

# FY 26/27 Funding Recommendations Program Descriptions

## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

### CDBG Public Services

**Family Promise – Greater Phoenix Mesa - Family Shelter Program \$85,820** Mesa Family Shelter Program provides a home-like living environment for homeless families with youth under the age of 18, focusing on shelter, food, and social services that move them toward independent housing and self-sufficiency. The Program, in collaboration with churches, serves low-income families by meeting basic needs for a bed, hygiene items, and comfort items for kids, then connecting families with childcare/school, supporting employment opportunities, and finally providing financial literacy skills and housing guidance. Proposed to serve 102 Mesa families.

**Child Crisis Arizona - Early Education Services for Low-Income Mesa Families \$80,000** Child Crisis Arizona is respectfully seeking funding to support early childhood education programming at our Mesa Early Education Center's Preschool Program. The program goal is to help children be kindergarten ready; therefore, focusing heavily on literacy and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). To help eliminate barriers to family success and support children's early education better, participating families are assigned a Family Support Specialist who works with them to identify problems and find resources. Support services not only extend to adults, but to siblings, as well. Proposed to serve 75 Mesa children.

**Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS) – Emergency Shelter for Mesa Adults and Seniors \$63,191** CASS requests funding to provide wrap around support services to Adults and Seniors staying in the shelter located at 230 S. 12<sup>th</sup> Ave., in Phoenix. Funds will be used to develop case management plans customized to individual needs, make referrals to community partners, and conduct weekly meetings to achieve plan goals. Proposed to serve 240 Mesa residents.

**A New Leaf - Housing Support Services \$51,703** A New Leaf requests funding to provide Housing Support Services for low-income individuals and families residents at La Mesita and Desert Leaf Apartments, located in Mesa. Program assists those who are chronically homeless or homeless with special needs, who are transitioning into permanent housing. Services include case management, basic need assistance, educational and financial coaching, community events, transportation, workforce development, and educational, socialization, and recreational activities for children and youth. Proposed to serve 130 Mesa residents.

**City of Mesa – Office of Homeless Solutions (city set-aside) - Navigation Services \$292,526** The Office of Homeless Solutions will contract with a non-profit organization for Homeless Navigation Services. Homeless navigators play a crucial role in helping individuals experiencing homelessness navigate the complex systems and resources available to them. Services will include assessment and prioritization of homeless individuals requiring immediate assistance, finding and securing housing, connecting individuals to essential services, and conducting street outreach. Proposed to serve 150 Mesa residents.

## **CDBG Non-Public Services**

### **City of Mesa - Emergency Rehabilitation Program (city set-aside) \$2,389,017**

The Emergency Rehabilitation Program provides repairs to low-moderate-income homeowners in Mesa. Repairs provide safe and sanitary living conditions, preserve the existing housing stock, and assist in neighborhood revitalization. The primary recipients earn less than 60% of the area median income, and secondary recipients earn less than 80% of the area median income. Proposed to serve 130 Mesa residents.

## **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Funding**

### **HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)**

**City of Mesa Rental and Utility Deposit Program (city set-aside) \$400,000** The City of Mesa Rental and Utility Deposit Program will assist low-income Mesa residents whose only barrier to housing is the upfront cost of moving into a new home to find a stable living situation. Families and individuals will be assisted with rental security deposit assistance and/or utility deposit assistance to assist with move-in costs for stable housing. Proposed to serve 350 Mesa residents with utility and rental deposits.

### **HOME Rental Development**

**A New Leaf - La Mesita Phase IV Affordable Housing Development \$2,673,350** A New Leaf seeks HOME funding to leverage Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) funds for the development of Phase IV of La Mesita, located at 2254 W. Main St, 85201. This project will entail the construction of one building which will provide 54 units of affordable housing to serve seniors. The proposed project will consist of 48 studios and 6 one-bedroom units, with a preference for senior veterans (the "Project"). A New Leaf will seek to apply for City of Mesa Project-Based Vouchers for 30% of the units. HOME funding is contingent on successful award of LIHTC funding from the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH.) Proposed 55 units for seniors, disabled, and veterans. Proposed to serve 54 Mesa seniors, disabled, and veterans.

## **Emergency Solution Grant (ESG)**

**Save the Family Foundation of Arizona - Rapid Rehousing \$110,505** Save the Family will provide Rapid Rehousing Services to Mesa households experiencing homelessness in order to stabilize the household, end their homelessness, and help them secure permanent housing. The households will receive housing location services and payment of stepped-down rental subsidies in order to secure their own leased rental housing in the community. In addition to receiving Case Management and access to wrap-around Supportive Services (Family, Adult's and Children's Empowerment Services - FACES) designed to empower them to maintain on-going permanent housing without financial subsidies. Proposed to assist 7 Mesa residents with rental housing.

**A New Leaf - East Valley Men's Center \$164,010** A New Leaf provides emergency shelter, basic needs, and supportive services for single men experiencing homelessness at the East Valley Men's Center (EVMC). EVMC provides clients with shelter, basic needs, and supportive services for up to 120 days with a capacity of 110 beds. EVMC provides supportive services and referral resources to enable clients to reach their long-term economic and housing stability goals, while also focusing on improving social determinants of health. Proposed to assist 35 Mesa Males, for a total of 2,800 bed nights.

**Tempe Community Action Agency - I-Help Emergency Shelter \$40,000** TCAA is requesting \$40,000 in ESG funds for I-HELP Emergency Shelter services benefiting unsheltered seniors, adults and couples from the City of Mesa. Grant funds will support a portion of the shelter program personnel costs, program supplies, and direct client assistance. The program is closely aligned with the City of Mesa's priorities to respond to the needs of residents experiencing homelessness, poverty, hunger, and domestic violence. I-HELP is a non-traditional mobile shelter model. Rather than using a dedicated shelter facility, a network of faith organizations provides TCAA with free access to their facilities for 40 safe sleeping spaces for adults every night of the year. In addition to the faith partners, TCAA collaborates with EVIT and volunteer groups for evening meals for shelter guests, HOM for Rapid Rehousing placements, Circle the City for onsite healthcare services, and Homeless ID Project for replacement of lost or stolen ID documents. Proposed to serve 50 Mesa residents with emergency shelter.

## **Human Services Program**

### **City of Mesa – Office of Homeless Solutions (city set-aside) – Off the Streets Program \$547,163**

The Off the Streets program provides emergency shelter and support services for Mesa's most vulnerable residents, including seniors, families, and survivors of domestic violence. Since May 2020, it has supported more than 3,400 women, men and children, with nearly three-quarters successfully taking the next step in their housing journey.

## **A Better Community (ABC) Donation Program**

**Valley of the Sun YMCA – YMCA Pathways to Success Quality Childcare and Early Education for Every Family \$35,000** Valley of the Sun YMCA is requesting funding to provide financial assistance for childcare and learning programs tuition for eligible Mesa families. The Ross Farnsworth East Valley Family YMCA provides high-quality early learning and school-age childcare programs that ensure children are safe, supported, and thriving while their parents work or attend school. The program focuses on nurturing the whole child through evidence-based practices that promote social-emotional development, academic readiness, healthy living, and character building. Proposed to serve 100 Mesa youth.

**House of Refuge, Inc. - Transitional Housing for Homeless Families \$50,000** The House of Refuge transitional housing program provides homeless families with a dignified place to live in a peaceful neighborhood setting for up to 12 months. By focusing on education and employment, we help homeless families rebuild their lives and work toward self-sufficiency, with the goal of graduating into stable housing in the community. Crucial wrap around supportive services includes case management, job-readiness & employment assistance, adult life-skills classes, and special teen and children's programming. Proposed to serve 100 Mesa residents.

**Arizona Brainfood - Weekend Food Bags \$19,500** Arizona Brainfood provides weekend backpacks of child-friendly, user-friendly food for children in the East Valley who have been identified by school health offices, teachers, and other personnel as being at risk for having no food or insufficient food on weekends. We provide each of these children with a bag of food that has sufficient food for at least 7 meals. The bags are filled and delivered to children at 56 schools in Mesa (125+ schools in the East Valley) by volunteers from all areas of the community. We have many community groups who collaborate with us and make our work possible. Proposed to serve 1,600 Mesa youth with a total of 5,882 food bags.

## Alternate Human Services Programs

**Arizona Brainfood - Weekend Food Bags \$30,500** Arizona Brainfood provides weekend backpacks of child-friendly, user-friendly food for children in the East Valley who have been identified by school health offices, teachers, and other personnel as being at risk for having no food or insufficient food on weekends. We provide each of these children with a bag of food that has sufficient food for at least 7 meals. The bags are filled and delivered to children at 56 schools in Mesa (125+ schools in the East Valley) by volunteers from all areas of the community. We have many community groups who collaborate with us and make our work possible. Proposed to serve 1,600 Mesa youth with a total of 5,882 food bags.

**Oakwood Creative Care, Inc. (OCC) – Comprehensive Day Care Services for Low-Income, Older Adults in Mesa with Cognitive and Physical Impairments \$40,000** Oakwood Creative Care requests funding to deliver essential services to meet the urgent needs of Mesa families experiencing the crisis of homelessness and provide up to 12 months of transitional housing. Proposed to serve 100 Mesa residents.

**Teen Lifeline – Youth Crisis Services \$50,000** Teen Lifeline requests funding for the suicide crisis hotline/text line, prevention education and outreach, and life skills development training. The crisis hotline/text line provides life-saving crisis services for Mesa teens through free peer counseling. Provide critical life skills, conflict resolution, stress & coping, grief & loss, and suicide & mental health prevention skills to Mesa teens through Prevention Education programs. Proposed to assist 13,008 Mesa youth.

**Aster Aging, Inc. - Meals on Wheels \$60,000** Aster Meals on Wheels assists homebound older and disabled adults with hot, nutritious meals that are delivered each weekday, coupled with wellness / safety checks. Three critical outcomes are achieved that ultimately enable vulnerable seniors to maintain their independence at home. Proposed to serve 600 Mesa residents with a total of 90,000 meals.

**Paz de Cristo – Relief Services to Empower Individuals \$50,000** Paz de Cristo is requesting funding for nightly food boxes, clothes, and wrap around services. A hot nutritious meal or food box will be provided to decrease food insecurity. Clothing and other essential items will be provided to improve health and well-being. Proposed to serve 6,800 Mesa residents.

**Matthew's Crossing – Meals to Grow Program \$35,000 –** This program provide food closets on various school campuses to alleviate weekday hungry. Food closets include pasta noodles, pasta sauce, mac and cheese box, tuna, instant potatoes/rice, peanut butter, soup and beans. Weekend backpacks will be provided to 20 Mesa schools which include 3 community college locations within Mesa. Summer snack packs will be provided to students at the end of the school year to provide food assistance when school is not in session. Proposed to serve 1,000 Mesa youth with 6,100 meals.

**Homeless Youth Connection, Inc. - Empowering Youth for the Future \$25,940**

Homeless Youth Connection, Inc. (HYC) Empowering Youth for The Future (EYFTF) program is a comprehensive social services program that engages high-school-aged youth experiencing homelessness in trauma-informed, client-led, strengths-based interventions. Youth coaches work with youth to identify needs related to academics, health, housing, hygiene, employment, and independent living skills. HYC believes youth will succeed and reach their highest potential through authentic youth engagement and positive youth development. Program success is measured by the number of youths who complete the school year, increase independent living

skills, establish a plan for after high school, and have a healthy support network. Proposed to serve 110 Mesa youth.

**Oakwood Creative Care, Inc. (OCC) – Community Hub Community Engagement Services for Low-Income Older Adults in Mesa \$10,000** Oakwood Creative Care requests support from the City of Mesa to support Mesa Seniors with cognitive and physical impairments at the Day Clubs located in OCC's Downtown and Red Mountain Mesa Day Clubs, which are cost-effective, vital, community-based solutions for senior care and licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services. This grant will provide low-income seniors living with cognitive and physical impairments with adult day respite care. The individuals we serve through our Day Clubs receive 16,640 hours of adult day respite through daily engagement activities, nursing oversight, nutritious meals and snacks, one-to-one counseling, group counseling, advanced care planning, support groups, and dementia education. Proposed to serve 100 Mesa residents.

**United Food Bank - Emergency Food Assistance \$50,000** United Food Bank aims to supplement the diet of low-income Arizonans. The program plays a crucial role in providing wholesome perishable and nonperishable food items to agency partners. Through collaborative efforts and partnerships, United Food Bank ensures the sustainability of its services. Proposed to serve 42,000 Mesa residents with emergency food assistance.

**Maggie's Place, Inc. - Shelter Services at The Hannah House \$50,000**

Maggie's Place requests funding to provide homeless pregnant and parenting women and their child(ren) in Mesa, AZ with critical shelter/housing, basic needs (food/supplies /clothing), and wraparound supportive services at The Hannah House. Services include nutritious food; access to prenatal medical/dental care; maternity/infant clothes and supplies; group and individual counseling; transportation/bus passes; parenting classes; job training; life skills; financial literacy classes; education programs; child education and enrichment activities; and referrals to local programs for low-cost housing, health insurance, day care subsidies, benefits, and homeless prevention services for Mesa's housing-vulnerable and/or homeless pregnant/parenting women. Proposed to serve 40 Mesa residents.

**Save the Family Foundation of Arizona – Pathways to Stability for Mesa Families and Children Experiencing Homelessness \$44,293** Save the Family will provide Mesa families with rapid emergency response to mental health challenges and trauma while transitioning out of homelessness through our Pathways to Stability program. This program will also meet health and safety needs by supporting resource navigation and long-term planning for mental health, including counselling, navigating access to mental health benefits through insurance, referral to long-term mental health care providers, substance abuse Support Services, and children's services. Proposed to serve 135 Mesa families.

**Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc. - My Sister's Place (MSP) – Walking Alongside Survivors of DV \$50,000** My Sister's Place (MSP) is a 30-bed shelter providing safe, confidential housing and comprehensive support services to survivors of domestic violence and their children. The program offers trauma-informed care, including crisis intervention, case management, counseling, legal advocacy, and job readiness programs, to help survivors rebuild their lives and achieve long-term stability. MSP works in close collaboration with local law enforcement, legal aid organizations, and community partners such as the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) to ensure survivors receive holistic support. Proposed to 120 Mesa residents.

**East Valley Institute of Technology - Hope Tech \$50,000** Hope Tech provides safe, transitional housing for disadvantaged youth aging out of the foster care system offering them a stable environment to focus on education and career development. Participants work toward earning

their high school diploma or GED/HSE and receive career technical education (CTE) training, giving them essential skills for achieving a livable wage. Along with academic and vocational training, the program emphasizes life skills, financial literacy, and engagement, helping these young individuals grow into productive, responsible citizens. Proposed to serve 64 students.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona (BBBSAZ) – Healthy Habits, Healthy Minds for Mesa Youth \$11,430** This program provides classes through the Healthy Habits, Healthy Minds programing to improve emotional regulations and reduce depressive symptoms. Resource referrals will be made specifically tailored to individual's needs. Proposed to serve 96 Mesa youth.