

# Austin Public Health Social Services Solicitation Process

Health and Human Services Committee Meeting  
May 26, 2020  
10:00 AM



PRESENTED BY ADRIENNE STURRUP



# Previous Solicitation Processes

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## 2010 Process

Funding Available: \$13,205,639

Framework: **Self Sufficiency Goals**

- Safety net / infrastructure services
- Transition out of poverty
- Problem prevention
- Universal support services
- Enrichment

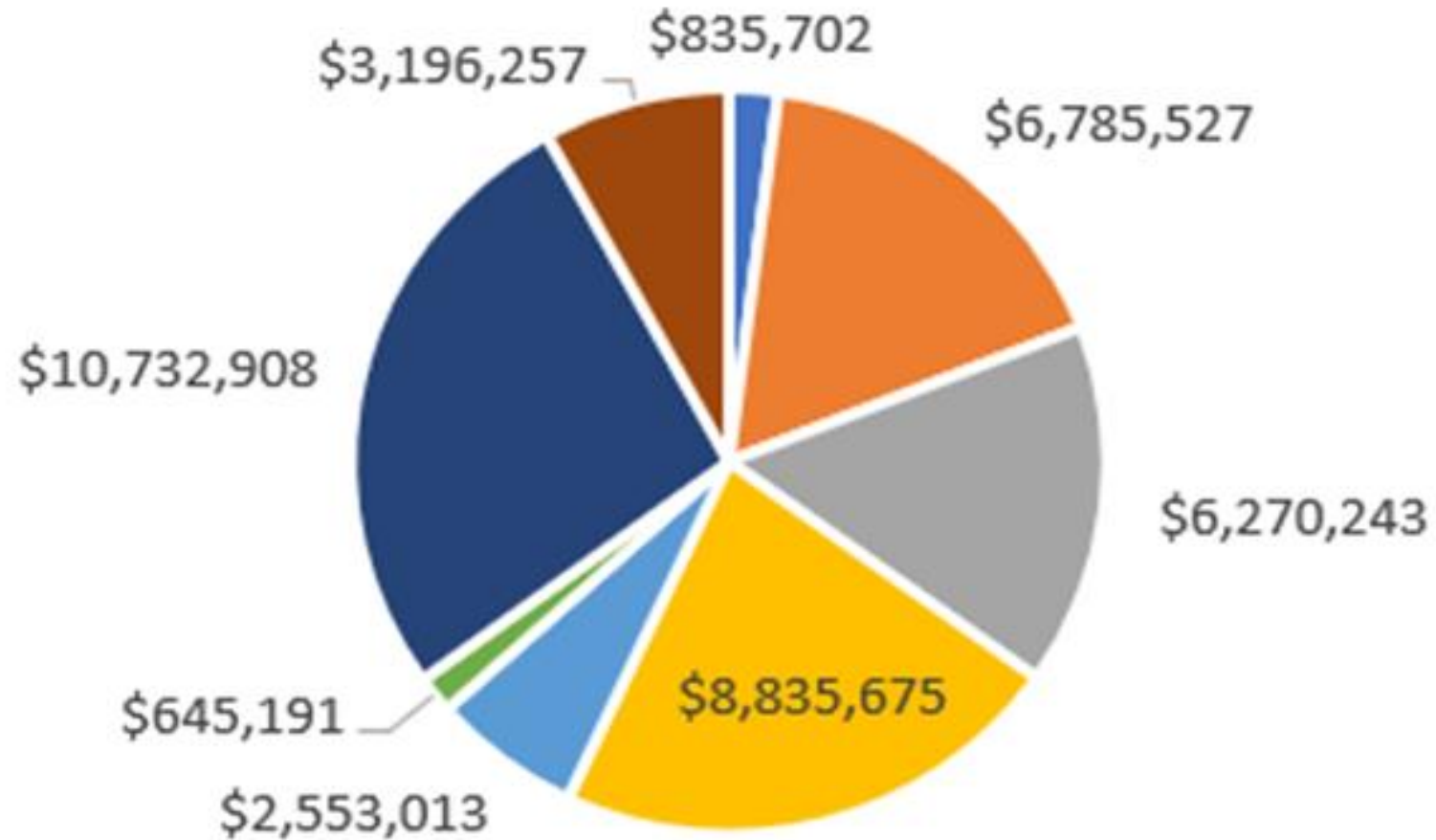
## 2013 Process

Funding Available: \$13,808,258

Framework: **Self Sufficiency Goals**  
and Life Continuum Categories:

- Early Childhood
- Youth
- Adults and Families
- Seniors and People with Disabilities

# FY20 Social Services General Fund by Budget Categories



- Admin
- Basic Needs^
- Behavioral Health
- Child and Youth
- Health Equity
- HIV
- Homeless
- Workforce

# Issue Area Solicitation Plan

| Issue Area            | Solicitation Released | Contracts Start | Amount to be Solicited | Set Aside Amount |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Youth                 | January 2021          | October 2021    | \$5,146,156            | \$571,795        |
| Behavioral Health     | September 2021        | October 2022    | \$2,154,111            | \$239,346        |
| Homeless              | September 2021        | October 2022    | \$9,659,617            | \$1,073,291      |
| Basic Needs           | January 2023          | October 2022    | \$6,113,975            | \$679,330        |
| Early Childhood       | January 2023          | October 2023    | \$2,275,791            | \$252,866        |
| Workforce Development | January 2023          | October 2023    | \$2,876,631            | \$319,626        |
| Health Equity         | January 2024          | October 2024    | \$2,302,212            | \$255,801        |

# Social Services City Budget Allocation Process

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## **APH FUNDING TRIGGERS**

- City Council allocates funding
- Direction from APH leadership
- Specific grant funding

## **APH COMPETITION TRIGGERS**

- Direction from Council, City Management or Department
- New funding for multiple providers
- No competition in issue area/ program for many years
- Priorities /strategies change

# Social Services Overview

## Prioritization of Funding

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- For every large solicitation process, funding was divided into the issue area pots of funding.
- Funding levels limited the number/size of programs funded by issue area.
- Each solicitation was developed with a framework for the investments that went beyond the issue areas.
- However, the City and APH do not have a prioritization process for Social Services funding.

# Alignment with SD2023 and Racial Equity

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## **SD23**

- APH aligns investments by SD23 issue area
- APH requires all applicants choose at least one outcome out of a list of outcomes that APH has pre-selected as appropriate for the issue area.
- Applicants must explain how the proposed program supports the outcome(s)

## **Racial Equity**

- APH requires that agencies explain how their program will promote racial equity and complete the abbreviated self-assessment here

# CHA/CHIP and CLAS Standards

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## CHA/ CHIP

- **Community Health Assessment (CHA)**
- **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)**
  - Describes health broadly
  - Clinical health
  - Health behaviors
  - Social, Economic, and Environmental factors
- Applicants must choose at least one CHA/CHIP strategy
- Applicants must explain how program supports outcomes

## CLAS STANDARDS

- **Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Standards**
  - Applies to health and health care
  - Advances health equity
  - Improves service delivery for diverse populations
- Applicants must choose from the list of 15 CLAS standards
- Applicants must provide procedures that demonstrate they are using the standards



# Community Engagement

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## **Best practices include for future consideration**

- Request for Applications including a community engagement process
- APH collaboration with the recommending Commission during evaluation

## **Community engagement process/outreach for:**

- High dollar solicitations
- Large number of contracts awarded

# Application of Funds Process: Threshold

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- Threshold requirements must be met before application submission can be authorized
- Thresholds depend on solicitation organization type/ size

## **Larger Organizations (>\$750K)**

- Required to submit audit
- Must demonstrate an unqualified audit

## **Quality of Life Recommended Solicitations**

- Focus on a location/ small sub-population
- Required to demonstrate experience working within directed community/ sub-population

# Current Evaluation Process

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Two part evaluation process:

## **Threshold**

- Reviewed by Contract Compliance staff
- Follow-up to applicants if information/documents missing
- Only those passing evaluation process are able to submit an application

## **Application**

- Objective evaluation criteria determined with the application questions
- Panel of 3-5 evaluator review every application
- Applications independently scored based strengths and weaknesses
- Evaluation consensus meeting held to determine scores and recommendation

APH leadership decides final award amounts based on evaluator recommendations

# Social Service Evaluation Tool and Award Rubric Task Group

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Evaluation tools require flexibility to address the different programs being proposed.

Specific outcomes and program design are not required for APH Request for Application Scopes of Work, making it hard to develop a purely quantitative evaluation tool.

A Task Group will develop an evaluation tool and award rubric by August 2020.

## **Goals:**

- Define minimum acceptable levels with detailed ratings
- Contain precise and easily understood language
- Evaluate substance, not form
- Consider racial equity/ accommodate smaller organizations
- Be consistent with the minimum requirements of the Statement of Work
- Be flexible enough to be adapted to different Issue Areas and Social Service programs

Questions?

