

2021 COVID-19 Recovery Grant

Request Summary

COVID-19 Recovery Grant Application

In response to the strain the COVID-19 virus pandemic is placing on the local healthcare system and community-based organizations, the Desert Healthcare District and the Regional Access Project have made available grant funds to provide additional support and resources to our local healthcare and service providers.

Inland Equity Community Land Trust, Grant #1249

About the Organization

Inland Equity Community Land Trust
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Palm Desert, CA 92211
Tel:

Organization Type:

501(c)(3)

Contact:

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Proposal

Project Title: Rapid Response Line COVID-19 Immigrant Medical Services Resources

Total Project Budget: \$79,500.00

Requested Amount: \$9,693.00

Start Date: 4/1/2021

End Date: 6/30/2021

Project/Program Description

Community Need: Define a specific need(s) for the project and describe the alignment to ongoing COVID-19 relief, recovery, and assistance efforts.

This grant will continue support for the Coachella Valley Immigrant Dignity (CVID) rapid response line. The program recruits, trains, and schedules volunteers and maintains the infrastructure of the rapid response line to make referrals for health, mental health, social services and immigration services in the Coachella Valley. Approximately 30% of the people in the Coachella Valley community is made up of foreign-born immigrants (Census Reporter). In 2016, it was estimated that 4,736 of Coachella Valley's total population had no legal status (Unauthorized and Uninsured: Eastern Coachella Valley and Riverside County). Riverside County's Medi-cally Indigent Services Program (MISP) is the only source of safety net health care for undocumented adults 27-65. Few Coachella Valley residents are enrolling or utilizing Medi-cal or MISP and are becoming

part of the largest uninsured population in the state. Due to the complexity of demonstrating eligibility for qualified family members in families with mixed immigration statuses, few medical facilities nearby and the compounded fear of the federal government designating Medicaid and CHIP as public charge programs, many qualified residents of the Coachella Valley are not receiving any health care or mental health care. Coachella Valley residents are delaying care for conditions that are easily treated until they become medical emergencies. The Rapid Response line offers immigrants support and creates opportunities for them to find services and CVID offers a space for immigrants to who have a shared lived experience can offer useful support, information, encouragement, and hope to their peers. The Rapid Response network helps people learn about strategies and available resources that they can take back to their families and other community members. The resources will improve the CVID collaborative's reach and raise awareness about programs like MISP, Medi-Cal, domestic violence and emergency shelter services with Coachella Valley's undocumented residents.

Project Description: *What program/service are you performing or providing that is vital to your target population during the current COVID-19 public health crisis and describe its importance.*

In response to the COVID-19 emergency, Inland Equity Partnership and Coachella Valley Immigrant Dignity have been working to keep ourselves, our volunteers and coalition partners aware of the various measures taken by the many jurisdictions. The CVID Rapid Response line provides immigration, social service, health care, mental health and peer support referrals. We have translated the various resources available for rent relief by Riverside County and the programs offered by the cities. The moratoriums on evictions vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and some resources are available to immigrants in some places depending on the program's funding source. The CVID Rapid Response Line volunteers can direct callers to information on where to access these resources and what they will need to qualify. Our focus is to maintain the lines of communications and work with CVID members to share alerts on ICE Raids and police checkpoints and share referral training to strengthen community based organizations to increase outreach efforts to educate the immigrant population about the services available to them. Among those most severely impacted by Covid-19 in the United States are immigrants who've been losing their jobs in disproportionate numbers. Prior to the outbreak, approximately 5% of immigrants were unemployed now it is estimated that 20% are out of work. The undocumented do not benefit from unemployment insurance and legal migrants are eligible to apply for unemployment benefits but many do not because of a new policy that makes it more difficult for immigrants to gain permanent resident status if they seek public assistance. Peer support groups will be able to help those who attend learn about strategies and available resources that they can take back to their families and other community members. In all areas of life, no matter your background, relationships are crucial to well-being.

Is this a new project or an expansion of a preexisting project? Please describe if the proposed project has been developed recently or if a preexisting program has been

modified to address the impact of the COVID-19 virus

The Coachella Valley Immigrant Dignity rapid response line is an ongoing program. The CVID Rapid Response Line began in 2017 as a network of support for deportation emergencies. Over the years the Inland Equity Partnership coalition members have added immigration services, social service, health care, mental health and peer support referrals. Inland Equity Partnership has been a fiscally sponsored project of Community Partners. The project is being moved to our new non-profit, Inland Equity Community Land Trust. That transition will be completed in June of 2021. The CVID Rapid Response line has an emergency and non emergency call option. Non deportation emergency services are referred to other service providers depending on the caller's needs. The CVID coalition includes Comete' Latino, TODEC Legal Center, Courageous Resistance, Lideres Campesinas Inland Congregations United for Change, COFEM and others. The CVID Rapid Response Line is a space where trained volunteers share accurate information and coping strategies and referrals to services, regardless of immigration status. The different services, programs, and legal rights each family member has regarding their residency, be it Undocumented, Legal Permanent Residents, Naturalized Citizens households need accurate information about programs like TANF, SSI, Food Stamps, MISP, Medical, WIC and Mental Health services for which they are qualified. CVID's collateral materials include information about service providers that are pro immigrant, eligibility and policy updates for health and human service programs. This work has established us as a trusted source for accurate information among the immigrant community about the public health response to the COVID-19 virus. The rapid response line and Coachella Valley Immigrant Dignity Coalition website provide immigrants in the Coachella Valley a trusted source when accessing information about available services.

How will the grant funds be used? Please describe specifically how the grant funds will be used towards operational and/or programmatic support?

These resources will provide relief for a variety of unexpected costs and lost revenue because of the COVID-19 emergency response. We would like to use these resources to support staff time for recruiting, training volunteers and managing the rapid response line. We also have dedicated a lot of staff time to vet, translate and share accurate information through the rapid response line and CVID website. We will also use the funds to promote the project to increase the reach and volunteer interest and recruitment.

The requested amount is based on the costs from April 1 through June 30. Inland Equity Partnership Coachella Valley Organiser is the CVID Rapid Response Line Coordinator schedules, trains and recruits and helps promote the rapid response line. The Executive Director is responsible for project oversight and fiscal management. Staffing Costs for the CVID Rapid Response Line for three months:

Inland Equity Partnership Coachella Valley Organiser is the CVID Rapid Response Line Coordinator, Staff pay for 20 hr a week \$18/hr (240 total hours \$4,320)

Project Oversight and Fiscal Management 6 hr a week \$20/hr (72 total hours \$1,440)

Employee benefits estimated at 18% salary (\$1,296)
Total \$7,056

Printing/Duplication Help with general printing supplies plus another batch of Rapid Response Line cards and fliers (\$700) Telephone/Fax/Internet 3 months for Twilio for 2 phone numbers and call routing from rapid response line to volunteer phones (\$325) Online evaluation and reporting tools on the CVID website (\$250) General Liability Insurance (\$162) Promotion and Outreach 3 months of paid CVID promotion and outreach on various platforms (\$1,200)

Geographical Area Served

Cathedral City; Coachella; Indio; Indian Wells; La Quinta; Mecca; North Shore; Oasis; Rancho Mirage; Thermal

Population Served

Adults (25-64 years old); Seniors (65+ years old); Uninsured

How many residents will be served? *Please provide the number of unduplicated number of individuals and/or number of services provided*

210

Evaluation *Please describe how the success and/or impact of on-going operations or the proposed project will be evaluated*

Evaluation

The CVID website uses surveys to provide information on how the program is functioning and if the objectives are being met. Survey responses from the rapid response volunteers serve as points in the data to manage or redesign the program. These performance indicators can also be used to identify coping solutions that can be shared in a broader way through the community. The survey can also stimulate communication about program goals, progress, obstacles, and results among community groups. We have qualitative and quantitative questions in Spanish. The qualitative questions include:

Based on your assessment, was the caller in need of a referral to:

Mental Health services
Healing Circles
CalFresh
Medi-Cal/MISP
Immigration Services
Other Social Services
No Referral Made