



HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

October 5, 2022
Item 4

TITLE: CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM STATEMENT OF PRIORITIES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

SUMMARY

Annually, the Human Services Commission develops funding priorities for the Housing and Human Services Grant (HHSG) Program. The commission will discuss its Statement of Priorities and Evaluation Criteria for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24 HHSG Program.

RECOMMENDATION

Consider recommendation for FY 2023/24 Housing and Human Services Grant Statement of Priorities and Evaluation Criteria.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There is no financial impact to this action.

BACKGROUND

Annually the Human Services Commission approves a Statement of Priorities (Attachment 1) and establishes Evaluation Criteria for the Housing and Human Services Grant Program (HHSG).

Within the HHSG application process, agencies are asked to identify how their proposal addresses at least one of the priority needs and one of the service delivery areas of need identified in the needs assessment and strategic plan. This enhancement has assisted the commission in ensuring consistency of reviewing applications throughout the process.

The priority statements used for recent years have been broad enough to accommodate the wide range of applications considered for funding through the HHSG program, while also targeting funds for specific service areas. This has allowed activities which address emerging service needs to be funded in addition to the more traditional safety net services.

The Evaluation Criteria for the HHSG applications are also reviewed and updated annually by the commission, in preparation for the next grant cycle. Evaluation Criteria (Attachment 2) address: needs, benefits, funding, and additional criteria including organization and Human Services Commission priorities.

DISCUSSION

The commission's updated Statement of Priorities for FY 2023/24 will be included in the application packet materials that will be publicized when the application cycle opens. The updated Statement of Priorities places priority needs in a primary and secondary category. The intent is to display the focus for commission funding recommendations in recent years. While the commission strives to fund all eight priority needs at some level, limited available dollars continue to make this task challenging. The primary and secondary categories are intended to focus grant funding discussion for the commission as they develop a priority list for FY 2023/24.

The Evaluation Criteria will provide direction to the commission as they individually review grant applications. A grant application workshop will be scheduled in early December and has historically been hosted by the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton. Staff is currently planning a virtual application workshop. Each grant process provides the opportunity for the commission to allocate funds that greatly impact the community. The revised Evaluation Criteria prioritizes the existing criteria to highlight the need, benefit, and funding details for the commission to consider. This approach streamlines the application review to help determine the best use of funds. Additional criteria include those important but potentially less directly impactful to the services funded.

To assist grantees, the commission needs to approve a Fiscal Year 2023/24 Statement of Priorities prior to the November/December 2022 ZoomGrants application release date.

Submitted by:



Zack Silva
Recreation Supervisor

Attachments:

1. Statement of Priorities for FY 2023/24
2. Human Services Commission Evaluation Criteria for Review of Housing and Human Services Grant Program (HHSG) Applications for FY 2023/24