

MINUTES
Human Services Advisory Council
City of Falls Church

PURPOSE OF MEETING: To advise City Council on human services delivery to Falls Church citizens.

DATE OF MEETING: **February 18, 2021**

PLACE OF MEETING: Virtual

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Nicole Newman: at 6:31 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT:

<i>HSAC Members:</i>		<i>Staff:</i>	
Craig Cheney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nancy Vincent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alisa Macht	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ripal Patel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nicole Newman (chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>City Council Liaison</i>	
Anne Norloff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marybeth Connelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Debra Z. Roth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Student Members</i>	
		Joseph Dakin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Eva Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		David Ziayee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Kahn

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes from January 21, 2021 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Community Services Fund grant recommendations** – Members made final recommendations of funding amounts to applicants of the Community Services Fund. Recommendations passed unanimously. Recommendations will be made to City Council to be approved as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 budget and will include a request for increased funding to the Community Services Fund. See attachment.
- **Social equity in Falls Church** – Members discussed social and racial equity and recommended a community training or series of trainings. Specifics will be discussed at the March meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Rent Relief program revisions** – A working group will review and make recommendations for code changes to possibly expand the eligibility for the Rent Relief program for low income seniors and people with disabilities. The working group will begin meeting the end of April, 2021.

STAFF REPORT:

- Residents severely impacted by COVID-19 continue to be helped with rent, utility, and food assistance.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

SIGNATURE OF RECORDER: Nancy Vincent

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in an alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5005 (TTY 711).

Attachment

Fiscal Year 2022 Community Services Fund (CSF) Human Services Advisory Council Grant Recommendations

Thirteen applications were received for FY2022 funding. One applicant was new and twelve were returning applicants. The Human Services Advisory Council reviewed each application and considered the following factors:

- Program Overview – meets critical City needs, avoids redundancy/duplication of existing services, documentation, and applicant’s ability to serve City of Falls Church residents.
- Action Plan – clear outcomes, activities appropriate to outcomes, numbers served, community involvement.
- Impact and Barriers – measureable outcomes, barriers identified and addressed.
- Budget – other funding sources, solvency, administrative and program costs, and overall transparency of funding.

**Community Services Fund Fiscal Year 2022
Grant Recommendations**

	Activity	FY2021 Award	FY2022 Request	FY22 HSAC Grant Recommendation
American Legion Post 130	Send children to Boys/Girls State Program	2,500	3,000	2,000
Arc of Northern Virginia	Transition Points Program – Present workshops & distribute guides for families	4,000	5,000	4,000
Best Buddies	Promotes socialization and inclusion for youth with intellectual and development disabilities at Mount Daniel Elementary School, George Mason High School, and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School.	4,000	5,355	3,000
Community Residences, Inc.	Group home for adults with developmental disabilities	8,777	10,000	7,000
Easterseals Servicing DC MD VA	Child Development Center		9,925	3,464
Falls Church Community Service Council	Emergency rental assistance. Utilities, medical, food, and furniture assistance	17,000	19,000	16,000
Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter, Inc.	Homeless Shelter	18,000	22,000	17,000
Homestretch	Rental assistance for transitional housing program	10,000	16,000	6,713
Images for Good	Repair and replacement of equipment for photography mentorship program for students	1,000	600	0
Legal Services of Northern Virginia	Legal representation for low-income residents	10,000	12,620	12,600
Metropolitan Washington EAR	Audio services for visually impaired	1,000	1,000	1,000
Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, Inc.	Oral health care to low-income and uninsured adults	4,500	7,500	4,500
Unity Club	Salary for club manager for 12-step recovery fellowship program	5,000	10,400	9,000
Total			122,400	86,277
Unable to fund				36,123

COMMUNITY SERVICES FUND

FY 2022 PROPOSAL SUMMARIES

The City of Falls Church received thirteen grant proposals, summarized below, for the FY 2022 Community Services Fund Grant

Total request: \$122,400

American Legion Post #130 – Amount Requested: \$3,000

The grant money will be used for tuition for the students of the Boys/Girls State program. The Boys/Girls state programs are model state government programs, which are held during the summer. Participants are taught how government works while developing leadership skills and an appreciation for rights as a citizen.

Arc of Northern Virginia – Amount Requested: \$5,000

Funding will be used for salaries, webinars, and operating expenses to support the “Transition Points” program. They will provide workshops, webinars and distribute resource guides to participating families, as well as via partner agencies and organizations from Falls Church. The program helps connect families with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) members to resources and supports, financial literacy, financial/estate planning, government benefits, guardianship, and more that address the needs people with ID/DD experience during each stage of life.

Best Buddies – Amount Requested: \$5,355

Funding will strengthen and maintain a Best Buddies chapter at Mount Daniel Elementary School, George Mason High School, and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School. The grant funds will enhance educational, social and recreational opportunities for youth with intellectual and development disabilities (IDD) by providing quality programming that promotes socialization and inclusion at the high school. The local program bridges the gap between communities and the segregated regimented activities people with IDD are often unnecessarily limited to. The interaction not only improves the quality of life for youth with IDD during their time in school, but the interactions prepare them for higher education opportunities and employment through the development of essential social skills.

Community Residences, Inc. DBA CRi – Amount Requested \$10,000

CRi is requesting funding for general administrative expenses related to operating Miller House that are not otherwise reimbursed through state and local funding streams. Miller House provides housing and supportive services to adults with developmental disabilities.

Easterseals Servicing DC MD VA – Amount Requested \$9,925

Easterseals is requesting funding to upgrade communication system/internet access in 13 classrooms, replace structural barriers in their playground to make it safe for children, and increase the amount of PPE equipment. Child Development Center in Falls Church provides high-quality inclusive early childhood education, full-day childcare for children with and without disabilities, including low or no-cost childcare for children of wounded warriors.

Falls Church Community Service Council - Amount Requested: \$19,000

Grant funds will be used provide emergency financial assistance for rent/utility/medical assistance to those in need. In addition, funds will be used to support furniture and emergency food programs, and part-time staff support. The food program provides food for the preparation of meals for one week and the furniture program offers donated and purchased basic furniture to families in need.

Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter - Amount Requested: \$22,000

The grant would finance part of the operational cost of the hypothermia shelter, which will partially cover the cost of the Program Coordinator and Resident Services Specialist. The 12 bed shelter is open November 15th through March 31st.

Homestretch – Amount Requested \$16,000

Grant funds will provide four homeless households with rental assistance for a transitional housing program. Transitional housing includes support services such as case management, job counseling, skills training, credit and budget counseling, and child enrichment along with domestic violence and substance counseling and ESOL instruction as needed. The goal is to help families achieve self-sufficiency, family stability, and permanent affordable housing.

Images for Good – Amount Requested \$600

Grant funds will provide repair or replacement of equipment for student or nonprofit use. The organization's mission is to connect students with life and photography mentors through the mentorship program and to cultivate and inspire each of them to become better community service leaders and storytellers. The program hopes to address some of the community needs such as: (1) raising awareness of important issues and better engaging others to provide support to address community-wide or program-specific needs, (2) need for students to be engaged, equipped, and empowered to help others in ways that both unlock their unique potential and better prepare them for the future, (3) need for Falls Church City schools and government to promote their impact, engage others, and inspire more involvement.

Legal Services of Northern Virginia - Amount Requested: \$12,620

Grant funds would help provide legal aid for low income residents in the City. LSNV provides both direct legal services and broader advocacy that enables residents to address crises involving basic needs such as consumer rights, housing issues, public benefits, family protective orders, domestic violence and further acts of abuse.

Metropolitan Washington Ear – Amount Requested: \$1,000

Grant funds would support general operating expenses. Their goal is to serve residents who are blind, visually impaired, or who have a physical handicap, which prevents them from reading ordinary print. The Radio Reading and telephone Dial-In Newspaper and Information services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They also provide a look-up service in the evenings seven days a week and Audio Description of designated performances in many live theaters in the metropolitan Washington area. This service substitutes hearing for seeing.

Northern Virginia Dental Clinic, Inc. (NVDC) – Amount Requested \$7,500

The grant would partially cover the cost of dental supplies and dentist. Its primary goal/objective is to provide comprehensive oral health care services to low-income and uninsured residents and restore each individual referred to the program to an infection free and functional state of oral health.

The Unity Club- Amount Requested \$10,400

The grant will be used to pay staff salaries. In 2019, The Unity Club made a conscious effort to reach out to more heroin, opioid, and narcotic anonymous groups and to target the younger

generation that has been so affected by this epidemic. The Unity Club is the only 12-Step clubhouse in the Falls Church area and has provided this critical service since 1987. They also provide facilities for recovery groups in the area.