COVID-19 Relief Fund for Washington State Undocumented Individuals

During this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, our undocumented community and communities of color will be the most affected. From getting laid off or losing a job, working essential jobs, and not having access to healthcare, we know that the undocumented community will have major financial barriers. The “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order led to having to close non-essential businesses in order to control the spread of the virus. In tandem, the relief efforts have intentionally left out the undocumented community. When government fails, community must prevail.

To support our community the Washington Dream Coalition has created a coalition with nine other community-based organizations (see below) across the state to tap into established trust and focus on geographic equity. In just the first week since the application has been launched we’ve received over 9,400 submissions and over $10M in relief requests. We’re seeing vast need across the state but there is an extraordinary need in South King County, with more than 30% of the applications.

South King County Need:

- $2,961,250 in direct aid requested
- 3,422 families requesting support
- 95% with lost/reduced wages
- 6,340+ children and youth

South King County is particularly vulnerable to funds, aid, and resources that do not take into consideration the barriers to access and relief across the spectrum of King County.

We’re seeing a need we can’t possibly meet alone. To narrow the scope until more funds are obtained we are prioritizing the following circumstances:

- This fund is primarily meant to serve individuals who are completely undocumented.
- Individuals who have lost their jobs/hours/wages.
- High-Risk individuals: those who have contracted COVID-19 and those who are over the age of 50, have severe asthma or chronic lung disease, are immunocompromised, have severe obesity, serious heart conditions, diabetes, chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, people with liver disease, and people who identify as Black.
- Individuals experiencing homelessness and renters.
- Individuals who are single parents or the primary source of income for their households.

Coalitions are built through the labor of grassroots mobilization. We’ve taken this in stride by raising over $500,000 in the past two and a half weeks. More than have from individual contributors and the remaining from foundations/grants willing to stand in solidarity. It is with this in mind that we ask that you prioritize undocumented families and this fund, specifically, as a relief to our community, in your funding streams. To donate and learn more, please visit: [www.scholarshipjunkies.org/relief](http://www.scholarshipjunkies.org/relief).