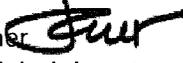




MEMORANDUM

Date: February 13, 2026

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

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program – Round 2**

In November 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved an allocation of \$838,390 and a process to award that funding to community agencies for Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources (STCER) grants. This came in response to federal impacts on local agencies delivering critical services to members of our community. Community & Workforce Development (CWD) received 57 applications seeking over \$3.3 million in requested funding. Staff and the Outside Agency Citizen Review Committee (OACRC) screened and reviewed applications, and the OACRC recommended awarding funds to 29 programs totaling \$838,390. The Board of Supervisors approved those recommendations on December 16 and also directed staff to evaluate whether additional funding could be made available for a second round of STCER grants later in the fiscal year.

The volume of STCER applications clearly demonstrated a significant need for funding among community agencies. Staff have continued to analyze the additional Fiscal Year 2024-25 carryforward fund balance, after adjustment for the first round of STCER grants and other adjustments. This amount is \$8,544,052. Using the same methodology as the initial round of STCER grants, 10% of the additional carryforward fund balance, an additional \$855,000 could be made available for a second round of STCER grants. A proposed timeline for consideration of this second round is as follows:

- **February 17** – Board of Supervisors approves additional allocation and process
- **March 2** – Applications post publicly
- **March 3-6** – Technical Assistance session(s) held
- **March 20** – Applications due by 5:00 p.m.
- **March 23-27** – Initial staff screening of applications
- **March 30-April 14** – OACRC review and scoring
- **April 16** – Last date for OACRC to hold a special meeting to review and approve recommendations
- **April 21** – Board of Supervisors approval

This timeline was developed knowing that the OACRC is currently evaluating a record 159 applications for CWD Outside Agency funding, a process that will keep its members and CWD staff very busy throughout the months of February and March, with agency presentations scheduled every Thursday during those months. Thus, the proposed schedule puts OACRC

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review in the first part of April, after they have completed evaluation of CWD Outside Agency proposals.

Staff proposes hewing largely to [the process used for the first round of STCER grants](#), with the following modifications in response to lessons learned from the first round:

- The service categories will remain the same—Housing/Utilities, Food, Transportation, Medical and Related Expenses, and Legal Services—but applicants will be required to select only one category to avoid having to add a “multiple” category.
- Eligibility will be expanded so that an agency must be a current or prior recipient of any County funds, as opposed to CWD funds only.
- Allowance will be given for the OACRC to delegate scoring to a panel, if it wishes.
- Additional minor changes may be made to the application form.

Finally, given the timing of award, consideration should be given to allowing funding for STCER round 2 into Fiscal Year 2026-27. Even though the process has been expedited to the maximum extent possible, the timing needed to complete and execute contracts and then carry out services will make it very difficult, if not impossible, for agencies to fully perform and expend this fiscal year. Allowance for carrying funding over will allow programming to continue until goals are met and funds are expended. If approved, staff will work with Finance & Risk Management and CWD to take the necessary steps to determine proper award terms and ensure funding can be carried over.

Pima County staff are prepared to immediately implement round 2 of the Short-Term Crisis and Emergency Resources Grant Program in accordance with the direction provided by the Board of Supervisors.

JKL/anc

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Daniel Sullivan, Director, Community and Workforce Development
Art Cuaron, Director, Finance & Risk Management
Ken Walker, Director, Grants Management and Innovation