



County Grants Dialogue - County Executive and County Council Grants Process  
 August 7, 2018 // Jewish Social Service Agency

Carolyn Chen, Council Grants Manager  
 Josh Watters, Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget  
 Kristen Latham, Senior Legislative Analyst, Office of Legislative Oversight

FY19 Community Grants

		<i>County Executive Recommended Budget</i>			
		CE Community Grant - NDA*		CE Community Grant - Cost Sharing	
Year	Applications Received	Number	Amount	Number	CS Amount
FY19	381	244	\$8,811,504	20	\$2,154,958
FY18	371	233	\$7,870,180	12	\$1,215,000

*\*Non-Departmental Accounts*

**Recommendations and notes from the County Executive Grants Team:**

- ▶ Program descriptions are extremely important. Be clear on why you want the funds. Be clear with your intent.
- ▶ Clearly state the program outcome metrics and background, especially if the program has been funded in the past.
- ▶ If the program is an expansion of a program from outside Montgomery County, be sure to state your outcome metrics from existing program locations.
- ▶ Don't submit applications at the last minute. Submit early.

**Recommendations and notes from the County Council Grants Team:**

- ▶ Contact Carolyn Chen for feedback or meetings. She is a full time employee working on grants.
- ▶ The Community Grants is a pool of funds determined by the County Executive then goes to the County Council side for review.
- ▶ The County Council also reviews Capital Grants.
- ▶ 85 people review the applications. 8-10 people read each application.
- ▶ It is important to show matching funds to demonstrate that County grants are leveraged.



#### Recommendations and notes from the Office of Legislative Oversight:

- ▶ The Office of Legislative Oversight is writing a report that will be published on September 25. The report will recommend changes to the County Grants process.
- ▶ Public forums with opportunities for public testimony will be on October 9. Worksessions on the report will be held on October 11 and October 29.
- ▶ Recommendations may include:
  - Multi-year grants
  - Better definition of the intent of the grant program by elected officials.

#### Suggestions from the Nonprofit Community:

- ▶ Provide structure/consistency on indirect costs.
- ▶ Priorities/outcomes align with County priorities.
- ▶ Use expert reviewers for specific sectors
- ▶ Subject matter experts brief citizen reviewers at the start of the grant process.
- ▶ There should be one application and one reporting form.
- ▶ Allow for multi-year grants.

*This is an unofficial document with notes taken from a Nonprofit Montgomery event.*

### Need help with grant applications?

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