

# 2026 Rapid Response Small Community Grants

Info Session

Tuesday, April 14, 2026



**City of Seattle**



**Seattle**  
Office of Immigrant  
and Refugee Affairs

# To schedule a 30-minute 1:1 online meeting...

- Interpretation and accessibility support available.
- To schedule an appointment, please email **OIR\_SmallGrants@seattle.gov** or call **(206) 727-8515**.
- I'm available to meet outside of regular business hours and weekends with advanced scheduling.



# Before We Begin...

- Any applications submitted to OIRA are subject to public disclosure.
- Should you receive funding, any documents, lists of program participants, and other forms of documentation related to the funding program are subject to public disclosure because the City of Seattle as a governmental agency is subject to the state's public disclosure act.



# Questions at the end...

We will track questions during the Q&A at the end and will publish a document with the list of applicant questions and answers by the end of the week at **welcoming.seattle.gov** which we will continually update as we receive more inquiries.



# Background

Seattle City Council adopted a \$4 million ongoing add to the 2026 Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) budget **to strengthen critical services for Seattle's immigrant and refugee communities, including funding for rapid response activities.**

Two-hundred and eighty thousand (\$280,000) of this funding will be dedicated **to small community grants.** These are **one-time** contracts with organizations to address service gaps and respond to the challenges imposed by the increased immigration enforcement and federal policy changes. **(More specifics in the next slide...)**

This funding is intended to provide resources to community-based organizations and neighborhood-specific groups serving **multiple community members who live or work or go to school in Seattle.**



# Acceptable Activities to be Funded

1. Community Aid for Basic Needs
2. Know Your Rights (KYR) Presentations or Community Information Sessions
3. Family Safety Planning



# Acceptable Activities to be Funded

## 1. Community Aid for Basic Needs

- Meal delivery service
- Food pantry
- Providing basic goods (baby formula, diapers)
- Paying for fees (i.e., car towing and immigration fees)

NOTE: Several City of Seattle programs currently exist to help with the costs of utilities, rent assistance, and food.

Visit: [www.seattle.gov/assistance-and-discounts](http://www.seattle.gov/assistance-and-discounts) to learn more.



# Acceptable Activities to be Funded

## 2. Know Your Rights (KYR) Presentations or Community Information Sessions

Recommended workshop topics:

- Recent or pending changes in immigration law and policy
- Immigrant community safety basics
- How to protect immigrant workers, self-employment options, immigrant workers' rights and protections
- Immigration status and tenant rights
- Immigrant eligibility for public benefits, for driver's licenses and state identification
- Issues impacting immigrant-owned businesses



# Acceptable Activities to be Funded

## 2. Know Your Rights (KYR) Presentations or Community Information Sessions

Applicants must ensure each event includes:

- Event logistics: virtual platform management, in-person location details, accessibility arrangements, interpretation as needed.
- Community outreach and promotion to secure participation from the intended audience.
- A qualified speaker/s or subject matter expert/s, which may be from outside the organization.
- Provide services that are culturally-responsive and linguistically-accessible, including offering live interpretation for the event participants and/or translated materials as appropriate.



# Acceptable Activities to be Funded

## 3. Family Safety Planning

To prepare for the event of the detention or deportation of a parent/legal guardian, assistance with creating plans for the care of children or dependents, in addition to legal preparations.



# Funding Details

- **Total Funds Available:** Up to \$280,000.
- **Awards: Each eligible organization may be awarded up to \$10,000.** Funding decisions may be for no award, partial or full request amount.  
Applicants may submit multiple applications. However, only one grant will be awarded to each eligible applicant.
- **Contract Period: All funded activities must occur by December 31, 2026.**



# Reporting Requirements

**Grantees will be required to submit reports that will include only aggregate client information.**

OIRA will provide a reporting template (next slide). The reports may require the following information:

- **For All Events:** Track and report the number of events, the topic(s), number of attendees, and languages served.
- **For Family Safety Planning:** Number of completed plans.
- **For Basic Needs:** Organization attests to the eligibility and delivery for type of need (food, household essentials, fees, etc.) Receipts and financial reports also required.



# Reporting Requirements Sample Report

Sample Report Template – OIRA Community Small Grant	
Organization Name	
Contract Number	
Project Title	
<b>Type of Project</b> – Depending on the type of project selected, the report will vary. Some projects will contain more than one type of activity, in which case the organization will need to provide the necessary information for each type of activity.	
<b>Check all relevant activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Community aid for basic needs</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Know Your Rights (KYR) presentations or community information sessions</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Family safety planning</li></ul>	
<b>Summarize the activity and the services provided. When applicable, provide:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Event type (online or in person) AND topics covered</li><li>• Event location</li><li>• Event date</li><li>• Number of attendees</li><li>• Number of individuals served</li><li>• Total amount if program supplies purchased</li></ul> <p><i>Note that all program supply purchases must have accompanying receipts.</i></p>	
<b>Response:</b>          	



# Eligibility

Eligible applicants must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Be a nonprofit organization with a 501(c)(3) status OR have a fiscal sponsor with a 501(c)(3) status.
- Organizations must show that they are significantly composed of and/or their work would significantly benefit the Seattle community. (See “Narrative Questions” section of the application.)



# Looking for a Fiscal Sponsor?

The **Fiscal Sponsor Directory** offers lists of fiscal sponsor nonprofits by state:

[fiscalsponsordirectory.org/washington](https://fiscalsponsordirectory.org/washington)

(This resource is maintained and updated by the San Francisco Study Center and NOT by the City of Seattle.)



# Eligibility

- Applicants can receive other sources of funding from OIRA or other City of Seattle departments and still be eligible for these funds.
- However, priority will be given to projects/ programs that DO NOT have other sources of funding for this specific RFP with this timeline.



# This Program CANNOT Fund:

- Any projects that obstruct federal immigration enforcement.
- Legal advice provided by someone who is NOT an immigration attorney or Department of Justice-accredited representative.
- Cash assistance for individuals.
- Rental assistance.



# Next Steps

- **Application Deadline:** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, with funding decisions announced within six weeks of application submission, for as long as funds are available or until funds are exhausted.
- Applications must be received in **PDF format** via email to: **OIR\_SmallGrants@seattle.gov**.



# Next Steps

- Applicants can always send questions regarding the application process and/or request to schedule a one-on-one meeting with me by emailing **OIR\_SmallGrants@seattle.gov** or calling **(206) 727-8515**.
- I will be available to meet outside of regular business hours and weekends with advance scheduling.
- We can have an interpreter available for those meetings if you request one in advance.



# Q & A

We are tracking your queries during this Q&A and will publish a full list of applicant questions and answers by the end of the week, which we will continually update as we receive more inquiries.



# Questions?



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