



Human Services Grant (HSG) Program Grant Information – DRAFT 2

PURPOSE

The City of San Luis Obispo Human Relations Commission (HRC) Human Services Grant (HSG) Program provides financial support to non-profit organizations that promote the economic and social well-being of its citizens.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

For the 2025-26 Fiscal Year, the main funding priority is:

Homelessness prevention including affordable, alternative, transitional housing, and supportive services.

The following secondary funding priorities areas are not listed in order of importance and may not receive funding:

- 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 communities, including access to language services.

FUNDING EXAMPLES

Examples of previous funded projects, programs, and activities include:

- Direct rental assistance and relocation stabilization housing services.
- Direct financial assistance to residents at risk of being evicted or need support securing housing with first month's rent or security deposit.
- Direct financial support to secure and maintain permanent housing for youth and families.
- Funding support for transitional housing and incentives.
- Residential advocacy, facility monitoring visit, complaint investigations and resolution for older adults in long term care facilities.
- Cover costs of relocation expenses to independent living conditions after treatment.
- Provide food, household supplies, rent, and transportation cost for the older adult population.
- Provide access to showers, clothing, and shower items to individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Direct rental assistance to individuals with various backgrounds, including mix-status and undocumented individuals as member of at -large communities of SLO.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

1	Applicants must submit a complete application package and within the deadline.
	1.1 One-page DEI Statement that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1.1 Applicant's understanding and application of DEI concepts/values 1.1.2 Affirming language that creates access and a sense of belonging to all community members. 1.1.3 Explain how the proposal will advance DEI in the City of SLO. 1.2 One-page detailed budget for the proposal including how the total amount requested will be allocated. 1.3 Organizational chart 1.4 Document certifying Federal Tax-Exempt Status
2	Applications must be submitted through the online portal. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3	Grant recipients must comply with the HRC Bylaws which are to create an environment within the City in which all persons can enjoy equal rights and opportunities regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, physical, mental, or economic status. HRC Bylaws can be found on the City's website HERE .
4	Grant recipients must enter into a contract with the City prior to receipt of HSG funds, located HERE .
5	Grant recipients must complete periodic reports and provide them timely.
6	Grant recipients must submit a final report at the end of the project/service or at 12 months from start, whichever comes first. Grant recipients are expected to return unused funds.
7	Grant-funded programs must be available to all City residents, without regard to the resident's race, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, or physical, mental, or economic status.

FUNDING CRITERIA

1	Grants are made only to non-profit organizations.
2	Applications for a specific program, project, equipment need, or general operational support will be considered if the organization's mission falls under the main funding priority .
3	Grants are primarily made to organizations serving residents in the City of San Luis Obispo .
4	Agencies serving residents in neighboring communities, also serving a significant number of City residents will be considered .
5	Organizations that received previous HSG funding must be in good standing and have complied with all reporting requirements.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING INFORMATION

1	Applicants' minimum request of \$5,000 and a maximum request of \$20,000.
2	A maximum of one (1) grant award is allowed per organization (or per partnership if a collaborative project).
3	Funding may be used for new (innovative) or existing projects, programs, concepts, or initiatives that have proven success and/or utilize best practices or approaches.
4	Projects, programs, concepts, and initiatives that leverage existing or other funding

	sources to supplement proposal are highly encouraged.
5	Consideration may be provided to proposals who have matching grants secured.
6	Consideration may be provided to applicants whose ongoing fundraising and services were severely impacted by COVID-19 and not recouped by other means.
7	Consideration may be provided to applicants who train or support service providers to expand scope of services and/or increase the numbers of clients.
8	Consideration may be provided to applicants who initiate a new, ongoing funding source for the organization.
9	Consideration may be provided to applicants who direct services efficiently to needy residents with low overhead and administrative costs.

PROHIBITED USE OF FUNDS

1	Funds CANNOT be used for advancing, advocating, promoting, or highlighting political causes, entities, ballot measures, or candidates.
2	Funds CANNOT be used for advancing, advocating, promoting, or highlighting religious causes, entities, individuals, or activities. Funding CANNOT be used of the purpose of disseminating religious information.
3	Funds CANNOT be used for profit or personal gain.

FUNDING DECISIONS

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) will exercise discretion when developing funding recommendations.

The HRC will review, with support from the Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, all applications (that are completed, timely submitted, and met the funding criteria) and develop funding recommendations based on the answers and attestations provided in each application, and guidance and direction from City Council. Please be as specific and detailed in your applications. Recommendations will be presented to the City Council for approval. Grants are awarded by available funding for current grant cycle. **Previous grant awards do not guarantee continued funding. This is a competitive grant.**

The HRC encourages organizations that take new, creative approaches to solving the most prevalent health & human service needs in our community!