



Human Services Commission

Department of Public Health and Human Services

**FY2019 Social Services Funding
Process and
Contract Recommendations**

Report to the Columbia City Council

December 17, 2018

Background

For over 50 years, the City of Columbia has recognized that in addition to physical infrastructure and public safety, it must also make an investment in our community's social infrastructure. To this end, the City has both provided and purchased social services to ensure that adequate levels of these services are available to low-income residents of the City.

The social services provided and purchased by the City address some of our community's most challenging issues, many of which are rooted in poverty and inequity.



Because the City does not have the capacity to provide all of the social services needed to address the causes and effect of poverty and inequality in our community, the Human Services Commission (HSC) and the Department of Public Health and Human Services are charged by the Columbia City Council to make annual recommendations for the purchase of social services, through professional services agreements with community-based providers, utilizing the City's social services funding.

The social services purchased by the City are a key component of our theory of change.

Vision: A thriving community of equal opportunity, free of disparities.

Mission: Address the causes and conditions of poverty in our community.

Goal: Every member of our community has...

- ❖ Their basic needs met.
- ❖ An equal opportunity to be self-sufficient and to thrive.

In addition, this investment in social services directly supports the City’s Strategic Plan which includes as strategic priorities and questions:

- **Economy:** Jobs that support families - How do we create more living wage jobs?
- **Social Equity:** Improving the odds for success - How can we strengthen our community so all individuals so all individuals thrive?

Social Services Funding Process

In order to target limited resources, the City’s social services funding is allocated to address five issue areas reflecting the funding priorities identified by the HSC and approved by the City Council. "Requests for Proposals" (RFPs) and the resulting purchase of service contracts are issued by these issue areas in a staggered, three year cycle:

Issue Area	Target Funding Parameter	Funding Cycle
Economic Opportunity	15-35%	2019 - 2021
Independent Living	5-25%	2019 - 2021
Behavioral Health	0-20%	2019 - 2021
Children, Youth and Families	15-35%	2018 - 2020
Basic Needs and Emergency Services	15-35%	2017 - 2019

These targeted RFPs, and the resulting recommendations, are informed by:

- Analysis and prioritization of the issues utilizing the [Boone Indicators Dashboard](#)
- Assessment of community resource gaps
- Alignment and coordination with other funding sources such as CDBG/HOME, Boone County, and the Heart of Missouri United Way

This information is then used to develop progressively more informed and targeted RFPs and recommendations in order to strategically apply City resources.

RFPs are issued annually in August. Proposals are submitted via a web-based grants management system, shared by the City, Boone County, and the Heart of Missouri United Way. This system allows for the automation of data collection, reporting, and analysis, resulting in easily accessible, real-time information to be utilized throughout the RFP process and contract period.

Proposals are reviewed by the commission and staff in September and October. During this period, the HSC also conducts site visits of all applicant organizations, in order to observe the proposed programming in the environment in which it will be delivered. The capacity of applicant organizations and proposals are evaluated by the commission using a [standardized rating instrument](#) (pdf). The performance of previously contracted providers and services, and their impact, is also considered.

The HSC and staff then hold a work session in October in order to discuss the proposals, followed by a second work session in November, in which contract recommendations are developed and then made public. These recommendations are then presented to the City Council in December.

For detailed information about the City’s social services funding process, please visit the [City of Columbia Social Services Funding web page](#).

FY2019 Social Services Contract Recommendations

On August 1, 2018, staff issued a RFP for social services to address issues related to economic opportunity, independent living, and behavioral health. Eight (8) responsive proposals were submitted requesting a total of \$357,891.15. Based on the review and rating of the proposals and the capacity of the applicant organizations, the HSC and staff are recommending the City establish eight (8) new purchase of service contracts with seven (7) organizations totaling \$357,894.00, as follows:

Economic Opportunity		
ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT
CHA Low-Income Services, Inc. (CHALIS)	Money Smart Financial Literacy Training	\$5,000.00
Job Point	Job Works Employment Services	\$95,000.00
		\$100,000.00

Independent Living		
ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT
CHA Low-Income Services, Inc. (CHALIS)	Independent Living Program	\$7,000.00
The Curators of the University of Missouri on behalf of its MU Adult Day Connection	MU Adult Day Connection	\$20,000.00
Independent Living Center of Mid-Missouri, Inc. (dba: Services for Independent Living)	Senior Connect	\$45,776.00
Meals On Wheels	Meals on Wheels: Home Delivered Meals	\$50,000.00
		\$122,776.00

Behavioral Health		
ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT
Compass Health, Inc.	Behavioral Health Care Programming	\$70,028.00
Phoenix Programs, Inc. (dba: Phoenix Health Programs)	Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment	\$65,090.00
		\$135,118.00

Conclusion

The Human Services Commission and staff are pleased to present these recommendations for the City Council's consideration. The commission and staff feel that these recommendations propose the best utilization of limited funds in addressing the most critical issues. While the City's investment in social services is not adequate to fully address the issues of economic opportunity, independent living, and behavioral health, it does substantially increase the availability of services in Columbia. Without funding from the City, many of these services would simply be unavailable to our community's most vulnerable residents.

The members of the HSC and staff would like to thank the City Council for its longstanding support of investing in the social infrastructure our community.