

# Community Benefits Planning Grant RFP Convening

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COMMUNITY BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – JANUARY 16, 2019

# Welcome!

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## **Our Time Today**

- How We Got Here: Background & Overview of Community Benefits Process
- Planning Grant Request for Proposals (RFP):
  - Selection Criteria, Goals, & Requirements
  - Q & A Session
- Networking



- **April/May** – Community Benefits Fund created
- **September** – Community Needs Assessment begins
- **December** – Community Benefits Ordinance adopted

- **January-December** – Needs Assessment Advisory Committee
  - Data Collection
  - Focus Groups
  - Nonprofit Forum

- **January** – Community Needs Assessment Report issued
- **May** – Community Needs Assessment Report endorsed by City Council
- **May** – Community Benefits Advisory Committee formed

- **May** – CBAC Listening Sessions
- **November** – City Council approves appropriation of \$5m
- **November** – Planning Grant RFP issued
- **November** – Evaluation RFP issued

- **January** – Informational Session
- **February** – Planning Grant RFPs due

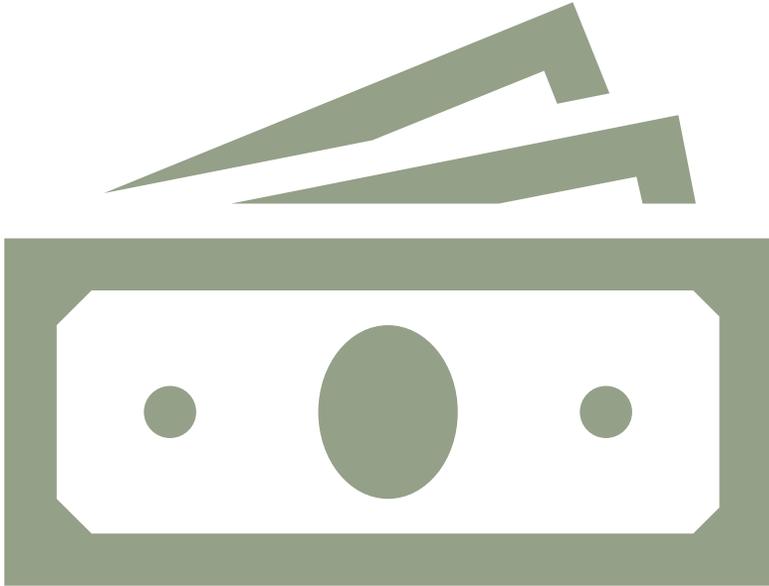
# Background

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- COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUNDS
- COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- COMMUNITY BENEFITS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

# Community Benefits Funds

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- funds received by the City from developers in connection with the passing of zoning amendments or through agreements
- funds are held by the City to be expended for community benefits purposes
- from 2010-present
  - \$23 million has been pledged, mostly from MIT
  - \$7.5 million has been received by the City
    - \$7 million MIT, \$500,000 from Alexandria
- additional monies will be upon completion of various stages of development

# Guiding Principles for Community Benefits Funding

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## **Frame Needs Thoughtfully**

- Fund programs or services that directly benefit Cambridge residents.
- Emphasize funding priorities, established by the City Council, informed by the outcomes of the Needs Assessment.
- Prioritize support for vulnerable and under-served populations.
- Consider neighborhood(s) impacted by development projects.

## **Build on Existing Assets and Programs**

- Consider other public resources allocated to a neighborhood in order to better understand unmet needs.
- Promote awareness of and connection to existing programs and services.
- Prioritize approaches that leverage other private and public resources.
- Encourage an asset-based approach that recognizes and builds on the resilience of Cambridge residents and communities.

# Guiding Principles for Community Benefits Funding

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## **Promote Holistic Approaches, Innovation, and Collaboration**

- Recognize the inter-connectedness among community needs.
- Emphasize holistic and creative ideas that promote prevention and coordination across systems and organizations.
- Remain open to bold and innovative approaches to challenging issues.
- Recognize that addressing community challenges takes time, and provide the latitude for longer-term interventions.
- Prioritize funding for nonprofit applicants that promote collaboration, partnership, and collective impact.
- Encourage and incorporate program evaluation to identify which strategies work best.

## **Simplify the Application Process**

- Establish a transparent, inclusive, and collaborative process.
- Provide support and technical assistance to nonprofits in the application process to ensure equal opportunity and access.
- Provide opportunities for renewable grants to returning nonprofit providers that have an excellent performance evaluation record and programmatic success.



- **Nov 8** – Planning Grant RFP Released
- **Nov. 28 & Jan. 16** – Planning Grant RFP Informational Session
- **Feb. 15** – Planning Grant Proposals Due

- **April** – Planning Grants awarded

- **Nov '19** – Plans for Implementation due
- **Dec '19 – Jan '20** – review of Plans for Implementation
- **Feb '20** – Implementation Grants awarded

- **Feb '20 – Jan '23** – implementation of plans and ongoing evaluation
- **Feb '23** – Implementation Grants expire

# Community Benefits Process

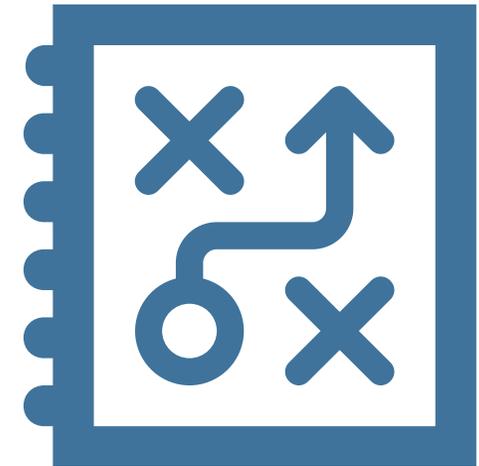
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- GOALS
- TOP TIER NEEDS
- TARGET POPULATION

# Community Benefit Grant Goals

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- **Overall Goals:** partnership, coordination, integration of services
- **Short-Term Goals (+/- 3 years)**
  - enhanced housing stability, economic stability, and family well-being
  - enhanced connections to services that provide the appropriate amount of support
- **Long-Term Goals**
  - increased family housing and economic stability
  - enhanced child and adult resiliency
  - systems-level change



# Top Tier Needs

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- Affordable Housing & Homelessness
- Financial Security
- Behavioral Health: Mental Health & Substance Abuse



## **Middle Tier Needs**

- Food
- Civic Engagement & Social Capital
- Education
- Employment

## **Lower Tier Needs**

- Safety
- Transportation
- Arts, Culture, and Recreation
- Health
- Built and Natural Environment

# Target Population

*families with children that are low-income or living at or below the poverty threshold, particularly those headed by a single woman*

*income limits for individuals living at or below the **poverty** threshold*

Household Size	Household Earnings*
1 Person	\$12,060
2 Persons	\$16,240
3 Persons	\$20,420
4 Persons	\$24,600
5 Persons	\$28,780

\* 2017 Poverty Guidelines

*income limits for individuals living at or below the **low-income** threshold*

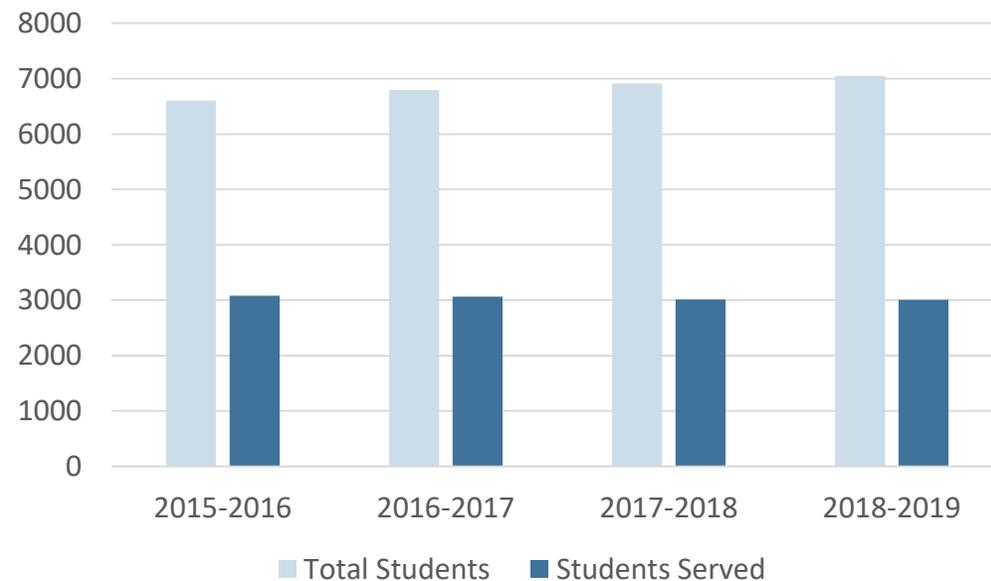
Household Size	Household Earnings**
1 Person	\$37,750
2 Persons	\$43,150
3 Persons	\$48,550
4 Persons	\$53,900
5 Persons	\$58,250

\*\* 2018 HUD Income Limit (50% AMI)

# Target Population

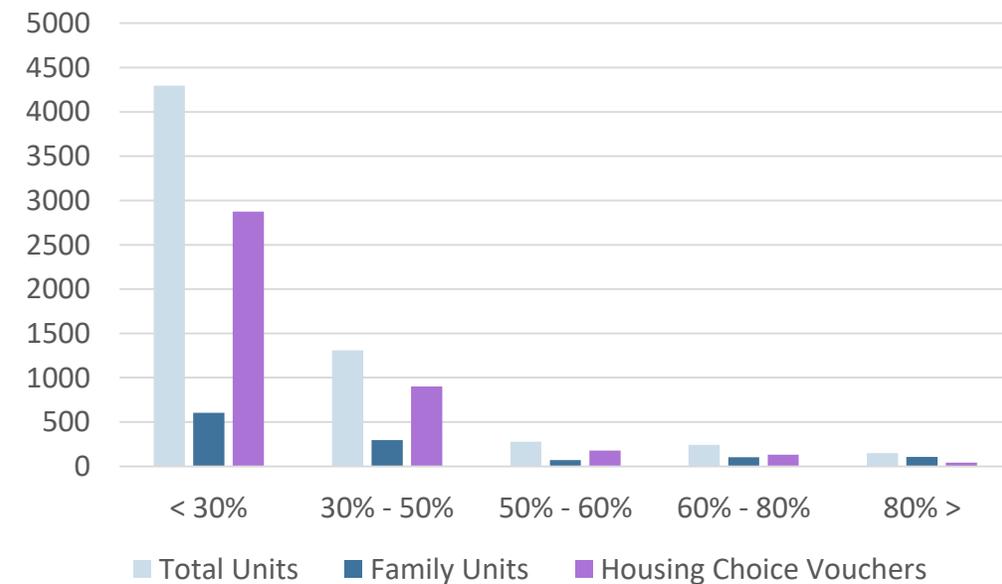
*families with children that are low-income or living at or below the poverty threshold, particularly those headed by a single woman*

CPS – Free & Reduced Lunch

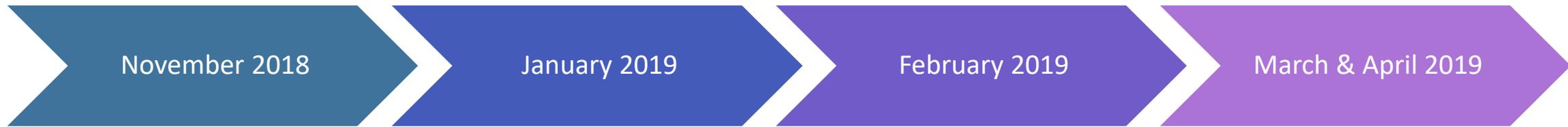


Source: Cambridge Public Schools

CHA – Household Demographics (% AMI)



Source: Cambridge Housing Authority, Annual Report 2017



- **Nov 8** – Planning Grant RFP Released
- **Nov 28** – Planning Grant RFP Informational Session

- **Jan 16** – Planning Grant RFP Informational Session

- **Feb 11** – final update to CBAC Q & A Webpage
- **Feb 15** – Planning Grant Proposals due

- **March & April** – CBAC reviews proposals and interviews applicants
- **April 15** – Planning Grants awarded

# Planning Grant RFP

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- OVERVIEW
- SELECTION CRITERIA
- REQUIREMENTS
  - Submission Deadline, Resources, Lead & Partner Organizations

# Planning Grant Phase – Overview

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The Community Benefits competitive grant process will occur in two phases, a 6-month Planning Phase, and a 3-year Implementation Phase.

*Grantees must participate in the Planning Phase in order to be eligible for the Implementation Phase.*

## **Planning Grant Phase**

- Application to be reviewed by CBAC members
- Up to five (5) Planning Grants of up to \$30,000 will be awarded
- Partnerships that receive an award will develop a detailed *Plan for Implementation*



# Planning Grant Phase – Selection Criteria

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1. Clarity of vision for and overall approach of the proposed program model
2. Ability to address all three Top Tier Needs in ways that respond to the unique needs of families
3. Approach to equity and inclusion
4. Demonstrated commitment to partnership/ collaboration
5. Knowledge and experience with Target Population
6. Engagement of Target Population in planning and implementation
7. Capacity of Lead organization
8. Initial articulation of anticipated outcomes and plan for service delivery; CBAC expects each partnership to further develop outcomes and plan for service delivery during the Planning Phase

# Planning Grant Phase – Proposal Submission Requirements

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**DEADLINE: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2019, BEFORE 12:00PM**

Proposal and [Application](#) must be submitted by the Lead Organization:

- i. Title Page
- ii. Approach to Target Population, Partnership, Partnering Organizations, & Lead Organization
- iii. Initial Plan for Program Model
- iv. Additional Documents (does not count against word/page limit)

# Planning Grant Phase – Partnerships

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To be eligible for consideration, partnerships shall meet the following criteria:

- have a shared vision and approach that includes each partner organization's voice
- address all three Top Tier Needs in ways that respond to the needs of families
- a shared commitment to achieving project goals and long-term sustainability
- commit to engaging families to be served in developing the Plan for Implementation
- partner organizations should reflect and respond to the families to be served

# Planning Grant Phase – Lead Organization

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- submits the application on behalf of the partnership
- enter into a grant agreement with the City and manage sub-agreements with partner organizations
- Lead Organizations may serve as:
  - the Lead Organization only **one** proposal, AND
  - Partners Organizations on more than one proposal
- non-Lead Organizations may be a Partner Organization on more than one proposal



# Planning Grant Phase – Lead Organization

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Additionally, Lead Organizations should:

- be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Cambridge and benefit/serve Cambridge families
- have administrative capacity to manage grant and partnership requirements
- demonstrate fiscal responsibility
- have data collection experience
- be willing to support required evaluation activities
- be willing and able to develop equitable and inclusive partnerships
- have capacity/ability to act as facilitator and convener of partnering organizations
- reflect the families or community they serve

# Question & Answer Session

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Questions about the Planning Grant RFP

After this Session...

- clarifying questions regarding the RFP can also be submitted through early February to Elizabeth Unger, Purchasing Agent, City of Cambridge
  - [purchasing@cambridgema.gov](mailto:purchasing@cambridgema.gov)
- CBAC will publish all questions it receives and a response to each on a rolling basis on our webpage (<https://www.cambridgema.gov/communitybenefits>), until 8:00pm on **Monday, February 11, 2019**

# What's Next?

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- FOLLOW UP

# Follow Up

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RFP Currently available online at <https://www.cambridgema.gov/communitybenefits>

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CBAC will publish all questions it receives and a response to each on a rolling basis until 8:00pm on ***Monday, February 11, 2019***

proposal submissions are due before noon on ***Friday, February 15, 2019*** to [communitybenefits@cambridgema.gov](mailto:communitybenefits@cambridgema.gov), with the subject “*CBAC Planning Grant Proposal*”

***Thank You!!***

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