



HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Description

The Human and Social Services Department enhances the quality of life for Fairfield residents by providing community-based programs and supports for individuals and families of all ages. The Department oversees the Bigelow Center for Senior Activities, Senior Bus Transit, and Social Services, serving seniors, youth, families, and residents with disabilities. This budget supports departmental administration and programs that promote healthy aging, social connection, and youth and family well-being, while addressing emerging challenges and helping residents access resources that foster independence, resilience, and overall quality of life.

Highlights and Goals

- A new full-time Youth Services Social Worker position was created to address the increasing needs of Fairfield's youth and families. This position strengthens prevention and early intervention efforts, improves coordination with schools and community partners, and centralizes communication about resources for youth and parents.
- The Youth Services Community Needs Assessment will be completed this spring to identify service gaps, emerging trends, and community priorities. Findings and recommendations will be presented to Town leadership to inform future Youth Services Bureau programming.
- The Bigelow Center for Senior Activities was designated a Regional Focal Point for Aging by SWCAA, recognizing its leadership in serving older adults and their families.
- Fairfield completed and submitted its Age-Friendly Action Plan to AARP, reinforcing the Town's commitment to an inclusive and livable community for residents of all ages.
- The Veterans Coffee House launched in November, providing a monthly gathering for veterans of all eras, facilitated by the State of Connecticut Veterans Service Officer in partnership with the Town and Fairfield VFW.
- Membership at the Bigelow Center has grown to more than 7500 seniors, with more than 50 activities offered daily and more than 200 activities each week to promote healthy aging, social connection, and overall well-being.
- Social Services will continue to expand community education through targeted outreach to senior housing sites, homebound residents, and schools to increase awareness of programs and resources available to seniors, families, and youth.

Budget Overview

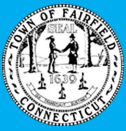
The proposed budget includes a \$79,467 increase to support the continued expansion of services and to respond to the changing needs of Fairfield residents. This increase funds a new full-time Youth Services Social Worker, enhancing the Department's capacity to identify and address the needs of youth and families, provide guidance and referrals, and support prevention and early intervention initiatives. The budget also supports an expanded offering of fitness and wellness classes at the Bigelow Center for Senior Activities, responding to increased participation while promoting physical health, mental well-being, and social engagement among older adults.



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REVENUE		FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 PROPOSED	CHANGE	CHANGE
42386	HUMAN SERVICES - MEMBER/CLASSE	69,586	85,034	106,985	85,000	130,000	52.94%	45,000
TOTAL HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES		\$69,586	\$85,034	\$106,985	\$85,000	\$130,000	52.94%	\$45,000



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BUDGET REQUEST	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 BUDGET	FY 2027 PROPOSED	CHANGE	CHANGE
51010 REGULAR PAYROLL	321,004	356,702	374,213	397,983	437,257	9.87%	39,274
51030 PART-TIME PAYROLL	201,719	209,867	229,186	302,380	310,922	2.82%	8,542
51160 LONGEVITY BONUS	600	800	800	800	0	(100.00%)	(800)
51170 SECRETARIAL SERVICES (MINUTES)	675	850	1,100	1,500	1,500	0.00%	0
51180 FRINGE-DEF COMP TOWN MATCH	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.00%	0
52200 SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS	27,001	28,656	31,486	33,751	37,735	11.80%	3,984
53000 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	0	0	2,570	2,885	2,885	0.00%	0
53200 FEES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	26,160	8,090	12,763	10,000	10,000	0.00%	0
54150 MOTOR VEHICLE FUEL AND LUBE	11,550	10,093	11,692	11,340	11,807	4.12%	467
54310 MAINT/REPAIR EQUIPMENT	3,608	0	874	1,000	1,000	0.00%	0
54320 MAINT/REPAIR OF BLDGS & GROUND	18,241	14,843	17,097	15,000	15,000	0.00%	0
55400 ADVERTISING	0	0	0	500	500	0.00%	0
56100 PRINTING, BINDING & PHOTOGRAPH	5,881	6,949	6,821	7,000	7,000	0.00%	0
56110 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,805	3,577	2,946	5,000	5,000	0.00%	0
56140 SPECIAL DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES	1,797	2,305	2,418	2,000	2,000	0.00%	0
56150 POSTAGE	57	309	172	500	500	0.00%	0
58100 EDUCATIONAL AND MEMBERSHIPS	472	1,075	1,056	1,000	1,000	0.00%	0
58120 TRAVEL AND MEETINGS	211	370	89	500	500	0.00%	0
58190 VETERAN'S SERVICES	4,250	4,389	1,664	4,420	4,420	0.00%	0
58200 SOCIAL SERVICE PAYMENTS	36,372	35,492	18,513	34,000	34,000	0.00%	0
58760 SR CTR PROGRAMMING	9,579	41,612	38,328	43,000	71,000	65.12%	28,000
TOTAL HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES	\$673,981	\$726,981	\$754,788	\$875,559	\$955,026	9.08%	\$79,467



PERSONNEL SUMMARY

6050 HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES		<u>FY26 APPROVED</u>		<u>FY27 REQUESTED</u>	
<u>FULL TIME</u>					
DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL/HUMAN SERVICES	DH	1.00	126,936	1.00	134,013
SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR	PETA	1.00	97,969	1.00	100,663
SENIOR CENTER DIRECTOR	PETA	1.00	106,042	1.00	108,958
LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER	PETA	0.00	0	1.00	93,623
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	THEA	<u>1.00</u>	<u>67,036</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL FULL TIME		4.00	397,983	4.00	437,257
<u>PART TIME</u>					
SOCIAL CASE WORKER		5.00	132,860	6.00	159,468
LSCW		1.00	14,378	1.00	27,948
PART TIME DRIVER HUMAN SERVICES		6.00	117,117	5.00	73,980
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PART TIME		0.00	0	1.00	20,550
PART TIME CLERKS		<u>2.00</u>	<u>38,025</u>	<u>2.00</u>	<u>28,976</u>
TOTAL PART TIME		14.00	302,380	15.00	310,922