



## AGENDA REPORT

**Meeting Date:** June 18, 2013  
**Item Number:** D-2  
**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council  
**From:** James R. Latta, Human Services Administrator  
**Subject:** RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING (CAGF) FOR FY 2013/14

**Attachments:**

1. CAGF Binder FY 2013/14 (under separate cover)
  - CD: Applications
  - Staff report: May 14, 2013 Human Relations Liaison Committee
  - Table 1: City of Beverly Hills CAGF FY 2013/14 spreadsheet
  - Application Summaries

---

### **INTRODUCTION**

Maintaining an adequate social services safety net is a public service policy stated in the City's General Plan. Funds for the community assistance grant fund program come from the General Fund and are allocated to services the City does not, or cannot, provide directly to the most vulnerable and underserved members of the community including homeless individuals, active and frail elderly, disabled and low-means residents. While many larger cities provide these services directly, the City of Beverly Hills contracts with agencies to provide services targeted specifically to the needs of the local community.

The Human Relations Liaison committee, Councilmember's Willie Brien and Nancy Krasne, met on May 14, 2013 to review applications and recommend community assistance grant funding allocations for FY 2013/14.

During the economic downturn of the past several years, Council elected to supplement the limited grant funding budget with the addition of Transient Occupancy Tax (T.O.T.) funds. Last year, Council lessened the dependence on T.O.T. funds by increasing the grant funding budget from **\$156,950** to **\$264,511** from non -T.O.T. general fund resources. Including the reduced T.O.T. supplement, the total budget was **\$484,511**. It is proposed that this year the assistance grant funds should not rely upon T.O.T. subsidies.

- Community assistance grant funds available for FY 2013/14 were projected as **\$484,511**, consistent with the current fiscal year, through a combination of the base budget and a budget enhancement request.
- Community assistance grant funding requests from all applicants total **\$676,000** for fiscal year 2013/14.

## **DISCUSSION**

Although applications for funding are considered annually, many applicants have long histories with the City and an expectation that funding will continue at prior, or even higher, levels every year. However, over the years, there have been changes in recipients such as a move from the arts toward services for our seniors and chronically mentally ill homeless to address dramatically increased needs. In addition, funding criteria has consistently required that an agency not rely solely on Beverly Hills community assistance funding to remain viable. Coordinated and collaborative services that leverage additional funds to assist in service provision have been viewed positively due to their potential to provide more comprehensive service than a provider with greater reliance on City support. Finally, funding criteria focuses on the extent of resident benefit from the services.

### **Fiscal Year 2013/14 Applications**

For FY 2013/14, the City received 15 requests for funding from 14 applicants. Twelve requests are for continued or expanded funding of programs. Two requests are from applicants who did not receive funding from the City last year but had received funding in the past. Another applicant is a second time request, but was not funded last year (See attachment 1. Community Assistance Grant Fund binder with enclosed *Table 1: City of Beverly Hills Community Assistance Grant Funding FY 2013/14 spreadsheet*). Incorporated in *Table 1* is a budget enhancement request of \$225,100 to match the funding level for FY 2012/13. Included in the \$225,100 request is \$5,100 for the Changing Lives and Sharing Places (CLASP) homeless outreach program. Although this enhancement was approved on a one time basis, last year, staff is requesting the enhancement of \$5,100 be ongoing. Not including last year's enhancement of \$5,100, the CLASP budget of \$85,000 has remained the same since the beginning of the program in 2008.

Funding requests represent a number of areas of community interest/concern as listed below:

- **At-Risk and Homeless People** – All Saints Episcopal Church (meal program/support services), Good Shepherd (meal program/support services), New Directions, Inc., People Assisting the Homeless (shelter beds, housing vouchers), Step Up On Second (stabilization team, housing vouchers), and Westside Food Bank.

- **Senior Services** – Beverly Hills Active Adult Club, Jewish Family Service (senior case management and emergency services), The Maple Counseling Center.
- **Health** – Beverly Hills CPR, Chiron Center, Inc. (crisis response), Saban Free Clinic (TB testing for shelter housing, low-income health care), Step Up On Second (medical/psychiatric services), The Maple Counseling Center (low-cost counseling/senior services).
- **Education** – Beverly Hills Education Foundation (fundraising for BHUSD)
- **Arts and Culture**-Theatre 40.

### **Consideration of Allocation of Funds for FY 2013/14**

Historically, applicants have been considered based on the following general criteria:

1. Organization provides services that support the City's commitment to the provision of a social service safety net for the most vulnerable members of the community.
2. Organization provides a unique service that addresses an unmet need of the community and does not duplicate other providers or programs.
3. Organization does not rely solely on community assistance funding to remain viable and the services would cost more to the City if the City provided them directly.
4. Organization provides regional services that enable the City to meet its obligation to help ameliorate regional social issues.
5. Organization is a 501c.3 or in partnership with a 501c.3.

While the economy appears to improve, funding for social services still lags behind. Referrals for at-risk individuals, frail elderly and the homeless mentally ill continue to be the primary focus of Human Services. In recent years, the City has prioritized funding for the most vulnerable members of the community.

Again this year two requests (PATH and Step Up On Second) address the City's support of the Home for Good initiative to end chronic and Veteran homelessness in Los Angeles County by 2016. Additional resources are needed to build on the success of our Changing Lives and Sharing Places (CLASP) outreach program and to partner with the coordinated efforts among regional homeless providers by funding a stabilization team and housing vouchers. It is this collaborative strategy that makes it possible to move people from living on the street into *permanent supportive housing*.

The Human Relations Liaison committee began their deliberations for determining how to approach the challenge of consideration of requests totaling **\$676,000** with only **\$264,511** (not including the pending supplemental enhancement request) in budgeted grant funds by considering Options A and B on *Table 1. City of Beverly Hills Community Assistance Grant Funding FY 2013/14*:

**Option A**

- Continue funding for priority services for the most vulnerable (e.g., at-risk individuals, frail elderly, chronically homeless).

**Option B**

- Enhance funding for both priority services and qualified long term recipients.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The proposed CAGF budget of **\$490,400** includes **\$264,511** from the General Fund and the Human Relations Liaison committee's recommendation for the addition of **\$225,889** also from the General Fund. This amount is **\$789** more than the supplemental funding of **\$225,100** requested through the budget enhancement process.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Human Relations Liaison Committee finalized their recommendations by prioritizing allocations to organizations based on their focus of providing food, care, and shelter to the most needy and vulnerable members of the Beverly Hills community. After careful consideration of all requests, the Human Relations Liaison committee recommended the following organizations receive community assistance grant and or in-kind funds. *See Table 1: City of Beverly Hills CAGF FY 2013/14 Human Relations Liaison committee recommendations.*

- All Saints Homeless Assistance Program
- Beverly Hills Active Adult Club
- BH CPR (pending clarification of financial reports)
- BHEF (In-kind only)
- Chiron Inc. (funds and in-kind)
- Jewish Family Service
- The Maple Counseling Center
- People Assisting The Homeless
- Saban Free Clinic
- Westside Food Bank
- Step Up On Second

Steve Zoet, CS Director  
Approved By

