



## Solidarity Fund Update DRAFT Phase II

### What is the Solidarity Fund?

The Coalition created the Solidarity Fund in the Spring of 2020 as a rapid response to the COVID19 pandemic, and the clear and disproportionate threats of this crisis to people experiencing homelessness. Phase 1 has been completed, and the Coalition is happy to announce that Phase II applications are now being accepted.

With Phase II, the Coalition seeks to provide emergency financial supports to organizations that serve people who are experiencing homelessness in King County. The Coalition is looking to fill in the system gaps where the current COVID-19 related funding streams do not provide clear or obtainable options. These funds are not designed to support core operational functions. Instead, the Coalition is looking to provide micro-aid to help address emergent health and safety related issues caused by the ongoing pandemic conditions.

The Coalition expects to grant out \$48,000 with most grants in the range of \$1,000-\$5,000.

### How to Apply:

Applications are currently being accepted. We will consider requests to fund tangible goods, supplies, and direct services up to \$5,000. Requests over \$5,000 will be considered on a case-by-case basis as our funding pool allows and applications must show broad or systemic change.

To apply, complete [this google form](#) or request an electronic or hard copy of the form, and submit it along with required supplemental documentation to [solidarity@homelessinfo.org](mailto:solidarity@homelessinfo.org).

### Application Criteria

Our members have first-hand knowledge about homelessness and the strengths and gaps in services and systems and this grounds our work in reality. The Solidarity Fund is intended to respond to that reality and improve life, health, and safety for people in our community NOW. We will continue to advocate for massive, coordinated, and effective government response and strengthened public policies at the local, state, and federal levels.

### Applicants must:

1. Be either 501c3 or fiscally sponsored organization.
2. Provide direct services (outreach, shelter, day or hygiene services) or rent-restricted affordable housing to people who are homeless or who were formerly homeless, live in King County, and are living at or below 30% of the area median income.
3. Organizations must have been engaged in direct services.
4. Have a clear plan and the capacity to spend funds within 90 days.

Applications will be prioritized by:

1. Coalition member organizations [membership dues are sliding scale and current ability to pay full dues should not be a barrier to membership. Please see our Membership page [here](#).]
2. Organizations with budgets of under \$1,000,000 (we will consider requests from larger organizations but wish to prioritize smaller entities)
3. Organizations that serve people who are currently without housing or shelter or people at increased risk of contracting COVID19 or suffering severe health consequences if they do.
4. Organizations that focus on addressing the issues and experiences faced by BIPOC community members without housing or shelter.
5. Proposals that help meet needs not addressed adequately by existing public resources.

Solidarity Fund eligible expenses:

1. With the Solidarity Fund, the Coalition is seeking to be a flexible resource for activities, supplies and other capacity building necessities that are not otherwise available.
2. The Solidarity Fund can be utilized to fund tangible supplies and programs/programming and related staff time and expenses.
3. The Solidarity Fund cannot be utilized to fund staff positions or for rental assistance.

**Administration:**

The Coalition will draw a 10% administrative fee from the funding pool to cover costs to our agency of administering these grants.

**Review criteria will include:**

- Applicant can demonstrate experience working respectfully and effectively with people experiencing homelessness or providing housing services to people who were formerly homeless.
- Applicant has a clear plan to carry out proposed activity or deploy resource for which funds are requested within 90 days.
- Applicant serves people who are unable to access mainstream services or advocate effectively for themselves; people who are without shelter; people who are at high risk to contract infectious diseases or suffer serious effects of such diseases.

**Exclusions:**

1. Organizations that exclusively provide healthcare
2. Organizations that proselytize or require participation in religious activities or programming to be eligible or prioritized for services.
3. Organizations that question or deny scientific evidence or best practices related to disease transmission, harm reduction, public health, or civil rights.
4. Organizations that discriminate based on gender, sexual orientation, race, or ethnicity, religious belief or lack thereof, immigration status.
5. Individuals

**Timeline:**

Applications are due by Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Applications will be reviewed the week of July 19<sup>th</sup> and decisions will be made by the end of July.

**Grant Awards:**

All applicants will receive a response to indicate the outcome of the application review process. If awarded a grant, the Coalition will issue a check or provide an electronic funds transfer to the successful agency.

**Grantee Reporting Requirement**

A report, consisting of a brief narrative account of services provided or resources obtained and relevant receipts, is expected within 90 days of the grant being made. Reports may be made verbally by phone or video call, over email, or on-line.

**Questions?**

Please send questions to [solidarity@homelessinfo.org](mailto:solidarity@homelessinfo.org)

Thank you!