

Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF) - Request for Proposal (RFP) (Community/Non-Profit Agencies)

Protecting the health and well-being of our residents of Leeds and Grenville is a priority for the Community and Social Services Division of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville. Recently, the Provincial government announced a new Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF) in response to the COVID-19 crisis, which is a shared initiative between the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services. Funding is available for SSRF services and programs delivered to those in need in Leeds and Grenville.

During this unprecedented time, it is vital that we take action to support the most vulnerable in our community, including people who are:

- Homeless or at-risk of homelessness;
- Low-income households;
- Social assistance recipients;
- People without jobs;
- Households who depend on housing supports to maintain stable housing;
- People whose financial situation is precarious due to the COVID-19 crisis;
- People who live in community and supportive housing; and
- People who depend on social services to meet their basic needs.

The SSRF funds are intended for service providers throughout Leeds and Grenville, such as shelters, food banks, emergency services, community and supportive housing providers, charities, and non-profits to continue to deliver their critical services, hire additional staff, and find ways to promote social distancing and self-isolation to keep people safe and healthy.

Funding is intended for initiatives such as:

- Increasing homeless shelter capacity (not including capital);
- Use of motels or hotels;
- Housing allowances;
- Transportation costs (e.g. delivering essentials to vulnerable persons who are self-isolating due to COVID-19);
- Food and supplies;

- Enhanced cleaning services;
- Non-medical staffing requirements (e.g. enhanced outreach services);
- Protective equipment;
- Rent and emergency energy funds;
- Food banks and grocery gift cards;
- Community outreach to support seniors in self-isolation; and
- Transportation for low-income individuals to get to and from medical appointments.

Services may be for the timeframe of **April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021**.

Leeds Grenville is committed to working with our community and non-profit agencies to make sure that appropriate financial assistance and supports are provided to those most in need due to the COVID-19 crisis.

If you are providing new or enhanced support, or service(s) for vulnerable persons in Leeds and Grenville with respect to homelessness, shelter, food security, seniors, youth, etc., as a result of COVID-19, or have a proposal for a new service, please notify us in writing.

Please include the following in your submission:

- Full name of the Agency or Organization;
- Primary Contact (Name, Telephone, E-mail);
- Brief description of the community service or support your agency currently provides;
- What local need has been created due to COVID-19 amongst the people you serve and support;
- Does your proposal promote social distancing, assist people in self-isolation and/or keep people safe and healthy during quarantine (explain);
- What is the timeframe or duration of the services and supports you have indicated;
- Value of financial aid requested, and a budget on the use of the funding; and
- Description of the vulnerable people you serve, and in which areas of Leeds and Grenville.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria for the Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF), capacity of the community agency/group, and the amount of the financial request.

Leeds Grenville reserves the right to accept or reject any proposals. Please note that submission of a request does not guarantee funding assistance in part or in full.

Deadline for submissions is **Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. (noon)**. Please submit written proposals directly to Chris Morrison, Housing Manager at chris.morrison@uclg.on.ca.