

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO MODIFY FY 2021/22 ASSET ALLOCATION TO HEARTLAND SENIOR SERVICES

BACKGROUND:

Heartland Senior Services (HSS) has submitted a request to the City to modify its FY 2021/22 ASSET allocation by transferring \$16,912 from Congregate Meals and \$23,012 from Activity and Resource Center to the Home Delivered Meals (HDM) program. HSS has exhausted its City allocation of funds for HDM due to ongoing ramifications of the COVID-19 Pandemic that continue to increase program participation. HSS reports that prior to the Pandemic, they averaged 125 meal deliveries per day. That number increased during the Pandemic to 200 per day, and in March 2022, HSS is experiencing yet another increase to 250 meal deliveries per day.

HSS re-opened the Activity and Resource Center and the Congregate meal site in July 2021, but needed to close these services again in December 2021 because of the omicron variant. HSS anticipates both of these programs having minimal participation for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

The revised allocations appear in the table below.

Service	Original Allocation	Change	Revised Allocation
Activity/Resource Center	\$40,080	- \$23,012	\$17,068
Congregate Meals	25,134	- 16,912	8,222
Home Delivered Meals	16,472	+ 39,924	56,396
TOTAL	\$81,686	\$ 0	\$81,686

If the request to transfer funds to the HDM program is approved, the unit rates of all three programs will remain unchanged. The number of units purchased will increase for the HDM program and a reduction will occur for the Congregate Meals and Activity and Resource Center since the remaining amounts would be transferred in their entirety to the HDM program. **HSS will be able to draw down HDM units already provided during this fiscal year but which have not been paid because City funds have been exhausted since December 2021 in the HDM program.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the request to modify the City's FY 2021/22 ASSET contract with HSS by transferring \$16,912 from Congregate Meals and \$23,012 from Activity and Resource Center to Home Delivered Meals.
2. Do not approve the request.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Heartland Senior Services has proactively adjusted its nutrition services throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic by addressing the demand for Home Delivered Meals. The transferring of City funds will provide the support for this continued need in the community. Similar requests have been made to other ASSET funders, specifically Story County and United Way of Story County.

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

March 22, 2022

Honorable Mayor John Haila and City Council Members:

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we respectfully request that the City transfer \$23,012 from Activities and \$16,912 from Congregate Meals to Meals on Wheels. These transfers in ASSET funding would total \$39,924.

This request is being made in response to the ongoing ramifications of the pandemic. Although we began offering Congregate Meals and Activities in July 2021, these two programs were placed on hold again due to the omicron variant in December 2021. Further, we anticipate they will receive minimal participation the balance of this fiscal year.

In contrast – due to the omicron variant - Meals on Wheels participation has continued to increase. Prior to the pandemic deliveries totaled 125/day, a year into the pandemic deliveries totaled 200/day, and in March 2022 this number now totals 250/day. The majority of seniors that were attending Congregate Meals receive Meals on Wheels.

It should be noted, in direct response to the number of seniors in need of receiving Meals on Wheels, the funding the City authorized for FY21/22, \$78,324, was drawn-down in December 2021.

Thank you for considering this request. If you need additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy

Nancy Carroll
Executive Director

HSS Mission: Heartland Senior Services of Story County offers life-enriching opportunities for older adults and provides support for their families and caregivers.