

*It is the purpose of the Ann Land
and Bertha Henschel Memorial
Fund Commission to assist the
destitute men, women, and
children of the City of Sacramento.*

Ann Land and Bertha Henschel Memorial Fund Commission

Annual Commission Funding Priorities

The Ann Land and Bertha Henschel Memorial Fund Commission (“Commission”) establishes an ongoing strategic planning process by which it translates its purpose and values into actionable and measurable priorities for its support of Sacramento residents. This document outlines long-term strategic priorities for the Commission as well as the process by which the Commission determines annual funding priorities.

Strategic Priorities

Every four years, the Commission will engage in a comprehensive, data-driven review to update its Strategic Priorities. Data gathering may include input from:

- Community health needs assessments
- Sacramento strategic plans and City Department planning documents
- Presentations by City staff of various departments on issues relevant to the City
- Feedback from community and stakeholder representatives
- Feedback from recipient of Commission fund awards

The Commission’s Strategic Priorities is an overarching document which ensures alignment with the Commission’s primary purpose as well as City strategic initiatives. This document provides a foundation for members of the Commission to organize and utilize their experience, expertise and knowledge of the needs of Sacramento’s communities.

Annual Funding Priorities – 2026 Grant Priorities*

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Commission sets its Annual Funding Priorities for the following year. The Annual Funding Priorities is a living document which is consistently re-evaluated to assess grant processes and outcomes. This living document gives the Commission members and staff a clear roadmap to help focus energies on priority areas so that projects are implemented in a balanced way.

- Food
- Housing, with a focus on services that pair housing with wraparound services
- Transportation

**Though the Commission identifies priority areas each year, all applicants are encouraged to submit proposals regardless of alignment with the Annual Funding Priorities. The Commission will review all eligible applications to determine if a proposal is consistent with the purpose of the Ann Land and Bertha Henschel Memorial Fund.*

Target Population

The Ann Land and Bertha Henschel Memorial Fund Commission directs its funds to support the basic human needs of the destitute men, women, and children of the City. Destitution is a multi-dimensional concept, with three main components: economic, social, and political powerlessness. Destitution is defined as a state of extreme poverty experienced by poor and/or vulnerable individuals and families that are not able to meet their minimum subsistence needs, lack access to the key productive assets needed to escape from poverty, and/or are dependent on public or private assistance.¹

Based on Abraham Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs², the most basic needs for physical survival are divided into two categories, physiological needs and safety needs. Physiological needs encompass biological requirements for human survival; if these needs are not satisfied the human body cannot function optimally. Safety needs are defined as protection from the elements, security, order, law, stability, and freedom from fear. The Commission will provide support for the physiological and safety needs of destitute men, women, and children of Sacramento.

¹ Devereux, Stephen. (2003). Conceptualizing Destitution. *Volume 216 of Working Paper, Institute of Development Studies*. Brighton, Sussex. ² Maslow, A. H. (1943). A Theory of Human Motivation. *Psychological Review*, 50(4), 370-396.