APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

SOCIAL ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

FY 2020-2021

HUMAN SERVICES
440 COURT STREET, 2nd Floor
CLEARWATER, FL 33756

PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SOCIAL ACTION GRANT PROGRAM

Application for Funding

Pinellas County Human Services is accepting applications from non-profit organizations desiring to provide social services to residents of Pinellas County. Total available funding is $1,551,000 for fiscal year 2021 (FY21).

The Social Action Grant funding application outlines the competitive process for the selection of organizations to provide services as allocated by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (Board) FY21.

New Social Action Grants are planned to commence on October 1, 2020, and end September 30, 2021, contingent upon funding availability and annual Board approval.

The proposed program must meet a need identified as a priority funding area and the applicant organization must meet County eligibility criteria.

Applications are limited to a minimum of $10,000.00 and a maximum of $250,000.00 and one application per agency. If more than one application is submitted, only the first will be reviewed.

The submission deadline for all applications is April 30, 2020, at 4:00 PM (no exceptions). Organizations must utilize the online application found at: http://www.pinellascounty.org/humanservices/.

Please allow ample time for submission and technological challenges, as late applications will not be accepted. For questions regarding your application, please contact: Jennifer Wright at jenwright@pinellascounty.org.

PURPOSE

The Social Action Grant Program provides funding to social service organizations for priority services that directly serve Pinellas County citizens. The goals of the Social Action Grant Program are to address the health, economic and social well being of Pinellas County residents in need of assistance.

USE OF SOCIAL ACTION GRANT PROGRAM AWARDS

The funding priorities for the Social Action Grant Program are:

- Food and Nutritional Services
- Homeless Prevention and Supportive Services
- Healthcare and Human Services for Disadvantaged Residents
- Supportive Services for an Aging Population
- Workforce Development for Disadvantaged Residents
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Organizations seeking Social Action Grant Program funding must meet the following criteria:

1. The proposed programs/services must serve residents of Pinellas County.
2. The applicant organization must not discriminate against any applicant for employment or employee with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment or any matter directly or indirectly related to employment or against any client because of age, sex, race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.
3. The applicant organization must not discriminate against any person on the basis of age, sex, race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, disability, marital status or sexual orientation in admission, treatment, or participation in its programs, services and activities.
4. The mission of the applicant organization must be consistent with the goals of the Social Action Grant Program to address the health, economic, and social well-being of Pinellas County residents in need of assistance.
5. The applicant organization must be a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization and must be incorporated in the State of Florida for at least one (1) year prior to date of application.
6. The applicant organization must agree to the terms and conditions contained in the Pinellas County Social Action Program Agreement.
7. Programs proposed by faith organizations must have a secular purpose, neither advance nor inhibit religion, and must not require worship or religious instruction activities as a condition of participation per Federal guidelines. Services provided by faith organizations must be available to all Pinellas County residents, not solely for congregation members.

EXCLUSIONS

The following are not eligible for Social Action Grant funding:

1) Capital expenses
2) Improvements to rental properties
3) Research studies or technical assistance

Incomplete applications will not be accepted by the system.

FATAL CRITERIA

- Agency is not currently incorporated in the State of Florida
- Agency does not have a 501 (c) (3) status or application for same in progress
- Agency is not in compliance with an existing County contract at the time of submission
- Application is late (system will not allow incomplete or late submissions)
REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

A Social Action Grant Program Selection Committee will be established to rate applications. The Committee will be comprised of municipal and community stakeholders and County staff. All in-person meetings of the Committee are open to the public.

Due to the size of the program, more than one Committee may be convened and/or some scoring may be performed by Committee members independently and without a public meeting.

Scores and written reviewer feedback are Public Record and available upon request. A high score on application will not necessarily guarantee full funding. Other criteria may be utilized to justify funding award decisions.

Committee recommendations will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for final approval. Applicants will receive notification of award upon the Board’s final approval of the FY21 budget. All Board funding decisions are based on availability of funds.

FUNDING PROCESS

Organizations approved for funding will enter into a formal Agreement specifying the dollar amount awarded, the scope of services to be provided, and the outcomes to be measured. Should a full funding request not be awarded, organizations may be required to modify their approach in order to align service levels and outcome expectations with the amount awarded. The Agreement covers a one-year funding cycle. Nearing the end of the funding cycle, organizations may be permitted to apply for a one-year renewal through a streamlined application process. It is anticipated that less than half of original funding will be available for renewals and half for new applications, so high performers with strong outcomes are encouraged to apply.

Any misrepresentation and/or failure to carry out the programs as set forth in the contract may result in immediate termination of the Agreement. The contract period for applications selected for funding will cover the period from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021.

ANTICIPATED OR PROJECTED RESOURCES

Resources which are identified to support the program will remain the responsibility of the applicant. If an agency’s resources are reduced or prove to be unattainable, the County will not be obligated to replace anticipated or projected resources. The applicant’s failure to obtain or otherwise replace such resources to sustain the program may constitute a breach of contract and forfeiture of funding, up to and including, termination of the Agreement.

DISCLAIMER

Pinellas County Government reserves the right to: 1) cancel the application process; 2) accept or reject any or all applications received; 3) waive any non-substantive deficiency or irregularity, waive or remedy any technical or immaterial errors; 4) request any necessary clarifications of proposal data without changing the terms of the proposal; 5) negotiate with any qualified applicant; 6) award a contract in what it believes to be the best interest of the County; 7) cancel the request, in part or its entirety, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the County; 8) reject the program of any applicant that has previously failed to perform properly; 9) reject the program of any applicant who has failed to complete a contract within the specified timeframe; 10) reject the program of any applicant that is not in a position to fulfill a resulting contractual obligation.