

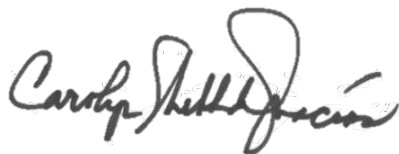
TRANSMITTAL

To: **THE COUNCIL**

Date: **11/20/24**

From: **THE MAYOR**

TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn Webb de Macias', is centered on the page.

(Carolyn Webb de Macias for)

KAREN BASS

Mayor



COMMUNITY
INVESTMENT
FOR FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT
Faith to Prosperity



KAREN BASS, MAYOR
ABIGAIL R. MARQUEZ, GENERAL MANAGER

November 1, 2024

Council File: New; 24-0446

Council District: Citywide

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Honorable Karen Bass
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Room 303, City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attn: Thomas Arechiga, Legislative Coordinator

COUNCIL TRANSMITTAL: REQUEST EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) BACKFILL FUNDING AND CONTRACT EXECUTION; REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RESULTS AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO THE 2024 SURVIVOR SERVICES PROGRAM (SSP) OPERATORS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP); AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH AN SSP REPLACEMENT OPERATOR LIST; REQUEST APPROVAL TO APPROPRIATE \$1.3 MILLION FROM FY 2024-25 UNAPPROPRIATED BALANCE; FAMILY HOMELESSNESS CHALLENGE GRANT ROUND 2 AND HOME ARP; AND REPORT BACK REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A HUMAN TRAFFICKING BASELINE STUDY (C.F. 24-0446)

SUMMARY

The General Manager of the Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) respectfully requests that your office review this transmittal and forward it to the City Council for further consideration.

Through this transmittal, CIFD seeks authority to: (1) request expenditure authority for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) backfill funding and contract execution; (2) accept the results of the Survivor Services Program (SSP) procurement process and execute contracts with recommended contractors, (3) establish a Survivor Services Replacement Operator list, (4) appropriate \$1.3 million from the Unappropriated Balance, (5) reallocate VOCA backfill funding, Family Homelessness Challenge Grant (FHC) and HOME ARP and (6) report back on the Human Trafficking Baseline Study motion (C.F. 24-0446).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The General Manager of CIFD respectfully requests that:

- I. Your office schedules this transmittal before the appropriate Committee(s) of the City Council at the next available meeting(s) and forward it to the City Council for consideration and approval immediately thereafter.
- II. The City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:
 - a. **AUTHORIZE** the General Manager of CIFD, or designee, to negotiate and execute contracts with the service providers identified in **Attachment A** to reinstate services that were either discontinued or reduced due to the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding reductions for the term of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, including an option to renew and/or extend the contract for four additional 12-month periods, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form, as well as to compliance with City contracting requirements and federal and state grant guidelines, and contingent on available funding.
 - b. **AUTHORIZE** the General Manager of CIFD, or designee, to negotiate and execute contracts with the service providers identified in **Attachment B** to operate the Survivors Services Program (SSP) for the term of January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025, including an option to renew and/or extend the contract for four additional 12-month periods, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form, as well as to compliance with City contracting requirements and federal and state grant guidelines, and contingent on available funding.
 - c. **AUTHORIZE** the General Manager of CIFD, or designee, to establish an SSP replacement operator list to be in effect for five years commencing January 1, 2025, to include any SSP proposer that attained a score of 70 points or greater during the 2024 SSP RFP process (see **Attachment D**). INSTRUCT CIFD to report back to the City Council before selecting a new SSP operator from the SSP Operator Replacement list.
 - d. **AUTHORIZE** the Controller to appropriate \$1,300,000 from the Unappropriated Balance Fund No. 100/58, Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Shelter Operations Account No. 580434, to the CIFD Fund No. 100/21, Account No. 003040, to fund the Survivor Services Expansion through June 30, 2025;
 - e. **AUTHORIZE** the CIFD to reallocate \$905,092 of the \$6.5 million appropriated under Fund No. 100/21, Account No. 003040, intended to fund VOCA backfill, for the expansion of the Survivor Services service levels, shelter expansion, and funding for a Centralized Line Platform;
 - f. **AUTHORIZE** the CIFD to use funding in the HOME ARP Fund No. 65M, Account No. 43VB85 LA Emergency Fund for the Survivors First program within the Survivor Services system for tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) and provision of supportive services in alignment with eligible activities described in C.F. 20-1433-S2;
 - g. Reduce appropriations in the amount of \$94,286.49 within the HOME-ARP Fund No. 65M/43, HOME ARP - Adm Reserve - CIFD Account No. 43VB83 to align appropriations with the remaining balance after expenditures from Fiscal Year 2022-23 through Fiscal Year 2023-24;

- h. Reduce appropriations in the amount of \$19,648 within the CIFD Fund 100/21, Salaries General Account No. 001010 (Fund 65M HOME ARP Fund) to align with FY 2024-25 projected expenditures;
- i. **AUTHORIZE** the General Manager of CIFD, or designee, to prepare Controller Instructions and/or make any technical adjustments needed and consistent with this action, subject to the approval of the CAO, and request the Controller to implement these instructions.

DISCUSSION

Overview of the Survivor Services Program

The Survivor Services Program (SSP) is a critical component of CIFD's strategy to prevent homelessness, providing life-saving support to survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and other forms of interpersonal violence. The program offers a comprehensive network of services, including crisis support, transitional and permanent housing, and self-sufficiency initiatives that collectively address both immediate safety needs and long-term stability. Through partnerships with providers specializing in emergency, transitional, and permanent housing, SSP embraces a "no wrong door" approach, ensuring survivors can access services at any stage in their recovery journey—whether they need urgent shelter or long-term financial and housing support.

Currently, the system funds 567 dedicated shelter beds. The need for beds far exceeds capacity; in FY 2023-24, the SSP received 15,851 hotline calls, with over half (9,013) requesting shelter. However, the limited availability of dedicated shelter beds allowed only 903 survivors—just 10% of those in need—to secure shelter, underscoring the critical need for SSP expansion. Despite these challenges, SSP has successfully supported 2,322 survivors, with 1,575 individuals avoiding homelessness and approximately 97% remaining permanently and safely housed. These accomplishments illustrate SSP's impactful role in providing stability and safety for survivors while highlighting the significant gap in resources that, if bridged, could allow SSP to further reduce homelessness and enhance safety across communities.

System Enhancements Guided by Community Feedback

The planned enhancements for SSP were informed by insights gathered from the 2022 L.A. County Women's Needs Assessment and extensive community listening sessions held over the past two fiscal years. Through these efforts, CIFD engaged non-profit partners, local and state government representatives, and service providers in direct discussions about the strengths and gaps in the current system. These sessions underscored a critical theme: survivors often require a comprehensive and flexible range of services tailored to their unique circumstances.

Participants emphasized that a "one-size-fits-all" approach often fails to meet survivors' complex needs. Instead, they called for a model that provides diverse and adaptable support options. This feedback informed the development of the SSP's "no wrong door" system, which will give survivors coordinated access to a full spectrum of services—from immediate crisis housing to sustained, long-term support. This model offers immediate stability and clear pathways to self-sufficiency and lasting safety.

Survivor System Enhancements

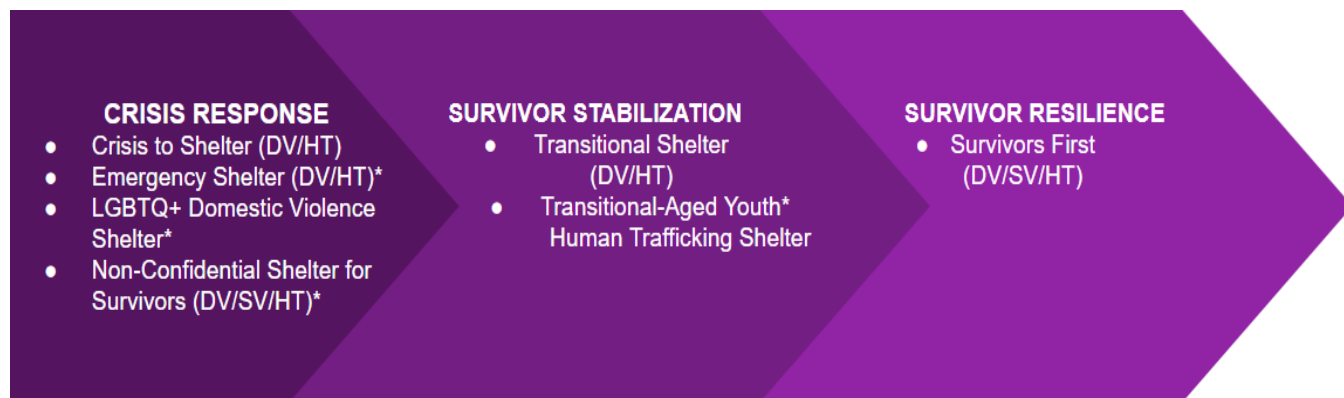
In 2025, SSP will introduce several key enhancements and expansions to address the current challenges and expand its impact. These include new program components, specialized shelters, wage equity, and a centralized platform to streamline access and service delivery. This strategic approach will ensure SSP meets immediate needs and promotes long-term stability and safety for survivors. These include:

- **Crisis to Shelter:** Aimed at survivors fleeing imminent danger, the Crisis to Shelter program provides short-term hotel/motel accommodations paired with supportive case management,

bridging the gap when traditional shelter space is unavailable.

- **Enhanced Shelter Operations:** SSP will expand its shelter operations with the following specialized programs designed to address a range of survivor needs:
 - Emergency Shelter: Offers immediate, confidential, short-term housing for survivors escaping dangerous or life-threatening environments.
 - Transitional Shelter: Provides long-term, confidential housing for survivors needing ongoing protection.
 - Unhoused Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Human Trafficking Shelter: Serves unhoused TAY survivors (ages 18-24) who have experienced human trafficking and exploitation.
 - LGBTQ+: Integrated support for LGBTQ+ survivors within the SSP components to ensure we are inclusive of the needs of this target population.
 - Non-Confidential Shelter for Survivors: Offers an alternative shelter environment for survivors who do not require or prefer not to stay in a confidential location.
- **Survivors First:** Pairs housing services with time-limited financial assistance, targeted to help survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and/or other forms of intimate partner violence secure safe, permanent housing.

These programs support survivors along a continuum from emergency assistance to long-term stability, as illustrated in the figure below.



Authorization to Execute Contracts for Victims of Crime Act Services and Reallocate Funds to Support and Expand the Survivor Services System

The City's FY 2024-25 budget appropriated \$6.5 million to a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) reserve fund to address the uncertainties surrounding VOCA funding availability. Subsequently, the State restored a portion of VOCA funding for FY 2024-25, and in September, City-funded agencies were notified of their State allocation. Following this notification, CIFD conducted a survey revealing that the actual funding gap is closer to \$2.2 million. CIFD requests authority to execute contracts with service providers up to the amount identified in Attachment A, reinstating services that were discontinued or reduced due to the VOCA reductions. Additionally, CIFD seeks to reallocate the remaining balance of \$4.3 million to support the Survivor Services System. This reallocation will maintain current service levels, expand shelter operations, establish a data management/centralized line platform, and support the Survivors First program.

Data Management/Centralized Platform

A significant development in the SSP expansion is establishing a data management/centralized access platform, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office, the County of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). The data management/centralized platform will simplify the

process for survivors seeking support. Currently, survivors must contact individual providers, often retelling their trauma at each new contact point. The new platform will:

- Connect survivors to a single 24/7 hotline that links them directly to the full suite of SSP services, including emergency, transitional, and permanent housing.
- Ensure compliance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) confidentiality standards, providing a safe and supportive entry into the survivor network.
- Integrate continuous feedback from survivors and service providers to improve platform responsiveness and accessibility.

In October 2024, LAHSA applied for a HUD grant through the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the DV Bonus, requesting \$1.6 million annually over two years (\$3.2 million in total over two years) to support this project. The funding requires a 25% match from the City and County.

Anticipated Impact and Outcomes

This expansion of SSP's infrastructure and services is projected to add 168 beds, increasing survivor support capacity, significantly lowering rejection rates due to limited space, and improving safety, housing stability, and self-sufficiency outcomes. The expansion also helps the City fulfill its obligation under the LA Alliance for Human Rights settlement agreement by expanding interim bed availability, including those designated for survivors of domestic violence under HUD's Category 4 definition of homelessness.

Procurement Process

On May 31, 2024, CIFD requested a determination from the Personnel Department based on the provisions of Charter Section 1022. On June 13, 2024, the Personnel Department determined that the City does not have any classifications available with the specific experience or expertise needed to operate the SSP and that other departments are not able to provide the resources required to perform the work outlined in the anticipated contracts.

On July 12, 2024, CIFD released the SSP RFP to solicit proposals from qualified, community-based, nonprofit organizations to operate SSPs effective January 1, 2025. The RFP outlined the required service delivery components, eligibility criteria, comprehensive scope of work expected from selected providers, and proposal submission instructions. The scope of work included detailed specifications for program implementation, staffing requirements, and performance metrics to measure success. Additionally, the RFP thoroughly described the City's expectations for each provider, emphasizing the importance of collaboration, transparency, and accountability in service delivery.

Proposals were accepted from organizations with a physical address in the City of Los Angeles and a documented history of working in this field. CIFD required that selected agencies have a proven track record of effectively supporting survivors. Proposers were instructed to demonstrate their good standing with the City of Los Angeles or other jurisdictions where they receive funding, reinforcing the importance of compliance and fiscal responsibility. Furthermore, proposers could apply for any or all programmatic components based on their capacity and experience, offering flexibility in proposals and encouraging diverse solutions tailored to the varying needs of survivors.

Table 1: Key Procurement Milestones

EVENT	DATE
Request for Proposals Released in RAMP	7/12/2024
Proposers' Conference	7/25/2024
RFP Submission Deadline	9/04/2024
RFB Released for TAY and LGBTQ+ shelters	9/27/2024
RFB Submission Deadline	10/04/2024
RFP and RFB Review Period Completed	10/18/2024
Proposers notified of scores and funding recommendations	10/24/2024

Appeals Process Completed	10/31/2024
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The RFP garnered considerable response from qualified organizations interested in operating the SSP. An optional Proposers' Conference was conducted virtually on Thursday, July 25, 2024. 43 organizations attended the Proposers' Conference. The Proposer's Conference was recorded and uploaded on the Regional Alliance Marketplace for Procurement (RAMP) website for all interested proposers to view. Technical assistance was offered to all proposers. CIFI posted responses to 68 questions. 151 distinct organizations viewed the opportunity on RAMP. 20 complete proposals were submitted by the deadline of Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Each proposal underwent a threshold review to ensure the proposal met the minimum eligibility criteria. All proposals passed threshold review and were eligible for consideration. The proposals were reviewed and rated by a panel of reviewers who participated in an SSP RFP Reviewer Training, which covered an overview of the RFP, the scoring tool, and a review and signing of the Conflict of Interest/Non-Disclosure Statement. The panel evaluated proposals individually and collaboratively to reach a consensus score aligned with the criteria outlined in Table 2. Proposals must receive a minimum score of 70 out of 100 possible points to be considered for funding.

Table 2: Evaluation Criteria

Survivors Services Program	Points
Part I Demonstrated Ability Description of qualifications, familiarity, expertise, and programmatic and administrative responsibility to provide the program(s) solicited.	20
Part II Program Design Proposed approach and implementation plan in providing program(s) solicited.	60
Part III Cost Reasonableness & Financial Viability Reasonableness and appropriateness of proposed budget per program(s) solicited.	20
TOTAL POINTS	100

During the initial threshold review, two program components, the Unhoused TAY Human Trafficking Shelter and LGBTQ+ Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Shelter, did not receive proposals. After consulting with the City Attorney, CIFI released a Request for Bids (RFB) on September 27, 2024, specifically requesting proposals for these components. Eligible organizations meeting the RFP threshold were invited to submit a bid by October 4, 2024. Through the RFB process, an additional five bids were submitted. Staff scored these proposals based on a review of the written submissions, interviews with the agencies, and site visits. CIFI received only one bid for the LGBTQ+ Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Shelter Component; however, it did not meet the required threshold. To address this, CIFI will integrate support for the LGBTQ+ community within other shelter components to ensure this target population receives the necessary services.

With respect to the Unhoused TAY Human Trafficking Shelter component, the submission from Home at Last received a passing score. It was ranked as a priority proposal due to the significant number of beds it would add to the SSP. However, the request exceeded CIFI's available funding. To explore alternative options, the department has initiated discussions with the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) about the potential availability of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) grant dollars.

Summary of RFP and RFB Results

Attachment B provides a list of proposals and their scores.

Contract Recommendations

CIFD recommends that the City Council and the Mayor approve contracts with the top-scoring proposers in each component to operate Survivor Services programs for an initial six-month term starting January 1, 2025. CIFD also seeks authority to execute contracts with the recommended contractors for four additional one-year periods: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027; July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028; and July 1, 2028 to June 30, 2029; .

Table 3 outlines the recommended funding for the initial term and the anticipated allocations for the full FY 2025-26. CIFD anticipates that the expanded system will increase bed capacity—from 567 to 735—and increase the number of survivors served by 30%.

Table 3: Survivors Services Providers Recommended for Contracts

Agency	Contract Amount January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025	Contract Amount July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
Crisis to Shelter		
Jenesse Center, Inc.	\$162,700	\$325,400
Journey Out	\$230,139	\$460,277
Subtotal	\$392,839	\$785,677
Emergency Shelter		
1736 Family Crisis Center	\$200,000	\$400,000
Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Inc	\$167,500	\$335,000
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking	\$225,000	\$450,000
Haven Hills	\$246,832	\$493,664
Jenesse Center, Inc.	\$347,425	\$694,850
Jewish Family Service Los Angeles	\$265,469	\$530,938
Rainbow Services, Ltd.	\$258,475	\$516,950
So. California Alcohol and Drug Programs	\$301,688	\$603,376
Subtotal	\$2,012,389	\$4,024,778
Transitional Shelter		
1736 Family Crisis Center	\$250,000	\$500,000
Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc.	\$199,477	\$398,954
Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Inc	\$125,000	\$250,000
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking	\$225,000	\$450,000
Haven Hills	\$444,690	\$889,380
Jenesse Center, Inc.	\$347,425	\$694,850
Jewish Family Service Los Angeles	\$145,000	\$290,000
Rainbow Services, Ltd.	\$258,296	\$516,592
The People Concern	\$177,500	\$355,000
Subtotal	\$2,172,388	\$4,344,776
Non-confidential Shelter		
Do Good Daniels	\$700,000	\$1,400,000
Subtotal	\$700,000	\$1,400,000
TAY Shelter		
Covenant House	\$300,000	\$600,000

Agency	Contract Amount January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025	Contract Amount July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026
Subtotal	\$300,000	\$600,000
Survivors First		
1736 Family Crisis Center	\$326,400	\$652,800
Center for the Pacific Asian Family, Inc	\$133,500	\$267,000
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking	\$312,500	\$625,000
Haven Hills	\$253,676	\$507,352
Home At Last Community Development Corporation	\$250,000	\$500,000
Jenesse Center, Inc.	\$262,815	\$525,630
Jewish Family Service Los Angeles	\$250,000	\$500,000
Peace over Violence	\$150,000	\$300,000
Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs	\$54,041	\$108,082
St. Anne's Family Services	\$250,000	\$500,000
Subtotal	\$2,242,932	\$4,485,864
General Fund (VOCA)		
VOCA Backfill See Attachment A for a breakdown	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000
Data Management /Centralized Line Platform	\$267,504	\$424,824
Subtotal	\$2,467,504	\$2,624,824
General Fund (Unappropriated Balance)		
Case Management System Development (expansion)	\$300,000	
Subtotal	\$300,000	\$0
GRAND TOTAL	\$10,588,052	\$18,265,919

CIFD considered the available funding alongside the funding requests from service providers when making the contract recommendations illustrated in Table 3. A detailed Survivor Services Program funding matrix is included in Attachment C.

Appeals Process

On October 24, 2024, proposers were notified of the proposal review results. CIFD sent notifications of the proposal review results, including proposal scores and appeals process instructions. Proposers may appeal procedural issues only, such as whether CIFD did not follow the stated processes for posting information and collecting applications or attachments. A disagreement with, or objection to, the points awarded does not constitute a basis for an appeal. Differences of opinion about the proposal's merits do not constitute grounds for submitting an appeal. Appeals may not include any new or additional information not submitted with the original proposal.

On October 28, 2024, CIFD received one appeals hearing request from one proposer contesting their score for one program component. On October 31, 2024, the proposer withdrew the appeals hearing request.

Establishment of a Replacement Operator List

In addition to approving the recommended SSP contractors, CIFD requests authority to establish a prequalified list of Replacement Operators (Attachment D). The Replacement Operator List includes agencies recommended for funding as well as agencies not recommended for funding but whose proposals received a score of 70 points or greater. Inclusion on the list will qualify a proposer for

consideration as an SSP operator if an established contractor can no longer fulfill its contractual responsibilities, regardless of the programmatic component that the proposer originally applied. In the event that a replacement operator is required to ensure continuity of service to the community, CIFD will return to the City Council and Mayor for approval of the replacement operator's contract amount and term.

Funding the Survivor Services Program

The SSP is supported by multiple funding streams. Table 4 summarizes proposed funding allocations for FY 2024-25 and outlines the requested amount for FY 2025-26.

Table 4: Funding

Funding	FY 2024-25 Approved Budget	7/1/2024-- 12/30/2024 Contracts	Proposed 1/1/2025 -- 6/30/2025 Contracts	Total FY 2024-25 Contract Allocation	Request FY 2025-2026
Community Development Block Grant	\$2,398,619	\$2,398,619	\$0	\$2,398,619	\$2,398,619
DV/HT General Fund (GF) base and Reappropriations from GF	\$4,142,717	\$835,445	\$3,140,028	\$3,975,473	\$3,881,436
General Fund (Unappropriated Balance)	\$2,000,000			see below	
General Fund (Unappropriated Balance) - Shelters Expansion		\$0	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000
General Fund (Unappropriated Balance) - Case Management System Development			\$300,000	\$300,000	
Family Homelessness Challenge Grant Round 2	\$1,843,500	\$936,500	\$907,000	\$1,843,500	\$1,814,000
HOME ARP	\$1,005,342	\$0	\$835,932	\$835,932	\$1,671,864
VOCA Reserve Fund	\$6,500,000			see below	
VOCA Backfill			\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$4,800,000
VOCA Reallocation			\$905,092	\$905,092	\$1,700,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$17,890,178*	\$4,170,564	\$10,588,052	\$14,758,616	\$18,265,919**

*The SSP's funding sources for FY 2024-25 include a total allocation of \$17,890,178. However, actual expenditures are anticipated to be lower due to prorated contract allocations over six months to support the startup of new services.

**The proposed budget for FY 2025-26 reflects an increase to cover full-year funding and wage equity adjustments, ensuring continuity and compliance as programs expand from a six-month prorated to a full 12-month funding model.

Community Development Block Grant

This funding is available on an annual basis in the amount of \$2,398,619 to support Survivor Services. These grant dollars are projected to be fully expended in the first half of FY 2024-25 to ensure the City meets grant deadlines.

Domestic Violence/Human Trafficking Shelter Operations (DVSO/HTSO) and Reappropriations from GF \$4,142,717 will continue to be used to support shelter operations costs. This includes \$3,081,436 for DVSO, \$800,000 for HTSO, and \$261,281 in GF Reappropriations to support current service level.

Unappropriated Balance

Through the FY 2024-25 City Budget process, CIFI requested funding to expand the Survivor Services System. This expansion aims to: (1) enhance organizational capacity by investing in personnel costs, (2) address the rising operational costs associated with operating shelters, and (3) increase the Survivor Services infrastructure through new shelter programs. CIFI received an additional \$2 million to fund additional new shelter beds; however, this increase in funding did not sufficiently cover operational cost increases needed just to maintain current service levels at shelters. The Survivors Service System has not had a funding increase to address wage equity in over 10 years.

CIFI has contracted with Slalom, Inc. to develop the Case Management System. The new system will collect demographic information, track services and outcomes, upload documents, report data, automate assignments, approvals, and notifications, implement workflows, and create custom reports and dashboards. The new system will capture the system redesign and expansion of the SSP and will address the need to keep client data confidential. To complete the SSP and expansion components, \$300,000 will be needed from the Unappropriated Balance. The \$300,000 will partially cover the costs associated with the Slalom contract, which includes system development, user testing and training, data migration, the final production of the system, and hypercare. The remaining balance of \$300,000 will be used to pay for a separately contracted Database Architect who will complete the data mapping and migration from the Bitfocus system to the new Salesforce platform and expenditures related to ITAs support.

Slalom, Inc. <i>SSP Expansion</i>	\$180,000
Satwic, Inc. <i>Database Architect</i>	\$100,000
Reimbursement to ITA	\$20,000
Total	\$300,000

Grant Funds

CIFI has received funding awards from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) (C.F. 23-0804) and the State of California for the Family Homelessness Challenge Grant-2 (FHC-2) (C.F. 22-1097). CIFI proposes to use the HOME ARP funds currently appropriated under HOME-ARP Fund No. 65M, Account 43VB85 LA Emergency Fund (C.F. 20-1433-S2) to support the SSP, specifically the Survivors First program component for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) and provision of supportive services. The request for authority to receive the FHC-2 grant award is pending Council and Mayor approval. These funds are ineligible for shelter operations.

VOCA Reserve Fund

The City's FY 2024-25 budget appropriated \$6.5 million to a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) reserve fund to mitigate the uncertainty surrounding the availability of VOCA funding. Ultimately, the State restored a portion of VOCA funding for FY 2024-25, and in September, City-funded agencies were notified of their State allocation. Following this notification, CIFI conducted a survey that revealed the actual funding gap is closer to \$2.2 million. As a result, CIFI recommends utilizing the remaining VOCA reserve fund to maintain current service levels, expand shelter operations, establish a County-City Centralized Line, and support the Survivors First program.

- For FY 2024-25, CIFI proposes to use the VOCA Reserve Funds appropriated under the Contractual Services Account 003040 as follows:

Allocate \$3.5 million from the VOCA Reserve Fund as follows:

- \$2,200,000 will offset VOCA State funding reductions for agencies,
- \$907,161 will be used to maintain service levels, and
- \$392,839 to support the Crisis to Shelter program component.

Reallocate \$905,092 from the VOCA Reserve Fund as follows:

- \$137,588 to expand shelter operations;
- \$267,504 to establish a Data Management/County-City Centralized Line and
- \$500,000 to support the Survivors First program.

- For FY 2025-26, CIFD proposes to use the \$6.5M VOCA Reserve Funds as follows:

VOCA Backfill of \$4,800,000

- \$2,200,000 will offset VOCA State funding reductions for agencies;
- \$1,814,323 will be used to maintain service levels,
- \$785,677 to support the Crisis to Shelter program component.

Reallocation of \$1,700,000 for expansion and service enhancement

- \$1,275,175 to expand shelter operations and the Survivors First program
- \$424,824 to establish a Data Management/County-City Centralized Line

FY 2025-26 Survivor Services Program Budget

Through the FY 2025-26 Annual Budget process, CIFD is requesting a continuation of funding to maintain service levels, including the programs reflected in this Transmittal. In 2025-26, CIFD is projecting a total budget of approximately \$18,265,919. This funding will directly support the expanded network of providers in continuing to provide safe, confidential temporary housing for 2,162 adults and children.

FY 2025-26 Personnel Support

In addition, for FY 2025-26, CIFD is requesting consideration of additional positions to maintain the effective management and expansion of our citywide initiatives and programs, including SSP and, specifically, the Survivors First Program, a homelessness prevention program integral to our strategy. Currently, one Assistant Chief Grants Administrator oversees the FamilySource System, Survivor Services System, and Specially Targeted programs. With nearly triple the Survivor Services funding from last year, this position's portfolio has expanded to include coordinating citywide homelessness prevention efforts (C.F. 22-0799-S2), significantly increasing the scope of work. This growth has placed unsustainable pressure on existing staff, highlighting the urgent need for additional personnel to maintain our program's effectiveness and efficiency.

In response to the City's urgent need to scale up homelessness prevention services and policies, California State University Northridge was commissioned to conduct an environmental scan and develop a business plan. Their analysis revealed pressing challenges and opportunities and provided data-driven insight into the staffing levels required to manage and implement CIFD's critical prevention programs successfully. The study concluded that at least three additional dedicated positions are needed: one Assistant Chief Grants Administrator and two Management Analysts.

These new positions are essential for coordinating homelessness prevention efforts across multiple departments and external stakeholders, analyzing complex data to inform strategic decisions, developing processes and creating forms, developing metrics to measure performance outcomes, and managing and monitoring service contracts. Without this staffing expansion, sustaining the level of coordination, compliance, and evaluation required to achieve program goals will be impossible. By adding these positions, the City will be better positioned to address the urgent needs of residents at risk

of homelessness, ensuring these critical programs run smoothly and continue delivering essential services. CIFD will fund these three new positions using FHC and HOME ARP funds.

Human Trafficking Baseline Study (C.F. 24-0446)

In April 2024, Councilmembers McOsker, Harris-Dawson, and Padilla introduced a motion (C.F. 24-0446) instructing CIFD to report back on the feasibility of conducting or contracting with organizations to perform a baseline study on the prevalence of human trafficking in the City of Los Angeles. CIFD, through this transmittal, seeks to increase the City's investment in supporting human trafficking survivors. The proposal before the City Council and the Mayor seeks to enhance every stage of the Survivor Services continuum, from immediate crisis intervention and shelter support to targeted programs like the Unhoused TAY Human Trafficking Shelter and Survivors First.

However, more comprehensive data and in-depth research are essential to ensure that CIFD's response remains effective and evidence-based. Los Angeles, as one of the largest metropolitan areas in the country, faces unique challenges in addressing human trafficking. The upcoming 2028 Olympics and 2026 World Cup bring heightened attention to this issue. Nevertheless, human trafficking is a pervasive issue that requires sustained attention and resources, regardless of the timing of large-scale events like the Olympics. While such events can create heightened awareness of trafficking risks, the crime itself is not confined to these moments. Traffickers exploit vulnerable individuals year-round, operating in the shadows of our communities with devastating consequences for their victims. Through this transmittal, CIFD seeks to enhance the City's response to human trafficking through a broader framework that includes trauma-informed and survivor-centered services, recognizing survivors as victims who are among the City's most vulnerable.

CIFD agrees that data is critical for making policy and program decisions to improve services for human trafficking survivors. Data on human trafficking in Los Angeles is currently limited, and the complexities of measuring the scope of the issue pose considerable challenges. Gathering reliable data on prevalence, demographics, and types of trafficking is essential for establishing long-term, impactful solutions. In support of this goal, the Sunita Jain Anti-Trafficking Initiative, based at Loyola Marymount University, has recommended a \$1 million, two-year baseline study. Due to limited funding, we have prioritized available resources toward direct services for survivors. Additional funding resources would be needed to advance this critical research.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Survivor Services Program is funded by four funding sources: General Fund (Fund 100), Community Development Block Grant (Fund 424), HOME Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan (Fund 65M), and the State of California for the Family Homelessness Challenge Grant (Fund 65G). CIFD will rely on its FY 2024-25 Budget to support the Survivor Services Program and the contracts resulting from the RFP. No additional funding is requested to support this fiscal year's request.



ABIGAIL R. MARQUEZ
General Manager

AM:VM:JDR:AG

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Survivor Services VOCA Backfill Funding Allocation](#)

Attachment B: [Survivor Services System RFP Proposals and Evaluation Results](#)

Attachment C: [Survivor Services System Funding Matrix January 1 - June 30, 2025](#)

Attachment D: [Survivor Services RFP Replacement Operator List](#)