From: Evelyn Allen
To: KCC - Committee Assistants (Email Group)
Subject: King County EDI Coalition"s EDI Motion
Date: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 5:08:10 PM

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to support the King County EDI Coalition's EDI Motion being presented to you on Wednesday, February 2nd, 2022. As the Convener of the Black Community Impact Alliance, I was a part of the community organizations that created the City of Seattle's Equitable Development Implementation Plan and the subsequent EDI Fund. The policies and funding addressed the needs of communities that had experienced a high degree of displacement and marginalization. These communities in veritably had a high representation of communities of Color. The outcome resulting from the City of Seattle's EDI vision is new housing units for families of Color, new businesses, new training centers, and citizens that no longer felt that they didn't matter.

These successes were able to occur because funding was placed in the organizations on the ground working day-to-day with the people in their neighborhoods. They knew what was needed, knew how to deliver what was needed, and could get it delivered quicker because they were already trusted. The end result was resources well invested!

King County now has the opportunity to be those forward-thinking visionaries for hope and change. This future has to be for all of the citizens of King County! That means that the members of the King County Council will need those community-based groups working day-to-day with communities of Colors and those in need to get resources where they can do the most good—to be well spent. I ask that you pass the "EDI Motion" as presented by the King County EDI Coalition.

Thank You,
Evelyn Thomas Allen
President & Executive Director
The Equity Alliance of Washington
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Convener, Black Community Impact Alliance

"All that we can do, we will do, out of the old, we'll create the new." The Nguzo Saba