

City of Dunedin
Social Services Committee Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2019 5:30 pm

PRESENT

Chantala Simmons

Bilal Habeeb-ullah

Suzanna Young

Jason Knott

Staff: Theresa Smalling, Director of Human Resources & Risk Management

ABSENT

Avery Slyker, Chair (excused absence)

Tiffany Nozicka (excused absence)

Sandra Sumter (excused absence)

Kimberly Tucker (Alternate)

1. **Call to order** The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by vice-chair, Suzanna Young.
2. **Approve of minutes from previous meeting** Minutes of June meeting were not available so approval was postponed.
3. **Project Angel Presentation**
 - JoEllen Treherne and her husband provided an overview of a new local nonprofit they started whose mission is to assist adolescent girls discharged from the Juvenile Detention Center in St. Petersburg. This state facility has beds for 150 boys and 20 girls. Most stay an average of 21 days and may be discharged to a treatment facility or foster care if they are under 18.
 - Girls who are 18 years old at the time of release from the detention center are at high-risk of being homeless because most emergency housing facilities are full (Pasco and Polk counties do not have emergency housing and Pinellas receives overflow from Hillsborough County). The Project also keeps in contact with the probation officers of the girls aging out of the Juvenile Detention system to offer continued mentoring and assistance when possible. Project Angel is seeking funding to establish a transitional facility for those girls without a place to go when they are discharged.
 - At this point, Project Angel targets only the girl inmates. Volunteers visit the girls while they are at the facility to offer mentoring support. At discharge they provide each girl with a back pack filled with personal care items, clothing, bus passes, and gift cards.
 - Mrs. Treherne will send a PowerPoint presentation on Project Angel that will be distributed to committee members. She asks that committee members please spread the word about Project Angel and the need for volunteers to mentor and teach life skills as well as donations for the back packs.
4. **Review any City requests** There were no City requests.
5. **New Member Review/Vote** Action on this item was postponed.
6. **Secretary Nominations/Vote** Action on this item was postponed.
7. **Annual Sunshine Act Review** Members were reminded that all communication among committee members must go through the City Staff representative, Theresa Smalling.
8. **Social Service Resource Directory Discussion** The revised Directory has been posted on the City website.
9. **Announcements** The meeting with Dunedin Cares to coordinate the planned Adopt a Block Fall kickoff will be August 8th.
10. **Citizen(s) comment(s)** None
11. **Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM

Next Meeting Tuesday, August 20, 2019