

Dignity Fund Services and Allocation Plan FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27

Additions and changes following the February 2023 OAC Meeting

- Addressing unmet mental health need
 - Added new content about allocations for a mental health services pilot in the Community Connection & Engagement service area (p. 33)

Enhance System Coordination: Our recent needs assessment found that older and disabled adults in San Francisco, particularly LGBTQ+ and BIPOC consumers, need better access to culturally appropriate mental health supports. This need is especially prominent in the wake of COVID-19, which exacerbated social isolation, loneliness, and other mental health concerns for these already high-risk populations. DAS takes a variety of approaches to address mental health needs for people with disabilities and seniors, including: funding programs focused on specific cultural populations and/or aspects of mental health, such as the LGBTQ+ Mental Health Connections program; providing information and navigation support to access available resources; and coordinating with the City's Department of Public Health to improve existing services and better address unmet need. In addition to these strategies, DAS will also allocate Dignity Fund growth to fund community-based mental health services pilots via an open bid process in which service providers propose a program model designed to meet desired outcomes outlined by the Department. As these new models are established and services are tested, DAS will uphold our commitment to evaluating impact for clients and funding services and programs with demonstrable impact.

- Updated language to better highlight existing and expanding Department activities that help to address mental health needs and/or access (p. 25, 28, 33)
- Clarifying data and evaluation processes
 - Added language in the Administration service area to clarify key data and evaluation activities DAS will carry out in the coming cycle (p. 47)

Use Data for Planning and Improvement: An essential part of the Department's role in administering the Dignity Fund effectively is to carry out a variety of planning and evaluation activities. Administration services are a critical resource for: ensuring high-quality data collection across the DAS service network to support analysis of program trends and client outcomes; supporting regular assessment of community needs to inform Fund spending and programming decisions; and reinforcing transparency and accountability to community stakeholders for responsible administration of the Fund.

Although our analytical capacity shifted to address emergency response and related priorities following the COVID-19 outbreak, DAS will resume greater focus on data and evaluation in the coming funding cycle. Later this year, we

will complete the annual Data and Evaluation Reports for FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22, which were postponed due to staff capacity constraints. These reports will help lay important groundwork for the Department's first ever Dignity Fund Cycle-End Evaluation of the FY 2019-20 to FY 2022-23 funding cycle. This evaluation, which we will carry out next year following the end of the funding cycle, will give us greater insight into the scope and impact of the Dignity Fund over this period.

- Other changes
 - Updated Appendix A and Appendix B to align with current DAS service list
 - Refreshed service area services and funding allocations summaries for consistency with these updates

- Plans to socialize the report
 - Presentations to DF SPWG, DF OAC, and DAS Commission
 - Notifying the SF Mayor's Office and Board of Supervisors of publication
 - Collaborations with SFHSA Communications to share the report more widely
 - Publishing report on DAS Reports & Publications webpage
 - Emailing providers and partners
 - Posting on social media