Discussion Draft 3/10/21

**Advisory Council Stipend and Investment Policy**

Multnomah County’s Aging, Disability, and Veteran’s Services Division (ADVSD) is committed to delivering the highest quality programs and services to our communities and recognizes advisory councils play a key role in shaping and improving the programs and services provided by the Aging, Disability, and Veterans Services Division. Additionally, Multnomah County is deeply committed to leading with race, racial equity, inclusion, and representation on our advisory councils across race, gender identity, culture, ability, sexual orientation, and income. We recognize the unique contributions consumers and community members bring through their participation and as an effort to support consumers and community members to participate, share their time, wisdom, and lived experiences with ADVSD, the division has created the following Stipend and Investment Policy for their advisory council members.

**Member Technology Stipend**

In support of safe, supported, and equitable meeting access for ADVSD’ advisory council members, each advisory council member may receive a one-time stipend of $600 during their term to purchase or pay for a necessary device such as a laptop, tablet or smartphone, or desired accessories (eg hotspot, headset, keyboard, mouse, protective accessories) to support their participation in advisory council activities. Ongoing operation and maintenance of these devices is the responsibility of the members and members may retain any such devices or accessories upon completion of one advisory council term.

**Digital Access Stipend**

Members may also access a monthly digital access stipend, if necessary, to support their participation. Digital access stipends are intended to cover the cost for internet access and will be available during the member’s term. The monthly stipend is $30 per council member unless greater need is demonstrated.

**Member Meeting Stipend**

Members will also have access to a monthly Member Meeting Stipend for attendance/participation in regularly scheduled monthly DSAC meetings, *required* training, and quarterly meetings for O4AD conferences. Stipends will be available as a $30 gift card or check. This amount is equivalent to the state volunteer rate. Advisory Council members may begin receiving their stipend after becoming an official DSAC member (added to the roster through ADVSD approval). The following stipulations may apply:

* Taking a stipend is voluntary and members can change their mind;
* This stipend is available for up to 12 regularly scheduled meetings per year, and:
  + Not paid for optional committee meetings, advocacy work, workgroups, rules advisory committees, testimony, or optional trainings;
  + Not paid if meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather;
  + Not paid to members who are being compensated by Multnomah County.

**Additional Member Investments:**

One of ADVSD’s goals is to invest in our communities as a way of increasing capacity and wellbeing. As such, we offer the following additional investments for advisory council members:

* Lunch or refreshments will be provided at advisory council meetings and arrangements to provide access to healthy food for advisory meetings extends to members participating virtually;
* ADVSD will assist with advisory member transportation needs related to advisory member participation. Assistance may be in the form of public transportation, taxis, or mileage reimbursements as appropriate and as approved by ADVSD staff.
* ADVSD will provide funding for ongoing training and professional development to advisory members as appropriate and as the budget allows. Advisory Council members may request training and professional development support as the opportunities arise.

These opportunities may take the form of:

* + Attendance at conferences or trainings
  + Providing trainings at advisory council meetings
  + Webinars