

## **CDBG Grant Proposals**

### **Fund Homeless Backpacks for 3 Years**

Provides weekend food for students in Thurston County who are considered homeless per federal regulations. It is a non profit run by a small board and volunteers. Funding comes from donations and fundraisers put on by Homeless Backpacks.

Total students served in Yelm, Rainier and Tenino School Districts this year is 182 per week. Yelm has 123, Rainier 28 and Tenino 31. The cost each week at this level is \$1456.00 per week. Total for the school year is \$60,000 for South County and \$10,400 for Tenino alone.

I propose funding Homeless Backpacks for all of South County for 3 years which would total \$180,000. This could be separated into 3 payments of \$60,000.

If Tenino only the cost is \$30,200 for 3 years at todays levels.

### **Fund a Renewable Energy Project to Reduce Utility Cost for Low Income Residents of South Thurston County**

- 25 Plus year benefit to low income residents of South Thurston County and is flexible as residents move or are no longer in need of this type of assistance.
  - Frees up Low Income Heating Assistance Money
  - Job Creator
  - Model for other communities
  - Possibly can leverage this money as match for other grants
  - Can be assigned to jurisdictions no matter where actual project is placed
  - Environmental Benefits
  - Regional and National Attention
- Relief for low Income who struggle to stay in housing, provide food, medicine and other essential needs

This project would require some planning for implementation. If funded I would suggest having backup projects identified if some difficulty is encountered. Considering what we have been doing with partners for the Tenino Energy Project I believe we can put together a good project and leverage this money to create a bigger project to serve more people.

Ask for funding is \$500,000 to allow for a size that can serve a meaningful number of people and will drive down the cost of development.

A smaller size project could be developed for Tenino only if all South County jurisdictions are not interested.