City of
Evanston™

AGENDA
Social Services Committee
Thursday, May 9, 2024
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center Room 2402 7:00 PM

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.

To listen to the meeting, join the Zoom meeting below:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83961283626?pwd=STdURlNmaGxsY0RId3FhVmJNYVVPZz09

Or join by phone:
Dial: +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 839 6128 3626
Passcode: 741501

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1.	**CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**	

2.	**PUBLIC COMMENT**	

3.	**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**	

4.	**PRESENTATION: ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS IN SUBURBAN COOK**	

COUNTY, COORDINATED ENTRY

5. STAFF UPDATES

A. **Process to Request Agency/Program Information** 5 - 6

Accept and Place on File

N/A

For Action: Accept and Place on File

[Process to Request Agency/Program Information - Attachment - Pdf](#)

B. **REVISED CALENDAR** 7

[Revised 2024 SSC Meeting Topics](#)

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

7. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING MINUTES

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Social Services Committee

Members Present: S. Olds Frey, A. Ngola, K. Hayes, R. Philips, Councilmember Burns

Members Absent: Councilmember Reid, K. Rolling, S. Lackey

Staff Present: M. Johnson, J. Wingader (remote)

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Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chair Olds Frey called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2024

Councilmember Burns moved approval of the meeting minutes for February 8, 2024, seconded by Ms. Hayes; a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment

No public comment.

FY 2025/26 Funding Discussion

Based on prior committee discussions, Staff provided an overview of federally and locally funded housing support and workforce development programs; there were questions about eligibility requirements and rent thresholds. Staff also provided information about needs assessments from local hospitals and a review of SSC's stated purpose and ordinance. Members reviewed input provided at the last meeting; Staff concluded by recommending an extension of the current grant cycle. Ms. Hayes asked about potential impacts to the wraparound services implementation and the report cycle for currently-funded programs; staff confirmed that discussions of ways to implement a wraparound model were happening between stakeholders and that there were no updates at this time. Staff also confirmed that the current report structure would be extended which would give SSC time to review report requirements. Ms. Olds-Frey confirmed that wraparound was the coordination of services, not provision of services; she pointed out that coordination and capacity are critical. Staff also pointed out that several initiatives could provide more information about community needs later in the year, and results could potentially inform future funding decisions.

Ms. Phillips noted the importance of workforce development initiatives and the importance of specific, defined outcome measures; members talked about ways to identify specific outcomes. There was discussion about the need for shelter services; members expressed interest in understanding services that support unhoused residents. Staff noted that using funds to "reserve" shelter beds was not an option under the Coordinated Entry model that most service providers are required to adhere to. There was discussion about the coordinated entry process; members expressed interest in a more comprehensive understanding of that process.

There was discussion about additional community needs and ways of allocating funds. Ms. Ngola talked about establishing key priorities and suggested further discussion at another meeting. Councilmember Burns reiterated the importance of defining clear evaluation criteria. There was discussion about the renewal process versus opening a new application process and the timelines involved. Staff confirmed that it was important to establish priorities and to establish clear program measurements. There was general Committee support for a renewal year for FY2025 and for the Committee to focus on reviewing program evaluations to prepare for an application cycle for FY2026. Councilmember Burns discussed the importance of evaluating both program impact and alignment with City goals; he noted that this would give the Committee the structure and ability to pivot funding to support programs that have documented outcomes and align with goals.

Public Comment
No public comment.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wingader
Senior Grants and Compliance Specialist

A.

Memorandum

To: Members of the Social Services Committee

From: Jessica Wingader, Social Services Grants & Compliance Specialist

Subject: Process to Request Agency/Program Information

Date: May 9, 2024

Recommended Action:
Accept and Place on File

Funding Source:
N/A

CARP:
Vulnerable Populations

Committee Action:
For Action: Accept and Place on File

Summary:
The Social Services Committee's primary role is to make funding recommendations for needed public services that help people thrive in the community. Programs and services recommended for funding should be accessible and responsive to community needs and available to Evanston residents, especially those who are low or moderate-income. City-funded programs and services should also address the needs of underserved populations, particularly those negatively impacted by marginalization and historically racist practices, and serve BIPOC residents with competency and skill.

SSC is responsible for recommending funding for services and programs that address a broad range of needs. Members are appointed for their knowledge, familiarity, and/or experience with nonprofit management, health, employment, childcare, education, legal, and other needed services. In partnership with City staff, members review program outcomes and agency services as part of their funding recommendation capacity. There are tools made available by staff that capture outcomes and critical program information, but it is the purview of SSC members to fully understand service delivery models, outcomes, and agency practices.

To accurately document requests for additional information and responses, to make this information available to the public (thereby improving transparency), and to streamline the process of requesting, gathering, and reporting information not captured in ZoomGrants reports and/or staff-generated Operation Performance Review sheets, staff proposes the following processes:

- Questions can be submitted in writing to staff; once information has been collected and analyzed by staff, a response summary may be provided at the next public meeting for the benefit of the entire committee

- Questions can be raised during public meetings. If the question does not align with a stated agenda item, or, if the response requires a lengthy or more-researched response, and with the approval of the chair, staff will either provide additional information at the following meeting or arrange for an industry expert to present a response and address any additional concerns.

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Memorandum

City of Evanston
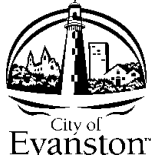
<u>Summary:</u>
The Social Services Committee meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month (except where noted) in person at the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue in Lighthouse Conference Room 2402 located on the 2nd floor.

The DRAFT 2024 meeting dates and revised topics are as follows:

May 9	Alliance Presentation/Process to Request Information
June 13	BCC Orientation & Information
July 11	Review of Mental Health Provider Program
Aug. 8	No Meeting
Sept. 12	Reporting Outcomes (CM+ SN) & Retrospective on Reporting
Oct. 10	Needs Assessment Report & New Application Reporting/Priorities
Nov. 14	Renewal Allocation Process Discussion
Dec. 12	Case Management and Safety Net Services Allocation Decision