

From: [Grace Gao](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [amy huỳnh](#); jessica.cheng@cpasf.org; jeffrey@cpasf.org
Subject: [Community Safety & Vibrant Communities] Keep Sisterhood Garden Funded!
Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 9:29:43 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors, City Administrator Chu, and Mayor Breed:

My name is Grace Gao and I'm a volunteer at Sisterhood Garden. I'm emailing you all today to ask you to **please restore funding cuts for Sisterhood Garden.**

I've only begun visiting the garden relatively recently, but it is already abundantly clear that it serves as a vital space for its community to feel connected and cared for when the city neglects to do so or else doesn't know how. During its Lunar New Year celebration this February, people of all ages – from elders to young children – greeted each other with warm familiarity, laughed and played together, and looked after one another. Every month, volunteers devote their time to weed, mulch, or plant climate-appropriate flora under the shared pact that we all have a responsibility in the cleaner, more sustainable future we all deserve to inherit. Sisterhood is clearly a central artery through many communities – its OMI neighbors; gardeners and environmentalists across the city and Bay; and Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans, especially those who are more vulnerable to volatility by being of lower income or who are unable to speak English well.

What the members and visitors of Sisterhood Garden are able to do with a plot of land compounds generosity, solidarity, and collaborative knowledge. Investing in such a public space is an investment in the long-term health of a vibrant community integral to the city of SF. I implore you again to please consider restoring funding for it.

Sincerely,
Grace Gao

From: [Irie Crisostomo](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: amy.huynh@cpasf.org; jessica.cheng@cpasf.org; jeffrey@cpasf.org
Subject: Keep Sisterhood Gardens Funded!
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 11:20:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the Supervisors, City Administrator Chu, and Mayor Breed

Hello, my name is Irie Crisostomo and I am a member of Sisterhood Gardens, and a native to San Francisco. I am speaking in support of Sisterhood Gardens in hope to restore the funding cuts that we so desperately need. This is vital to not only me, but to my community and neighbors that need to grow food for themselves and for their families. This garden has allowed many to come and rejuvenate themselves, to gain a peace of mind, and to cultivate a sustainable crop that would lessen the burden of groceries for many like me.

This place not only serves to feed the community, but to build it together. I've seen so many folks from all walks of life come to chat and talk to one another, to help each other. And to hear that this may be taken from those who need it most is downright devastating and disheartening for the future of us all. To cut the budget of this essential place is to cut a valve in the heart of the community. I ask that you do not cut funding for Sisterhood Gardens for the sake of our district and our neighbors.

Prioritize Working Class Communities, Keep our Public Spaces Thriving!

From: [Francesca Gonzalez](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#); [Preston, Dean \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary \(BOS\)](#); [Engardio, Joel \(BOS\)](#); [Dorsey, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [Mandelman, Rafael \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT: Urgent Need for Prioritization of TAY and CSEC Populations in DCYF Funding Decisions
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 1:49:58 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Members of the Budget & Appropriations Committee,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent funding decisions made by DCYF, which significantly impact Transition Age Youth (TAY), particularly those affected by sexual exploitation.

At Freedom Forward, where I serve as the Executive Director, we have dedicated ourselves to supporting these vulnerable populations. Notably, 75% of our young clients are between the ages of 18-24, many of whom are vulnerable to being or have been sexually exploited. Despite the critical services we provide, it has become increasingly clear that there is a lack of prioritized funding for organizations serving this demographic.

Our initiative, the HYPE Center, funded by the Department of the Status of Women and a key component of the larger SF-SOL collaborative, serves as a multi-service drop-in center designed specifically for and by young people. This innovative model has proven effective, and since its inception in March 2023, we have seen significant engagement and positive outcomes serving over 450 unique young people - and growing. Our model is grounded in a collaborative approach by partnering with the incredible organizations who are already doing amazing work to co-locate services and resources that have been identified by young people as most critical to their success.

With these current budget decisions (specifically for TAY and CSEC populations), we believe there is a valuable opportunity for the city to partner directly with our organization, Freedom Forward, to address and strategize around these gaps, especially as organizations are navigating their future come July 1. I believe that collaborative efforts could enhance the impact and reach of services provided to these underserved populations.

I urge the committee to reconsider the allocation strategies to ensure that TAY and CSEC populations receive the necessary support and prioritization in our community's funding structure while also exploring how we can partner together to secure a future where our most vulnerable populations are not only supported but prioritized.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope that moving forward, we can ensure that our most vulnerable populations are not only recognized but given the priority they desperately need in our funding structures.

Best,
Francesca

In Community,

Francesca Gonzalez (she/her)

Executive Director

[Meet](#) | [Connect](#) | [Give](#)



From: [Gabrielle Wood](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: ATTN: Regarding People's Budget Rally and Hearing - Education
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 2:19:58 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To Mr. Jalipa:

I am writing regarding this year's allocation of funds, and the lack of funds that are being put toward education, community based organizations, high schools, preventative services, wellness services, children and families.

We are currently in a crisis. There are already not enough adult staff in our public schools, and this has taken a huge toll on our youth (0-21) and the adults who serve them.

We are only now beginning to recover from the pandemic, and it has taken incredibly hard work and sacrifice from individuals who are not properly compensated for what they do for our youth. To cut budgets and get rid of jobs will have lasting impacts and hurt those who are most vulnerable. The students are finally coming out of their shells and recovering. I am seeing it first hand. The growth and development, the joy and fun, the engagement, the learning. It's been beautiful. The students (our youth and future) talk about their excitement for next year and the things that they look forward to in our programs. It's heartbreaking knowing that there is a chance they will not have access to so many services due to budget cuts.

Please, reconsider the cutting of our After School Programs, wellness programs, community based organizations programs, high school based workers, counselors, social workers, and so on. These jobs are so essential, and are often the first to intervene and identify when a student is in crisis, unsafe, or in need of support. We provide life saving services.

I have worked in After School Programming for over five years, and I have worked with many of our states most underprivileged youth and families. Any removal of our after school programs, especially in high schools, will have impactful effects on our communities and students' mental well being. Cutting funding will only continue to increase the issues that we are seeing in our city, that our Mayor London Breed is currently fighting: homelessness, substance abuse, violence and mental health crises.

We cannot continue to bandage and cover up issues. Our programs are the first responders. We are preventative services. We were essential during the pandemic and we are so essential now.

Please reconsider. We implore you.

From: [MB Salem](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment for 5/08 hearing
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 2:41:16 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Public comment submission:

Hello supervisors, my name is MB, a staff member of the Filipino Community Center (FCC) in the Excelsior in District 11. FCC is a member organization of Communities United for Health and Justice (CUHJ) alongside PODER and Coleman Advocates. CUHJ is a District 11 based neighborhood alliance that has developed local leaders and engaged community members in District 11 to create community based solutions that has lasting changes in our community.

Community based alliances like CUHJ and its member organizations foster solidarity between our communities, especially among our youth, and together we have built a united voice among immigrant workers and their families. CUHJ has advocated for affordable housing in District 11 and won community campaigns to secure affordable housing for low wage workers and their families. Affordable housing is what keeps youth and their families safe and off the streets. Spaces like CUHH and Hummingbird Farm have provided sanctuary for our youth and their families and have supported youth led initiatives, developing youth leaders in our neighborhood.

District 11 is home to so many working families compared to other districts in San Francisco. Please do not cut the spaces, services and programs that allow the youth and their families thrive and stay in their city. Thank you.

Sincerely,

MB Salem

They/them pronouns

Workers' Rights Program Coordinator

Filipino Community Center

4681 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94112

[415-333-6267](tel:415-333-6267) | www.filipinocc.org

From: [Shara Orquiza](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: 5/8/24 community Safety & well being Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:06:24 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi my name is Shara Orquiza and I'm one of the staff members at the FCC in district 11 which is a part of the San Francisco Immigrant legal education network (SFILEN). I am here speaking in solidarity with our comrades and community organizers who do the hard work everyday to build with community members, providing culturally relevant education and services esp for the newcomer immigrants coming to SF. Who do the everyday work to develop leaders in our community. We must support our immigrant workers who provide their labor to make SF what it is right now!

We must invest in our youth who also uplift the culture and principle of San Francisco. Who holds us adults accountable for what we should stand more while living in the city. This is what I learned through the Kabataan Youth Program in FCC. I learned about community issues in the excelsior while also learning about my Filipino culture. We need to invest in your youth and provide the resources they need instead of cutting them!

The protect the funding for our immigrant community and our youth! Thank you

Shara C. Orquiza
Filipino Community Center
4681 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94112
Office line: 415-333-6267
Email: info@filipinocc.org

From: [Jeannel Poyaoan](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: URGET 5/8 Public Comment Submission
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:17:37 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

- Good afternoon Board of Supervisors, my name is Jeannel and I am with the Filipino Community Center, which is part of the D11/Excelsior neighborhood alliance, Communities United for Health and Justice (CUHJ). We have seen how spaces like CUHJ and Hummingbird Farm have cultivated a sense of security, leadership development, and healing for immigrant working families. I urge you to consider funding programs that are culturally responsive to the community's needs, to prioritize the needs of our youth—our future leaders—and working class migrant families.
- Fund our everyday heroes who keep our city safe. We must fund our frontline nonprofit and public service workers, who have the skills and proven track records of preventing homelessness, providing effective healthcare services, and helping San Franciscans going through hard times get back on their feet.

From: [Jared Luansing](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment: Youth Program Budget Cuts
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:24:08 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello supervisors! My name is Jared, and I am a staff member at the Filipino Community Center in district 11.

I will be reading a public comment that was written by one of our community members.

Hello, I am Celina, and I volunteer for the food program at the Filipino Community Center. We provide free groceries for many households and individuals in the Excelsior.

We know what keeps us safe. San Francisco is one of the most expensive places to live in. But our food program helps keep food on the table for migrant families who are too busy working every day just to make enough so they can continue living in this city—our working-class communities keep this city moving.

The Filipino Community Center also ensures that Filipino people have access to services such as immigration support and youth programs. These services and programs protect the community and the few safe spaces that Filipino people have in San Francisco. Cuts make us less safe.

Invest in the safety of the communities that have contributed to the culture and to the heart of this city— by providing programs for youth to be safe.

Filipinos and minorities have been here for generations and it is high time that you listen to our demands. Youth programs are essential to the well-being and livelihood of migrant communities. Let's fund the right tools to keep all of us safe.

Thank you,

Filipino Community Center

From: [Al Phuong](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [amy.huynh@cpasf.org](#); [jessica.cheng@cpasf.org](#); [jeffrey@cpasf.org](#)
Subject: [Community Safety & Vibrant Communities] Keep Sisterhood Gardens Funded!
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:24:26 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors, City Administrator Chu, and Mayor Breed,

Hi, my name is Aloe with Chinese Progressive Association's Sisterhood Gardens, and I have family roots growing in Supervisor Safai's District 11. I am writing to express my strong support to maintain our \$115,000/year funding of our beloved Sisterhood Garden, which has been an invaluable asset to our neighborhood of D11. The garden has played a pivotal role in promoting neighborhood resilience in moments of crisis, fostering cross-racial and intergenerational community safety, and enhancing the overall well-being of our residents. I urge you to recognize the significance of this communal space and continue to allocate resources to ensure its continued success.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Sisterhood Gardens has served as a crucial community space for the OMI neighborhood. Due to the rise of anti-Asian racism, safety concerns, inflation and economic hardship, Sisterhood Garden has been *instrumental* in offering a healing refuge of connection to people amid immense isolation. While our youth struggled, our Asian elders also struggled with xenophobia around COVID-19 left our elders feeling afraid and alone. During these times, Sisterhood Garden has provided a safe outdoor space for community members to stay socially distanced, build closer relationships with neighbors, provided services including PPE distribution, and provide opportunities for leadership and growth. Our communities in this district are barely recovering from the last few years of COVID isolation- stripping them of necessary and trusted community services and public spaces puts them and our city at risk

The community garden has served as a unifying force, bringing together individuals from various backgrounds and fostering a sense of belonging among residents. Furthermore, the community garden is an embodiment of our commitment to diversity and inclusivity. It serves as a symbol of cultural appreciation, celebrating the traditions, languages, and plant medicines of our diverse population. With our largest membership base of monolingual Cantonese elders, the garden provides an opportunity for individuals from different ethnic backgrounds to learn from one another, share their knowledge and experiences, and cultivate a deep sense of respect and understanding. It is essential to continue investing in this space that

nurtures multiculturalism and strengthens the social fabric of our neighborhood, especially during a time of divisiveness over 'anti Asian hate', etc.

Moreover, the community garden serves as an educational platform that promotes neighbor leadership and thoughtful environmental stewardship. It offers community engagement opportunities and educational workshops in both English and Cantonese. The garden provides a container for neighborhood leadership through its Steering Committee, a group of 12 leaders who help guide the garden's maintenance and community engagement. Furthermore, this summer, the garden will be piloting its first 6 week long youth program, SOIL focused on environmental justice, community organizing and workforce development. The garden continues to expand its college internship program where SFSU and City College students are exposed to intergenerational community and environmental stewardship work. By continuing to invest in the garden, you demonstrate a commitment to local leadership and environmental justice.

In light of the significant impact the community garden has had on District 11, I implore you to recognize its value and continue to allocate funding for its maintenance and development. The garden serves as a testament to our shared values of cross cultural understanding & healing, local leadership & education, and environmental stewardship. By ensuring its continued success, we demonstrate our commitment to fostering a vibrant, united, and resilient neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Let us come together to support the community garden and uphold its legacy of diversity, community engagement, and well-being.

Sincerely,

aloe

From: [Jomari Geronimo](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: URGENT: Community Safety and Well Being Public Comment 5/8
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:25:53 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello Board Members,

My name is Jomari, and I'm a staff member at the Filipino Community Center. I'm sharing a public comment on behalf of one of our volunteers below:

"My name is Malia Garcia and I previously volunteered for the youth leadership program at the Filipino Community Center in the Excelsior District.

Budget cuts to youth programs would cause the reduction of spaces where youth can grow as leaders, build support systems, and learn to make positive impacts in their communities. Especially for immigrant, queer, and transitional age youth, these youth programs allow them to seek support in navigating difficult challenges such as finding a sense of belonging, accessing education, seeking job opportunities, becoming more politically aware, etc.

Youth programs are especially essential because they provide the youth with the information and resources they need to liberate themselves and those around them. Working with the youth program, I observed the youth growing more confident as leaders, gaining emotional support, and developing a well-rounded awareness of the challenges faced by their communities.

In my experience, I found that a lot of folks I worked with had previously been a part of youth programs and were now paying that forward through volunteering. They found that by learning about social issues in their youth programs, they could not turn a blind eye on those issues and were motivated to contribute to creating solutions. Like my fellow volunteers, the youth in these programs will be inspired to step up as advocates for affordable healthcare, fair wages, and additional solutions to social issues that increase safety in our communities.

By supporting these youth programs, it continues this positive cycle of building leaders who aim to maintain diverse, supportive, and most importantly, safe communities.

Overall, the youth are the future; therefore, we should strive to uplift them and invest in their growth. The best and most effective way to do that is to support them with youth programs."

Thank you,
Jomari

From: [Claire Miranda](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment May 8 2024
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:28:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello Brent,

Please find my public comment below:

My name is Claire and I'm a volunteer with the Filipino Community Center and a resident of District 11. I urge you all today to continue to fund CUHJ and Hummingbird Farms. CUHJ and Hummingbird Farms support working class families from youth until adulthood. They work hard to provide the services that create a safe and livable environment for the working class immigrant population of the excelsior neighborhood. The immigrant working class of San Francisco are the backbone of our city. They are the essential workers who make this city run. I ask you to divert funding from the police department to fund services for the youth and immigrant working class families. This is what will keep us safe.

Thank You,

Claire
FCC Volunteer
D11 Resident

From: [Katrina Liwanag](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Rosy Ngo- Youth Public Comment 05/08 for BOS Budget and Appropriations comm
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 4:47:26 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Supervisors, My name is Rosy Ngo, a student of Balboa High School in the SFUSD. Today, I stand in solidarity with other youth leadership programs and teenage youth, advocating against budget cuts that threaten our community's well-being. Youth programs and partnerships have personally shaped my growth, providing opportunities for leadership development and community engagement. These programs fostered my confidence and connected me with peers who share similar aspirations. However, budget cuts jeopardize these vital resources, risking the potential of countless young individuals. I urge you to prioritize our future by halting these cuts and investing in programs that empower and uplift our youth. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

From: [Katrina Liwanag](#)
To: [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Darlene Busa - youth public comment for 05/08 BOS Budget and Appropriations Comm
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 4:52:54 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good

afternoon supervisors,
my name is Darlene and I
am an SFUSD student of
Balboa High School and a
youth of Kabataan Youth
Leadership Program at
the Filipino Community
Center. I am here in
support of other youth
leadership programs like
PODER youth, Hummingbird
Farms, Sisterhood
Gardens, Coleman
Advocates, Chinese Youth
for Affirmative Action's
Youth MOJO, Balboa after
school program, and
others that we support
for their work with us
in the community. I'm
new here in the US,
going here for 5 months.
It's really different
here in the US. It's
cold, I've met a lot of

Filipinos. Here, and I know I will be forever changed. FCC was introduced to me by Maryrose. When I attended the program for the first time, I was still shy, but as time went on, I started to feel comfortable. The

FCC was a great help to me because I learned a lot, and it also seemed to help me learn how to talk in public.

It is programs like this that I like but it would be nothing if we don't have other classmates and youth to learn with from the other afterschool program.

Without them, we have no community and we will be alone here without support aside from KBT. Please no budget cuts to these programs. Thank

you!

From: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)
Cc: [BOS-Operations](#); [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Entezari, Mehran \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: 4 Letters Regarding File No. 240427
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024 12:29:46 PM
Attachments: [4 Letters Regarding File No. 240427.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see attached 4 Letters Regarding **File No. 240427:**

Hearing on the City's budgetary decisions regarding funding of essential City services that prioritize community safety and wellbeing, including community programs that prevent crime, provide family, youth, and TAY (Transition Age Youth) services, and support the City's immigrant and limited English Proficient residents.

Regards,

John Bullock
Office of the Clerk of the Board
San Francisco Board of Supervisor
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 554-5184
BOS@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

***Disclosures:** Personal information that is provided in communications to the Board of Supervisors is subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act and the San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance. Personal information provided will not be redacted. Members of the public are not required to provide personal identifying information when they communicate with the Board of Supervisors and its committees. All written or oral communications that members of the public submit to the Clerk's Office regarding pending legislation or hearings will be made available to all members of the public for inspection and copying. The Clerk's Office does not redact any information from these submissions. This means that personal information—including names, phone numbers, addresses and similar information that a member of the public elects to submit to the Board and its committees—may appear on the Board of Supervisors website or in other public documents that members of the public may inspect or copy.*

From: [Irie Crisostomo](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: amy.huynh@cpasf.org; jessica.cheng@cpasf.org; jeffrey@cpasf.org
Subject: Keep Sisterhood Gardens Funded!
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 11:20:01 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the Supervisors, City Administrator Chu, and Mayor Breed

Hello, my name is Irie Crisostomo and I am a member of Sisterhood Gardens, and a native to San Francisco. I am speaking in support of Sisterhood Gardens in hope to restore the funding cuts that we so desperately need. This is vital to not only me, but to my community and neighbors that need to grow food for themselves and for their families. This garden has allowed many to come and rejuvenate themselves, to gain a peace of mind, and to cultivate a sustainable crop that would lessen the burden of groceries for many like me.

This place not only serves to feed the community, but to build it together. I've seen so many folks from all walks of life come to chat and talk to one another, to help each other. And to hear that this may be taken from those who need it most is downright devastating and disheartening for the future of us all. To cut the budget of this essential place is to cut a valve in the heart of the community. I ask that you do not cut funding for Sisterhood Gardens for the sake of our district and our neighbors.

Prioritize Working Class Communities, Keep our Public Spaces Thriving!

From: [Victorino Cartagena](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Victorino- Public comment 5/8/24
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 1:41:57 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

My name is Victorino Cartagena. I work at CARECEN SF.

I have been running support group and intensive case management to young people for over a decade.

I believe that not funding programs like CARECEN SECOND CHANCE program is a disservice to our community. I personally have witness the positive progress and change people have made because of Programs like Second Chance.

Lack of funds for these program can be a devastation to our city. It's proven that more police-ing doesn't make the city safer. Community upholding community does.

Cutting funds to carecen second chance will take away intensive case managements, social support groups that people from SF rely on for their personal well being.

Our voices should be heard and considered as we are in the front line, working with the people in our community.

I'm asking for the city to restore DCYF funding to CARECEN SCYP.

Thank you,
Victorino Cartagena

Victorino Cartagena (He, Him, El)
Second Chance Youth Program & Tattoo Removal Clinic
Case Manager/Peer Educator
(415)642-4422 Ext:2022
<https://carecensf.org>

Crisis Services:

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis needing immediate

assistance please reach out to one of the following:

- 24-hr Child Crisis: (415) 970-3800
- Crisis Hotline / SF Suicide Prevention Hotline: (415) 781-0500
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255
- The Safe & Sound TALK Line: 415-441-KIDS (415-441-5437)
- SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUS 66746

From: [Catherine Marroquin](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: May 8th-Community Safety & Well being: Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:18:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Catherine Marroquin
catherine@missiongraduates.org

My name is Catherine Marroquin and I'm submitting my comment as a representative of Mission Graduates, The San Francisco Latino Parity and Equity Coalition (SFLPEC) in Solidarity with the People's Justice Coalition, and I'm also a San Francisco resident.

Funding community organizations and education programs keeps our communities safe. At Mission Graduates two of our high school afterschool programs lost funding, Mission and June Jordan High Schools. After School programs are critical programs that keep students safe, engaged in their school communities, and also keeps them engaged during the school day. The additional funding that has come into schools (thanks goodness!) are now being used to plug holes in lost funding instead of being used for expanding support and being innovative in our approaches. The budget cuts shouldn't be on the backs of our students! Our youth, our future, need investment!

I also ask that you look into our Bryant Beacon RFP. Our Bryant afterschool program wasn't refunded because of an error on the principals part, but the school is happy with us and wants us to come back to provide programming. Please reconsider going through a drawn out process so we don't disrupt programs for students.

Additionally, SFLPEC members experienced 69% in budget cuts to existing programs from DCYF, which will critically impact services to the Latine community. Please consider the equitable distribution of funds for all underrepresented communities.

Thank you,
Catherine

From: [Al Phuong](#)
To: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Jalipa Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [amy.huynh@cpasf.org](#); [jessica.cheng@cpasf.org](#); [jeffrey@cpasf.org](#)
Subject: [Community Safety & Vibrant Communities] Keep Sisterhood Gardens Funded!
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 3:24:26 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors, City Administrator Chu, and Mayor Breed,

Hi, my name is Aloe with Chinese Progressive Association's Sisterhood Gardens, and I have family roots growing in Supervisor Safai's District 11. I am writing to express my strong support to maintain our \$115,000/year funding of our beloved Sisterhood Garden, which has been an invaluable asset to our neighborhood of D11. The garden has played a pivotal role in promoting neighborhood resilience in moments of crisis, fostering cross-racial and intergenerational community safety, and enhancing the overall well-being of our residents. I urge you to recognize the significance of this communal space and continue to allocate resources to ensure its continued success.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Sisterhood Gardens has served as a crucial community space for the OMI neighborhood. Due to the rise of anti-Asian racism, safety concerns, inflation and economic hardship, Sisterhood Garden has been *instrumental* in offering a healing refuge of connection to people amid immense isolation. While our youth struggled, our Asian elders also struggled with xenophobia around COVID-19 left our elders feeling afraid and alone. During these times, Sisterhood Garden has provided a safe outdoor space for community members to stay socially distanced, build closer relationships with neighbors, provided services including PPE distribution, and provide opportunities for leadership and growth. Our communities in this district are barely recovering from the last few years of COVID isolation- stripping them of necessary and trusted community services and public spaces puts them and our city at risk.

The community garden has served as a unifying force, bringing together individuals from various backgrounds and fostering a sense of belonging among residents. Furthermore, the community garden is an embodiment of our commitment to diversity and inclusivity. It serves as a symbol of cultural appreciation, celebrating the traditions, languages, and plant medicines of our diverse population. With our largest membership base of monolingual Cantonese elders, the garden provides an opportunity for individuals from different ethnic backgrounds to learn from one another, share their knowledge and experiences, and cultivate a deep sense of respect and understanding. It is essential to continue investing in this space that

nurtures multiculturalism and strengthens the social fabric of our neighborhood, especially during a time of divisiveness over 'anti Asian hate', etc.

Moreover, the community garden serves as an educational platform that promotes neighbor leadership and thoughtful environmental stewardship. It offers community engagement opportunities and educational workshops in both English and Cantonese. The garden provides a container for neighborhood leadership through its Steering Committee, a group of 12 leaders who help guide the garden's maintenance and community engagement. Furthermore, this summer, the garden will be piloting its first 6 week long youth program, SOIL focused on environmental justice, community organizing and workforce development. The garden continues to expand its college internship program where SFSU and City College students are exposed to intergenerational community and environmental stewardship work. By continuing to invest in the garden, you demonstrate a commitment to local leadership and environmental justice.

In light of the significant impact the community garden has had on District 11, I implore you to recognize its value and continue to allocate funding for its maintenance and development. The garden serves as a testament to our shared values of cross cultural understanding & healing, local leadership & education, and environmental stewardship. By ensuring its continued success, we demonstrate our commitment to fostering a vibrant, united, and resilient neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Let us come together to support the community garden and uphold its legacy of diversity, community engagement, and well-being.

Sincerely,

aloe

From: [Esan Looper](#)
To: [Jalipa, Brent \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Su, Maria \(CHF\)](#)
Subject: Clarification of TLCBD testimony on 5.8.2024 Budget & Appropriations Committee
Date: Friday, May 10, 2024 12:33:34 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello Chair Chan,

Thank you for holding the budget hearings. My name is Esan Looper and I am the Director of Community Organizing for TLCBD. I want to clarify the testimony that I made at the hearing on 5.8.24.

First I said that my first role was Director of Community Organizing. I meant to say Director of Youth Voice. Secondly, at the time we conducted this youth-led Tenderloin Youth Services landscape analysis in 2021 we noted that Larkin Youth Services was the only program in the TL focused primarily on TAY services getting TAY funding from DCYF. I neglected to mention Larkin St. Youth Services directly in my testimony. TLCBD TAY participated in the DCYF Community Needs Assessment. They recommended additional services for TAY especially given that Larkin and TLCBD serve a different core audience.

As I said in my testimony, the Tenderloin could end up with fewer services for TAY after the DCYF funding process. Although TLCBD did receive funding for our TAY program (Youth Leadership) we target a different core audience than Larkin St. Youth Center. Larkin received zero funding for their Youth Leadership and their Workforce Development programs. Both are critical parts of the TAY ecosystem in the Tenderloin and were funded 100% by DCYF in the past. We hope that the City budget can find a solution to this problem.

Thank you for allowing me to clarify my testimony. We appreciate all of you for your dedication and thoughtfulness in this difficult budget year ahead.

Warm regards,

Esan

--

Esan Looper

Director - Community Organizing

Pronouns: He | Him | His | [why pronouns matter](#)

Tenderloin Community Benefit District

48 Golden Gate Avenue | (415) 310-1478 | tlcbd.org