



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 16, 2026

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Additional Information for the April 21, 2026 Board of Supervisors Meeting,
Addendum Item - Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grants**

Based on Board of Supervisors direction on February 17, Community & Workforce Development (CWD), through its Outside Agency staff, conducted a competitive application process for a second round of Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources (STCER) funding in the amount of \$855,000. Following the Board-approved timeline, the application was posted publicly on March 2, with applications due March 20 by 5 p.m.

After an initial screening for minimum qualifications, 63 applications seeking over \$3.7 million in total funding were scored by a CWD staff panel comprising program representatives from the Prosperity Initiative, Affordable Housing, and Community Development. Scores and applications were provided to the Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee (OACRC), which met on April 13 to vote on funding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The OACRC recommended programs receiving at least 90% of the available points be funded, resulting in a recommendation to fund 28 programs in total.

The memorandum from OACRC Chair Jess Losoya included in the CWD agenda submission explains the scoring process in more detail and includes an attachment detailing all funding recommendations. These recommendations are those being presented to the Board for approval on April 21.

JKL/dym

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Chad Kasmar, Deputy County Administrator
Dan Sullivan, Director, Community & Workforce Development



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a smaller 'L' and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Date: April 14, 2026

To: Jan Leshar
County Administrator

From: Jess Losoya, Chair
Outside Agency Citizen Review
Committee

RE: Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program (STCER) – Round 2 Recommendations for Funding

Background

In November 2025, in response to the federal government shutdown and federal policy developments, the Board of Supervisors allocated \$838,390 in one-time, general fund Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources (STCER) grants to agencies providing services in five areas: Food, Housing/Utilities, Legal Services, Medical and Related Expenses, and Transportation. After further analysis of the additional carryforward fund balance from Fiscal Year 2025, an additional \$855,000 was identified that could be allocated and made available for a second round of STCER grants. At its February 17, 2026 meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved an amended process, to address lessons learned from the first round, and a timeline for award of STCER round 2 funding.

At its April 21 meeting, the Board of Supervisors will consider STCER Round 2 funding recommendations of the Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee (OACRC). The OACRC, composed of community representatives appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator, is tasked with reviewing and recommending funding allocations for nonprofit organizations that provide essential human services to Pima County residents. The Committee's work ensures transparency, equity, and alignment with County priorities in addressing community needs.

Application Process

STCER Round 2, is designed to rapidly deploy resources to agencies providing critical services to Pima County residents facing temporary hardship. The program emphasizes accessibility, speed, and accountability, with the following key features:

- Simplified two-page application
- Five eligible service categories:
 - Food Assistance
 - Housing and Utility Support
 - Legal Services
 - Medical Expenses and Related Needs
 - Transportation
- Award range: \$25,000–\$75,000
- Statement of Exceptional Need: Organizations may express a statement of exceptional need only if seeking more than the \$75,000 max.
- Eligibility: Limited to prior or current recipients of Pima County administered funding and organizations that have a demonstrated record of service to low-income or vulnerable populations through a past or current contract with Pima County.
- Immediate implementation required.

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On February 26, the OACRC approved the amended STCER Round 2 Application and authorized staff to select a scoring panel for STCER Round 2. Applications were evaluated and scored by a panel of four Community & Workforce Development (CWD) staff using four criteria:

- Urgency and Readiness
- Alignment with County Priorities
- Capacity and Track Record
- Budget Clarity and Justification

The proposed timeline for the competitive process was:

- February 17 – Board approval of the STCER Round 2 program
- March 2 – Application opens
- March 6 – Technical assistance session
- March 20 – Application deadline
- April 13 – OACRC completes review and recommendations
- April 21 – Final Board consideration and funding decisions

Staff received 67 applications for STCER round 2 funding totaling over \$3.8 million. Outside Agency staff initially screened applications for eligibility and compliance with the application process. As a result of this screening, 4 were deemed ineligible or noncompliant with the application process (these were because the agency was not a current or prior recipient of funding under a Pima County administered program, or their 501(c)(3) status was invalid).

The remaining 63 applications, totaling over \$3.7 million, were forwarded to the selected CWD panel members for scoring. The scoring rubric prioritizes programs that demonstrate readiness to deliver immediate assistance and align with the County's strategic priorities. CWD panel members scored proposals by April 9 and the OACRC held a meeting to review scores and finalize funding recommendations April 13.

County staff are prepared to implement the program immediately upon Board approval. Program implementation will include expedited completion of contracts and preparation of invoice templates to allow agencies to start receiving funding as soon as possible.

OACRC Funding Recommendations

Once the CWD panel submitted their scores, staff calculated the average score for each application. Applications that scored within the top 90% of all evaluated submissions were recommended for funding. OACRC discussion was used to support final funding decisions and address community needs.

Staff prepared preliminary funding amounts based on average scores, requested funding, and available funds. The OACRC discussed and adjusted funding amounts. Adjustments were based on:

- Program need and impact
- Equity considerations

Jan Leshar, County Administrator

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The OACRC and staff recommends the following awards:

SERVICE CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	AMOUNT
Food Assistance	19	\$610,000
Housing and Utility Support	3	\$75,000
Legal Services	2	\$65,000
Medical Expenses and Related Needs	1	\$30,000
Transportation	3	\$75,000
Total	28	\$855,000

The Committee would like to thank Pima County for its efforts in funding the STCER Grant Program – Round 2. The process is community based and transparent. The Committee recognizes its responsibility for each member to evaluate the needs of Pima County and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

A full list of all funding recommendations by the Committee for the STCER Grant Program is included as an attachment.

Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee Members

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>District</u>
Hank Peck	Rex Scott	1
Victor Soltero	Matt Heinz, Vice Chair	2
Trish Hastings-Sargent, Vice Chair	Jennifer Allen, Chair	3
Jeannine Mortimer	Steve Christy	4
E. Liane Hernandez	Andrés Cano	5
Jess Losoya, Chair	Jan Leshar	County Administrator

cc: Members, Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Daniel Sullivan, Director CWD
Andrew Flagg, Deputy Director CWD
Manira Cervantes, Division Manager CWD
Melanie Bustamante, Community & Workforce Manager I

CWD Outside Agency Program
Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program - Round 2
Recommendations for Award

Food Assistance Service Category		Requested	Recommendation
Agency	Program		
Arivaca Coordinating Council/Human Resource Group (Arivaca HR)	Food Security in Arivaca	\$35,000	\$30,000
Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona, Inc	Food Pantry and Clothing Closet	\$42,895	\$25,000
Chicanos Por La Causa	Healthy Aging: Supporting with Food, Housing Utilities, Transportation, Referrals	\$25,000	\$25,000
Community Food Bank, Inc.	Emergency Food Assistance Program	\$75,000	\$75,000
Compass Affordable Housing	Compass Your Healthy Home Market	\$64,590	\$45,000
Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona	Girl Scouts EmpowHERment Program: Meeting Food Insecurity Head On	\$25,000	\$25,000
Greater Vail Community ReSources	Emergency Food Assistance	\$25,000	\$25,000
IMPACT of Southern Arizona	IMPACT Food Bank	\$40,000	\$25,000
Interfaith Community Services	ICS Food Bank food purchase	\$75,000	\$25,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	Food Security for Pima County Families	\$75,000	\$35,000
Iskashitaa Refugee Network	Supplemental Refugee Food Provision	\$29,545	\$29,000
Mobile Meals of Southern Arizona	Critical Nutrition Access Program for Vulnerable Adults	\$40,000	\$25,000
Old Pueblo Community Services	OPCS Food Services	\$75,000	\$25,000
Pima Council on Aging	Pima Meals on Wheels	\$75,000	\$40,000
Sister José Women's Center	Core Services	\$75,000	\$40,000
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation	Enhanced Support Services of Southern Arizona	\$75,000	\$30,000
The Salvation Army	Hospitality House Food Assistance Program	\$44,000	\$30,000
Tucson Center for Women and Children DBA Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse	Domestic Violence Emergency Shelter Food	\$51,750	\$31,000
Tucson Medical Center Foundation	TMC Health Cancer Center Supportive Services Program	\$60,000	\$25,000
La Frontera Center, Inc.	LFC Food Assistance Program	\$69,227	\$0
Pima Council on Aging	Community Lunch Program	\$75,000	\$0
Sahuaritita Food & Community Resource Center DBA Marana Food Bank & Community Resource Center	MFB-CRC Emergency Food	\$30,000	\$0
St Luke's in the Desert Inc dba St Luke's Home	St. Luke's Home - Nutritional Services	\$75,000	\$0
The Homing Project	The Homing Project	\$86,112	\$0
CATEGORY SUBTOTAL		\$1,343,119	\$610,000

CWD Outside Agency Program
Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program - Round 2
Recommendations for Award

Housing and Utility Support Service Category		Requested	Recommendation
Agency	Program		
Adminlstration of Resources and Choices	Housing Counseling and Financial Assistance	\$100,250	\$25,000
Our Family Services	Reunion House Youth & Family Support	\$75,000	\$25,000
Our Family Services	New Beginnings for Youth and Families	\$75,000	\$25,000
Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona, Inc	Emergency Assistance-Housing and Utilities	\$57,914	\$0
Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona, Inc	Casa De Respiro	\$55,200	\$0
Chicanos Por La Causa	Healthy Aging: Supporting with Food, Housing Utilities, Transportation, Referrals	\$50,000	\$0
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Pima County Healthy Families	\$28,750	\$0
Community Home Repair Projects of Arizona	Emergency Home Repair	\$75,000	\$0
Green Valley Assistance Services INC DBA Valley Asistance Services	MAP-A-Plan (Basic needs-shelter/housing, utilities,emergency food boxes)	\$50,000	\$0
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	Housing and Utility Support	\$75,000	\$0
Jewish Family and Children's Services of Southern Arizona	Financial Wellness and Emergency Financial Assistance	\$75,595	\$0
JobPath, Inc.	Emergency Housing for Students	\$75,000	\$0
La Frontera Center, Inc.	Housing & Utility Crisis Support	\$74,977	\$0
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	\$75,000	\$0
Pima Council on Aging	Rights & Benefits	\$75,000	\$0
Pima County Community Land Trust	Emergency Mortgage and Rental Assistance	\$75,000	\$0
Sister José Women's Center	Emergency Housing and Utilities Assistance at Sister José Women's Center	\$75,000	\$0
Southern Arizona Land Trust Inc	Southern Arizona Land Trust Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$75,000	\$0
St Luke's in the Desert Inc dba St Luke's Home	St. Luke's Home - Rental Assistance for Low-Income Residents	\$75,000	\$0
The Primavera Foundation	Family Pathways	\$51,000	\$0
The Salvation Army	Salvation Army Tucson Emergency Housing/Utility Support	\$67,100	\$0
Tucson Center for Women and Children DBA Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse	Domestic Violence Shelter Hotel	\$75,000	\$0
Tucson Medical Center Foundation	Tucson Collaborative Community Care	\$75,000	\$0
Youth on Their Own	YOTO Program (Academic Stipends)	\$40,000	\$0
CATEGORY SUBTOTAL		\$1,625,786	\$75,000

CWD Outside Agency Program
Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program - Round 2
Recommendations for Award

Legal Services Service Category		Requested	Recommendation
Agency	Program		
Step Up to Justice	Emergency Legal Services: Housing and Consumer Protection	\$46,000	\$35,000
YWCA Southern Arizona	Pima County Teen Court	\$54,432	\$30,000
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	Immigration and Legal Services	\$75,000	\$0
Iskashitaa Refugee Network	Refugee Legal Referrals and Events	\$37,851	\$0
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest	\$75,000	\$0
Sunnyside Unified School District Foundation	Emergency Relief Support - JUNTOS	\$75,000	\$0
CATEGORY SUBTOTAL		\$363,283	\$65,000
Medical Expenses and Related Needs Service Category		Requested	Recommendation
Agency	Program		
Banner Health Foundation, dba University of Arizona Cancer Center	Banner UACC Patient Transportation and Lodging Assistance	\$30,000	\$30,000
Arizona Diaper Bank	Diapers for Infants, Children, Disabled, and Seniors	\$75,000	\$0
International Rescue Committee, Inc.	Covering urgent healthcare costs for refugees	\$25,000	\$0
Pima Council on Aging	Dementia Capable - Cognitive Screenings and Care Navigation	\$50,000	\$0
CATEGORY SUBTOTAL		\$180,000	\$30,000
Transportation Service Category		Requested	Recommendation
Agency	Program		
Arivaca Coordinating Council/Human Resource Group (Arivaca HR)	The Arivaca Connector - Burrito Bus 2.0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona	Girl Scouts EmpowHERment Program: Inclusion and Accessibility through Transportation	\$30,000	\$25,000
Tucson Center for Women and Children DBA Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse	Transportation Assistance for Domestic Violence Survivors	\$25,000	\$25,000
Green Valley Assistance Services INC DBA Valley Assistance Services	Transforming Health Care through Transportation	\$65,361	\$0
La Frontera Center, Inc.	Bridging the Gap: Youth Transportation Program	\$74,496	\$0
CATEGORY SUBTOTAL		\$219,857	\$75,000
STCER 2 GRANT PROGRAM SERVICE CATEGORIES TOTAL		\$3,732,045	\$855,000