



SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 9, 2021

Remotely at 7:00 pm

AGENDA

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/7(2), SSC members and City staff will be participating in this meeting remotely.

It has been determined that in-person meeting of the City's Boards, Commissions and Committees are not practical or prudent due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Accordingly, the Social Services Committee may be convened, and members may attend by means other than physical presence consistent with 5 ILCS 120/7. Residents will not be able to provide public comment in-person at the meeting. Those wishing to make public comments at the Social Services Committee may submit written comments in advance or sign up to provide public comment by phone or video during the meeting by completing the Social Services Committee online comment form available by clicking [here](#) or visiting the [Social Services Committee](#) webpage: and clicking on Public Comment Form.

Community members may watch the SSC meeting online through the Zoom platform:

Please click this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82464629278?pwd=OWNwR3NXUjBrb2gvTTRVQ3RINjkwUT09>

Passcode: 543947

Or join by phone:

Dial US: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 824 6462 9278 Passcode: 543947

I. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

IV. 2021 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

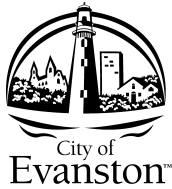
V. APPROVAL OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

VI. STAFF REPORTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Social Services Committee is scheduled for October 14, 2021 at 7PM.

Order of agenda items is subject to change



Memorandum

To: Social Services Committee

From: Johanna Leonard, Director of Community Development
Sarah Flax, Housing & Grants Manager
Jessica Wingader, Sr. Grants & Compliance Specialist

Subject: 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant Recommendation

Date: September 9, 2021

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends approval by the Social Services Committee of 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) allocations totaling \$156,606: \$144,861 to two social services agencies (Connections for the Homeless and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore) that provide housing and services for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and \$11,745 to the City of Evanston for grant administration. The recommendation by the Social Services Committee will go to the P&D at its September 20, 2021 meeting and to City Council on the same date.

Funding Source:

Funding source is the City's 2021 Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement allocation in the amount of \$156,606 from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development; account 100.21.2128.XXXXX with individual account numbers for external agencies funded and City administrative costs.

Summary:

ESG funding will be used for the following eligible activities: essential services/street outreach, operating expenses of homeless shelters, rapid re-housing for homeless households, homeless prevention for households at high risk of homelessness, and program administration as outlined in the 2021 Action Plan, which was approved by City Council on April 12, 2021. This recommendation allocates specific dollar amounts to subrecipients for all direct services.

The City of Evanston's 2021 ESG grant is \$156,606; the 2021 recommendation maintains 10% of funding for Street Outreach and 32.5% of funding for Emergency Shelter operations as allowed under ESG regulations. In keeping with HUD's goal of prioritizing Rapid Re-Housing to implement the Housing First strategy of the Federal

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 that reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 35% of funding is allocated to that activity and 15% is allocated to Homeless Prevention. The table below shows the 2020 ESG allocation of funds to eligible activities and the recommendation for 2021. Funding may be shifted between Prevention and Rapid Re-housing during program implementation to assist households that are eligible for each activity, if needed. With the lifting of the eviction moratorium, staff recommends the increase to Prevention funding and the slight reduction to Rapid Re-housing as allowable under federal regulations.

Eligible Activities	2020 Allocation		2021 Recommendation	
Street Outreach	\$ 15,846	10.0%	\$ 15,661	10.0%
Emergency Shelter	\$ 51,500	32.5%	\$ 50,897	32.5%
Homeless Prevention	\$ 15,846	10.0%	\$ 23,491	15.0%
Rapid Re-housing	\$ 63,385	40.0%	\$ 54,812	35.0%
Administration	\$ 11,885	7.5%	\$ 11,745	7.5%
Totals:	\$ 158,463	100.0%	\$ 156,606	100.0%

Staff recommends funding Connections for the Homeless and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore through subrecipient agreements to provide direct services consistent with the 2020 ESG allocation. Both agencies are members of the Suburban Cook County Continuum of Care, have the programmatic capacity to implement ESG activities and the administrative capacity to comply with federal regulations. The City will retain ESG Administration funds for program management and compliance.

Connections for the Homeless – \$15,661 for its Street Outreach program; \$35,897 for operating support of its Emergency Shelters; \$23,491 for Homeless Prevention rent and utility assistance and case management; and \$54,812 for Rapid Re-housing rental assistance; total funding of \$129,861.

Connection’s shelters provide housing for single adults and families who may be chronically homeless or have lost housing because of unemployment, eviction, foreclosure, etc. ESG funds are used for operating expenses including rent, repairs, maintenance, and supplies. Connections also provides services including case management and meals to shelter residents and to clients of its street outreach program. Case workers help clients find employment and receive benefits such as Supplemental Social Security and Social Security Disability Insurance. Medical services are provided through a weekly in-house clinic and clients are referred to Erie Family Health Center, mental health providers and support programs for health services, including mental health and substance abuse. ESG funds are used for case workers and other program staff salaries and benefits.

Connections for the Homeless also provides Re-housing and Prevention services. Funds are used for direct assistance in the form of rent and utilities payments, as well as case management, housing location and stabilization services.

YWCA Evanston-North Shore - \$15,000 for operating support of its shelter facility that provides safe housing for up to 90 days for adults and children who are victims of domestic violence. The YWCA provides case management, legal advocacy, crisis intervention, financial literacy and other services to help households develop independence and self-sufficiency. The YWCA provided housing, meals and supportive services to 426 women and children in its DV shelter in 2020 and anticipates serving an increased number of participants in 2021. ESG funds will be used for essential supplies such as food for people staying in the shelter, and other operating costs.

Evanston's 2021 ESG funds will be matched on a one-to-one basis with State of Illinois funding and private resources, including in-kind contributions, to meet the 100% match requirement for ESG.

Social Services Committee Schedule of meeting dates for 2021

Meetings will be held virtually unless specified otherwise;
dates and locations are subject to change

Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 7PM (in Council Chambers)

Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 7PM

Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 7PM

Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 7PM