

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF SEATTLE-KING COUNTY
MEMORANDUM**

TO:	Finance and Administration Committee
FROM:	Marisol Tapia Hopper
DATE:	March 15 th , 2024
SUBJECT:	Grants Update

Background:

The WDC has undergone significant personnel changes in tandem with the organizational transformation and the substantial shifts in our mission and strategic priorities. These transformative efforts necessitated the identification of new staff capacity to effectively execute the Regional Strategic Plan. In line with our commitment to fortifying our capacity for efficient grant management, we launched the recruitment process for a Grants Manager in July of 2023. The process concluded in January when Kate Ridings accepted this role. This strategic addition to our team serves not only to reinforce our current capacity but also to propel the advancement and scaling of both existing and new innovative initiatives.

Grants Update:

The substantial investments made in staff and infrastructure have allowed the WDC to take on a more expansive role, pursuing funding opportunities that contribute to building a more inclusive workforce development system. Below are updates on recent grant opportunities and their outcomes for fiscal year 2023. Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating the release of new digital equity funding from the WA State Department of Commerce and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration ([NTIA](#)), which will enable the WDC to scale digital access efforts in the region.

FUNDER	PROJECT	AWARD	PERIOD
NFWS	Human Centered Design Common Intake Form	\$ 200,000	8/23 – 7/24
Comcast	Digital Equity: Expand digital navigation services at WorkSource Centers	\$ 60,000	9/23 – 9/24
DOL/DOJ	Partners for Reentry Opportunities in Workforce Development. Co-Applicant with ESD	\$6,000,000	Four Years
ESD/Commerce	Community Reinvestment Fund: EcSA Career Incentives and EcSA Business Support	\$3,550,427	11/23- 5/25
City	Funding for Backbone Organization	\$250,000	12/2023

NSC	WA SkillSPAN: Coalition Building & support WDC's policy work.	\$25,000	1/24-12/24
Total Awarded		\$10,085,427	
PENDING			
FUNDER	PROJECT/PARTNERS	REQUESTED	SUBMITTED
County	Funding for Backbone Organization – Pending Negotiations	\$250,000	12/2023
Bank of America	Reconnecting Opportunity Youth to Education and Employment	\$150,000	2/2024
SUBMITTED NOT AWARDED			
Families & Workers Fund	Purpose: Climate and Infrastructure Careers Coalition Building and Expanded Supportive Services. Partners: C3, Filipino Community of Seattle & United Indians of All Tribes Foundation.	\$1,500,000	1/2024
National Fund	Job Quality in the Childcare Sector. Funding goals included retaining a consultant to lead employer engagement and expand collaboration with King County's Wage Boot Demonstration Project.	\$200,000	2/2024