

ITEM #: 35  
DATE: 06-27-23  
DEPT: ADMIN

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:** FY 2024/25 ASSET PRIORITIES

**BACKGROUND:**

The ASSET funding process for FY 2024/25 will begin in August 2023. ASST volunteers will conduct their agency visits, to discuss services, gather information, and submit written reports that will be used for the agency hearings and work sessions scheduled in January 2024.

Last year City Council held a workshop in June to discuss inclusion and diversity in establishing ASSET funding priorities for FY 2023/24. At that workshop, the primary change approved by the Council was expanding the statement in Priority #2 “with an emphasis on low to moderate income” to be inclusive of all three categories and service areas. **The priorities for FY 2023/24 are as follows:**

***Categories 1, 2, and 3 are in priority order  
as are the lettered services in each category.***

***An emphasis is placed on low to moderate income in all categories and services.***

**#1 Meet mental health and substance use disorder needs through**

- A. Community-based and outpatient mental health services
- B. Outpatient emergency access and crisis intervention services
- C. Awareness and education about suicide prevention and services
- D. Substance use prevention and treatment availability

**#2 Meet basic needs through**

- A. Food cost offset programs to assist in providing nutritious perishables and staples
- B. Housing cost offset programs including utility assistance
- C. Sheltering, including emergency shelter (length of stay in emergency shelter is dependent upon the population group being served)
- D. Quality childcare cost offset programs, including daycare and State of Iowa licensed in-home facilities
- E. Medical and dental services
- F. Financial literacy and education programs
- G. Transportation cost offset programs
- H. Legal assistance

- I. Disaster response

**#3 Provide youth development services and activities through**

- A. Skill development and enhancement
- B. Summer enrichment/prevention of loss of learning

In preparation for ASSET's FY 2024/25 funding cycle, City staff collected feedback on the priorities from the City's ASSET volunteers. The feedback received was about placing a greater importance on the prioritization of emergency shelter given the increased demand for these services and clarifying "low to moderate income".

**The volunteers are recommending the following set of priorities for the FY 2024/25 funding cycle:**

*Categories 1, 2, and 3 are in priority order  
as are the lettered services in each category.*

*An emphasis is placed on low to moderate income **individuals and families** in all categories and services.*

**#1 Meet mental health and substance use disorder needs through**

- A. Community-based and outpatient mental health services
- B. Outpatient emergency access and crisis intervention services
- C. Awareness and education about suicide prevention and services
- D. Substance use prevention and treatment availability

**#2 Meet basic needs through**

- A. Sheltering, including emergency shelter (length of stay in emergency shelter is dependent upon the population group served)**
- B. Housing cost offset programs including utility assistance**
- C. Food cost offset program to assist in providing nutritious perishables and staples**
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- ~~**B. Housing cost offset programs including utility assistance**~~
- ~~**C. Sheltering, including emergency shelter (length of stay in emergency shelter is dependent upon the population group being served)**~~
- D. Quality childcare cost offset programs, including daycare and State of Iowa licensed in-home facilities
- E. Medical and dental services
- F. Financial literacy and education programs
- G. Transportation cost offset programs
- H. Legal assistance
- I. Disaster response

**#3 Provide youth development services and activities through**

- A. Skill development and enhancement
- B. Summer enrichment/prevention of loss of learning

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the ASSET priorities for FY 2024/25.
2. Do not approve the ASSET priorities and refer back to staff for further information.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The City's ASSET volunteers have reviewed the priorities in conjunction with community needs and experience from the allocation process last January. The volunteers have provided feedback that help clarify the service areas. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.