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Grantmaking overview: The Community Foundation of South Puget Sound makes grants in Thurston, Lewis, and Mason Counties, WA. Our grantmaking approach prioritizes funding the following:

- **Impact:** organizations contributing to individual and community well-being across focus areas.
- **Geography:** organizations that primarily work in our service area or fill unmet needs in our area.
- **Community:** organizations that collaborate and work in coordination with local partners.
- **Accountability:** organizations that design services appropriately for the communities they serve and meaningfully engage the voices, perspectives, and expertise of their program participants.
- **Organizational Capacity:** organizations that demonstrate reasonable financial health and basic capacity (governance practices, minimum 3 board members, nondiscrimination policy, etc.).
- **Population Served:** We fund nonprofits serving all populations and seek to prioritize those serving populations and communities with unequal access to resources and opportunities.

OPEN NOW: Thurston Strong Nonprofit Recovery Grants. We are currently administering \$810,000 on behalf of Thurston Strong to support Thurston County nonprofits recovering from the financial impacts of COVID-19. These grants are funded by Thurston County through a portion of the County's federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation. Eligibility is limited to 501c3 tax-exempt orgs that were in operation as of March 1, 2020. **Priority will be given to nonprofits providing essential services** or actively working to serve the community groups and entities most severely impacted by COVID-19. ARPA rules require grant applicants to provide proof of COVID-specific financial harm (e.g., documentation showing lost revenues or increased costs due to COVID). Visit ThurstonStrong.org to learn more.

OPEN ROLLING: Resilience Fund Grants. These grants were established to further address the impacts of COVID-19, strengthen our region's long-term efforts to rebuild, respond to emerging opportunities, help nonprofits adapt, and support creative new approaches and partnerships. We encourage interested applicants to review the Resilience Fund [Framework HERE](#) and [full guidelines on our website](#).

UPCOMING SUMMER 2022: Community Grants. This is our annual responsive grant program open to nonprofits in our geography, regardless of focus area. This program helps us better serve our whole community as a broad and diverse local funder, remain accessible to a range of nonprofits, build relationships, learn about community needs and opportunities, and invite community participation. In 2020, we made several changes to this program, including making funds unrestricted, which you can [read about HERE](#). In 2021, we worked to increase community participation in evaluating these grants and making funding recommendations to our board, which included welcoming local grant writers and nonprofit staff to our evaluation committees. Learn more about [Community Grants HERE](#).