

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT (BOSAIR)**

All fields are required. Enter N/A if not applicable. For number fields, enter 0 if not applicable.

Award Type: Agenda Item

Is a Board Meeting Date Requested? Yes

Requested Board Meeting Date: 04/21/2026

Project Title / Description: Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grants - Round Two

Agenda Item Report**Introduction / 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 Two funding.

Discussion:

Based on the amended program parameters approved by the Board, the Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee (OACRC) approved the amended STCER Round Two Application and authorized staff to select a scoring panel for STCER Round Two at its February 26 meeting. Staff with the Pima County Community & Workforce Development (CWD) Outside Agency program conducted a competitive application process. The application was open from March 2 through March 20. The department received 67 applications, and after initial screening, forwarded 63 eligible applications totaling over \$3.7 million to a panel of four CWD staff to evaluate and score the applications using four criteria: urgency and readiness, alignment with County priorities, capacity and track record, and budget clarity and justification. CWD panel members scored proposals by April 9 and the OACRC held a meeting to discuss and vote on recommendations April 13. The attached memorandum from OACRC Chair Jess Losoya provides further detail on the process and a list of recommended awards by category and amount.

Conclusion:

Recommended STCER Round Two awards will implement the Board of Supervisors' directive to provide short-term funding to agencies providing critical services and impacted by developments at the federal level.

Recommendation:

The OACRC and staff recommend approval of STCER Round Two awards in the total amount of \$855,000, as detailed in the attached memorandum from the

OACRC Chair, and authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to sign funding agreements with the listed agencies.

Fiscal Impact:

This program is funded through the Pima County General Fund and the recommended awards are within the budget allocated for STCER.

Support of Prosperity Initiative:

2. Improve Quality of Life and Opportunity in High Poverty Areas

Provide information that explains how this activity supports the selected Prosperity Initiative

STCER Round Two funding will be used to meet emergency needs and improve quality of life by promoting housing stability and transportation opportunities.

Board of Supervisor District:

- 1
- 2
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Department:

Community & Workforce Development

Name:

Melanie Bustamante

Telephone:

5207243789

Department Director Signature: _____

Date: _____

Deputy County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: _____

County Administrator Signature: _____

Date: _____



Date: April 14, 2026

To: Jan Leshner
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.

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

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 Leshner	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			
Agency	Program	Requested	Recommendation
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
Sahuarita Food & Community Resource Cetner 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			
Agency	Program	Requested	Recommendation
Adminstration 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			
Agency	Program	Requested	Recommendation
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			
Agency	Program	Requested	Recommendation
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			
Agency	Program	Requested	Recommendation
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