 **Access To Resources Fund**

**Guidelines**

The Alliance for Human Services is a membership organization composed of Lake County leaders representing human service, healthcare & welfare , and community education organizations; foundations; and government officials and entities. The Alliance provides several forms of resources to members throughout the County to aid in breaking down silos, supporting service workers and organization/county leaders, and amplifying the voices of the sector and those served. The Alliance offers annual membership dues on a sliding scale to encourage the participation of all Lake County leaders in the sector. To further support participation, the Alliance established an Access to Resources Fund to provide stipends for organizations that can’t afford full membership. The fund has been established to assist organizations that fall into one or more of the scenarios noted below:

1. Newly formed organizations and organizations that are new to Lake County.
2. Organizations whose revenue was disproportionally affected by the pandemic or other unanticipated societal, political, or environmental factors within the prior 12 to 18 months
3. Organizations with smaller budgets either overall or small for that organization’s comparable category.
4. Organizations that diversify the voices of the Alliance by:
	1. Growing the representation of communities (including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, and age)
	2. Expanding the geographic areas the Alliance’s members covers, and/or
	3. Increasing the types of needs and services AHS members address
5. Organizations whose social service staff lacks connectivity to colleagues who provide similar services, or for organizations with new leadership.

 6) Organizations that had previously been members but that encountered unexpected factors that compelled withdrawal from the AHS for a period of time.

7) Organizations that articulate a desire to want to participate in the Alliance’s events and activities but are facing income or revenue limitations that may inhibit current expenditure flexibility

**To be considered for a fund stipend, an organization should**

* 1. Pay a portion of the standard membership fee (ideally between 35 – 65%)
	2. Communicate the reasons the stipend is needed along with a projection of the timing before the point it will be able to afford full membership dues

**Membership dues are determined by the:**

1. Size of the budget for Lake County activities
2. The organization’s stated budget must fund the organization’s operational structure and its activities, but not include monies distributed directly to individuals and families in the community.

All interested in participating in the Alliance but are unable to afford membership are encouraged to fill out the Fund Application. For more information or questions, please reach out to Gayle at gayle@allianceforhs.org