

May 11, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Christine Chilcott, President
Social Service Human Relations Board

Subject: Social Service Human Relations Board FY 2021-2022 CDBG
Public Services Allocation Recommendations



The Social Service Human Relations Board ("Board") has been advising the City Council on the use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Non-Housing Public Services since 1997 when Council tasked the Board to facilitate the reviewing of applications and forwarding recommendations for funding. On April 22, 2021, the SSHRB reviewed and approved staff's proposal for the allocation of the CDBG Non-Housing Public Services funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022. The Board is pleased to present the following funding recommendations for City Council's consideration and approval as presented below.

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	FY 2021-22 RECOMMENDED FUNDING
Alameda Family Services	Mental Health	\$40,118
Alameda Food Bank	Emergency Food Distribution	\$22,175
Building Futures with Women & Children	Midway Shelter Domestic Violence Support & Homeless Prevention	\$66,514
Eden I&R	2-1-1 Information & Referral	\$24,725
Family Violence Law Center	Legal Advice, Crisis Counseling	\$17,100
Legal Assistance for Seniors	Legal Services and Presentations for Seniors	\$17,100
TOTAL		\$187,732

The funding allocation for FY 2021-22 represent a decrease of almost 18% from the prior year. Per CDBG requirements, public service funding is capped at fifteen (15%) of the CDBG entitlement allocation plus the program income received in the previous fiscal year. While the entitlement allocation is down less than 2%, the CDBG loan repayments to the City, which generate the program income that funds public services, is projected to be \$110,000 by June 30, 2021, down from \$323,000 the previous year. The Board recommends that should additional funds become available, these funds should be allocated proportionately to the respective funded organizations and programs for the service providers whose funding levels have been decreased (e.g., recommended FY 2021-22 funding level is lower than that of FY 2020-21).

On January 28, 2021, the Board held a public meeting to gather input from community members, service providers, and other stakeholders about the social and human services needs of Alameda residents. These needs were presented to City Council on February 3, 2021, which included: domestic violence and gender equity, food security, homelessness, housing stability and homeless prevention, mental health, and shelter sustainability.

While COVID-19 has clearly touched the lives of everyone on a global scale, its impact is disproportionately felt in certain communities. The programs and services recommended for the CDBG Public Service funding for FY 2021-22 aim to address these inequities by prioritizing victims of domestic violence and their children, older adults that need to be connected to services,

individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless, and individuals experiencing homelessness, which are overrepresented by Black and brown people. Overall, these programs will provide the much needed safety net for Alameda residents during a critical time.

As an advisor to the City Council, it is the role of SSHRB to assess the community's needs for social and human services support and establish strategies to address these issues. The Board is recommending that City Council approve the proposed allocation for the CDBG Non-Housing Public Services for FY 2021-22. Thank you for your consideration. Together, we can continue to make Alameda the strong and welcoming community that we call home.

Sincerely,

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Christine Chilcott, President
Social Service Human Relations Board