

Selected Grants and Community Service Partnerships Renewal

Date: October 28, 2020

To: Economic and Community Development Committee

From: Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Wards: All

SUMMARY

In July 2019, Toronto City Council considered the Community Service Partnerships three year Renewal Process, and adopted the Community Services Partnership Framework to ensure that through the Renewal Process, Community Services Partnership funding accomplishes its ultimate outcome by funding public benefit organizations to deliver evidence-informed, programs and services for and with vulnerable people and communities. This report provides an update on the Renewal Process as well as highlights on the impact of investments in the Community Partnership and Investment Program. In this third year of the Community Service Partnerships Renewal, 177 agencies that are funded through the program were invited to complete their application for their existing allocation, while aligning to shared outcomes and a strengthened definition of vulnerability to ensure grant funds are meeting the needs of Torontonians who are most vulnerable. Staff are in the midst of the review process and will be bringing recommendations for funding to the Economic and Community Development Committee in the first quarter of 2021.

Organizations not recommended for continued funding in the Community Service Partnerships Program renewal process will be supported with transition funding and subsequently that Community Service Partnerships funding will be re-directed to support the emerging Indigenous and Black-Mandated Funding Frameworks described in this report. Additional funding to support the development of these specialized funding streams will come from a reallocation of some Community Investment, project-based funding to operating and program funding. The Indigenous and Black-Mandated funding streams are being developed through a co-design process with community leaders and residents and the support of the Indigenous Affairs Office and the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit respectively.

The report also updates on the Youth Violence Prevention Grant program, a \$250,000 donation designated to Regent Park, and the funding allocations made through the TO Supports Investment Fund to support emergency needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, to allocate the previously-approved Community Service Partnerships funds until the approval of funding recommendations in 2021.
2. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, to reallocate or approve and disburse one-time Community Investment grants with funding allocation to be subject to the annual budget process.
3. City Council request the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, to report annually to the Economic and Community Development Committee on the grants approved through Recommendations 1 and 2 above.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts arising from the recommendations contained in this report.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial implications as identified in the Financial Impact section.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Social Development, Finance and Administration works to advance social and economic equity, building strong and safe neighbourhoods for all Torontonians. The Community Funding Unit provides ongoing and short-term funding to Toronto-based, not-for-profit, grassroots and resident-led groups so that Indigenous, Black and equity-seeking communities have improved access to quality services and facilities.

With the City's support, community organizations, groups and residents deliver community-based programs and services to Torontonians that are socially and/or geographically isolated, living in poverty, and/or experiencing racism and discrimination. Further, the City is working to ensure that groups providing services to vulnerable population groups are reflective of the communities they serve and are employing culturally safe and relevant practices.

DECISION HISTORY

On February 19, 2020, Toronto City Council authorized an increase to the operating budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration to support Community Youth Violence Prevention Grants.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.EX13.2>

On October 3, 2019, Toronto City Council authorized the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to accept a donation of \$0.25 million to fund programs, services, initiatives and events in Regent Park in 2020 and 2021. Toronto City Council requested the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee annually on this grant.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EC7.3>

On July 16, 2019, Toronto City Council approved the Community Service Partnerships framework, as well as an appeals approach for the Community Service Partnerships funding application.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EC6.20>

On March 28, 2019, Toronto City Council requested the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to report back to the Economic and Community Development Committee on the grants approved through delegated authority in 2020.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EC2.5>

On December 5, 2017, City Council adopted The Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism, which outlined 80 actions and 22 recommendations for the City to undertake over five years with funding for required resources.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX29.11>

On July 6, 2010, Toronto City Council adopted the City of Toronto Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal communities in Toronto.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2010.EX45.5>

On February 2, 2010, Toronto City Council adopted the Community Partnership Strategy.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2010.CD30.2>

The City of Toronto provides support to the public benefit sector through funding programs under the general authority for making municipal grants provided in Section 83 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 (S.O. 2006, c.11).

<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/06c11#BK103>.

COMMENTS

1. Community Service Partnerships at a Glance

Community Service Partnerships provides on-going support to Toronto's public benefit organizations to offer high quality and relevant services that respond to the changing needs of the community and strengthen the City's well-being. Community Service Partnerships is managed by the Community Funding Unit in Social Development, Finance and Administration, which also provides short-term grants (Investment Grants)

through a number of additional grant streams. See Appendix A for highlights of the impact of these grants in 2019/2020.

The 2020 Approved Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration includes \$17,952,601 for the Community Service Partnerships funding program, while the budget for short-term grants is \$6,247,918. In 2020, 177 agencies will receive Community Service Partnerships allocations ranging from \$5,530 to \$656,595, with an average allocation of \$97,303 per agency.

Community Service Partnerships Renewal Process

In July 2019, Toronto City Council considered the Community Service Partnerships three year Renewal Process, and adopted the Community Services Partnership Framework to ensure that through the Renewal Process, City funding through the Community Services Partnership accomplishes its ultimate outcome by funding public benefit organizations to deliver evidence-informed, programs and services for and with vulnerable people and communities.

Rationale

The City is undertaking a renewal of the Community Service Partnerships funding program for the first time since its inception after amalgamation in 1999. This three year process acknowledges that , as well as the Human Service sector, has grown and changed significantly over the last 21 years.

Objectives

The Community Service Partnerships renewal process is only open to currently funded Community Service Partnerships organizations at current funding levels. Key goals of the renewal process include:

- Demonstrating good stewardship of the program and transparency with taxpayers' money as demands for grants increase within the public benefit sector
- Identifying shared goals and outcomes that show a direct link to how the public benefits from City investments
- Realigning investments to best support Torontonians who are most vulnerable and reflect the changing needs of our communities
- Support public benefit sector organizations to build capacity within their organizations to meet the needs of the community and demonstrate program impact.

Engagement

A broad range of engagement activities were conducted to develop the renewal process, guided by a Community Advisory Committee, which included: face to face engagements with grantees in 2018 and 2019, a renewal survey, a resident focus group, and staff engagement. As part of the City's Commitments in support of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, engagement with Indigenous-led Community Service Partnerships funded organizations involved a co-designed process which recognized their self-determination in the renewal process.

Community Service Partnerships Framework

The result of the engagement process was The Community Service Partnerships Framework which consists of strategies, activities and inputs to achieve a series of

outcomes and was approved by Council in July 2019 [here](#). The ultimate outcome is that Community Service Partnerships support community organizations to offer high quality and relevant programs/services that build vibrant, equitable, inclusive, safe neighbourhoods and communities where the needs of vulnerable people and communities are met.

- Vulnerability is a key part of the Framework. The Community Service Partnerships funding program acknowledges that a vulnerable resident must be assessed in context – a person's vulnerability or resiliency will depend on structural inequalities (such as but not limited to, the intersectionality of racism and discrimination) as well as their circumstances, environment and resources in the broadest sense. Poverty, social isolation, and geographic isolation (living in an underserved area, such as a Neighbourhood Improvement Area or Emerging Neighbourhood) are essential factors to understanding and demonstrating vulnerability within the Community Service Partnerships funding program.

Community Service Partnerships investments support a public benefits sector that is resilient and responsive to community needs; organizations that are effective and adaptive; community leaders that are skilled and responsive; and residents that are engaged.

Community Service Partnerships funding outcomes include:

- build and sustain strong organizations
- increase knowledge and awareness of program participants
- reduce social isolation of program participants
- mitigate the effects of living in poverty of program participants
- increase resident leadership.

Community Service Partnerships Application

The Community Service Partnerships application process consisted of two phases, an eligibility screen and a full application.

Eligibility Screen

Purpose: The Community Service Partnerships Eligibility Screening Application was developed to establish organizational eligibility for Community Services Partnerships funding. The criteria used in this screening has been the one used by Community Service Partnerships since 2001 and was completed in May 2019.

Results: Ninety-five percent (95%) of Community Service Partnerships-funded organizations completed the application by the deadline: 49% of these organizations were found to be fully eligible for Community Service Partnerships funding and 51% of organizations were found to be ineligible in one to six eligibility categories. These categories are: .incorporated not to profit, community based and governed, financially accountable, has resources to deliver programs and abides by the City's Human Rights and Anti- Discrimination Policy. Organizations deemed ineligible had an opportunity to address eligibility concerns and remain within the funding envelope. All organizations must maintain eligibility throughout the funding period.

Organizations deemed ineligible participated in a range of activities to support them both to meet eligibility criteria and to increase overall organizational capacity. This included:

- Access to www.orghelpto.ca - A website designed to support organizations with sample policies, articles, videos and toolkits on a range of Community Service Partnerships eligibility topics.
- 5 panel presentations on the topic of vulnerability, facilitated during the spring 2019 engagement series.
- 9 organizations were matched with an organization mentor and received one-on-one coaching to support organizational capacity building.
- 7 workshops were offered on topics such as serving vulnerable populations, using the Well-Being Toronto tool, program evaluation/outcome measurement/data collection and long-term financial planning.

Full Application: Grant Guidelines, Process and Recommendations

The Community Service Partnerships renewal guidelines for the 2020 full application are largely consistent with the 2015 grant guidelines and build on The Community Service Partnerships Framework identified above. The renewal guidelines will include the following five elements describes in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Guideline Elements for the Community Service Partnerships Renewal Process

Guideline Elements	Description
Vulnerability	Community Service Partnerships funds programs and services that meet the needs of vulnerable Torontonians
Programs	<p>Organizations can apply for both current and new, evidence-based programs that will contribute to the identified shared outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each program application was reviewed to ensure it aligns with the Community Services Partnerships Logic Model, ranks well according to assessment criteria, and that the programs proposed have been designed to support vulnerable Torontonians. • If program applications are declined, this amount will be reduced from the overall allocation an agency has historically received. Funding will be re-invested through the Indigenous and Black-Mandated Funding Frameworks, new funding streams that Social Development, Finance and Administration has been developing in order to better meet the City's reconciliation and equity commitments within the current Community Funding portfolio. These Frameworks, which are currently been developed, will be described in more detail later in the report.

Guideline Elements	Description
Core Funding	<p>Strong organizations deliver strong programs and services. As such, organizations may assign up to 25% of their allocation to core operations, contributing to salaries of key staff positions, occupancy costs and other organizational costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations depend on this core funding from the City, which is one of very few funders enabling operational funds and is more critical than ever.
Assessment Criteria	<p>Organizations will be assessed based on organizational health (financial management, organizational capacity and governance) organizational experience, community need, participant involvement, access and equity and program impact. Programs will be assessed for: community need, evidence-based approaches to serving vulnerable populations, partnerships, budget and evaluation.</p>
Appeals	<p>Appeals to the recommendations for funding presented to Council will only be accepted and considered in either of the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is evidence to suggest that a person involved in the funding recommendation had a conflict of interest at any time during the granting process that has affected the grant recommendation. • If there is evidence to suggest that there was a departure from the approved grant-making process outlined in the grant guidelines. • A recommendation to cease funding a particular program or agency will not, in and of itself be a basis for appeals. • This appeals process was approved by Council on July 16, 2019.

The Community Service Partnerships application launched on September 9, 2020 and closed on October 19, 2020, with an option to request a two week extension. Agencies applied for their existing funding allocation for the balance of the four year funding cycle ending in December 2022. Agencies applied through a new on-line grant system, the Toronto Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal. User guides, video tutorials and one on one support were available to support grantees with the new on-line grant system.

Three virtual information sessions were attended by 135 agency representatives. These sessions were highly rated by attendees for the usefulness of information and awareness about how to receive additional supports. Program eligibility clinics were attended by 22 organizations and provided one on one support for organizations interested in proposing a new program in the application.

Application reviews are being conducted by City staff and in some instances community leaders.

Social Development, Finance & Administration will bring forward the grant recommendations for the balance of the Community Service Partnership funding cycle to Council for consideration in Q1 2021 for the balance of the four year funding cycle ending in 2022. Transition funding will be negotiated for applicants not recommended for funding.

2. Advancing Reconciliation and Equity through Community Investment

On October 27, 2020, City Council adopted the City Manager's report, Towards Recovery and Building a Renewed Toronto. This report responds to the final report from the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild, *COVID-19: Impacts and Opportunities* authored by Dr. Mowat and Mr. Rafi. Both reports emphasize the need for the City to continue to invest in reconciliation and equity with a particular focus on Indigenous and Black communities. Social Development, Finance and Administration continues to drive this type of transformative change using different reconciliation and equity tools. Community funding is one of them. This section provides an update on the Community Funding Unit's work to develop and implement Funding Frameworks for Indigenous-led agencies and a Black-Mandated agencies.

Indigenous Funding Framework

The Indigenous Health Strategy notes that Indigenous people experience higher rates of poverty, unemployment, homelessness, involvement with child welfare, food insecurity and challenges within the education and justice systems – all contributing to poor health outcomes. [Here](#). Racism and the impacts of colonization affect the ability of Indigenous communities to act autonomously so their communities can thrive.

The City of Toronto has approved a [Statement of Commitment to Aboriginal Peoples](#) (2010) and some actions to respond to the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action](#) (2015). Guided by Indigenous leaders, in 2019 the City updated the [City of Toronto Community Grants Policy](#) which explicitly recognizes the unique status of Indigenous communities and aligns granting practices to support self-determination. The Policy further notes that “The City further commits to ensuring equitable access to granting which includes, but is not limited to, specific funding support and Indigenous-specific funding streams, particularly in instances where there exists a history of inaccessibility to funds that would be beneficial to Indigenous communities.” This issue is also highlighted in the *COVID-19: Impacts and Opportunities* report by the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild.

Indigenous communities have advocated not only for changes in grant policies and practices, but also for a greater share of granting funds for their communities, and Indigenous-specific grant streams. Through the Community Service Partnerships Renewal process, the Community Funding Unit aims to create an Indigenous specific funding Framework through the reallocation of funding within the existing Community Service Partnerships portfolio and the re-assignment of existing project-based funding to Community Service Partnerships operating and program funding. This will begin to

address the direction provided by community and Indigenous service providers, that long term, consistent funding solutions and supports be nurtured.

In keeping with the work to date, guided by and with Indigenous leaders and communities, change has started to happen with the current colonized structures of granting. The City will co-design the Community Services Partnership Indigenous Funding Framework with the direction of an Indigenous Steering Committee and further supported by the Indigenous Affairs Office.

The Indigenous Funding Framework will include: principles, definitions, outreach and application, the scope of granting activities, the use of grant funds, review and approval process, evaluation and reporting. The Framework will benefit from the experiences of other grant makers in the development of the Indigenous Funding Stream, in the areas of:

- focused and extensive outreach
- development of accessible and culturally relevant application and reporting tools
- greater flexibility in budget for Indigenous cultural and traditional materials (such as medicines, Knowledge Keepers, Elders)
- formation of an Indigenous review panel and partnerships with mainstream organizations
- possible alignment with the emerging Indigenous Prosperity Strategy and the Data for Equity Strategy. The Indigenous Funding Framework will be fully implemented for the next Community Service Partnerships funding cycle (2023-2026).

Investment in the Indigenous communities by the Community Funding Unit has increased in the past four years from \$397,130 to \$437,920, but still represents less than 1% of the overall budget. An additional investment of \$1,040,000 was made through the TO Supports Investment Fund. The City has been recognized for its work with Indigenous communities in the co-design the current Community Service Partnerships renewal process consistent with the Toronto Grants policy, honouring Indigenous self-determination. The annual grant reporting processes have been revised in collaboration with Indigenous funded groups.

Black-Mandated Funding Framework

In response to the [Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism](#), Action 5.1: "Increase stable funding to Black community organizations providing essential services to better meet the needs and aspirations of Black Torontonians", Social Development, Finance and Administration have committed to developing a Black-Mandated Funding Framework. The Black-Mandated Funding Framework will guide the Community Funding Unit's decisions, processes and approaches to working with Black-mandated groups in Toronto to enhance the life outcomes of Black Torontonians. A Black-mandated Framework also acknowledges and concretizes the City of Toronto's commitment to advance the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015 - 2024) themes: justice, recognition, and development, especially the development and recognition of people of African descent through a more targeted and purposeful approach to enhancing supports to Black-mandated organizations.

The creation of the Black-Mandated Framework may in the future require additional resources, but its primary focus will be on smart and sustainable reallocations of the existing Community Funding envelope to increase supports and help achieve better outcomes for Toronto's diverse Black communities. Both the COVID-19 pandemic's disproportionate impact on Black communities and the global movement for Black lives have hastened the need for increased and sustainable investments in Black-mandated organizations.

The Community Funding Unit with the support of Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit in Social Development, Finance and Administration has established strong working relationships with Black-mandated grantees through a series of granting initiatives. Between 2018 and 2020, through the Community Funding Unit invested over \$1.6M in direct short-term funding to several Black-mandated organizations to deliver a wide range of programs, interventions, and activities. Current multi-year investment in Community Service Partnerships for Black-mandated organizations was \$3.081M in 2019 and \$3.11M in 2020, out of a total budget of \$17M. This represents 18% and 18.29% respectively of the Community Service Partnerships portfolio. Black-mandated investments have been trending up since 2018 through intentional focus as a result of Council's adoption of the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism. Other funders are rapidly refocusing to meet the needs of Black communities and transform and change systems to function more equitably. The City has a unique opportunity to create a Black-Mandated Funding Framework that will provide leadership internally and to others committed to supporting Black communities.

The Black-Mandated Funding Framework development process began in Q1 2020 and will be developed over the course of a year, ending in Q2 2021 through four phase approach including: 1) Research and Evaluation; 2) Engagement and Consultation; 3) Grant making and Guideline Development; and 4) Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning.

3. Youth Violence Prevention Grants

The roots of community violence stem from inequities in our city and diminishing social determinants of health that often leave young people and their families vulnerable. If left unattended, these inequities can manifest into complex conditions including community violence. To address these inequities, [City Council approved the Community Youth Violence Prevention Grants](#) on February 19, 2020 to support the de-escalation of violence in Toronto communities. This section provides an update to the process and the resulting funding decisions of the Community Youth Violence Prevention Grants.

Ten sites were selected for investment based on a data-driven approach that identified a high number of incidents in these communities. Data was compiled from Toronto Police Services, Toronto Community Housing, and two Social Development, Finance and Administration's community safety and wellbeing programs, Furthering Our Communities Uniting Services (FOCUS) and the Community Crisis Response Program.

The ten (10) sites/communities selected for investment were:

- Black Creek-Jane Finch-Jane Sheppard-Shoreham
- Dorset Park (Priority: Glenmorgan, Canlish)
- Flemingdon/Thornccliffe

- Lawrence Heights (Priority: Neptune)
- Malvern/Morningside/Woburn (Priority: Empiringham, Orton Park, Cedarbrae, Danzig)
- Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown (Priority: Pittsboro/Orphington)
- Oakwood Village (Priority: Eglinton West, Little Jamaica and Vaughn Road)
- Regent Park (Priority: Regent Park, St. James Town, Yonge and Gerrard, the Esplanade)
- Rexdale/Kingsview Village (Priority: Willowridge, Capri, East Mall and West Mall)
- Steeles L'Amoureux (Priority: Glendower, Bay Mills and Chester Le)

Grant Process

Program Design: Eligible organizations were invited to apply for programming aimed at violence prevention and interruption for youth, aged 10-29, with eligible models including: community engagement approaches, trauma-informed programming, leadership development, employment development and mental health supports.

Applicant Support: Four (4) non-mandatory and virtual information sessions were hosted to provide interested applicants with an opportunity to review the grant guidelines and ask questions of city staff. Approximately 150 groups participated in these sessions. Additionally, City staff provided for 1:1 support. Short listed applicants were also provided with a tip sheet and best practices for pitch presentation content and virtual recordings to support the development of their pitch.

Application Process: Staff implemented a two-stage submission process. In stage one, 89 letter of intent submissions were received across the ten (10) sites for a combined total request of \$15.4 million. Letter of intent applications were reviewed by staff to ensure eligibility and alignment with the grant goals.

51 organizations (57%) were shortlisted to record a 15 minute pitch presentation addressing:

- Alignment with grant goals and program models
- Demonstrated knowledge of and experience in working with Most Vulnerable Persons¹ youth
- Detailed outreach plans for engaging Most Vulnerable Persons youth in programming
- Safety precautions including safety guidelines or risk mitigation strategies to ensure personal and emotional safety for all
- Program site location, taking cross-community conflicts and physical distancing measures into consideration
- Ability to pivot work with Most Vulnerable Persons youth to address a new or emerging trend/challenge
- Program delivery partners; roles, responsibilities, and decision-making structure
- Incorporating anti-Black racism and LGBTQ2S+ inclusion lenses into the work

¹ The City adopted the target group of youth who are most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence and crime in the Toronto Youth Equity Strategy as Most Vulnerable Persons.

Pitch presentations were shared with ten separate grant review panels (1 for each neighbourhood). A total of twelve City staff, and twenty-three youth were engaged in the review, assessment and funding recommendation stages. Recommendations from the review panels were presented to management and ultimately to the Executive Director of Social Development Finance, and Administration for approval under designated authority.

Grant Recommendations: 12 organizations were approved to receive a total of \$2,243,151 by the Executive Director of Social Development Finance and Administration (Appendix B). Six of the twelve lead organizations are either Indigenous-led or Black-mandated. Funding for these recommendations comes from the \$2,000,000 provided for the Youth Violence Prevention Grant as part of division's 2020 Approved Operating Budget, and \$243,151 from existing investment funding resources from the broader Community Partnership Investment Program budget.

Generally, groups not recommended for funding failed to demonstrate clear and effective outreach plans, meaningful partnerships, and risk mitigation measures in their safety plans and/or demonstrated experience working with youth most vulnerable to involvement in serious violence and crime¹.

To respond to the unique needs of Indigenous youth, Community Funding staff is working with a group of Indigenous youth to invest an additional \$200,000 into Indigenous youth-led community violence prevention activities with support from the City's Indigenous Affairs Office.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Successful applicants will submit annual reports and updated project workplans and budgets. Funding in years two and three is contingent on the submission of satisfactory reports. Additionally, all applicants will participate in shared evaluation activities, building on the outcomes identified in the City's new Youth Outcomes Framework, once finalized as part of the Youth Service Review, and will also collect socio-demographic information on program participants the Data for Equity Strategy that will be considered by Council in December 2020.

4. Donation from a Toronto Resident - Update

In October, 2019, Chris Brillinger, a former employee of the City of Toronto for 31 years and former Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, made a \$250,000 donation to the City to be used to fund programs, services, initiatives and events within the Regent Park community.

The Community Funding Unit is working with the Regent Park Social Development Plan Funding Committee and Stakeholder Table to guide the community investment by Mr. Brillinger. With an emphasis on projects that are focused on youth empowerment and safety, staff are reviewing and supporting the refinement of a number of community-led proposals to receive funding via this investment. While initially intended to be allocated earlier in 2020, COVID-19 has notably slowed the pace of community development,

engagement, and action in Regent Park. However, this donation enables more community action to be taken locally.

5. TO Supports Investment Fund - Update

In April 2020 as part of the COVID-19 pandemic response, the City's Senior Leadership Team agreed to a 20% carve out of the City of Toronto's Social Services Relief Fund allocation from the Province of Ontario to create a TO Supports Investment Fund to invest in strategic partnerships with social services agencies to support urgent needs of vulnerable Toronto residents. TO Supports Investment Fund provides targeted investments to respond to urgent, unmet needs of vulnerable Torontonians during the COVID-19 pandemic. A total investment of \$10.2M is being made from three combined sources: the 20% carve out of the Provincial Social Services Relief Fund (\$7.8M), the Canadian Medical Association Foundation through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (\$1.8M) and private donors (\$0.55M).

Community needs and the resulting TO Supports investments were supported by the Community Coordination Plan established by Social Development, Finance and Administration and United Way Greater Toronto early in the pandemic to ensure there is coordination and communication between the City, United Way, and community organizations. Working through the ten geographic clusters and clusters focused on city-wide, Indigenous-led and Black-Mandated organizations, community needs were identified. The TO Support Investment Fund provides funding to address the eight priorities of the TO Supports COVID community response initiative: food security, mental health, income support, housing/homelessness, family support, social connection, community safety and community sector support. To date, the Community Funding Unit has distributed a total of \$6.6M to 79 unique community agencies and groups, over two rounds of allocation in June and October 2020. Additionally, \$1M has been allocated to the Red Cross for a food hamper program which began in April. See Appendix D for details. At present, the remaining \$2.56M is anticipated to be allocated in December 2020-January 2021 in a third and final round. See Appendix A for highlights.

6. List of Grants Approved by Delegated Authority

To ensure all grant funds are expended during the year to maximize benefit to communities, City Council approved authority the Executive Director, Social Development Finance Administration to:

- Approve organization-level cost of living increases and allocations to Community Service Partnerships funded organizations;
- Approve grant recipients of the Youth Violence Grant and the Crisis Response Fund to ensure timely response to violence and trauma in neighbourhoods and to support relevant prevention efforts;
- Reallocate unused funds during the funding period to organizations that can implement an approved project, or to reallocate to applicants that were rated as high priority but not funded due to budget constraints;
- To approve recipients of investment funding programs; and,
- Disburse funding to new initiatives approved by Council.

Descriptions of the eight (8) grant streams that received delegated authority approvals can be found in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Grants Streams with Delegated Authority Approvals

Grant Stream	Description
Community Service Partnerships	Provides on-going and stable support to 177 for public benefit community organizations to deliver on their missions. Community Services Partnerships provides funding on a four year cycle to community organizations to offer high quality and relevant services that respond to the changing needs of the community and strengthen the City's well-being.
Identify 'N Impact	One-time grants of up to \$10,000 for grassroots, youth-led groups to advance the City's Toronto Youth Equity Strategy. This fund is administered through an annual grant call with the Youth Development Unit in Social Development, Finance and Administration.
Community Crisis Response Fund	Grants of up to \$3,000 to support general and youth-led projects that address a specific violent crisis in a community and contribute to community healing. This fund is administered through an on-going intake of applications in partnership with the Community Safety and Wellbeing Unit in Social Development, Finance and Administration.
Youth Violence Prevention Grant	Grants of up to \$200,000 per year for up to three years for projects aimed at programming responsive to violence prevention and intervention for youth ages 10 to 29.
Neighbourhood Grants	Grants of up to \$3,000 for resident-led groups to help them inspire their neighbourhoods with events of activities and advance key themes in the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy for 2020. This fund is administered in partnership with the Community Development Unit in Social Development, Finance and Administration.
Community Events	One-time funding to support events and short-term activity series to foster resident engagement, active living and leadership. This funding is currently redirected to support Social Development Plans in Regent Park, Lawrence Heights, Alexandra Park and the Downtown East.
Capacity Building Grants	Grants to help build the capacity of not-for-profits to govern effectively, support resident leadership and other capacity building initiatives. This fund focuses on providing this support to Black-led, Black-serving and Black-focused organizations.

Grant Stream	Description
TO Supports Fund	Grants to support strategic partnerships with social service agencies to support the urgent needs of vulnerable Toronto residents during the pandemic. Funding for these investments is from the City's allocation of the Social Services Relief Fund from the Province of Ontario, the Toronto Foundation, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and the Canadian Medical Association Foundation.

The impact of a number of these investments can be found in Appendix A: Community Funding, 2019-2020.

Appendix B provides a listing of the Youth Violence Prevention grantees.

Appendix C provides the list of reallocations and grants approved through delegated authority in between March 2019 and October 2020.

Appendix D provides a listing of the TO Supports Investment Fund grantees for information.

CONTACT

Barbara Powell, Manager, Community Funding, Social Development, Finance and Administration, 416-397-7302, barbara.powell@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Denise Andrea Campbell
 Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix A: Community Funding Unit Impact, 2019-2020
- Appendix B: List of Organizations Approved to Receive Youth Violence Prevention Grants
- Appendix C: List of Reallocations and Grant Recipients Approved with Delegated Authority
- Appendix D: List of Organizations Approved to Receive TO Supports Grants