



Cambridge Human Services Commission

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 13, 2022

5:30 – 7:00 pm

ONLINE ONLY

Registration Link:

https://cambridgema.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XsRwNc4pTaG0du800Gd5mA

Commissioners present: Julie Asher, Duane Brown, Fred Cabral, Collin Fedor, Christopher Fischer, Kathleen Kelly, Bran Shim

Regrets: Khari Milner, Lorraine Thornhill

DHSP staff: Janice Alger, Michelle Farnum, Elizabeth Mengers, Mike Payack (recorder), Ellen Semonoff

Guests: Denise Brown, Sue Reinert

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Update on DHSP's Community Schools Afterschool Lottery

- a. Michelle Farnum, Assistant Director, Children Youth and Families, DHSP
 - i. Overview of how the Community School Afterschool Lottery works
 - ii. Review of data from most recent lottery
 - iii. Looking at applications by priority status
 - iv. Review of demographic data
 - v. Review of waiting pool info
 - vi. Difficulties hiring staff
 - 1. City has increased pay
 - 2. Outreach and recruitment efforts

- b. See Attachment A for slides

III. Update on Homeless Response System in Cambridge

- a. Elizabeth Mengers, Planning & Development Manager, DHSP
 - i. DHSP's role in the Homeless Response System
 - ii. Review of 2022 Point-In-Time Count (PIT)
 - 1. Review of PIT data for past 10 years
 - iii. Review of demographic data of Cambridge's unhoused population
 - iv. Overview of the Emergency Housing Voucher Program (EHV)

- b. See Attachment B for slides

- IV. Update on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mental Health Grants
 - a. Mike Payack announced that all FY22 CDBG-MH Awardees successfully completed applications for renewal funding in FY23

- V. Upcoming HSC Schedule
 - a. Mike Payack announced that the next meeting of the Human Services Commission is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2022

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Payack
Planner/Contracts Manager
DHSP/Planning & Development

DHSP Human Services Commission October 13, 2022

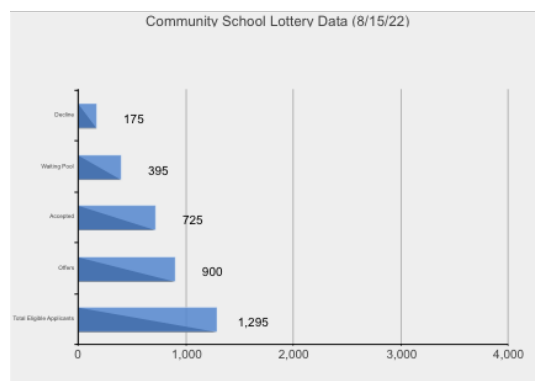
Community Schools Afterschool Lottery

Community Schools Fall Lottery

- 1295 Applicants
(1170 on-time)
- 900 total offers
- 725 accepted offers
- 395 in the waiting pool
- 175 declined

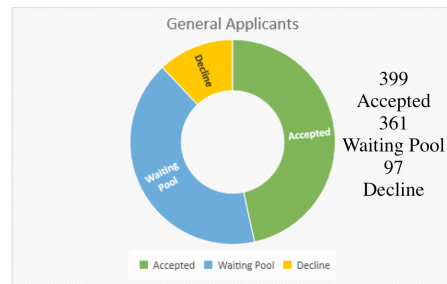
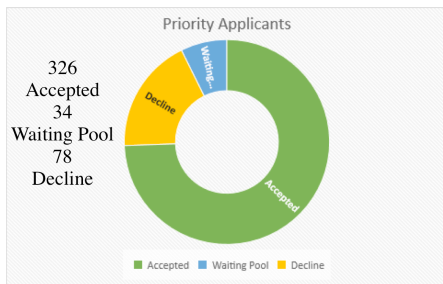
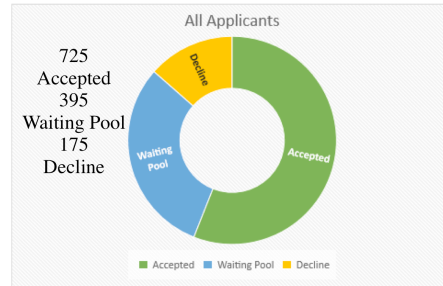
October 22 Updates

- 1420 Applicants
- 971 total offers
- 299 in the waiting pool

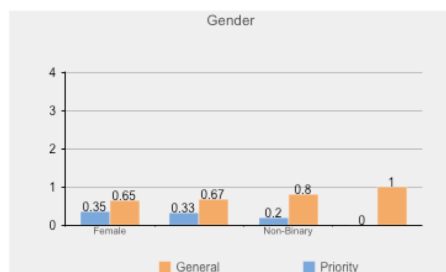
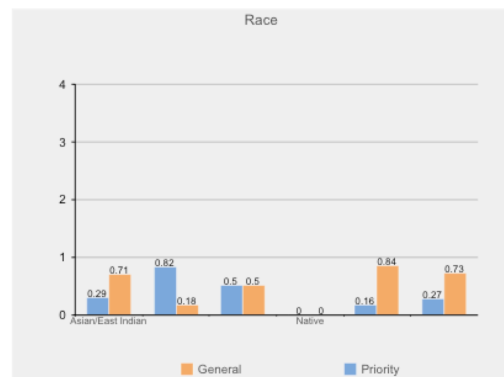
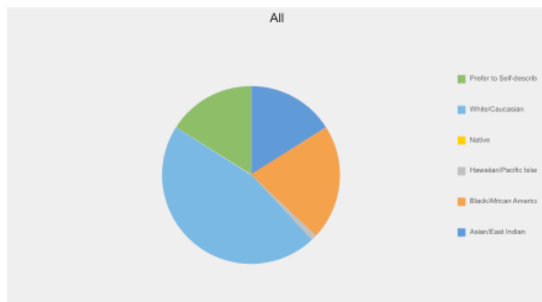


Updated August 15, 2022

Applications by Priority Status



Updated August 15, 2022



Gender & Race Metrics

Updated August 15, 2022

900 offers

876 full offers (5/3/2 Day)

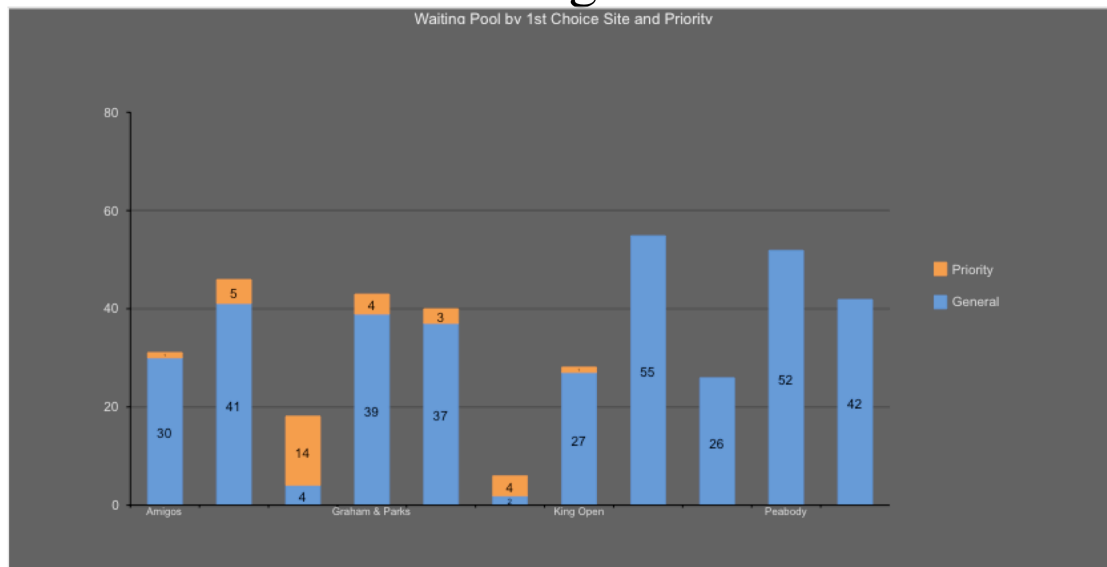
24 partial offers

Full and Partial Offers

Offer Type	Days Requested	Days Offered	Accept	Decline	Offer Total
Partial Offer	5 days a week	2 days (Tue/Thur)	5	1	6
		3 days (Mon/Wed/Fri)	15	3	18
Partial Offer Total			20	4	24
Whole Offer	2 days (Tue/Thur)	2 days (Tue/Thur)	85	27	112
	3 days (Mon/Wed/Fri)	3 days (Mon/Wed/Fri)	76	31	107
	5 days a week	5 days a week	544	113	657
Whole Offer Total			705	171	876
Grand Total			725	175	900

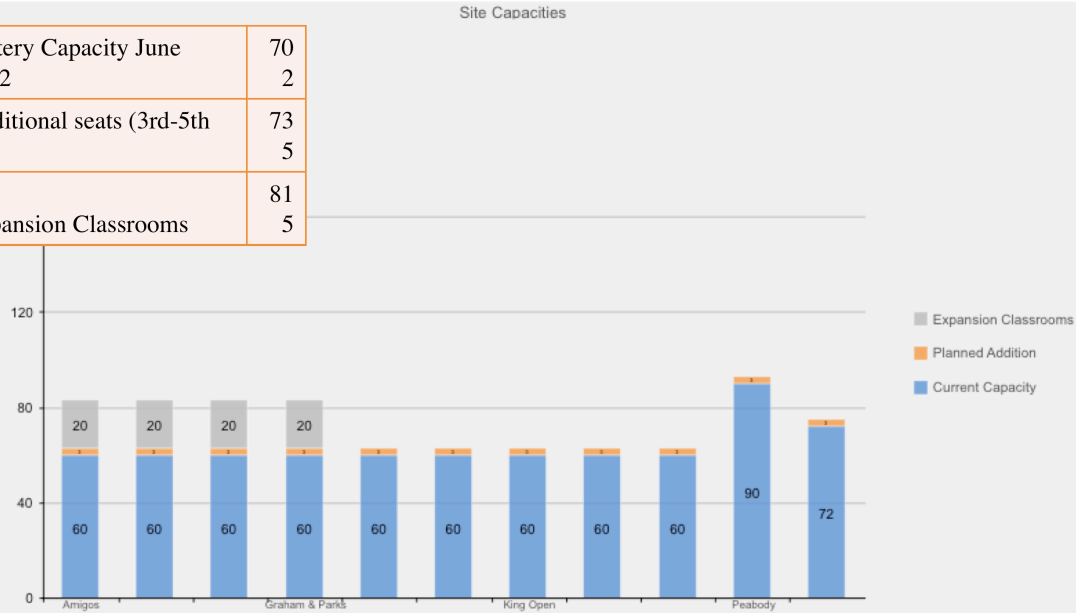
Updated August 15, 2022

Waiting Pool



Updated August 15, 2022

Lottery Capacity June 2022	70
Additional seats (3rd-5th gr)	73
Expansion Classrooms	81
	5



Updated August 15, 2022

Daily Program Staffing

based on capacity of 60 children

2 Administrators
3 Lead Teachers
4 Instructors
1 Shared Floater

Updated August 15, 2022

DHSP Staffing Payrates

- PT Community Schools Instructor
\$22/hr.
- PT Community Schools Lead Instructor
\$24/hr.
- PT Inclusion Specialist
 - \$22-\$24/hr.
- FT Community Schools Program Director
\$53,224-\$64,990/yr.
- FT Community Schools Director
\$63,215-\$77,616/yr.

Updated August 15, 2022

Outreach & Recruitment

- Raised PT pay rates to \$22/hr and \$24/hr
- Implemented a \$500 Retention Bonus
- Worked with Superintendent Greer to advertise to CPSD employees
- Posted positions of Handshake, Indeed and School Spring in addition to City's traditional outreach
- Posted on City's website, City and DHSP social media platforms, and Nextdoor
- Included as feature City's Daily Updates newsletter, sent to over 20,000 subscribers
- Worked with Public Library to distribute postcards at branches and to email to their networks
- Emailed 2200+ families about our job openings
- Postcard mailing to Cambridge Housing Authority households
- Communicated to our internal Workforce Development professionals in CEP, Next Up, Cambridge Works and MSYEP
- Contracted with a temp agency
- Implemented a \$500 staff referral bonus

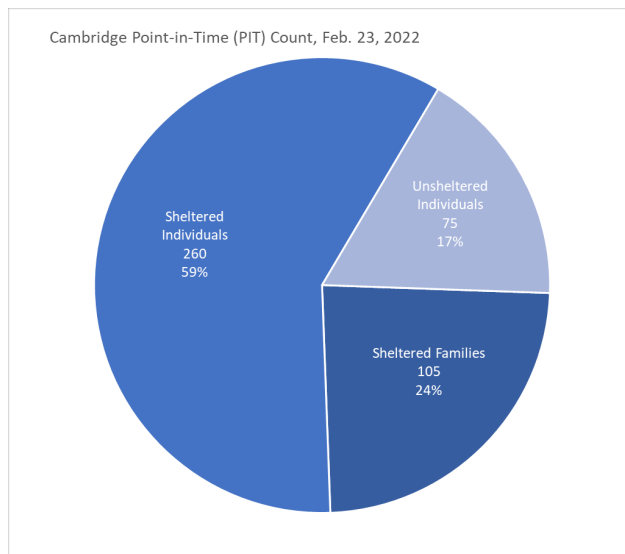
Updated August 15, 2022

DHSP's Role in Homeless Response System

- Provide services
 - Multi-Service Center (MSC) – homelessness & eviction prevention; rental assistance; case management; housing search; mail services; referrals and coordination with service partners, housing owners and managers; operate 22 bed Permanent Supportive Housing project at the YMCA; operate the city's Coordinated Entry system
- Fund services
 - Local funds managed by DHSP support a wide array of services that support homelessness prevention and intervention in the community
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – federal funds through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) support Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, Emergency Shelter and Street Outreach services
 - Continuum of Care (CoC) – federal funds through HUD support Permanent Supportive Housing, Coordinated Entry and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – DHSP manages Public Services portion of federal CDBG funds
 - COVID-19 relief funds
- Serve as Collaborative Applicant/Lead Agency for the Continuum of Care
- Manage Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Monitor and report on project and system level performance
- Coordinate & communicate with other City departments and stakeholders
 - City Manager's Housing Liaison Office
 - Cambridge Public Health Department (CPHD)
 - Cambridge Community Development Department (CDD)
 - Department of Public Works (DPW)
 - Cambridge Police Department (CPD)
 - Cambridge Public Library
 - Cambridge Public School Department
 - Mayor's Office
 - Service providers – nonprofit agencies, faith-based providers, meal programs
 - Business community
 - State agencies
 - Other stakeholders – MIT, general public, volunteer groups, students

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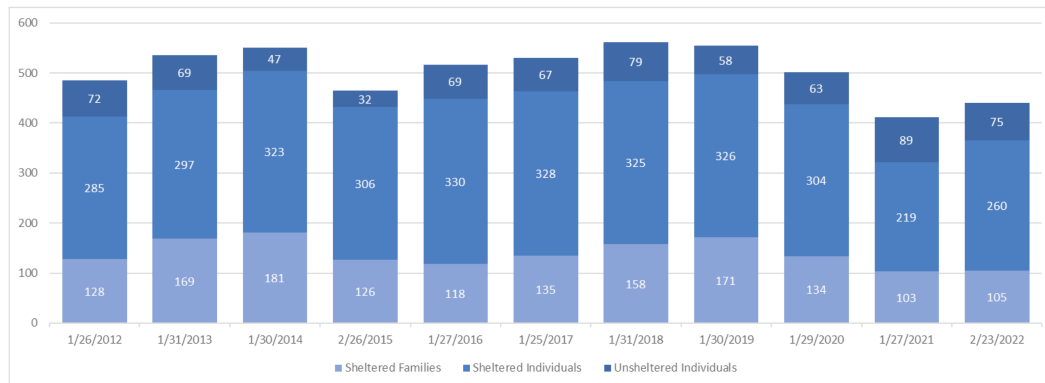
2022 Point in Time Count



- In January 2020, there were 580,466 people experiencing homelessness on our streets and in shelters in the U.S. Most were individuals (70 percent), and the rest were people in families with children.
- 440 people experiencing homelessness in Cambridge on night of Feb. 23, 2022
 - 76% (335) individuals
 - 24% (105) persons in families
 - 42 households, 56 children, 49 adults
- PIT is mandated by HUD funding; all communities participate to contribute to national estimate of homelessness reported in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report

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Point in Time Count – 2012 - 2022



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Demographics: Oct. 1, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020

- 1,301 households (1,426 persons) served in emergency shelter and transitional housing between 10/1/19 – 9/30/20

CoC Code: MA-509 Name: 2020 Reporting Year Evening Upload Report Period: 10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020 Submission Type: official

Age of All Persons in Household



Gender of HoH and Adults



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Demographics: Oct. 1, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020

- 1,301 households (1,426 persons) served in emergency shelter and transitional housing between 10/1/19 – 9/30/20
- Data indicate overrepresentation of Black or African American people experiencing homelessness
 - Census data show that Black or African American people make up about 12% of Cambridge's overall population and 17% of the population living in deep poverty. HMIS data show that 33% of people served in emergency shelter or transitional housing in the reporting period are Black or African American. Overrepresentation of Black or African American people in homeless population is not fully attributable to poverty rates.

CoC Code: MA-509 Name: 2020 Reporting Year Evening Upload Report Period: 10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020 Submission Type: official

Race and Ethnicity of HoH and Adults



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Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program

Working to distribute vouchers quickly and equitably:

- Simplified assessment process to expand access to coordinated entry system and expedite referrals to Cambridge Housing Authority
- Developing and implementing new procedures and systems needed to expand access and include new eligibility categories
- Bi-weekly meetings with Cambridge Housing Authority and Continuum of Care to monitor progress
- Working to identify and share key data points between Continuum of Care and Cambridge Housing Authority to monitor for equitable outcomes at various stages of process
- Coordinated Entry Working Group started in April to monitor implementation and facilitate ongoing coordination among partners with focus on racial equity, person-centered interagency care coordination, continuous quality improvement

Eligible population	Proposed # of EHV	% Allocation
Homeless	67	53%
Families	12	
Individuals	55	
At-risk	35	27%
Fleeing DV	13	10%
Recently homeless	13	10%
Total	128	

CHA has committed additional 40 mainstream vouchers for homeless individuals, to be issued after EHV's fully utilized, bringing total allocation of new vouchers dedicated to homeless households to 107.

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