

COMMUNITY & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

March 11, 2021

The Community and Cultural Development Committee of the City of Mesa met via a virtual format streamed into the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 11, 2021 at 9:25 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT	COMMITTEE ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Francisco Heredia, Chairman* Jennifer Duff* David Luna*	None	Christopher Brady Natalie Lewis Dee Ann Mickelsen Alfred Smith

(*Council participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment.)

Chairman Heredia conducted a roll call.

1. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

2-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide funding recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 and prior years' funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Human Services Programs.

Chairman Heredia provided a brief overview of the funding received from Mesa CARES during the pandemic. He stated the funds were used for residents, small businesses, and non-profits. He shared his gratitude toward the members of the Housing and Community Development Advisory Board (HCDAB) for all of their hard work reviewing applications, scoring, discussing and providing recommendations to the City Council during the pandemic. He also thanked the Mesa non-profits and organizations.

Community Services Director Ruth Giese introduced Housing and Community Development Administrator Justin Boyd who displayed a Power Point presentation. **(See Attachment 1)** She stated the presentation will review the Federal Funding recommendations for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), along with the funding for the Human Services Program. She mentioned the annual funding process began with a first annual kickoff meeting to review what the Council's priorities are, the process of submitting applications, and technical training sessions. She noted the applications were submitted between October 20, 2020 to November 24, 2020.

Ms. Giese provided a brief summary of the total funding allocations for each funding source. (See Pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Boyd outlined the tentative funding allocations and reported six agencies would receive 15% of the CDBG Public Services. (See Pages 4 and 5 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Boyd shared the recommended allocations for the HOME Investment Partnership program and ESG. (See Pages 6 and 7 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Boyd concluded with the Human Services Funding and stated the recommendation is to fund 14 agencies for a total of \$520,000. (See Pages 8 and 9 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Giese completed the presentation by reviewing the next steps of the tentative funding approval process. (See Page 10 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Committeemember Luna, Ms. Giese stated she does not anticipate additional funding in the Human Services category, however, due to the relief funding and CDBG-CV funding, the City has until the end of 2022 to assist resident priorities through agencies impacted by COVID-19.

Committeemember Luna expressed concerns about the needs within the community, because not all organizations and agencies are receiving funding.

Jackie Taylor, a representative for Save the Family commented Save the Family's transitional shelter project was not recommended for the General Fund dollars but was approved for ESG funding. She added because Save the Family did not receive General Fund money the unfunded program will be severely impacted. She requested reconsideration of the application submission to be recommended for funding.

In response to multiple questions from Committeemember Duff, Mr. Boyd explained the activities will be different since ESG is a federal program which has additional responsibilities. He mentioned the Human Services Funding is a combination of Human Services funding and ABC Funds through the donations of the utility donation program which is a completely different variable with that activity. He noted the difference in the program for the Human Services Funding request from Save the Family would specifically be for their Emergency Shelter program, whereas the ESG Funds would be used for the Rapid Rehousing Program.

In response to a question from Committeemember Duff, Ms. Taylor explained the Rapid Rehousing program provides housing to a different level of client. She continued by stating the Human Services funding request would support emergency transitional housing that serves the chronically homeless. She added the ESG dollars dedicated to Rapid Rehousing cannot be used in the emergency transitional housing program. She commented the funding for the Human Services program pays for case management and also supports a portion of the supportive wrap around services that help families achieve a higher level of self-sufficiency.

In response to multiple questions from Chairman Heredia, Ms. Giese clarified if the Committee approves the recommendations with modifications or as stated, the next step would be to bring the recommendations forward to Council on March 25, 2021.

Michael Hughes, A New Leaf, Chief Executive Officer commented his organization has received funding for a number of years and expressed concerns with not receiving a recommendation for funding when A New Leaf had scored higher than most other agencies being funded. He added another concern is when the COVID dollars run out, how will A New Leaf sustain current programs.

Discussion ensued relative to the allocation disbursement of CDBG and ESG dollars from the General Fund and why the City cannot fund all the larger higher scoring funding requests.

Mr. Brady explained the large organizations that did not get funded in the General Fund this year have received the largest portion of funds from MesaCARES. He stated the City provided funds to the larger organizations because of how quickly they could move dollars in such a short period of time.

Deputy City Manager Natalie Lewis commented MesaCARES provided funding to many of the larger community partners during the pandemic. She stated the City has approximately eight to nine million dollars in pending Coronavirus funding for both Homeless Services and CDBG services and staff is looking for infrastructure and long-term solutions. She mentioned there will be an additional \$5,700,000 from the Rescue Fund that is dedicated to Homeless and Emergency services, which will allow for other community partners to receive funding. She shared at the end of the day the City is trying to find a way to help some of the organizations that do not have capacity for Federal funding.

In response to a question from Chairperson Heredia, Ms. Lewis mentioned the process for additional funding is still being determined. She stated once funding is determined, staff will reach out to agencies to provide the City with proposals.

In response to a question from Committeemember Duff, Mr. Brady explained the City is waiting for direction and guidelines from the Federal Government on how and where the money can be spent. He shared the City is looking for more legacy projects and opportunities to establish investments in areas that will continue beyond the next six months. He noted when direction and guidelines are received there will be a plan presented to Council.

It was moved by Committeemember Duff, seconded by Committeemember Luna, that funding recommendations for Fiscal Year 2021/22 be approved and forwarded to the full Council for action.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Heredia-Duff-Luna

NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

Chairperson Heredia thanked staff for the presentation.

3. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Community and Cultural Development Committee meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 11th day of March 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

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(attachments – 1)

Housing and Community Development FY 2021/22 Federal Funding Recommendations

Community and Cultural Development Committee
March 11, 2021

Presented by:

Ruth Giese, Community Services Department Director
Justin Boyd, Housing and Community Development Administrator



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Estimated Funding

FY 2021/2022

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- \$4,224,481
 - Public Service
 - Administration
 - Non Public Service

HOME Investment Partnership (HOME)

- \$1,546,684
 - Rent, rehab assistance

Estimated Funding

FY 2021/2022

- **Emergency Solutions Grant \$346,781**
 - Homeless services and programs
- **Human Services Programs \$520,000**
 - ABC donations; general funding for human services

CDBG Public Services (15% of total allocation)

Community Bridges	Mesa Homeless Navigation Services	\$176,480
Community Resources	Homeless Court Navigation	\$114,622
Child Crisis Arizona	Caring for Homeless Children	\$100,000
A New Leaf	Homeless Shelter Self-Sufficiency & Stability Service	\$100,000
Community Bridges	Mesa Mobile Outreach	\$56,070
Aster Aging	Meals on Wheels	\$44,000
A New Leaf	Housing Support Services	\$42,500

Total CDBG Public Services		\$633,672
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CDBG Housing & Public Facilities

City of Mesa	Housing Rehabilitation Program	\$1,500,000
Total CDBG Housing & Public Facilities		\$1,500,000

HOME Investment Partnership Program

of Mesa	COM Tenant Based Rental Program (TBRA)	\$900,000
Community Bridges	Tenant Based Rental Program (TBRA)	\$215,800
City of Mesa	COM Tenant Based Rental Program (TBRA) Rent & Utility Deposit Program	\$200,000
Total HOME Investment Partnership Funds		\$1,315,800

ESG

the Family/SW Lutheran Social Services	Rapid Rehousing Collaborative Grant	\$176,000
A New Leaf	Homeless Shelter Crisis Intervention	\$127,972
Chrysalis Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence	Victims Services Program – DV Shelter	\$16,800
Total ESG		\$320,772

Human Services Funding

de Cristo Community Center	Homeless Relief Services	\$82,770
House of Refuge, Inc.	Adopt a Home (for families)	\$73,920
Mesa K-Ready	Mesa K-Ready Program	\$68,000
Teen Lifeline	Crisis Services	\$39,200
Maggie's Place	Hannah House Shelter Services (for parenting youth)	\$39,200
Community Legal Services	Legal Advocacy & Education	\$31,650

Human Services Funding

United Food Bank	Emergency Food Assistance	\$30,000
Mesa United Way	Mesa VITA Program	\$28,821
Local First Arizona	Fuerza Local for Mesa	\$24,000
Aid to Adoption of Special Kids	Family Kinship Support Program	\$22,000
Oakwood Creative Care	Respite & Nursing Care	\$21,989
Arizona Brainfood	Weekend Food Bags	\$21,250
Big Brothers & Big Sisters	Mesa Mentoring Program	\$19,200
Boys & Girls Clubs	Academic Life & Future Success	\$18,000
Total Human Services Funding		\$520,000

Next Steps Timeline

- March 22, 2021
30-Day Public Comment Period Begins
- March 25, 2021
City Council Study Session
- April 5, 2021
City Council Approval of Funding
- May 15, 2021
Funding Submittal due to HUD

FY 2021/22

Funding Recommendations

Questions?

March 11, 2021