

# Equitable Communities Initiative Task Force

Council Finance & Housing Committee

July 20, 2021



# Introductions

- Donna Moodie, Marjorie Restaurant & Community Roots Housing
- Dr. Sheila Edwards Lange, Seattle Central College
- Steven Sawyer, POCAAN
- Chris Lampkin, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 1199NW
- Sharon Nyree Williams, CD Forum for Arts & Ideas



# Overview of Task Force Process

- 26-member community-led Task Force
- Over 30 weekly meetings from December 2020 to June 2021

<b>Dec/Jan</b>	Task Force convened, developed governance structure, and selected facilitation team
<b>Feb</b>	Identified four priority focus areas (pillars)
<b>March</b>	Researched disparities and existing City programs and resources
<b>April</b>	Engaged peer organizations, community members, and other leaders Developed recommendations, presented them to Mayor and CM Juarez
<b>May/June</b>	Worked with City departments to identify how recommendations will be implemented, released recommendations



# Task Force Recommendations

- 4 priority areas for \$30m investment
  - Business
  - Education
  - Health
  - Housing
- 9 Recommendations to produce a collective impact, with 18 strategies for implementation



Image credit: The Profitable Nonprofit & Sankofa Consulting

## BUSINESS - \$7.5M

*Invest in business financing/capital and technical assistance strategies to support small and micro businesses.*

### ***Who are we Reaching?***

Small and micro-businesses, focused on those impacted by COVID-19 and prioritizing those with historical inequitable access to capital

### ***What are we Funding?***

- Grants & subsidized loans to micro & small businesses (\$5M)
- Expert support on operational issues, construction, legal education, and digital access (\$2.5M)

### ***What is Our Impact?***

- Businesses experience positive growth and increased revenue
- Jobs are created and/or retained
- Businesses report feeling more stable



## EDUCATION - \$7.5M

*Invest in strategies designed to benefit BIPOC youth impacted by systemic inequities in education & targeted, culturally supportive reentry programs to reduce recidivism for BIPOC individuals.*

### ***Who are we Reaching?***

BIPOC youth and families who are impacted by systemic inequities in education & BIPOC individuals reentering the community

### ***What are we Funding?***

- Increased equity in education, through capacity building, curriculum development, family support, and teacher accreditation & retention supports (\$4M)
- Opportunities for youth & families to engage in BIPOC-centered cultural education both inside the classroom and outside of school (\$2M)
- Culturally responsive education & support services that expand meaningful employment pathways for BIPOC individuals reentering the community (\$1.5M)

### ***What is Our Impact?***

- More BIPOC youth complete high school on-time & ready for higher education
- We see an increase in the racial diversity of educators in educational environments
- BIPOC youth have opportunities to develop leadership & positive self-esteem
- Youth have greater access to cultural education opportunities inside and outside of school
- More people gaining meaningful employment & supportive community re-entry after incarceration



# HEALTH - \$6.2M

*Invest in strategies focused on food access & environmental justice, expand career pathways & representation in the healthcare field, and deliver culturally responsive inclusive healthcare*

## **Who are we Reaching?**

BIPOC community members seeking services and opportunities related to health & healthcare

## **What are we Funding?**

- Expand programs focused on education and sustainable access to health food options (\$750K)
- Increase access for youth to healthy food & hands-on experiences at BIPOC-owned farms (\$200K)
- Advance environmental sustainability & peer learning through community-led projects (\$550K)
- Expand innovative/alternative healthcare options, including non-western & traditional practices (\$1.5M) & expand access and technical assistance opportunities for healthcare providers (\$1M)
- Increase opportunities for BIPOC youth to explore healthcare careers (\$500K) and identify solutions to address barriers in access to professional healthcare careers (\$1.7M)

## **What is Our Impact?**

- Youth have access to healthy, culturally appropriate food & nutritional education, Black & Brown farmers see increased revenue, and we reduce food waste
- More BIPOC organizations and residents take action on environmental justice
- More people are connected to desired healthcare provider and coverage, and report satisfaction with care
- More youth are connected to healthcare careers and workers start & retain professional healthcare careers



# HOUSING- \$8.8M

*Invest in new options and supports for BIPOC homebuyers, anti-displacement strategies by for existing homeowners, and generational wealth building for BIPOC communities*

## **Who are we Reaching?**

BIPOC community members seeking housing & generational wealth development opportunities

## **What are we Funding?**

- Expand affordable housing development and homebuyer readiness & ownership supports (\$4.625M) and invest in stabilization resources that support people to maintain their homes (\$875K)
- Expand technical assistance & wrap-around services for WMBE firms & BIPOC apprentices and journey workers (\$1M) and invest in financial and generational wealth education for BIPOC residents (\$1.8M)
- Engage consultants to study feasibility of a scalable lease-to-own program (\$250K) and develop housing strategies/supports for apprenticed and pre-apprenticed occupations (\$250K)

## **What is Our Impact?**

- Increase affordable homeownership options, including retaining land ownership by historically-rooted, BIPOC-led organizations, and expand ownership supports to purchase and remain in their property.
- More WMBE firms & BIPOC apprentices & journey workers receive development and retention supports
- More people receive information & connections to generational wealth development supports
- Expert research to guide future program/policy development for equitable access to homeownership





# Implementation of the Task Force's recommendations

TF Focus Area	Title	Amount	Dept
Business	Equitable Small and Micro Business Capital	\$5m	OED
	Small Business Technical Assistance	\$2.5m	OED
Education	Equity in Education	\$4m	DEEL
	Cultural Education	\$2m	Arts
	Re-entry Programs for Formerly Incarcerated	\$1.5m	HSD
Health	Healthy Food Fund	\$750k	DON
	Farm to Table	\$200k	HSD
	Environmental Justice Fund	\$550k	OSE
	Direct Culturally Responsive & Inclusive Healthcare	\$1.5m	HSD
	Access to Culturally Responsive & Inclusive Healthcare	\$1m	HSD
	Professional Careers in Healthcare	\$1.7m	OED
	Youth Healthcare Careers	\$500k	OED
Housing	Homeownership Development and Homebuyer Supports	\$4.625m	OH
	Ownership Retention	\$875k	OH
	Lease to Own Program	\$250k	OH
	Housing Strategies Apprenticeships	\$250k	OH
	Priority Hire and WMBE	\$1m	FAS
	Generational Wealth Education	\$1.8m	DON



# Next Steps

Following Council vote to lift the proviso, departments will begin implementation, including:

- Designing and issuing RFPs for community investments
- Scoping new programs and/or consultant studies
- Other work necessary to advance recommendations this summer and fall

→ Goal is to have funds available by end of year



# Task Force Members

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For more information on the Task Force please visit <http://www.seattle.gov/equitable-communities-initiative#2021>

