

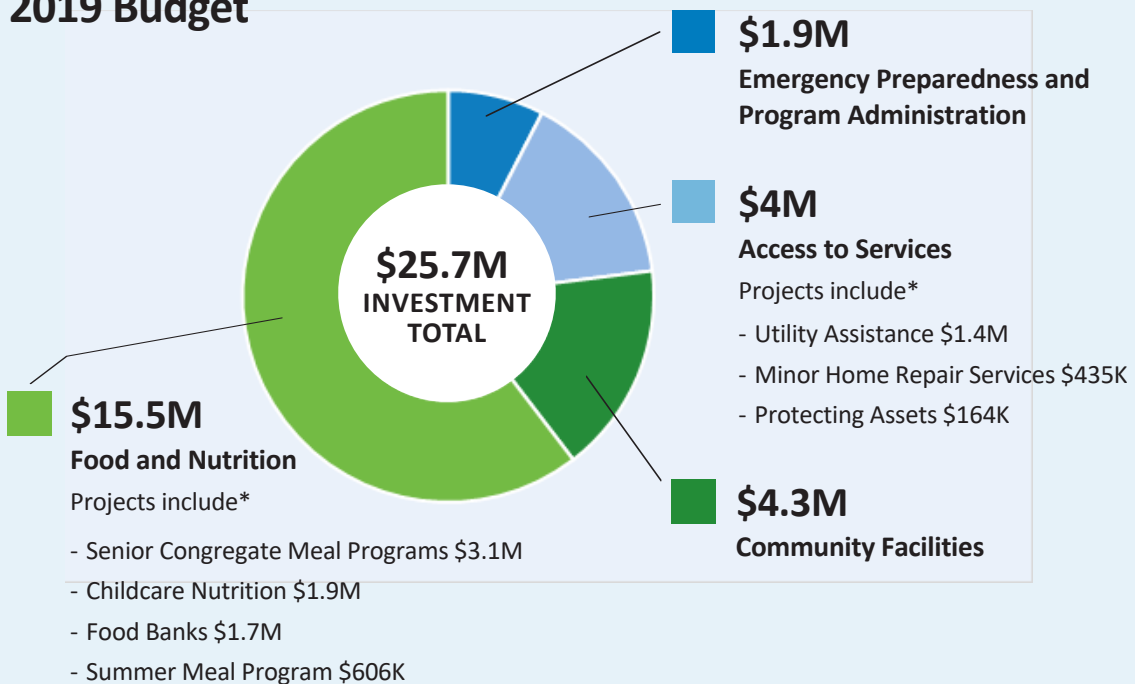
Supporting Affordability & Livability



Seattle's strong economy and job opportunities fueled Seattle's rapid growth into the 15th most populous city, according to the U.S. Census. This growth intensified pressure on many residents' ability to afford rising costs in housing, transportation, utilities, and food. To create an inclusive and accommodating city for residents of all economic backgrounds, HSD offers programs that help to ensure all people living in Seattle can meet their basic needs by increasing access to healthy and nutritious foods.

Achieving financial stability for Seattle's working families requires bold action on many fronts. HSD works across multiple divisions to make Seattle more affordable for all by expanding the Utility Discount Program and providing license fee rebates to low income households, supporting home repair and renovation, and providing financial support and training to family child care providers throughout King County.

2019 Budget



*Projects mentioned do not reflect all services funded for this impact area.

Child Care Bonus Program

HSD's Child Care Bonus Program provided \$2 million in capital funding for a new location of the Denise Louise Early Learning Center, serving 300 children and their guardians annually in six new classrooms. It is part of Mercy Housing's redevelopment of the historic Sand Point Naval Air Station at Magnuson Park to include 148 affordable apartments—as well as resident services, a neighborhood health clinic, and an outdoor playground.



Summer Food Service Program

177,339 meals and snacks were served at 114 sites in 2019, giving kids the nutrition they need to go back to school ready to learn.



Supplemental Programs

596,955 emergency meals were served to low-income and vulnerable populations in 2019.

170,296 food bank visits were funded.

Food and Nutrition

HSD investments in meal programs reduce hunger and food insecurity for people age 60+, income-eligible individuals, and people experiencing homelessness. Meal programs are located in senior centers, churches, and social service organizations. They promote socialization that can delay the onset of adverse health conditions.

Food banks provide nutritious food to Seattle individuals and families who are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, hunger. Food banks provide groceries for infants, children, older people, and people with special dietary needs, and help families access other food assistance (such as SNAP) and other non-emergency resources.

Assistance Programs

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 13% of households in Seattle experience poverty—which it defines based on estimates of the income level needed to cover basic needs, adjusted for family size and age of the family members.

The Utility Discount Program (UDP) promotes economic stability by providing income-eligible customers a 60% discount on their Seattle City Light bill and 50% discount on Seattle Public Utilities bill.

Income qualified vehicle owners with a car registered in Seattle may be eligible for a \$20 rebate on their car tabs through the Vehicle License Fee Rebate (VLFR) Program.

In 2019, HSD's Federal Grants Management Unit invested \$435,000 to support home repair and renovation programs for approximately 430 people with lower-incomes, most of whom were elderly and/or living with disabilities.



Assistance and Rebates

34,028 UDP customers were enrolled—7,006 of them new to the program—in 2019.

4,880 vehicle owners received rebates, which equals \$97,600 given back to them.