

**JOINT REGULAR MEETING OF
THE COMMISSION FOR SENIOR SERVICES & HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020
9 AM to 10:30 AM**

WESTPORT CENTER FOR SR. ACTIVITIES

21 IMPERIAL AVENUE, WESTPORT

Members Present: Les Wolf, Peter Kolbrener, Bob Fox, Bob Galan, Claudia Copen, Beth Bass, Yvonne Senturia, and Lee Bollert

Staff: Elaine Daignault, Kristen Witt, Sue Pfister, and Holly Betts

Minutes from Human Services Commission Executive meeting of November 12th 2019 – Approved unanimously

Department of Human Services Budget Presentation (see attached PowerPoint)
Elaine Daignault, Director & Susan Stefenson, Finance Manager

Discussion of budget increase requests highlighted:

The Human Services budget increase request includes \$73k or 5.5% due to the enhancement/subcontracting of the Student Outreach Counselor Program, the addition of one part-time clinical social worker, and the purchase of new program/registration software at the Senior Center.

The Human Services Budget details are as follows:

1. Annual contractual increases across all three divisions for building & equipment maintenance
2. Youth = Enhancement of the Student Outreach Counselor (SOC) Program moving to a contractual model resulting in one and a half (1.50) Counselors (+\$9,564)
3. Social = database enhancement & (.50) PT Clinical Social Worker, change necessitated by the subcontracted the SOC program. (+ \$34,806) **no head-count change
4. Senior = new registration and program management software (+\$28,181)

Suggestions/Comments:

To provide an enhanced snapshot of statistics for residents who receive financial assistance to provide context for services in the form of number of households served. This suggestion includes highlighting that DHS provides many more services and programs outside of those who qualify under state, local and federal median income guidelines.

The Senior Center, Teen Center and a variety of other support programs are offered to residents of all ages, stages regardless of income.

In addition, the slide on leveraged funds and/or benefits provided through collaboration and scholarships is an essential narrative for the BOF

Priorities and challenges highlighted in the presentation should continue to be the topics for the HSC and CSS to address in the future

Adjournment