing new services in the area. Had several referrals through the courts, 300 hours last year for direct service clients. Did revert some funds after officially opening mid-grant cycle.
 - Requesting for \$10,000 SFY24

End of Public Testimony

Discussion and Final Award Determination

Sen. Duhamel offered motion to award \$1,500 that was reverted to United Families in Rapid City to expend in their final SFY23 drawdown City since was unable to be granted funds for SFY24 for missed application deadline.

- Judge Michell Comer's second
- Roll Call Audible Vote by remaining members
- Motion Passes

Sen. Duhamel motioned to award remaining \$103,000 as requested for SFY24:

- Tressa Kool Second Roll Call
- Audible Vote by remaining members
- Motion Passes

Final Discussion

- SDVS will begin issuing award notices and complete FY24 contracts.

Motion to adjourn by Judge Comer

- Second by Senator Duhamel
- Roll Call Audible Vote by remaining members
- Motion Passes

Meeting Adjourned – 9:35 AM