Finding Funding Opportunities

Locating additional funds to help support program sustainability or new ideas requires time and is not always easy. Today, it seems like everyone is competing for the same grant funding opportunities. In order to help leverage your program, UIHI has identified sources and ideas that may help expand your search. Remember to be proactive and involve not only program staff but others within your agency and community organizations with the same goals.

Ingredients:

- **Business or organizations that make donations:** Look through the local telephone directory or do an online search for businesses that are near your agency and service area.

- **Requested resource:** What does your program need? Have a clear and concise list of justifiable program needs when identifying sources of funding or donations.

- **Description of Need:** Compile statistics on breast and cervical cancer screening or other information that illustrates the burden of disease. It may be helpful to include the number of clients seen by the health care program/clinic, tailored to specific age groups or other groups if needed.

- **Assistance:** Ask for assistance from your organization’s grant writer if applicable.

- **A scripted Letter of Request:** Write a letter of request for funds or donated items such as food or give-aways.

Preparation:

Find out if community grants or other funding opportunities are available: Conduct an online search and be sure to look at eligibility, deadlines, and if posted, organizations that were previously funded. This will help in the budgeting process.

Partner with additional projects/programs: Consider partnering with different types of programs, such as local county or state funded projects. Projects like the Council on Aging, emergency preparedness and others might have similar efforts.

**Possible Grant Resources:**

- **Komen for the Cure**
  www.komen.org

- **Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund**
  www.avonbreastcare.org

- **Spirit of the E.A.G.L.E.S.**
  www.nativeamericanprograms.org/grants.html

- **Lance Armstrong Foundation**
  www.livestrong.org

Write letters to local businesses to request food donations for Women’s Day event.
Look internally:
Remember to ask your program staff, but also ask others within the organization for help, suggestions, or partnerships.

Other Options
• Sign up for free notification of upcoming federal Request for Proposals at: www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp
• Sign up for Indian Health Service and other list serves
• Join ethnic Chamber of Commerce groups, such as a Native Chamber of Commerce
• Connect with local colleges and universities
• Ask Elders for support and teaching help for cultural classes, cooking, etc.
• Locate health organizations and ask for in-kind donations, such as food or craft donations.
• Connect with your local Susan G. Komen affiliate office for small grants.

Sharing the Results:
Share some key outcomes of your event or project with funders or partners. These agencies may have resources again in the future and this information can help them remember your work. Here are some ideas of what to include when reporting back to funders or partners:

• Short description of how funds/resources were used
• Number of participants
• Quotes/feedback from participants (you may want to consider a participant evaluation form)
• Number of materials distributed (such as pamphlets)
• Number of women signed up for screening
• Photos of the event
• A thank you letter signed by participants

This information may also be useful for a short article for your agency’s newsletter or other community publication.

Tips:
• Check within your agency if funding opportunities have been found by staff.
• Check with other organizations (local or national) to see if they are interested in partnering.
• State programs such as cancer control or breast and cervical programs often have community or pilot program grants.