

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**United Way  
of Northern California**

### **\$70,000 in Grants Available to Advance Racial Equity** *United Way, Community Foundations to Accept Letters of Interest*

CHICO, CA (October 23, 2020) — The North State Equity Fund (NSEF) announced today a second grant application process for non-profit organizations that promote racial justice and social equity throughout the North State. A collaboration between United Way of Northern California, North Valley Community Foundation and Community Foundation of the North State, the Fund was established in June 2020 after the tragic death of George Floyd.

NSEF distributed more than \$21,000 earlier this year to six agencies: African American Family and Cultural Center, Hmong Cultural Center of Butte County, Latino Outreach of Tehama County, Native Roots Network, Shasta County Citizens Against Racism, and Stonewall Alliance of Chico. Through this application process, NSEF anticipates distributing up to \$70,000 to organizations or groups based in one of these nine counties: Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity. Two types of grants will be considered. Organizations or emerging groups focused on issues around racial equity or addressing needs of a particular racial/cultural group can apply for general operating support. Program-specific funding is available for groups to conduct outreach or work focused on racial justice and equity.

Representatives from the organizations awarded NSEF grants in July gathered via Zoom in early October to share updates about their ground-breaking work being done throughout Butte, Shasta and Tehama Counties. “These six agencies presented an impressive and expansive array of projects that will have a huge impact on our communities,” said Melody Proebstel, Director of Equity & Public Advocacy for United Way of Northern California, who is administrator of the fund. “I am excited to review proposals and learn what additional racial justice opportunities are unfolding in the work of North State groups.”

Interested not-for-profit organizations that serve diverse racial backgrounds within the community and promote justice and healing are encouraged to submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) for consideration in the selection process of round two grant awards: [bit.ly/NSEF2020](https://bit.ly/NSEF2020). LOIs will be accepted until 5 p.m. on November 13, 2020.



After the LOI submission timeframe closes, a grant selection committee will review and select applicants who will be invited to submit a full proposal. Grant decisions will be based on consideration of the full proposals.

NSEF was established with a seed fund of \$100,000 from the three partner organizations. As the Fund grows, grant opportunities will continue to advance collaboration, accountability, and healing in the realm of racial justice. Tax-deductible contributions to the fund can be made online at [bit.ly/donatenorcal](http://bit.ly/donatenorcal) or via check payable to UWNC, mailed to United Way of Northern California, c/o North State Equity Fund, 2280 Benton Drive, Building B, Redding, CA 96003.

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**About United Way of Northern California:**

United Way of Northern California (UWNC) was established in Redding in 1953 and serves nine counties: Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity. Its mission is to fight for the education, income and health of all residents in the community. UWNC is active in disaster relief and recovery, raises funds for non-profit agencies and operates two 24/7 human services helplines: 2-1-1 Shasta and 2-1-1 Tehama, collectively known as 2-1-1 NorCal. For more information about United Way of Northern California visit [www.norcalunitedway.org](http://www.norcalunitedway.org).

**About North Valley Community Foundation:**

Through partnership, financial services, training and education, Chico-based North Valley Community Foundation is the North Valley's hub for philanthropy, helping individuals, families, businesses and non-profits maximize their impact on the local and global community. Learn more at [nvcf.org](http://nvcf.org).

**About Community Foundation of the North State:**

Community Foundation of the North State builds trust through relationship, integrity, and by providing safe places for donors to give their resources. Since 2000, the Community Foundation has awarded over \$34 million in grants, made possible by the generosity of their fund holders and professional fund management practices. For more information visit [cfnorthstate.org](http://cfnorthstate.org).