

Background

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is a unique funding partnership between The City of Calgary and the Government of Alberta to provide preventive social programs to enhance the lives of Calgarians experiencing vulnerabilities.

Through this partnership, the province funds a maximum of 80 per cent of the program cost and participating municipalities must contribute a minimum of 20 per cent. The Government allocates \$29.7M in FCSS funding to The City of Calgary, which is matched with \$9.9M in millrate funds from The City, making FCSS Calgary's annual budget \$39.6M. As per the FCSS Calgary Policy, The City contributes a minimum of 25 per cent to the FCSS Calgary Program, to strengthen support for the preventive social service sector in Calgary

To be eligible for FCSS Calgary funding, programs must be consistent with the FCSS Act and Regulation, Council's policy on FCSS and align with the FCSS Funding Framework. Organizations must collaborate with others to ensure a continuum of preventive services exists in Calgary and to avoid duplication in service provision.

Administration evaluates the impact of FCSS Calgary funding through standardized surveys on social inclusion. Participants in FCSS-funded programs complete these surveys and the results are analysed and communicated back to the organizations to improve the design and impact of their programs. This continuous cycle of data analysis and program delivery ensures that Calgarians are provided with evidence-based programs that meet their needs. The City currently provides funding to 76 organizations to provide 148 preventive social service programs.

In 2003 Council directed the establishment of the FCSS Stabilization Fund. In 2016 Council approved a new FCSS Policy that outlined The City's commitment to providing a sustainable, long-term funding source for the preventive social service sector in Calgary. In 2019, Council approved 2020-2022 funding allocations, and access to the FCSS Stabilization Fund to address emerging social issues and capacity-building initiatives. During budget adjustments in 2019, Council instructed Administration to conduct a review of the FCSS Calgary Program, and report back in 2021. In 2020, Council approved FCSS allocations of \$2 million for 2021 and authorized Administration to access up to \$750,000 from the FCSS Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding non-profit organizations for emerging social issues and capacity-building initiatives.

Family and Community Support Services Council Directives

DATE	DIRECTION	DESCRIPTION
04/07/2003	Vision for Social Well-Being/Quality of Life and FCSS Funding Priorities Initiative, CPS2003-26 Combined Meeting of Council	Council directed the establishment of the FCSS Stabilization Fund to cover any shortfalls in case the FCSS allocation is less than expected in any given year, and to build the capacity of funded organizations as well as respond to emerging issues.
06/20/2016	Proposed Changes to the Council Policy for the Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Program, CPS2016-0397 Combined Meeting of Council	Council approved an updated policy for FCSS (CP2016-05), which streamlined how the FCSS program is administered in Calgary. Through this policy, Council committed to contributing 25 per cent of the overall FCSS Calgary budget.
11/29/2019	Adjustments to One Calgary Service Plans and Budgets, November 12, 2019 (Continued November 25-29)	That Council Direct Administration to: 1. Perform a review of Family and Community Support Services, and Calgary Neighbourhoods' role in delivering Family and Community Support Services programs. 2. Report back to Council in conjunction with the annual Family and Community Support Services funding recommendations in 2021.
12/16/2019	2020-2022 Family and Community Support Services Funding Recommendations, CPS2019-1286 Combined Meeting of Council	On 2019 December 16, Council approved the FCSS allocations of \$9.6 million for 2020, and committed of \$8.8 million for 2021 and \$8.8 million in 2022. Council also authorized access of up to \$500,000 from the FCSS Stabilization Fund in 2020 for the purpose of funding non-profit organizations for emerging social issues and capacity-building initiatives; received the FCSS Funding Framework for the corporate record and approved social inclusion as the long-term goal for FCSS funding.
12/14/2020	2021 Family and Community Support Services Funding Recommendations, CPS2020-1221 Combined Meeting of Council	On 2020 December 14, Council approved FCSS allocations of \$2 million for 2021 and authorized Administration to access up to \$750,000 from the FCSS Stabilization Fund in 2021 for the purpose of funding non-profit organizations for emerging social issues and capacity-building initiatives.