



Jesse Arreguín
City Councilmember, District 4

ACTION CALENDAR
June 9, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Jesse Arreguín
Subject: Budget Referral: Homeless Task Force Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget process the following funding proposals recommended by the community Homeless Task Force:

Existing services:

Berkeley Drop-In Center Case Management - \$35,000
Dorothy Day Trinity Church Breakfast Program - \$8,894
Youth Spirit Artworks:
Vocational Arts Training - \$33,777
BUSD Homeless Student Program - \$50,000

New programs which should be funded:

Youth Spirit Artworks/YEAH Housing Subsidies proposal - \$125,000
Youth Spirit Artworks TAY Youth Drop In Center/Daytime Job Training Program – \$50,000
Suitcase Clinic – \$15,000
Extending YEAH Shelter beyond winter months - \$300,000 (estimated)

BACKGROUND

The community Homeless Task Force has reviewed the City Manager's proposed allocations to community agencies for FY 2016-2017. The Task Force is concerned about proposed cuts, as well as the lack of funding at all, for a number of programs that provide important services to our homeless population. These services either provide an important safety net currently for the homeless, or are new programs that would address identified gaps in services (such as the needs of the TAY population).

The Task Force appreciates the Council's budget referral of extending the YEAH Shelter beyond the winter months and urges the Council to identify funding to establish a year round shelter/drop-in center for the TAY homeless population. **However, the**

Task Force feels that first and foremost we should restore the cuts to existing homeless services, which are identified above.

As we are transitioning out of the recession and more revenue becomes available to the city, we should not only invest in physical infrastructure but in human needs, and maintain and possibly expand the important continuum of services Berkeley provides to the homeless. The Berkeley City Council has historically been a leader in funding homeless services, and maintaining the safety net even in difficult economic times. During an improved economic climate we should not be reducing critical homeless services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$127,671 in General Fund revenues to restore cuts to existing homeless services.

\$490,000 in General Fund revenue to fund new homeless programs.

CONTACT PERSON

Jesse Arreguín, Councilmember, District 4

(510) 981-7140