



## Programs & Services Committee Report

### City of Newton In City Council

**Wednesday, March 23, 2022**

**Present:** Councilors Krintzman (Chair), Noel, Humphrey, Albright, Ryan, Wright, Greenberg, and Baker

**Also Present:** Councilors Gentile, Leary, Crossley, Kalis, Laredo, Danberg, Norton, Kelley, and Oliver

**City Staff:** Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer; Josh Morse, Commissioner of Public Buildings; Linda Walsh, Commissioner of Health & Human Services; Meghan Kennedy, Director of Social Services; Jen Caira, Deputy Director of Planning & Development; Amanda Berman, Director of Housing and Community Development; Jayne Colino, Director of Senior Services; Emily Kuhl, Case Manager; Nicole Banks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Culture; Ouida Young, Legal Services; Nathan Giacalone, Committee Clerk

**#185-22**      **Requesting a discussion with CGR, authors of the Community Needs Assessment**  
**COUNCILORS ALBRIGHT AND KRINTZMAN** requesting a presentation and discussion with CGR, the authors of the Community Needs Assessment, regarding findings and recommendations on Newton needs. In the last term, the City Council docketed a request to hear from each department and how they support people in need, including, immigrants, seniors, disabled individuals, families and families with adult disabled children. As this discussion never occurred this presentation would reestablish the need for this discussion between the Council and the Administration.

**Action:**      **Programs & Services Held 8-0**

**Note:**      The Committee was joined for discussion on this item by Chief Operating Officer Jonathan Yeo, Commissioner of Health & Human Services Linda Walsh, Director of Social Services Meghan Kennedy, Case Manager Emily Kuhl, Director of Senior Services Jayne Colino, and Director of Housing and Community Development Amanda Berman.

Mr. Yeo began the discussion, stating that the firm CGR (Center for Governmental Research) was contracted for the community needs assessment but that CGR is no longer under contract with the City. This assessment would cover a range of social issues and Mr. Yeo stated that there were many department staff present to discuss social services.

Ms. Kennedy delivered the attached presentation, which Commissioner Walsh stated would show what Health & Human Services (HHS) does to help people in need. Ms. Kennedy began by

describing the process of social work and how the department takes a holistic approach to its community interactions and case management to understand the whole picture of a person's needs. This programming covers a wide range of services, such as assistance with mental health needs, substance abuse, and fuel assistance. HHS seeks a timely approach to its responses and its goal is to respond to inquiries within a few days. Community Partners are key to building these relationships with the community and providing other resources as well. Highlights of the work with Community Partners include suicide prevention and mental health outreach. Ms. Kennedy stated that for outreach to immigrants, Newton participates in a network of the surrounding communities led by Mayor Wu in Boston. She continued that HHS is studying food access in Newton through the different food banks and that Youth Services is focusing on outreach to populations such as those who do not go to four-year colleges.

Ms. Kuhl spoke next, focusing on outreach to the elderly. She stated that this work involves both home care referrals and working with families to determine the best options. The City offers multiple programs such as tax assistance and work-off to support seniors with their financial needs. There is also a focus on their mental health needs, especially regarding the effects of isolation. Solutions for this involve linking seniors with a companion or encouraging them to come to the Senior Center. In addition, Ms. Kuhl described how the City offers direct services such as NewMo to provide transportation, which is made possible through partners in the non-profit and business sectors.

Ms. Berman continued, speaking on affordable housing and community development and how it serves low-income and vulnerable populations. She described how the approach is to grow Newton's economic diversity through the production and preservation of affordable housing. The \$2 million received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development has been valuable to these efforts. Through involvement in many local programs, Ms. Berman described how the City works to support the homeless as well. Architectural access is another area of focus as the City works to remove architectural barriers to the elderly and disabled. This is done through installing curb cuts, park pathways, flashing crosswalk beacons, and other fixtures. Affordable housing is one of the biggest yearly goals, with the Armory being an example of the success of this program. Community Development Block Grant and CARES Act funding is used in addition to other grants to support affordable home ownership.

#### Discussion:

Councilors thanked City staff for the presentation and their work on this matter.

Councilor Albright spoke as a lead docketer, stating that part of the reason this was docketed was a conversation with Ms. Josephine McNeil, who pushed the Council to ask what it was doing for the neediest residents. That led to the CGR contract to study how ARPA funds could be used to support the community.

#### **Is the City reaching a broad range of communities? This includes families and individuals and those of different racial backgrounds.**

It was answered that the specific breakdown would need to be accessed, but City efforts are always guided by an equity lens. She continued that the study did not tell staff anything it did not already know regarding the disproportionate impacts of COVID. Ms. Kennedy added that the

City always keep data on the people it supports.

**There are many families in Newton with adult-disabled children, an often-unrecognized group. Does the City deal with this group?**

Ms. Kennedy stated that the City does and is building programming for this populations. Some specific guiding questions include access to MassHealth, job training, and housing. Ms. Kuhl added that seniors have concerns as they often ask what will happen to members of this group who need their support should they pass away.

**How has the process of assigning ARPA funds progressed?**

Mr. Yeo answered that staff is still accepting input and after some more internal discussions the hope is to come forward with more details in the near future. Commissioner Walsh added that staff is always learning about how to improve its work. There are regular conversations with Mayor about the next steps for ARPA funding.

**Can somebody who is homeless go to City Hall for immediate help regarding housing/substance abuse? How does staff support people in this process?**

Commissioner Walsh answered that they are always able to access resources at City Hall, but HHS is not equipped to always provide immediate help, but admin staff has basic information for immediate emergency support. Ms. Kennedy added that staff attempts to follow a “warm hand-off” model as best as it can for residents in need of these services.

**If most of these findings are already known, where there any surprises or new findings?**

Commissioner Walsh stated that this report validated the social services work and motivates staff to put in more effort. She felt it important to be frank about the restraints of a municipal department as it is not always able to respond 24/7.

**The respondent graphs show that 38% earned over \$100,000 in income, why were they included?**

Commissioner Walsh answered that it is important to hear everybody’s opinion but since the genesis of this report was under prior HHS leadership she was unable to provide more details on these specifics. Ms. Kennedy added that through a robust outreach program, care providers could be a factor in these responses.

**Was the funding of \$4 million for housing utilities enough?**

Ms. Berman stated that this is hard to answer but there will always be a need for this service so there will always be a use for greater funding. She added that there is still money in the budget for this purpose, so a final answer is not yet needed. Ms. Kennedy felt that the City has gone above and beyond with its program for temporary emergency housing as it does not have the same problems encountered at the state level.

Councilors also asked about improving food pantry access, pointed out that some issues such as mental health are felt regardless of income, and stated that this discussion should be revisited after the budget since the needs of the neediest residents are not heard enough.

Ms. Colino stated that the City needs to educate about these services better, such as through

describing the challenges the food pantry faces through providing the proper food to residents. The referral process also needs more education as it sometimes requires advance planning.

Ms. McNeil was invited to speak to the Committee, and she thanked the opportunity. She asked why a well-off community such as Newton only minimally funds these services and relies so much on federal support. Agreeing with Commissioner Walsh about the un-surprising nature of the findings, she noted that nobody asked about the report showing a disproportionate impact on black residents and that the term “people of color” was never used, instead “lower-resourced people” was used.

Councilor Albright made a motion to Hold which carried 8-0.

**#164-22      Request for amendments to the Council Rules**

COUNCILORS GENTILE AND MARKIEWICZ requesting that:

(1) City Council rules be amended to make it clear that City Councilors have the right to attend DRT meetings.

(2) That the Council consider changing its rules to ensure that all Councilors have the right to attend Working Group and other similar committee meetings.

**Action:**            Programs & Services Held 8-0

**Note:**            The Committee was joined for discussion on this item by Mr. Yeo and Deputy Director of Planning & Development Jen Caira.

Councilor Gentile spoke as the lead docketer, stating that he introduced the item because he thinks the DRT meetings are good and that Councilors should be able to attend if they are interested in a particular project. This has been a grey area as Councilors have attended some meetings in the past, and at other times their attendance has been discouraged. Many decisions are made early in the special permit process in the DRT meetings, making it harder to reverse these changes later in the special permit process. In a specific instance, a proposed development in West Newton was opposed by abutters who felt it had too many units. The developer had said that Planning encouraged five units in a DRT meeting. He felt that there should be clarification that Councilors can attend these meetings and he requested the Committee to Hold the item and not take a final vote.

Ms. Caira spoke and gave background on the DRT meetings. She stated that they are a pre-application meeting to provide feedback to the applicants and that Planning staff is joined by other departments when appropriate. DRT meetings are scheduled to catch and resolve potential problems early on. Applicants are recommended to reach out to neighbors and Ward Councilors and these meetings are relatively short to answer questions and provide information. Ms. Caira emphasized that these are purely administrative and do not replace public hearing and felt that allowing Councilors could negatively change the climate of the meeting and open the door to Open Meeting Law (OML) violations. Staff is always happy to answer questions and provide meeting notes.

Mr. Yeo spoke in support of this response and the current DRT structure, adding that the Law

Department has its own concerns such as OML.

Discussion:

**Are DRT meetings purely informational or do they influence how an application advances?**

Ms. Caira answered that this depends on the project. For smaller ones, the meetings are largely informational, but larger projects require more feedback and more staff. Larger projects also involve more community outreach.

If Councilors do not attend these meetings, why is DRT information in the Friday Packet?

Ms. Caira answered this was because a prior Council President requested it.

Councilors stated that many requests to attend DRT meetings have been turned down and the meeting notes provided are short and unhelpful. They emphasized that they support DRT meetings as a whole and do not understand why Councilors are viewed as a threat to the process.

Other Councilors stated that there should be caution over including Councilors in DRT meetings as they serve a quasi-judicial role in the process. They felt that if the meetings are purely informational, Councilors do not need to attend.

Councilors were in broad agreement that no matter what, the DRT information should continue to be included in the Friday Packet, though there should be a better process for Councilors to learn what occurred in the meeting.

Councilor Baker made a motion to Hold which carried 8-0.

**#163-22 Request for review and possible changes to the light trespass ordinance**

COUNCILORS GENTILE, KELLEY, KRINTZMAN, AND MARKIEWICZ requesting a full review of our current light trespass ordinance including but not limited to moving the effective start time from 9:30PM to 7:00PM.

**Action:** Programs & Services Held 7-0 (Councilor Baker not voting)

**Note:** The Committee was joined for discussion by Mr. Yeo.

Councilor Gentile introduced the item as the lead docketer, stating that it was docketed as a review of the entire ordinance citing instances across the city of excessive light spillage. Of note are the lights at Lasell's Grellier Field as the University assured the City that its new lighting would comply with the light spillage ordinance. Under a temporary occupancy, many have urged the City to hold off on a permanent building permit until these complaints are addressed. He asked the Committee to not take a final vote on the item at this meeting.

Councilors also discussed other area of complaints over the light spillage ordinance at cannabis dispensaries, stating that they have installed lighting they did not get clearance for. They felt that 70-foot tall light fixtures were excessive for residential areas. They also felt that 7pm is too early for the fall-playing season.

**Does light trespass include the schools?**

Mr. Yeo clarified that it does and added that there are significant concerns about rolling back the start-time of the ordinance. He stated that this could have a negative impact on athletics as the fields are already under evening crunch-time with the changed start-times.

The Docketers clarified that they are not asking for lights to go off at 9:30pm, but rather to allow residents to file complaints about spillage earlier as it is ok to have lights on later provided the spillage is contained. They hope that in cases such as Lasell it will pressure the University to act more to contain spillage.

Councilor Ryan made a motion to Hold the item which carried 7-0 (Councilor Baker not voting).

**Referred to Programs & Services and Public Facilities Committee****#134-22 Discussion with City Staff regarding how to integrate a year-round pool into the CIP**

COUNCILORS KELLEY, LIPOF, LAREDO, NORTON, BOWMAN, CROSSLEY, MALAKIE, LUCAS, DOWNS, DANBERG, GREENBERG, RYAN, KRINTZMAN, KALIS, MARKIEWICZ, NOEL, OLIVER, ALBRIGHT, HUMPHREY, BAKER, AND GROSSMAN requesting a discussion with the Mayor, Public Buildings Department, and Parks, Recreation and Culture about how to integrate a year-round pool into the CIP and comprehensive planning for public recreational opportunities, specifically in the Albemarle area

**Action: Programs & Services Held 7-0 (Councilor Baker not voting)  
Public Facilities Held 8-0**

**Note:** The Committee was joined for discussion on this item by members of the Public Facilities Committee as well as Mr. Yeo, Commissioner Banks, and Commissioner Morse. Commissioner Banks summarized the project, stating that all materials such as plans and meeting records can be accessed on the City website through the following link:

<https://www.newtonma.gov/government/parks-recreation-culture/aquatics/gath-memorial-pool-renovation-project>

She stated that with funding from the CPA, improvements are being made to the interior of the bathhouse as well. The preliminary design, engineering work, and cost estimates have been funded already. There has been a series of focus group meetings to gain input from a wide-array of perspectives, such as from seniors, parents of young children, athletes, those with disabilities, and the LGBT+ community. Commissioner Banks stated that the current pool systems are so old that they are failing, with these problems compounded by an extensive and growing leak. The project is aiming to incorporate the desire for more swim opportunities and community swim time. She discussed the efforts to simultaneously address the options for year-round swim with all stakeholders and work this into the schedule. Commissioner Morse added that design review expertise is being used in this process.

Mr. Yeo addressed the question of adding a new year-round pool into the CIP, stating that new projects are added in the fall after evaluation in summer. He stated that the current plan is to

incorporate a feasibility study into the CIP to create an additional swim facility. In addition to an outdoor replacement for the Gath Pool, there will also be a splashpad and the design will be bubble-ready if this decision is ever made (a pool bubble is an inflatable covering to allow indoor-use in the colder parts of the year).

Regarding the pool bubble, Commissioner Banks stated that no options were off the table and there is no desire to invest in replacing the Gath pool only to come back later and undo the work. There would be some structural work underneath the deck to support a bubble and not much else would need to be done at this stage.

Discussion:

**If the City is going to create an additional indoor swim-facility, it needs to consider equity as Newton South High School does not have the same opportunities. What is the estimated cost?**

Mr. Yeo answered that the operating costs are an additional challenge to the up-front capital costs. Commissioner Morse added that the capital costs are estimated to be a minimum of \$6 million and can go up to about \$12 million for a traditional lap pool. Operating costs can be reduced when anchored to existing facilities. Mr. Yeo assured that a feasibility study will be in the CIP as the priority is to build a new Gath Pool.

Councilors stated that many residents on the south side of Newton have asked for greater swim opportunities and that there is great value to having an indoor swim facility in addition to an outdoor pool. While it is good south side residents have facilities like the YMCA available, it is financially out of reach for some. They also supported looking at Newton South for a new indoor pool as a compromise.

Commissioner Banks stated of the pool bubble that challenges remain with selecting a site for this option as well as unique challenges for New England such as snow-clearance of the structure. While the pool bubble is an option there is no guarantee for this.

Councilors also stated that a wide range of users would benefit from a year-round pool and that it is short-sighted to invest in a structure only useable for a small portion of the year. They also felt that a pool-bubble is not a good option as it requires too much energy and maintenance.

Councilor Humphrey made a motion for Programs & Services to Hold the item which carried 7-0 (Councilor Baker not voting).

Councilor Danberg made a motion for Public Facilities to Hold which carried 8-0.

Public Facilities adjourned at 9:27pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:48pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Josh Krintzman, Chair**

City of Newton Social Services  
Health & Human Services Department  
Senior Services Department

Programs and Services Committee  
March 23, 2022

**Meghan Kennedy, LICSW**  
Director of Social Services

**Jenna Bancroft, LICSW**  
Assistant Director of  
Social Services

**Corrie Houser**  
Social Services  
Assistant

**Meghan Murtagh, M.Ed.**  
Assistant Director of Youth  
Services

**Emily Kuhl, LMHC, LSW**  
Senior **Services** Case  
Manager



# 3 PRACTICE AREAS of Social Work



## MICRO

Working directly with individuals or families on everything from access to housing, healthcare, and social services to treating mental, behavioral, and emotional disorders.

## MEZZO

Working with groups and organizations such as schools, businesses, neighborhoods, hospitals, nonprofits, and other small-scale communities.

## MACRO

Working towards large-scale systematic change by crafting laws, petitioning governments for community funds, organizing activist groups, and molding social policy.

# What We Do

The division of Social Services provides case management, outreach, information, and referrals for Newton residents related to:

- COVID-19 Emergency Services
- Food insecurity
- Financial assistance
- Emergency oil/fuel assistance
- Housing/shelter referrals
- SNAP applications
- Legal assistance referrals
- Mental health referrals
- Substance use referrals
- Budget/financial planning
- WIC referrals
- Support groups
- Workforce development
- Narcan distribution training

When residents call, email, or stop by our office they can expect:

- Resources and referrals
- Phone calls or in-person consultations
- Assistance with applications
- Connections to longer term services
- Problem solving & support

# Community Partners

- Newton Housing Authority
- CASCAP
- Newton Community Development Foundation
- Newton Corner Place (YMCA)
- Bristol Lodge Women’s Shelter
- Bristol Lodge Men’s Shelter
- DHCD (Emergency Assistance shelter for families)
- MetroBoston Housing
- The Brookline Center
- Genesis II
- 2 Life Communities
- Community Day Center, Waltham
- Metro West Collaborative Development
- Continuum of Care Program
- Statewide Head Injury Program
- Welcome Home Inc
- Action for Boston Community Development (Fuel Assistance Bureau)
- Boston College Legal Assistance
- Greater Boston Legal Services
- COVID Eviction Legal Help Project
- Legal Advocacy and Resource Center
- MLRI
- Arabic Baptist Church Food Pantry
- Centre Street Food Pantry
- Newton Food Pantry
- WIC
- SNAP (DTA)
- Mobile Market (Post 440)
- William James Interface Referral
- Newton Youth Outreach
- Riverside Outpatient Center
- Families for Depression Awareness
- Samaritans
- NW NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Health)
- MA Substance Use Helpline
- Riverside Emergency Services
- Newton-Wellesley Substance Use Services Clinic
- Advocates
- DCF
- Department of Mental Health (DMH)
- DMH Forensic Team
- Newton District Court, Probation Department, ADA, Public Defender
- West Suburban YMCA
- Boys & Girls Club
- Family Access
- JF&CS
- The Second Step
- Reach
- Newton-Wellesley Domestic Violence Program
- Newton Public Schools
- Newton Public Schools FORJ
- Newton Public Schools ELL
- Cousens Fund
- Perpetual Benevolent Fund
- Harwood Fund
- St. Vincent DePaul Society
- Interfaith Clergy Association
- Boston Chinese Evangelical Church
- Rep. Balse’s Office
- Rep. Khan’s Office
- MassHire
- MassBay Community College
- Newton Afterschool Association
- Village Bank (financial literacy curriculum)
- MetroWest Collaborative, Inc,

# Municipal & Community Involvement

The division of Social Services participates in community & municipal groups and meetings which include but are not limited to:

- Municipal Immigrant Support Network
- CCIT (Community Crisis Intervention Team)
- Food Access Group (NWH)
- NPS Safety Team
- EMS Monthly Meeting
- NPS Social Work Department
- QPR (Suicide Prevention)
- DA's monthly meeting on substance use
- SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council)
- Newton Wellesley Hospital Workforce Development
- Newton Youth Commission
- City of Newton Planning & Development Department
- Other City Departments

# Community Partner Highlights

## **Samaritans: Suicide Prevention Services**

- targeted outreach to specific groups within Newton: youth, older adults, and general community members to inform them of available support resources in Newton and ways to help and be helped

## **Riverside Community Care, Inc.**

for mental health services including:

- any Newton resident who would benefit from seeing a clinician who speaks their native language will be prioritized to have that placement made, utilizing both clinicians at the Newton outpatient center and any Riverside clinician via tele-health
- providing out-patient behavioral health services to Newton adults, children, and families at the Newton Outpatient Center

## **Riverside Community Care, Inc**

### **Youth and Family Outreach Mental Health Services**

- increasing the number of children receiving services with more clinical care providers
- expanding the home-based clinical services to include children of all ages
- providing outreach in the schools and to the greater Newton community

## **Emergency Services, Riverside Community Care, Inc.**

- full-time School-Based Emergency Services Clinician position based in the Newton Public Schools to evaluate and explore diversionary options for students in crisis regardless of insurance
- clinician will also provide 7-day MCI follow up to students evaluated in the school system and maintain close communication with staff of NPS
- when the schools are not in session, the Clinician will be re-deployed to other Newton programs (extended school year, summer camps, or support the provision of adult evaluations in Newton)

## **Barry Price Rehabilitation Center**

- providing vocational services, including transitional, supported and competitive employment training to Newton residents with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities

# Youth Services

## **Mental Health Workshops/Education:**

- Addressing Family Stress, partnership with Families for Depression Awareness
- Understanding Tween/Teen Depression, partnership with Families for Depression Awareness
- Social Media & Mental Health

## **Post-Secondary Transition Workshops/Education:**

- College Financing workshop series, partnership with MEFA, Massbay & the Village Bank :
  - Part 1: College Financing 101
  - Part 2: FAFSA Basics
  - Part 3: College Acceptance & Financial Awards
- Navigating the Post High School Transition, workshop series, partnership with NWH Resilience Project & Cole Resource Center
  - Part 1: The transition out of high school
  - Part 2: The transition to College
- Trades Industry Workshop; exploring the industry & broadening the definition of success, partnership with Massachusetts Girls in Trades

## **Career Exploration & Employment:**

- Virtual Career Exploration Panels in partnership with Newton North & South
- Alternative Pathways & Trades Industry Exploration Course at Newton North, South & Central
- Summer Internship Program, partnership with MassHire
- School year Internships & job shadow, partnership with MassHire

## **Newton Youth Collaborative:**

- A collaborative meeting that brings youth serving agencies and providers together 3x per year.

## **Newton Youth Commission:**

- The Newton Youth Commission is a volunteer body of Youth appointed by the Mayor. The Commission's goal is to implement programs and policies to meet the opportunities, challenges and issues of Newton youth. The Commission is comprised of young people that attend Newton North, South and private schools.

# Senior Services- What we do that's unique for older adults

**The Social Service Case Manager at the Newton Senior Center is committed to enhancing the quality of life for all Newton seniors. We offer comprehensive social work assessments, outreach services, and information and referral to:**

- Home Care Services that include assistance with house cleaning, laundry, meal preparation, grocery shopping, and personal care
  - Senior Housing-Subsidized Apartments or other housing options, including long term care facility resources
  - Property Tax assistance and utility discounts in partnership with the Assessor's office
  - Confidential referrals to services to help you cope with issues such as retirement, aging, illness, bereavement, family relationships, etc.
  - Commodity Supplemental Foods program for eligible seniors to receive 2 bags of shelf-stable groceries each month in partnership with the Greater Boston Food Bank
  - Caregiver Support for family members needing resources and support for the senior for whom they provide care
- **Social Services Case Manager refers to many other programs and services within the Department of Senior Services.....**

# Senior Services- continued

## In house Programs and Services

- Transportation services and referrals
- Durable Medical Equipment Loans
- Daily Lunch (Springwell)
- Support Groups ( Lo-vision, bereavement, Parkinson's, etc.)
- SHINE (Medicare counseling – EOEa)
- Income Tax Assistance ( AARP)
- Tax Work Off
- Parking Stickers
- Affordable Fitness/health classes

## Other Partners that provide programs, services, funding or in-kind donations

- Newton Council on Aging
- Senior Citizens Fund of Newton Inc.
- Springwell
- Executive Office of Elder Affairs
- FriendshipWorks
- Mass. Council on Aging
- Greater Boston Food Bank
- Business Community- Food, DME drive, Nourishing Newton, etc



# Community Needs Assessment

## **Goal: Economic Stability for Low-Income Residents**

- COVID-19 resulted in more financial instability for many residents and many community members with already fewer resources. These residents now find themselves in precarious financial circumstances.
- Health and Human Services Department contracted with CGR to conduct a community needs assessment specifically focused on hearing from our low-income residents regarding their needs and ideas for becoming economically stable.
- The needs assessment will utilize existing data as well as surveys and focus groups specifically designed to amplify the voices of lower resourced residents.
- We are currently evaluating the results of the Community Needs Assessment with keen attention to equity and inclusion.





## Newton Housing & Community Development Division

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To maintain the City's economic diversity through:

- The production and preservation of affordable housing and housing rehabilitation;
- The provision of human services for low- and moderate-income residents;
- The provision of homelessness prevention and support services; and
- The removal of architectural barriers for people with disabilities



➤ Approx. \$3.6 million a year from HUD, across three grant programs:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

## Human Services Program

Financial support to local non-profits and municipal departments who provide a direct service for low- and moderate-income Newton residents. These services are targeted to stabilize vulnerable households across the lifespan.



*\*Above: Newton Community Development Foundation*

- Annually, ~\$300,000 of CDBG funds designated towards Human Services
- \$546,000 of CDBG-CV CARES-Act funds allocated towards Human Service projects to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19

## FY22 Human Service Program Recommended Awards

| Agency                                      | Program                                                   | Allocation          |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| West Suburban YMCA                          | Childcare Financial Aid Program                           | \$50,000.00         |
| Riverside Community Care                    | Mental Health Services Promoting Economic Mobility        | \$40,000.00         |
| Family ACCESS                               | Social Mobility for Young Families                        | \$24,000.00         |
| The Second Step                             | Community Programs for Adult Survivors of DV              | \$25,000.00         |
| Newton Housing Authority                    | Resident Services Program                                 | \$25,000.00         |
| Newton Community Development Foundation     | Resident Services Program                                 | \$25,000.00         |
| 2Life Communities (formerly JCHE)           | CaringChoices and Wellness Nursing for Low-Income Seniors | \$20,000.00         |
| Newton Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Culture | Financial Aid for Summer Camp                             | \$18,850.00         |
| John M. Barry Boys and Girls Club           | Financial Aid for Teens/Families                          | \$17,000.00         |
| Horace Cousens Industrial Fund              | Emergency Payments                                        | \$15,000.00         |
| Jewish Family & Children's Services         | Stabilization & Recovery Services                         | \$14,900.00         |
| Plowshares Ed. Development Center           | Tuition Assistance                                        | \$12,000.00         |
| Barry L. Price Rehabilitation Center        | Independence/Employment Programs                          | \$10,000.00         |
| <b>Total</b>                                |                                                           | <b>\$296,750.00</b> |

## Supportive Services for Homeless and At-Risk of Homelessness



Provide supportive services for individuals and families that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, including financial support for existing emergency and transitional housing.

*\*Above (clockwise): Middlesex Human Service Agency, Brookline Community Mental Health Center, and Community Day Center of Waltham.*



## FY22 ESG Program Awards

| ESG Category                           | Agency                                   | Program                                              | Allocation   |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Emergency Shelter</b>               | REACH Beyond Domestic Violence           | Emergency Shelter for Survivors of Domestic Violence | \$23,000.00  |
|                                        | Community Day Center of Waltham          | Day Shelter                                          | \$69,150.00  |
| <b>Homelessness Prevention</b>         | Brookline Community Mental Health Center | Homelessness Prevention                              | \$40,950.00  |
| <b>Rapid Re-housing</b>                | Brookline Community Mental Health Center | Rapid Re-housing                                     | \$19,260.00  |
| <b>Administration (capped at 7.5%)</b> | City of Newton                           | Program Administration                               | \$12,348.00  |
| <b>Total</b>                           |                                          |                                                      | \$164,708.00 |

- \$1.2 million of ESG-CV CARES-Act funds allocated towards projects that serve individuals and families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness in an effort to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19

# Architectural Access



Removal of material and architectural barriers restricting mobility and accessibility of elderly or severely disabled persons, through public thoroughfares, public buildings, parks and recreational facilities, and nonprofit agencies.

Approx. 5% (\$95,000) of FY22 CDBG funds to McGrath Park Accessible Path



# Affordable Housing

- The production of new affordable units through site acquisition and improvements,
- The rehabilitation of existing housing units for low- and moderate-income households,
- The preservation of existing affordable units,
- The support of affordable homeownership for low- and moderate-income households, and
- Housing program delivery



## Production & Preservation of Affordable Units

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Allocations / awards for Newton's FY21 and FY22 CDBG and HOME affordable housing funds include the following\*:

- Haywood House Senior Housing Project
  - Golda Meir House Expansion Senior Housing Project
  - Newton Housing Authority Acquisition & Rehabilitation of the CAN-DO Portfolio
  - Coleman House Senior Housing Rehabilitation and Preservation Project
  - Homeowner Rehabilitation Projects
  - Down Payment / Closing Cost Assistance Grant Program
- These project constitute the creation, preservation, rehabilitation and support of 314 total units, 273 of which are affordable to LMI households.

\*Approximately 60 percent of annual CDBG funding (~\$1.2 million) and ~\$119,000 of annual Newton HOME funds are allocated towards the production, preservation and rehabilitation of affordable housing.

## CARES Act & ARPA Funds

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- **Emergency Housing & Utility Relief Program**
  - CDBG-CV, ARPA, and CPA funded
  - Over \$4,000,000 to support over 270 Newton low-income households with rent, mortgage and utility assistance
- **Small Business Recovery Grant Program**
  - CDBG-CV funded
  - \$600,000 awarded through 2 rounds of grants to small brick and mortar businesses disrupted by COVID
  - 54 businesses received support (\$10,000 or \$15,000 grants)