



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**BUDGET ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
VIRTUAL MEETING
April 27, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

Board Member	Attendance	10/2020 through 9/2021 Cumulative Attendance	
		Present	Absent
Brian Donaldson, Chair	P	7	0
Jeff Lowe, Vice Chair	P	7	0
Ross Cammarata	P	7	0
Catherine Graham	P	7	0
Michael Marshall	P	5	2
A. Abidemi Oladipo	P	7	0
Prabhuling Patel	P	7	0
Adam Sabin	A	6	1
Johnnie Smith	P	7	0
Christopher Williams	P	5	2

Communication to the City Commission

Nonprofit Organization Grant Program Development

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Adopted Budget included \$2.2 million in nonprofit organization grant funding, which is used to support a variety of services that the City receives from nonprofit organizations. This funding allows the Commission to allocate resources to key priorities without the lead time that would be required if the City were to provide these services internally and provides flexibility to address different priorities each year without a long-term financial commitment.

In response to the Commission’s direction at the Joint Workshops with the Budget Advisory Board (BAB) on June 16 and August 18, 2020, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) collaborated with the BAB to develop a process that provided a consistent and transparent review of General Fund funding requests from nonprofit organizations.

Application and Review Process

The City began advertising for nonprofit organization grant applications on December 7, 2020. OMB also contacted the nonprofit organizations that were awarded funding in FY 2021 to notify them of the change in process for FY 2022 funding. From January 3 to January 25, 2021, the City accepted applications from nonprofit organizations through its

online grant application portal. In total, 107 eligible applications were received, 99 of which were from organizations that did not receive funding in FY 2021. Exhibit 1 provides a sample application and outlines the content that was requested from applicants. As was included in the application, it was anticipated that the City would continue to invest in programs in the following target areas: Social Welfare and Elderly Programs; Arts, Culture, and Historical Programs; and Educational Programs.

Following the application period, the City Commission identified its annual priorities for 2021 during the annual Commission Prioritization Workshop on January 29. At this juncture, the Commission provided further direction to the BAB that recommendations for nonprofit organization grant funding align with the 2021 Commission Priorities. With this guidance, the BAB began their review of the nonprofit organization applications from January 29 to February 11. Applications were scored in five criteria areas on a scale of 1 to 5 (see Exhibit 2 for the scoring criteria). Once all applications were received, OMB aggregated the BAB members' scores into a single average score for each applicant.

With the aggregate scores, the BAB met on February 17 to discuss the submitted applications. Focus was placed on those applications that had an average score of 17 or higher, whereby a score of 17 represented the top third of application scores. Each BAB member then identified two organizations they supported in each target area. A total of 23 organizations were identified through this process. Of these 23 applicants, the BAB requested that 13 applicants provide additional information regarding their proposals for grant funding. At the February 24 meeting, each of the 13 identified applicants presented and answered questions from the BAB regarding their program and the specific benefit to Fort Lauderdale neighbors.

At the March 2, 2021 City Commission and BAB Joint Workshop, the Commission requested that the BAB provide the Commission with an overview of the process and its recommendations for funding nonprofit organizations for consideration as a part of the City budget. The Commission emphasized their desire for any taxpayer funding going to nonprofit organizations must closely align with the 2021 Commission Priorities.

The Budget Advisory Board met on April 27, 2021 to hear public comments and finalize recommendations to the City Manager regarding funding for nonprofit organizations in the FY 2022 budget. At this meeting, each member considered applications with overall scores of 17 or above and individually voted in favor of, or against, using taxpayer dollars to support each program for FY 2022. Each application with 8 or more votes in favor was considered "highly recommended" and each application with 6 or 7 votes in favor was considered "recommended". In total, the Budget Advisory Board recommends that the City Manager fund 19 nonprofit organizations from the General Fund FY 2022 Budget in the amount of \$728,254 as compared to \$2,177,669 in the FY 2021 Budget. Of the recommended organizations, 15 organizations have not received funding during the last two budget cycles.

Recommendations of Nonprofit Applications

The Budget Advisory Board would like to communicate to the City Commission and recommend the following nonprofit organizations to the City Manager for funding in the FY 2022 Budget.

Motion made by Mr. Cammarata, seconded by Mr. Smith. In a roll call vote, the motion passed 10-0.

Nonprofit Organizations	Amount Recommended
Highly Recommend	
Children's Home Society of Florida	\$ 5,000
Kids in Distress, Inc. (KID)	\$ 11,512
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Broward County	\$ 15,000
A Child is Missing, Inc.	\$ 15,000
First Call for Help of Broward, Inc. dba 211-Broward	\$ 25,000
Fort Lauderdale Independence Training Education (FLITE) Center	\$ 25,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward County	\$ 25,000
Junior Achievement of South Florida	\$ 33,900
Broward Partnership for the Homeless, Inc.	\$ 50,000
SOS Children's Villages Florida	\$ 50,000
Gilda's Club South Florida, Inc.	\$ 50,000
Early Learning Coalition of Broward County, Inc.	\$ 50,000
Total Highly Recommend	\$355,412
Recommend	
Pace Center for Girls	\$ 5,000
Broward County Film Society, Inc.	\$ 20,000
Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc.	\$ 25,000
Lighthouse of Broward County, Inc.	\$ 35,000
Jack and Jill Children's Center	\$ 60,000
Helping Abused Neglected Disadvantaged Youth (HANDY) Inc	\$100,000
Areawide Council on Aging of Broward County, Inc. (ACABC)	\$127,842
Total Recommend	\$372,842
Grand Total	\$728,254

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - FY 2021-2022 Sample Nonprofit Grant Application

Exhibit 2 - Nonprofit Organizational Grant Program Scoring Criteria