



Strategic Community Initiatives Fund

INTRODUCTION:

The Strategic Community Initiatives Fund granting process contributes to the advancement of human services goals and priorities and/or provides specific support to low-income households. Investments are targeted to community-based initiatives and services that complement the core services of the Human Services Department.

The County of Bruce recognizes that by investing in community-based initiatives serves to forward strategic goals, both economic and social. Additionally, the investment demonstrates the County's commitment to strengthening the community's capacity to be responsive to changing needs and serves to leverage additional funding sources.

VALUES:

The Strategic Community Initiatives Fund granting process is guided by the following values:

- Excellence: Commitment to adapting enhancing and evolving responsive services for our community.
- Good Governance: Prioritize transparency, accountability, integrity and respect in all we do.

GOALS:

The granting process allows the County of Bruce to invest in initiatives that support the priorities of the County's Strategic Plan or Human Services' Business Plan or mandate and/or other priorities identified in Council endorsed planning initiatives.

The Strategic Community Initiatives Fund granting process expands the capacity of the community to address gaps in services and/or unmet needs of low-income residents in Bruce County to strengthen the service system.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS:

The Human Services Department calls for proposals annually based on available funds. Proposals may make a request for multi-year funding; however, funding will be confirmed annually through the budget process.

GENERAL CRITERIA:

Initiatives receiving funding will:

- Benefit residents of Bruce County.
- Align with the department's business goals.
- Use demographic data, best practices and other research to inform the planning and or service initiative.
- Not duplicate existing services or planning or provide information to justify the appropriateness of the duplication.



ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES:

Funding is integrated into the Strategic Community Initiatives Fund program of the Human Services Department's annual budget cycle. New funding opportunities that occur outside of the budget process will be brought to committee for approval.

Staff of the department will:

- Administer the call for proposals, advising organizations prior to the deadline.
- Accept, review and evaluate proposals.
- Develop and negotiate agreements with the lead organization being funded.
- Ensure that agreements specify deliverables, terms and conditions required to receive funding.
- Monitor progress of the initiative in meeting the requirements.
- Develop and implement a process that supports the values of the program.

Administration procedures will be developed to implement the Strategic Community Initiatives Fund during each budget year and will include the following components:

- Development of criteria in consultation with the other Human Services program areas.
- Consultation with stakeholders and community planning tables as required about present trends surrounding community need.
- Criteria that address specific targets within strategic or business plans.
- Criteria appropriate to enhancing quality of life of residents such as service integration, accessibility requirements, capacity building, etc.

The department will follow a standardized process to receive and review proposals and make recommendations to committee for funding allocations through the annual budget process.

EVALUATION AND REPORTING:

Lead organizations being funded will be required to submit an annual activity report demonstrating the impact of the initiative funded and to identify opportunities to improve efficiency and/or increase community capacity.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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