

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2015/2016 ASSET PRIORITIES**

**BACKGROUND:**

In preparation for the 2015/16 funding cycle, the City's Analysis of Social Services Evaluation Team (ASSET) volunteers met in May 2014 to discuss the priorities (listed below). **The volunteers' recommended only a minor change to the priorities that were approved by the City Council in July 2013.**

The City's ASSET Priorities as adopted by the City Council for 2014/15 are the same as those being recommended for 2015/2016, with the addition of the highlighted item:

**#1 Meet basic needs, with emphasis on low to moderate income:**

- Housing cost offset programs, including utility assistance
- Sheltering
- Quality childcare cost offset programs, including daycare and State of Iowa licensed in home facilities
- Food cost offset programs, to assist in providing nutritious perishables and staples
- Transportation cost offset programs for the elderly and families
- Legal assistance
- Disaster response

**#2 Meet mental health and chemical dependency needs**

- Provide outpatient emergency access to services
- Provide crisis intervention services
- Provide access to non-emergency services
- Ensure substance abuse preventions and treatment is available in the community

**#3 Youth development services and activities**

- *Provide services for social development*

The volunteers agreed that the priorities as presented align with their understanding of the needs in the community. The ASSET funding process will begin on August 27, 2014 for 2015/16. ASSET Volunteers will then begin their agency visits to discuss services and gather information in preparation for the hearings and work sessions in January, 2015.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the priorities as presented for 2015/16 for ASSET.
2. Do not change the priorities and approve the existing priorities.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

ASSET volunteers have discussed the community needs and have considered to the City Council's goals. They are seeking approval of the recommendations as provided above.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as stated above.