CARE Together Fund
2026 Impact Report

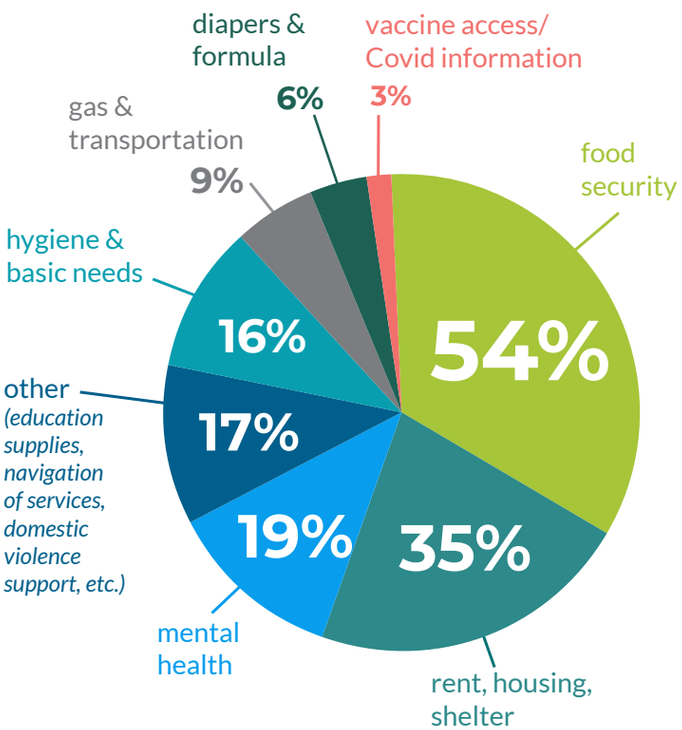
Photo courtesy of Angolan Community in WA

TOGETHER FOR SOUTH KING COUNTY

Compared to other areas in King County, South King County experiences the greatest disparities in economic and health vitality. Recent changes in federal policies are intensifying these challenges. RRCF's CARE Together Fund helps to address these challenges by offering nimble funding to small, primarily Black and Brown serving and immigrant led and serving organizations in our region who are closest to the ground and are best poised to provide solutions.

WHERE YOUR DOLLARS WENT TO WORK

RRCF has granted nearly $1.7 million to 133 unduplicated organizations (375 grants) through the CARE Together Fund since 2020. Most of the organizations operate with budgets below $1 million – many have budgets that are $200K or less - and most are led by and support Black and Brown communities. All are focused on South King County. Much of the funding RRCF has provided has addressed the greatest needs identified in our annual Nonprofit Survey Report. Additionally, much of the food, housing, and mental health support comes from small, immigrant led and serving organizations.



Note: This chart adds up to more than 100% because 38% of our grants went to support multiple issues. For example, an organization would often provide food help along with rental assistance, etc.

This illustrates the power of our local nonprofit ecosystem: they are responding to multiple needs because that is the reality of people's lives.

COMMUNITY ISSUES

The following represents just a snapshot of community issues facing South King County.

NEED EXCEEDS RESOURCES

Our 2025 Nonprofit Survey Report once again shows that 62% of the nonprofits struggle to meet the demand of their communities. Decreased public funding and continual inequities have hindered their ability to adequately respond to the need. Food access, shelter, transportation, medical and mental health needs are still grave challenges facing residents.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health issues often are the "silent need" of a community, for reasons such as shame in acknowledging that one needs help. We have noticed an upsurge in requests for mental health support, particularly for youth in our region. **Mental health requests – and therefore our support – have increased ten-fold since 2022.**

UNCERTAINTY AND FEAR AMONG IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Many of King County's immigrant and refugee residents live and work in South King County. As aggressive attacks on these communities have surged across the country and locally, many of our neighbors are feeling unsafe, disrupted from their daily lives, and traumatized by targeted violence. Pervasive fear has prompted folks not to leave their homes, go to the grocery store, seek necessary health care, or open their businesses. As a result, there is even more demand for culturally relevant food, housing assistance, know your rights education, and mental health support as they navigate a new culture and uncertainty. Our CARE Together Fund has supported several organizations working with this population and will continue to do so, but they need large-scale support.

COMPLEXITY

Needs are intertwined and lead to entrenched challenges, especially for children. More and deeper wraparound services are needed, as are policies and broad-based initiatives that address multiple needs at once.

NONPROFIT ISSUES

- **COSTS** for nonprofits continue to increase (cost of living increases for staff, program costs, food costs to provide for their communities, etc.)
- **FUNDING,** both from private and public sources has decreased. Organizations have lost federal funding due to the Trump administration's activities, including funding owed to them for work already completed.
- **STAFFING** – finding and retaining qualified team members is a universal and ongoing challenge.
- **FATIGUE AND BURNOUT** are real, due to staffing needs and the challenges of facing uncertainty, injustice, despair, and people in crisis every day.
- **FLEXIBLE, MULTI-YEAR FUNDING** and general operating support are critical.
- **DONOR ENGAGEMENT** is appreciated and desired to increase trust and understanding of issues.

WHAT'S NEXT

PARTNERING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

We continue to witness an extraordinary commitment from South King County nonprofits to support their community members through extremely challenging times. We will continue to stand with them, and are committed to:

- **Distributing more funds for greater support and results**
- **Amplifying community voices**
- **Fostering connections and engagement**

Please join us!

Renton Regional Community Foundation

Visit us at rentonfoundation.org, or 425-282-5199