



BECU PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE AWARDS FACT SHEET

As part of its efforts to reinforce the member experience and the value of belonging to the credit union, BECU's Social Impact team is funding local organizations through the annual [People Helping People Awards](#).

This year, BECU received nearly 900 nominations from members for their favorite nonprofits in BECU's service areas. During the event, more than 30 organizations were honored for giving back to their communities and tackling a broad range of important issues such as education, equity, accessibility and inclusivity.

BECU's 2023 People Helping People Award recipients include:

- **Member Volunteer of the Year (\$50,000):** Nancy Harris was selected as Member Volunteer of the Year for her service, guidance and leadership at [OneWorld Now](#). This organization's mission is to develop the next generation of global leaders and envision a world where all young people have access to transformative international education.
- **People's Choice Award (\$40,000):** [Emma's Exceptional Equipment Exchange](#) was selected by popular vote from the community. The organization bridges the gap between what insurances cover and what individuals with disabilities need to comfortably and safely enjoy basic daily living.
- **Employees' Choice Award (\$30,000):** [Cares of Washington](#) won by popular vote from BECU employees. The nonprofit supports people with disabilities and low incomes to realize their purpose, potential, and strength, and connects clients to employment and basic needs resources.
- **Past Recipients' Choice Award (\$30,000):** [PFLAG Skagit](#) was selected by popular vote among past People Helping People Award recipients. The organization aims to support, advocate for and educate about the LGBTQIA+ community by providing an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity.
- **Community Benefit Awards (\$15,000):** [350 Seattle](#), [The Bridge Music Project](#), [Empower Youth Network](#), [For the People](#), [Generation Alive](#), [Jubilee Reach](#), [New Start Community Garden](#), [Northeast Youth Center](#), [Pongo Poetry Project](#), [Real Change](#), [Seattle Universal Math Museum](#), [Stanwood Camano Food Bank Services](#), [Unemployment Law Project](#), [Whatcom Center for Early Learning](#)
- **Black Community Development Project:** For its fourth year, BECU is awarding seven Black-led, member-nominated nonprofits with Nonprofit Capacity Building Grants. The following recipients will each receive \$21,427, for a total of nearly \$150,000:
 - Advancing Education: [Camp Read-a-Rama](#) and [Delta Psi Sigma Foundation](#)
 - Arts and Culture: [African-American Writers Alliance](#)
 - Preserving Health and Promoting Wellness: [Anefen Gives](#) and [Zia Larson Ray of Light Foundation](#)
 - Strengthening Communities: [Kitsap Black Student Union](#) and [Shades of Divinity](#)

Previous program recipients are encouraged to apply for People Helping People Collaboration Grants, which recognize a joint opportunity for two or more organizations to collaborate on a project.

The following five collaborations each received \$15,000 in Collaboration Grants this year:

- [Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest](#) (AIDNW) and [Tacoma Refugee Choir](#) will partner on projects that help immigrants in the community through collaborative events and service opportunities.
- [Bridge Disability Ministries](#) and [Northwest Access Fund](#) will work to provide accessible financial assistance and technology, fostering greater independence and quality of life for people with disabilities.

- [RECLAIM](#) (formerly University Beyond Bars) and [Yoga Behind Bars](#) will collaborate to ease the transition from incarceration to community life by empowering individuals to engage in healing and personal growth through embodiment practices.
- [Urban Artworks](#) and [Mini Mart City Park](#) will extend their Georgetown Mural Apprentice Program, engaging youth participants who face barriers seeking art, education, and employment opportunities.
- [White Center Food Bank](#) and [The Silent Task Force](#) will collaborate on the BIPOC Food Distribution Project, which focuses on increased access to healthy food within underserved and vulnerable communities.

In addition, all 2022 and 2023 award recipients will receive a glidepath grant of \$2,500 for the two years following their initial award (note that glidepath funding does not apply to Black Community Development Project or Collaboration Grant recipients). Since the program launched in 2013, BECU has donated more than \$4.1 million to over 145 local nonprofits.

Website: www.becu.org