

October 9, 2018

To: City of Bainbridge Island
From: Helpline House
Re: HSF Contract 2018 – Final Report

1. Summarize the activities undertaken in providing the scope of services described in Attachment A.

The summary of activities as described in Attachment A involved the purchase of food for our food bank. Our contract amount for this purpose was \$22,500. We used these funds to purchase food for the food bank.

2. Reference the project objectives identified in your project proposal. Were those objectives achieved? Why or why not? Were there any unexpected positive outcomes or challenges?

Our project objectives were achieved in that we were able to use these funds to help us meet needed food purchase requirements.

3. Reference the specific measurable results identified in your project proposal. Were they achieved? If not, what challenges prevented the achievement of the anticipated results? How many Bainbridge Island residents were served? Are the conditions for those residents generally improving or worsening? Please explain.

We estimated 2,294 residents per year would be served in the food bank. Our food bank statistics showed, for the first nine months of this year, that about 1,800 residents were served in the food bank – some families visit the food bank weekly while some families make fewer visits to our food bank. Over the course of the nine months summarized in this report, some residents discontinued using the food bank as circumstances improved while at the same time new households facing financial challenges registered to begin using food bank services. Our food bank numbers are remaining fairly stable at around 221 food orders each week, but historically we also know that more folks tend to come in during the Thanksgiving and Winter holidays and we anticipate serving up to 300 households a week during this period. This means that the total number of residents using the food bank will exceed 2,000.

4. Describe the involvement of any partners identified in your project proposal, as well as any unexpected cooperative relationships that developed through implementation of the project. Did the City funding help you attract additional funding or other types of support?

We continue to partner with Food Lifeline, NW Harvest, Town & Country Market and Safeway, North Kitsap Fishline and Bremerton Foodline along with the State of Washington Emergency Assistance Food Program and the Kitsap County Foodbank Coalition. Other partners include the Interfaith Council, Starbucks, Peaceful Morning Farm, Bank of America, Bainbridge Community Foundation and Columbia Bank. We also receive support from local businesses, faith communities, island schools and individuals who provide funds to purchase food or conduct food drives to support the food bank. The City of Bainbridge Island is also a major supporter of our food bank, lending credibility to our mission.

5. Reference the project budget specified in Attachment A. Provide an analysis of actual expenses and income in relation to the projected budget.

Our request to the City was for the purchase of food for the food bank and we were awarded a grant of \$22,500 for that purpose and we have billed the city for that amount. The total spent to support the food bank as of 10/8/18 was: \$37,450 for the purchase of food for the food bank, and \$11,367 for transportation and equipment expenses to support food bank operations. Our budget for purchase of food for the year 2018 is \$56,000 and for transportation and equipment is \$16,000 and we expect to meet that budget. Other expenses not included in the above figures that support food bank operations, such as staff, space/utilities, travel/training, insurance and operating expenses are in line with our projected agency budget.

6. Please provide a short description of how the City funding has helped your organization or helped the community. Please also include any quotes or stories related to this support.

Helpline House is a comprehensive community service agency that provides services to residents of Bainbridge Island and a small part of the North Kitsap area. Services include our food bank and social services such as crisis intervention, case management, counseling, limited financial support, medical equipment loan and resource referral. Due to the City's generous support of Helpline House we are able to maintain a level of services that meets this community's needs. Below are two accounts of the impact the food bank has on island residents.

"To whom it may concern: I moved to Bainbridge Island, WA. About five years ago and Helpline House directed me to H.R.B. as I needed an affordable apartment. That was the beginning of a wonderful support system that Helpline has given me which has been appreciated more than any words could describe. The sense of security that came from my visits to the food bank, to receiving help from the professional counselors who helped to guide me with valuable suggestions especially their assistance when filling out required forms. All of the above contributed to my feelings of self-worth. The staff works very hard to meet the needs of a growing community that struggles with many challenges. For me this has meant so much. From the smile of welcome from the receptionist, to all the amazing volunteers, it is a place of genuine caring...people helping each other and it is this caring that is so badly needed during these difficult times. This is what makes a huge difference in people's lives. Sincerely, J.B.N."

"I am so grateful for the staff at Helpline's smiling faces and the commitment of Helpline and the community. They gave me food when I had no money. It's nice just to be treated like a normal person who actually sort of belongs here. It doesn't sound like much, but it is a pretty big deal for someone struggling on Bainbridge Island in 2018."

7. What recommendations, if any, do you have regarding future funding cycles?

Our recommendation would be that the City continues to support Helpline House and island residents through the Human Services Funding Program as it fulfills the Human Service Element of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan - "Support a range of human services programs." Policy HS2.1: Support programs that meet the basic needs of survival such as food, clothing, shelter and access to emergency health care. Policy HS 2.2: Support programs that meet the critical needs of vulnerable populations, particularly those most at risk of homelessness.