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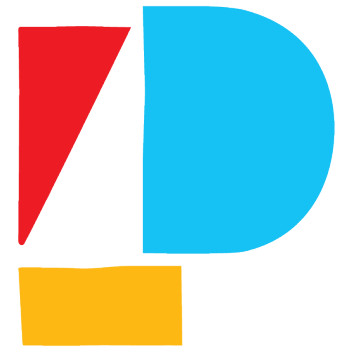
## Funding Priorities for 2024-25 Funding Round

# Funding Priorities – Creation Process



- 2023-2024 Community Engagement Process
- Final Community Engagement Report
- Staff Draft
- Community Council Input & Vote

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# Funding Priorities – Community Engagement Process

- Using surveys, focus groups, and interviews, we heard from 760 community members and service providers across Portland

- Of community survey respondents:
  - More than 70% BIPOC
  - More than 50% live in households earning less than $50K/year
  - More than 50% have a preferred language other than English

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# Funding Priorities –
# Final Community Engagement Report

- Camille E. Trummer's consulting team led the community engagement process and produced a final report summarizing the results

- Presentation at May 6 Joint Allocation & Community Council Meeting

- Included specific findings and recommendations by program area

# Funding Priorities – Staff Draft

- Staff drafted funding priorities, informed by the following:
    - Final 2024 Community Engagement Report
    - Complete dataset from the community engagement project
    - PCL Ballot Measure/Act requirement to fund direct services for children and families
    - The roles played by other major systems such as health care, child welfare, etc

# Funding Priorities – Community Council Input & Vote

- May 29th, 2024 Community Council Meeting

- Consensus-building process of small group work → full Council work

- The Community Council reached consensus on all funding priorities for the Levy's six program areas

- Voted to recommend funding priorities to the Allocation Committee for adoption

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# Funding Priorities – Purpose & Use

- Communicate eligibility to potential applicants
- Funding priorities include the following components:
  - Program services – applicants must provide at least one service to be eligible for funding
  - Program features – community preferences in program delivery
  - Community engagement demographic results
- Priority populations:
  - Black, Indigenous, and children and families of color
  - Children with disabilities
  - LGBTQ2SIA+ youth
  - Immigrant and refugee children & families
  - Families earning low incomes
  - Children & families that reside in East or North Portland

# 2024-25 Funding Priority Highlights

**2019/2024 Similarities:**

- Continued emphasis on culturally responsive staffing & services

- Continued support for 14-24 in the foster care program area

- Majority of recommended program activities remain the same as 2019-2020 funding round

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# 2024-25 Funding Priority Highlights

**2019/2024 Key differences:**

- Early childhood: no preschool classroom funding due to passage of Preschool for All in 2020

- Expanded array of services in mentoring including services for 14-24 yr. olds.

- Increased focus on mental health, social-emotional health, system navigation & reducing parent/caregiver & family isolation

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# Hunger Relief Priorities

- Food pantries offered at community locations.

- Food pantries at schools.

- Free groceries and/or ready-to-eat meals delivered to families homes.

- Classes for children and families on nutrition, cooking, and/or gardening.

- Access to gardens for families to grow food

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# After School Funding Priorities

- Provide activities for youth such as arts, sports, STEM education, and/or youth recreation.

- Provide hard and soft skill-building, career readiness and internship opportunities for youth.

- Provide academic support including tutoring and homework assistance

- Support healthy social and emotional development, including activities to help youth build healthy peer relationships, reduce feelings of isolation, and learn healthy strategies to manage stress & navigate conflict.

- Provide activities for youth with disabilities, neurodivergence or developmental delays including arts, sports, STEM education and/or youth recreation.

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# Child Abuse Prevention Priorities

- Connect families to resources like food, utility payments, housing or rental assistance and other basic needs.

- Connect parents/caregivers to each other to reduce isolation.

- Support parents/caregivers and youth experiencing grief and stress to learn coping skills.

- Help children, youth, and families navigate multiple systems (child welfare, mental/behavioral health, legal services).

- Support healing of families impacted by violence.

- Offer support & resources to teen parents

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# Early Childhood Priorities

- Offers financial assistance to families for childcare.
- Helps families learn about child behavior and development including managing difficult behavior.
- Help children identify & express feelings.
- Help parents & caregivers of children with disabilities, neurodivergence, or developmental delays with parenting needs, including system navigation to help children access physical, occupational, and speech therapy
- Offer community-based pre/post natal maternal education.

# Foster Care Priorities

Support for :
- older foster youth to enter college and/or workforce & find housing.
- Foster youth to understand their cultural/racial identities
- Connection & reunification between foster youth & birth parents including mental health support
- Foster parents to create welcoming home & supportive care for LGBTQIA youth.

- Help for foster youth, foster families, & birth parents to navigate multiple systems.

- Provide services that support and improve youth mental health, especially for LGBTQIA+ youth

- Mentoring for foster youth and/or birth parents of youth in foster care, especially by mentors who share similar experiences with the foster care system.
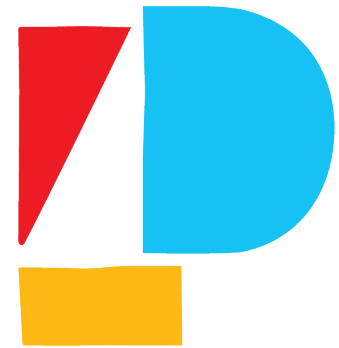
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# Mentoring Priorities

Offer:

- activities to increase social connections, reduce isolation, & affirm identities among youth and families with similar identities.
- identity-specific support, opportunities & mental health resources for youth to express their feelings and heal from trauma, grief, and experiences of violence.
- Services that prevent youth from joining gangs
- Services that affirm the cultural, racial, gender, LGBTQIA+ identities of youth & families

- Support youth, ages 14-24, to prepare and plan for employment and/or college.

- Help youth develop leadership skills

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## Allocation of Projected Resources

# Background: Requirements

- Allocate projected resources before a competitive funding round

- No more than 35% of projected resources to any single program area

- Competitive grant process

- Up to 10% of projected resources can be allocated non-competitively for specified purposes

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# Projected Resources

- Estimated resources for grants and grantee training, FY 2026-28: $71.5M

- City economist projects decreased revenues FY 2026-28

- Next revenue forecast in Jan. 2025

# Recommendations: Non – Competitive Grants

$6.6 million over 3 years (FY 2026-28) for:

- Community Childcare Initiative (CCI): average of $2M annually
- Grantee Training: average of $200K annually

# Recommendations: Small Grants Fund

$1.5 million over 3 years (FY 2026-28):

- Cover projected cost for final year of current small grant contracts (FY26) and first two years of new small grants
- Continue providing equity of access to PCL funding for smaller organizations
- Pilot small grants have successfully built capacity

# Recommendations: Large Grants

- $70.45 million over 3 years (FY 2026-28) for 6 program areas
- Allocate a range of resources to each program area

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# Current & Recommended Resource Allocation

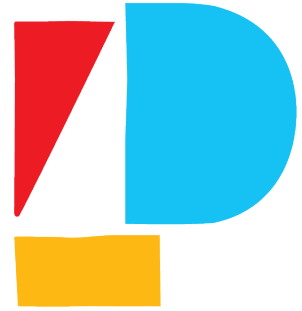| Program Area | FY 2024 Grant Budgets | Recommended % Range |
|---|---|---|
| After School | 19% | 16-19% |
| Child Abuse P & I | 17% | 20-25% |
| Early Childhood | 30% | 19-21% |
| Foster Care | 11% | 12-13% |
| Hunger Relief | 12% | 15-18% |
| Mentoring | 11% | 14-17% |

# Recommended Allocations

| Program Area | Recommended 3-Year $ range (million) | Recommended Average Annual $ range (million) | FY 24 Annual Budget Total (million) |
|---|---|---|---|
| After School | 10.0 – 11.9 | 3.4 – 4.0 | 4.8 |
| Child Abuse | 12.6 – 15.7 | 4.2 – 5.2 | 4.5 |
| Early Child. | 11.9-13.2 | 4.0 – 4.4 | 7.7 |
| Foster Care | 7.5 – 8.2 | 2.5 – 2.7 | 2.9 |
| Hunger Relief | 9.4 – 11.3 | 3.1 – 3.8 | 3.0 |
| Mentoring | 8.8 – 10.7 | 2.9 – 3.6 | 2.8 |

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# Grant Application, Scoring Criteria, and Review Process

June 24, 2024

# Process for Developing Grant Application/Scoring Criteria

Focus on simplifying application

- Feedback from 2019-20 Funding Process

- Iterations with Community Council since fall 2023

- Spring survey of potential applicants

# Web Grants: Application Online

- PCL developing parts of its application form in Web Grants, City adopted online grants application software

- Applicant data in Web Grants
  - Basic eligibility questions for PCL grants
  - Program data best gathered in online form
  - Allows easy data export for analysis and aggregation by program area

- Narrative responses for application, upload to Web Grants
  - Flexible, easier for applicants with length and detail in narrative responses
  - Avoids applicants trying to compose narrative in online fields

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# Application Structure

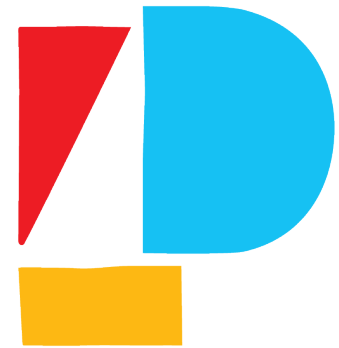| Parts of 2024 PCL Grant Application |
|---|
| Step 1. Eligibility (Web Grants form) |
| Step 2. Program Information (Web Grants form) |
| Step 3. Service Activities (Web Grants form) |
| Step 4. Budget Request (Web Grants form) |
| Step 5. Narrative part of Application (upload to Web Grants)<br>• Organization (34% of total points)<br>• Program Design (53% of total points)<br>• Budget Justification (13% of total points) |

# Grant Review Process

Recruit community volunteers to read/score applications

- Optional stipend of $250
- Extensive outreach to recruit a diverse pool of reviewers
- Reviewer sign-up and screening process, including conflict of interest
- Training: implicit & explicit bias, practice scoring, using Web Grants
- 6 – 8 weeks for reviewers to read and score applications
- Staff check-ins to support and ensure accountability
- Reviewers remain anonymous to avoid pressure or retaliation
- Send score forms to applicants after staff has provided funding recommendations

# Funding process timeline

- Application published September 10th, 2024

- Application due date November 4th, 2024

- Review period begins on November 18th, 2024

- Funding decisions in April 2025



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