
2018 Assistance to Community Groups Cash Grants Program, Social Services

Recommendation

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council:

1. That the recommended grants for 2018, totaling \$1,254,526.19 under the Social Services Category, Assistance to Community Groups Cash Grant Program, be approved; and
2. That the Administration continue to execute the three-year funding agreements with the flagship organizations.

Topic and Purpose

The Social Services Subcommittee has completed the adjudication process for the 2018 Assistance to Community Groups Cash Grant, Social Services Category, and respectfully submits recommendations for approval.

Report Highlights

1. The Social Services Subcommittee (Subcommittee) recommends support totalling \$1,254,526.19, which represents funding to 45 agencies. The total support is made up of \$529,600.00 in cash and \$724,926.19 in tax credits.
2. It is recommended that the flagship agencies continue with the three-year funding cycle of 2016 to 2018, inclusive.
3. Participation in the Saskatoon Collaborative Funders Partnership (Collaborative Funders) allows the funders to collaboratively address the community's needs and encourages a more effective use of funds.

Strategic Goal

This report supports the City of Saskatoon's Strategic Goal of Quality of Life by supporting community building through direct investment.

Background

The Subcommittee is appointed by City Council through the recommendation of the Governance and Priorities Committee. It consists of: Brad Bird, Chairperson, United Way of Saskatoon and Area (United Way); Janet Simpson, Saskatoon Public Schools Board; Peter Wong, Ministry of Social Services; and Heather Trischuk, Member at Large. The Subcommittee reviews applications from not-for-profit social service organizations, pursuant to Assistance to Community Groups Policy No. C03-018, ensuring objectives of the policy are met.

The 2018 Assistance to Community Groups Cash Grant, Social Services Category (Social Services Grant Program), is administered as part of the Collaborative Funders. The Collaborative Funders is a collaboration between two Saskatoon organizations that

provide grants to community groups. The partners and the associated grants are as follows:

- a) City of Saskatoon – Social Services Grant Program; and
- b) United Way – Community Initiatives Fund.

The Collaborative Funders is organized so that partners use the same application form, but they each retain separate funding priorities, eligibility criteria, and review processes. The partners collaborate for the benefit of the community; however, they maintain autonomous decision-making processes and control of funds.

Report

The Subcommittee Recommends Support to 45 Saskatoon Agencies

The Subcommittee reviewed the requests for funds, following the guidelines set out by Policy No. C03-018 Assistance to Community Groups. Funding support is provided via cash and tax abatements.

The Subcommittee evaluated the proposals, giving priority to projects and programs that provide a direct service to enhance the quality of life for vulnerable residents of Saskatoon, as well as where the need was clearly demonstrated by the applicant. The Social Services Grant Program criteria was carefully applied in each case.

The Subcommittee reviewed 62 applications requesting a total of \$1,972,017.41 in funding.

The 2018 recommendations include support totalling \$1,254,526.19, which represents funding to 45 community agencies, including \$529,600.00 in cash and \$724,926.19 in tax credits (see Attachment 1).

Flagship Agencies Currently Engaged in Funding Agreements

In 2009, City Council approved criteria to identify flagship organizations that were eligible for multi-year funding agreements (see Attachment 2). The multi-year funding agreements reduce the administrative workload with applicant agencies and provide agencies with a stable funding source to assist them in strategically meeting the needs of vulnerable people in Saskatoon.

The Subcommittee recommends that funding for the flagship organizations be continued for the last year of the 2016 to 2018 three-year cycle. The funding for each organization is included in Attachment 1.

The Collaborative Funders Addresses Community Needs

The Subcommittee was pleased to participate in the Collaborative Funders, which allows the funders to address needs in the community in shared ways and encourages the effectual use of funds. Through the funding process, the Subcommittee successfully cross-referenced grants with other funders to ensure as many agencies as possible would receive assistance.

Options to the Recommendation

The Committee could choose to not accept the recommendations of the Subcommittee as presented. In this case, further direction would be required.

Public and/or Stakeholder Involvement

There was no public or stakeholder involvement. An annual application and adjudication process occurred, which was carried out by a subcommittee appointed by City Council.

Communication Plan

All applicants will be advised of the Subcommittee's recommendations as approved by Committee.

Financial Implications

This program is funded through the operating budget in the Community Support Business Line.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no policy, environmental, privacy, or CPTED implications or considerations.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

Final notification of funding decisions will be sent to all applicants by June 15, 2018.

Public Notice

Public notice, pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

Attachments

1. 2018-2019 Assistance to Community Groups – Cash Grant Social Program
2. City of Saskatoon Assistance to Community Groups Grant Program – Social Services Category - Flagship Category Multi-Year Agreements

Submitted by: Brad Bird, Chairperson
Social Services Subcommittee

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