



**Greg Landsman**  
Councilmember

202000292

February 12, 2020

## **AN UPDATED APPROACH TO HUMAN-SERVICES FUNDING**

The United Way of Greater Cincinnati has generously managed most of our human services funds but has informed the Administration that they no longer wish to do so after some have suggested we go in a different direction. As a result, the Administration proposed several options for Council consideration. In response, and with a commitment to results-based governance, I am proposing the following process.

This process will ensure that taxpayers are getting the greatest impact and that those who receive these services get the best results possible. It also ensures a seamless transition with the United Way and would not undermine existing Human Services Funding.

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### **STEP ONE: SEAMLESS TRANSITION (ADMINISTRATION)**

We ask the Administration to work with the United Way on a seamless transition. If the Administration needs to extend the United Way contract to ensure there are no interruptions to services that they do so, so long as the United Way is willing and able. The Administration and United Way would determine the length of that extension for Council approval.

### **STEP TWO: REQUEST FOR RESULTS (ADMINISTRATION)**

The process would begin with the Administration asking the community for input on which results are most important to them and their neighborhood (e.g. increasing employment rates, increasing access to quality housing, reducing gun violence). This would begin the shift from human service categories and programs to the results that we collectively want to achieve.

### **STEP THREE: PRIORITY RESULTS SELECTED (COUNCIL)**

Through a motion or ordinance, Council would vote on priority results that would allow the Administration to manage a non-political process to select partners that are in the best position, given their proposals, to help the City achieve these results. The Administration would need additional capacity to manage this process, which Council would need to approve as part of the 2020 budget.



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Council would provide direction on funding amounts per result, as well as additional parameters we would want the Administration to consider in selecting partners, such as ensuring diversity in providers (and their boards) as well as those partners closest to the individuals we serve (who often get left out despite having the most impact).

#### **STEP FOUR: COMPETITIVE, RESULTS-BASED PARTNERS SELECTED (ADMINISTRATION)**

As stated above, the Administration would manage a competitive, non-political, and results-based process to select partners that are in the best position to achieve the priority results that Council selected, with input from the community.

#### **STEP FIVE: RESULTS-BASED CONTRACTS (ADMINISTRATION)**

In accordance with the Performance-Based Contracts ordinance that was passed in 2018, the Administration would enter into performance or results-based contracts with each partner selected.

The Administration should leverage the Human Services Advisory Committee (HSAC) throughout the process.

We believe the only two (2) additional staff would be needed, which would cost no more than \$200,000. Any administrative costs above that which is paid to the United Way would be secured outside of the current funding so as to not undermine services at all.

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**WE MOVE** that the Administration provide a report on how best to implement this process, and offer a plan for Council's approval.

# City of Cincinnati



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