



## A South Sound Microenterprise Initiative

June 10, 2018

City of Olympia  
ATTN: Keith Stahley  
P.O. Box 1967  
601 4th Ave E  
Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Keith,

Thank you for the opportunity to present this letter of request. For several years, Enterprise for Equity has received CDBG funds to provide microenterprise training, business technical assistance and microloans for people with low to moderate incomes in the City of Olympia. Over 60% of these participants have been people with very low incomes. Our work applies to several areas of the comprehensive plan but especially works to: "Support a safe and vibrant downtown with many small businesses, great public places, events, and activities from morning through evening." Enterprise for Equity plays a vital role by providing business training that sustains a pipeline of businesses that move on to receive technical support from our economic development partners as their businesses grow.

Enterprise for Equity assists artists, musicians, farmers, restaurateurs, mechanics, scientists, shellfish growers, dog boarders, etc. with their small businesses. Some of the companies Enterprise for Equity has helped to launch include: [OlyKraut](#), [Nineveh](#), [Gallery Boom](#), [Sophie's Scoops](#), [JKMosaic](#), [Eastside Urban Farm and Garden](#), and [New Day Midwifery](#) and many more! These local businesses are creating jobs, inspiring beauty through the arts and adding to the economic vitality of our community.

At the hearing on June 12th you will hear testimony and recommendations for several proposals to fund services under the CDBG program. **Our hope is that you consider Enterprise for Equity's request for \$20,000 for PY 2017-2018 and \$20,000 for PY 2018-2019 for a total of \$40,000 to support micro-entrepreneurs with limited incomes living or doing business in the City of Olympia.**

We believe Enterprise for Equity has provided valuable training, business technical assistance, and microloans to business owners in Olympia over the years and we would value the opportunity to partner with the City of Olympia today in the both the FY 2017-2018, and FY 2018-2019 funding cycles.

We appreciate the opportunity to present this request. Feel free to contact us at this email address anytime or by phone should you have questions (360) 704-3375.

Sincerely,

Lisa Smith  
Executive Director  
Enterprise for Equity