

**‘No Grass for Grassroots: Evaluating State Funding for Community Development Agencies in Norfolk’, P.I.: Colita Nichols Fairfax, Ph.D., School of Social Work**

The purpose of this research examination is to uncover funding budgets for community provider agencies in Norfolk, what those budgets cover, and the gaps in delivery streams. The methodology utilized is a cost analysis of the city of Norfolk’s Community Services Board, Human Services, and Neighborhood Development [\(<https://www.norfolk.gov/4471/Departments>\)](https://www.norfolk.gov/4471/Departments), and a list of community agencies. Furthermore a benefit cost analysis will be conducted on those community agencies that provide services to constituents, by examining their budgets. Given that the number of nonprofit agencies have increased (Handy & Mook, 2011, 414), the researcher believes that it is important to examine the benefit cost of providing services to communities. Furthermore, “(a) organizations can include their value and scope in decision making; and (b) nonprofits themselves can be recognized by governments, funders, donors, and the community as contributing value”, (Handy & Mook, 2011, 418), and (c) researchers learn about the amount of funding and resources available to grassroots organizations in Norfolk.