Staff Report Item 10

TO: East Bay Community Energy Board of Directors
FROM: Nick Chaset, Chief Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Covid19 Relief Grants (Action Item)
DATE: December 16, 2020

Recommendation

Authorize the CEO to negotiate and execute grant agreements to support Covid19 response and relief in Alameda County and the City of Tracy with the following community based organizations:

Children’s Hospital Oakland: $50,000 to support their Covid 19 relief fund that is providing financial support to efforts ranging from vaccine deployment, to distributing PPE to employees, patients and low-income families.

Alameda County Health System: $50,000 to support their procurement of PPE for their frontline staff and support their social work departments efforts to provide critical resources to patients and their families.

Meals on Wheels Alameda County: $50,000 to support their distribution of meals to seniors across the Alameda County.

Alameda County Foodbank: $50,000 to support their procurement and distribution of food to low-income residents across the East Bay.

Washington Hospital (Fremont): $15,000 to support their procurement of PPE for their frontline staff and support their social work departments efforts to provide critical resources to patients and their families.

St Rose’s Hospital (Hayward): $15,000 to support their procurement of PPE for their frontline staff and support their social work departments efforts to provide critical resources to patients and their families.
**Axis Community Health (Livermore):** $15,000 to support their procurement of PPE for their frontline staff and support their social work departments efforts to provide critical resources to patients and their families.

**To be determined food bank in Tracy selected in consultation with city:** $5,000 to support their procurement and distribution of food to residents in need.

**Background**

Over the course of 2020, East Bay Community Energy has, with the help of our energy partners and customers, has raised over $2,000,000 to support a wide variety of community-based organizations, local governments, and medical institutions in their Covid19 relief efforts - from buying PPE for frontline workers, to helping our food banks keep their shelves filled with food for those with the most need.

As the year comes to a close, staff has been evaluating what opportunities EBCE might have to allocate another tranche of funds to Covid19 relief. Through this process, a total of $250,000 - split roughly equally - was identified within the marketing budget and the local development budget that staff does not expect to spend or earmark this fiscal year. The marketing funds come from lower than expected mailing costs associated with EBCE’s transition to using email to send out the joint rate mailer and the power content label. The local development funds that EBCE does not expect to use are associated a commercial energy efficiency program where implementation is facing some delays associated with external partners.

With these funds identified as potentially available for another round of Covid19 grants, EBCE staff evaluated the organizations that EBCE has provided grants to throughout 2020. Based on this review EBCE staff developed the above list of recommended potential grantees that operate a broad scale across Alameda County and are directly focused on Covid19 response efforts. As part of this effort, EBCE staff is also working to secure matching grants from EBCE partners and customers in an effort to raise an additional $250,000 for these critical organizations. To date, EBCE has received commitments for $25,000 of matching grants.