

Contacts:
The City of Danbury
Elisa Munoz
(203) 797-4511
United Way of Western Connecticut
Isabel Almeida
(203) 203-770-9292



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**UNITED WAY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
CITY OF DANBURY SOCIAL SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM**
Deadline for applying, March 14th

DANBURY (February XX, 2014): The City of Danbury and United Way of Western Connecticut invite social service agencies that serve residents of Danbury to apply for funding through the City of Danbury social service grant program. Community services around Education, Health and Income will be targeted for funding.

The City urges those applying to demonstrate both their mission and their service results comprehensively and with clarity. The fiscal realities of the last few years will come into play once again this budget year. Now more than ever than ever, it is important that city funds be delivered to programs that can most effectively provide services to Danbury's neediest residents.

UWWC assumed responsibility of administering the funding review process at the City's request in 2009. Over the years, Danbury residents have been recruited and trained to serve as volunteers to review the grant applications and make recommendations to the city on the appropriate distribution of the funds. Volunteer reviewers are only eligible if they are a Danbury resident and can attest to having no conflicts of interest with the agencies being reviewed. The volunteers spend several weeks reading agency proposals, listening to agency presentations and, through considerable discussion, arrive at final funding recommendations. Last year, twenty seven agencies were funded through the City's program.

Application materials are available at United Way of Western Connecticut's website: www.uwwesternct.org/grant-opportunities. Applicants must serve residents of Danbury. Completed applications and supporting documentation must be received at United Way's 85 West Street office no later than noon on **Friday, March 14th**.

Agencies inquiring about the funding process or Danbury residents interested in volunteering for a funding review team can contact Karen Mello at United Way of Western Connecticut (203) 297-6687 or karen.mello@uwwesternct.org.

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