



2024 Project Neighborly Grant Awards

| Organization Name                          | Project Name                                | Short Project Description  | Award    |
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| Allied Arts for Whatcom Artist Studio Tour | Whatcom Artist Studio Tour                  | The Whatcom Artist Studio Tour (WAST) brings hundreds of neighbors together in more than 30 locations across Whatcom County during the first two weekends of October in a celebration of local art. It also produces five group gallery exhibitions between May and November across Whatcom County showcasing local artists, and provides ongoing year-round promotion through its website and social media. | \$ 5,000 |
| Allied Arts of Whatcom County              | Rock, Roll and Ride Fest                    | Funding will provide needed logistical support for Bellingham's District 4 neighborhood and Railroad Ave to build community through a summer block party of art, performance, and culture. Fun, creative and engaging experiences will be available to partygoers. These will inspire our community to connect enthusiastically with each other in sharing our arts, cultures, interests, and stories.       | \$ 5,000 |
| Bellingham Public Schools Foundation       | Birchwood Bilingual Dance Fitness           | This bilingual, weekly Zumba class connects community members, primarily moms, teens/pre-teens, and school staff from diverse cultural backgrounds to strengthen school-community relationships and increase access to affordable, healthy, fun and culturally-appropriate music-based exercise.   | \$ 2,700 |
| Bellingham Public Schools Foundation       | Lummi and Nooksack Children's Books         | Our project will support 2 collaborations between Bellingham Public Schools and our Tribal neighbors: a) Sacred Sea (Lummi non-profit), Jason LaClair (Lummi artist) and b) Healing through Hope (Nooksack non-profit), Tammy Cooper Woodrich (Nooksack Tribal Elder) and Nish Romero (Nooksack) to develop two books around native stories, such as the Salmon Boy, and a series of corresponding lessons.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Bellingham Public Schools Foundation       | Back to School Block Party and Winter Blast | BPS develops partnerships with families and community partners in support of the success of all students. Two annual family events embody this strategy: The Back to School Block Party ensures all students enthusiastically enter the school year ready to learn, and the Winter Blast provides a welcome indoor activity event during the post-holiday season.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Bellingham SeaFeast                        | Boat to Table: Feeding Whatcom Communities  | In Whatcom over 5,000 families per week go without food. Building on the success and demand from last year's Boat to Table program, SeaFeast and PNW Plateful will continue to provide 600+ nutritious meals to the county's needy people. We will provide nutrition information and local food security resources. We will build community bridges and provide food made by love and given in gratitude.    | \$ 5,000 |
| Birchwood Neighborhood Association         | Birchwood Bash                              | The Birchwood Bash will be a family/neighborhood event to connect and celebrate our community, familiarize neighbors with each other and our fledgling business sector, and highlight our neighborhood's features. We plan to accomplish this through the following: a community playlist, icebreaker scavenger hunt, activities, free food*, prizes, and fun.<br>*Our neighborhood is a food desert.        | \$ 5,000 |
| Community Boating Center                   | Adaptive Splash                             | The Community Boating Center's Adaptive Splash Series consists of weekly programs for people with disabilities. These programs on Harris Bay are for new and active adaptive boaters and will be supported by trained staff and volunteers. We celebrate with an end-of-season social picnic, this series will facilitate connection through water recreation and create an inclusive and accessible space.  | \$ 5,000 |

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| Downtown Bellingham Partnership                                      | Commercial Plaza Activation Series                                   | DBP is dedicated to coordinating "delight & surprise" attractions in the Commercial Street Plaza, a designated space nestled in the heart of Downtown. The thoughtful programming will gather passionate community organizers, engage neighbors in play and curiosity, and fuel much needed activity in the Downtown core, further enhancing a vibrant, more connected atmosphere throughout the district.       | \$ 5,000 |
| Ferndale Community Service Cooperative                               | Ferndale Harvest Festival  | Let's activate abundance and sharing during the harvest season! This is a free community event to raise awareness about Ferndale Community Services and other Community Human Resource Organizations with activities and food. Activities include a pumpkin giveaway, a pumpkin carving contest, arts and crafts, a native plants giveaway, a pumpkin seed saving demo + recipes, and a zucchini race!           | \$ 5,000 |
| Ferndale Community Service Cooperative                               | Enhancing Whatcom Resilience through Senior Emergency Preparedness 2 | The Volunteer Mobilization Center (VMC) proposes to present emergency preparedness training to seniors in approximately fifteen independent senior living complexes across the county. To encourage participation, snacks and prize drawings will be included. Presenters will hand out State preparedness booklets and inexpensive preparedness items to each attendee.   | \$ 3,598 |
| Foothills Food Bank  | Foothills Community Food Partnership Capacity Building & Planning    | The Foothills Community Food Partnership is conducting the 5-year update of the Foothills Food Landscape Assessment, hosting the Foothills Food Summit, and facilitating an updated Food Access Plan. The assessment and plan are the foundation of our work and set the stage for food access initiatives in the coming years. The grant funds will support the landscape assessment and community food summit. | \$ 5,000 |
| Friends of Birch Bay Library   | Friends of Birch Bay Library Community Builders                      | Friends of Birch Bay Library offers a series of events throughout the year that we use to build awareness and community. With funding to renovate the historic Vogt home and operate a full Library Express, we use the events to build community and expand our base of library users and supporters. We use the indoor and outdoor physical space for events, and we have a presence at community events.      | \$ 5,000 |
| Friends of Birch Bay Library for Birch Bay Incorporation Association | Birch Bay Community Outreach on Incorporation                        | The Birch Bay Incorporation Association (BBIA) fosters a stronger, more connected community by educating residents about the pros and cons of incorporating Birch Bay as a city. Grant funds will help us provide educational meetings and resources to facilitate an open dialogue among neighbors so they can make informed decisions about the future of the Birch Bay community and their families.          | \$ 5,000 |
| Friends of Point Roberts Library                                     | Resilient Point Roberts Solar Festival                               | Resilient Point Roberts Going Solar is a community-led, volunteer run group that supports the resilience, vibrancy and health of Point Roberts. Working with the Friends of Point Roberts Library we will increase awareness of solar energy among neighbors in Point Roberts through events like a solar festival that are fun, educational, engaging and promote community building among all residents.       | \$ 5,000 |

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| Habitat for Humanity in Whatcom County    | Build Community Day in Everson and Nooksack       | Build Community Day will consist of executing minor repairs and/or yard cleanup for physically or financially strapped seniors and low-income homeowners in the underserved communities of Everson and Nooksack. For the first time, in reaching out to the Islamic, Muslim, and Sikh communities to join local Christian denominations in volunteering to execute 12+ projects, we hope to break barriers.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Inner Child Studio                        | Tween Meetup                                      | Tween Meetup is a monthly free meetup for kids ages 10-13. We offer an optional activity like pie-making, escape rooms, bingo, and outdoor activities in the summer. This Meetup is designed for neurodivergent, LGBTQIA+, and homeschool students to make friends and be themselves in a safe place with mentors like them. We have a consistent group of 12 kids who attend and we are always outreaching.   | \$ 3,060 |
| Jazz Project                              | Out of the Ashes Music Program                    | Out of the Ashes is a weekly music therapy program serving children and adults with moderate to severe physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities in a safe, protective, and inclusive environment. Participants engage through singing, playing percussion, and instruments of their choice. Out of the Ashes is often invited to perform at festivals throughout Whatcom County.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Lettered Streets Neighborhood Association | Re-Engaging Community                             | The Lettered Streets Neighborhood Association (LSNA) requests a \$5,000 grant to support activities for our neighborhood that aim to re-engage and strengthen our neighborhood and build relationships with other neighborhoods in the City, as the climate and the housing crisis promise to strain our relationships and resources. By gathering to learn, work, and play together, we seek to build healthier, safer and resilient communities where we ALL can work together equitably to meet the challenges we face. | \$ 5,000 |
| Make.Shift                                | The Gender Affirming Fair at Make.Shift Art Space | The Gender Affirming Fair (TGAF), presented by Make.Shift Art Space, is a celebration of queer and trans identity with the goal of fostering awareness and allyship. By bringing together artists, educators, healthcare providers and community members, TGAF aims to create meaningful dialogue, drive positive change, and empower queer and trans youth seeking affirming care, resources, and community.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Northwest Indian College                  | NWIC Student and Lummi Community Food Pantry      | Our project will provide nutritious food relief to students and community members in a rural area of Whatcom County. Our goal is to provide hunger relief and develop a network of surplus food from local suppliers and farmers and deliver that resource to those in need. In Nov. 2023, this rural food program served 54% non-NWIC community members representing 22 Tribes with a total of 150 recipients.  | \$ 5,000 |
| Northwest Youth Services                  | Whatcom Street Outreach                           | NWYS' Outreach food truck offers freshly made meals utilizing repurposed foods diverted from the waste stream to unhoused young people in Whatcom County, bolstering connections within our community as a mobile hub of resources. This project supports NWYS staff to literally meet young people where they are, build trusting relationships to attain growth, and housing stabilization.  | \$ 5,000 |

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| Northwest Youth Services for Fatherhood The Foundation | 2024 Fathers Day / Juneteenth Celebration                                     | Fatherhood the Foundation gives support to fathers and at risk youth, returning home from incarceration or just trying to reacclimate back into the lives of their families. Through events and programs like this one, we are able to bring community awareness and resources to many parents struggling with recourses, every year we host this event for our BIPOC community, and every year we grow bigger. | \$ 5,000 |
| Road2Home  | Challenging stereotypes, Strengthening Community Bonds and Encouraging Action | Road2Home (R2H) requests funds to facilitate monthly gatherings at the Bellingham Public Library focused on homelessness. Invitees will include our trained Volunteer Allies, unhoused people, R2H staff and others. The goals are to challenge stereotypes, increase understanding, foster empathy, strengthen community bonds, and encourage collective action to help end homelessness.                      | \$ 5,000 |
| Seniors Helping Seniorws                               | Friends of Woodrose Senior Nutritional Soup Program                           | The Nutritional Soup Program will target food insecurity, nutritional deficits and isolation among older adults who live in independent affordable housing apartment buildings. The program will provide nourishment to the body, mind and spirit via thoughtfully crafted soups, nutrition education seminars and a space for even the most unlikely seniors to come together to share a meal.                 | \$ 5,000 |
| Sunnyland Neighborhood Association for Megan Starr     | Sunnyland Street Mural Project  | This project creates a collaborative street mural at the intersection of Dean Ave. and Texas St.. This project aims to encourage and create an opportunity to deepen neighborly relationships and elicit a sense of pride and identity for the neighborhood. Local artist Keith Negley will design, neighbors will paint! Additional objectives include improving safety and neighborhood beautification .      | \$ 5,000 |
| Vamos Outdoors Project                                 | Community Bike Day  | Vamos Outdoors Project's mission is to "Build Community through Connection to the Land and Access to the Outdoors." Our biannual, Día Comunitario de Bicicletas builds community among Latine, Migrant, Multilingual, and Newcomer youth and families as we get everyone on bikes, share tamales, and collaborate with local community organizations and resources.   | \$ 5,000 |
| Western Washington University Foundation               | Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI)                                  | WWU event that showcases DEI activities on- and off-campus. The event includes outreach to under-represented communities and learning workshops for learning and engaging with justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion. Space and opportunities for cultural activities and displays are also included.   | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom Art Guild                                      | Whatcom Art Center - Community Workshop Series                                | The Whatcom Art Center will open in Fairhaven in the summer of 2024 as a hub for artists to work, learn, teach, share, collaborate, and exhibit their work. WAG is requesting funding for a series of six workshops and 10 art focus group sessions that will bring hundreds of diverse community members together fostering community vitality, dialogue, increased empathy, and community pride.              | \$ 5,000 |

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| Whatcom Center for Early Learning  | Celebrating Disability - Community Connections Through Art                    | The Celebrating Disability - Community Connections Through Art Project will include a series of panels about children and disability by local artists installed on the fence at our central Blue House location in Bellingham so it can be seen by all of those people passing by. In addition, an interactive art piece will also be used to capture families' stories of hope and share this hope with others. | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom Council On Aging           | Community Cultural Meal Experience  | The Whatcom Council on Aging's Meals on Wheels and More program provides over 2,328 meals throughout each week to seniors in Whatcom and San Juan Counties. We would like to create 2 special days to gather more seniors together to enjoy a lively cultural meal, exposing our current group of seniors to a more diverse menu while engaging with other seniors from a variety of cultures.                   | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom County Library System      | Family Connections  | Family Connections is a partnership between Bellingham Technical College and the Whatcom County Library System to bring the BTC's parent education to remote areas of Whatcom County, delivering practical information to young families; centering the library as a resource for ongoing enrichment; and, connecting local families with one another in a network of mutual support and growth.                 | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center  | Exploring Equity & Cultural Humility with The REACH Center                    | Regardless of race, class, gender, or other differences among us, we each need safety, connection, respect, and to be heard. REACH workshops inspire and empower participants to engage in activities that honor diversity, promote cultural self-awareness and understanding, engage in cross-cultural learning, and examine the power of the "isms".   | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom Family & Community Network | Strengthening Families--Growing Diverse and Social Connections                | We partner to gather families raising children ages 10 to 14 during an 8-week Strengthening Families Program. Weekly, everyone shares a meal before adults & youth learn about building healthy bonds within family, school, and community. Bonding reduces risks for suicide, substance use and improves health. PN grant will support meals and transportation in the East County/Mt. Baker Schools area.      | \$ 5,000 |
| Whatcom Human Rights Task Force    | Growing Food Together, Increasing Food Sovereignty                            | Growing food together builds lasting relationships with the land and each other. Part of BFDf's mission is to increase food sovereignty through growing food by the community, for the community. This grant will support community gardening projects with a series of work parties at our 2 gardens, expanding our growing capacity, plant distribution, & preserving harvest for the off-season.              | \$ 3,500 |
| Whatcom Million Trees Project      | "Next Step" Collaborative Reforestation at WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center | Whatcom Million Trees Project (WMTP) and Whatcom Humane Society (WHS) propose to bring together neighbors, community organizations, Nooksack Tribe at-risk students and staff, and others in satisfying, hands-on reforestation work parties at the WHS Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Your grant would significantly nurture and expand these collaborations, benefitting both our community and wildlife.     | \$ 5,000 |
| Wild Whatcom                       | BIPOC Walks   | BIPOC Walks is a nature connection program by and for BIPOC individuals and families in Whatcom County. Through consistent, monthly opportunities for BIPOC community members to gather, and learn about and experience the natural world, this program aims to address the need for safe spaces "by and for" people of color to be in nature, while building community.   | \$ 5,000 |

**\$ 177,858**