



Jeff Cramerding
Councilmember

October 10, 2022

MOTION

FY24-25 Human Services Funding

WE MOVE that the City of Cincinnati amend Ord. 207-2020 and adopt an updated human services strategies and priorities plan (“Plan”) for the expenditures/allocation 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 thirty 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 address the following priority / issue (to be set by motion to amend at the Climate, Environment and Infrastructure Committee during a regular meeting): _____.

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 (to be set by motion to amend at the Climate, Environment and Infrastructure Committee during a regular meeting):

1. Homelessness Reduction and Eviction Prevention at twenty percent (20%)
2. Violence Prevention at fifteen percent (15%)
3. Workforce Development at ten percent (10%)
4. Addiction Prevention and Treatment at ten percent (10%)
5. Project LIFT (10%)
6. Overhead at two percent (2%)

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 (attached for reference). 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.

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.

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.