

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Human Services Advisory Board
Glenn Gerding, Chair

SUBJECT: Recommended 2009-2010 Human Service Performance Agreements

DATE: June 22, 2009

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to present the Human Services Advisory Board's recommendations for 2009-2010 human services funding.

The attached resolution would authorize the Manager to develop performance agreements with human service agencies as recommended by the Human Services Advisory Board.

BACKGROUND

In the annual Needs Report presented to the Town Council on January 12, the Human Services Advisory Board identified priority areas of human service needs for the next fiscal year. In response to a January 28 request from the Mayor, the Board also submitted an outline of priorities in preparation for the Council's budget planning. The Mayor and Town Council asked each board and commission to submit its top five priorities and goals for the next year. The Board identified as priorities at-risk youth, mental health services, self-sufficiency programs, plans to address homelessness and services that focus on Chapel Hill's public housing and low-income communities. These priorities guide the Human Services Advisory Board as they evaluate agency proposals and develop recommendations for performance agreements. This year, the Board received funding requests from 46 nonprofit agencies totaling \$469,397.

On October 27, 2008 the Town Council approved a recommendation to implement a process to create a standard application system for all outside agencies that request Town support. In previous years many agencies completed a written application and presented their funding proposals to the Human Services Advisory Board for review. Other agencies were able to approach the Council directly and many were included as line items in the annual budget. The consolidated process approved by the Council requires all outside groups to complete an application. As a result of this change, groups previously funded as line items in recent years that provide human services were asked to present their proposals to the Human Services Advisory Board. The total amount of funds allocated to those groups last year was combined with the previous human services budget. The recommended budget for human services totals \$357,900.

SUMMARY

Each year, the Chapel Hill Human Services Advisory Board, the Town of Carrboro and the Orange County government coordinate the application process for nonprofit agencies. The three governments use the same application form, required attachments and deadline for submission. On January 8, the staff and human service board chairs representing these three governments held a meeting for nonprofit human service agencies to distribute application packets and provide information about the funding process. Agencies requesting funding must complete a comprehensive written application form, submit budget information and an annual financial audit. Each agency attends a hearing to present its proposal and respond to questions from the Human Services Advisory Board. The Chapel Hill and Carrboro Human Services Boards held joint hearings for the agencies applying to both towns. The joint hearings were held March 23 and 30, April 20, 27, 28 and May 4. The Chapel Hill Human Services Advisory Board also met on May 11 to hear proposals from agencies applying to the Town of Chapel Hill. Following the presentations the Board met on June 1 to review each agency and formulate recommendations for the 2009-2010 performance agreements. The recommendations for allocations total \$357,900 for 46 agencies. The attached appendix provides brief information on the mission of each applying agency, funds requested, and the Board's recommendation for Town funding.

RECOMMENDATION

Human Services Advisory Board's Recommendation: That the Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Manager to develop performance agreements with human service agencies as recommended by the Board.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Appendix