

## BUF E-Bulletin July 11 2019

July SECJ Special Collections Recipient RE Sources for Sustainable Communities Collection this Sunday, July 14th

# RE SOURCES

RE Sources works diligently to promote sustainable communities and protect the health of northwestern Washington's people and ecosystems through application of science, education, advocacy and action. Their vision is to help people in northwestern Washington live satisfying lives in accord with the eco- system we depend on — generation after generation. RE Sources has long been an ally and much used resource by BUF members and members, whether we're talking about the RE Store, the Baykeepers program, youth programs, clean energy, etc. We've

had a long history of working together.



Also much like BUF and its recent Beloved Community conversations, this past year RE Sources has recognized the need for and formed a Diversity, Equity

and Inclusion committee that is comprised of staff from all their programs and the Board of Directors. They have also recognized that they have a long way to go and a lot to learn about how to elevate the voices of People of Color, LGBTQ folks, people disproportionately experiencing pollution and environmental distress on the frontlines. The environmental activist community is disproportionately comprised of people that identify as white and this is a critical factor when trying to work on solutions involving frontline communities.

Funds from SEJC will be applied to anti-racism trainings, improving our hiring and recruiting practices and unlearning internal bias has been challenging.

1. 40-Staffmembers, 2-Americorp members, 6-Interns and 11-Board members would benefit from the trainings funded by a BUF Collection.
2. A result of said trainings would be an overhaul of our hiring protocol for staff, our recruiting protocol for interns and board members and cross-programmatic training opportunities for all staff.
3. Staff time will be allocated for the DEI committee to meet, study and make recommendations to the larger staff for additional learning opportunities or volunteer opportunities in the community.

RE Sources recognizes the important role that Diversity, Equity and Inclusion plays in working with diverse communities and becoming more diverse itself. This step is critical to achieving a deeper understanding of the issues we face as a whole community, finding holistic alternatives and offering appropriate support services. It is especially important now in these times when they're actively promoting clean water, clean energy infrastructure projects. This includes helping Whatcom County organize to limit and discourage any further fossil fuel expansion projects (especially out at Cherry Point) that would transport crude oil products through our fragile Salish Sea ecosystem and throughout our interior. These efforts do now, and will have, a tremendous impact on frontline communities.

For more information on all the amazing things that RE Sources does, check out their website at: <http://www.re-sources.org>. So please be generous to our long time ally. If you are unable to make the collection this Sunday (the 14th), then drop off your donation to the office so we can pass it on as part of the BUF community.

### **Update to 201902020 BUF Board of Trustees:**

Board Officers will be announced at the first board meeting of this church year, on July 25 at 7pm in the Conference Room. The Treasurer appointment will also be announced at that meeting. Our thanks to Anne Newman for three years of faithful service as Treasurer.