



EXTENDED SOCIAL RESOURCE PROGRAM ADJUSTS FOR COVID-19

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, proposals for Extended Social Resource (ESR) grant funding have been required to provide clarification as to how the current environment now impacts their program design and feasibility. Specifically, the following questions / statements apply:

1. Is your proposal still viable for implementation as originally submitted?
2. Please detail any modifications you will be making to the original submission in order to comply with the new service delivery requirements in the COVID-19 environment? (i.e. social distancing, group event restrictions, capacity requirements, group event restrictions, etc.)
3. Will these new modifications increase or decrease your proposed budget? Please detail any increases or decreases to your proposed budget including additional costs and/or other secured funding.

The clarification also states the grant cycle has been changed to a 1-year period, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

In summary, the ESR Grant program supports programs in 4 priority areas:

- Community Wellness & Safety
- Childhood & Youth Development
- Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access
- Overnight Emergency Shelter

Social Services' review and evaluation of these proposals is now underway. Funding availability is \$2.1 million. We plan to make recommendations and award announcements in mid-August.

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Chris Ford, *Commissioner*
Dept. of Social Services

MAYOR'S COMMISSION FOR RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

July 2, 2020

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Mayor Linda Gorton announced the appointment of 70 citizens to her newly named Commission for Racial Justice & Equality, which will seek solutions that dismantle systemic racism in Fayette County.

The co-chairs she recently appointed, Roszalyn Akins and Dr. Gerald Smith, helped Gorton name the commission, decide on the topics it will focus on, and choose the members from the many volunteers who were interested in serving. The diverse group that will serve on the Commission includes longstanding community leaders, as well as emerging leaders and grassroots advocates.

"Thank you to everyone who has volunteered. I think we've got the right people focusing on areas where we need to make progress," said Gorton, who has given the group a 60-day deadline to make its recommendations. "I understand change won't happen overnight, but I am determined to make many improvements quickly, and to continue to make immediate changes as opportunities present themselves."

The group has been divided into 5 subcommittees, each with an area of concentration. Each sub-committee will set its own goals and objectives, guided by the overall mission to identify systemic and systematic practices of racism in Lexington; assess the historic marginalization of African Americans in this community; and recommend and advocate the systemic changes that will protect and promote racial opportunity, diversity, equity, and unity.

The subcommittees are **Racial Equity; Education & Economic Opportunity; Health Disparities; Law Enforcement, Justice and Accountability; and Housing & Gentrification.**

The vice-chairs of the sub-committees include educators, business and civic leaders, health and human service professionals, community advocates and volunteers, faith-based leaders, and criminal justice officials. The vice-chairs are:

Racial Equity: LaToi Mayo, Managing Shareholder, Littler Mendelson; P.G. Peeples, President and CEO, Urban League of Lexington

Education & Economic Opportunity: Sharon Price, Community Action Council; Anthony Wright, Harshaw Trane

Health Disparities: Dr. Tukea Talbert, UK Health Care; Dr. Lovoria Williams, UK College of Nursing

Law Enforcement, Justice and Accountability: Jennifer Coffman, retired U.S. District Court judge; David Cozart, director, Lexington Leadership Foundation Fatherhood Initiative

Housing & Gentrification: Shayla Lynch, Ampersand Sexual Violence Resource Center; Ray Sexton, Lexington-Fayette Human Rights Commission

Each sub-committee also includes a councilmember. They are: Angela Evans, Racial Equity; Mark Swanson, Education & Economic Opportunity; Kathy Plomin, Health Disparities; Jennifer Mossotti, Law Enforcement, Justice and Accountability; and James Brown, Housing & Gentrification.

The subcommittees have begun meeting. [Meetings will be visible to the public live on YouTube.](#) Through Aug. 14, the public can email questions or provide information or opinions at Racialjustice@lexingtonky.gov. For more information, there is a [Commission for Racial Justice and Equality website](#).

COMMUNITY & RESIDENT SERVICES IS NEW NAME FOR RESOURCE PROGRAMS WITHIN SOCIAL SERVICES

A service division within Lexington’s Department of Social Services has officially been renamed to *Community & Resident Services*, effective July 1, 2020. Formally known as Adult & Tenant Services, the *Division of Community & Resident Services* administers programs to assist Fayette County residents in addressing acute financial hardships related to housing instability and / or residential displacement. The division also provides case management and supportive services to help vulnerable residents maintain independence & achieve self-sufficiency.

“The recent name change to *Community & Resident Services* more clearly reflects our focus on resident support and financial counseling”, says Chris Ford, Commissioner of Social Services. “We hope this identification now accurately represents the broader, multi-generational population which we aim to serve through resources, advocacy and partnership”, Ford added.

Traditional programs led by *Community & Resident Services* will continue without interruption. In addition, new initiatives are underway for response to the current economic downturn caused by the coronavirus public health crisis. Generally, in order to qualify for available financial assistance, persons must reside within Fayette County; meet household income guidelines; and comply with applicable verification processes, as needed.

Community & Resident Services offices are located at the Black & Williams Center, 498 Georgetown Street. For more information about resources and programs, please call (859) 300-5300, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



 **LEXINGTON**
Community & Resident Services

**Black & Williams
Neighborhood Center**
498 Georgetown Street
(859) 500-5300

(pictured left to right)
Kevin Edmonds
Social Services Coordinator
Dolores Madrid-Sanders
Social Services Coordinator
Sharon Smith
Case Management Coordinator
Connie Godfrey
Director

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Cloth Face Covering

Accessible: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily
- Do not place a mask on a child younger than 2



USE THE FACE COVERING TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain
- Don't put the covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the face covering, and, if you do, clean your hands

FOLLOW EVERYDAY HEALTH HABITS

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTH FACE COVERING CAREFULLY, WHEN YOU'RE HOME

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine
- Wash your hands with soap and water



CS 216488A 07/06/2020

Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators, both of which should be saved for health care workers and other medical first responders.

For instructions on making a cloth face covering, see:

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)