



City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

Memorandum



DATE: February 18, 2026

TO: Mayor Michael J. Garcia
Geraldyn Cardenas, Interim City Clerk

VIA: Manuel Sanchez, Interim Community Services Director *Manuel Sanchez*
Lia Salaverry, Youth and Family Services Division Director *Lia Salaverry*

FROM: Christa Hernandez, Youth & Family Services Program Manager *Christa Hernandez*

ITEM AND ISSUE:

Request for Approval of the Appointment of Orion Block and Mark Glaser to the Human Services Committee (Christa Hernandez, Youth and Family Services Program Manager, 505-955-6728; chernandez@santafenm.gov)

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY:

The Human Services Committee was established by resolution 2012-3 to assess and advocate for human service needs, coordinate resources to maximize cost-effectiveness, evaluate local human services programs and provide technical assistance to programs. The committee is advisory, makes funding recommendations to the Governing Body, and is seeking to appoint Orion Block and Mark Glaser as members.

Membership is comprised of seven (7) members appointed by the Mayor with approval from the Governing Body. Considerations shall be made to ensure that the membership reflects a range of ages, lived experience and professional and community backgrounds.

Orion Block is a licensed clinical social worker whose therapy offerings focus on serving gender and sexual minority communities. Orion has over 9 years of experience in clinical therapy settings as well as over 5 years of experience in policy research and revision. Orion has an extensive background in supporting and advocating for vulnerable populations through event planning and trainings for Disability Justice, Trans Awareness Week, Pride, and CSUN Women's Research and Resource Center. Orion's experience in advocacy for vulnerable communities and policy revision will positively contribute to the Human Services Committee.

Mark Glaser is a Social Services Volunteer and Media Consultant. Mark's primary interest is making homelessness rare and brief for our neighbors in Santa Fe, and he is currently working to achieve this through his work with the Santa Fe Housing for All Collaborative, Miracle Messages, and Wind Power Media. Previously Mark worked with the New Mexico Local News Fund, where he helped make funding decisions for grants. Mark also has experience volunteering with the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, which provides a unique insight into homelessness response. Mark's background and collaborative spirit will ensure continued success of the Human Services Committee.

ACTION REQUESTED:

The Youth & Family Services Division respectfully requests the appointment of Orion Block and Mark Glaser to the Human Services Committee.