

## Update shared by Richfield Mayor Maria Regan Gonzalez on April 20, 2010

My **contact info**: Cell # to share with constituents/community- 612-500-3862, City email- [mregan@richfieldmn.gov](mailto:mregan@richfieldmn.gov), Blue Cross email- [maria.regan@bluecrossmn.com](mailto:maria.regan@bluecrossmn.com)

**Rent and Small business assistance**-Cities are taking votes right now on their assistance or recently have voted on them. Most cities don't have the capacity or infrastructure to administer the rent assistance themselves so they are doing so via local non-profits that already do emergency rent assistance in their communities.

- a. **Richfield**: \$100k for rent assistance, \$150k for small business assistance (0% interest, 50% forgivable in 2020, 50% in 2021)
- b. **SLP**: \$168k for rent assistance (via non-profit STEP, St. Louis Park Emergency Program) and \$200k for small business, open to all (SLP Community Development staff)
- c. **Minnetonka**: \$225k for small business, vote on \$175K for rent assistance tonight, open to all residents regardless of immigration status
- d. **Brookly Center**: Currently working on both rent assistance and SBA that undocumented folks are eligible for, I don't have more info sorry!
- e. **Bloomington**: \$200k in rent assistance to VEAP, unsure about SBA assistance \$.
- f. **Edina**: \$100k for rent assistance via VEAP, HRA \$100 SBA forgivable loans

**VEAP**: Non-profit serving Minneapolis (only South of 50<sup>th</sup> and west of Cedar Ave) Richfield, Bloomington, Edina. Rent, food assistance and social services.

Job posting-<https://veap.org/veap-is-hiring-join-our-team/>

Job description

TYPE: Temporary Part-Time (30 hours per week, at least 6 months in duration with the possibility of extension)| Hourly (\$19) | Non-Exempt

REPORTS TO: Social Services Director, Access full job description. How to Apply: Please submit resume and cover letter [Careers@veap.org](mailto:Careers@veap.org) (preferred) or VEAP Careers, 9600 Aldrich Avenue, South, Bloomington, MN 55420. Deadline is 5:00 pm May 1, 2020 to guarantee review of application. No phone inquiries please.

**La Red Latina de Educacion Temprana**, supports for informal family, friend and neighbor childcare providers. Search them on Facebook, main contact- Ruth Evangelista, #952-452-2430

**BCBS update/BCBS Foundation**

**Blue Cross Foundation COVID Response Grants Update.**

- We received 176 applications totaling more than \$3.6M.
- We have selected 36 organizations for a total of \$756,240.
- The majority of the orgs (69%) are constituent-led – led by people of color, indigenous people, LGBTQ people, immigrants, and others,

- The majority of dollars (74%) is directed to those groups.
- Geographic distribution: 22 metro, 14 greater MN.
- Announcement early this week

**Summary from guideline re priorities:** Grants are for a six-month period from the date funding is awarded. Priority focus areas include but are not limited to child care for health care workers, emergency workers and other priority populations; emergency food shelf and food delivery for vulnerable people; support for people experiencing economic insecurity; anti-xenophobia and anti-bias efforts related to COVID-19; and homelessness or housing insecurity exacerbated by the crisis. Priority applicants include those who are current Foundation grantees and/or nonprofit partners of the Center for Prevention at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. Other nonprofits with unique capabilities to serve vulnerable populations may also apply. Vulnerable populations include older adults, people who are immunocompromised, indigenous and people of color (IPOC), LGBTQ and people with disabilities.