

**UNITED WAY of the NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA
COMMUNITY IMPACT LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE GRANT APPLICATION
(with a renewed commitment)**

Community Impact Grants for United Way partner agencies have been the most direct community connection to help persons in need within the National Capital Area. With eight regional councils involved in making decisions about agency funding, the grant process continues as an effective strategy to reach the most people possible. Work done by partner agencies in helping UWNCA complete its mission is invaluable. This partnership provides the infrastructure to sustain programs and provide services that would otherwise be impossible.

During the first full week in April training sessions were conducted to assist agencies with the new online grant application designed by Seabrooks, Inc. Well over 100 agency reps attended one of five trainings and had opportunities for questions and answers given in real time. This year some agencies participated in a conference call for their training.

Levina Kim, acting Grants Program Manager, conducted the training sessions. She was joined by Leslie Graves, newly appointed interim VP for Community Impact (CI). Leslie discussed some of the new proposed funding changes expected to be in place by next year.

The new system offers features which accommodate two critical needs. Agencies can complete their grant application and grant readers can score the applications both online. Previously the volunteer grant readers were unable to score grants in such an efficient manner. With the entire process available in one site it is a “win-win” for everyone.

A renewed commitment has been made by Community Impact to provide more support for all agencies through technical assistance, pro-bono services, regular communications, site visits and strengthening agency relationships

CI staff will be available at anytime during the regular business day to help agencies complete their application by the April 30th deadline. Questions can be directed to: Levina Kim, lkim@uwnca.org (202)488-2021 – Linda Perkins, lperkins@uwnca.org (202)488-2015 or Alondra Jones, ajones@uwnca.org (202)488-5814.

There should be “smooth sailing ahead” for the new online grants system.