



**For Immediate Release**  
**Tuesday, July 26, 2011**

**Contact: Carrie Shaw**  
**(425) 344-1787**

**Countywide Community Forums Launches New Grant Program**  
**Includes up to \$5,000 for nonprofit organizations**

SEATTLE – Countywide Community Forums of King County (CCF) announced today a new grant program designed for nonprofit organizations that take part in CCF forums and online surveys. Grant applications are available online and open to any nonprofit organization operating in King County. The deadline to apply for a grant is August 22, 2011 at <http://www.communityforums.org/partner/application>

Maurice Ward, Deputy Citizen Councilor and founder and executive director of the Multicultural Counseling Services, says, “As a community and volunteer-based organization, CCF understands the value of grants and sees this as a viable incentive that helps organizations continue their work and service. It’s a win-win for CCF and for those nonprofits that participate.”

Grants of \$5,000, \$1,500, \$750, and \$250 will be awarded based on the number of survey responses that an organization can acquire during the next two rounds of CCF forums and online surveys beginning August 19<sup>th</sup> and running through October 16<sup>th</sup>. Survey topics will focus on how residents in unincorporated areas of King County can better engage with county government, and the upcoming county budget with a focus on the budget shortfall for Metro Transit.

“Partnering with nonprofit and civic organizations has been an important and valuable part of our mission,” says John Spady, Citizen Councilor Coordinator for CCF, “With new online tools and the growing trend to make public engagement a more meaningful activity on a grassroots level, nonprofit organizations are a natural partner with an interest in the health and well being of communities around the county.”

Participation in the CCF forums is open to anyone living, working, or going to school in King County. Options include both in-person forums and an online survey. Over 2,000 people have registered to be, what program founders call, a *Citizen Councilor*. To learn more or to register, go to [CommunityForums.org](http://CommunityForums.org) or call toll-free at (800) 369-2584.

###