AGENDA

GOVERNANCE GROUP
November 20,2020 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/98288183002

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator
Time	*Agenda Item*	*Facilitator*
2:00	**Welcome**	*Andrea Akita*
2:03	**Consent Agenda** *Objectives:* review and approve the agenda and notes from October 16th Meeting	*Michael Brown*
2:03 – 2:15	**Grounding & Equity Moment** *Objectives: Ground us and acknowledge the bright spots coming from the last few months.*	*All*
2:15 – 3:15	**The COO Narrative** *Objectives: Connect specific audiences, messengers, and tactics and develop a set of COO "elevator pitches"*	*Sian Wu*
3:15 – 3:40	**Briefings with County Councilmembers** *Objectives: provide update on Levy Renewal/Assessment Report discussions and identify ways to engage with policy makers*	
3:40 – 3:45	**Motion to increase Learning from Community Stories – Impacts of COVID-19 funding to $497,000**	*GG*
3:45 – 3:55	**Updates** *Objective: share pertinent information across the group* • Learning Community RFP Awards • Other Updates	*All*
4:00	**Adjourn**	

Refer to the attachment in the email
• Minutes from the October 16th Governance Group meeting
• COO staff updates

Governance Group Members

Lydia Assefa-Dawson	*Ubax Gardheere*	*Marguerite Ro*
Michael Brown	*Matelita Jackson*	*Sili Savusa*
Vazaskia Crockrell	*Paola Maranan*	*Tony To*
Deanna Dawson	*Jenn Ramirez Robson*	*AJ McClure*
Kacey Guin	*Yordanos Teferi*	

SEATTLE FOUNDATION   King County

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY GOVERNANCE GROUNDING

RESULTS STATEMENT

Create greater health, social, economic and racial equity in King County so that all people thrive and prosper, regardless of race or place.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Consistently demonstrate the values of equity, respect and partnership.
- Ensure low-income communities and communities of color affected by inequities develop and own the solutions.
- Advocate for and change institutional policies and processes to support equity goals.
- Encourage investments (both funding and in-kind resources) in long-term community capacity building and in systems, policy and practice changes that lead to greater racial and economic equity throughout King County.
- Catalyze alignment of funding streams and partner across issues and sectors to seek preventive strategies that address root causes of today's inequities.
- Be transparent and show how data and community expertise inform initiative strategies.
- Continuously learn, improve and share work publicly.
- Focus on geographic communities with the greatest needs, while simultaneously sharing lessons learned and building relationships across King County – *We are one King County.*

VALUES

We commit to guide Communities of Opportunity using these values:

Equity: work intentionally to eliminate racial, ethnic, socio-economic and geographic disparities in health and well-being

Process Equity: an inclusive, fair and open process

Community Engagement: authentic community engagement that involves listening to and understanding the unique histories of communities

Driven by quantitative and qualitative data: Data will track and report progress, as well as support given for promising and evidence-based practices

Innovation: Recognize that change involves risk and value an adaptive approach that views failure as an important part of the learning process

Friday, October 16, 2020
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Zoom Call

Members Present: Tony To, Kacey Guin, Ubax Gardheere, Yordanos Teferi, Sili Savusa, Jenn Ramirez Robson, Paola Maranan, Michael Brown, Vazaskia Crockrell, Marguerite Ro

Facilitator: Alessandra Zielinski

Staff: Andréa Akita, Whitney Johnson, Aaron Robertson, Dionne Foster, Roxana Chen, Robin Haguewood, Jose Camacho Martinez, Kalayaan Domingo, Blishda Lacet

Community: Sian Wu (Resource Media), Haregu Kidane (RV Partnership)

Grounding and Equity Moment: The meeting began with a review of the Governance Group principles and values. Members were invited to reflect on the guiding principle "Advocate for and change institutional policies and processes to support equity goals."

Governance Group members offered thoughts on where they are seeing champions who are doing this well: inside institutions or outside of institutions. Members indicated they are encouraged by Foundations that are looking at how to do things differently, looking at principles and goals, with equity in mind. Government programs and leadership, through programs like City of Seattle's Equitable Development Initiative, County leadership at the Executive level, and through work like the Open Space Equity Cabinet, Metro Mobility Cabinet were noted; and Councilmember leaders, like Councilmember Girmay Zahilay, engagement with community members in Skyway that is from the heart. GG Members also lifted up community leaders in nonprofit, grassroots organizations and coalitions (Sean Goode of CHOOSE 180, Sharonne Navas of the Educational Equity Coalition, and others).

Consent Agenda: Governance Group (GG) approved the consent agenda that included meeting minutes from the September 18, 2020 meeting and the October 16, 2020 agenda. Motion was made by Jenn Ramirez Robson; and seconded by Sili Savusa. Approved unanimously.

Learning Community – Learning from Community Stories RFP (Blishda, Kai, Robin):

Blishda introduction: set the context for Learning Community
BL also works with BSK HSE – works w/community ...transform policy, systems, environment:
Safe activities, reduce exposure to harmful products, health eating, promoting safe environments (will need to fill in gaps here)
HSE is aligned with COO through goals on systems and policy change; COO and HSE grantees – some are same and we are in the same unit with Public Health. Share administratively, staff share vision for racial equity. Learning Community is a huge undertaking, so we're sharing resources, expertise.

KAI: Update on the Learning Community, highlighting activities over the last 9 months. It's been a big, nebulous idea. Testing, learning, respond, ... and it was difficult to communicate around it.

Themes and framework have evolved and developed. The Capacity Building framework (Sarah Tran) is one part, Learning Circles:

4 areas: Active Learning (ex: Aaron Tanaka – how to create new economic structure); Creating Critical Connections; Capacity Building (investing in different ways – Sarah's framework develops capacity at different levels and different components); and Equity Innovations. We don't have a roadmap to get to our equitable future – how we create, document tools to actualize equity.

Slide shows example of some of the LC Activities. We have had to be flexible, adaptive, responsive, and reflective.

W/ challenges presented through COVID, we had to recreate our plan and provide resources to partners that are meaningful. It also meant building on our relationships with staff – intentionality to connect all staff into the Learning Community. Kai has looked for opportunities for all staff to collectively be part of and implement LC activities.

Themes: on slide -
        Community Ownership & Community Collection of Data
        COVID presents unique opportunity - not just the entrenchment and exacerbation of inequities, but also the creativity and resilience that is present within communities.
        Data is foundation in which change can occur – in places, in policies.

ROBIN reviewed the development of the RFA, which included discussion with evaluation team, community members, and staff. Feedback received was to ensure capacity for success, allow space for community to lead, and doing work to learn with community. The model for this will include a peer learning model.

The RFP/Opportunity reviewed purpose of the RFP, amount of funding available, types of projects. Illustrate positive community resilience in BIPOC communities: to tell stories by collecting and analyzing data; develop communications materials to share learning.

CRITERIA: focused on research question identified by community, relevant to COVID and resilience; connection to community; clear project plan with capacity to carry out the project, as well as participate in cohort/peer learning.

Prioritization matrix: using indicators to add points to the application scoring process.

$2.5 Million in requests to make $400K in awards;
Invite 6 applicants to interview – determin ability to participate and be successful, and feasibility.

Grant review: existed almost entirely of community members, with two non-scoring members from Councilmember Lamber and Councilmember Upthegrove's offices.

Review panel: recommendation – not to decrease funding

San Francisco Dept of Public Health experience
how do we make review panel decisions?

Generally we have certain criteria that panelist must meet. Most of the criteria are same across all review process and then there are specific criteria based on the project

> Race and Place considerations

We are recommending the six interviews

> Not merit based but alignment with COO work and capacity
> There are both large and small organizations

King County Dashboard
Rating criteria – was established to recognize the impacts on different races, relative to impacts by

King County Housing Authority:
Not as much representation from outside of Seattle

Evaluation, representation of gender identity, understanding of COVID, how to balance review panel. Try to have COO funded partners participate in the review panel. Clear representation of outside of Seattle.
[**NOTE we should make this more transparent, clear for the GG members**]
Jenn: Can others who are not awarded participate in the learning cohort?

- Perhaps.
- Andrea: looking at other activities and funding that are possible for alignment / aligning experiences.

Kacey: process question – split 400k between all 6 applicants if all 6 are open to the idea? Possibility to do things differently... What is the cumulative impact of the funded cohort (*question to return to*) and how will this be used alongside the quantitative information that we have?

> Andrea: Part of staff's decision-making process

Yordanos: funding decisions between group/coalition proposals vs. Organizational proposals?

> Andrea: project/question/approach evaluated – not specific to group makeup applying outside of the project proposal.

Ubax: Are these the groups (the 6 presented) one's to be funded?
Andrea: these are those who would proceed to an interview.
Ubax: leave autonomy to the staff.

Sili: Are these groups already COO grantees?
Kai: currently the only group funded is King County Equity Now-through Policy and System Change, COVID response. Washington Dream Coalition was a previous COO grantee.

Yordanos: can someone speak to how these 6 fit into the groups as identified by the data?
Alessandra: I believe Robin mentioned part of the scoring process was tied to the two cuts of data
Yordanos: thank you! my question is to have someone indicate that the 6 are representative of the data of communities most impacted by COVID
Alessandra: From Robin: All 6 applicants scored -9-12 points out of 12 total data prioritization points based on rates of COVID, Rates of Uninsured and Poverty

Sili: agree in providing the request. What struck me – we're using the same system to put resources out... consider the whole vision behind COO to strengthen and give capacity to an organization to move the needle on our strategies and to do the work and show systems why the work needs to be done this way. Asking about current grantees... what could be a lot of money to some grantees could be a little to to others. Communities are spreading themselves thin – if we have already made a commitment to an organization... they should be considered in the decision.

From GG: Paola (she/her/hers) to Everyone: 03:06 PM
DITTO on not cutting amount or encouraging cutting amounts after the fact. That isn't reflective of trusting orgs voice/expertise.

Michael**: Motion** to approve $400,000 funding for Learning from Community Stories-Impact of COVID-19 and authorize staff to determine final awards from the list of projects recommended for interviews, individual project awards shall not exceed 100,000 per application; COO staff and Review Committee shall determine final project awards through interview and decision process; staff shall base final awards on project feasibility and capacity of organizations to complete work within contract period, made by Vazaskia, seconded by Ubax. Motion passes unanimously, with one abstention Yordanos.

Vazaskia: The staff and review committee would be deciding on the final list of funded partners and the amount of money?
Robin: We would fund at the full amount requested. The interview would be used to establish the capacity needs of the organizations and support available within COO to create a portfolio so that all 4 are set up for success with appropriate COO staff support to get the work done.

Marguerite: did I hear you saying Sili that these orgs be aligned with COO Systems and Policy Change?
Sili: if already a grantee, I would like that we're looking at their work re: systems and policy change for the opportunities could be "bumped up"/enhanced as a result of this cohort

Paola: curious, what I was thinking about what are we choosing to do, where are we leaning into the way we do things, where are we pushing up against things, and what are we learning? Capturing moments of departure (doing things differently, in new ways, moving away from white supremacy and the ways that we always do things).

Dionne: reminded me of something we did in the Seattle Fdn – gave "participation" grants to folks who participated in interviews (so they don't walk away from the process with nothing). Thought there was a lot of brilliance in the discussion that just happened.

Kacey: what we did reinforced white supremacy imo. Thinking about kicking it back to community so that all voices can participate (they all scored 9-12 in COVID-19 impact). That is the shift to a competitive process to a collective process.

Paola: can also fall to us to decide to put more resources into this.

Kai: I also think it is something we are considering is how share the applications with other funders, this is an opportunity to invite other funders to align.

The COO Narrative

Time check from Andrea to go a little long. Some can stay for an extra ~15min, some can't.

[Sian presents PPT slides]

Systems: Sian referred to the article on Systems (include link for reference in notes). Recommendation was to talk about systems analogies.

COO is a system & operates w/in larger systems.

Get feedback and initial feedback. Using a system analogy can help bring people into the conversation

Review of the analogies:

(1) Gaining Traction. Evidence and data are harder; hard evidence in term of analogy.

(2) Bridging the gap or bridging disparities. Moving people from one place to another; connecting; opening more lanes to opportunity.

(3) Woven together. This is about relationships. Close-knit, being connected, stronger together, relying on each other. Basket has artistry in it and it needs repair – to stay strong. It's not THE solution, but is a container for solutions.

(4) Counter-balance. Equity communication. Conveys the need for a counterweight (investments) to bring back balance to these communities.

DISCUSSION:

MRo – drawn to #3; not crazy about #2 – it doesn't capture the transformation pieces that we're talking about. #2 – feels like the fix we've always done. We'd love to be put out of business, from the perspective of PH – we'd like the inequities to not exist in the first place.

Sili: the symbol of life is in #3 – in the faces, stories. She connects to Faces of people and it gives it life. This feels like typcial business-y stuff. THis work is supposed to be touching lives, if it can be in the visuals for COO, it resonates more.

Paola: How do you communicate about race and privilege in these analogies? #3 resonates – there's something about what a basket carries. If it is a vessel, its only as strong as strength; if its not woven throuhgout; the shared future narrative is strong. Where are how people talk about race and priviledge.

Michael: Shares a lot of that. He can get too literal, some can be wordsmithed. #3 comes off as our targeted approach. It misses the point of how we want to shift conditions overall for everyone. The essence of our approach – level the playing field; it's not just about one place or few places. We can't be in every neighborhood, it needs to be about everyone.It's not capturing the totality of every person in King County.

Jenn: Blend the balancing on the front end; building a balanced, wholistic basket (showing some things falling out). Bridge is deficit-based. Traction is deficit based. Some of #4 could be blended into the #3, brings in more of the humanity.

Sian: #4 describes the world; #3 describes our approach – it's possible that we would have more than one.

Yordanos: Likes #3; we are only as strong as our weakest link idea that Paola. Likes the idea of bridging the gap – to move us forward and tackle racism.

Tony: Prefers 4, doesn't believe we should start with County; The world is inequitable. Zero in on what's occurring in the County.

Paola: I would heartily agree with Michael that we have to have room within the analogy to talk about the nature of power and what it looks like when it is out of balance. I heart the basket AND we would need to figure out how to integrate the destructive and divisive nature of oppression. i.e. what created the damned holes in the basket in the first place

3- Staff Report
November 20, 2020 Governance Group Meeting

Meeting Discussion: Strategic Communications

Objective(s): Connect specific audiences, messengers, and tactics to our previously identified COO strategic communications goals and co-develop a set of COO elevator pitches.

Sian Wu of Resource Media will work with us as we continue our narrative and strategic communications development. We will focus on audiences and messengers of our strategic communications so that: 1) Policymakers understand COO and become champions for growing, sustaining and leveraging funding; and, 2) COO is known by others (funders, potential partners, decision-makers) – who we are, what we do and why we do it – in order to influence, leverage and align others to our vision and approach. For those who have not already, please think about specific audiences for COO Awareness, Acceptance, Action and Advocacy and also how your own sphere of influence may intersect with those audiences.

We will then move into an activity to co-develop elevator pitches that help to frame COO, what COO is working to change, and the work of our community partners for audiences newer to COO.

Meeting Discussion: Briefings with King County Council Members
The presentation and discussion will lead us into the next agenda item, an on opportunity to talk with King County Councilmembers. It's a good time for us to reach out to policy makers and we can leverage and build on data/information from two recent reports:

- The Best Starts for Kids Assessment Report was submitted to the King County Council in October 2020. Best Starts for Kids leadership recently provided briefings to individual members and gave presentations to the Council of the Whole on November 3rd and the Regional Policy Committee on November 4th.

  The Assessment report analyzes the impact that the Best Starts for Kids initiative has had for children, youth, families, and communities since voters approved it in November 2015. The report provides data and analyses the implementation of Best Starts to date, considering factors such as geography, program implementation, investments, and equity and social justice, among others. Through partnerships with 383 community-based organizations, Best Starts helped launch over 570 new programs for children, families, and communities, all of which are community led. Across its investment areas and programs, Best Starts provides direct services to more than 425,000 of King County's children, youth, and parents/caregivers.

  This analysis includes a review of how Best Starts developed from community input and continues to rely on community perspective. In addition, it describes Best Starts' social and political context, including the dual pandemics of systemic racism and COVID-19, homelessness, and the institutional cultures of the many systems with which Best Starts interacts.

  COO 2019 evaluation report has been completed with new summaries and qualitative data, including feedback from interviews with six Governance Group members. Roxana Chen has also updated the report with data collected through mid-2020 grantee mid-year reporting.

  Governance Group members are invited to attend a Qualitative Data Dive & Discussion to learn more about **will be held on Thursday afternoon, December 3rd.** You'll receive an invite in your email box this week. The session will be recorded, in case you're not able to attend the live presentation and discussion.

Updates: COO Staff

- ### Congratulations to Dionne Foster!
  Dionne is leaving Seattle Foundation this winter to take on a new role as the Executive Director of Progress Alliance. (You can read more about Dionne's new work here.) We're excited for Dionne as she continues work to engage communities in building a progressive infrastructure in Washington State. We're grateful for her leadership with COO, the relationships she's built and strengthened for COO in partnership with our systems and policy change partners, and for her developing responsive funding processes and program strategies.

  Dionne shared her exciting news with our partners last week, while assuring them that transition plans with Seattle Foundation / COO staff are occurring and will be in place to support current COO partners and continue the Black-led systems and policy RFP funding and awards process.

- ### Welcome Valerie Garza!
  Valerie is supporting COO as the Administrative Specialist III, having previously worked for the County in the Department of Natural Resources & Parks Wastewater Treatment Division. A California Chicana transplant, she currently resides in North Seattle with her husband and two school-age children. She recently spent a few weeks with her family hiking thru four National Parks, three National Monuments and a National Historic Site in Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana -- working towards the family goal of visiting all 62 national parks. *Did you know there are 421 national park sites?* In her free time, you can find her hanging out with her family or engaging in one of her hobbies. She loves gardening, knitting (meditative practices that can help you destress), reading a book (broaden your mind without traveling), and cooking (taste your way thru the world). Valerie can be reached at vgarza@kingcounty.gov.

- ### Facing Race Conference
  Many of the COO staff had an opportunity to attend Facing Race 2020, the largest intergenerational, and multicultural conference on racial justice in the United States. The first virtual conference was held on 11/10-11/12 and provided an opportunity for more of our team members to attend engage in discussions with other racial equity and justice leaders across the country. The Reverend Dr. William Barber II, president & senior lecturer of Repairers of the Breach and the co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, provided the keynote address. Topics that were covered during plenary and break-out sessions included civil rights and legal strategies, governing for racial equity, innovations in racial justice, institutional change, movement building for racial/social justice, anti-violence, community and economic development, narrative shift, solidarity and collaboration, research on race, and healing. We were energized by new ideas and look forward to introducing leaders from other cities, their ideas and and tools to our partners in King County.

Update: Black-Led Systems & Policy Change RFP

The RFP for Black-led Systems & Policy Change closed on October 27th and we received 28 partnership applications. The panel is reviewing applications this month. Follow up with grantees will take place in the first week of December and the panel will meet again in mid-December. Governance Group will receive recommendations on funding at the December meeting.

Dionne has secured an additional $145,000 for Black-led Systems & Policy Change from the Stolte Family Foundation. With the addition of these resources, we will be able to increase the number of awards for the cohort from five to six grantees.

COO Governance Group November Packet – Staff Report

- **Learning from Community Stories- Impacts of COVID 19: Update / Additional Awardee**
  COO staff completed interviews with six final applicants to deepen our understanding on the research question being considered, how the groups see their project influencing policy and/or system change, and alignment with COO result areas and values. This information helped us to prioritize groups and create a balanced cohort. COO staff determined we could expand the total awards from four to five, with an additional $97,000 made possible from administrative/overhead adjustments to COO's 2019-2020 program budget. ***A revised list of awardees is attached***.

  This cohort of awardees is representative of multiple, diverse, and intersecting communities who are deeply impacted by the health, social and economic devastation of this pandemic; and most proposals include a set of research questions to examine the ways in which community is responding, coming together and imagining solutions that will help us to move through this crisis to create a more equitable future.

- **Communications Capacity Building RFP**
  Two consultants were selected through the Communications Capacity Building RFP to create and coordinate learning activities for COO community-based organizations to develop and strengthen communications skills and strategies. The review team consisted of COO partners and community members representative of COO communities and values with capacity building and communications expertise.

  The communications consultants selected to support and uplift the work of COO partners are:

  ➢ Headwater People will receive a $75,000 contract as lead consultant. Out of the six proposals received the team Headwater People was determined to be the organization best aligned with the skills, value and approach for COO. Their application highlighted the diversity of communications skills and approaches they have developed and tested in their experience of community organizing and policy change work. Topics highlighted in the application include: Communication that champions change; clear communication in turbulent times; digital tools for organizing and connecting; and working with media members.

  ➢ Contacto Consulting will receive a $30,000 contract to complement these capacity building activities. They will provide foundational communications skills building activities in communications plans, crisis communications strategies, audience segmentation, and brand strategy and development. Contacto's focus will be on developing templates, toolkits and other products that organizations can apply and modify to fit their needs. The strengths within this proposal also align well with the communications emphasis in the COVID-19 Stories RFP, this contractor will participate in select cohort activities with the *Learning from Community Stories- the Impact of COVID-19* grantees and provide TA/coaching as necessary.

- **Speakers Series: Showcasing Partners' Work**
  Through the COO Speaker Series Design RFP we are excited to be working with the team of BDS Planning + La Roxay Productions. The team will co-design a new speaker series to highlight COO partners' work and spark a strategic set of conversations for COO stakeholders. The partnership between BDS Planning and La Roxay Productions will "center Roxana Pardo Garcia's strength as a South King County organizer, culture worker and event production specialist. BDS Planning will provide organizational infrastructure and project support for this work, which will be substantively held by La Roxay Productions." The application and the range of productions

held by La Roxay Productions inspired hope and creativity in the review team that collectively we agreed is needed in this challenging time.

Of the nine applications that COO received, this application scored the highest and stood out due to the creativity, resilience-based approach and deep community connections within the proposal. With the delivery of the Speaker Series on a virtual platform the team agreed that this team was the right group to create a Speakers Series that will catch people's attention, be rooted in our COO values and create powerful narratives for our COO partners work to shine. Roxana comes to this project with knowledge of South King County and direct relationship to many COO partners and is currently contracted to work with BDS to convene the Community of Practice for COO Partnership Leads.

Update: Best Starts 2019 Digital Annual Report is Live

In 2019, Best Starts invested $83.9 million in 281 community partners across King County. Our partners' stories, coupled with the data and statistics we collected, bring to life the full impact that Best Starts delivered.

Our journey in 2019 reflects the passion, resiliency, and energy demonstrated by each community member involved in Best Starts. Thank you to all our partners who have played an integral role in shaping Best Starts and increased the availability of community resources during the ongoing public health crisis.

View the digital annual report here.

Update: COO Partners in the News

- **Tarra Simmons,** Executive Director and co-founder of Civil Survival Project**, was elected to represent WA 23rd District.** She will be the first formerly incarcerated person in the WA State Legislature, as mentioned in The Appeal and the Washington Post.

- An Opinion/Editorial by **Sean Goode,** Executive Director of CHOOSE 180, on community safety was featured in the South Seattle Emerald

- **Africatown Community Land Trust** was featured in the New Economy Project blog, on Sankofa and Self-Determination

- **Public Health Staff wins Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Award.** The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) recognized Mariko Toyoji, Lin Song, Sara Jaye Sanford, and Amy Laurent's presentation on the King County Health Disparities Dashboard with the 2020 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation National Award for Outstanding Epidemiology Practice in Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities. The award is given to recognize a presenter at the CSTE Conference whose professional work advances public health knowledge through epidemiology and applied research in racial and ethnic disparities and improves public health practice through effective use of data and epidemiology.

- **RV Steering Committee received a** City of Seattle Neighborhood Matching Fund **grant for Masks Up: Masks Down,** a series of 12 virtual workshops on subsequent Saturdays for youth ages 11-17. The project will encourage participants to share stories about their life experiences since COVID-19 using art, literature photography and spoken word.

- Congratulations to COO partners who received City of Seattle 2020 Equitable Development Initiative awards:
  Africatown Community Land Trust   Multicultural Community Coalition (MCC)
  Byrd Barr Place   Friends of Little Saigon
  Chief Seattle Club   Rainier Beach Action Coalition (RBAC)
  Cham Refugees Communities   Homesight
  *Awards also mentioned in the Seattle Times and the Capitol Hill News

COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY

Learning from Community Stories 2020-2021 Grant Awards

Organization (fiscal agent)	Project Description	Award	Results Areas			
			Community Connections	Health	Housing	Economic Opportunity
Tesfa Program (Southeast Seattle Education Coalition)	The project will focus on the Amharic-speaking Ethiopian community throughout King County to explore the research question, "What communication and outreach strategies are effective to increase health, economic, and social resource access and decrease negative community impacts during the COVID-19 pandemic?"	$100,000	*	*		
Coalicion de Pueblos Originarios (New Hope Lutheran Church)	The project will focus on adult and youth members of the P'urhepecha, Ñuu Savi and Kichwa Otovalo indigenous communities throughout South King County to explore the following research questions: "As an adult, how did COVID-19 bring you back to your cultural traditions? As a young person, how did COVID-19 exacerbate the inequities youth already face? How did we survive COVID-19 and how will we move forward? What were our weaknesses and strengths during COVID-19?"	$100,000	*			*
King County Equity Now (Africatown)	The project will focus on reaching members of the Black community primarily and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community members in the City of Seattle (concentrated in Lake City, Rainier Beach, Skyway and the Central District) and South King County (concentrating in cities of Kent, Renton, and Auburn) to explore the research question, " What are the priorities of King County residents who BIPOC in the wake of the COVID-19 health and economic crisis? Additionally, in what ways do BIPOC communities envision creating thriving communities?"	$100,000	*			*
Washington Dream Coalition (Scholarship Junkies)	The project will focus on reaching members of undocumented communities throughout King County to explore the following research questions, "How has our undocumented and communities of color experienced the COVID-19 pandemic?; How do experiences vary by individual circumstances? How have systemic regional responses to the pandemic impacted the ways undocumented and communities of color navigated the COVID-19 pandemic to meet their basic needs, such as health, safe and affordable housing, and economic opportunity? What types of short-term assistance are most impactful? What types of long-term systemic changes are most needed? In what ways have undocumented and communities of color come together during this unprecedented time to provide support to one another?	$100,000	*			*
Centro Cultural Mexicano	The project will focus on how COVID-19 affects low-income Latino children in King County in terms of housing stability, education, food security, physical health, and social-emotional well-being, and what is the estimated long-term effect.	$97,000	*	*	*	
Total Funding:		**$497,000**				