



The Corporation of the City of Cornwall
Regular Meeting of Council
Report

Department: Social and Housing Services
Division: Housing Services
Report Number: 2020-215-Social and Housing Services
Prepared By: Mellissa Morgan, Community Housing Supervisor
Meeting Date: April 29, 2020
Subject: Social Services Relief Fund

Purpose

To provide Council with an update regarding the Social Services Relief Fund.

Recommendation

That Council receive report 2020-215-Social and Housing Services.

Financial Implications

The Social Services Relief Fund is 100% provincially funded by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Background / Discussion

In early April, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced a new, \$200 million Social Services Relief Fund in response to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, a shared initiative between the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

The Social Services Relief Fund – Funding for Service Managers is to assist Service Managers and their partners to respond to increased demands for services and supports, the ministry is making an immediate investment of \$148 million for Service Managers under the Social Services Relief Fund. The

investment will allow communities to expand a wide range of services and supports for vulnerable populations, based on local need, so they can better respond to this emergency. This investment complements additional resources provided by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to directly support individuals and families in financial crisis who are not able to access federal assistance.

The City of Cornwall is eligible to receive \$4,342,100, in 2020-21, for Cornwall, Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry. We have received 50 per cent of our allocation, to enable us to immediately respond to the COVID-19 crisis. A further 25 per cent will flow to Service Managers in early July 2020. Payments for subsequent quarters will be based on projected and actual expenditures.

This funding, provided under the Social Services Relief Fund through the CHPI, provides flexibility within its program guidelines to support local needs. It is to financially assist the City of Cornwall, the United Counties of SDG, Akwesasne, and Community Social Service Providers to support, enhance, or expand a wide range of services and supports for vulnerable populations as we respond to this emergency crisis.

Additional funding being provided under the Social Services Relief Fund will help municipalities and social service providers such as shelters, food banks, emergency services, community and supportive housing providers, charities and non-profits continue to deliver their critical services while promoting social distancing and self-isolation to keep people safe and healthy.

Service Managers will determine local needs and distribute the funding, ensuring non-profit organizations are receiving the financial support they need in order to provide ongoing service to the community. Municipalities may also utilize this funding for additional costs in relation to responding to the crisis such as personal protective equipment, cleaning costs, transportation costs, lodging, and non-medical staffing requirements (outreach at GSDL, as an example).

Service Managers will have the flexibility to determine how best to use this funding to respond to the need of vulnerable people during this COVID-19 crisis while following the eligibility guidelines established by the Ministry.

Requests for this fund have been received, including 41 external requests, which are currently being reviewed by the department. The breakdown of current requests (not approvals), by categories, is as follows:



Food Security = \$388,025
Transportation = \$10,000
PPE/Cleaning = \$102,500
Technology = \$168,953
Lodging = \$245,000
Staffing = \$34,350
Operating = \$160,854
Other* = \$928,000

*Other category is for items not yet clarified or those items that will be anticipated in the coming weeks.

It is anticipated that requests will be approved, and funds forwarded to eligible organizations by the end of April to early May.

Document Title:	Social Services Relief Fund - 2020-215-Social and Housing Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 27, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Stacey Ferguson - Apr 27, 2020 - 10:17 AM

Tracey Bailey - Apr 27, 2020 - 2:01 PM

Maureen Adams - Apr 27, 2020 - 5:25 PM