

LIVE UNITED



United Way of King County

United Way of King County Culturally Relevant Supports for Reengagement Programs Funding Announcement

United Way of King County is pleased to announce the release of funding for expansion of our Reconnecting Youth work. We will invest in culturally relevant supports designed to increase retention and high school credential attainment (GED, high school diploma, alternative high school completion) for Black and Latinx students in reengagement programs. We will accept applications to serve other students of color, but we intend to invest primarily in support for Black and Latinx students.

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Overview

Reconnecting Youth is United Way's effort to support young people who have left high school without graduating and are disconnected from education and employment. Since its inception in 2014, Reconnecting Youth has supported more than 3000 young people across the network of reengagement programs in King County.

While progress has been made in making sure young people of color get connected to reengagement programs, racial disparities in student retention and completion of high school credentials still exist. These disparities are consistently prevalent among Black and Latinx students.

[Black](#) and [Latinx](#) young people value support from adults with whom they can identify and have expressed the need for services that honor their cultural identity(ies). We believe increased retention can be achieved through community-based organizations working in partnership with reengagement programs. We've seen this type of support work well with a small number of programs already, and are looking to expand the approach to more programs.

Community-based nonprofits foster deep, trusted connections with young people in the communities they serve, and can provide supports to students using a critical lens of identity and culture. Through this funding opportunity, we will invest in nonprofits to partner with reengagement programs in supporting students.

The Goal

The goal of Culturally Relevant Supports for Reengagement Programs is to improve program retention and high school credential completion for Black and Latinx students through increased and focused support from community-based organizations paired with reengagement programs.

Project Strategies

We are most interested in approaches to support Black and Latinx students that are rooted in both cultural identity and positive youth development. Funded strategies could include the following:

1. Positive cultural identity – promoting awareness and pride in cultural identity, supporting young people to navigate mainstream environments
2. Individualized student support through a cultural lens (coaching, resource referrals, advocacy, etc.)
3. Development of peer mentorship programming, youth leadership, youth cohort and/or other social supports
4. Other culturally-relevant strategies that help Black and Latinx students remain in programs until they complete a credential

Funding available: Up to \$1,000,000

Award range: Grants will typically range from \$50,000 - \$200,000 for an 18-month period, based on the scope and level of services proposed.

Eligibility: Community-based nonprofits (or organizations with a fiscal sponsor) in King County.

Funding period: Initial awards will be made for an 18-month period from January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Timeline

Registration & Materials available in eCImpact	August 1, 2018
Application Information Sessions	August 8, 2018 2-3 pm 2100 24 th Ave S. Seattle RSVP here August 9, 2018 9-10am Skype Meeting RSVP here
Application Registration Due in eCImpact by 5pm	August 29, 2018
Application Registration conversations with United Way staff	August 30-Sept 7 2018
Written Application due in eCImpact	September 19, 2018
Applicants notified of Invitation to Interview	September 27, 2018
Applicant Interviews- Please make sure someone from your team is available within this timeframe. Interviews will be held in community locations and will last approximately 45 minutes.	October 3- 10 2018
Applicants notified of funding decision	November 20, 2018
Contracts Begin	January 1, 2019

The Application Process includes three stages:

Step 1: Application Registration. Applicants will answer a brief set of questions through eCImpact and schedule a conversation to talk briefly with United Way staff. Application Registration is required in order to access the written application.

Step 2: Written application. Applicants will be able to complete a written application following the Application Registration. Applicants will need to demonstrate having had discussions with the reengagement program(s) with whom they plan to partner at this stage of the funding process.

Step 3: In-person Conversation. Applicants will be invited for an in-person conversation. These conversations will be held at various locations in the community.

The Application Registration and written application are available starting August 1, 2018 through [eCImpact](#), our online application system. If you need help logging into or navigating [eCImpact](#), contact Damian Spence dspence@uwkc.org or 206.461.8511 or Sue Wyss swyss@uwkc.org 206.461.3778. Technical assistance may be limited near the submittal deadline. Please don't wait until the last minute to complete your application in [eCImpact](#).

Reporting

Progress reports will be due at regular intervals as well as a final report at the end of the 18-month contract period. Reports will include a summary of goals/ milestones met to date including narrative descriptions of highlights, successes and challenges encountered and resolved. Applicants must also be willing to commit to contributing data to King County and statewide data management systems.