Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.  
SWNI Community Engagement Allocation Program (CEAP)  
Information Sheet  
Update: June 17, 2020

The SWNI Board of Directors has taken a number of actions to address the COVID-19 crisis in SW Portland this spring. SWNI’s Multnomah Arts Center office closed as a result of the crisis in mid-March, but our operations have continued as our staff telework and are available to the community during regular business hours. We also produced and distributed the COVID-19 Resource Guide in April, which was a print publication mailed to all households and businesses in SW Portland. Our goal was to reach under-represented individuals and households who lack or have limited access to electronic communications about health and safety information.

SWNI has created a Community Engagement Allocation Program (CEAP) for Community-Based Organizations* (CBOs) with 501(c)3 nonprofit status. The CEAP will fund CBOs to plan and conduct community engagement projects during this challenging time. We are setting aside up to $1,000 for CBOs serving the SW Portland community, with a maximum of $25,000 total to distribute.

SWNI will support CBOs to build collaborations, connect resources, secure/distribute donations and coordinate volunteers to organizations requesting support during this COVID-19 crisis. We encourage projects that engage with seniors, under-represented populations, communities of color, or organizations that advocate for these communities. Organizational collaborations may include schools, social service agencies, Neighborhood Emergency Teams, faith groups, or private entities with community-focused programs developed in response to COVID-19 impacts. We believe that increased civic engagement and involvement by all SW Portland residents will serve our community long after the COVID-19 crisis has passed. Project proposals eligible for funding may include:

A. Communications. Newsletters, postcards, flyers or other print communications to promote social services, available resources, community services or events, and activities such as National Night Out, Safe Routes to School, neighborhood food drives, safety vigils, actions to support health providers, back-to-school information, etc.

B. Supplies and Materials to Conduct Projects. Projects may include purchase of PPE (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer) for volunteers participating in projects like food drives, park clean-up activities, etc. Rental costs for tools or equipment needed for projects, etc. are also eligible.

C. Community Education Activities. Fees, honoraria, or other costs associated with sponsoring web-based educational activities. Activities may include educational speakers or workshops focusing on creating livable communities, social/environmental justice, strengthening community capacity through effective advocacy, or other community-building topics of interest.

We encourage all Community-Based Organizations to apply for the Community Engagement Allocation Program. The CEAP Application Form is posted on the SWNI website: www.swni.org. Completed applications will be due at 5:00 pm, Friday, July 24, 2020. Projects must be fully completed by June 30, 2021.

Contact SWNI staff members: John Tappero (john@swni.org), google voice # 503-410-3135 or Sara Freedman (sara@swni.org), google voice # 503-877-4574 with any questions.

* Community-Based Organizations (CBOs): Neighborhood Associations, Business Associations, nonprofits including Diversity and Civic Leadership (DCLs) groups, service providers, and other community groups.