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**To:** Board Members  
**From:** Amy Abrams  
**Date:** November 3, 2025  
**Subject:** Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee Minutes – **October 24, 2025**

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The Committee met for a special meeting on Friday, October 24, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. Members of the public were able to participate by telephone, Zoom, or in-person at the Grossmont Healthcare District Conference Center, located at 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa, California. In some cases, discussion of items may have taken place out of sequence during the meeting.

**Attendees:** Director Maggie Watkins, Chair  
Director Nadia Farjood, Member  
Amy Abrams, Chief Community Health Officer  
Alexandra Anaya, Institute of Reproductive Grief Care (via Zoom)  
Michaelene Fredenburg, Institute of Reproductive Grief Care  
Alex Eberhardt, ECEDC Foundation (via Zoom)  
James Sly, ECEDC Council Foundation (via Zoom)

- A. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Director Farjood at 1:04 p.m.
- B. Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as posted with an amendment to move Sponsorship Requests to the top of the agenda, per request by Director Watkins.
- C. Public Comment:**

Alexandra Anaya and Michaelene Fredenburg from the Institute of Reproductive Grief Care spoke about their annual symposium which will be held at the Grossmont Healthcare District facility. Director Watkins inquired about the cost for attendees noting two price points - \$199 and \$279. Ms. Anaya explained the price points are for virtual and in-person attendance.

Alex Eberhardt and James Sly from the East County Economic Development Council Foundation spoke about their grant request focused on the healthcare workforce in East County. The Committee explained their recommendation that the grant proposal be forwarded to the proposed Workforce Committee for review and deliberation. The likely timeline in which this committee will be established is early 2026.

**D. Guest Presentations:** There were none.

**E. Reports/Discussion/Possible Action Items**

1. Template for Presentation of Staff Recommendations

CCHO Abrams to schedule a Zoom call with the Committee to discuss the presentation format for the Board meeting. Counsel Giragosian to provide legal advice on the template.

2. Grant Requests

a) Consideration of Strategic Initiative or Workforce Project Grants

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following grant applications and made the following recommendations:

- i. For Their Thoughts Foundation Inc.: Expanding Dementia Health Literacy in Schools and Strengthening the Neuro-Healthcare Pipeline in East County - \$46,100 (FY24-25 \$2,500 Sponsorship) Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee for consideration.  
**Committee Recommendation: \$40,000**
- ii. University of San Diego: Grossmont Healthcare District Behavioral Health Scholarship Fund - \$75,000 (No prior funding) Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee for consideration.  
**Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**
- iii. Walk San Diego dba Circulate San Diego: East County Vision Zero Report Update and Community Engagement - \$48,250 (No prior funding) Finance Committee recommendation to not fund due to lack of healthcare nexus; Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee for consideration. **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- iv. Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation: Heartland Fire Training EMS Pathway and Community Training Program - \$25,000 (No prior funding) Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee for consideration. **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
- v. East County Economic Development Council Foundation: Grossmont Healthcare District Career Pathways Initiative - \$150,000 (FY22-23 \$105,000) Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants &

Sponsorships Committee for consideration. **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**

- vi. St. Madeleine Sophie's Training Center: SMSC Healthcare Students Volunteer Program - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) Board recommendation to go back to Community Grants & Sponsorships Committee for consideration. **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**

b) Consideration of Other Grant Requests

i. New Requests

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following grant and sponsorship applications and made the following recommendations. CCHO Abrams noted that Director Watkins and Director Farjood will need to make a recommendation to the full Board on the two grants requests that they have recused themselves. If the Board agrees to fund them, it will require a budget adjustment for the grants. The Committee will ask Counsel Giragosian to provide input on the correct recusal procedures.

(Listed in chronological order, oldest to newest)

- (a) East County Transitional Living Center (ECTLC): East County Crisis Checkpoint for Continuum of Care - \$500,000 (FY23-24 \$12,500 Sponsorship; FY21-22 \$35,000 Grant) **Committee Recommendation: \$200,000**
- (b) Eric Paredes Save A Life Foundation: Screen Your Teen - \$13,200 (FY24-25 \$13,200) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (c) Vista Hill Foundation: Vista Hill ParentCare Dual Diagnosis - \$30,000 (FY24-25 \$30,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$30,000**
- (d) SD Imperial Counties Developmental Services Foundation aka Foundation for Developmental Disabilities: Expanding FDD's Emergency Help Fund Program Supporting San Diego Regional Center Clients and Their Families - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**

- (e) Boys & Girls Club of East County: BGCEC Youth Meal Program - \$50,000 (FY24-25 \$2,500 Sponsorship; FY20-21 \$10,000 Grant)  
**Committee Recommendation: \$30,000**
  
- (f) License to Freedom: Roots of Resilience - \$139,800 (FY24-25 \$19,290)  
**Committee Recommendation: \$88,000**
  
- (g) St. Madeleine Sophie's Training Center: SMSC Healthcare Students Volunteer Program - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**
  
- (h) DAP Health, Inc.: DAP Health Centro Medico El Cajon X-ray Equipment and DR Software Upgrade - \$94,899 (FY24-25 \$16,750) **Committee Recommendation: \$94,899**
  
- (i) San Diego Rescue Mission: East County Homeless Outreach & Collaboration - \$350,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$150,000**
  
- (j) YMCA of SD County / East County Family YMCAs: LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Cancer Survivor Program - East County - \$17,453 (FY24-25 \$17,500) **Committee Recommendation: \$15,000**
  
- (k) Neighborhood Healthcare: Neighborhood Lakeside Health Center Expansion - \$450,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$250,000**
  
- (l) Trauma Intervention Programs of SD County Inc. : Crisis Intervention - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$20,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (m) Southern Regional Resource Center, Inc.: Improving GHD Family Caregivers' Wellbeing Through Respite Care - \$337,864 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$250,000**
  
- (n) Make-A-Wish Foundation of San Diego: Enhancing Pediatric Cardiac Care Through Resilience-Building Interventions - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**

- (o) San Diego Hunger Coalition: Addressing Food Insecurity for GHD’s Most Vulnerable Residents - \$20,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (p) East County Economic Development Council Foundation: Grossmont Healthcare District Career Pathways Initiative - \$150,000 (FY22-23 \$105,000) **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**
  
- (q) SDSU Research Foundation dba Center for Excellence in Aging & Longevity (CEAL): Strengthening Aging Supports in East County Through Caregiver Training, Peer Networks, and Community Connection - \$144,473 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$75,000**
  
- (r) Saddles In Service: Healing for Frontline Nurses and Medical Staff - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000 Grant; FY24-25 \$5,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (s) Volunteers in Medicine - San Diego Inc.: Free Medical Clinic for the Uninsured – Expanded Services - \$250,000 (FY24-25 \$150,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$175,000**
  
- (t) Empowered Endings Foundation: Compassionate Navigation and Conversations: Supporting Seniors and Families in East County for Life at End of Life - \$75,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (u) Crisis House: Pathway to Home: Senior Support Initiative - \$50,000 (FY23-24 \$8,000 Grant; FY23-24 \$8,599 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (v) Autism Society San Diego: Expanding Autism Support Services in East County - \$250,000 (FY24-25 \$5,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$100,000**
  
- (w) Heaven’s Windows: Child Nutrition Program - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**

- (x) Alzheimer’s San Diego: Support for GHD Residents Impacted by Dementia - \$34,236 (FY24-25 \$23,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$20,000**
  
- (y) Home of Guiding Hands Corporation: Nursing Expansion for IDD Residents of Grossmont Healthcare District - \$225,000 (FY23-24 \$69,000; FY23-24 \$5,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$125,000**
  
- (z) Arms Wide Open: Performing Arts Classes for People with Disabilities - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (aa) Covenant Living at Mount Miguel dba Covenant Living of the West: Enhancing Transportation Access for Seniors at Covenant Living at Mount Miguel - \$15,000 (FY24-25 \$15,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (bb) Oncology And Kids, Inc.: Resident Oncology Camp - \$25,000 (FY22-23 \$20,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (cc) University of San Diego: Grossmont Healthcare District Behavioral Health Scholarship Fund - \$75,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**
  
- (dd) McAlister Institute for Treatment & Education Inc.: Integrated Recovery Health Project: Expanding Medical and Psychiatric Support for SUD Treatment in East County - \$223,820 (FY23-24 \$13,100) **Committee Recommendation: \$200,000**
  
- (ee) Family Health Centers of San Diego, Inc.: FHCSO Older Adult Services - \$40,000 (FY23-24 \$2,500 Sponsorship; FY21-22 \$70,939 Grant) **Committee Recommendation: \$40,000**
  
- (ff) Grossmont Hospital Foundation: New Oncology Social Worker Position for Sharp Grossmont’s Healing Minds Cancer Connection Program - \$140,400 (FY24-25 \$60,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: For Finance Committee review and deliberation.**

- (gg) Survivors of Torture, International: Health Education and Literary (HEAL) Program - \$75,000 (FY24-25 \$19,290) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (hh) Center for Community Solutions: TRIUMPH (Trauma Recovery Integration Using Multiple Pathways to Healing) - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (ii) Developmental Services Continuum, Inc.: DSC’s Music Therapy Program - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (jj) Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank: San Diego Food Bank’s Fresh Produce for East County Program - \$75,000 (FY23-24 \$18,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (kk) Serving Seniors: Serving Seniors East County Nutrition & Aging Care Support Program - \$78,837 (FY24-25 \$30,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$50,000**
- (ll) Noah Homes, Inc.: Noah Homes IT Infrastructure Upgrades for Essential Medical Services and Compliance - \$200,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (mm) Community, Action, Service and Advocacy (CASA): Bringing Shared Housing to East County to Help Prevent Homelessness - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (nn) N.A.T.I.V.E. Placements: Project Hope - \$50,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (oo) Institute for Public Strategies: Meet ME (Mountain Empire) Outdoors - \$149,966 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$100,000**
- (pp) Institute of Reproductive Grief Care: Reproductive Grief Education for Grossmont College Nursing Program - \$44,000 (FY24-25 \$2,500 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**

- (qq) San Diego Seniors Community Foundation: East County Longevity Hub - \$350,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$250,000**
  
- (rr) The Foundation for Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges: Advancing Cardiac Care Instruction in East County - \$75,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: For Workforce Committee review and deliberation.**
  
- (ss) Bliss Care Foundation, Inc.: Blissful Care Expansion - \$94,800 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$95,000**
  
- (tt) Heartland Regional Fire Training Foundation: Heartland Fire Training EMS Pathway and Community Training Program - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (uu) Impact Melanoma: San Diego County Skin Cancer Prevention GHD - \$122,407 (FY24-25 \$19,237) **Committee Recommendation: \$80,000**
  
- (vv) Feeding San Diego: Food is Medicine – Rural Initiative Food Distributions - \$75,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$75,000**
  
- (ww) Voices for Children: Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program Training Initiative - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$25,000 Grant; FY24-25 \$10,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (xx) Centro de Salud de la Comunidad de San Ysidro, Inc.: Food is Medicine Rural Initiative - \$258,930.69 (FY24-25 \$64,083 Grant; FY24-25 \$5,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (yy) The San Diego LGBT Community Center: Advancing Health Equity for the LGBTQ+ Community through The Center’s Behavioral Health Services - \$50,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$40,000**
  
- (zz) San Diego Youth Services: Mental Health for Vulnerable Youth - \$112,000 (FY23-24 \$24,999 Grant; FY23-24 \$2,500 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$56,000**

- (aaa) Meals-on-Wheels Greater San Diego, Inc.: Strengthening East County Senior Health: Meals and Innovation Hub Support - \$200,000 (FY23-24 \$30,000; FY23-24 \$5,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$75,000**
- (bbb) Connections for Adults Living Independently, Inc.: Connecting Individuals to Supported Living Services: A Multipronged Media and Outreach Approach - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (ccc) San Diego Center for the Blind: The Nourish Project - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
- (ddd) Majdal: Arab Community Center of San Diego, fiscally sponsored project of Mission Edge San Diego: Supporting Holistic MENA Refugee & Immigrant Mental Health - \$91,195 (FY23-24 \$11,440) **Committee Recommendation: \$92,000**
- (eee) San Diego Blood Bank: East County Donor Center (ECDC) Support - \$90,000 (FY24-25 \$19,290) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (fff) Jewish Family Services of San Diego: Continuum of Nutrition Support for Seniors - \$40,000 (FY24-25 \$40,000) **Committee Recommendation: For Board review and deliberation due to recusal.**
- (ggg) Mama's Kitchen: Medically Tailored Meal Service – East County - \$70,000 (FY24-25 \$30,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (hhh) Resounding Joy, Inc.: Sounds of Legacy: Addressing Social Isolation Through Music Therapy for Seniors - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
- (iii) Home Start, Inc.: Expanded Specialized Behavioral Health Services for GHD Child Victims of Trauma, Abuse, & Crime - \$88,552 (FY24-25 \$38,500) **Committee Recommendation: \$75,000**
- (jjj) The Salvation Army: East County Salvation Army Senior Nutrition Program - \$74,775 (FY24-25 \$7,000) **Committee Recommendation: For Board review and deliberation due to recusal.**

- (kkk) The New Children’s Museum: Ground & Grow: Trauma – Informal Ceramics for Youth - \$55,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (lll) San Diego County Medical Society Foundation dba Champions for Health: In-home Wellness for Older Adults & Homebound Individuals - \$30,000 (FY24-25 \$30,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$30,000**
  
- (mmm) Christie’s Place: Christie’s Place Mental Health Services for Youth and Families Living with HIV - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$5,000 Grant; FY24-25 \$2,500 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (nnn) San Diego Oasis: Wellness Plus – Comprehensive Health Education for Older Adults at San Diego Oasis’ La Mesa Center - \$65,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (ooo) ElderHelp of San Diego: ElderHelp Care Coordination & Transportation Program - \$65,000 (FY24-25 \$50,000 Grant: FY24-25 \$10,000 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$50,000**
  
- (ppp) American Pacific Health Foundation: Cognitive Assessment and Risk Education (CARE) Project - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (qqq) Therapy Center Inc. dba Challenger Center: Empowering Independence and Dignity in Aging - \$50,000 (FY23-24 \$18,750) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (rrr) So Say We All: Humanizing Healthcare Through Lived Storytelling - \$23,500 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (sss) Boys to Men Mentoring Network: Boys to Men Mentoring RECLAIM Project (Restorative Engagement for Community Leadership and Intervention Among Men - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**

- (ttt) We Support U: Personalized Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (PrTMS) for Treatment of Mild Traumatic Brain Injury mTBI (aka Concussion) - \$750,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$100,000**
  
- (uuu) Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.: Grossmont Healthcare District Health Access Project - \$65,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$65,000**
  
- (vvv) Walk San Diego dba Circulate San Diego: East County Vision Zero Report Update and Community Engagement - \$48,250 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (www) FundaMental Health: Bridging the Mental Healthcare Gap in the Grossmont Healthcare District - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (xxx) ArtReach: Addressing Behavioral Health & Social Isolation Through Visual Art Workshops with IRC's Women's Resiliency Center and Newcomer Youth Program - \$25,000 (FY24-25 \$14,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (yyy) Braille Institute of America, Inc. San Diego Low Vision Rehabilitation - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
  
- (zzz) Burn Institute: Burn Institute Fire Prevention and Burn Survivor Services for Grossmont Health District Residents - \$68,000 (FY23-24 \$34,000) **Committee Recommendation: \$34,000**
  
- (aaaa) African American Writers & Artists: Seasons of Health & Wellness: Community Engagement Initiative - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$25,000**
  
- (bbbb) For Their Thoughts Foundation Inc.: Expanding Dementia Health Literacy in Schools and Strengthening the Neuro-Healthcare Pipeline in East County - \$46,100 (FY24-25 \$2,500 Sponsorship) **Committee Recommendation: \$40,000**

- (cccc) Vision y Compromiso: Me Veo Bien, Me Siento Bien/I Look Good, I Feel Good, a chronic disease management program - \$80,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$50,000**
- (dddd) Newcomers Support and Development: In Arabic Medical Podcast - \$25,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (eeee) Community Eldercare of San Diego dba St. Paul's PACE: St. Paul's PACE Nemeth Transportation Program - \$320,000 (FY24-25 \$12,858) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (ffff) The Foundation for Care Integration: Hospital to Home Transportation Program - \$100,000 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (gggg) Tremble Clefts San Diego, Inc.: Together, We Grow! - \$176,829 (No prior funding) **Committee Recommendation: \$50,000**

c) Sponsorship Requests

- (a) Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank: San Diego Food Bank Gala - \$10,000 (FY23-24 \$18,000 Grant) (Event Date: 04-18-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$5,000**
- (b) Autism Society San Diego Inc.: Autism Social and Mental Health Conference: Caring. Connection. Community. - \$10,000 (FY24-25 \$5,000) (Event Date: 02-20-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$10,000**
- (c) Boys & Girls Club of East County, Inc.: BGCEC's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Health Fair - \$10,000 (FY24-25 \$2,500) (Event Date: Spring 2026) **Committee Recommendation: \$5,000**
- (d) ElderHelp of San Diego: ElderHelp's Essence of Life Awards and Charity Auction - \$15,000 (FY24-25 \$10,000) (Event Date: 03-16-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$10,000**
- (e) Southern Regional Resource Center, Inc.: Aging and Caregiving Awareness Campaign: Exhibits & Community-Based Conference - \$70,000 (No prior funding) (Event Date: N/A) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**

- (f) Transcendence Youth Arts Project: CREATE Performance 2026 - \$10,000 (FY24-25 \$5,000) (Event Date: 04-03-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$10,000**
- (g) NAMI San Diego: NAMIWalks San Diego - \$5,650 (FY21-22 \$2,800) (Event Date: 04-25-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (h) Institute of Reproductive Grief Care: The Next Frontier: Where Innovation Meets Compassion - \$10,000 (FY24-25 \$2,500) (Event Date: 03-27-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$10,000**
- (i) Christie’s Place: “A Woman’s Voice” Annual San Diego HIV Women’s Conference - \$7,500 (FY24-25 \$2,500) (Event Date: 03-07-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (j) American Lung Association in California: LUNG FORCE Walk - \$10,000 (FY23-24 \$20,000 Grant) (Event Date: TBD) **Committee Recommendation: \$0**
- (k) Center for Community Solutions: Grossmont Healthy Relationships Day - \$14,500 (FY24-25 \$25,000 Grant) (Event Date: 03-12-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$7,000**
- (l) San Diego Black Business Network: HealWellFest - \$20,000 (No prior funding) (Event Date: TBD) **Committee Recommendation: \$10,000**
- (m) Thrive Lemon Grove: Lemon Grove Farmers Market - \$10,000 (No prior funding) (Event Date: 10-02-25) **Committee Recommendation: \$7,500**
- (n) For Their Thoughts Foundation: Move For Their Thoughts (MoveFTT) 35 Day Mile-a-Day Challenge - \$10,000 (FY24-25 \$2,500) (Event Date: 04-26-26) **Committee Recommendation: \$5,000**

**F. General Information/Communications**

**G. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting** – Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

**H. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.