

Lakewood Community Services Center

Citizens Advisory Committee

August 20, 2025

FY 2026 Requests

- **CDBG Emergency Food Pantry and Delivery**

Program Budget: \$356,686 Request: \$104,174

- **CDBG Case Management**

Program Budget: \$111,570 Request: \$32,622

- **ESG Homelessness Prevention**

Program Budget: \$315,374 Request: \$155,000



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Programs & Services Overview



CDBG-Funded Emergency Food Pantry and Delivery

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Programs & Services Overview



CDBG-Funded Case Management

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Programs & Services Overview



ESG-Funded Homelessness Prevention

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Emergency Food Pantry & Delivery

- New pantry located at 12815 Elmwood Avenue in Cleveland
- Relocated 12/4/2024

<https://youtu.be/GckNZ4jf8g0>

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Emergency Food Pantry & Delivery

- Currently delivering to over 1,500 households in Lakewood, Rocky River, and Westlake
- 90%+ reside in Lakewood
- 400+ in subsidized senior buildings (4 in Lakewood; 1 in Rocky River)
- Averaging 10 new requests per week via online registration

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Food Funding Flowchart

Cuyahoga County



Hunger Network



LCSC and all HNGC partners



GCFB

Mandated in 2012 by then County Executive Ed Fitzgerald

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Food Funding

- Prior to 2012, County funding was not limited to GCFB only
- Historically required to deliver 3 meals/day; 3 days/week every 30 days as opposed to random food delivery
- Funding is managed on a “use it or loose it” basis
- Food funding must cover freight charges which average approximately 10% of total monthly allocation

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Food Preferences Discovery Survey

- 222 replies of 628 surveys delivered – 35.4%
- 6 focus groups comprised of seniors, single heads of household, general population

5 Most Preferred Items

1. Eggs‡
2. Fresh fruit*
3. Cheese‡
4. Cooking oil*
5. Crackers*

5 Least Preferred Items

1. Dried lentils**
2. Dry beans**
3. Shelf-stable milk**
4. Canned chicken‡
5. Canned pasta meals**

‡ Rarely if ever available * Sometimes available ** Always available

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Emergency Food Pantry & Delivery

- Home delivery benefits all, especially seniors, individuals with disabilities, those who depend on public transportation, those who walk, single heads of household
- Estimated 200-250 individuals would not get food if we returned to a walk-in model
- Comes with significant cost:
150% increase in staff salaries since moving to home delivery in 2020

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Case Management

Two Unique Models

Brokerage Model

- A brief approach to help clients identify needs
- Broker supports from one or two services
- Many new clients have never needed any supports

Clinical Case Management Model

- Recognizes many face barriers to service well beyond mere access
- Risk assessment, case planning, implementation
- Ongoing follow up, evaluation

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Case Management

- Request for CDBG funding is for services provided to individuals/families who are not supported with case management as a part of their homelessness prevention services
- Referrals and personal assistance with links critically important now:
 - Social security assistance in person only
 - Utility assistance for HEAP (July 1- May 31), Summer Crisis (July 1-Sept 30) and PIPP via StepForward and/or CHN only; neighborhood offices closed; applications via email to energyohio.gov or by mail to Columbus
 - Winter Crisis only in person service (with prior online request) from 8am – 11am with 8-12 week wait time for appointment – no west side office

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ESG Homelessness Prevention

HUD Eligibility Requirements

- Lacks sufficient resources & support networks immediately available to prevent homelessness and satisfies one of the following risk factors:
 - Lives in the home of another (e.g. overcrowded housing) due to economic hardship
 - Has received written notification (e.g. eviction notice) indicating current housing will be lost within 21 days of applying for assistance
- Annual Household Income at or below 30% AMI

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ESG Homelessness Prevention

ESG funds cannot be used to help a program participant *remain in* housing that does not meet HUD's habitability standards:

- Building is structurally sound; resident protected from the elements
- Adequate space; acceptable place to sleep for each resident
- Natural/mechanical means of ventilation
- Clean water free of contaminants
- Private/adequate sanitary facilities
- Necessary heating
- Acceptable natural or artificial light; sufficient electrical outlets
- Safe and sanitary food prep area
- Fire safety to include second means of exit in emergency, sufficient smoke detectors and CO detectors
- Visual lead inspection if children under age of 6; property pre-1978

Inspections required prior to cash assistance.

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ESG Homeless Prevention

FY 2025 HUD Small Area Fair Market Rents (FMR)

Year	Efficiency	One Bedroom	Two Bedrooms	Three Bedrooms	Four Bedrooms
2025	\$910	\$1,030	\$1,250	\$1,610	\$1,720

- Effective October 2024. Two-bedroom units at HUD FMR are currently the biggest issue for applicants
- Anticipating small increase in October 2025

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ESG Homelessness Prevention

- \$115,223 direct client cash assistance (74.4%)
- \$39,777 in salaries (25.6%)
 - Housing stability case management
 - Housing search and placement
 - Program oversight and admin
 - Data entry into HMIS
 - Housing inspections for habitability and lead