Funding Priorities
CARES Act Supplemental Emergency Solutions Grant funding / ESG-CV Round 2

The City has identified seven priorities, resulting from its consultation process with homeless service providers that will guide how applications for ESG-CV Round 2 are evaluated. Applications that address these priority needs will be considered more strongly than those that do not (as long as all other eligibility criteria are met).

1. **Rental and Utility Assistance (Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Activities):** This includes financial assistance such as: moving costs, rental application fees, security deposits, up to two months' rent, utility deposits, utility payments, arrearages up to six months. It may also include rental assistance such as full or partial rent payments made on behalf of the tenant for up to nine months.

2. **Street Outreach:** These activities are designed to meet the immediate needs of unsheltered people by connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, and/or critical health services. This may include case management services (salaries), emergency out-patient medical, dental care, or mental health services, transportation to shelter or emergency care, travel expense/cell phones for employee(s).

3. **Services to Overcome Language/Cultural Barriers:** Several agencies expressed a need for interpretation services and culturally sensitive care. Serving people of color and other underserved populations is also a priority.

4. **Emergency Shelter Improvements (Physical Separation and Space Capacity) in Preparation for Colder Weather:** Shelters will need to accommodate for physical distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Funds may cover costs of shelter operations such as maintenance and minor repair, furnishings, equipment, shelter supplies and shelter essential services such as case management services, transportation, childcare, job training expenses, and educational training.

5. **Increased Emergency Shelter Space Capacity and Essential Services for Vulnerable Populations (for example, families, Unaccompanied Youth, and seniors):** There is increased need for shelter space that allows families with children to be housed together, young adults experiencing homelessness (especially for youth of color and LGBTQ-identified youth), and senior citizens, populations who are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases and be at a higher risk of COVID-19.

6. **Mobile Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Medical and Mental Health Services:** COVID-19 exacerbates existing mental concerns. There's an increased need for mental health services and substance abuse treatment services.

7. **Equity Study on the Knoxville Homeless Management Information System (KnoxHMIS), a Database Required for Any Recipients of ESG-CV Round 2 Funding:** There is a need to analyze the equity in homelessness services access and delivery, outcomes captured by grant recipients, as well as measuring evictions and other problematic outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated economic downturn.

These Funding Priorities are not listed in order of importance.