

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 23, 2023

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 23, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Francisco Heredia
Jennifer Duff
Mark Freeman
Alicia Goforth
Scott Somers
Julie Spilsbury

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Chris Brady
Holly Moseley
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

- 1-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide funding recommendations for the FY 2023/2024 and prior years' available funding for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Human Services Programs.

Housing and Community Development Director Michelle Albanese introduced Housing and Community Development Administrator Justin Boyd and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Ms. Albanese stated the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awards federal grants annually to entitlement communities with a population over 50,000 to revitalize neighborhoods, improve community facilities, and provide critical services. She reported grants are allocated to cities on a formula basis based on population and poverty. She discussed the annual funding process. (See Page 2 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese referred to the Housing Path to Recovery, adding that a significant portion of the Housing and Community Development dollars fund programs and services related to addressing homelessness. She highlighted key dates within the funding process, which typically begins in September and ends in May, and what each step involves. (See Pages 3 and 4 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese provided a background on the Housing and Community Development Advisory Board (HCDAB). She stated the role of the HCDAB is to review the applications, hear the agency presentations, and score the applications. She outlined the application and award process, which

includes a HUD eligibility determination form for a federally funded program. (See Pages 5 through 7 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese discussed the funding allocations for CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. She explained the maximum percentages allowable for funding allocations to each program and the total requests received. (See Page 8 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese detailed the nine recommended funding allocations for CDBG, which have all provided programs and services that address homelessness. She reviewed the five CDBG non-public services projects being recommended, which are risky, difficult to administer, and take 18 months to three years to complete. She advised when funding non-public services projects, it is necessary that both the agency and staff are aware and comfortable that the regulatory requirements are met. (See Pages 9 and 10 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese summarized the four recommended HOME projects that complement and support other programs by providing housing opportunities for Mesa residents. She mentioned most of the funding within the HOME category is for tenant-based rental assistance, similar to the voucher program. (See Page 11 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese highlighted the three recommendations for ESG projects. She identified that ESG funding can only be used for addressing homelessness in four specific categories. (See Page 12 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese stated that the Human Services funding does not have the same restrictions as federal funding because the City of Mesa (COM) utilizes the A Better Community (ABC) utility donation program and the General Fund to support the \$558,000 for program funding. (See Page 13 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese pointed out the total contributions that the COM makes out of the General Fund for programs and services, including the community navigators for Community Court. (See Page 14 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Albanese described the funding recommendations for the Human Services/ABC program. She mentioned over 30 applications were received requesting \$1.8 million. She advised 15 programs are recommended for \$558,000 based on the identified priorities of homeless and crisis needs, food and basic needs, youth services and education, health services, workforce development, and tax and legal. She identified the next steps. (See Pages 15 through 17 of Attachment 1)

Mayor Giles commented on the HUD deadline and the importance of making timely decisions in order to accommodate the public comment period.

Councilmember Spilsbury expressed her desire that Crisis of Arizona (CCA) be considered for funding.

In response to questions and comments from Councilmembers, Torrie Taj, Chief Executive Officer for CCA, declared that CCA would like to continue to expand homeless services for the youth in the foster care system. She noted the request for \$500,000 is associated with the purchase of a new group home and shelter to expand services to foster children needing services and group homes. She provided details about the project needs.

Discussion ensued regarding the scoring process and CCA presentation to the HCDAB Board.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Freeman, Mr. Brady stated the federal audit is relevant because the COM is required to pay \$100,000 per year because of non-compliance with a HUD requirement.

Ms. Albanese confirmed the COM is compliant and was able to pay back the funding. She mentioned the HUD-required eligibility determination form must be filled out by each agency applying for funding to describe the service being provided. She reported a technical review has been done as part of the audit to ensure that the COM is following all the requirements.

Further discussion ensued relative to CCA, eligibility, compliance, and the award process.

Mayor Giles suggested increasing Human Services funding to \$500,000 to be able to demonstrate COM's commitment to CCA. He asked that staff come back with an option to fund CCA.

Mr. Brady cautioned Council on creating a priority account of funding and how that will look to agencies who scored higher.

Councilmember Spilsbury outlined additional options to ensure fairness.

Councilmember Freeman said he is hesitant to move funding around and does not want to complicate the rules and regulations that the COM must follow.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

2. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

2-a. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held on January 11, 2023.

It was moved by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Spilsbury, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles–Heredia–Duff–Goforth–Freeman–Spilsbury–Somers

NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

3. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Mayor and Councilmembers highlighted the events, meetings, and conferences recently attended.

4. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7:30 a.m. – Mesa Housing Governing Board

5. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:45 a.m.



John Giles
JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Holly Moseley
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 23rd day of March 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Holly Moseley
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

lr/la
(Attachments – 1)



FY 2023/2024

Annual Funding Recommendations

City Council Study Session

Michelle Albanese, Housing and Community Development Director

March 23, 2023

Presentation Overview



Housing Path to Recovery





Funding Process Key Dates – 2022

Oct. 3

- Applicant Orientation

Oct. 3-12

- Technical Assistance

Oct. 13

- Applications Due

Dec. 6 & 7

- Presentations to Housing and Community Development Advisory Board (HCDAB)



Advisory Board

Housing & Community Development Advisory Board

11 Member
Advisory
Board

Annual
Funding
Process

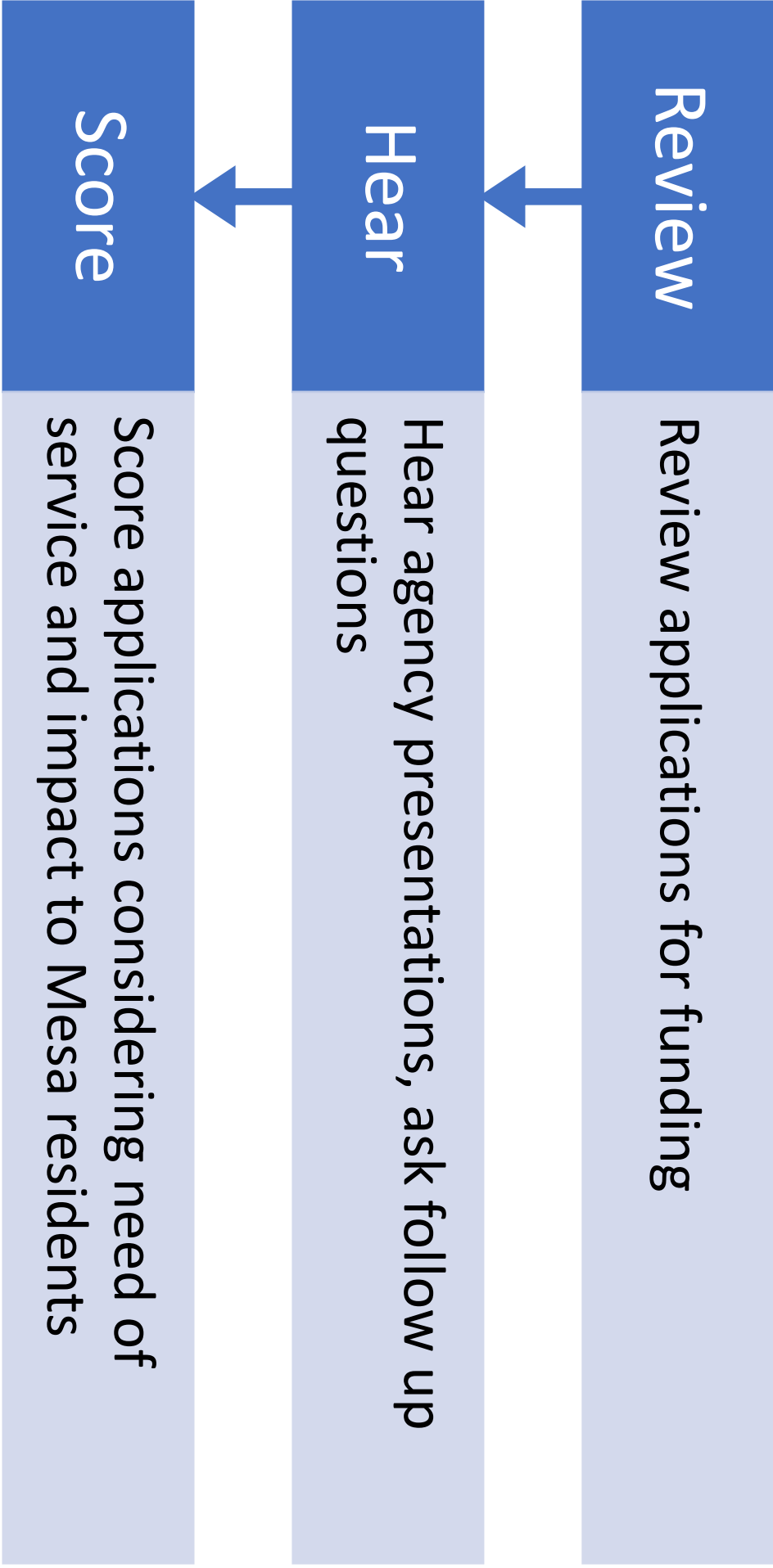
Priorities,
Funding &
Planning

Human
Services
Needs &
Gaps

Housing &
Community
Development
Programs



Advisory Board Role in Funding Process





Application Evaluation and Award Process

Eligibility review completed by staff

**Agency presentations to Housing & Community
Development Advisory Board (HCDAB)**

Applications scored by HCDAB & Staff

Applications ranked by score

**Funding recommendations proportionate
to score & performance**



FY 23/24 HUD Funding Allocations

CDBG
\$4,050,391

HOME
\$1,691,632

ESG
\$367,881



CDBG Public Services

Study Session
March 23, 2023
Attachment 1
Page 9 of 19

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
A New Leaf	La Mesita Family Shelter	\$73,350
A New Leaf	Housing Support Services	\$51,664
Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS)	Senior Advocate for the Haven Senior Shelter	\$47,149
Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS)	Case Management for Homeless Mesa Individuals	\$73,913
Community Bridges, Inc.	Mesa Homeless Navigation Services	\$48,118
Community Bridges, Inc.	Mesa Mobile Community Outreach & Crisis Stabilization	\$19,716
Copa Health Inc.	Homeless Day Center & Community Court Navigation	\$198,258
Family Promise - Greater Phoenix	Mesa Family Shelter Program	\$60,041
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program (I-HELP)	\$57,246
	Total	\$629,454



CDBG Non-Public Services

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS)	CASS Senior Haven Community Center & Pet Run	\$571,291
City of Mesa	Major Rehabilitation Program	\$1,500,000
City of Mesa	Emergency Rehabilitation Program	\$1,000,000
City of Mesa - Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities Department	Whitman Park Playground Rehabilitation	\$1,000,000
City of Mesa - Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities Department	Aripine Park Playground Installation	\$350,000
	Total	\$4,421,291



HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
A New Leaf	La Mesita Phase IV Construction Project	\$1,000,000
City of Mesa	Utility and Rent Deposit Program	\$300,000
Community Bridges, Inc.	MESA TBRA Housing	\$316,000
Save the Family Foundation of Arizona	STF - TBRA	\$724,286
	Total	\$2,340,286

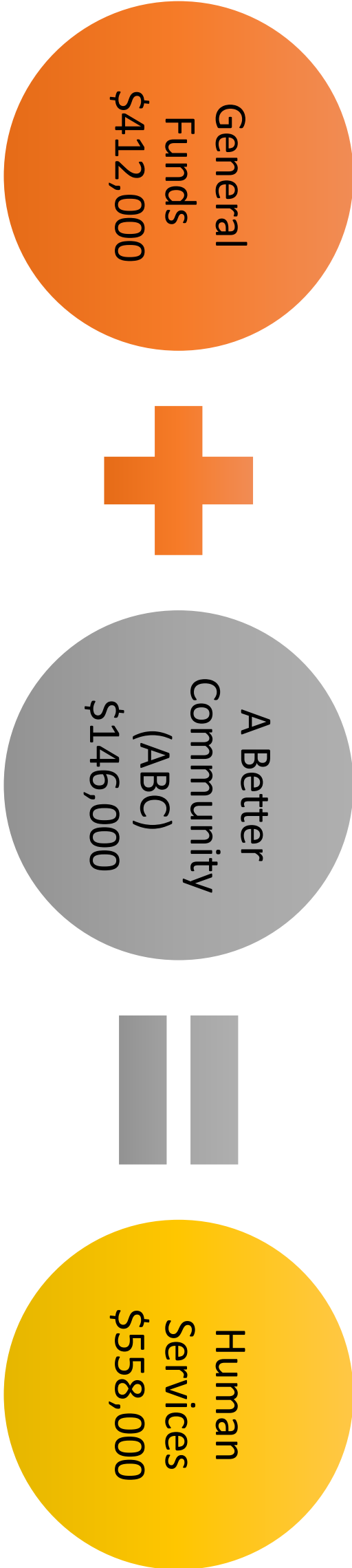


Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
A New Leaf	East Valley's Men's Center	\$120,728.10
Child Crisis Arizona	Counseling Services for Homeless Foster Children & Youth in Mesa	\$100,000.00
Save the Family Foundation of Arizona	Rapid Rehousing	\$119,562.83
	Total	\$340,289.93

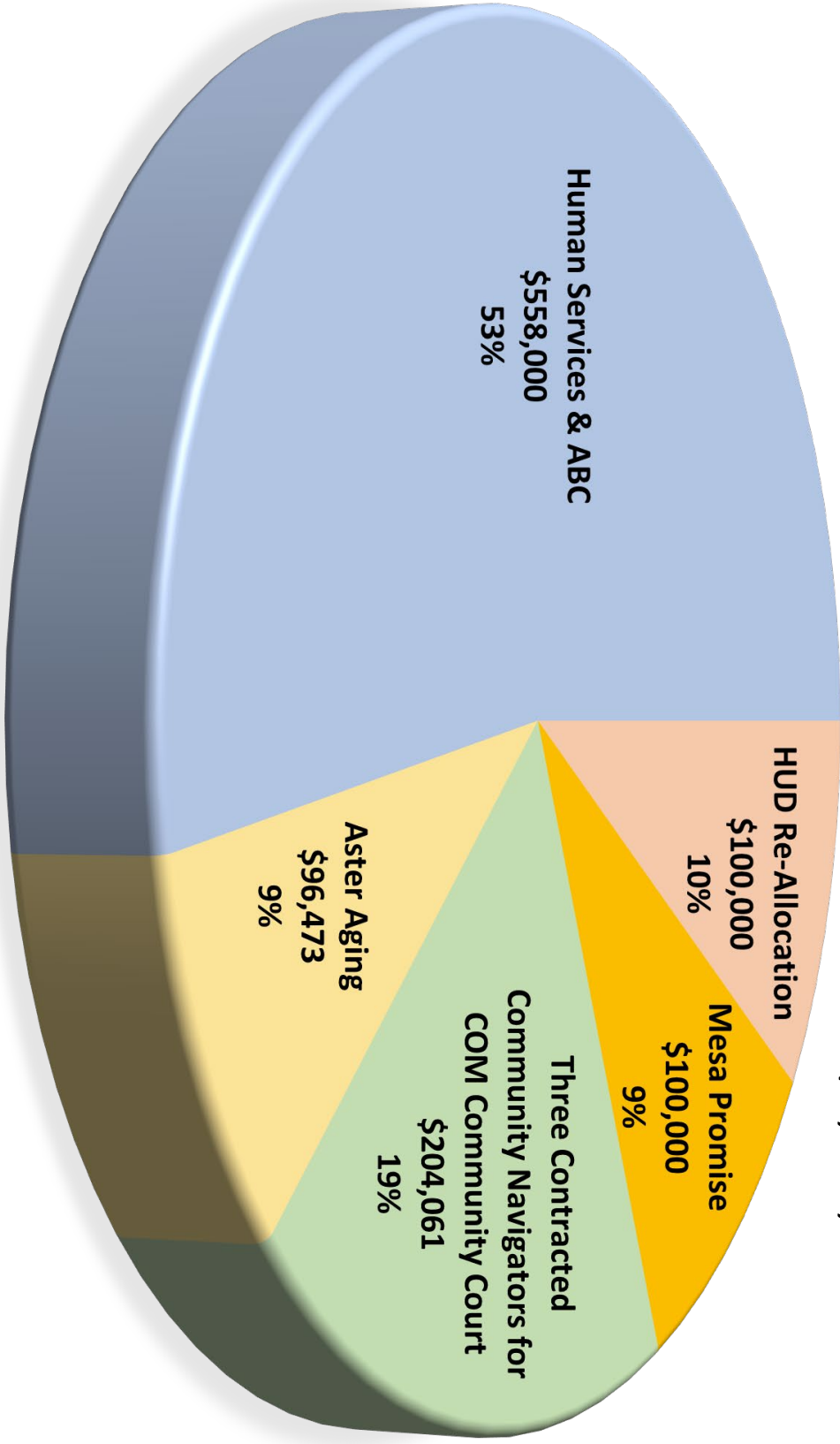


Human Services Funding For Programs



Total Human Services Contributions

\$ 558,000	Available to award
<u>\$ 500,534</u>	Committed funding
\$1,058,534	Total





Human Services/ABC Program

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
Arizona Brainfood	Weekend Food Bags	\$22,750
Aster Aging, Inc.	Meals on Wheels	\$37,237
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley, Inc.	Academic Success for Mesa Youth	\$22,750
Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc.	My Sister's Place & Pathways: Victims of Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence	\$20,000
Copa Health Inc.	Community Resources Employment Specialist Support	\$32,418
Homeless Youth Connection, Inc.	Empowering Youth for the Future (EYFTF)	\$20,000
House of Refuge, Inc.	Transitional Housing for Homeless Families	\$85,000
Maggie's Place, Inc.	Shelter Services at the Hannah House	\$45,000

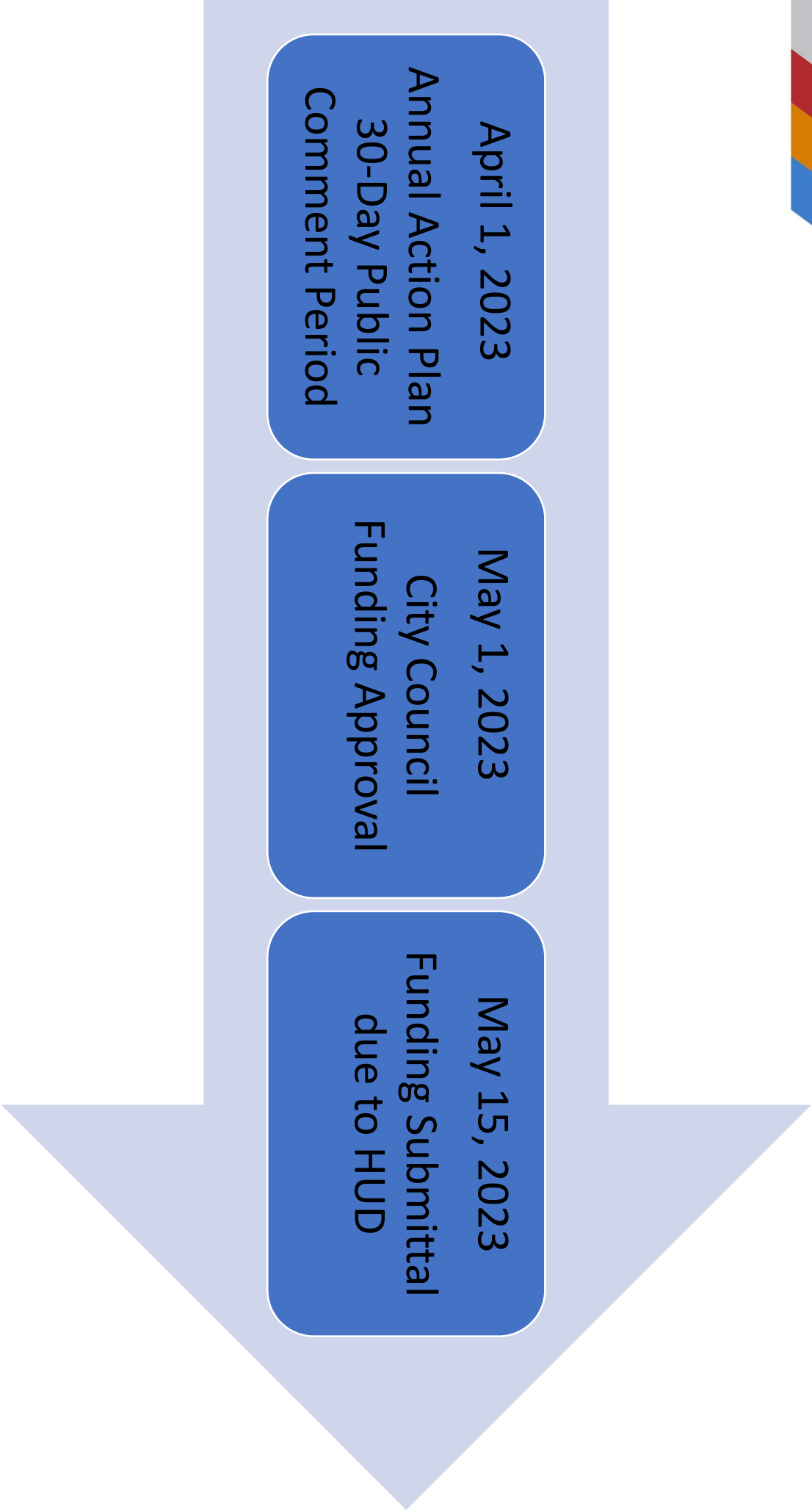


Human Services/ABC Program

Agency	Project Name	Recommended Award
Mesa Community Action Network	MesaCAN's Client Services	\$46,337
Mesa United Way	VITA Program	\$20,000
Midwest Food Bank - Arizona Division	Food Pantry Supplemental Food Support	\$25,000
Oakwood Creative Care, Inc.	Respite & Nursing Care for Low-Income Mesa Seniors	\$45,000
Paz de Cristo Community Center	Homelessness Relief Services	\$49,008
Save the Family Foundation of Arizona	Family Adult's & Children Empowerment Services	\$27,500
Teen Lifeline	Crisis Services	\$60,000
	Total	\$558,000



Next Steps



Questions

FY 2023/2024

Annual Funding Recommendations



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