



Meeka D. Owens
Cincinnati City Council

September 26, 2022

MOTION
Human Services Funding

WE MOVE that the City of Cincinnati amend Ord. 197-2020 and adopt an updated human services strategies and priorities plan (“Plan”) for allocations from the Human Services Fund (“HSF”). The Plan should:

1. Include a large-scale Impact Award to assist an innovative project to create real, lasting impact in the community.
2. Establish data-driven, evidence-based metrics for monitoring the success of organizations that receive allocations.
3. Structure the Request-for-Proposal process in such a way to increase the impact of the City’s funds.

WE FURTHER MOVE that between twenty-five percent (25%) and thirty-three percent (33%) of the Human Services Fund (“HSF”) be allocated for an Impact Award. The Impact Award should be granted for one large-scale social innovation project. **The project should seek to prioritize the following area in the first year:** Eviction Prevention and Housing Stabilization. The exact percent allocated should be determined by the Administration based on the needs of the selected project. Any remaining funds should be allocated to Supporting, Securing, and Stabilizing Housing for High-Risk Populations.

The Impact Award should seek to address a local market failure impacting the quality of life of city residents. The City Administration should ensure tracking, identifying insights, analyzing, and evaluating data of the programs and policies that receive the Impact Award to spend taxpayer dollars more effectively.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the remaining HSF dollars be allocated based on the following priorities, as defined in Attachment A:

1. Overhead at two percent (2%)
2. Youth Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction at twenty percent (20%)
3. Comprehensive Workforce Development at twenty-five percent (25%)
4. Supporting, Securing, and Stabilizing Housing for High-Risk Populations at ten percent (10%)
5. Project LIFT at ten percent (10%)

The Human Service Fund is intended to provide funding to organizations that deliver human services to the local community in alignment with City Council's established human services priorities (as outlined above) and to be allocated through a competitive proposal process. To ensure that the residents of Cincinnati receive the best services for their tax dollars, the HSF process should also thoroughly evaluate program outcomes.

Every Cincinnati should be able to afford to live in their City and feel safe in their City. The Human Services Fund should prioritize projects that will achieve this goal and provide long-term, sustainable outcomes in the City of Cincinnati.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Ordinance to fund HSF with these priorities should be submitted to Council no later than sixty days after the passage of this Motion.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Request-for-Proposal (“RFP”) process for all HSF priorities, including the Impact Award, should be funded on a multi-year cycle. All contracts should be aligned with the City’s performance-based contract policy as set in Ord. 309-2018 (Attachment B). In addition, the RFP process should encourage innovation and maximize the impact of City funds.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Administration focus on a robust evaluation process to determine whether recipient organizations are meeting their intended outcomes.

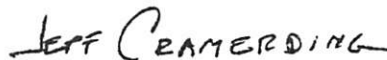
WE FURTHER MOVE that to ease the transition to the new priorities, the City should offer adequate notice of the change and a transition period for current recipient organizations.



Councilmember Meeka D. Owens



Councilmember Liz Keating



Councilmember Jeff Cramerding

STATEMENT

It is important for the City to meet emergent needs of its communities and to recognize new issues that pose a public crisis. Council and the City must continue to fund human services at 1.5% of the General Fund, as set forth in Ord. 0153-2017. The City must be proactive, rather than reactive, in its investment in people.

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