

Human Services Advisory Committee
September 29, 2021
3:30 - 4:30 PM
Virtual - Zoom

In accordance with PA 21-2 §147 and social distancing guidelines recommended by the CDC to slow community spread of COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. The public may listen to the meeting live by calling 1 (929) 205-6099, meeting ID: 898 2562 5245 with passcode: 809472. Additionally, an archive video recording of the meeting will be made available at <https://mansfieldct.gov/video> for 12 months. Public Comment will be accepted by email at HumanServ@MansfieldCT.org or by USPS mail at Mansfield Human Services 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order

- II. Approval of Minutes - February 17, 2021

- III. Departmental Update (P. Schneider)
 - A. Staffing Update

 - B. Program Update

 - C. Budget Update

- IV. Old Business

- V. New Business
 - Review of the Draft Revised Committee Charge from the Committee on Committees

 - ARPA Funding

- VI. Public Comment

- VII. Adjournment:

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Minutes – Special Meeting

Recorded Meeting Link

<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/5c4eb1a4be419383846b9774b1c80986ad7a845abe3727a0c810d70fcb9fd615>

Present:

Ethel Mantzaris, Chair (Youth Services Advisory Committee)

Will Bigl (Commission on Aging)

Marie Hakmiller (Member at Large)

Victoria Nimirowski (WAIM)

Absent:

Lorraine Kenowski (Member at Large)

Ron Baker (Member at Large)

Staff:

Pat Schneider (Director of Human Services)

Jessica Duers (Human Services Office Assistant)

- I. The chair called the meeting to order at 3:44 pm.
- II. New Business
 - a. Agency Grant Application review
 - i. Committee reviewed and discussed submitted applications.
 - ii. Committee agree on presenting the following funding for those agencies, which submitted applications.

iii.

Agency	Committee Recommendation
ACCESS	\$1,000
Community Companion and Homemaking Service	\$5,000
CT Legal Services	\$6,500
Holy Family Home/Shelter	\$4,000
Perception Programs	\$3,500
Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern CT	\$4,500
SERAC	\$1,000
TVCCA/Meals on Wheels	\$3,500
United Services	\$5,000
Veteran's Advisor/WRCC	\$5,000
WAIM	\$3,500
Windham Region No Freeze Project	\$6,000
Proposed Total	\$48,500

- b. Committee will review the application process for this funding as the process appears to be cumbersome to apply.

III. No Public Comment

IV. Meeting Adjournment: 4:22 pm

Next Meeting April 28, 2021, 3:30 -4:30 pm. At this time the meeting is schedule to be virtual.

REFERRAL MEMO

DATE: August 19, 2021
TO: Human Services Advisory Committee
FROM: Committee on Committees c/o Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk
RE: Revised Charge

The Committee on Committees passed the following motion at their August 12, 2021 regular meeting:

Move, to refer the draft Human Services Advisory Committee charge to the Human Services Advisory Committee for their input and recommendations specifically on the composition of membership and for their Chair and any other members to attend the October meeting of the Committee on Committees to review and discuss the recommendations.

The Committee on Committees will meet at 6:00 PM on October 14, 2021. Please contact the Town Clerk, Sara-Ann Chaine, with any questions at ChaineS@mansfieldct.org or 860-429-3302.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft Human Services Advisory Committee Revised Charge

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PURPOSE/CHARGE: Serve as an advisory committee to the Department of Human Services in support of the Department's mission to enhance the well-being and to help meet the basic human needs of all residents of Mansfield. Basic needs include, but are not limited to, income, housing, food security, and health/behavioral health. The Committee advises the Director in matters of policy, program development, and external funding requests. The Committee also advocates for the human service needs of the Mansfield community through collaboration with other advisory groups and by identifying and informing Town government regarding emerging needs.

Effective August 14, 2017 the Human Services Advisory Committee shall serve as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Grievance Committee.

COMPOSITION/MEMBERSHIP: The Committee shall be composed of nine (9) members from the following areas

- Two (2) members who are advocates for or consumers of education, health, and/or safety services for youth and/or young children
- Two (2) members who are advocates for or consumers of senior services
- Two (2) members who are advocates for or consumers of affordable or workforce housing
- One (1) member of the faith-leader community
- One (1) member who is an advocate for or consumer of services for substance abuse prevention
- One (1) member who is an advocate for or consumer of services for persons with disabilities

Members are appointed by the Town Council for three-year, staggered terms. Members are required to recuse themselves from any discussion or vote pertaining to the issuance of Town grant funds to the agency which employs them.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Discusses trends in human services and "cross-over" issues, and assumes an advisory role regarding issues critical to the delivery of human services in the town of Mansfield.
- Provides input into departmental and advisory committee goals and objectives.
- Serves as an advocate regarding the human service needs of the residents of Mansfield.
- Conducts annual review of the overall scope and delivery of Human Services in the town of Mansfield and makes recommendations for improvements to the Town Council.
- Participates in annual goal-setting initiatives focused on improving the overall scope and delivery of Human Services in the town of Mansfield and reports to Town Council on Committee activities.
- Reviews and recommends non-profit agency funding requests.

MEETINGS: The Committee will meet monthly.

Approved by Town Council 12/27/2010; amended 8/14/2017; amended __/__/2021



Your place to grow

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Community Input Survey

1. Brief Overview

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - a recently enacted wide-ranging \$1.9 trillion federal relief package - provides support to State, local, and Tribal governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and efforts to minimize the impacts of COVID-19 in their communities. Because ARPA provides a substantial infusion of resources, Mansfield has a unique opportunity to rebuild a stronger, more economically vibrant, and equitable community.

These funds may be used:

- To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Mansfield's allocation of ARPA funding is approximately \$7.5 million. The Town Council and staff are seeking input from community members to get a better sense of how the public would like to see these funds invested to maximize the positive impact on our Town. This survey represents our first step in this important process. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and provide us your valued thoughts and perspectives.

1. Please rank the following potential eligible uses of ARPA funds in order of importance where the top item is the highest priority use and the bottom item is lowest priority use.



Replacing municipal revenues that were reduced/foregone as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (example: membership dues at the Mansfield Community Center experienced significant decline over the past 18 months due to the pandemic)



Upgrading municipal facilities to reduce potential visitor/employee exposure to COVID-19 or other public health concern in the future (example: alterations to the layouts of interior/office spaces and upgrades to air handling/purification systems)



Expansion of municipal water or sewer system infrastructure/service (example: construction of additional water or sewer mains to serve additional residential or commercial customers)



Improving access to high-speed internet to reach presently under-served locations and populations in our community (example: installation of a more expansive network of public wifi hotspots throughout Town)



Funding support to social service organizations that provide assistance to vulnerable populations in the community (example: additional funding to promote existing/new mental health clinics)



Funding support to local businesses to promote/stimulate economic development (example: grants to local businesses that experienced marked revenue losses due to the pandemic)



Provide premium pay for essential workers, including certain categories of municipal employees, who have risked personal exposure to COVID-19 in the course of serving the public (example: many types of employees, such as transfer station attendants, have had ongoing interaction with members of the public throughout the pandemic)

To what extent do you agree that the Town of Mansfield should allocate a significant portion of its ARPA funding allocation for the following eligible purposes:

* 2. Replacing municipal revenues that were reduced/foregone as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (example: membership dues at the Mansfield Community Center experienced significant decline over the past 18 months due to the pandemic)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 3. Upgrading municipal facilities to reduce potential visitor/employee exposure to COVID-19 or other public health concern in the future (example: alterations to the layouts of interior/office spaces and upgrades to air handling/purification systems)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 4. Expansion of municipal water or sewer system infrastructure/service (example: construction of additional water or sewer mains to serve additional residential or commercial customers)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 5. Improving access to high-speed internet to reach presently under-served locations and populations in our community (example: installation of a more expansive network of public wifi hotspots throughout Town)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 6. Funding support to social service organizations that provide assistance to vulnerable populations in the community (example: additional funding to promote existing/new mental health clinics)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 7. Funding support to local businesses to promote/stimulate economic development (example: grants to local businesses that experienced marked revenue losses due to the pandemic)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

* 8. Providing premium pay for essential workers, including certain categories of municipal employees, who have risked personal exposure to COVID-19 in the course of serving the public (example: many types of employees, such as transfer station attendants, have had ongoing interaction with members of the public throughout the pandemic)

- Strongly disagree
- Disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

Comments:

9. Do you generally feel that it is more important for the Town to use its ARPA allocation to fund **municipal projects/initiatives and needs** or **projects/initiatives and support for private organizations and businesses in the Mansfield community?**

- Municipal projects/initiatives and needs
- Projects/initiatives and support for private organizations and businesses in the Mansfield community

Other (please specify)

* 10. Which of the following best describes your preference with respect to how municipal ARPA funding should be apportioned (check only one):

- The Town should use its ARPA funds on a narrow range of eligible purposes/objectives (i.e., larger amounts of funding allocated to a small number of projects/priorities)
- The Town should use its ARPA funds on a wide range of eligible purposes/objectives (i.e., smaller amounts of funding allocated to a larger number of projects/priorities)

Comments:

11. Please provide any other feedback you have regarding how the Town of Mansfield should use its ARPA funding allocation

12. Would you be interested in participating in future community forums about how ARPA funds will be invested in our community?

- Yes
- No

If "Yes," please provide your email address so that we can stay in touch with you

Please take a moment to provide additional information about yourself that will help us interpret the survey data.

13. What is your present employment status?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Seeking employment
- Retired
- Prefer not to say

14. What is your approximate annual household income?

- \$1-\$24,999
- \$25,000-\$49,999
- \$50,000-\$74,999
- \$75,000-\$99,999
- \$100,000-\$149,999
- \$150,000-\$199,999
- \$200,000-\$249,999
- \$250,000 or more
- Prefer not to say

15. Tell us about your Mansfield residency status. (check all that apply)

- I own property in Mansfield
- I rent property in Mansfield
- I am a permanent resident of Mansfield
- I am a part-time/seasonal resident of Mansfield
- I live and work in Mansfield
- I work in Mansfield but live in another community
- I am a UConn student living on-campus
- I am a UConn student living off-campus in Mansfield
- I am a UConn student living off-campus in a community other than Mansfield
- Prefer not to say

Comments

16. Please specify your ethnicity.

African American/Black

Native American/Indigenous

Asian/Asian American

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Caucasian/White

Prefer not to say

Hispanic/Latino

Other/Prefer to Self-Describe

17. What is your age?

18-24

55-64

25-34

65+

35-44

Prefer not to say

45-54