



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**September 13, 2016**

**Motion 14727**

**Proposed No. 2016-0380.1**

**Sponsors Kohl-Welles**

1           A MOTION approving a report on proposed funding  
2           allocation methodology for human service programs in  
3           response to Motion 14588.

4           WHEREAS, Ordinance 17941 Section 58, as amended, appropriated the  
5           community and human services administration fund 2015/2016 biennium budget, and

6           WHEREAS, on March 14, 2016, Motion 14588 approved the Report on Proposed  
7           Funding Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs ("the report on proposed  
8           funding") in response to a proviso in Ordinance 17941, Section 58, and

9           WHEREAS, Motion 14588 further requested that, within fifteen days after the  
10          date on which the final workgroup concludes its deliberations regarding work outlined in  
11          the report on proposed funding, the executive transmit to the council the conclusions of  
12          the allocation workgroups and a motion approving the final parameters that will be used  
13          to select providers for funding, and

14          WHEREAS, the final workgroup concluded its deliberations on June 30, 2016;

15          NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

16          The council approves the Report on Final Conclusions for Proposed Funding  
17          Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs, Attachment A to this motion,

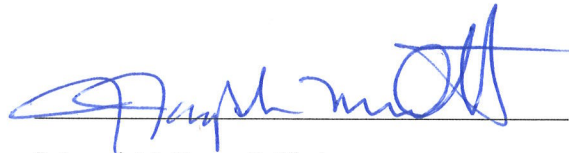


18 which contains the conclusions of the funding allocation workgroups and the final  
19 parameters that will be used to select providers for funding.  
20

Motion 14727 was introduced on 7/25/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 9/12/2016, by the following vote:

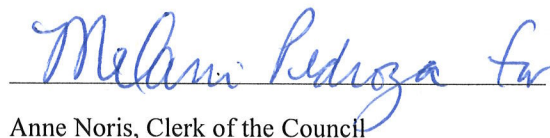
Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,  
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles  
and Ms. Balducci  
No: 0  
Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** A. Report on Final Conclusions for Proposed Funding Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs





**King County**

# **Report on Final Conclusions for Proposed Funding Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs**

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*Response to Motion 14588*

**Department of Community and Human Services**  
*July 2016*



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## Background

King County Council Motion 14588 requested the King County Executive submit a report and a motion that would include conclusions for the funding allocation methodology for human services program areas that are supported with King County General Funds. In addition, the motion requested that opportunities for participation on funding allocation methodology for human services program area-specific work groups include King County Council district staff. The motion requested that the report and motion be submitted within fifteen days after the date of the final work group meeting.

The following provides a summary of the conclusions for recommended funding allocation of the three human service program area work groups. These conclusions were integral in developing the recommendation for the funding allocation methodology to be used for the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget of the Community Services program areas that are supported with general funds.

The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) convened three work groups in 2016 to discuss and offer recommendations for the Civil Legal Aid, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault program areas that receive King County General Funds. Each of the work groups met three to four times with an average of seventeen attendees per meeting. Invitations were sent to executive directors of agencies in these areas (both currently receiving County General Funds and those that are not), other funders and staff from the King County Executive and King County Councilmembers. Appendix 1 shows the names and affiliations of the members of the work groups.

The work groups were convened to address and make recommendations for three objectives:

1. Identify the services for that particular program area which would be supported with King County General Funds.
2. Identify the eligibility selection criteria for agencies seeking to be considered for King County General Funds in the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget.
3. Identify the funding allocation methodology that would be used to determine which applicants would be considered for funding. The funding allocation methodology was expected to be equitable, transparent and fair for both currently-funded providers as well as agencies not currently receiving King County General Funds.

The Core Services and the Eligibility Selection Criteria are included in Appendix 2 for the Civil Legal Aid Services, Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault program areas.



## Funding Allocation Methodology

The proposed funding allocation methodology for the 2017-2018 general funded Civil Legal Aid Services, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault program areas is to allocate 90 percent of the 2017-2018 respective general fund funds to the existing agencies included in the 2015-2016 base budget for these program areas. The resulting decrease in funding to these agencies will be calculated proportionate to their original 2015-2016 allocations.

The balance (10 percent) of the 2017-2018 general funds allocated for these program areas will be available through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process. An agency applying for a portion of the 10 percent funds would submit an application that describes how it would address an emerging issue, a currently underserved population or an unmet need.

For example:

In 2015-2016, general funds allocated for the Domestic Violence program area totaled \$2,636,889. The 90%-10% funding methodology would result in the following:

90% to Domestic Violence programs funded in 2015-2016	\$2,373,200
10% to new agencies and existing agencies, to address emerging issues, marginalized populations and/or unmet needs	\$ 263,689

If the King County Council approves this Funding Allocation Methodology, the following process will be used for each of the three program areas described in this report:

1. Identify the 2017-2018 County General Fund amounts allocated for the Civil Legal Aid, the Domestic Violence and the Sexual Assault program areas.
2. For each program area, set aside 90 percent of the allocated amount to establish the 2017-2018 contracts with agencies funded in 2015-2016. (Note: assumption is that existing agencies will need to respond to a Request for Qualifications and meet the eligibility selection criteria for the program area to which they are applying for funds).
3. For each program area, set aside 10 percent of the allocated amount to new providers and existing providers, to address emerging issues, and/or underserved communities. Agencies applying for these funds will go through the RFQ process including: identifying the requested amount of funds and the proposed use of those funds, a brief description explaining how the agency is



positioned to address those emerging issues or serve the underserved communities, and demonstrating that they meet the eligibility selection criteria for the program area to which they are applying.

4. Convene three work groups (one for each program area) to assist in the RFQ process including establishing guidelines for the overall process, developing the mailing lists announcing the availability of funds, reviewing and rating the proposals, and contributing to the recommendations for agencies to receive the 10 percent funds. (Note: avoiding the issue of potential conflict of interest will be one of the considerations as these groups are developed).
5. A report containing the recommended agencies for funding by program area will be sent to the King County Executive. Once the Executive approves, he will send it to the King County Council for review and approval.
6. The King County Council will review the recommended list of agencies and decide whether to approve the agencies and the funding amounts.
7. A modified process of the above will be repeated in time for the 2019-2020 budget. Work groups will be convened and discussions with stakeholders will take place to:
  - discuss the anticipated general funds situation;
  - determine the emerging needs for each program area;
  - evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed 90-10 percent methodology in making the general fund allocations more transparent, equitable and fair; and
  - (if the 90-10 percent methodology was effective) propose whether or not to employ the methodology for the 2019-2020 funding allocations.

*The fourth human service program area receiving general funds is the Older Adults program. As explained in the 2015 Proviso Response, Attachment A: Report on Proposed Funding Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs, the Older Adults program is proposed to have no change for the 2017-2018 allocation process. This is due to the potential fluctuations in funding priorities by other funders, most notably United Way. In the late winter/early spring of 2018, an Older Adults work group will be convened and services, eligibility selection criteria and the proposed funding allocation methodology will be identified. Older Adult service provider representatives, funders, policy makers, King County Executive and King County Councilmember District staff will be invited to participate in the work group.*





## **Feedback From the Work Group Members**

The overriding theme for the work groups was to make certain the general fund allocation process will be transparent, accessible and fair. A summary of comments from the work group members is available in Appendix 3 of this report. Overall, the members agreed that the funding allocation methodology proposed in this report is preferable to other possible methodologies such as a request for proposals or a formula methodology. All currently-funded agencies expressed appreciation for the flexibility of County General Funds stating that the flexibility allowed for a flow of services that could be tailored to the needs of their clients.

At the same time, the advocates for each work group expressed concern that the current collaborations and carefully woven systems within each program area not be unduly unraveled. The work group members from provider agencies, whether or not receiving general funds, voiced the concern that current funding levels are not keeping up with the demand for services in their program areas. They asked that funding levels be increased when possible.

## **Evaluation: How Will We Know If The Goals Were Met?**

The planning process that contributed to the conclusions included in this report kept the following goals in mind. The result of these goals will be a funding allocation process with increased transparency, equity and fairness by:

1. making funds available for supporting existing services as well as to consider new and emerging issues;
2. making the process for applying for funds more transparent and equitable;
3. being clear about what services and programs are funded with general funds;  
and
4. having clearly defined results and services for the intended populations.

Each of the above goals will be evaluated to demonstrate if they were achieved. The evaluation will be primarily a process evaluation to determine if the goals listed above were achieved.

In the long term, each agency selected for funding will be asked to commit to Continual Quality Improvement and will be evaluated on an ongoing basis to demonstrate effectiveness through a Results Based Accountability framework.



## **Final Remarks**

As can be seen by the lists of work group members included in Appendix 1, each work group was remarkable in the quality and broad range of its members. Each work group had its own process and personality, and at the same time there were similarities as well. On average, each work group member contributed nine hours of their time. Several of the agency directors attended more than one work group, and the majority of the King County Executive and King County Council District staff attended all three work groups.

The members were cordial to each other and did not stint in sharing their wisdom and insights that contributed to the development of the conclusions included in this report. These conclusions lay a solid basis for future discussions regarding human services.



## Appendix 1: Work Group Member Names and Affiliations

Note: All King County (KC) Councilmember District Chiefs of Staff were invited to attend the work group meetings. The district staff that were able to attend at least one meeting are listed below.

### Civil Legal Aid Services Work Group

Name	Affiliation	If Agency, Currently Receiving KC Civil Legal Aid General Funds?
Threesa Milligan	King County Bar Association	No
Aurora Martin	Columbia Legal Services	No
Alexandria Doolittle	Seattle Community Law	Yes
Jay Doran	Equal Justice Coalition	No
Gerald Kroon	Eastside Legal Assistance Program	Yes
Cesar Torres	Northwest Justice	No
Jorge Baron	Northwest Immigrant Rights	Yes
Mark Chattin	Catholic Community Services/Legal Action Team	No
Gail Stone	King County Executive's Office	N/A
Liz Elwart and Matthew Gross	KC Councilmember Rod Dembowski/District 1	N/A
Cindy Domingo and Larry Evans	KC Councilmember Larry Gossett/District 2	N/A
Ross Marzolf	KC Councilmember Kathy Lambert/District 3	N/A
Adam Cooper	KC Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles/District 4	N/A
Krista Camenzind and Joe Cunningham	KC Councilmember Claudia Balducci/District 6	N/A
Lan Nguyen	KC Councilmember Joe McDermott/District 8	N/A
Steve Andryszewski	KC DCHS Chief Financial Officer	N/A
Patricia Lemus	KC DCHS Special Projects Manager	N/A
Jonathan Hoskins	KC DCHS Evaluations/Measurement Manager	N/A
Joe Hall	KC DCHS Financial Services Administrator	N/A
Leonardo Flor	KC Veterans Levy Renewal	N/A
Scott Ninneman	KC DCHS Civil Legal Services Program Manager	N/A
Linda Wells	Work Group Staff	N/A



Name	Affiliation	If Agency, Currently Receiving KC Domestic Violence General Funds?
Liz Coleclough	Jewish Family Services/Project DVORA	No
Tiffany Anderson	United Way	N/A
Mario Paredes	Consejo	Yes
Merril Cousin	Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence	Yes
Gerald Kroon	Eastside Legal Assistance Program	Yes
Barbara Langdon/Linda Hall	LifeWire	Yes
Jorge Baron	Northwest Immigrant Rights	Yes
Colleen Brandt Schluter	City of SeaTac Human Services	N/A
Lan Pham/Sharon Chew	City of Seattle/Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	N/A
Emmy McConnell	King County Executive's Office	N/A
Liz Elwart and Matthew Gross	KC Councilmember Rod Dembowski/District 1	N/A
Cindy Domingo and Larry Evans	KC Councilmember Larry Gossett/District 2	N/A
Ross Marzolf	KC Councilmember Kathy Lambert/District 3	N/A
Adam Cooper	KC Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles/District 4	N/A
Krista Camenzind	KC Councilmember Claudia Balducci/District 6	N/A
Lan Nguyen	KC Councilmember Joe McDermott/District 8	N/A
Bryn Vander Stoep	KC Councilmember Reagan Dunn/District 9	N/A
Steve Andryszewski	KC DCHS Chief Financial Officer	N/A
Patricia Lemus	KC DCHS Special Projects Manager	N/A
Jonathan Hoskins	KC DCHS Evaluations/Measurement Manager	N/A
Joe Hall	KC DCHS Financial Services Administrator	N/A
Leonardo Flor	KC Veterans Levy Renewal	N/A
Scott Ninneman	KC DCHS Civil Legal Services Program Manager	N/A
Linda Wells	Work Group Staff	N/A





## Domestic Violence Work Group

## Sexual Assault Work Group

Name	Affiliation	If Agency, Currently Receiving KC Sexual Assault General Funds?
Carlin Yoophum	Refugee Women's Alliance	No
Lucy Berliner/Minu Ranna-Stewart	Harborview Medical Center/Center for Sexual Assault Trauma	Yes
Tiffany Williams	Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services	Yes
Mary Ellen Stone	KC Sexual Assault Resource Center	Yes
Gerald Kroon	Eastside Legal Assistance Program	No
Lan Pham	City of Seattle/Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	N/A
Emmy McConnell	King County Executive's Office	N/A
Liz Elwart and Matthew Gross	KC Councilmember Rod Dembowski/District 1	N/A
Cindy Domingo and Larry Evans	KC Councilmember Larry Gossett/District 2	N/A
Ross Marzolf	KC Councilmember Kathy Lambert/District 3	N/A
Adam Cooper	KC Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles/District 4	N/A
Krista Camenzind	KC Councilmember Claudia Balducci/District 6	N/A
Lan Nguyen	KC Councilmember Joe McDermott/District 8	N/A
Steve Andryszewski	KC DCHS Chief Financial Officer	N/A
Patricia Lemus	KC DCHS Special Projects Manager	N/A
Jonathan Hoskins	KC DCHS Evaluations/Measurement Manager	N/A
Joe Hall	KC DCHS Financial Services Administrator	N/A
Leonardo Flor	KC Veterans Levy Renewal	N/A
Scott Ninneman	KC DCHS Civil Legal Services Program Manager	N/A
Linda Wells	Work Group Staff	N/A



## **Appendix 2: Proposed Core Services and Eligibility Criteria**

The following provides the proposed conclusions which were reached as a result of the work groups.

### **Civil Legal Services**

#### **Services**

- Youth legal services, including school to prison pipeline issues and record expungement
- Emerging issues facing populations such as new refugees, undocumented clients and survivors of prostitution/sexual exploitation
- Systemic advocacy as well as individual advocacy
- Housing-related legal intervention, including eviction/foreclosure, discrimination, access
- Access to benefits including public benefits, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Medicaid, all of which can improve access to housing for individuals and families
- Domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse related legal assistance
- Assistance for people from marginalized communities needing legal assistance: this includes undocumented KC residents, prison/jail re-entry
- Consumer protection related legal assistance
- Family issues such as custody and guardianship
- Unemployment issues such as obtaining benefits and discrimination
- Employment-related issues such as discrimination and prison/jail reentry back into society issues

#### **Eligibility Selection Criteria**

- Capacity to provide the services or have a collaborative arrangement with another agency that provides the services
- Nonprofit [501(c)(3)] or public entity or under another entity's coverage that meets this criterion
- History (at least one year) of:
  - serving clients in King County, Washington
  - having an agency office in King County, Washington
  - serving clients who live in King County, Washington
- History of successfully meeting requirements of a contract (note: this can include contracts with entities other than King County DCHS)



- Willingness to contract with King County and meet requirements established in the boilerplate
- Attorneys:
  - Are on staff or on a pro bono basis who provide individual assistance
  - Must either have passed the bar and are a member of the Washington State Bar Association, or be a Limited Legal Licensed Technician (LLLT)
  - Must be covered by malpractice insurance.
- Agency history of independent audits with no or minimal findings
- History of serving clients for at least one year in one or more of the areas identified in the Funding Availability announcement
- History of providing services for at least one year that correspond to the identified scope listed in the Funding Availability announcement
- Ability to provide culturally-competent services
- Agencies must meet standards of malpractice insurance.

## **Domestic Violence**

### **Services**

- Direct survivor services including:
  - Legal assistance/legal advocacy
  - Housing advocacy and/or housing assistance
  - Medical advocacy
  - Social services advocacy
  - Community advocacy
  - Safety assessment and safety planning
  - Crisis intervention and support
  - Information and referrals
  - Individual and group support, including social and emotional support
  - Advocacy-based counseling, in a group or individually
  - Parenting support
  - Support groups
  - Interpreter services
- Professional training
- Community education
- Community outreach
- Mobile advocacy
- Systems advocacy:
  - Immigration screenings
  - Navigating systems, system coordination and linking to existing resources



- Interdisciplinary meetings/projects aimed at improving how organizations and systems (such as legal, mental health, child welfare and housing/homelessness) identify and respond to domestic violence.

### **Eligibility Selection Criteria**

- A history of at least one year serving survivors of domestic violence who live in King County, Wash.
- Must meet definition of being a community-based domestic violence program or agency. A community-based domestic violence agency, organization or program has a primary purpose and history of effective work in providing: domestic violence advocacy, safety assessment and planning, and self-help services to domestic violence survivors in a supportive environment
- Agency history of audits performed by an independent auditor, with no or few findings
- Nonprofit [501(c)(3)] or public entity status
- Licensed or authorized to do business in the state of Washington and in King County, Wash.
- History of meeting requirements of a contract (such as a government contract; does not need to be a King County contract)\*
- Willingness to contract with King County and comply with requirements established in the contract and the boilerplate\*
- Capacity to provide the services
- Staff meet domestic violence competency standards
- Able to provide services in a culturally-competent manner. Make efforts to recruit staff and volunteers from relevant communities to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services
- Staff regularly are trained and educated to keep current with domestic violence industry standards
- Willingness to abide by King County anti-discrimination policies and to not require staff or service recipient participation in religious activities.

*\*Note: a new or smaller agency may have an arrangement with a larger/more established agency that acts in a fiscal/administrative role. In that case, the established agency may be the contractor and subcontract with the smaller agency to provide the domestic violence services. Both the contractor and the subcontractor must meet the terms of the contract including the boilerplate.*





## **Sexual Assault**

### **Services**

- Information and referral
- Crisis intervention
- Medical advocacy – this includes providing specific information assistance related to the medical exam including initial decision-making about a forensic exam, medical follow-up options including HIV prophylaxis, medical appointments, CVC application and coverage for sexual assault medical services not covered by CVC
- Trauma-specific therapy, preferably one that is evidenced-based
- Legal advocacy
- General advocacy
- System coordination
- Awareness
- Education
- Outreach, especially for marginalized communities
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate services and programs
- Prevention
- Sexual assault-specific services for marginalized communities

### **Eligibility Selection Criteria**

- Washington State accreditation as a Sexual Assault Agency
- History of serving clients who live in King County, Wash.
- Nonprofit [501(c)(3)] or public entity
- History of meeting requirements of a contract
- Willingness to contract with King County and meet requirements established in the boilerplate
- Capacity to provide the services or have a formal collaborative arrangement (such as a Memorandum of Understanding) with another agency that provides the services\*
- Agency history of audits with no or few findings.

*\*Organizations that have an established history of providing services to specialized/marginalized populations, including sexual assault victims can link to a Washington state Accredited Community Sexual Assault Provider (CSAP) in order to provide specific sexual assault services to their population. The collaborative arrangement (such as a Memorandum of Understanding) must detail the services to be provided, the role of the CSAP and the role of the other organization. In addition, both organizations must agree to the terms of the county boilerplate.*



### Appendix 3: Work Group Member Comments and Feedback

The following are examples of the comments and feedback from the work group members. These all helped develop the conclusions proposed in the report.

Comments/Feedback	Who?
This is the best option by far – anything is preferable to a Request for Proposals process	Executive director of a provider agency currently receiving County General Funds
This option provides agencies not currently funded a chance to be considered	Provider agency not currently receiving County General Funds
This proposed funding allocation methodology may not be a problem for Councilmembers, but when the list of proposed agencies and funding amounts is identified, that is when Council will be more aware	Council district staff member
90% makes sense to give to the current providers in order to free up the 10%	Provider agency not currently receiving County General Funds
10% of General Funds will encourage other agencies to apply for funds in order to provide services	Provider agency currently receiving County General Funds and serving marginalized populations
Support the 10% and urge the County to identify the services to be supported with the funds	
The County is identifying what is needed to be available for the King County citizens	Multiple provider agencies currently receiving County General Funds
Make the case for why the 90% is for Core Services	Council district staff
The 90%, while a cut, will help keep the current collegial system stable	Multiple provider agencies currently receiving County General Funds
With all this brand new money (federal Victims Of Crime Act	King County staff



Comments/Feedback	Who?
funds/VOCA*) coming in, we're going to have a better chance to see the emerging needs.	
A cut of 10% is a cut. My board of directors has told me to push for 100% funding, not just 90%	Provider agency currently receiving County General Funds
How would a decrease in funding affect smaller agencies currently receiving General Funds? Will that decrease affect them more than for the larger agencies?	Provider agency currently receiving County General Funds
What happens if not enough agencies apply for the 10% funding?	Provider agency currently receiving County General Funds
Inflation in King County is higher than in other parts of the state. That coupled with flat funding means that the 10% cut will be more	Provider agency currently receiving County General Funds
What happens if funding decreases?	Provider agency currently not receiving County General Funds
Without additional/new funding, we are not going to see any new services with 90% of the funding. It will just be spread around a little bit	Director of a provider agency currently receiving County General funds
With the new VOCA* funding coming into the state, things won't look the same this time next year. Hopefully for the better	Multiple provider agencies agreed to this statement.
The work the work groups have done to date, in contributing to the drafted report, can be used in the future as we move forward	King County staff



Comments/Feedback	Who?
The following were received as written comments from work group members	
<p>A 90/10% compromise is one of the better options we have available to preserve current infrastructure, while inviting in new providers and programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a preferred option to an RFP process, which creates competition among agencies attempting to operate in a collaborative landscape and does not consider County needs as a whole</li> <li>• I'm supportive of limiting cuts to currently funded organizations. But I also want to ensure the 10% does not appear as "fringe." This is valuable funding to support agencies and programs that are as important as currently funded providers.</li> </ul>	Program staff from agency not receiving County General Funds
<p>All agencies – currently and not currently funded – would advocate for an increase in dollars for the program areas. This would not only take account the rising cost of business, but also would expand available services in the County versus cutting up the same pie in different ways.</p>	<p>Written by program manager of an agency not receiving County General funds, but the sentiments were echoed by several other work group members across all three program areas.</p>
<p>Between incoming VOCA dollars, the City of Seattle RFP, and changing priorities in United Way, the funding landscape in DV is potentially facing changes. Some agencies can expect a large influx of new dollars (e.g., VOCA) while others could face cuts. As such, it is difficult at this point to predict an appropriate allocation of funds. KC General Funds may become much more valuable to those agencies not expecting new dollars and/or facing cuts in other areas.</p>	<p>Written by program manager of an agency not receiving County General funds, but the sentiments were echoed by several other work group members across all three program areas.</p>





Comments/Feedback	Who?
<p>I understand currently funded organizations are not enthusiastic about a cut/changing funding landscape. But without new money coming in (which would be a preferable option), this is an effective strategy to invite new agencies/projects – ones that may have been operating for years, if not decades, providing quality services and never receiving KC funds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leaving the funding landscape entirely as is blocks such agencies/projects from ever receiving County funds. We end with the same problem we started with.</li> </ul>	<p>Written by program manager of an agency not receiving County General funds; the sentiments were echoed by several other work group members across all three program areas.</p>
<p>Support for the Domestic Violence eligibility definition: Limiting funds to Domestic Violence advocacy providers, as opposed to any agency/program that might encounter DV, helps to preserve the importance of “advocacy” as a critical service to individuals and families facing abuse.</p>	<p>Program manager of a Domestic Violence program.</p>
<p>We appreciate all of the hard work that you and your colleagues have put into the development of the framework for funding Civil Legal Services and other services in King County as outlined in the 2016 Report on Final Conclusions of Proposed Funding Allocation Methodology for Human Services Programs. We believe it presents a good option given the parameters set forth by the King County Council (Council).</p> <p>We are collectively supportive of the proposed funding methodology, again, in light of the directives from the Council that you were operating</p>	<p>Several providers of Civil Legal Aid Services jointly contributed this statement</p>



Comments/Feedback	Who?
<p>under. However, we remain concerned about the negative impact on clients that would result from the built-in cut to services provided by those civil legal aid agencies that currently receive funding from the general fund. We urge you to make more explicit in the language of the report that, if funding levels are not increased, the proposed framework will result in a significant reduction in services to populations currently having their needs met through County funding.</p> <p>A 10 percent reduction in funding for these services is destabilizing to the population served by these organizations. Therefore, if the Council approves this methodology, we request that the Council and the King County Executive work together to increase the total amount of funding available for allocations as to prevent any cuts to core service delivery by currently funded organizations.</p>	

*\*A significant increase in federal Victims of Crime Act funding has been announced, with the first funds coming to Washington state in July 2016. The annual amount of funds for Washington state is approximately \$52 million (an increase of \$50 million). The funds are expected to be awarded each year for a minimum of five years. Agencies will be given the opportunity to apply for funds through a Request for Proposals process developed by the Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy. Funding will be awarded to provide civil legal assistance, domestic violence and sexual assault services, as well as services for victims of other crimes. At this time, it is not known which services and agencies will be funded to serve residents of King County.*

