

Notes from the June 18, 2013 Human Services Advisory Committee

Renton Area Youth Services (RAYS):

Have staff in about 20 schools. Gaps in dental and medical care.

Huge service gap for young people 18 – 24.

As we head into health care reform – have partnership with Navos and Healthpoint. One in four adults needs mental health. RAYS is beginning to see some adults as an effect of Medicaid expansion.

Electronic medical records is a huge project for RAYS. The license fee for the software is \$30,000 to \$40,000. Staff needs laptops and scanners.

Report on two outcomes to the City, but in reality have 15 outcomes for the Spark THIS program.

Change that Rich sees coming: briefer interventions and some emphasis on medications.

The counselors have more challenges in helping clients meet their basic needs. Kids are hungry. Have other needs. RAYS set up an emergency fund that helps pay for utilities.

Forty percent of their clients are Hispanic.

City can provide greater visibility to what the Human Services Advisory Committee and the agencies that we fund have to offer.

For funding, we need to figure out who is effective.

There is a need to grow in the total amount of human services funding.

Communities in Schools of Renton (CISR):

Family Liaisons: The family liaisons are at eight elementary schools and at the three middle schools. They help provide wrap-around services to the students and their families, and help stabilize them. They are also the homeless family liaisons.

CISR is the #1 drop-out prevention program in the country.

\$11.60 is returned on every \$1 invested. Drop-outs need more services. If you get a diploma, you help by paying taxes and contributing.

Liaisons go where the biggest needs are. Besides providing case management and specific services to the families, they do several school-wide services a year. These school-wide services include school supplies or coats or college awareness. Rotary provides the coats, businesses donate school supplies, and CISR goes to World Vision monthly to get supplies. In-kind donations are \$130,000 to \$170,000 per year.

Each family liaison works at two schools.

Mentor Program:

It is school based. They have 150-190 mentors.

Gaps are time and money. Liaisons are half-time. Want full-time staff and want to be in every elementary school.

Gap: Parent engagement in leadership.

Gap: Help recruiting mentors.

Liaisons broker other resources, which often run out of funds – like utility assistance, housing, and food.

How City can help:

- Can use more funding;

- Help open doors to businesses;

- Recruit employees to be mentors.

Readiness to Learn grant is held up at the State legislature.