



P.O. Box 7988
San Francisco, CA
94120-7988
www.SFHSA.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES COMMISSION
THROUGH: KELLY DEARMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FROM: CINDY KAUFFMAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DATE: APRIL 6, 2022
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF RECEIPT AND PLANNED USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Introduction

Through the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS) is in receipt of funding in the amount of \$3,362,507. This memo is to provide information on the background and receipt of these funds, restrictions on use of the funds, and planned use of these funds.

Background

The American Recovery Plan Act (ARP) is Federal legislation signed into law by President Biden in March 2021. It is a nearly \$2 trillion dollar economic stimulus bill designed to support recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding supports many different objectives including extension of unemployment benefits, economic stimulus checks, paid leave provisions, and numerous tax credit expansions and other benefits. Most relevant to the DAS Commission, the ARP Act allocated \$1.4 billion nationwide for support and expansion of Older Americans Act Programs. Of that funding, \$131 million is being provided to the (State of) California Department of Aging.

The California Department of Aging then allocated these funds among the 33 statewide Area Agencies on Aging. (DAS acts as the Area Agency on Aging for San Francisco, AAA #6.) Funding



London Breed
Mayor

Kelly Dearman
Executive Director



P.O. Box 7988
 San Francisco, CA
 94120-7988
www.SFHSA.org

was allocated according to the 2020 Interstate Funding Formula, which weights multiple demographic and geographic criteria including population 60+, income levels of population 65+, square miles of AAA, and minority populations. Through this formula, DAS has been allocated \$3,362,507.

CDA has provided proposed allocation of funding among Older Americans Act programs but is allowing for re-allocation of this funding among these program areas at the local level in order to best meet current needs. The proposed program allocations are as follows:

Older Americans Act Title / Program	ARP Funding
IIIB - Supportive Services	\$ 1,103,124
IIIC1 - Congregate Nutrition	\$ 719,429
IIIC2 - Home-Delivered Meals	\$ 1,079,143
IIID - Disease Prevention	\$ 105,516
IIIE - Family Caregiver Support Program	\$ 344,186
Ombudsman	\$ 11,109
Total	\$ 3,362,507

When utilizing this funding, DAS will meet regular CDA requirements related to reporting on expenditures including demonstration that funding is used appropriately and in accordance with all applicable guidelines. These funds are one time only funds and available for expenditure until September 30, 2024.

Planned Use of ARP Funding

It is to be noted that these funds are being utilized to support specific community needs, but do not reflect the full range of community needs or DAS efforts to serve older adults and adults with disabilities. The one-time nature of the funds and restrictions to Older Americans Act programs limit free use of



P.O. Box 7988
San Francisco, CA
94120-7988
www.SFHSA.org

these funds. The planned uses described below are to be considered just part of wider DAS efforts to address services and needs for the community. All ARP funds will be distributed to community-based organizations for delivery of services in San Francisco, through contracts with DAS.

DAS intends to follow proposed allocations by program title, with use of funds as follows:

Title IIIB – Supportive Services - \$1,103,124

Funds will support multiple programmatic efforts:

- Ongoing program costs for the Connections, Health, Aging, and Technology (CHAT) program sponsored by the California Department of Aging. The state has provided DAS with approximately 200 tablet computers for distribution to older adults in the community. ARP funding will support program staff efforts to enroll clients, support and train them on their new devices, track program and client impacts, and help with client transition when the time limited program ends.
- Support for increased Latinx focused staffing providing legal services. This will meet community demand and offset historically declining funding for Latinx focused legal services.
- Pilot dedicated legal services office space in District 4 and serving the west side of the City. District 4 and the Outer Sunset area is a 'desert' of DAS funded services and an area lacking in dedicated space for services focused on older adults. Efforts to increase services in this area have been challenging. This funding will also require outreach and engagement with Asian and Pacific Islander communities to increase participation in legal services. Analysis of DAS program data has shown declining participation of API clients in DAS funded legal services over the past 5 years.
- Pilot legal services program for dedicated and effective counseling service for people considering employment but concerned about income impacts on means tested benefits (such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medi-Cal). This



P.O. Box 7988
San Francisco, CA
94120-7988
www.SFHSA.org

pilot program will coordinate with the “Work Matters” collaborative and serve as an additional resource reducing barriers for older adults and adults with disabilities seeking part-time or full-time work.

Title IIIC1 – Congregate Nutrition - \$719,429

Funding will support continued increased demand for services experienced since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Title IIIC2 – Home-Delivered Meals - \$1,079,143

Funding will support continued increased demand for services experienced since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Title IIID – Disease Prevention - \$105,516

Funding will support ongoing program needs and piloting of new programs providing exercise and healthy living activities. Current programs include Always Active classes, Walk with Ease walking groups, and Bingo-cize.

Title IIIE – Family Caregiver Support Program - \$344,186

Funding will support expansion of services and/or piloting of new program services. New or expanded services will respond to recent 2022 DAS Community Needs Assessment findings and recommendations on caregiver services.

Ombudsman - \$11,109

Funding will support current Ombudsman program operations.

Next Steps

DAS’ Office of Community Partnerships staff will coordinate with HSA Contracts staff for administration of these funds. Use of Request for Proposals procurements and/or contract modifications may be utilized. Each of these contracting actions will come before DAS Commission for approval and will be identified as utilizing ARP funds.