

Answers for the 2023 Lend-a-Hand Grant Questionnaire in regards to *Downtown Association's Emergency Service Patrol* funding proposal

1. The mission statement of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks Community Services is to “identify and fill critical social service gaps, lessening the burdens of government while at the same time maintaining the vitality and improving the overall quality of life in downtown Fairbanks.” This translates into supporting a diversity of programs, including the Emergency Service Patrol (connecting incapacitated people to appropriate medical or clinical care) and hosting major yearly downtown events like the Midnight Sun Festival and Winter Solstice Fireworks.
2. Our mission and programmatic work areas align with Co-op Market's mission and values. Both of us passionately seek community health and sustainability and we are both committed to putting the needs of others first. DAFCS, like the Co-op Market, hold that our work benefits Fairbanks and the greater Fairbanks North Star Borough area at large. For DAFCS that means looking to the welfare of a vulnerable population – one that tends to be homeless while also suffering from physical and mental health disorders. The *Downtown Association's Emergency Service Patrol* addresses the problem. The program also has a knock-on effect of reducing negative or potentially negative impacts on small businesses (like someone accosting customers outside of a shop or someone else passed-out in your doorway) while simultaneously lowering the financial strain on Fairbanks' other emergency medical resources. The process “begins” the moment someone calls the Fairbanks Dispatch at 459-6890. The Co-op Market and DAFCS walk hand-in-hand in regards to putting the needs of the community first.
3. Lend-a-Hand funds would be used to support the Emergency Service Patrol by underwriting program costs to keep ESP Ambassadors on the streets, helping inebriated or incapacitated people in public space to find appropriate care.
4. We have not received Lend-a-Hand funds before.
5. The elevator pitch: “The Emergency Service Patrol connects intoxicated or incapacitated people with appropriate medical or clinical care, while improving public safety and the business climate downtown.”