Public Service Grants Research Study
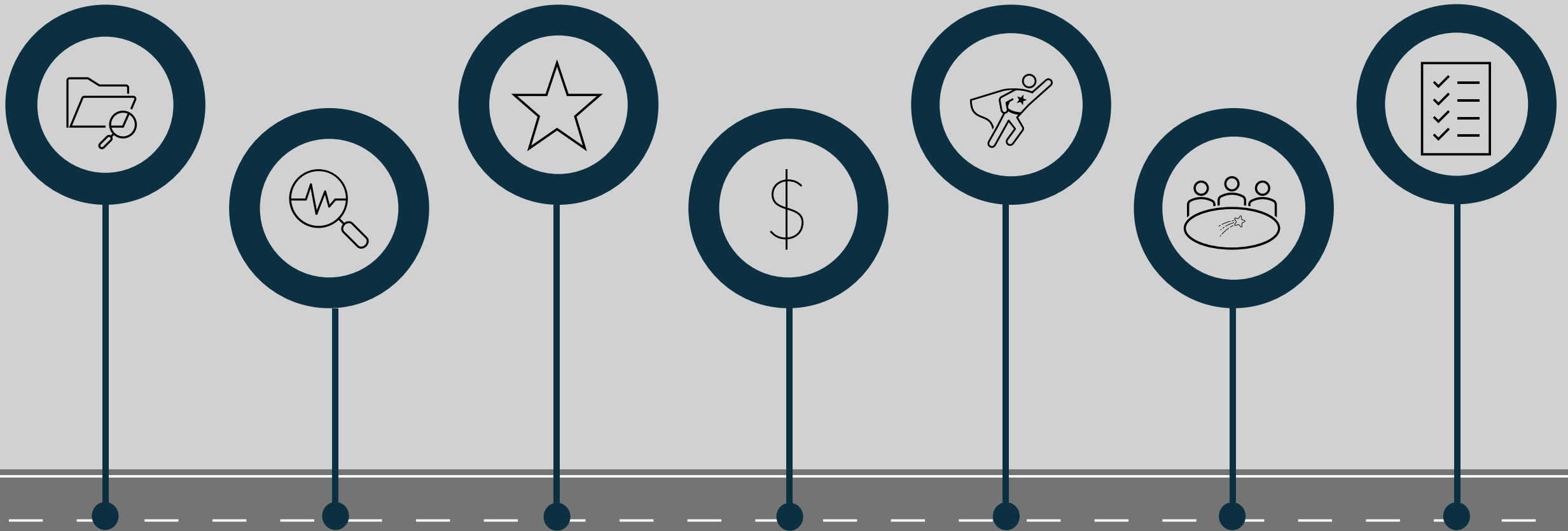
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Roadmap

Data > Analysis > Best Practices > Dollars & Need > Applicants > PSGC > Scoring

Data

- Tampa/Hillsboro County, FL; Orlando, FL; Nashville, TN; Charlotte, NC/Mecklenburg County; PSG Websites
- FY24 & FY25 Scoring Sheets
- Survey of PSGC Member, 2021-2024
- Survey of PSGC Applicants, FY23-FY25 and PSG Information Session Attendees
- COJ Chapters 70, 118, and 126
- Training Materials and Videos
- PSG Process Improvement Taskforce Report
- Constituent and Community Outreach Transition Committee Report

Analysis

- Quantitative
    - Scoring Sheets
    - Surveys

- Qualitative
    - Surveys
    - Reports
    - Websites
    - Videos

Best Practices

- Simplified grant applications and process

- Clear eligibility guidelines

- Be clear on who or what the funding is for

- Anonymized applications prior to scoring

- Feedback is provided on why a section was scored low to improve on future applications

- Multi-year grants

- Inclusion of general operating funds (or a percentage) in funding

- Promotion of community engagement and inclusion

- Scorers understand the impacted communities and their needs (expertise and experience)

Public Dollars and Public Need

Problem:

Clear identification Duval County's most vulnerable people and needs, and to seek stabilized budget allocations

Recommendations:

- Critically assessment of current needs assessment process

- Assess use of Chapter 126

- Recognize Mayor and City Council political priorities

- Include connecting MVPs to elected officials' priorities by working with the Office of Strategic Partnerships.

Applicants

Problem:

Complex process, perceived as unfair, difficult to navigate

Recommendations:

- Website
  - User-friendly
  - Multi-media
- Application Process
  - Streamlined
  - Database
    - Common application
    - Portal for nonprofits
    - Integrated with Nonprofit Gateway

- GuideStar integration/inclusion
- Critical Review of Application Sections
- Award Limits
- Trainings
  - Focus on application content
  - Videos for technical assistance
- Outreach
  - Increase community outreach
  - Increase broad engagement

Public Service Grants Council

Problem:

Retention of PSGC members

Recommendations:

- Articulate PSGC member responsibilities early
- Stress the skill sets and the time commitment
- Redesign PSGC trainings and workshops

Scoring

Problem:

Scoring of grants is inconsistent and perceived as benefiting better know, politically connected, and larger nonprofits

Recommendations:

- Specificity in MVPs and critical needs
- Structure and clarity in scoring rubric
- Required feedback for low scores
- Anonymized applications prior to scoring

Discussion and Questions

- Best Practices
- Public Dollars and Public Need
- Applicants
- Public Service Grants Council
- Scoring

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