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Funding Opportunity for “By and For” Community Organizations Assisting Diverse Populations (Organizations with leadership by representatives of the population for whom they provide assistance)

Funding Opportunity

- As part of the new Eviction Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), Kitsap County has funding available to contract with organizations that will do outreach and education about this eviction prevention program to the communities that they serve, such as **racial and ethnic minority populations, immigrants and refugees, individuals who identify as LGBTQ+, individuals with disabilities or who are deaf; and Native Americans.**

Background

- The Washington State Department of Commerce is granting \$2.6 Million to Kitsap County for the Eviction Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). This is part of Commerce’s larger statewide \$100 Million eviction prevention initiative. This funding is part of Washington State’s CARES Act funding.
- The program’s goal is to prevent eviction for our county’s lowest-income households by providing up to three months of rental assistance, paid directly to landlords.
- Another goal is to promote equity for groups of people who historically have not been provided equitable access to rent assistance and those who have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak: Latinx or Hispanic, young adults, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.
- Kitsap County will be contracting the rental assistance program to Kitsap Community Resources, who will distribute the funding to as many eligible households (one or more people) as possible.

Eligible Organizations

- Organizations must meet the following definition (from Commerce):
“By and For Organizations” are operated by and for the community they serve. Their primary mission and history is serving a specific community and they are culturally based, directed, and substantially controlled by individuals from the population they serve. At the core of their programs, the organizations embody the community’s central cultural values. These communities may include ethnic and racial minorities; immigrants and refugees; individuals who identify as LGBTQ+; individuals with disabilities or who are deaf; and Native Americans.”

- May be a non-profit, for-profit, church, or other type of organization.
- Must have a Federal Tax Identification (TIN) Number.
- Must serve people living in Kitsap County.
- Must be able to contract with Kitsap County.

Scope of Work

- Outreach and education activities to populations that are typically under-served by rental assistance programs (as defined above) about this eviction rental assistance program, including who is eligible and where to go to access the funds.
- Funding is available to pay for staff time, printed materials, electronic publications, transportation of tenants to rental assistance appointments, translation services for non-English speakers, assistance completing the rental eviction prevention application forms, assistance with tenants' providing documentation (immigration status documentation is NOT required), or other activities that are proposed by the organization to best reach and assist the population that they work with.
- All activities must be completed by 12/15/20.

Application and Award Process

- Grant applications for organizations are available now at <http://kcowa.us/erap-partner>. The first round of applications is due 9/4/20. Application will be accepted after this date on a rolling basis until 9/30/20.
- Eligible organizations will complete a simple application form, including organizational information and their proposed use of the funds.
- The minimum amount that can be requested is \$2,500. There is no maximum amount that can be requested.
- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, with funds awarded until the allocated funds are exhausted.
- Contracted organizations will be reimbursed by Kitsap County for actual expenses, using a simple reimbursement request form. Contracted organizations will complete a simple report with each reimbursement request that details their outreach and education activities.

More information about applying for this funding opportunity is available from:

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