

CDBG CARES Act CV-3 Funding

FY2019 Annual Action Plan Amendment Changes for Proposed Use of Funding Summary

The funding provided to the City of Brockton from CARES Act CV-3 is a total of \$937,951.00. An application was published for two weeks for funding to assist Brockton organizations and businesses in serving the new and increased needs created by COVID-19. There were 16 applications submitted during that time, with 13 meeting the CDBG and COVID-19 eligibility requirements that are put forth below for funding. \$530,951.00 of the funding is proposed to go towards Public Services in Brockton, the breakdown by program and amount is included below. \$25,000.00 is proposed for Old Colony YMCA to make site improvements in technology connections and electric needs to accommodate the remote learning they are now administering for approximately 350 Brockton youth. An additional \$325,000.00 is proposed for Housing Cost Assistance that is administered by NeighborWorks Housing Solutions. Since the last amendment for these funds, we provided the program with another \$82,000.00 due to extreme need from the Business Assistance program that was not being spent nearly as quickly. The Housing Cost Assistance program total support is now proposed for \$682,000.00. We are proposing to put that \$82,000.00 back into the Business Assistance program to keep that funding for Brockton businesses at \$550,000.00.

CV-3 Public Service Projects:

- Boys & Girls Club of Brockton, Learning Pods Academic Support Program - \$54,000: In response to the full remote start to the 2020-2021 school year, they launched a full-day "Learning Pods" program at their Brockton Clubhouse with the intention of supporting K-8 youth with their remote learning, as many Brockton families are not in a position to stay home from work to assist with their children's learning and they are in need of a safe place to send their children while schools remain closed. This is a full-day, 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM program being offered Monday-Friday for a cost of \$30 per day per child. Many Brockton parents who would like to enroll their children are struggling to afford the \$30/day price point given that we cannot accept vouchers for this program as we do with our licensed child care program which is at our licensed capacity. The \$54,000 in funds would allow 30 youth to receive full financial aid (\$30/day) for 60 programming days (the equivalent of 12 full weeks if full-remote learning continues or 20 weeks in the event of a 3-day remote hybrid model).
- Family and Community Resources, Families in Crisis - \$33,097.89: Funding would be used for a part time clinician to address the increased mental health needs of the families served, and to provide temporary shelter in hotels for families fleeing violence. Funds from an OVW grant will help the fleeing families to secure permanent housing (these funds cannot be used for emergency housing).
- Brockton Area Arc, Day Habilitation and Community Based Day Supports - \$70,925: The Brockton Area Arc (BAArc) provides a variety of resources, services and programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The City of Brockton comprises approximately 68% of the individuals and families served by their Day Habilitation and Community Based Day Support programs. As a result of the safe distancing requirements and capacity restrictions, they are only able to operate at 30% of full capacity. They are now operating at a deficit in the Day Habilitation and Community Based Day Supports programs. This

funding is to support four months of operations at the current deficit until a long-term funding solution can be found.

- United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Community Connections of Brockton - \$40,920: Funds will be allocated to support three diverse (multi-lingual/multi-cultural) Food Advocates 20 hrs per week each, who will duplicate and distribute care packages including food, PPEs, education materials and other basic needs through a delivery service model.
- Father Bill's & MainSpring, COVID Response and Street Outreach - \$135,821.11: Funding toward FBMS outreach and shelter personnel will allow for full outreach coverage daily, assist with placement from the street to either shelter or housing, and provide adequate shelter staffing to ensure a safe environment from which individuals can become rehoused. FBMS is requesting the costs of one month of shelter personnel staffing in the amount of \$68,821.11 and 1 FTE Street Outreach Worker to support COVID-19 shelter and outreach personnel costs. Sufficient street outreach capacity is more important than ever to ensure the health and safety of those living unsheltered, as well as to ensure the public health of the Brockton community at-large.
- The Charity Guild, Food Pantry - \$76,600: Prior to the pandemic TCG served approximately 1,000 individuals every month. They now experience a 243% increase in new food pantry clients and the demand for home deliveries has increased by 173%. Within a week, their core group of 28 volunteers was reduced to a team of 3 volunteers. In order to meet the significant increase in demand they hired 2 new employees to support the newly increased needs, began working with a resource to facilitate home food deliveries, and switched with part time Executive Director to full time.
- Old Colony YMCA, Family Services - \$16,000: Providing an increased response to meet emergency basic needs (food, clothing, toilet paper, formula, diapers and wipes, cleaning/sanitization products) of families in the Brockton programs. Food insecurity has been a key area of need. With now increased staff support for remote learning needs of the families supported through their programs.
- BAMSI, Dorn Davies Senior Center - \$33,587: The Nutrition Program has expanded and become more labor intensive in order to meet the needs of the low-income elderly in the Brockton area. Funding is needed to help cover additional costs of paper goods, food, and staff time.
- BAMSI, Helpline - \$40,000: Helpline does not currently have adequate staffing to meet the demand and would like to add a 20 hour a week position to address the needs of Brockton residents quickly and efficiently. The BAMSI Helpline has experienced an increase in individuals and families seeking short term financial assistance to help them remain in their homes. These requests have specifically included assistance with utility bills, fuel assistance, food, and rent/mortgage payments.
- Brockton Interfaith Community, Mutual Aid - \$5,000: BIC has been assisting community members that have been most impacted through the creation of the Mutual Aid Facebook Page, Its Fund and through a Community Survey. Through these means, they have served thousands of community members in areas such as financial and food assistance, clothing needs, school supplies, toiletries and many other basic needs through the generous contributions of Foundations, Grants and community members.

Additionally, the Boys and Girls Club of Brockton requested \$25,000.00 for a one-time grant to fund the salary/wages of a full-time position to be charged with operating a new Freight Farm between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021. In August 2020 they successfully secured a grant through the Commonwealth

of Massachusetts' Food Security Infrastructure Grant program to fully fund the purchase of the Freight Farm and the upstart costs associated with site preparation and installation. The annual expenses for this position are estimated at \$50,000.00 and Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro will incorporate these costs into their July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 operating budget and will leverage additional grant funds from existing partnerships supporting our Kids Café and nutrition education programs. The requested funds will allow them to fund the position fully for 6-months while securing long-term funding to sustain the program beyond this fiscal year. The program will first support the 2,500+ youth who participate in their before and after-school and summer camp programs each year by supporting their access to nutritious foods through the incorporation of fresh vegetables into their meals at their Clubs. The next step will be to support vulnerable residents of Brockton and surrounding communities by providing free or very low-cost access to these same vegetables through their community outreach programs, and in tandem with existing nutritional assistance programs such as The Charity Guild and Father Bill's & MainSpring in Brockton. Further, the project seeks to achieve the objectives of reducing hunger and food insecurity, increasing the availability of healthy food to all residents (especially children), reducing food waste, and increasing nutritional education for youth, as identified in the goals and recommendations of the Massachusetts Local Food Action Plan. It is proposed to support this program with the requested \$25,000.00 through CDBG Entitlement Funds. While meeting new and increased food insecurities is an eligible expense under this grant, we have unspent funds from prior year that would be better suited to meet this need.