

2018 OICF GRANT APPLICATION

ORCAS SENIOR CENTER – BRING US UP-TO-DATE!

PROJECT/PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Lack of computer skills for elders can be as isolating as loss of sight, hearing or speech. OICF award funds will help seniors gain and maintain technical skills they need to remain connected and relevant in today's computer-dependent world.

Orcas Senior Center (OSC) will provide elders access to technology equipment (via implementation of weekly computer labs and loaner equipment), and learning including:

- 1) Workshops teaching device utilization, accessing services online
- 2) Access to telemedicine, technological interventions
- 3) A stipend will be offered to participants for individual consultations

As a secondary goal, the OSC will enhance its infrastructure by updating internal data storage, organization, and systems to increase our efficiency and accuracy as well as produce reports. A grant funded contractor will build a database to consolidate information in a protected system in which data is secure and easily accessible to staff.

This grant cycle will take place May 2018 – June 2019.

NEED/PROBLEM STATEMENT

Access and increased technical ability improves socialization by providing new avenues of communication, remote service provider access, and decreases healthcare costs. The majority of older adults want to continue living independently; technologies enable them to stay in their own home longer.¹

Over 50% of Orcas Island will be over age 60 by 2020. Based on the Aging on Orcas survey conducted in 2017, residents expressed a desire for technological courses and training. Seniors tend to remain in their home in remote regions and travel for regular medical visits is difficult with limited mobility and transportation. To provide independent living for seniors and maintain their health, we need to develop various technologies to assist seniors in their daily life.¹

Technology advancements build an effective and vibrant team and work ethic.² Increased technological efficiency and data management within OSC infrastructure will support information integrity, accuracy, and data security.

¹ Source: *Investigating the Effectiveness of Technologies Applied to Assist Seniors*

² Source: *How Technology is Making Our Work Lives More Efficient and Connected*

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- 1) **Increased socialization** with family, peers, and general public and enhanced quality of life through basic to advanced technology use gained in workshops and courses for access to online platforms, device-specific consultations, navigation to services, and direct access to an on-island consultant for independent needs. Outcomes will be based on entry and completion feedback forms as well as participant testimonials.
- 2) **Reduction of Healthcare Costs** on the basis of specified workshops, participant feedback entry and completion forms. Outcomes will also be based on cost saving analysis.
- 3) **Access to wearable and/or sensory devices** (Personal Emergency Response Systems, sensory devices for fall prevention¹). Investigate the use of various on-island services in an effort to establish and connect islanders with the most optimal and cost efficient services.
- 4) **Time allocation and cost reduction analysis** as a result of infrastructure database and system enhancements.

COST/BUDGET

<u>Tech Equipment for Lab and Workshops</u>		\$8,000
3-5 Laptops		
2-3 iPads		
1-2 Printers with Supplies		
Instructor Fees and Workshop Supplies		
Power Cords and Surge Protectors		
<u>Tech Consultant:</u>		\$10,500
Offer up to \$150 per member (to serve at least 50 people)	(\$7,500)	
Consultant review and recommendations for IT systems	(\$500)	
Build combined database	(\$2,500)	
<u>Staff (and/or Board Workgroup) Time:</u>		\$1,000
Create, Publicize and Schedule Programs and Labs		
Retain workshop instructors/consultants		
Build feedback tool, collect and compile data		
Create, print, distribute and collect materials and mailings and online media		
Collate all data streams and prepare a final report		
<u>Materials and Advertising</u>		\$500
Print Materials, Posters, Ads		
Paid Press and Online Marketing		

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NOTE: The Orcas Senior Center Nonprofit Board (“Operations Committee”) will establish a workgroup from the Programing and Communications Committees to support this initiative, additionally in effort to reduce staff time allocated.

Describe your plans to maintain the project after the funding period.

Programing and workshops utilizing equipment and supplies from initial funding will be integrated into ongoing programing and offerings through the Senior Center.

Describe what other funding is being sought or has been received for this project.

No other funding has been sought or received to support this project.

Is your request for operating expenses? Yes/No

PROJECT APPROVAL

Has this organization’s governing board approved this project? Check one: Yes/No

Operations Committee (Board) Chair: Bonnie Burg, LICSW
360-376-6100, cell 612-210-1973.

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