



City of Eugene

Human Rights Commission

FY 2012-2013 Work Plan Report

Executive Summary

This is the report from the Human Rights Commission 2012/2013 Work Plan. The work plan was approved by City Council in October of 2011.

Below are highlights from the past two years, followed by detailed charts of accomplished work and work that was not completed.

Highlighted Work

Events

To help raise awareness, foster respect, create community dialogue, and increase education on human rights issues the Human Rights Commission (HRC) hosted and supported several events.

These included community and staff presentations by Ajamu Baraka the founding executive director of the US Human Rights Network and Eric Tars from the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

Additionally, the HRC organized International Human Rights Day celebrations in December of each year, in 2012 partnering with the Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration and focusing on immigrant rights as human rights.

Funding and other support was also provided for community events organized by other groups. They supported more than 15 community events with endorsement or sponsorship.

Key Partnerships

The HRC has actively worked to increase communication and collaboration with other City Boards and Commissions and community groups over the past two years to promote human rights and social equity.

They worked collaboratively with the Sustainability Commission on issues surround West Eugene EMX expansion, sweat free purchasing, and the Equity and Opportunity Atlas.

The HRC also holds a seat on the Police Commission, and assigned liaisons to and from the Civilian Review Board.

To engage in a more active role in the budget process the HRC provided a Memo on the budget process to the Budget Committee, highlighting the needs of vulnerable populations.

In 2013 they were approached by a member of the Planning Committee who offered to act as a liaison from that body to the HRC

The HRC played an active role in the DPSZ Committee, with the Chair participating as a member of that committee and also by holding a joint meeting between the DPSZ Committee and Police Commission to discuss recommendations.

Collaboratively with the Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration (LCNII), the HRC presented and achieved Council approval to endorse the Statement of Principles for Immigrant Integration in Lane County. Commissioners also actively participated in the regular network meetings and invited members of LCNII to participate in their work group on immigrant integration.

Recommendations to Council

Correspondence on the following topics were submitted to Council during 2012/2013:

- Support for the endorsement of the Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration's Statement of Principles for immigrant integration

- Envision Eugene concerns

- Transgender health insurance inclusion

- Homelessness as a Human Rights issue

- Homelessness committee proposal

- Recommendations to fill HRC vacancies

Areas of Continued Concern

During the process of developing the FY 2014 Work Plan the HRC identified several key areas of continued concern that they wanted to bring forward from the 2012/2013 Work Plan. These included continued concern regarding hate and bias activity and response, homelessness and poverty issues and solutions, immigrant integration work including language access and safe spaces, engaging the community in dialogue on race, and considering issues concerning youth.

Members Who Served

We are deeply grateful to all of the commissioners who served during this work plan and would like to recognize their service.

Elizabeth Andrade:6/2011-9/2012

Iva Boslough:10/2009-6/2013

Rod Buck: 6/2011-6/2012

Raydeen Cuffe:11/2009-6/2012

Councilor Greg Evans:1/2013-present

Councilor Pat Farr: 1/2011-12/2012

Martha Fish:6/2011-9/2012

Denise Griewisch: 6/2012-6/2013

Toni Gyatso: 10/2009-9/2013

Linda Hamilton: 10/2009-6/2013

Lorraine Kerwood: 10/2009-3/2013

Ken Neubeck: 6/2011-present

Chris Nunes:6/2012-present

Andrew Thomson: 6/2011-present

Richie Weinman:6/2011-present

Volunteer Hours

The Human Rights Commission relies on the generous contribution of time from commissioners and also many engaged community members that collaborate on HRC related work. In total more than 1000 hours were logged by commissioners alone over the past two years.