



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 @ 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- A. Call To Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Current Events and Reports
- E. Staff Reports
- F. Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

INSTRUCTIONS: In order to address the Board\Commission, you will need to fill out a Call to the Public Form available at the front counter, and then turn it in to the Secretary before the meeting begins.

Note: A.R.S. 38-431.01(H) - During this time members of the public may address the Board\Commission only on issues within the jurisdiction of the Board\Commission which are not an item on the agenda. At the conclusion of the open call, the Board\Commission may respond to criticism, may ask staff to review the matter or may ask that the matter be put on a future agenda. No discussion or action shall take place on any item raised.

CONSENT AGENDA:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

- | | | | |
|----|----------|--|------------------------------|
| 1. | Citywide | Consideration and action pertaining to the December 11, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. | Human Svcs and Comm Vitality |
| 2. | Citywide | Presentation and discussion pertaining to RISE Services Inc. | Human Svcs and Comm Vitality |
| 3. | Citywide | Discussion pertaining to Vet Fest 2025. | Human Svcs and Comm Vitality |
| 4. | Citywide | Discussion and possible action pertaining to recognition of former Mayor Skip Hall's years of service to the City of Surprise. | Human Svcs and Comm Vitality |
- G. Other Business and Future Agenda Items
 - H. Adjournment

KRISTI PASSARELLI, CITY CLERK

POSTED: Friday, January 3rd, 2025 @ 1:05 PM

SPECIAL NOTE: PERSONS WITH SPECIAL ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS, INCLUDING LARGE PRINT MATERIALS OR INTERPRETER, SHOULD CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE @ 623.222.1200 OR TTY 623.222.1002, BY NO LATER THAN 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING TIME.



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans, Disability and Human Services
Commission

Council Meeting Date: January 8, 2025 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations:

Consent: No Regular: Yes Public Hearing: No Report/Discussion: No

Agenda Wording:

Consideration and action pertaining to the December 11, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Motion:

I move to approve the December 11, 2024 Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Background:

n/a

Objective Analysis:

n/a

Policy Compliant:

This item is compliant with city and council policies.

Financial Impact:

n/a

Budget Impact:

n/a

FTE Impact:

n/a

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 12.11.24 VDHS Commission Minutes - DRAFT
-

**CITY OF SURPRISE
VETERANS, DISABILITY, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**December 11, 2024 | 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wisniewski called the Veterans, Disability, and Human Services Commission meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Surprise City Hall, 16000 North Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374, on December 11, 2024.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Chair Allison Wisniewski, Vice-Chair Dr. Gwen Maxfield and Commissioners Julie Kent- Partridge, John Billcheck, Olivia Fryer and Hasan Reed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Community Initiatives Supervisor Danielle Osborne, Administrative Specialist Athba Arnold, Administrative Specialist Victoria Simmons.

CURRENT EVENTS REPORT

Chair Wisniewski reported on the following:

- Sensitive Santa
 - December 14, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Surprise Stadium.
 - In partnership with Autism Society of Greater Phoenix.
 - Private one-on-one visit and photo opportunity with Santa
- AARP Smart Driver Class
 - December 16, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Surprise Senior Center
 - Register online at aarp.org/Drive or call 1-888-773-7160.
- City offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, 2024, in observance of Christmas Day.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Kent-Partridge
 - Awarded VDHS challenge Coins-Coins awarded to Anthony Johnson with New Beginnings Worship Center and Cynthia Ortega (Veteran and Veteran advocate as it pertains to mental health) for their selfless service to veterans and those in need within the community.
 - Annual Surprise Party had a larger turn-out this year. This was a wonderful event with many smiling faces and festive spirit.

- Anthony Johnson with New Beginnings Worship Center will be assisting with 2025 PIT count, will contribute services, and continue to work with the City of Surprise.
- Surprise Adaptive Rec Winter Party -Event was a combined effort with Dysart School District. Local group homes and DTA's also attended. Many smiling faces with both children and adults with special needs in attendance.
- Commissioner Fryer
 - Surprise party-overall a heartwarming experience. City did a great job with the lights.
 - Adaptive Rec Winter Party-nice to enjoy event as a spectator and see everything come together.
- Vice-Chair Maxfield
 - Veterans' Roundtable- Attended in November. Agencies and organizations come together to make connections to be able to bring more organizations and resources to our community.
- Commissioner Reed
 - Vets Roundtable- great to have so many organizations collaborate.
 - American Legion Post 94 meeting in Sun City-great to see what is being done within the community for disabled vets. Glad to be working with veterans to ensure they are being taken care of.
- Chair Wisniewski
 - Vets Roundtable-was glad to see so many groups coming together to collaborate
 - Attended Native American Connections groundbreaking ceremony for Crosswinds at 3-star pointe, for the 45-unit housing for low-income families. Great experience.

STAFF REPORT

- Ms. Osborne discussed:
 - Mayor's Veterans Roundtable
 - Next meeting is being rescheduled. Date TBD.
 - New Community and Resource Center groundbreaking ceremony planned for January 15. Formal invitation will go out at a later date.
 - Ground was broken for the new Cross Winds at 3-star Pointe facility in the OTS this week.
 - 45-unit facility will serve as bridge housing for low-income families.
 - Shout out to Adam Lane and his team.
 - MLK Day of Celebration and Service
 - Show how you serve by using the hashtag #SurpriseCelebratesMLK using photos, videos, art, etc.
 - 9th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Celebration and Service on Saturday, January 18.
 - Supriseaz.gov/MLK for more information.
 - Interviews for new Commissioner will take place after new year. Please direct candidates to City Clerks Office at 623-222-1200 or email city clerk.
 - Farewell to Athba Arnold for her time serving as Administrative Specialist.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - PUBLIC HEARING:

None.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

Item 1 – Citywide – Consideration and action pertaining to the November 13, 2024 Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes.

Commissioner Billcheck moved to approve the November 13, 2024, Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission meeting minutes. Commissioner Vice-chair Maxfield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with 6 Yes votes.

Item 4 – Citywide – Discussion and action pertaining to recognition of Mayor Skip Hall's years of service to the City of Surprise.

Items were taken out of order so Vice-Chair Maxfield could participate in this discussion.

Commission would like to recognize Mayor Skip Hall for his years in service. This will be decided at next commission meeting as to how to show recognition.

Vice-Chair Maxfield left the meeting.

Item 2 – Citywide – Discussion pertaining to 2024 GAIN Night.

Commissioners discussed that the event was a great turn-out with about 4-5,000 people attending. There were some challenges for those with disabilities during the event. Ideas were discussed to help address this concern. Some thoughts included creating a committee to help people with disabilities for events like this. Another idea is to look for partnerships to help accommodate projects to provide a more disability-friendly experience and environment. Commissioners will bring this up during the Veteran's Roundtable and also discuss with Parks and Rec to help with collaboration. Sensory Tents by RISE were provided at each corner of the event, which was a great addition for those with sensory disabilities. A Shout out to PD was given for their partnership and support during this event.

Item 3 – Citywide – Presentation and discussion pertaining to Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).

Housing Community Services Manager, Adam Lane, presented on Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). CDBG provides development of viable urban communities, primarily for low-income individuals and families. Discussed source of funding, allocation of funding, key partners, eligibility, national objectives, and more.

OTHER BUSINESS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Recognition for Mayor Skip Hall- discussion as to what to provide for years of service.
- Presentation from Seeds for Autism
- Presentation from RISE
- Discussion on VDHS Challenge Coins - highlight individuals on social media when providing coins.
- Presentation by Anthony Johnson with New Beginnings Worship Center

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Billcheck moved to adjourn the meeting of the Veterans, Disability & Human Services Commission on December 11, 2024, 2024 at 7:16p.m. Commissioner Kent-Partridge seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 Yes votes.

Danielle Osborne
Community Initiatives Supervisor

Allison Wisniewski
Veterans, Disability and Human Services Commission Chair

The foregoing instrument is a full, true, and correct copy of the original document on file in the office of the City Clerk, City of Surprise, Arizona.

ATTEST BY:

Victoria Simmons
Administrative Specialist

DATE: _____

DRAFT



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans, Disability and Human Services
Commission

Council Meeting Date: January 8, 2025 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations:

Consent: No Regular: Yes Public Hearing: No Report/Discussion: No

Agenda Wording:

Presentation and discussion pertaining to RISE Services Inc.

Motion:

Presentation and discussion only.

Background:

Senior Program Administrator, Angie Pelton, will provide an overview of RISE Services Inc. and its services offered.

Objective Analysis:

To receive an overview of the services offered by RISE Services Inc.

Policy Compliant:

This item is in compliance with city and council policies.

Financial Impact:

n/a

Budget Impact:

n/a

FTE Impact:

n/a

ATTACHMENTS:

1. RISE Power Point Presentation
-



Creating Opportunities for and with People

RISE is a Non Profit Organization.

We were founded in 1987. RISE has been in business for over 38 years. Proudly serving Northern-Arizona and Southern-Utah for over 30 years.

Currently provides services in: Continuum of services birth to

- Arizona
- Utah
- Oregon
- Missouri
- Idaho
- Florida

- Early intervention
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech therapy
- ABA therapy
- RISE residential services
- RISE adult day programs
- Home Care Base Services

We are here to support YOU!

Our Mission Vision and Values

Mission

Creating Opportunities for and
with People

Vision

Support the total person-
Physically-Mentally-Emotionally-
Socially-Spiritually

Values

Exceed Expectations-Quality-
Choice-Safety-
Service above self



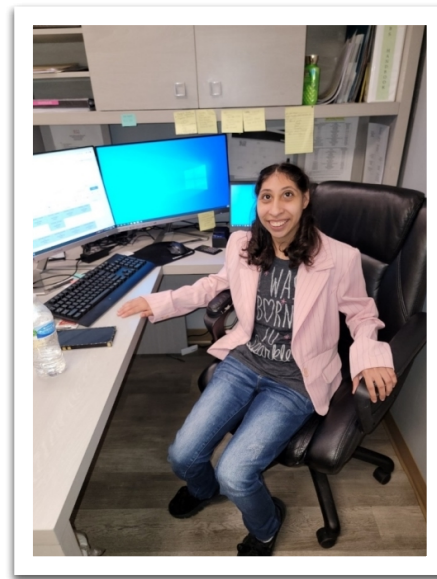
Why RISE?

- **Experience & Stability:** Over 38 years of proven success across multiple states. **RISE** has the ability to draw on previous experience in successfully transitioning homes from another company.
- **Qualified & Compassionate Staff:** Trained DSPs and professionals committed to person-centered care.
- **Family Involvement:** We actively partner with families and guardians to ensure the best outcomes. We have developed a process that will eliminate undue stress during this difficult time for members and families
- **Community Integration:** We encourage members to participate in their communities through social, recreational, and employment opportunities.



Financial Strength and Corporate Support

- **RISE** is financially strong, with a well-established foundation to support service expansion.
- Our financial resources ensure that services are uninterrupted, and that members receive the best care.



High Standards of Safety and Quality

- **Regulation Compliance:** RISE meets or exceeds state and federal regulations. Regular monitoring, staff training, and inspections ensure top-tier service quality.
- **Commitment to Health & Safety:** Our homes and programs are designed to provide safe, nurturing environments.
- **RISE's Quality assurance team** – Independent auditors to ensure state requirements are being met.
- **Family/Guardian Partnership:** RISE works with families to provide continuity and trust.

RISE continues to expand to meet the needs of individuals and families/guardian's. Our goal is to provide accessible, high-quality care to more communities in Arizona and beyond.



RISE Offers you an exceptional behaviorist team

Expert Behavioral Support: At RISE, we have a team of four highly experienced behaviorists who are dedicated to addressing the unique needs of each member. Our professionals bring years of expertise to ensure every individual receives the highest level of care.

Individualized Behavior Plans: Each behavior plan is carefully customized, ensuring that it reflects the member's personal goals, strengths, and challenges. We work collaboratively with families, caregivers, and other team members to provide a truly holistic approach.

Meeting Members Where They Are: We believe in meeting members exactly where they are on their journey. Our team takes the time to understand the unique needs of each individual, creating a supportive environment that encourages progress at a comfortable pace.

Comprehensive Staff Training: All staff members within the home are fully trained to implement each behavior plan with confidence and care. This includes ongoing, hands-on training with our behaviorists to ensure that the approach is always focused on least restrictive measures, prioritizing member well-being.

Enhancing Quality of Life: Our behavior plans are designed with one clear goal: to improve the quality of life for our members. We focus on practical, achievable strategies that promote independence, personal growth, and long-term success.



Our Person-Centered Approach

Empowering Communication: At RISE, we actively listen to our members and their families, ensuring their voices are heard. We encourage family and guardian participation in all aspects of care, fostering a collaborative environment where everyone feels valued.

Tailored Service Plans: Every individual deserves a personalized approach. Our service plans are meticulously crafted to align with each member's unique needs and goals, ensuring they receive the support that best suits them.

Dignity and Independence: We prioritize maintaining the dignity and independence of our members while respecting their cultural backgrounds. Our compassionate approach ensures that every individual is treated with the utmost respect and care.

Expertise You Can Trust: RISE is a recognized leader in providing exceptional services across Resident Homes, Home and Community-Based Services, and Adult Day Programs. Our extensive experience ensures that members receive the highest quality of care tailored to their specific circumstances.

Commitment to Excellence: Our dedication to continuous improvement and excellence in service delivery sets us apart. We are committed to helping our members thrive in an environment that promotes growth, independence, and fulfillment.



RISE Home Care Base Services

Personalized In-Home Care: Tailored support that meets each individual's needs in the comfort of their own home, promoting independence and well-being.

Experienced and Compassionate Caregivers: Our highly trained staff provide quality care, building trust and meaningful relationships with members and families.

Support for Natural Caregivers: We collaborate with family members and natural supports, providing training and resources to help them care for their loved ones effectively.

Flexible and Customizable Services: Our services adapt to each member's schedule and preferences, ensuring care fits their lifestyle.

Community and Cultural Engagement: We encourage socialization, community involvement, and culturally sensitive care to enhance members' overall quality of life.



RISE HCBS Members are always invited to join in on the FUN!



RISE Residential Services



Safe and Supportive Environment: Your **RISE** home will provide a warm, welcoming atmosphere where you feel safe, supported, and valued.

Highly Trained Staff: Each **RISE** home is staffed by compassionate, well-trained DSPs professionals who are dedicated to enhancing the well-being and independence of every resident.

Personalized Rooms and Care Plans: You each will have your own personalized room, designed to reflect your individual needs and preferences, along with a care plan tailored to your unique requirements.

24/7 Care and Supervision: Families can trust that your loved ones receive continuous, round-the-clock care from dedicated professionals.

Community Integration and Engagement: We offer activities and opportunities that promote social involvement, personal growth, and inclusion, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose.

“Our homes, are homes that we would be proud to have our children live in.”– J. Auer/Marissa Petty



RISE Adult Day Programs



Engaging Activities: Our adult day programs offer a variety of enriching activities designed to foster socialization, skill development, and personal growth, all tailored to each member's unique interests and abilities.

Professional and Compassionate Staff: Our dedicated team provides individualized care and attention, ensuring that every participant thrives in a supportive, safe, and structured environment.

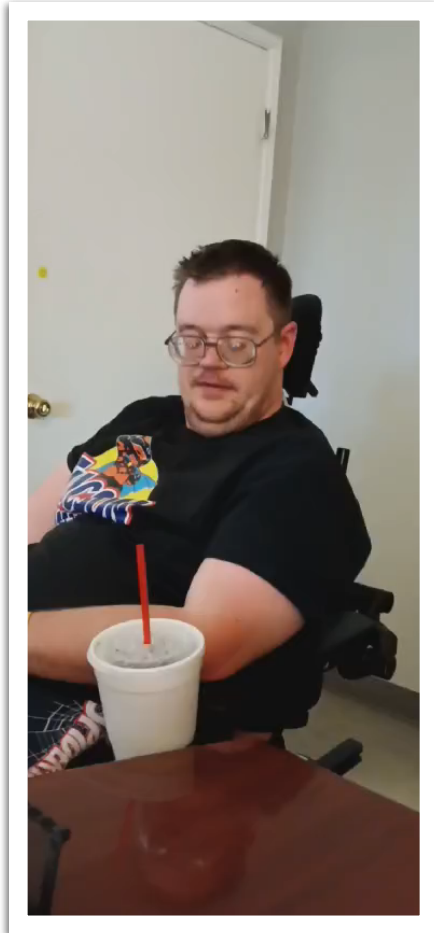
RISE Together Member Council: Members can take an active role in shaping their experience by participating in the **RISE** Together Member Council, giving them a voice in program decisions and activities.

Personalized Support Plans: Each member benefits from a customized support plan focused on their personal goals, promoting meaningful engagement and a fulfilling experience.

Part of a Statewide Network: Members will be connected to a network of nine day programs across Arizona.

Group Supported Employment (GSE) program: Providing opportunities for employment, community involvement, and skill-building.

What do our members say?



- **RISE** Together Council
 - Matt- Tucson
 - Sabastian- Mesa
- Joining the **RISE** Community
- Visiting neighbor programs in Navajo Nation, and Southern-Utah



RISE-Cultural Respect and Inclusion

- We provide information to families/guardians in English, Spanish, and Navajo.
- Translators as needed
- Celebrating all cultures



RISE
Creating Opportunities
For and With People

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

ABOUT RISE

Since 1993, RISE Services, Inc. has been dedicated to providing practical, professional, and personal growth opportunities for children, adults, and their families. Our mission includes offering cultural and traditional support to Diné individuals and families through person-centered services delivered by Navajo employees.

Our services have expanded from Home and Community-Based Services to include Residential Homes and Day Programs. We support adults and children with various needs in all settings, offering highly diverse assistance throughout the Navajo Nation.

RISE is a Navajo Preference in Employment Act (NPEA) and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer. We embrace diversity in all its forms. We provide equal employment opportunities to all applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, protected veteran or disabled status, or genetic information.

CONTACT US
Laverna Tishie, Regional Director
lavemat@riservicesinc.org
Box 820, Chinle, AZ 86503
4573 Indian Route 7, West of Chinle Chapter
1-800-513-6935 | Riservicesinc.org

RISE
CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AND WITH PEOPLE
ACROSS THE NAVAJO NATION

At RISE, We Value and Support Our Employees for the Long Term

We understand that the key to providing exceptional care is having dedicated, long-term employees. That's why we're committed to supporting our team with:

Highest Pay Rate for Direct Support Professionals

Professional Complete Wages

Full Medical, Dental, and Retirement Benefits

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) – Providing free, confidential counseling and support services for employees' personal or work-related challenges

Employee Scholarship Fund – Supporting continued education and professional growth

Employee Retirement Fund – Helping secure a bright future for our employees

Community Partnership – Collaborating with other non-profits to strengthen the communities we serve

At RISE, we deeply appreciate the hard work and dedication of our DSPs. Every year, we celebrate them during DSP Week with special events, including, BBQs, Bringing teams together for food, games, and connection. RISE Swag – Gifting our DSPs with branded apparel and items to show our gratitude.



Thank you for taking the time to review RISE with us





CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans, Disability and Human Services
Commission

Council Meeting Date: January 8, 2025 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations:

Consent: No Regular: Yes Public Hearing: No Report/Discussion: No

Agenda Wording:

Discussion pertaining to Vet Fest 2025.

Motion:

Discussion only.

Background:

The commission will discuss logistics surrounding the 2nd annual Surprise Vet Fest in 2025. The discussion will include details on the event planning as well as any needed action in order to make the event a success.

Objective Analysis:

To promote quality of life, accessibility and equity for all residents of Surprise, including those who are veterans or who experience disabilities, through cooperation with Surprise residents and any veterans, disability and human service organizations that serve the residents of Surprise.

Policy Compliant:

This item is compliant with City and Council policies.

Financial Impact:

n/a

Budget Impact:

n/a

FTE Impact:

n/a

ATTACHMENTS:



CITY OF SURPRISE
Veterans, Disability and Human Services
Commission

Council Meeting Date: January 8, 2025 Contact Person:
Submitting Department: Human Svcs and Comm District: Citywide
Vitality
Staff Recommendations: None

Consent: No Regular: Yes Public Hearing: No Report/Discussion: No

Agenda Wording:

Discussion and possible action pertaining to recognition of former Mayor Skip Hall's years of service to the City of Surprise.

Motion:

Depends on commission's discussion.

Background:

This item was requested by Commissioner Maxfield to discuss how the commission can recognize Mayor Skip Hall's years of service to the City of Surprise. At the last meeting, the commission agreed to pursue a formal recognition. This item has been placed on the agenda to discuss the specifics of the recognition.

Objective Analysis:

To discuss ways in which the commission can honor Mayor Skip Hall.

Policy Compliant:

This item is compliant with City and Council policies.

Financial Impact:

Depending on the commission's discussion, this item may incur financial impact.

Budget Impact:

Depending on the commission's discussion, this item may incur budget impact.

FTE Impact:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:
