

2023 Grant Recipients

SBA 504 Effective Rates for November 2023

For New Loans Approved After October 1, 2023:

25-year - 7.01% / 7.04% Refi ~ 20-year - 7.02% / 7.05% Refi ~ 10-year - 7.20% / 7.20% Refi

For Loans Approved Before October 1, 2023:

25-year - 7.11% / 7.13% Refi ~ 20-year - 7.12% / 7.14% Refi ~ 10-year - 7.33% / 7.35% Refi

As a non-profit organization, NWBDA is able to provide grants on an annual basis to other organizations or programs who provide economic or community development in the areas that NWBDA serves. This year, NWBDA was able to give away a grand total of \$100,000 to organizations devoted to making an impact.

Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County - Mount Vernon, WA



The Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC) is thrilled to receive a grant from the Northwest Business Development Association (NWBDA), bolstering EDASC's commitment to fostering economic growth and job creation in Skagit County, with a special focus on underserved communities.

The NWBDA grant supports EDASC's programs aimed at empowering veterans, women, minorities, youth, individuals with disabilities, and those in underserved areas. These initiatives include entrepreneurial training

and workforce development, all through the lens of equity, inclusion, and sustainability.

EDASC's programming includes workforce development events with special outreach to Latinos, veterans and people with disabilities; leadership development through Leadership Skagit; and various workshops and conferences for all stages of business.

The NWBDA's investment in EDASC's vision underscores the shared mission of both organizations to drive economic development that is inclusive and equitable. This grant will enable EDASC to continue innovating and responding to the evolving needs of Skagit County's economy, supporting entrepreneurs, and meeting workforce demands.

John Sternlicht, CEO of EDASC, expressed gratitude for the grant, stating, "This funding is a testament to the strength of our programs and the importance of our mission. We are dedicated to creating opportunities for all members of our community, and this grant will help us extend our reach even further."



Auto Repair Transformation - Seattle, WA

Mission Statement: The mission of Auto Repair Transformation is to close the equity gap in the automotive repair industry by removing barriers to access, inspiring marginalized people to enter and thrive in the industry, and advocating for inclusive and equitable environments. The organization primarily serves and addresses the needs of BIPOC, Women, LGBTQIA+, and low-income communities.

About Auto Repair Transformation's Apprenticeship Program: Auto Repair Transformation (ART)'s apprenticeship program exists to expand access to the automotive repair trade for women, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, and low-income communities. The program provides apprenticeship training that builds a pathway that can lead to a stable, well compensated profession. This paid apprenticeship enables folks to enter the automotive workforce and start earning an income without the stress of debt from a 4-year college degree. There is no fee for participants in the apprenticeship training. Enrollment in the apprenticeship program prioritizes BIPOC, Women, LGBTQIA+, and low-income people. Specifically, ART provides workforce development among the following targeted populations, who will benefit from the services provided using the grant funds: women; minorities (as defined by SBA), including LGBTQ+ and transgender communities; & youth ages 18-24.

Grant Funds: ART will leverage funds from NWBDA to help build capacity for the apprenticeship program. Specifically, they will arrange their model for instruction to serve an increasing number of participants each year as their programs grow, build out their evaluation and assessment tools to track the progress and outcomes, and create the infrastructure needed to support and grow the apprenticeship program.



Donate or volunteer at
Auto Repair Transformation:
<https://autorepairtransformation.org/>

Familias en Acción - Portland, OR

About Familias en Acción: Familias en Acción was founded in 1998, in response to the need for a culturally specific organization to promote health for Latino/x/e communities in Oregon. Their services include Community Health Work, Climate Health Equity, Food Equity Advocacy, and Sexual Health Education.

Familias en Acción's Mission: The mission of Familias en Acción (Familias) is to strengthen the health and well-being of Latino families and communities in Oregon. Their Promise is to be Present, to Engage, and to be Relentless in the pursuit of health equity. Familias provides health promotion programs in Spanish, focused on climate resilience, nutrition and food advocacy, sexual health and HIV prevention, healthcare navigation, and workforce development for Latiné Community Health Workers.

Familias' workforce development program provides health worker skill building and employment/income opportunities for Latinés through culturally and linguistically specific workforce development program for Promotores de Salud/Community Health Workers (P/CHW). The program includes: 1) training and support to secure state certification for participants; 2) continuing education opportunities; 3) career coaching and job placement support; and 4) technical assistance to other community based organizations (CBOs) seeking to implement certification programs in rural areas. Target populations for this work are women, minorities (Hispanic/Latina/x/e), and individuals in underserved areas (rural).

Grant Funds: Funds from NWBDA will help to fund a Workforce Development Coordinator position. This Coordinator will work alongside a team to manage all aspects of the Somos Salud training cohorts, including curriculum maintenance, participant recruitment, facilitation of the training and additional facilitator recruitment, coordinating program participants and partners, communications, scheduling, and database management.

Participant Quote/Testimonial: "The programs at Familias en Acción have helped me so much to improve my physical and mental health. I live in a rural area where health resources are very limited and programs like these, free and in our primary language (Spanish), have a great impact on our community. They give us hope and motivation to know that we are not alone and that there is support in our own language."



Donate, Volunteer, or Follow Familias en Acción
<https://www.familiasenaccion.org/>
Facebook • Twitter • LinkedIn • Instagram





Nuestras Raíces - Spokane, WA

Nuestras Raíces' Focus: Serving the Hispanic/Latino community with business support, social justice, student engagement & wellbeing. They love to share their culture with everyone, and they welcome anyone to join their membership and cultural events!

About Nuestras Raíces': Nuestras Raíces is a community center that is committed to increase public awareness and pride in the depth and diversity of Hispanic/Latino culture through their 501c3 and 501c6. Their community center promotes and serves the Hispanic/Latino interest through cultural, business outreach, social justice and wellbeing of our community. Community. Empowerment. Cultura. Equity. Their 4 major programs are:

Esperanza – A social service program serving all ages with the intent to better our community’s well-being, through peer and mental health counseling, including a culturally appropriate weekly food pantry.

LUNAA – Youth engagement, empowerment and leadership through fellowship opportunities, LGBT support, scholarships, jobs, mentorship and sports.

Exito – Economic Development with financial literacy and education, entrepreneurial guidance and technical support via one-on-one consultations.

Cultural: Sharing cultural traditions and customs through dance groups, a gathering space, and events such as Dia de los muertos, Tacos y Tequila (two-day festival Downtown Spokane) and Ballet folclórico de Spokane.

Grant Funds: BIPOC-led businesses were among the hardest hit by COVID-19 related closures. Many will not recover without access to commercial kitchen facilities that align with their business stability and growth priorities. Nuestras Raices expects to host regular cooking classes and will use the space to prepare celebratory meals with students in our programs as they complete academic and career-related milestones.

Grant funds will help Nuestras Raices and partners launch a culturally and linguistically attuned commissary kitchen, led by and implemented for marginalized minority communities. The kitchen will be outfitted with the equipment, small wares, storage, packaging, and preparation materials that are in demand among culturally specific food businesses, but unfulfilled in the current market.



**Donate or follow
NUESTRAS RAÍCES:
<https://www.hbpaofspokane.org/>**

Project Feast - Kent, WA

Project Feast's Mission: At Project Feast, the mission is to transform the lives of refugees and immigrants by providing pathways to sustainable employment in the food industry, and to enrich communities through intercultural exchange.

About Project Feast: Project Feast provides culinary training to low-income immigrants and refugees in the Puget Sound area of WA (mainly South King County). The organization was founded under the premise that immigrants and refugees have valuable experiences and knowledge to contribute to our communities. Since its inception in 2013, close to 200 students have graduated. Apprentices gain hands-on experience working alongside the staff supporting the Project Feast café and catering operations.

They equip students with the necessary skills to work in a commercial kitchen and develop soft skills with support in their job search, resume writing, networking, and mock interviews. Project Feast recognizes the importance for the graduates to be well-equipped in order to survive and continue to succeed in the culinary field. The organization wants more than job placement for the alumni, they want the graduates on a career path with the ability to obtain leadership positions both in the work place and in their communities.

Grant Funds: The funds will go towards the Culinary Skills Training Program, which currently supports 10-12 low-income refugees and immigrants each year (planning to expand to 15 students next year). This apprenticeship program provides hands-on experience in a commercial kitchen. Participants work alongside staff to prepare meals for our café and catering. Further, the program provides business training, including financial literacy, and business planning. Funding would go towards sustaining and expanding the program.

"We greatly appreciate being selected for a grant and hope that our work will help immigrants and refugees build a strong foundation for their economic success in the U.S. Further, we are proud to build an environment and community that continues to welcome and support immigrants and refugees from all backgrounds" -Van Nguyen, Executive Director, Project Feast



Donate, Volunteer or follow Project Feast:
<https://projectfeast.org/>
Facebook • Twitter • LinkedIn • Instagram



**SCORE -
Portland, OR; Central OR; Seattle, WA;
Spokane, WA; and CDA, ID**

SCORE's mission is to foster vibrant small business communities through mentoring and education. They provide free resources to business owners such as mentoring, business training, and business classes/online webinars.

SCORE operates in every state and strives to help entrepreneurs start and manage a successful small business. SCORE recognizes different needs due to industry and/or diversity, and provides personalized support for small business owners.

Donate, Volunteer or follow your local SCORE:

**<https://www.score.org/>
[Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#)
[LinkedIn](#) • [Instagram](#)**



NWBDA is so thankful to be able to give back to our community and help the world around us. We are incredibly grateful to our lenders and borrowers; thanks to their continued patronage, we are able to support others.

NWBDA is delighted to support these unique organizations who are striving to change their communities and make a better place for everyone. We encourage everyone to visit these amazing places and make your own impact.

October's Loan Fundings

NWBDA funded **4** new projects for the total amount **\$17,450,789.66**

October's Loan Approvals

NWBDA approved **2** new projects for the total amount of **\$9,870,450.00**

In the month of October, NWBDA helped **create 56 new jobs** in the local communities

**Business Development
Officers**

Eastern WA/North ID

info@nwbusiness.org
(509) 458-8555

Central Washington

Lisa Vincent

lvincent@nwbusiness.org
(509) 469-5040

Western Washington

Elizabeth Rusnak

erusnak@nwbusiness.org
(206) 930-9173

Mark Beppler

mbepler@nwbusiness.org
(425) 505-3263

Southwestern Washington

Jim Bright

jbright@nwbusiness.org
(360) 521-5704

Oregon

Evan Heriot

eheriot@nwbusiness.org
(541) 228-5015

Follow Us on Twitter
and LinkedIn!



info@nwbusiness.org
www.nwbusiness.org
(509) 458-8555
(800) 540-1748 (Toll Free)

Achieving BIG Dreams for SMALL Businesses