



HealthierHere



Board & Community Forum

Hearing From Us – March 18, 2026

Welcome and Introductions

- Marguerite Ro, Board President

Land Acknowledgment

- Swee May Cripe, Board Member

Board & Community Forum

- This is our Second Biannual Board & Community Forum
- The inaugural Forum took place in September 2025 and the theme was Hearing from You.
- Today, the theme is Hearing from Us.
- We will continue to have this cyclical theme: every September, we will Hear from You, and every March, you will Hear from Us.
- Through these twice-yearly Forums, we strive to provide an opportunity for partners, community members, staff, and board members to gather in one place and connect with one another, share ideas, and see how feedback is used directly in the work of HealthierHere.

Hearing from You

- In September 2026, we Heard from You.
- We had a small but mighty group. This is what we heard:

~ **WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY’S RESILIENCE?** ~

Shared Vision, Collaboration & Community

- Convening leaders across health systems & communities
- Developing a shared vision/priorities, working across the aisle, collective action
- Creating community, social connections, sharing space

Joy, Celebration & Self-Care

- Supporting personal and staff resilience through rest, reflection, exercise, celebrating successes, protecting joy, social media breaks, etc.

Perseverance & Flexibility

- Goal is to persevere; will require digging deep and being in the discomfort
- Have to be flexible/nimble as individuals and in our organizations in order to stay resilient
- Being courageous

Duty & Generational Responsibility

- Sense of duty to others and a responsibility to future generations
- Be inspired by stories of others who have been of service (e.g., medal of honor recipients); out of a sense of duty to others
- Refugee/immigrant experience of sacrificing for the next generation, creating a new life
- Recognizing that it’s very hard to be a kid right now
- Leaving a legacy
- Curiosity mindset, imagining what is possible, what could emerge from these difficult times

Holistic Approach

- Social ecological model: personal, family, community, society at large
- Support and have goals at each of these levels

~ **CONNECTING THE TWO** ~

Everyone is equal & working together

Pain points are removed so that everyone can thrive & live a joyful life

Address all levels of Maslow’s hierarchy of needs
(not just the bottom/basic needs but also the middle/top e.g., social connections & self-actualization)

We build resilience as we dream big & create change

~ **IF YOU HAD A MAGIC WAND, WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?** ~

Health & Access to Healthcare

- Cures for cancer, dementia, other diseases; no sickness/illness
- Healthcare access for all (inc. access to providers, insurance, institutions, across all populations)
- Creating a health system vs. healthcare system
- Whole person care and wellness (physical, psychological, spiritual)
- Children can get the help easily/where they need it
- Unlimited health and happiness

Everyone is Safe & Valued

- Inalienable rights and right are celebrated
- Removing hate
- More compassion
- No crime
- Starting from a place of trust and assuming good intent

Free of Inequities

- Eliminating all inequities so people can lead their best lives
- No poverty
- Having a guaranteed home/economic security
- Eliminating money, creating a new system

Life Not Likes

- Reducing harmful impact of social media
- A society that fosters life & social connection over social media likes

Healing the Earth & Connected to Something Bigger

- Becoming a society that loves/heals the earth
- Mystical experiences that connect more people to something bigger

Hearing from Us

- Now, we would like for you to Hear from Us and learn how your input helped shape our work.

Today, you will learn updates on:

- The Collective Abundance Funding Opportunity
- The Food Assistance Investment Grants
- The User Group for Connect2 Technology

Collective Abundance Funding Opportunity

Social and Equity Wellness Fund

- Per Board approval in 2017: "This fund will be used to address social determinants of health to transform the healthcare delivery system such as non-traditional community-based partners."
- The board set aside a reserve of \$4.1M

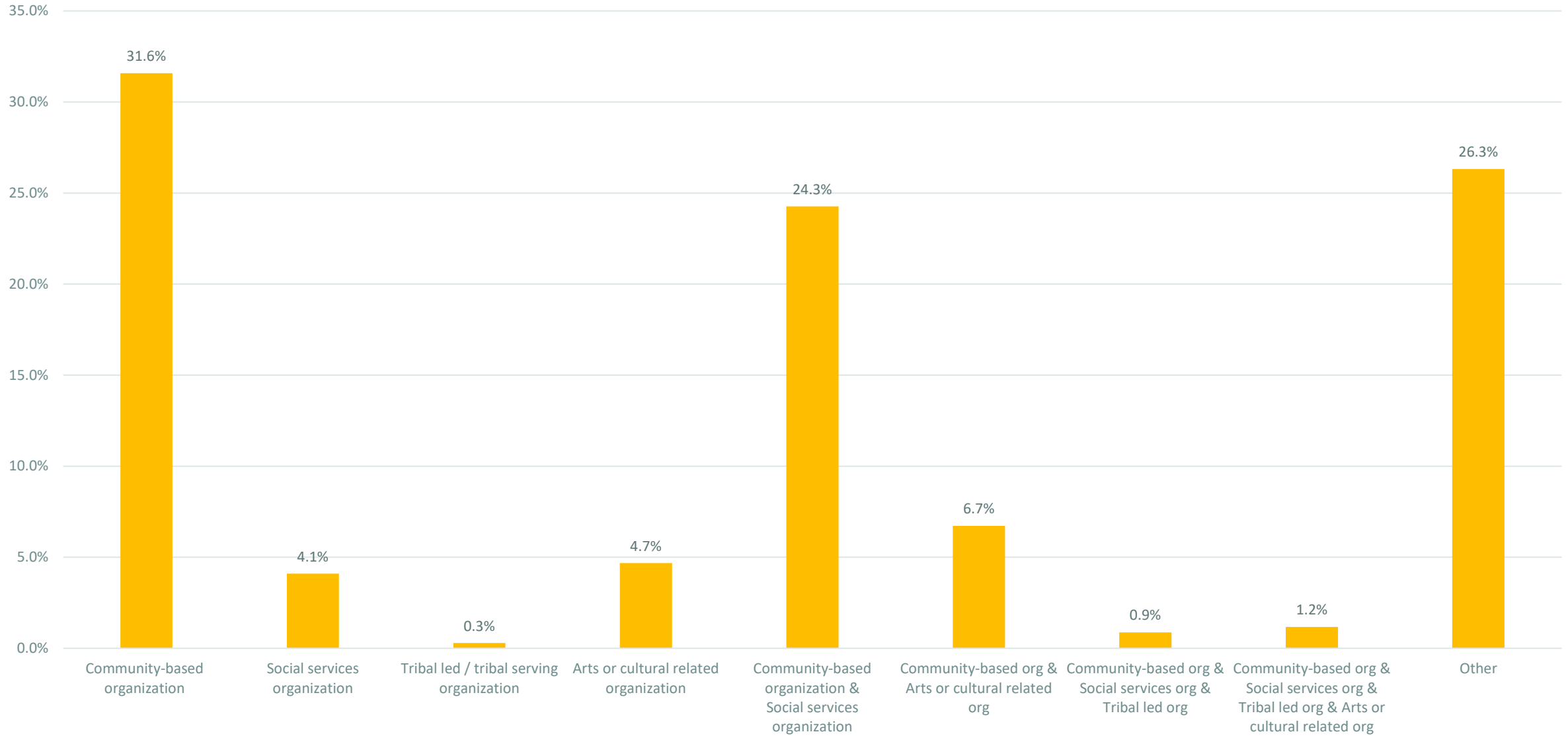
Collective Abundance Funding Overview

- Per approval of board, HealthierHere is awarding \$1.0 million of its Social Equity and Wellness Fund as a one-time investment in King County community-based organizations
- The objective is to help support organizations' core work in communities in King County and empower community members to maintain their work and presence in that community
- This is a high trust, low barrier funding: \$25k to \$50k/organization
- 342 Partner Organizations applied

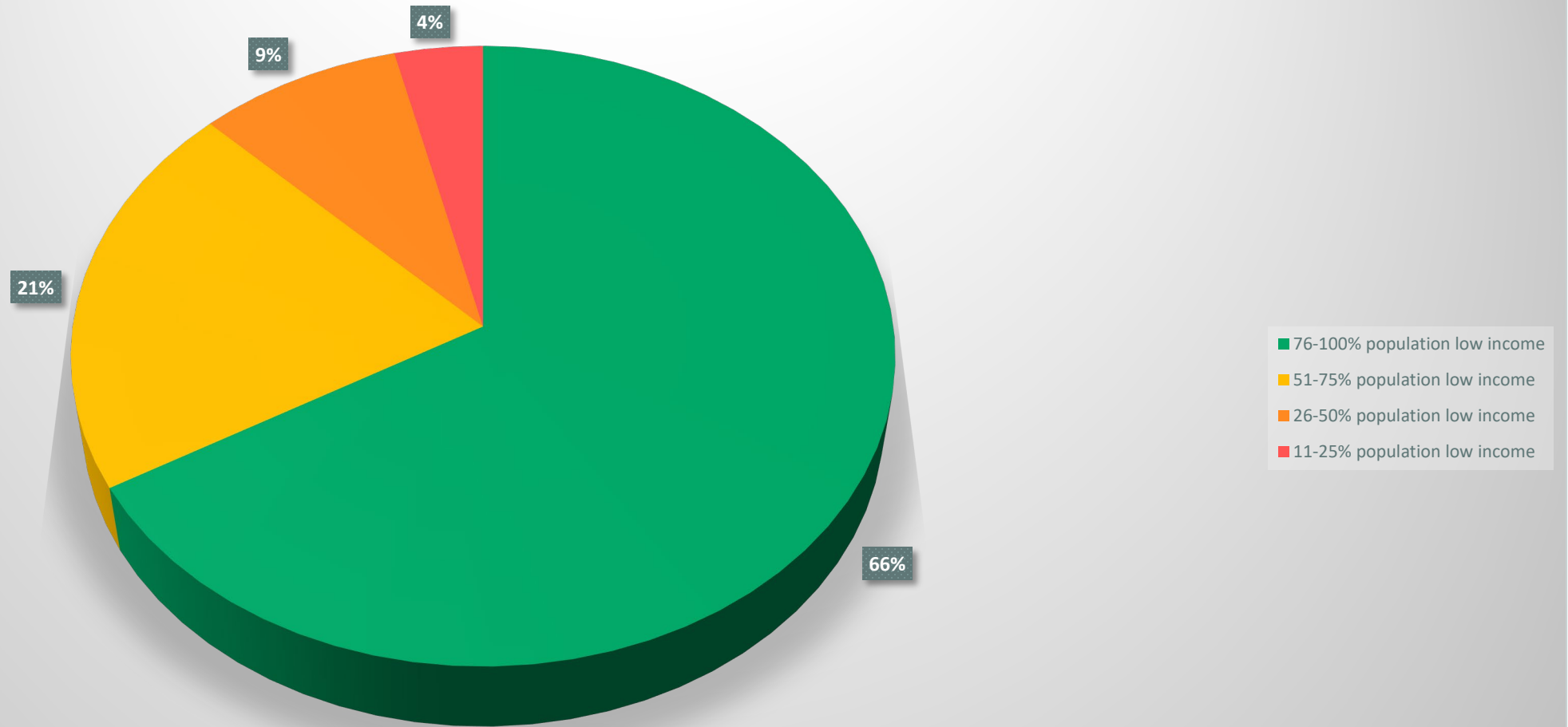
Reporting/Learning

- How funds were used and impacts on communities through stories, photos or other media
- Amplify community voices and impacts
- Learnings to inform future investments
- Create connections/engagement opportunities

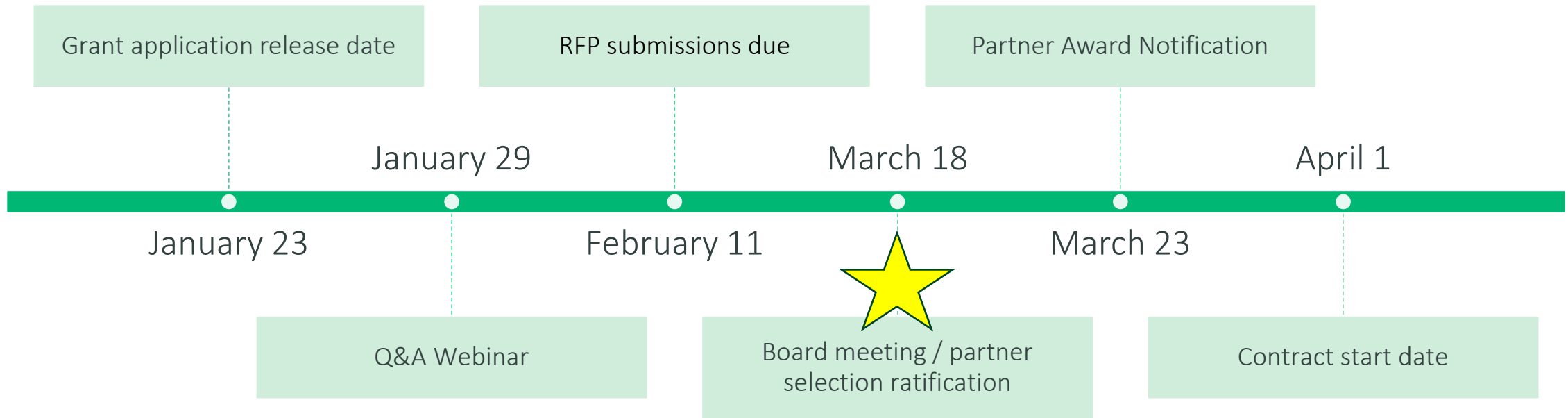
Organization by Type



Percentage of Organizations Serving Low Income



Timeline/Next Steps



Questions?

HealthierHere's Food Assistance Grants: Meeting the Moment

Meeting the Need with Food Assistance: Three Funds

- Round 1 Food Assistance
- Round 2 Food Assistance
- Food Security Infrastructure and Sustainability

About HealthierHere's Food Assistance Grants

- Provide immediate, short-term food relief and assistance to King County residents through direct services grants to food assistance providers to purchase and distribute food.
- **For purposes of this investment, food assistance providers are defined as** food pantries, food banks, mutual aid networks, and community food programs.
- HealthierHere is investing in King County food assistance providers to maintain or increase their capacity to serve individuals and families due to multiple factors including funding reductions and assistance eligibility changes, which are causing increased demand for food assistance in King County and nationwide.

Our Inspiration: H.R. 1 Impact on Food Assistance

- Changes to SNAP eligibility
- \$220M - \$420M – estimated additional annual cost to the state budget
- 131,000 people risk losing benefits if they fail to meet new requirements
- ~ 30,000 legal immigrants each month will lose SNAP, pushed to state food assistance
- 75,000+ households each year would see a reduction in monthly benefits

Our Inspiration: Impact of Changes and Impact on Community

- Groups most impacted by changes to eligibility guidelines
 - *Immigrants*
 - *Refugees*
 - *Asylees*
 - *Homeless*
 - *Parents with kids between 14-18*
 - *People between 54-64*
- Services impacted
 - *Entities who provide direct services, especially food, as the need increases*
 - *Entities who help provide navigation services as the system becomes more complex, with fewer supports and increasingly conflicting information.*

Timeline: 3 Rounds of Funding in 4 Months

Food Assistance Round 1

- RFP release date:
November 24, 2025
- Application due date:
December 8, 2025
- Fund release date:
December 17, 2025

Food Assistance Round 2

- RFP release date:
January 20, 2026
- Application due date:
February 11, 2026
- Fund release date:
March 16, 2026

Food Security Infrastructure

- RFP release date:
February 9, 2026
- Application due date:
March 10, 2026
- Fund release date:
April 6, 2026

Intentional Scoring and Selection: Food Assistance Grants

- Eligible organizations evaluated by multiple criteria including:
 - *Number of people served*
 - *Level of unmet need*
 - *Impact of federal and state budget cuts*
 - *Number of people that will be served with additional funds*
 - *If organizations offer culturally tailored food*

Round 1 Awardees

- 49 applications received, 12 organizations awarded funds
 - \$600,000 total distributed in amounts of \$25,000, \$150,000 or \$200,000
 - Round 1 awardees estimated serving **658,911** people in the funding period and distributing over **10 million** pounds of food!
- Food Lifeline
 - Solid Ground
 - Asian Counseling and Referral Service
 - Family Works
 - Hunger Intervention Program
 - Multi-Service Center
 - Pike Market Senior Center & Food Bank
 - Rainier Valley Food Bank
 - University District Food Bank
 - West Seattle Food Bank
 - White Center Food Bank
 - YMCA of Greater Seattle

Round 2 Awardees

- 51 applications received, 12 organizations awarded funds
 - \$600,000 total distributed in amounts of \$25,000, \$150,000 or \$200,000
 - Round 1 awardees estimated serving **796,969** people in the funding period and distributing around **10 million** pounds of food!
- Des Moines Area Food Bank
 - Family Works
 - Food Lifeline
 - Living Well Kent Collaborative
 - Lutheran Community Services Northwest
 - Maple Valley Food Bank
 - Multi-Service Center
 - Rainier Valley Food Bank
 - Solid Ground
 - Sound Generations
 - UTOPIA Washington
 - West Seattle Food Bank

Total Anticipated Impact of Food Assistance Grants

- Number of people served
 - Round 1: 658,911 individuals
 - Round 2: 796,969 individuals
 - TOTAL: **1,455,880 individuals**
- Pounds of food distributed
 - Round 1: 10,183,415 lbs.
 - Round 2: 9,729,834 lbs.
 - TOTAL: **19,913,249 lbs.**

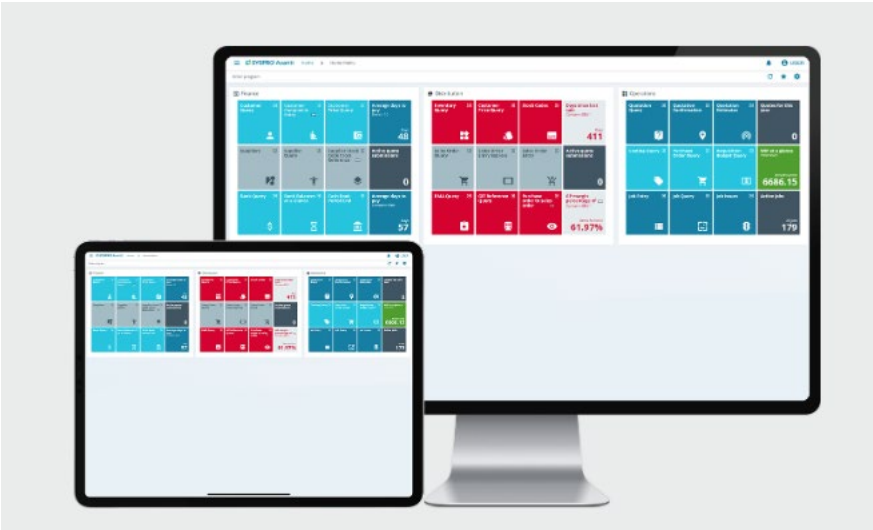
Further Direct Service Funding Opportunities

- Food Security Infrastructure and Sustainability Fund closed on 3/10 and is currently being scored
 - *15 applications received*
 - *HealthierHere intends to invest in King County food assistance providers to increase their capacity to serve individuals and families by improving and/or increasing their infrastructure.*
 - *Funds must be used to purchase, install, and / or improve essential food storage and distribution equipment, and /or make technology investments supporting food distribution.*
 - *The goal is help address long-term infrastructure and sustainability needs of food assistance providers serving King County residents.*

Allowable Uses of Funding: Meeting the Need



Fully Powered Stackers - 62" Lift



Questions?

Connect2 User Group

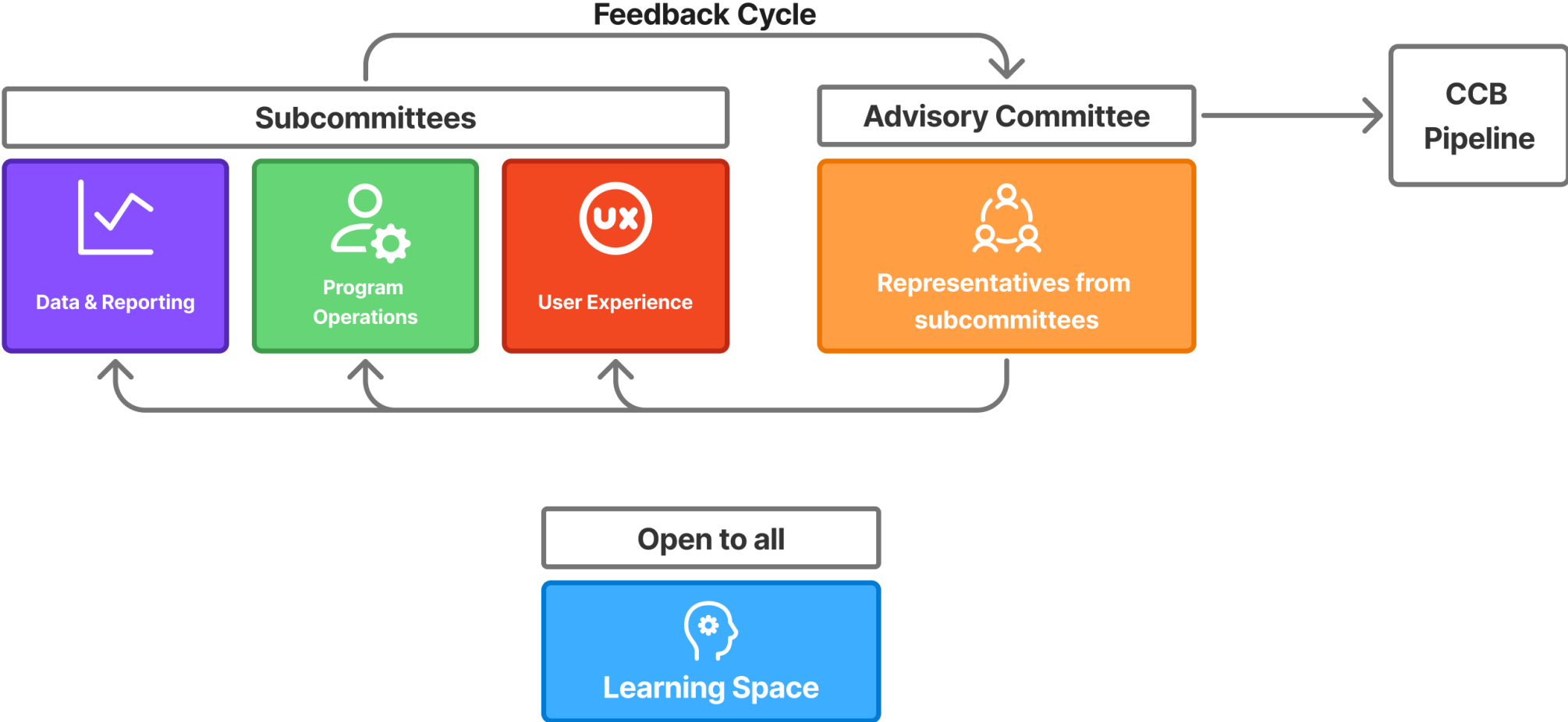
Connect2 (C2) User Group

- A representative body of Connect2 Customers
- Co-lead by both HealthierHere's C2 Technology Team and C2 Customer representatives
- Includes both a Learning Space and an Advisory Committee
- Learning & sharing is open to all C2 Customers and end users to collaborate, share best practices, ask questions, and experience demos of C2 quarterly feature releases and ad hoc enhancements
- The Advisory Committee serves as a pipeline into the C2 Change Control Board providing input related to new features, product enhancements, and the user experience
 - The Advisory Committee is made up of voting members selected for their participation based on their expertise
 - Contains 3 subcommittees
 1. Program Operations
 2. Data & Reporting
 3. User Experience

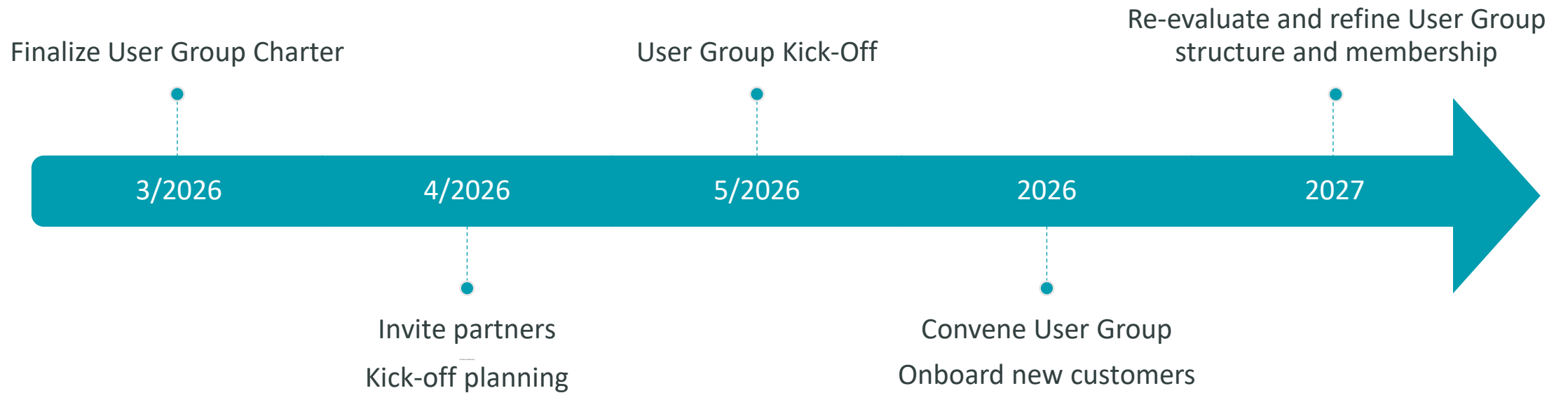
Objectives

- Enhance C2 User satisfaction by providing a forum for learning and collaboration
- Facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned among Users
- Streamline CCB inputs by elevating thoughtful recommendations and feedback to the C2 Technology Team regarding proposed changes, standard data models, workflows, user interfaces, and business needs
- Promote coordination of best practices and the adoption of new product features and enhancements

C2 User Group



Timeline



Questions?

Closing Remarks

- We look forward to continuing this “breathing in, breathing out” cycle of Hearing from You and Hearing from Us.
- The next Forum will be in September 2026, date TBD.
- Thank you for being an integral part of our community fabric.

Before you go...

- We hope you will continue conversation with one another if your schedule allows.
- With that said... we have the challenge today of finishing one meeting and getting ready for another in only a half hour (in the same room)!
- We would love for you to continue discussions on the 1st floor. Please take some coffee and food, and feel free to enjoy the comfort of our spacious 1st floor café.

