



To: HCBF Board of Directors  
 From: HCBF Staff & Community Benefit Round 7 Ad Hoc Committee  
 Date: Friday, September 25th, 2020  
 Subject: Staff Funding Recommendations for Round 7 of Community Benefit Grant Program

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**BACKGROUND**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, HCBF released the Request for Letters of Interest for Round 7 of its Community Benefit Grant Program, with up to \$250,000 in available funding. To accommodate the challenges facing local organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic, the deadline to submit Letters of Interest was extended to May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Staff received 37 Letters of Interest from 36 organizations. Following a review of all LOIs by HCBF Staff and a Board ad hoc committee, which included Gisele Fong and Gabriela Medina, 15 of the 37 applicants were invited to submit a full application in response to the RFP. Fourteen of the 15 invited applicants submitted a full application with a total requested amount of \$881,082. Staff have followed up with the organization that chose not to submit a full application in this round.

Staff reviewed the submitted project description, workplan, budget, and qualifications, and assessed the applications based on completeness, relevance to port nexus, capacity, potential community benefit, feasibility, and other factors. The committee reviewed all submissions and Staff’s recommendations and agrees with the recommendations made here.

**ROUND 7 APPLICATIONS**

For the RFP phase, HCBF received applications from the following organizations (in alphabetical order):

<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>
American Cancer Society	\$25,981
BREATHE California of Los Angeles County (BREATHE LA)	\$46,750
Los Angeles Harbor College Foundation	\$50,000
Los Angeles Walks	\$75,000
Marine Mammal Care Center- Los Angeles	\$20,000
Memorial Medical Center Foundation	\$60,000
Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy	\$50,225
Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation	\$50,000
Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro	\$46,756
Share fest Community Development, Inc.	\$40,000
SmartAirLA	\$125,000
South Bay Center for Counseling (SBCC), Thrive LA	\$107,201
St. Mary Medical Center Foundation	\$150,000
Wilmington Community Clinic	\$34,169
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	<b>\$881,082</b>

**FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff recommends funding the following applicants in Round 7 of the Community Benefit Grant Program (in alphabetical order), for a total of \$209,169. The remaining \$40,831 available for Round 7 may be allocated to the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program (HHCI).

<b>Organizations</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>Recommended Amount</b>
Los Angeles Walks	\$75,000	\$75,000
Wilmington Community Clinic	\$34,169	\$34,169
South Bay Center for Counseling (SBCC)	\$107,201	\$60,000
Sharefest Community Development, Inc.	\$40,000	\$40,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$256,370</b>	<b>\$209,169</b>

**Applicant:** Los Angeles Walks  
**Requested Funding:** \$75,000  
**Recommended Funding:** \$75,000  
**Focus Area:** Land & Community Safety; Education

**Purpose:** Partnering with Best Start Wilmington to develop promotora program to train community members to become educators on built environment and safe streets, and access City resources.

**Justification:** The Safe Streets Community Promotora Education Program will train promotoras to educate residents on the development of Wilmington as a port community, and educate residents on strategies and partnerships to secure safe street infrastructure that slow traffic and address the issue of port-related truck traffic from going through their neighborhoods to improve local air quality and to make their communities quieter and safer for pedestrians and non-vehicular users. Promotora training has been an effective tool in public health education.

**Applicant:** Sharefest Community Development  
**Requested Funding:** \$40,000  
**Recommended Funding:** \$40,000  
**Focus Area:** Education

**Purpose:** Port-focused Service-Learning course engaging youth from continuation high school

**Justification:** This port-focused service learning course will engage local continuation high school students and introduce them to the issues related to the Port area and teach them skills on how to plan and implement their own service projects to address the challenges facing the Port area. Students will also have the opportunity to hear from local organizations that are working to mitigate port-related impacts in the community, Proposed service projects include tree-planting and landscaping The planting of mature trees will aid in capturing CO<sub>2</sub> and other pollutants from stationary and mobile port and port-related sources thereby mitigating the Port’s impacts on air quality.

**Applicant:** South Bay Center for Counseling - Reclaiming Greenspace Project

**Requested Funding:** \$107,201

**Recommended Funding:** \$60,000

**Focus Area:** Access to Community & Natural Resources; Community Health & Education; Air Quality

**Purpose:** Conversion of vacant lot to community farm through I Heart Wilmington. Secured 5-year lease of the lot through CD15

**Justification:** SBCC has secured a 5-year lease through CD-15 to convert a vacant lot to a community farm resource that will give residents access to healthy produce, grow plants that reduce air pollutants, and engage and educate the community around health promoting activities. Small urban green spaces and trees have been found to reduce air pollutants (ozone, SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, and particulate matter) and improve air quality in local sites. Due to the high cost, Staff is recommending for \$60,000, which is feasible for SBCC given additional funds available to cover salaries of part-time staff.

**Applicant:** Wilmington Community Clinic

**Requested Funding:** \$34,169

**Recommended Funding:** \$34,169

**Focus Area:** Air Quality; Community Health & Education

**Purpose:** Personnel support to operate asthma program (allergist, social worker, case manager) at WCC which conducts screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

**Justification:** Funds will provide support for WCC's ongoing asthma management program, which will provide treatment to those who suffer from asthma due to air pollution like those generated by the Port and port-related operations.

## **NOT RECOMMENDED FOR COMMUNITY BENEFIT ROUND 7 FUNDING**

Staff also present the applications which are not recommended for funding within this cycle. It is important to note that the application not moving forward is not a reflection of the quality of the proposal and the work of the organization but more about HCBF's priorities given the submitted applications and limited amount of remaining funds.

Given the limited amount of funding available for this round of the Community Benefit Grant Program, Staff and the ad hoc committee also considered whether some proposals would be a better fit with the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program. Staff made this assessment based on alignment with the HHCI priority areas and how the project will be leveraging matched funds and/or partnerships. In the section below, Staff have highlighted some proposals that may be eligible to apply for funding through the HHCI program, however, these recommendations do not restrict other organizations from submitting their proposals.

**Applicant:** American Cancer Society

**Requested Funding:** \$25,981

**Proposed Project:** Youth school-based education/activity intervention to reduce cancer risk. ACS Staff will present this information and training via webinars, video chats, small group gatherings, and other educational materials.

**Justification:** Well-qualified to do education and community outreach on cancer preventative care and early detection education. HCBF has not funded this impact area. However, due to the limited remaining funds and based on the applications submitted, HCBF would like to focus resources on organizations with history in, and connections with, the local community.

**Applicant:** BREATHE California of Los Angeles County (BREATHE LA)

**Requested Funding:** \$46,750

**Proposed Project:** BREATHE LA proposed to work with IQAir to install small air sensors at 10 community centers to collect air quality data which will be available real-time. BREATHE LA's health educators will also work with community center staff to engage participants to be involved in air quality awareness initiatives.

**Justification:** BREATHE LA is well-qualified to implement the proposed project however given HCBF's priorities and limited remaining funds, there were concerns about spending this amount on air sensors and whether these sensors would fully capture emissions from the port and port-related operations. Community knows that air quality is poor, but we need to think about how to mitigate these issues in the community.

**Applicant:** Los Angeles Harbor College Foundation

**Requested Funding:** \$50,000

**Proposed Project:** Incorporate student-led community health outreach within STEM STEP program and train Public Health Ambassadors. These Public Health ambassadors will create training modules focused on various Port-related community impacts.

**Justification:** Overlaps education and public health by creating a port impact-focused public health STEM curriculum. Established Public Health Association and did a similar program virtually over the summer. Students who will be Public Health Ambassadors are from the local community and will be involved in the virtual health fair and developing educational resources. This was a strong application but may be better suited for the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program, given limited funds.

**Applicant:** Marine Mammal Care Center

**Requested Funding:** \$20,000

**Proposed Project:** Treating sick and injured marine mammals from LAC, including POLA and greater SP Bay area.

**Justification:** HCBF has funded this program previously and the organization does great work. However, this program was not recommended for funding given HCBF's priorities for this round and limited remaining funds. This application could have been strengthened with greater emphasis on how program is engaging with partners and a stronger port nexus

**Applicant:** Memorial Medical Center Foundation/LBACA

**Requested Funding:** \$60,000

**Proposed Project:** Continuation of LBACA's Asthma Intervention program and will integrate COVID-19 recommendations for asthma patients.

**Justification:** This is a strong program and they do great work in the community and are well connected. Their in-home visitation has been modified to follow COVID-19 safety measures. This was a strong application but may be better suited for the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program, given limited funds.

**Applicant:** Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy

**Requested Funding:** \$50,000

**Proposed Project:** Goat rentals to reduce non-native grass cover in project area using sustainable practice to plant native vegetation, improve grassland productively and provide natural fertilizer without contributing to emissions.

**Justification:** HCBF has previously funded PVPLC and the organization has a strong program and youth education/volunteer engagement that focuses on activities related to habitat restoration and land preservation. However due to HCBF's priorities given the other submitted applications and remaining funds, this project would not be a good fit for this round of funding.

**Applicant:** Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation (Crosswalk)

**Requested Funding:** \$50,000

**Proposed Project:** Decorative crosswalk project at the intersection of Figueroa St. and L Street to promote safe streets for users.

**Justification:** While this proposal addresses community safety priority using a strong collaborative community-driven approach, we did not consider this the best use of limited HCBF funds currently. This project may be better suited for the City.

**Applicant:** St. Mary Medical Center Foundation

**Requested Funding:** \$150,000

**Proposed Project:** Mobile Care Unit which provides respiratory health screenings, education, and virtual home visits to medically underserved communities in W and SP.

**Justification:** It is a great program that HCBF has previously funded. Given the high cost, funding this through CB will limit what other programs we can fund. Project has been scaled. This was a strong application but is better suited for the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program, given limited funds.

**Applicant:** Providence Little Company of Mary Medical Center – San Pedro

**Requested Funding:** \$46,756

**Proposed Project:** Medical devices to serve COPD patients to reduce hospitalization and readmission.

**Justification:** Eligible activity that meets CBR7 criteria but not the best use of HCBF funds for this cycle.

**Applicant:** SmartAirLA

**Requested Funding:** \$125,000 (over 2 years)

**Proposed Project:** In partnerships with area hospital and community health clinics, provide real-time asthma alerts for patients to help actively manage respiratory health and reduce ER visits. The amount requested is for 2 years of the project. Year 1 (\$75,000) would focus on hospitals and clinics in the area, then Year 2 (\$50,000) would focus expanding partnerships and service community clinics, schools, and other organizations that work with those with asthma.

**Justification:** This was a strong application but is better suited for the Healthy Harbor Communities Initiative Grant Program, given limited funds.