Healthcare, Nonprofits, Childcare and Support Services Subcommittee
July 7, 2020
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Meeting via Zoom

Section

Updates

• Received support from cochairs to elevate PPE recommendation to an ERC-wide recommendation, adding to the three recommendations we can submit
  o Recommendation advises that MEMA needs to take the lead and
  o Looking to work with distribution companies to get PPE across the state
• Childcare recommendations will also be elevated to an ERC-wide recommendation
  o The recommendation will recommend support for family and center-based care with a $20 million dollar fiscal note
• After a conversation with co-chairs, there will be five major areas that recommendations will fall under, and our recommendations will fall into the Health and Human Services/Meeting Basic Needs area
• We have been asked to narrow proposals into two to three areas
  o Why would we prioritize down to three recommendations when we have four topics in our committee name?
• There is a big gap between July 15 and December, but we can definitely provide recommendations in between then
• Proposals have been made public on the ERC website, but documents prior to the Friday meeting

Recommendations

• Housing Assistance Program, starting as soon as possible, to address cliff at end of the month
• Nonprofit Relief Fund, $50 million dollars of relief funding for nonprofits that are directly responding to Covid-19
  o Do we want to include arts and culture as well?
    ▪ Performing Arts organizations are among the hardest hit organizations nationally and in Maine
  o Will include $5 Million dollars to nonprofits who have been responsible for UI
  o Fund would give flexibility to invest capital to nonprofits that need the money most to keep them afloat and do the most good
  o Small amounts of 10k to 50k would be distributed to acknowledge small community-based organizations, including immigrant-led organizations
  o In some areas, nonprofit support falls under the business support category, but they also address basic needs
• Support for immigrants who are left out of safety net programs to provide access
• Interested in clarifying and broadening this title to “support for disproportionately affected and at-risk communities

• Public Health Infrastructure Recommendation which will provide increased resources and draw attention to the issue
  o Barbara recommends an investment of $20 to $40 billion to create infrastructure for coming years, but right now we need to focus on short-term stabilization
  o Money would hire district staff liaisons and build a central coordinated structure

**Next steps**

• Everything must be turned in by noon tomorrow

• On Thursday, you will receive recommendations from the other subcommittees before the meeting on Friday