NO. 2019-204

A RESOLUTION SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION 2012-191; CONFIRMING THE CREATION OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE AND GOALS; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERS; PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING; PROVIDING CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Petersburg, Florida allocates funds for use by Social Service agencies which benefit the citizens of St. Petersburg; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, the City Council created the Social Services Allocations Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Social Services Allocations Committee is appointed by the City Council to review all Social Action Funding applications and make recommendations for funding; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to continue to promote the health, economic and social well-being of persons in St. Petersburg in need of assistance through a competitive application process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida that:

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Social Services Allocations Committee (hereinafter “Committee”) is to promote the health and economic and social well-being of individuals and families residing in St. Petersburg who are in need of assistance.

2. **Goals.** The goals of the Committee are to:

   a. Promulgate Social Action Funding guidelines to apply to all applications for Social Action Funding in accordance with this resolution.

   b. Review all Social Action Funding applications received and make recommendations to City Council for funding to agencies based on the criteria and conditions set forth in the Social Action Funding guidelines and application.

   c. Advance the health, economic, or social well-being of individuals and families residing in St. Petersburg who have become homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless, in alignment with the funding priorities established by the Homeless Leadership Board.
d. Assure the program(s) or service(s) provided by the agency are readily available to all residents living in St. Petersburg.

3. Members. The Committee consists of nine (9) members, each serving a term of up to three (3) years. The expiration date of each term is on the 30th day of September of the third (3rd) year of each respective Committee member’s term. Vacancies will be filled by appointment for the balance of the term. A chair and vice chair must be elected annually from the membership by a majority vote of the members present.

4. Guidelines. The following guidelines are required to be part of the Social Action Funding guidelines and must be applied to each funding request.

   a. Funds shall be used only for program(s) or service(s) benefitting residents of St. Petersburg.

   b. Agencies must be non-profit and incorporated under the laws of Florida.

   c. Agencies which provide similar services must document a coordinated effort in meeting their goals.

   d. Agencies and/or new programs must be established for a minimum period of one (1) year prior to submitting a Social Action Funding application.

   e. Agencies which permit an outstanding balance to be owed to the City from prior years are not eligible for funding.

   f. Agencies must implement the Housing First approach in their housing programs, defined as an approach to homeless assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold. This approach should include the following minimum components: 1) removing barriers to entry; 2) participating in a coordinated entry system; 3) practicing client-centered service delivery; 4) prioritizing households most in need; and 5) ensuring inclusive decision-making.

5. Funding Terms and Permitted Uses of City Funds. The Committee shall recommend funding on a reimbursement basis to be utilized only for preventing and ending homelessness, provided that the agencies comply with any conditions imposed. Funds may be used only for programs aligned with the priority groups identified annually by the Homeless Leadership Board prior to the date the Social Action Funding guidelines and applications are updated for the upcoming funding cycle. Examples of permitted uses of City funds include: matching funds for grant programs, personnel, equipment, operating expenses, consultant or contractor services, utilities or rent.

6. Excluded Funding Terms. The Committee shall not recommend funding of certain expenses which do not provide a direct benefit to citizens of St. Petersburg. Examples of expenses
which may not be funded with City funds are: rental or repair of equipment, purchase or rental of motor vehicles, reimbursements for travel expenses, anything to be given to clients for their personal use (excluding hygiene items), or the renovation or repair of leased buildings.

7. Application. The Social Action Funding application must be in the form required by the Committee, and applicants will be required to provide all information requested in such application by the Committee. The Committee must annually review the Social Action Funding application and update the application as necessary to require applicants to provide data demonstrating the applicants’ ability to comply with the Social Action Funding guidelines and align with: i) HLB funding priority groups and ii) HUD performance measures in their housing programs.

8. Evaluation. All funds will be awarded on a competitive basis based on the Social Action Funding guidelines, regardless of whether the applicant is a current or past recipient of Social Action Funding. When reviewing applications from a current or past recipient of Social Action Funding, the Committee must consider the applicant’s past program successes as demonstrated through quarterly reports and the applicant’s ability to comply with the Social Action Funding guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Resolution 2012-191 concerning the Committee is superseded by this resolution.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted at a regular session of the City Council held on the 18th day of April 2019.

Charlie Gerdes, Chair-Councilmember
Presiding Officer of the City Council

ATTEST: Chan Srinivasa, City Clerk