



Department: Administration
Cost Center: 1010
For Agenda of: 7/16/2024
Placement: Consent
Estimated Time: N/A

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SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF THE 2024-25 HUMAN SERVICES GRANT NEW FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

1. As recommended by the Human Relations Commission, approve the 2024-25 Human Services Grant funding allocations in the amount of \$150,000 based on City Council's direction provided May 21, 2024; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute agreements with each grant recipient.

POLICY CONTEXT

The Human Relations Commission's (HRC) purpose is to advise and make recommendations to City Council and the City Manager which promote and advance inclusion, mutual understanding, respect, and equitable treatment to all members of the SLO City Community. The Human Relations Commission's recommendations to City Council for the Human Services Grant (HSG) program achieves this purpose by providing financial support to non-profit organizations that promote the economic and social wellbeing of the residents of San Luis Obispo.

DISCUSSION

Background

The City's Human Services Grants (HSG), formerly known as Grants-in-Aid, was originally discussed, and approved by City Council on November 14, 1973, through a study session providing authority and responsibility to HRC for funding and contract recommendations for Council consideration. The HSG program is fully funded by the City's General Fund. The HSG had a Council approved change of name in 2022 to better reflect the objectives of the grant program. Grants are made to local organizations or agencies based in neighboring communities whose services contribute to the economic and social wellbeing of the residents of San Luis Obispo through identified priorities. The Human Relations Commission (HRC) advises the City Council on those funding priorities and grant recommendations.

Funding Priorities

On November 16, 2021, the Council adopted the following as the primary funding priority for the HSG:

- ***Homelessness prevention, including affordable and alternative housing, support services and transitional housing.***

To allow maximum flexibility for funding recommendations dependent upon the received applications, the following priorities were also approved but were not ranked:

- ***Hunger and malnutrition prevention.***
- ***Supportive physical and mental health services for those in need.***
- ***Services for seniors, veterans and/or people with disabilities in need.***
- ***Supportive, developmental, and care services for children and youth in need.***
- ***Services encouraging diversity, equity, and inclusivity in marginalized.***

HSG Application Process

In January 22, 2024, the HRC formally launched its annual HSG process by advertising the availability of grant funds and information regarding the upcoming HSG timeline to the general public, past applicants and agencies and groups from underserved and underrepresented communities through the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). HSG applications were due on March 1, 2024. The City received grant applications from 37 agencies requesting funding for programs totaling \$495,243. Attachment A includes a complete list of the applications, including a summary of each project submitted to the City for HSG funding. The HRC's Grant Review Subcommittee reviewed the applications and provided funding recommendations to the full HRC.

HRC Review Process

On March 12 and 19, 2024, the HSG Grant Review Subcommittee met to review grant applications and make preliminary funding recommendations. The subcommittee members considered the funding priorities set by Council, the location of the target population to be served, and the incurred expenses proposed to be offset by HSG dollars to guide their funding recommendations.

The HRC held a regular meeting April 3, 2024, which included a noticed public hearing about the HSG program and its final funding recommendations. During this process, the Grant Review Subcommittee provided its preliminary recommendations to the entire HRC, which was followed by public comment and deliberation. Upon completion of the HRC deliberation, the entire commission voted in providing a recommendation to City Council.

The 2024-25 Human Services Grant final recommendations were presented to the City Council at the May 21, 2024 meeting. Council referred the grant funding recommendations back to HRC with direction to first fund all qualified applications that meet the homelessness prevention primary funding priority, and then, after qualified homelessness prevention applications are funded, the Commission should consider applications for the additional priorities.

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On May 29, 2024, the HRC held a special meeting to review the grant applications and provide revised funding recommendations considering the City Council's direction and guidance. Attachment B includes a complete list of the applications, a summary of each project, and HRC's new final funding recommendations.

	Organization	Project or Program	Reqd. Amount	Previous HRC Grant Review Subcommittee Recommended Amounts	Previous HRC Recommended Amounts	New Final HRC Recommended Amounts
1	5 Cities Homeless Coalition	Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
2	Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Luis Obispo County	Mentoring to Help Disadvantaged Youth Meet their Full Potential	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
3	CASA of San Luis Obispo County, Inc.	General SLO CASA Program Support	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
4	City Farm	2025 Youth Empowerment Program	\$15,000	\$6,974	\$8,948	\$0
5	Community Action Partnership of SLO County	Homeless Prevention/Stable Housing Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
6	Community Action Partnership of SLO County	Families in Transition (FIT)	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
7	Community Counseling Center	Sharing the Therapeutic Space: Professional and Affordable Psychotherapy Options for Underprivileged Populations in the City of San Luis Obispo	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

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8	Corazon Latino	Support Groups - Corazon Latino Central Coast	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
9	Diversity Coalition	BIPOC Board Leadership Training Program	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
10	Family Matters Consulting	Circle of Security - Prevention Program	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
11	Food Bank of SLO County	No-Cook Bags for SLO County Residents Experiencing Homelessness	\$20,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
12	Hospice of SLO County	Caregiver Support and Grief Counseling	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
13	Housing Authority San Luis Obispo	Housing Stability with Supportive Housing Program	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
14	Independent Living Resource Center	Disability Rights and Cultural Awareness in San Luis Obispo	\$8,691	\$0	\$0	\$0
15	Jack's Helping Hand	Assistance for Single Mothers of Children with Special Needs in the City of San Luis Obispo	\$10,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
16	Jewish Family Services of San Luis Obispo	Homeless Support Services	\$7,300	\$7,300	\$7,300	\$7,300
17	Literacy for Life	The Literacy Program	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

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18	Long Term Care Ombudsman Services of San Luis Obispo County	Ombudsman Services	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
19	Lumina Alliance	Emergency Shelter Program for Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Survivors	\$20,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$20,000
20	One Cool Earth	Garden Education Program	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
21	PathPoint	Independent Living Technology for People with I/DD	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
22	People's Self-Help Housing Corporation	SLO Supportive Housing Program for Low-Income Households	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
23	Pregnancy and Parenting Support of SLO County	Nurture SLO Families	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
24	RACE MATTERS SLO	Shop Talk	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
25	Restorative Partners, Inc.	Opportunity to Fund	\$10,000	\$6,974	\$0	\$10,000
26	San Luis Obispo Child Development Resource Center	Child and Family Play Therapy Program	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

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27	San Luis Obispo Committee for Education on Alcoholism, dba Middle House	Alumni Housing	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$6,250	\$6,250
28	San Luis Obispo Committee for Education on Alcoholism, dba Middle House	Homeless Prevention	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$5,600	\$5,600
29	San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition, dba Bike SLO County	Cycling Without Age	\$5,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
30	San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation	Senior Legal Services	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
31	Senior Nutrition Program	Meals that Connect	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500
32	Shower the People	Shower the People	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
33	SLO County UndocuSupport	Direct Housing Aid for Immigrant Families	\$7,442	\$7,442	\$7,442	\$7,442
34	SLO Noor Foundation	Whole Community Care Project	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
35	Smart Share Housing Solutions	Community Housing Provisions/Homeless Prevention	\$14,460	\$5,960	\$5,960	\$5,908
36	Transitions Mental Health Association	Growing Grounds Downtown	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
37	United Way of San Luis Obispo	Community - Driven Initiative in San Luis Obispo: Preventing Poverty and Building a Sustainable Community	\$20,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0
			\$495,243	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

Grant Contracts

Upon Council approval of HSG funding recommendations, the City will enter into a contract with each organization that has been awarded grant funding. The HRC and the City staff will review grant project reports throughout the year. Organizations awarded grant funding are required to provide a mid-year and year-end report describing administrative functions, metrics and outcomes, and use of funds related to the application for each grant program. Reports are reviewed by staff and the HRC for completeness and compliance.

Public Engagement

The public, and more specifically non-profit service organizations, were engaged throughout the HSG award process. Non-profit service organizations received communication of available funding, an informational session provided in English and Spanish available in the Office of DEI website, technical assistance during the application period, a detailed grant web application outlining funding criteria, and how to access support from staff. This item was originally presented on the consent agenda for the May 21, 2024, City Council meeting and followed all required postings and notifications.

An email notification was provided to all HSG applicants inviting them to attend the HRC special meeting on May 29, 2024.

This item is on the consent agenda for the July 16, 2024, City Council meeting and followed all required postings and notifications. The public can also submit comments on this item at or before the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The California Environmental Quality Act does not apply to the recommended action in this report, because the action does not constitute a “Project” under CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15378.

FISCAL IMPACT

Budgeted: Yes

Budget Year: 2024-25

Funding Identified: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Total Budget Available	Current Funding Request	Remaining Balance	Annual Ongoing Cost
General Fund	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$	\$
State				
Federal				
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$

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As adopted in the 2023-2025 Financial Plan and FY 2024-25 Supplemental Budget, the allocated 2024-2025 budget for the HSG program was \$150,000. HSG projects will be implemented for a period of one year starting at the beginning of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year.

ALTERNATIVES

1. ***The Council may modify the proposed grant funding amounts.*** The Council should provide direction on the modifications desired and adopt the revised allocations.
2. ***The Council may return the matter back to the HRC again for further consideration of the funding recommendations.*** In this case, it is recommended that Council provide additional direction to the HRC regarding its consideration of the funding recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

- A - 2024-25 Human Services Grant Applications, Subcommittee Preliminary Funding, and Previous HRC Funding Recommendations.
- B - 2024-25 Human Services Grant New Final Funding Recommendations
- C - 05-29-2024 Special HRC Meeting Minutes