



Linn, Benton &
Lincoln Counties
UNITED WAY

in partnership with the

City of Corvallis

announces a

Request for Proposals (RFP)

for the

Corvallis Social Services Funding

Category 2 – All Social Services

(including homelessness services)

Year 2 of the 2025-2027 Biannual Budget for the City of Corvallis

(July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027)

Date of release: April 15, 2026

Program overview

The United Way of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties (United Way) announces the release of the **2026–2027 City of Corvallis Social Service Funding – Category 2** Request for Proposals (RFP).

This funding opportunity supports **essential social service programs** that address community needs and improve the well-being of individuals and families living within the **City of Corvallis**.

Since 1987, the City of Corvallis has allocated funding to support nonprofit, public, and governmental organizations in addressing local community needs. United Way serves as the administrator of Category 2 funding and is responsible for overseeing the application, review, and award process.

**The year 2026 is also known as Year 2 of the 2025-2027 Biannual Budget for the City of Corvallis*

Important Update – Two Funding Categories

New to this funding cycle, the City of Corvallis has established **two distinct funding categories**:

Category 1 – Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO)

Focused on **new, expanded, or improved homelessness services**, including measurable increases in sheltering and housing outcomes.

Category 2 – United Way

Focused on **general social services**, including ongoing programs that address basic needs and community well-being this can also include **maintaining** homeless services.

United Way administers, reviews, and awards **Category 2 funding**.

The Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO) administers **Category 1 funding**.

Important:

Applications must be submitted to the correct category. Applications submitted to the wrong category **will not be reviewed or reassigned**.

Which Category Should You Apply For?

Organizations should carefully review the intent of each category before applying.


Apply to Category 1 (CHRO) if your project:

- Expands or improves homelessness services
- Seeks to increase shelter or housing outcomes
- Focuses on reducing unsheltered homelessness

 <https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/SSF>

Apply to Category 2 (United Way) if your project:

- Supports ongoing or essential services
- Provides general social services
- Maintains or strengthens existing programs

 For mor information visit: <https://www.unitedwaylbl.org/corvallis-social-service-funding-2026-2027.html>

 To apply visit: <https://webportalapp.com/sp/ccssf2526>

Organizations may submit applications to both categories if applying for **different programs**.

Key dates

Event	Day/Time
RFP Released	April 15, 2026
Q&A Period	April 15 – 25, 2026
Info and Q&A Session	April 23, 2026 @ 2 pm
Application Deadline	May 15, 2026
Award Notifications	June 2026
Funding Period Begins	July 1, 2026

Q&A Period

Please submit your question(s) related to the 2026 Corvallis Social Service Funding beginning on April 15th, 2026, and no later than 11:59 PM on April 25th, 2026. **General questions, questions related to category 1 and category 2 should all be submitted at <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/0xrQ1MvJs6>.**

Questions will be reviewed by both the Coordinated Homeless Response Office and United Way and responded to no later than April 29th, 2026 by 5 PM. All questions and answers will be posted to www.CorvallisOregon.gov/SSF and to the designated United Way web page.

Information and Q&A Session

The Coordinated Homeless Response Office and United Way will host a joint virtual *Information and Q&A Session* for interested organizations on April 23, 2026 at 2 pm. This information session will provide guidance in determining which category your organization should apply for and time for answering questions.

For information regarding this session, you can visit <https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/cd/page/corvallis-social-service-funding-info-and-qa-session> or join the Zoom meeting at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Id7KPJpzTYWcGGon5JK83g

Description

The United Way of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties (United Way) announces a Request for Proposals/Notice of Funding Opportunity for social service programs that aim to address critical community needs and improve the well-being of residents within the City of Corvallis.

Funding applicants awarded through this opportunity must demonstrate the ability to effectively utilize funds to maintain, strengthen, and/or enhance existing services, with a focus on delivering consistent, high-quality support to community members. Programs should show clear value, community impact, and the ability to sustain services over time.

Awardees of Category 2 funding will work with United Way to track and report on measurable outcomes that reflect their program's impact.

This funding is part of a broader, coordinated effort by the City of Corvallis to invest in both immediate service delivery and long-term community well-being. While Category 2 funding is not specifically tied to system-level homelessness performance metrics, it plays a critical role in supporting the network of services that contribute to overall community stability, prevention, and resilience.

Applicants should be aware that the community is moving toward a more coordinated and outcomes-driven approach across funding systems. While this funding cycle maintains a focus on sustaining essential services, future opportunities may increasingly emphasize measurable impact, alignment with regional priorities, and cross-sector collaboration. Investing Category 2 funding in programs that demonstrate effectiveness, accessibility, and alignment with broader community needs will help strengthen both individual organizations and the overall social service system in Corvallis.

Eligible applicants

Applicants must meet all the following criteria to be eligible for City of Corvallis Social Service Funds:

- Be a nonprofit organization (recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code), public agency, or governmental entity.
- Have a demonstrated track record of successfully providing services to houseless individuals, low-income populations, or other vulnerable communities.
- Maintain appropriate financial oversight and controls, including submission of audited financials if requested.
- Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including nondiscrimination and accessibility requirements.

Eligible activities

Eligible activities should support **ongoing, essential social services** that address community needs and improve the well-being of residents within the City of Corvallis.

Programs may focus on maintaining, strengthening, or enhancing existing services. While activities are not required to demonstrate system-level expansion, they should show clear benefit to the populations served.

Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Food security and nutrition programs
- Maintaining Shelter and support services
- Health and behavioral health services
- Intervention and prevention programs
- Family and child services
- Case management and supportive services
- Outreach and engagement
- Capacity-building (e.g., staffing, technology, infrastructure)
- Other human services that meet basic need

Approximate funding available: \$226,000

Funding Levels (“Buckets”)

\$25,000 × 4 awards = \$100,000

\$15,000 × 4 awards = \$60,000

\$10,000 × 3 awards = \$30,000

\$5,000 × 4 awards = \$20,000

\$4,000 × 4 awards = \$16,000

Total: 19 awards

Funding Approach

United Way utilizes a structured funding model with **set funding levels (“buckets”)** to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of resources.

Applicants will select the funding level that best aligns with their program scope and budget.

Awards are not strictly tied to the requested amount. Funding decisions may include:

- Awarding at the requested level
- Awarding at a lower level if funding is limited

- In some cases, awarding at a higher level for strong applications

Applications will be evaluated holistically, considering program strength, budget clarity, community impact, and organizational capacity.

This approach allows for both structure and flexibility, ensuring funding is aligned with community needs and program readiness.

Application Requirements

To be considered for funding, applicants must:

- Submit a complete application to housing@corvallisoregon.gov no later than 11:59pm PT on May 15, 2026 (*if the files are too large, applicants may need to send multiple emails to complete their application submittal*).
- Provide clear existing metrics and propose new, expanded, and/or improved metrics for homelessness services.
- Be prepared to execute a contract between your organization and the United Way of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties.
- **Reporting Requirements:** Be prepared for reporting twice annually. This includes:
 - **Interim report due:** January 15th, 2027
 - **Final Report :** August 20th, 2027

What Makes a Strong Application

Strong applications will:

- Focus on a clearly defined program or project
- Demonstrate a strong understanding of community need
- Clearly describe how funds will be used
- Include realistic and measurable outcomes
- Show impact for City of Corvallis residents
- Align funding request with program scope and capacity

Funding applications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Community need and Impact:

- Program design, staffing, outreach, and/or engagement approach that ensures access to underserved communities
- Service delivery that addresses the specific needs of the population being served
- Demonstrated understanding of community needs, including how the need was identified

- Clear description of who will be served and how participants will be reached and prioritized

2. Program Design and Effectiveness

- Program reflects best practices, evidence-informed approaches, or demonstrated experience delivering effective services
- Clear and well-defined program design aligned with the intended outcomes
- Description of how services will be delivered and how they will meet the identified need
- Understanding of potential barriers to participation and strategies to reduce those barriers

3. Financial Strength and use of funds

- Budget is clear, reasonable, and aligned with the proposed program activities
- Requested funds are appropriate to the scope and scale of the program
- Other funding sources are identified, secured, or planned as appropriate
- Costs are based on realistic estimates and support program implementation

4. Mission & Capacity




- Organization demonstrates the ability to successfully deliver the proposed program
- Staff, structure, and experience support effective implementation
- Partnerships or collaborations (if applicable) strengthen service delivery and avoid duplication
- Program aligns with broader community efforts and available resources

Funding Category Guidance

Overview

New to this funding year, there are two RFPs issued for two funding categories identified by the Corvallis City Council. United Way continues to administer a portion (Category 2) of funding while the Coordinated Homeless Response Office will administer Category 1.

The Coordinated Homeless Response Office will administer, score, and award Category 1 Social Service Funding. United Way will administer, score, and award Category 2 Social Service Funding. Prospective applicants may submit multiple applications for either or both funding but should ensure they are applying to the correct category. **Organizations who mistakenly apply to the incorrect category will not have their application considered for the intended, correct category so it is imperative organizations utilize the Q&A period, Info and Q&A session, read the RFPs, and apply thoughtfully.**

  <p>Category 1</p> <p>Coordinated Homeless Response Office</p> <p><i>New, Expanded, and/or Improved Homelessness Services</i></p>	 <p>Category 2</p> <p>United Way</p> <p>All Social Services (including homelessness services)</p>
<p>New, expanded and/or improvement from existing services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shelter/housing expansion/barrier reduction ● Supportive services ● Physical and/or mental health support ● Outreach and engagement ● Shelter diversion 	<p>Services and funding to ensure access to meet basic human needs, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shelter and support services ● Food security ● Intervention and prevention services ● Human services
<p>Ready to apply?</p> <p>CorvallisOregon.gov/SSF</p>	<p>Ready to apply?</p> <p>UnitedWayLBL.org</p>

Category 1

Organizations who apply for Category 1 funding should intend to meet one of the three Corvallis City Council identified goals. Proposed projects must serve unhoused community members and involve assessing **existing metrics** of your organization **and** intent to:

- Increase the number of individuals who are sheltered
- Increase the number of individuals who are housed
- Decrease the number of individuals who are unsheltered

In addition to the three outcomes listed above, organizations applying under Category 1 must:

- Demonstrate a direct impact on increasing the number of people who are sheltered and/or decreasing the number of people who are unsheltered;
- Show how the project will make a meaningful improvement beyond maintaining existing services; and
- Support activities such as-
 - Expanding shelter capacity or accessibility (i.e., pet accommodations, non-congregate options)
 - Housing navigation and case management designed to move individuals into shelter, housing, or family/friends
 - Reducing barriers to shelter entry (i.e., mental health supports, storage solutions)
 - Outreach efforts specifically aimed at connecting people to shelter, housing or family/friends

Category 2

Funding for Category 2 will continue to fund the broad range of social service needs (**including homelessness services that intend to maintain existing metrics**) that have been traditionally funded by the City of Corvallis Social Service Fund.

Organizations applying under Category 2 must provide essential services such as:

- Ongoing shelter operations
- Health screenings or medical care for unhoused individuals
- Harm reduction outreach
- Food security
- Intervention services (i.e., services that support people staying in their home)
- Child support services (i.e., childcare, relief nurseries, child abuse services, child health services)
- Capacity-building for your organization
- Other support services

Use the following guidance below to determine which category your organization should apply for. Organizations interested in funding more than one program should submit more than one application; depending on the funding request, organizations may need to submit an application each to both categories.

Frequently Asked Questions

My organization received Social Service Funding last year for homelessness services, we would like to apply to improve those homelessness services this year.

Your organization should apply to the CHRO – Category 1 funding.

My organization did/did not receive Social Service Funding last year for homelessness services, but we would like to apply to improve homelessness services this year (i.e., existing gap of services).

Your organization should apply to the CHRO – Category 1 funding.

My organization received Social Service Funding last year for more general community services, we would like to apply to improve those services this year.

Your organization should apply to the United Way – Category 2 funding.

My organization received Social Service Funding last year for more general community services, we would like to apply an identical request for funding this year.

Your organization should apply to the United Way – Category 2 funding.

My organization received Social Service Funding last year for homelessness services, we would like to apply an identical request for funding this year.

Your organization should apply to the United Way – Category 2 funding.

My organization would like to apply for multiple programs. We would like to expand our homelessness services and also receive funding for our more general community services.

*Your organization should apply to the CHRO – Category 1 funding for the expansion of homelessness services **and** apply to the United Way – Category 2 funding for the general community services.*

My organization would like to apply for multiple programs. We would like to receive funding to create a new program for homelessness services and also receive funding for continued homelessness service operations.

*Your organization should apply to the CHRO – Category 1 funding for the new homelessness services **and** apply to the United Way – Category 2 funding for the continued homelessness service operations.*

My organization would like to apply for multiple programs. We would like to expand an area/program of our homelessness services and improve a different area/program of our homelessness services.

*Your organization should submit **two** applications to the CHRO – Category 1 funding.*

My organization would like to apply for multiple programs. We would like to receive funding for regular operations for both of our general community service programs.

*Your organization should submit **two** applications to the United Way – Category 2 funding.*

Disclaimer/Decision Not to Fund

The United Way of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties reserves the right to fund any, all, or none of the proposals received through this RFP. United Way may adjust award amounts or funding terms for any project based on available resources, application quality, community need, and alignment with funding priorities.

United Way also reserves the right to recommend funding at a level different from the amount requested and may choose not to allocate all available funds.