

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: S117676 **DATE:** 21 November 2024

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Emma Rigney, Executive Director City Life

THROUGH: Monica Barone PSM, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 9.4 – Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants

For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

Purpose

To provide Council with further information on the Food Support Grant Program.

Background

At the meeting of the Community Services and Facilities Committee on 11 November 2024, further information was requested on the following:

Food Support Grant Program

In June 2023, Council [approved](#) the newly established Food Support Grant Program, Guidelines, and initial budget of \$1.5 million for 2023/24 (with the grants budget to incorporate \$1.5 million for 2024/25 and 2025/26) prioritising funding of projects to:

- increase access to affordable, healthy, safe and culturally-appropriate food
- increase community skills in sourcing and preparing healthy food
- improve supply, storage and delivery of healthy food for our diverse communities
- increase resourcing of essential food support services for our diverse communities
- increase access to affordable internet and data to support community access to food support services.

Applications from organisations, groups and individuals that support Aboriginal and Torres and Strait Islander communities and culture, including Aboriginal community-controlled organisations and networks are strongly encouraged to apply.

As the grant program allows for multi-year funding, to date, a total of \$3.23 million has been approved:

2023/24	\$1,355,000 was approved for 10 organisations.
2024/25	\$1,045,000 for 13 organisations.
2025/26	\$829,125 for 8 organisations.

The details of the approved applicants can be found online as Council resolutions and are attached.

Food Operations Working Group

The City of Sydney re-established the Food Operations Working Group in July 2023 to strengthen collaboration among community organisations, food relief providers, and wholesale suppliers and retailers. Through this group, food relief providers have opportunities to access discounted fresh produce and other essential items, including sanitary products, fostering a cooperative, resource-sharing network.

Food support grant recipients report quarterly on program impacts, with bi-monthly group meetings dedicated to all food relief providers in the City to share updates, resources, and identify collective needs.

City staff also conduct regular check-ins and gather feedback to support effective, community-focused food distribution. Staff will provide Council an update on the outcomes of the working group.

Memo from Emma Rigney, Executive Director City Life

Prepared by: Sam Wild, Manager Grants and Sponsorship

Attachments

Attachment A. Previous Funding Approvals - Food Support Grant Program

Approved



MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

Attachment A

**Previous Funding Approvals - Food
Support Grant Program**

Previous Funding Approval – Food Support Grant Program

Food Support Grant Program – 2023/24

Funding Approved at Council 11 December 2023

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Approved	VIK Approved	Additional Conditions
Addison Road Centre for Arts, Culture, Community and Environment Ltd.	Food Ecology in the City	A project to expand access to affordable and culturally appropriate food in Camperdown for vulnerable communities.	\$166,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Nil
Asylum Seekers Centre	Nourish and Sustain	A project to increase the community lunches program in Newtown, providing culturally appropriate food for people seeking asylum, while accessing learning pathways to sustainable food security.	\$150,000 (Year 1 - 23/24) \$150,000 (Year 2 - 24/25) \$150,000 (Year 3 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil
Camperdown Quarters Limited	Living Hope Missions Food Project	A project to continue providing food security to the local community through the Camperdown food pantry, while increasing food hampers and meals to various school and community distribution channels across the local area.	\$50,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Nil
Catholic Parish St Canice Elizabeth Bay as The Operator of a PBI	Including the Excluded	A project to upgrade facilities, increasing the supply, storage, and delivery of healthy food for people experiencing homelessness in Rushcutters Bay.	\$65,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Funding to go towards kitchen upgrade and awnings
First Nations Response Limited	Caring for Community our way, the Blak way	A project to support a self-determining, sustainable organisation to provide ongoing food support in a culturally appropriate and dignified way to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the local area.	\$400,000 (Year 1 - 23/24) \$425,000 (Year 2 - 24/25) \$450,000 (Year 3 - 25/26)	Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$6,912 (Year 1 - 23/24) Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$17,900 (Year 2 - 24/25) Venue hire fee waiver to the value of \$26,623 (Year 3 - 25/26)	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Approved	VIK Approved	Additional Conditions
Oz Harvest Limited	Food Relief Expansion: Increasing Access to Nourishing Food	A project to expand the current food relief operations and network across the local area, increasing access to healthy and safe food through equitable and dignified services for the community.	\$300,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Applicant to establish culturally appropriate engagement with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations. Funding to go towards Food Rescue Driver Salary, Casual Chef and Kitchen Hand
Plateitforward Ltd	The Social Meal	A project to continue providing free restaurant-quality meals to food-insecure communities in the inner city.	\$104,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Nil
Redfern Youth Connect (Australia) Limited	Food Service and Supplies	A project in Alexandria to increase services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth, supporting enhanced food accessibility and efficient food distribution.	\$100,000	Nil	Nil
St John's Community Services Limited	Rough Edges' Sustainable Food Program	A project to continue providing healthy, safe, and culturally appropriate food options to people experiencing homelessness in Darlinghurst, through sustainable partnerships, training and facility upgrades.	\$40,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Funding to go towards kitchen upgrade Applicant to implement a Safe Food Management System
The Girls & Boys Brigade*	Food Support Program	A project in Surry Hills to increase the daily food programs for children and families who experience significant disadvantage, including afternoon teas, dinners, and food pantry upgrades.	\$15,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Funding to go towards afternoon tea and dinners, training, and refrigerator
The Uniting Church In Australia Property Trust (NSW)	Harris Food Pantry	A project to expand the current food pantry service at the Harris Centre and open a shop offering low-cost pantry items and CHEX giftcards for vulnerable communities in Ultimo-Pyrmont.	\$45,000	Nil	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Approved	VIK Approved	Additional Conditions
The Uniting Church In Australia Property Trust (NSW) as auspice for The Wayside Chapel Foundation	Wayside Community Cafe Response and Resilience Program	A project to increase the capacity of the Wayside Community Café's kitchen in Potts Point to produce affordable and healthy food for people experiencing homelessness in a safe space.	\$65,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Funding to go towards kitchen upgrade

*Please note that The Girls & Boys Brigade withdraw from their grant application during contracting stage

Food Support Grant – Summer Round 2024/25

Funding Approved at Council 14 June 2024

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Approved	VIK Approved	Additional Conditions
Aboriginal Medical Service Co-Operative Limited	Food Support Delivery Program	A project to provide fresh produce, meals, and fresh fruit to Aboriginal Medical Service clients via home delivery or at the centre in Redfern.	\$50,000 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$50,000 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil
BLAQ Aboriginal Corporation	BlaQ Healthy Eating and Active Living	A project to deliver nine-week practical guidance on healthy eating and lifestyle for the Aboriginal community in Redfern.	\$63,543	Nil	Nil
City Community Care Incorporated	Early Bird Cafe	A project to offer hot breakfast to those experiencing homelessness in the inner city at Macquarie St.	\$15,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Nil
Food Ladder	Food Ladder School Systems	A project to break food insecurity cycles by implementing school-based food production, emphasising vegetable consumption, nutrition literacy, and hands-on education across the local area.	\$27,068	Nil	Nil
Foodbank NSW & ACT Limited	Increasing Access to Essential Food, Grocery & Personal Care Items	A project to supply essential food, groceries, personal care, and sanitary items to community partners and schools located in the inner city, for direct distribution to those in need.	\$30,000 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$30,000 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil
Glebe Youth Service Inc	Food Circle	A project to improve health and well-being for food-insecure families in Glebe by enhancing access to nutritious food and fresh produce while promoting healthier living.	\$73,625 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$73,625 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil
Police Citizens Youth Clubs NSW Ltd	Youth Club Nourishment Program	A project to provide healthy and cooked meals and fruits for children and young people involved in afternoon activities at the Police Citizens Youth Clubs Woolloomooloo.	\$20,000 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$23,000 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil

Organisation Name	Project Name	Project Description	\$ Amount Approved	VIK Approved	Additional Conditions
Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre Incorporated	Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre Food for Health Access Program	A project to enhance healthy food access by offering vegetarian meals and fruit at two Surry Hills locations, along with kitchen-based programs and diverse media for information and education.	\$18,000 (Year 1 only)	Nil	Nil
Sydney University Settlement	Food Support, Education and Capacity Building at The Settlement.	A project to increase food support, access and education across children, young people, families and wider community of Darlington through a multi-tiered program approach and local partnerships.	\$122,864	Nil	Nil
The International Shift Pty Ltd	Soup of Human Kindness	A project to address immediate needs and enhance the well-being of patrons in Erskineville with the ongoing distribution of nutritious meals, supplemented with essential pantry items.	\$25,000 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$25,000 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Funding is to support the refugee and asylum seeker chefs
The Marmalade Foundation Limited	Nutritious Meals for Women	A project to provide breakfast and hot lunch daily to vulnerable women in a safe and welcoming environment at Lou's Place women's refuge in Redfern.	\$24,900 (Year 1 - 24/25) \$27,500 (Year 2 - 25/26)	Nil	Nil