

## CDBG Economic Opportunity Grant - COVID-19 Response Funding

### Economic, Housing, & Public Health Services for Disaster Recovery

The state Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is accepting Economic Opportunity Grant requests to fund targeted recovery services through amendments of existing CDBG Public Services Grant contracts and local partnerships.

**Eligible Applicants:** Counties with a current CDBG Public Services Grant contract, recovering from significant economic, housing and public health impacts resulting from a declared emergency/disaster

**Eligible Activities:** CDBG public services and microenterprise assistance that address urgent economic, housing, or public health needs

**Funds Available:** Currently \$1.8 million total, to be distributed at 120% of the county's existing CDBG Public Services Grant, with additional amounts on a fund available basis

**Due Date:** As soon as possible, and within 60 days of the applicable declaration of emergency

**Proposed Use of Funds/Request Amendment Process:** County emails completed forms to Jeff Hinckle, [jeff.hinckle@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:jeff.hinckle@commerce.wa.gov), outlining proposed use of funds and authorizes 2019 CDBG Public Services Grant amendment to include Economic Opportunity Grant funding for COVID-19 response services

#### Background

The CDBG program offers Economic Opportunity Grants for a wide range of activities. To provide immediate assistance and promote economic stability to communities impacted by an emergency/disaster, a portion of the Economic Opportunity Grant fund is available for essential and urgent public services.

Since the need for economic, housing and public health services is urgent when an emergency/disaster strikes, Commerce utilizes existing CDBG-funded county partnerships with Community Action Programs (CAP) and Associate Economic Development Organizations (ADO) across the state, and contract amendments to distribute the CDBG Economic Opportunity Grants for disaster recovery services.

The Economic Opportunity Grant application process for disaster recovery services is streamlined. The regular Economic Opportunity Grant application materials for non-disaster related economic development projects are on the Commerce CDBG website.

#### CDBG Contact

Kaaren Roe, CDBG Program

[kaaren.roe@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:kaaren.roe@commerce.wa.gov)

(360) 725-3018

FAX (360) 586-8440


[www.commerce.wa.gov/cdbg](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/cdbg)

1011 Plum Street SE, Olympia WA 98504-2525

Qualifying emergencies/disasters and current Public Service Grant county recipients eligible to apply

2/29/2020 The [Washington State Governor Proclamation 20-05, 06 and 07](#) declare that a State of Emergency exists in all counties of Washington State due to the statewide COVID-19 public health emergency.

# CDBG PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>1. Grant Type:</b>	Economic Opportunity – COVID-19 Response Services		
<b>2. Jurisdiction:</b>	Whatcom County	Telephone:	360-778-5200
<b>3. Contact Person:</b>	Suzanne Mildner	Title:	Grant Coordinator
Email:	smildner@co.whatcom.wa.us		
<b>4. Subrecipient:</b>	Greg Winter – Opportunity Council	Title:	Executive Director
Email:	Greg_winter@oppco.org		
<b>Subrecipient:</b> (if a 2 <sup>nd</sup> subrecipient)		Title:	
<b>5. Budget:</b>	CDBG	\$ 154,946	Up to amount on <a href="#">COVID-19 Response Fund Distribution List</a>
<b>6. EST Beneficiaries</b>	LMI National Objective		Urgent Need National Objective
	# of Persons		# of Persons
	# of Microenterprises (if applicable)		# of Persons (if applicable)
			90
<b>7. Certification of Chief Administrative Official:</b>	<p><i>I certify to meeting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) through a re-evaluation and determination that the proposed services will not have a physical impact or result in any physical changes and are exempt under 24 CFR 58.34(a) and are not applicable to the other requirements under 24 CFR 58.6; and are categorically exempt under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) per WAC 197-11-305 (2);</i></p> <p><i>I certify that any CDBG COVID-19 response activities funded under the Urgent Need CDBG National Objective pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, are of recent origin or recently became urgent, the county is unable to finance the activity on its own, and other sources of funding are not available to carry out the activity; and</i></p> <p><i>I certify the information provided in this funding request is true and correct to the best of the county's belief and knowledge, it is understood the state may verify information, and that untruthful or misleading information may be cause for rejection or termination of any subsequent grant agreement.</i></p> <p><b>Request for Amendment:</b></p> <p><i>I approve a request for an amendment to add CDBG Economic Opportunity Grant funds to the county's CDBG Public Services Grant contract #</i> <u>          19-62210-015          </u>.</p>		
			4-3-20
	Signature		Date
	Satpal Singh Sidhu	County Executive	
	Print Name	Title	