



# Agenda Report

May 22, 2023

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Housing Department

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PASADENA ASSISTANCE FUND GRANT AWARDS  
FOR PROGRAM YEARS 2023 AND 2024**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Find that the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15061 (b)(3), the "common sense" provision that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
- 2) Approve the Pasadena Assistance Fund grant awards in the total amount of \$100,000 for program years 2023 and 2024, as described in this agenda report.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On March 1, 2013, the City of Pasadena transferred \$1.7 million from the Human Services Endowment Fund to the Pasadena Community Foundation (PCF) to create the Pasadena Assistance Fund (PAF). The PAF is an endowment fund managed by PCF. The City retains authority over awarding grants from earnings generated by the fund. All donations to the endowment become part of the principal and remain in the fund in perpetuity. Profits are grown from the principal through investment tools utilized by PCF. Those profits are then granted to Pasadena non-profit agencies that provide human services to Pasadena residents. The PAF represents a partnership between the City and PCF to serve the local community. Since inception, the fund has grown to over \$2.7 million, and has awarded over \$500,000 to Pasadena non-profit agencies. Those who wish to donate to the PAF endowment fund may do so at the PCF website [www.pasadenacf.org](http://www.pasadenacf.org).

As a supplement to the federally-funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the PAF Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in the amount of \$100,000 was

issued on January 26, 2023, and advertised to the public of the opportunity for non-profits to apply for funding. A total of four (4) eligible applications were received. The applications were evaluated and scored by a committee made up of Housing staff and Human Services commissioners. The table below is a summary of the four (4) eligible applications in ranking order.

#	Non-Profit Agency	Project Description	Score
1	Families Forward Learning Center	<u>Bilingual Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing Expansion</u> This project proposes to provide culturally and linguistically relevant mental health care, case management, and parent education and peer support services to 165 households consisting of approximately 415 unduplicated individuals. Services are delivered in English and Spanish and are fully integrated into the early childhood education setting.	<u>96</u>
2	Flintridge Center	<u>Youth of Promise Program Expansion</u> This project proposes to expand its Youth of Promise (YOP) program by increasing program capacity to provide individualized and group mental health program components to low- and moderate-income (LMI) Pasadena youth. Through the proposed project, YOP will serve an increased number of Pasadena youth by expanding its existing outreach network for LMI youth at high-risk of justice involvement.	<u>90.67</u>
3	Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena	<u>Teen Workforce Development Program</u> The project proposes to provide after-school program services to 40-60 low- and moderate-income youth, with a focus on real-world workforce readiness programs designed to prepare youth for the opportunities and challenges of today's and tomorrow's workplaces and industries. The programs will include Career Launch, In-Club Work-based Learning, and Money Matters, each designed to teach "hard" and "soft" skills that prepare the youth for competitive, middle-wage and upper-wage careers.	<u>76.67</u>
4	Coffee With a Cause	<u>Youth Job Training Program</u> This project proposes to provide training to 100 transitional age youth in employment skills through the craft of coffee. The program develops a support system that incubates time for personal growth, specialized job training, and skill development.	<u>66</u>

Through the NOFA, two (2) grant awards are available, each in the amount of \$50,000 (with \$25,000 to be disbursed annually for PY23 and PY24). Staff recommends that PAF funds be awarded to the two (2) highest ranking program applicants – Families Forward Learning Center, and Flintridge Center.

**ADVISORY COMMUNITY RECOMMENDATION:**

On April 12, 2023, the Human Services Commission recommended that the City Council approve the two-year funding allocations for the two highest-ranking PAF projects, Families Forward Learning Center, and Flintridge Center.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This proposed action supports the City Council Strategic Planning Three-Year Goals in the areas of improving, maintaining, and enhancing public facilities and infrastructure; improving mobility and accessibility throughout the City of Pasadena; and supporting and promoting the quality of life and the local economy.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The action proposed herein is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the "common sense" provision of CEQA which applies to projects which may have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The recommended action, approval of a funding allocation, is excluded from the definition of "project" pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4). Accordingly, no further CEQA review is required for this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

PAF is a philanthropic endowment fund and is not part of the City's operating budget. There is no fiscal impact on the City General Fund as a result of this action and it will not have any indirect or support cost requirements. The anticipated impact to other operational programs or capital projects as a result of this action will be none.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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