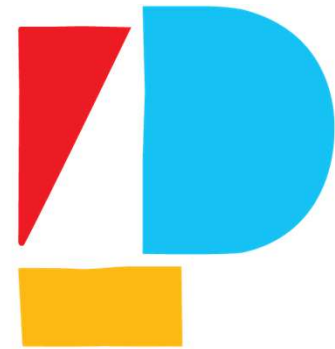




**portland  
children's  
levy**



**Allocation Committee  
Meeting  
Sept. 14, 2020**



**Small Grants Fund**

# Background

- **Purpose of the Small Grants Fund:** To increase equity by investing in programs of small organizations arising from marginalized communities...

# Step 1 Process

- February-March 2020 Allocation Committee approved participatory process. PCL staff held 8 community conversations Convened Ad-hoc Design Team to advise/design process
- April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Allocation Committee approved all Step 1 forms, empowered Review Team to decide who moves from Step 1 to Step 2
- Step 1 Grant Cycle Open May 15<sup>th</sup>-July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# Step 1 Review Process

- 31 applications received, requesting \$ 4,414,500.
- Applications were reviewed by a team of 6 Design Team members and 6 people recruited from the community.
- Applications moved from Step 1 to Step 2 based on score, and additional criteria.
- Criteria included:
  - Organizational type
  - Staff & volunteer demographics
  - Grant size
  - Program area

# Step 1 Results

- 12 applications of 31 were selected for Step 2.
- Total 3-year request of 12 applicants moving forward \$1.7 million; Small Grants Fund has \$1 million to grant.
- 24 applicants proposed either Mentoring or After School programs; 9 of those moving forward.
- 2 of 3 Hunger Relief applications moving to Step 2.
- Remaining 4 applications in other program areas; 1 moving forward is for Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention.

# Applicants Moving to Step 2

App#	Organization Name	Score	Funding Request
8	Brown Girl Rise	57.8	\$ 58,500
14	Elevate Oregon	57.8	\$ 180,000
16	Portland Tennis and Education	56.3	\$180,000
11	Camp Elso	55.3	\$180,000
20	Native Wellness Institute	55.3	\$180,000
22	Urban Nature Partners PDX	55.3	\$51,000
19	African Youth Community Organization	55.3	\$180,000
7	Black United Fund	55.0	\$180,000
13	Urban Gleaners	53.5	\$ 180,000
1	Grow Portland	51.5	\$60,000
18	Ethiopian and Eritrean Resource Cultural Center	46.8	\$180,000
5	Alif Baa Arabic Education School	43.3	\$150,000

# Step 2 Process Recommendation

- **Step 2 Application:** Due October 2, 2020
- **Virtual interviews** (audio & video): October
- **Review Team Funding Recommendations for Allocation Committee:** November 10th
- **AC Approval:** Allocation Committee approves final slate for funding in late November
- **City Council approval**
- **Grants begin Jan. 1, 2021**





**Preliminary Report**  
**Results of Funding Round 2019-20**

# Introduction

- Preliminary Report
- 3 data sources: applications, reviewer survey, applicant survey
- ***Did process changes move PCL in the direction recommended by Community Engagement and Grantmaking Improvement reports?***

# Planning & Process

- Local data review by staff
- Community Engagement process: 9 months, 500 participants surveyed, 8 focus groups
- PSU's Center for Improvement of Child & Family Services: grantmaking process review
- Overall, recommendations focused on ways to increase equity & transparency in process
- Additional recommendation to create Small Grants Fund to improve access

# Process Changes

**RFI redesign:** applicant questions and scoring criteria focus on equity: organizational commitment, staffing, practices, programming

**Transparent, ongoing support to applicant:** website FAQ, weekly Q&A email digest to applicants; updates about timeline and steps

**Community volunteer reviewer** outreach, screening, experience in PCL program areas and equity practices, training and individual check-ins, providing stipends

**Revamp applicant testimony process** to include written and video options. Provided applicants with staff's funding recommendations and reviewers scores sheets prior to testimony and funding decision meetings.

# Continued, Expanded, New Funding

	Total Number of Funded Grants	Total Awarded 3-year	% of Total Awarded
Continuing Funding, No Expansion	45	\$ 38,232,907	55.9%
Continuing Funding Plus Expansion	18	\$ 18,385,794	26.9%
New Programs	22	\$ 11,780,900	17.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	85	\$ 68,399,601	--

# Program Area Allocations; 3-year

Program Area	Planned % Allocation	Final % Allocation	Total Funds Requested	Final \$ Allocation
Early Childhood	30.7%	30.5%	\$ 23,399,258	\$ 20,889,002
Child Abuse Prev. & Intervention	19.8%	18.0%	\$ 18,622,999	\$ 12,291,411
Foster Care	10.8%	12.5%	\$ 26,625,913	\$ 8,520,021
After-School	18.8%	18.5%	\$ 18,474,274	\$ 12,653,161
Hunger Relief	10.9%	10.7%	\$ 9,136,051	\$ 7,307,975
Mentoring	8.9%	9.8%	\$ 17,913,565	\$ 6,738,601
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$114,172,060</b>	<b>\$68,399,601</b>

# Organizations: Staff Demographics

Organization Staff Demographics	Number of Organizations	3-year Award Totals	As % of Total Funds Granted
Majority BIPOC Staff	19	\$ 34,272,245	50.1%
Majority White Staff	22	\$ 28,105,910	41.1%
Insufficient data	3	\$ 6,021,446	8.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	44	\$ 68,399,601	--

# Average Scores on Applications

	Average Total Score (of 100)	Average Sec. I Score (of 36)	Average Sec. II Score (of 54)
<b>All Applications</b>	85.0	29.7	46.0
<b><i>Funded</i></b>	87.6	30.8	47.4
<b><i>Unfunded</i></b>	77.9	26.7	42.2

Section I Organizational Commitment to Equity, Diversity & Inclusion  
Section II Proven Program Design & Effectiveness  
Section III addressed Program Budget & Justification



# Reviewer Feedback

- 54/63 reviewers responded to anonymous online survey sent by PCL
- 26 (48%) identified as BIPOC, 24 as white, 2 no data
- All indicated positive experience being reviewer; other positive feedback on likert scale questions.
- 38 indicated multiple choice responses for areas needing improvement

# Applicant Feedback

- 44 of 131 (35%) of individuals responded to online survey from PCL.
- Anonymous; cannot determine how many applicants represented. Caution interpreting results.
- Satisfaction with RFI, Q & A process, staff communication during process, receiving staff recommendations & score sheets before testimony.
- Dissatisfaction with process & rationale used by Allocation Committee in decisions, and staff's rationale for recommendations.

# Conclusion

- Data suggest process changes helped address equity issues.
- Funds increasingly to organizations with staff that reflect demographics of youth/families served.
- Reviewers & applicants satisfied with several equity-informed features of process. Reviewers gave feedback to continue strengthening features.
- After Small Grants process complete, use lessons learned both funding efforts to recommend future changes

# Program Adaptations: COVID 19

- Virtual service delivery for home visiting, case management and mentoring, individual tutoring and academic support and group activities/classes.
- Emergency food distribution using no contact methods (pick up and home delivery).
- Changes to types of services and supports offered to meet different needs.
- Enrollment of new clients/families significantly impacted by emergency conditions.