

Notice of Environmental Justice Funding Opportunities: Capacity Grants for Community Organizations (October 2024 - May 2025)

What does a *Healthy Environment for All* mean to you?

Administered by the
Frontline Funding Collaborative



We are a community partnership catalyzing investments in climate and environmental justice.

Example of Project Application for 2024 HEAL Capacity Grant Project

- **Describe your capacity project.**

Frontline Justice Organization (FJO) is working to learn more about how our mission and various activities and services are connected to and demonstrate environmental justice, consistent with the goals of the Healthy Environment for All Act. Our organization mission is to serve people who are and have been at the frontlines of injustice - immigrants and refugees. A majority of our community members have lived in places abroad they once called home, but due to many political, economic and/or social challenges they experienced had to move to the United States to start over, but many have still faced different challenges. Some community members fled their home countries because of political oppression or violence, others left their countries because of survival. All of our community members are doing their best to be productive and contributing community members, sometimes working three different jobs to make ends meet, other times also finding time to volunteer in our organization because they have found a place they can call a community home.

We would like to develop a formal environmental justice program, which would better align and organize our different programs that touch on issues like transportation, growing culturally appropriate foods, community health, youth and outside recreation, and affordable energy access. We realize that a number of

our community members actually have fled their home countries because there were also issues of environmental problems, which most people do not bother talking about because it was never seen as important to talk about. But now, we are starting to talk about the problems of overheating, clean water, energy, and clean air because people are feeling the problems affecting their health, from where they came from and also where they now live.

All of our programs have a community education and outreach component that helps hundreds of community members learn of and access these services and opportunities. We would like to connect these programs with each other strategically, and also connect them to the HEAL Act policy goals.

We need the ability to assess and reimagine how we can connect the programs strategically. We need to develop a plan that becomes our environmental justice program. We need a staff coordinator to oversee this assessment and plan.

As you suggest, we will also submit by separate email to healfund@frontandcentered.org, our estimated budget of \$40,000 - \$50,000 since we think that this proposed new environmental justice project would take 12 months and may require the costs of retaining a consultant for assessment and planning, and some reassignment of staff, plus community meetings, and production of new materials. We will also be exploring other funding options internally and new grants to sustain a new environmental justice program. This grant would provide seed funding for us to begin the process of reimagining our programs and services.

- **How does your project advance the goals of the Healthy Environment for All, especially for overburdened communities?**

This project would advance the goals of the Healthy Environment for All Act by expanding the opportunities of our community members to learn more about it, and connecting that big policy and its goals with the services and programs people participate in.

By helping our organization assess and reorganize our various programs within the context of an environmental justice program, that will help us be even more effective in making our programming and services more cohesive. It will also help us be even more connected with an important policy and set of issues that we now see are a way to communicate more effectively to our community members and to our government agencies and the public, about the work we are doing. There is a lot of learning we would like to do as well to understand how our community members are more exposed to environmental hazards and climate change pressures. Such learning will significantly improve the way in which we are implementing our services and programs, and ultimately empower our community members who may in turn be inspired to organize and advocate for

environmental justice policies that positively impact our community as whole.

The community education and engagement opportunities of our many different programs would amplify not only the goals but also the opportunities of community members to begin or increase the participation with local governmental agencies now focusing on environmental justice and state HEAL agencies, which would be a new opportunity for us to explore policy. We do community education and engagement in many ways, including social media, online through our website or email, videos, radio, written materials, community fairs we attend and produce, and special presentations virtually, hybrid, and in classrooms, workshops, schools, and meetings hosted by community and governmental partners.

- **Who in your community will directly benefit from this project and how are/will they be involved in it?**

Our organization is in the South Pierce County area, and we primarily serve low-income immigrants and refugees. Every year, we serve approximately 15,000 people through our different services and programs. Although a majority (roughly 70%) of the people who participate in our services and programs are immigrants and refugees, we also serve other people in the community who are in need of assistance through our programs. We offer culturally appropriate and language accessible services and programs.

If we are able to receive funding for the development of an environmental justice program, and can undertake the activities we describe above, we believe we will have a significant impact not just on our organization's capacity to be more effective and cohesive because of the assessment, planning, and reorganizing implementation, but the services will impact thousands of people because of our community education efforts.

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How are you telling your story?

Stories are powerful and effective communication tools. A story strategically told can serve to share knowledge and inspire action.

Some examples of ways to tell stories

- Digital storytelling: combines narrative writing with media tools such as audio recordings, videos, photos, music and can be visualized
- Counter-narratives: story that represents the point of view of groups or communities usually that have been marginalized and challenge the dominant narratives. These stories can promote equity, diversity and action.

[Reference](#)

SAMPLE BUDGET TEMPLATE

HEAL Capacity Grant - 2024-25

Grant Award: \$

PROJECT TIMELINE:

Start Date: Jan 1, 2024

End Date: Dec 31, 2024

*All funds to be spent out by June 30, 2025

| BUDGET CATEGORY | TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED | BRIEF DESCRIPTION (2-6 sentences) |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Salaries & Wages | \$ | |
| Stipends | \$ | |
| Materials & Supplies (pens, notebooks, stickers, posters, signage, printing) | \$ | |
| In-state travel (if applicable) (airfare, hotel, mileage, parking) | \$ | |
| Administrative Costs (accounting, consulting, project manager, postage, photography, social media, website) - | \$ | |
| Other Expenses (computer, photography, social media promotion) | \$ | |
| Total Amount Requested | \$ | |



Link to [HEAL INFO FLIPBOOK](#)

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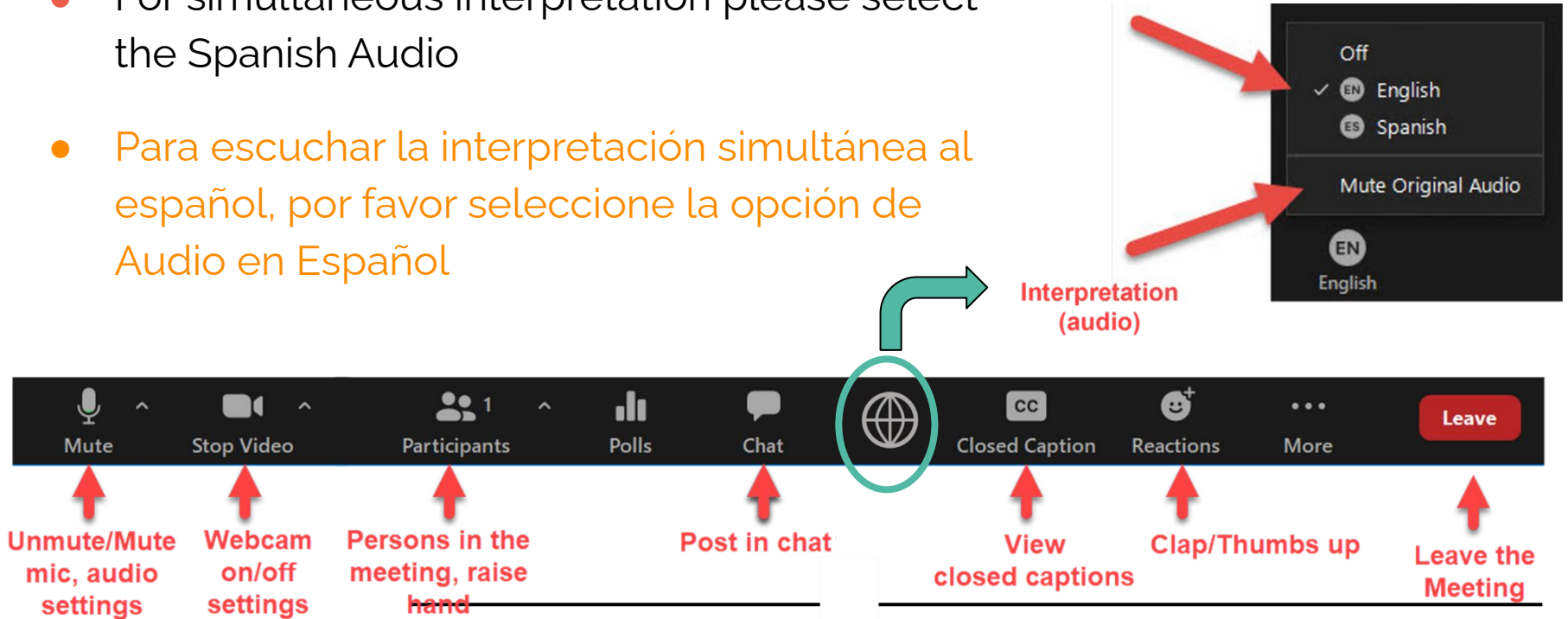


Capacity Grants - Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act

As a collaboration with the Washington Department of Health, these capacity grants are made possible due to the vision and voices of communities leading and allies coming together to support, and collectively recognize that another world is possible by reimagining a healthy environment for all.

Welcome / Bienvenid@s

- For simultaneous interpretation please select the Spanish Audio
- Para escuchar la interpretación simultánea al español, por favor seleccione la opción de Audio en Español



The image shows a meeting control bar at the bottom with various icons and labels. A red arrow points from the 'Interpretation (audio)' label to the language menu. The menu shows 'Off', 'English' (checked), and 'Spanish'. Another red arrow points from the 'Interpretation (audio)' label to the 'Mute Original Audio' option. A green arrow points from the globe icon in the control bar to the language menu.

Interpretation (audio)

Off
✓ EN English
ES Spanish
Mute Original Audio
EN English

Mute Stop Video Participants Polls Chat **Interpretation (audio)** Closed Caption Reactions More Leave

Unmute/Mute mic, audio settings Webcam on/off settings Persons in the meeting, raise hand Post in chat View closed captions Clap/Thumbs up Leave the Meeting

The Change We Want to See in the World

Environmental health disparities are on path towards elimination. Race and income are not a determinant in a community's health.



*“The Healthy Environment or All (HEAL) Act was passed in 2021 to reduce environmental and health disparities and improve the health of all people in Washington state. **This HEAL community capacity grant program focuses on building climate resilience and enhancing community-led decision making to advance environmental justice (EJ).** This funding equips communities most impacted by environmental hazards with necessary resources needed to collaborate with state agencies on environmental health decisions.”*

These HEAL Capacity Grants are intended to support community organizations whose capacity building efforts are aligned with, and will advance the goals of the Healthy Environment for All Act.

ELIGIBILITY

Nonprofit, 501 (c) 3 community based organizations (fiscally sponsored are ok) throughout Washington State who work with overburdened and vulnerable communities are encouraged to apply for these unique capacity grants. Depending upon your capacity needs and how they align with the goals of the new environmental justice policy, the Healthy Environment for All Act, **organizations have the chance to apply for grants ranging between \$5,000 and \$100,000.**

APPLICATION

Applications open between October 23 30, 2024 and will be accepted on a rolling basis.

DISTRIBUTION

Grant decisions will be made and funds to be distributed in two grant cycles, between November/December 2024 and March/April 2025.

Who is the Frontline Funding Collaborative?

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Who is the Frontline Funding Collaborative?

Frontline Funding Collaborative expertise in community capacity building includes a variety of services from policy advocacy, education, culture/heritage/language access and preservation, intergenerational leadership, to food sovereignty, food justice, to repatriation of land and eco stewardship efforts.

This HEAL Capacity Grant program is the most unique example of how the Frontline Funding Collaborative aims to support frontline communities by resourcing frontline community needs and amplifying frontline community solutions to climate change and environmental health disparities.

Examples of eligible activities include

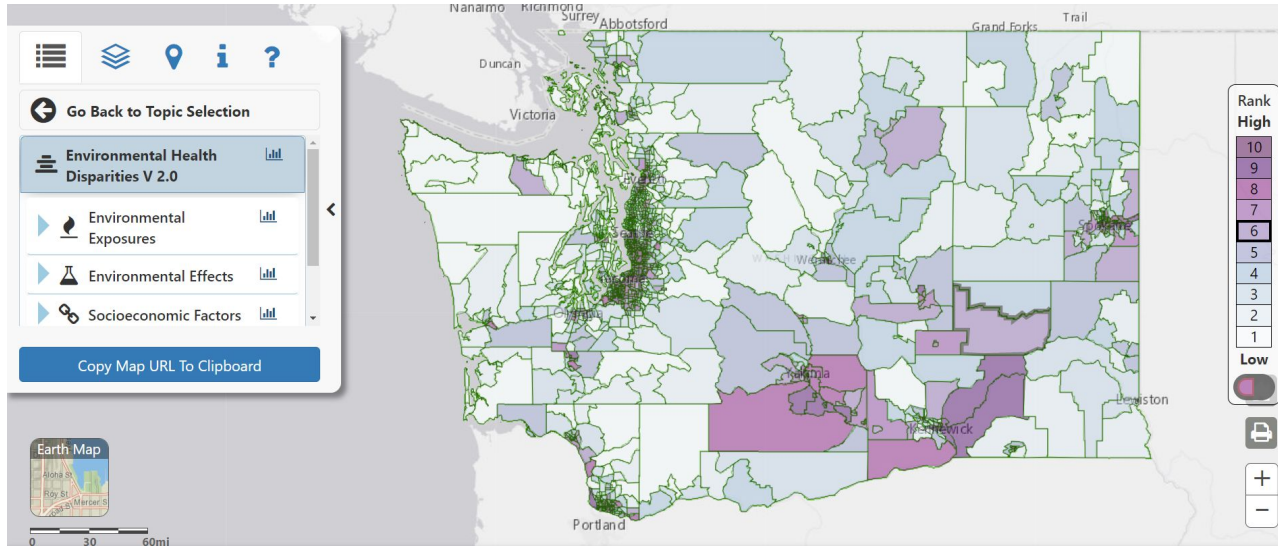
We know there are many types of Capacity Projects, here are a variety of examples to get you thinking about why your project fits!

- **Build organizational capacity.** Includes projects related to education, technical assistance, administration, and other work to increase community groups' capacity to engage in environmental justice activities in alignment with the HEAL Act goals.
- **Conduct research, analysis, and advocacy.** Includes efforts to improve climate and environmental justice policies, plans, and projects led by agencies and organizations at the local, state and federal levels.
- **Plan projects and services.** Includes a diversity of efforts to develop specific community-led projects and services. Examples include but are not limited to feasibility studies, cost/benefit analysis, and project proposal development.

***Applicants may submit applications for more than one project. One application is required for each project.**

Imp't Background

Environmental Health Disparities (EHD) Map



The map shows pollution measures such as diesel emissions and ozone, as well as proximity to hazardous waste sites. In addition, it displays measures like poverty and cardiovascular disease.

<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wtnibl/WTNIBL/Map/EHD>

Environmental Health Disparities Map with Stories....



HEAL ACT Goals



- Incorporate EJ into agency decision-making processes
 - Improve government accountability to communities, and create an Environmental Justice Council to help facilitate this
 - Create consistent & accessible pathways for community to be meaningfully involved in government decision making processes
-

Covered Agencies



****Other state agencies are able to opt-in****

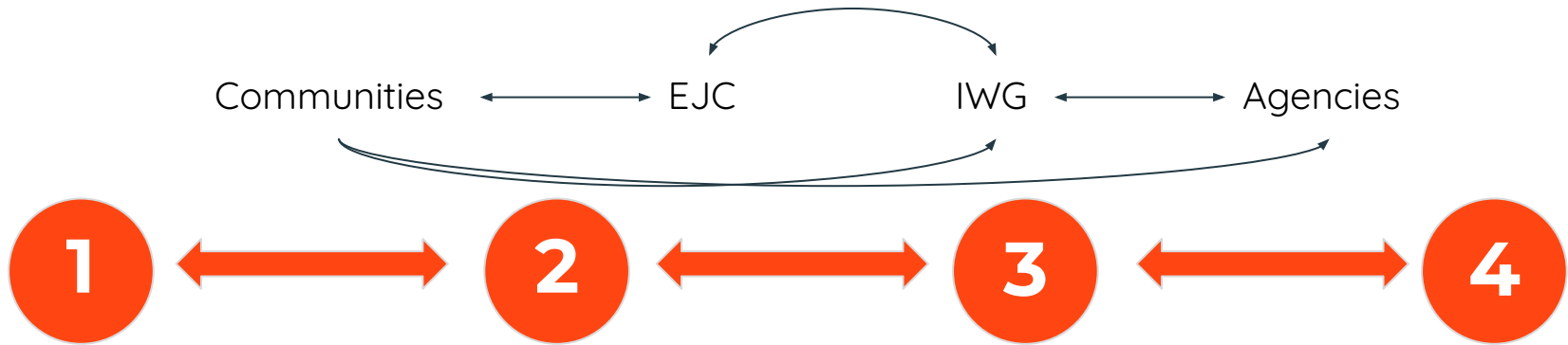
EJ Obligations for Agencies



- Incorporate EJ into agency planning documents (e.g. strategic plans)
 - Create a plan for equitable community engagement & public participation
 - Incorporate EJ principles into budget & funding decisions
 - Require Environmental Justice Assessments (EJAs) on Significant Actions, including rulemaking, request legislation, capital projects, and investments
-

HEAL Act Implementation Process

Government accountability to communities through consistent & transparent communication while demonstrating progress toward EJ in state government



EJC & IWG meet

EJC & IWG collaborate to develop guidance to agencies

IWG &/or EJC agency reps bring guidance back to agencies for implementation

Agencies implement HEAL obligations

EJC & IWG work in an "iterative fashion" to implement all HEAL obligations by June 30, 2025

Agencies may work with the EJC & IWG to expand scope after 2025



Community Involvement

Front and Centered

Applications are now being accepted online through JustFund on a rolling basis and grant decisions and distributions of funds will be between November/December 2024 and March/April 2025.

PARTNERSHIP GRANTS \$40,000-\$100,000

CONNECTION GRANTS \$5,000-\$35,000

Checkout More Frontline Funding Collaborative Funding Opportunities

Grant amounts ranging between \$1,000 - \$25,000

- Asia Pacific Islander Cultural Center
 - Latino Community Fund
 - Na ah Ilahee Fund - Also offering \$50,000 Green Infrastructure Projects
 - WA State Coalition of African Community Leaders
-

How to Apply

ELIGIBILITY

Non-profits which are 501 (c) 3 organizations (fiscally sponsored organizations are OK) committed to advancing environmental justice, in alignment with the goals of the Healthy Environment for All Act within underserved communities located in the state of Washington.

Applicants must serve communities who are overburdened, vulnerable populations, and people disproportionately impacted environmental hazards and climate change.

These capacity grants are intended to reach frontline communities which include (but are not limited to) Native Nations, Urban Natives, Black and BIPOC communities, Rural communities, Youth, Low income, Unhoused, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+, and other communities most vulnerable to climate impacts.

Questions? Ping healfund@frontandcentered.org

How to Apply

Apply and check out how the Frontline Funding Collaborative of five different organizations offer **five different grant application pathways** via the common grant portal, www.justfund.us - register (free) on the website, search HEAL Capacity Grants.

Example QUESTIONS - It is as easy as 1-2-3!

Applicants will submit their project ideas by answering three preliminary questions on the JustFund portal:

- **Describe your capacity project.**
- **How does your project advance the goals of the Healthy Environment for All, especially for overburdened communities?**
- **Who in your community will directly benefit from this project and how are/will they be involved in it?**

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How to Apply - Toolkit

The **HEAL Capacity Grant Toolkit is available** and includes an example of a **budget template, an example of a grant application, and a summary of what the HEAL policy** is about to help you better understand, plan, and connect your project with the environmental justice policy.

A diverse community review committee will use the following criteria to select projects to move to the Project Refinement and Grant Contracting phase:

- Alignment with grant program goals (HEAL Act goals)
- Community involvement and leadership
- Feasibility
- Innovation and/or benefit to overburdened and vulnerable community you serve

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Thank you!

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