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Media Contacts:
Karen Reed

karenr@kwiklok.com / 509-248-4770

KWIK LOK CONTINUES INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION, EQUITY, FOOD SECURITY AND FOOD JUSTICE

Grants provided to three nonprofit organizations in the Pacific Northwest

YAKIMA, Wash., (May, 2024) –Kwik Lok Corporation continues support of Rainier Beach Action Coalition (RBAC), Clean Greens and Heritage University with \$25,000 grants each aimed at supporting education, equity, food security and food justice programs. This is the third round of grants to RBAC and Clean Greens and the second round of funding for Heritage University. All three nonprofit organizations are in the Pacific Northwest, home to Kwik Lok headquarters. Each grant recipient has a proven track-record providing programs that:

- Unlock Opportunity
- Improve Well-being
- Protect Resources
- Foster Innovation

“By continuing our support of RBAC, Clean Greens and Heritage University. We are investing in transformational programs. Each organization provides much needed, education and access to healthy produce for stronger, healthier and more equitable communities.”

- Kwik Lok Co-owners, Stephanie Jackson, Kimberly Paxton-Hagner and Melissa Steiner.

Kwik Lok continues to support organizations in communities that have a history of being disproportionately impacted by economic stresses and lack of access.

- Clean Greens aims to make organic produce widely available and easily accessible to all people in their community located in Seattle’s Central District. To support this work, Clean Greens will receive a \$25,000 grant to support activities related to their youth farm and education curriculum including:
 - Transportation to and from the farm along with field trips
 - Gardening, harvesting and composting supplies

- Learning supplies
- Food and nutrition supplies for cooking and food prep
- Stipends for youth
- Staff

Thanks to Kwik Lok, Clean Greens has been able to continue our efforts in supporting our youth farm which is designed to teach our youth the importance of learning to grow their own food, eat healthy, and making community and cultural connections.

- Brione Scott, Director of Clean Greens Farm & Market

- Rainier Beach Action Coalition (RBAC), is a grassroots, Black-led organization in the Rainier Beach neighborhood of Seattle devoted to locally driven development. RBAC will receive \$25,000 to support:
 - Staffing salaries for the Farm Stand Team and an entrepreneurship program as part of the Food Justice Fellow Program.
 - The farm stand food distribution program which supplies low-cost/free food to people in need.

"The Rainier Beach Action Coalition is grateful for Kwik Lok Foundation's contribution to our Farm Stand program. The Kwik Lok family sets the standard for what a socially responsible business can be by spending Saturday mornings volunteering with us and making food access in the Rainier Beach neighborhood a priority for them in their work!"

-Nurhaliza Mohamath, Food Justice Coordinator, Rainier Beach Action Coalition

- Heritage University, located in the lower part of the Yakima Valley, empowers a multicultural and inclusive student body to overcome the social, cultural, economic, and geographic barriers that limit access to higher education. Rooted in the homeland of the Yakama Nation, the University embraces transformational student-centered education that cultivates leadership and a commitment to the promotion of a more just society. Eighty-five percent of the student body are the first in their families to attend college. Kwik Lok's grant of \$25,000 will provide funding to support:
 - A staff person to oversee the recently opened student and community foodbank which will supply much-needed food and sundry items for use by both students as well as community members.
 - Loan forgiveness in the amount of five thousand dollars for three students involved in STEAM programs.

"I sincerely appreciate Kwik Lok's vision. Its support will allow us to continue offering much-needed services to our student population. Partnerships like this one permit Heritage University to thrive in the Yakima Valley."

– Andrew Sund, Ph.D., Heritage University President.

About Kwik Lok

Founded in 1954, Kwik Lok is the global market leader in bag closures. The company produces billions of bag closures every year for baking and produce industries and the machinery for customers to print and apply closures. Kwik Lok brings over 66 years of expertise to deliver advanced engineering and trusted design. Kwik Lok is owned by third-generation family leadership, with a vision to drive greater sustainability in the industry. Learn more at www.kwiklok.com.

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