



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
AID TO AGENCIES

2026 AID TO AGENCIES FUNDING

BOCC Study Session
November 18, 2025

PURPOSE

- Overview of this year's grant cycle
- Applications & scoring criteria
- Grant funding options
- Seek concurrence on grant funding

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

- Established in 2008, the Aid to Agencies program provides County general fund support to nonprofits addressing critical service gaps across Arapahoe County.
- The last competitive grant cycle occurred in 2023 for funding in 2024.
- The County's 2024 budget challenges resulted in a pause in the grant program and a significant reduction in safety net funding.
- Passage of ballot issue 1A: Reinstated safety net funding for eight organizations at 100%.
- Offered opportunity to reimagine the Aid to Agencies program and how it is funded earlier this year.
- The program redesign reflects a data-informed and equitable approach aligned with the Arapahoe Forward Strategic Plan, ensuring resources address the County's highest-priority community needs.

TIMELINE

- New framework finalized June 9, 2025, study session.
- August/September: Aid to Agencies workshops. 89 total sign-ups.
 - Aug. 19, 2025, at 2 p.m.
 - Aug. 27, 2025, at 10 a.m.
 - Sept. 4, 2025, at 3 p.m.
- August 11 – September 19: Application period.
- September 22- October 23: Internal committee reviews applications.
- November 18: BOCC study session for grant award recommendations.
- 2026: Process invoices.

PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

- Data-informed distribution of funding within established categories.
- Limited investments with safety net providers within refined definition.

FUNDING CATEGORIES	% OF FUNDS	AVAILABLE AMOUNT
Housing & Homeless Services	40%	\$999,800
Food Assistance	30%	\$749,850
Mental/Behavioral Health & Substance Use	27%	\$674,865
Transportation	3%	\$74,985
Safety Net Providers	-	\$580,000
TOTAL		\$3,079,500

Application Sections & Scoring Criteria

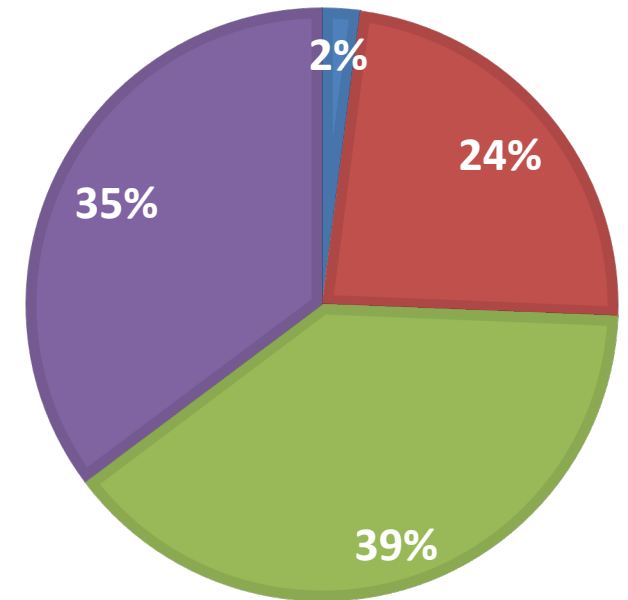
- **Program Information: 33%**
 - Service gap & need
 - Mission alignment
 - Vulnerable Populations Served
 - Staffing Capacity
 - Collaboration
- **Demographics & Community Engagement: 47%**
 - Population Served
 - Geographic & Arapahoe County Reach
 - Outreach efforts
 - Affordability
- **Tax Status & Financial Information: 30%**
 - Financial Management
 - Audit & Accountability
 - County Funding

2026 AID TO AGENCIES APPLICATIONS

Category	# of Applications	Total Requested	Funds Available	Avg. Score	Request Range
Housing/Homeless Services	26	\$2,217,144	\$999,800	77	\$10k-400k
Food Assistance	29	\$1,483,075.26	\$749,850	74.4	\$10k-193k
Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse	33	\$2,462,876.25	\$674,865	73.4	\$15k-400k
Transportation	3	\$130,000	\$74,985	64	\$30k-60k
Total:	91	\$6,293,095.51	\$2,499,500		

FUNDING REQUESTS \$

- Transportation
- Food Assistance
- Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse
- Housing/Homeless Services



2026 AID TO AGENCIES APPLICATIONS

COMPETITIVE PROGRAM

2026

Applications: 91

Total Request: \$6.3 million

Total Available: \$2,499,500
(Competitive Grants)

Safety Nets: \$580,000

2024

Applications: 51

Total Request: \$2.1 million

Total Available: \$528,897
(Competitive Grants)

Safety Nets: \$1,550,603

2023

Applications: 51

Total Request: \$3.5 million

Total Available: \$528,897
(Competitive Grants)

Safety Nets: \$1,550,603

FUNDING OPTIONS

Option 1: Fund Top Scoring Organizations at 100% of request.

Option 2: Fund based on the score percentage.

Option 3: Fund based on a two-tier model
(Tier I = 85%, Tier II = 50%).

FUNDING Option 1

Funds the top-scoring organizations at 100% of their request. This approach is simple and rewards the highest-performing applicants. However, it limits the total number of organizations funded, as full awards quickly exhaust the available budget.

Total funded organizations per category:

Housing/Homelessness: 9

Food Assistance: 10

Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse: 7

Transportation: 2

FUNDING Option 2 (Recommended)

Funds organizations proportionally based on their score percentage. Each applicant receives a percentage of their request equal to their score (for example, an applicant scoring 85% would receive 85% of their request). This method distributes funds more broadly while maintaining a clear link between performance and award amount.

Total funded organizations per category:

Housing/Homelessness: 21

Food Assistance: 17

Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse: 9

Transportation: 3

FUNDING Option 3

Implements a two-tier funding model.

Tier 1 organizations are funded at 85%, and Tier 2 organizations at 50%. These percentages were selected to stay within the available budget while still recognizing performance differences. However, this model is less precise in rewarding top scores, as all organizations within a tier receive the same funding percentage.

Total funded organizations per category:

Housing/Homelessness: 16

Food Assistance: 22

Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse: 12

Transportation: 3

Category	Tier I (85% funding)	Tier II (50% funding)
Housing/Homeless	86.6+	67.88+
Food Assistance	84.17+	64.5+
Mental & Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse	81+	76.5+
Transportation	65+	58+

BOARD DISCUSSION

1. Which funding option would the Board like to proceed with?
2. Are there any revisions to the preferred funding option?

NEXT STEPS

November – Issue notices of intent to fund

December – Adopt funding recommendations in the 2026 budget

January – Finalize agreements and begin issuing funds



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THANK YOU!