FY2026/27 Public Service Grant Application Cycle

Safety Net Service Applicants

Agenda

- Funding & Goals

- Safety Net Services Eligibility Requirements

- Application Process Overview

- Grant Management & Reporting

Funding & Goals

Projected Funding Available

- First new application cycle since FY23, ***expect this process to be competitive***

- Funding will not be known/finalized until FY26 budget is approved by City Council (November)

- Projecting funding at the same level as FY25 for CM and SN $1,036,783

Purpose of Funding

- To provide services residents need that the City is not able to address through City run programs/staff

- Target populations identified by:
    - GA/EA, Human Services Specialist, Ombudsman, CARES team, Youth & Young Adult, Victim Advocates

- Services for low & moderate income residents that provide more equitable outcomes for historically underserved populations

Funding Goals

City Council [Goals](#)

- Goals are under discussion

- Multiple goals similar to past term goals
  - Ensure equity in public health initiatives and expand community health partnerships
  - Housing Affordability & Security

Social Services Committee Priorities

Initial Funding Priorities:
1. Basic Needs
2. Poverty Reduction Strategies

Service Requirements:
- Measurable/Quantifiable
- Evanston vs Total Population
- Sustained/Increased Capacity

Other Considerations

- Services to Target Populations
  - Programs that serve >50% residents
  - Culturally humble

- Safety Net Service Impacts
  - Measurable services that address needs
  - Outreach to target populations
  - Application of City funds

Other Considerations

- Additional Classifications (no value assigned):
    - Crisis Prevention/Interruption
    - Long-Range Poverty Prevention
    - Enrichment/Engagement

Application

Application Questions

- New format, new structure

- Changes attempt to gather applicable data

- Additional questions included to capture *quantitative impact* of prior year services
  - Number of people served/number of residents served
  - Measure of tangible services

Budget Info.

Program Budget vs Agency Budget
- Based on Chart of Accounts

Duplication of Services vs. Burden of documents submitted

Clearly identify application of grant funds
- Staff costs/program costs
- Operating support

Tips for a successful application!

- More narrative is <u>not</u> better. Be direct and ***include data points*** to support outcomes

- Review Evaluation Sheet - application mirrors evaluation sheet

- Review reporting requirements - consider ability to track & report required data

- If you have applied before, don't assume it is the same - review questions/evaluation sheets

Application Review Meetings

Key Meeting Dates

August 14: Application Overview (not mandatory)

September 11 & October 9: Hearing meetings for applicants

November 13: Discussion of application review criteria/budget info. if available

December 11: Allocation Recommendation meeting

January (TBD): City Council review of allocation recommendations

Hearing meeting suggestions

Share information specific to program only

Don't talk about all services, just funded/program services

Opportunity for SSC to ask questions

Staff summaries of program/application - your chance to correct info.

Evaluation Sheets

Evaluation Sheets

Safety Net Services Evaluation Sheets under **Application Review**

Scoring

- Goal: highlight spread between applications

- No point value assigned to Safety Net categories yet (potential prioritization)

- Full (10 points), Half (5 points), No points

  - Safety Net total - 160

Full - Criteria/Requirement fully met, well tracked & documented
Half - Criteria/Requirement partially met and/or partially documented
No - Criteria/Requirement referenced, but not documented/quantifiable

Administrative Review

- 12 Indicators - no point value assigned: Meet/Does Not Meet

- Review of programmatic and financial information submitted

- Used to disqualify/flag applicants

Grant Management

Reporting

[Safety Net Services Report Form](#) under **Reporting and Source Documentation Requirements**

Participant Information
- Demographics
- Services

Support Documentation

Grant Management

Agreements (sent in Q1)
- Finalized program budget
- Outcomes

Reporting/Grant Disbursement
- Semi Annual Reporting
- Quarterly Disbursements

Disbursements can be held or cancelled based on incomplete reporting

Thank you!