

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Colin Fogarty Director of Communications cfogarty@oregoncf.org

SOUTHERN WILLAMETTE VALLEY, SOUTH COAST NONPROFITS RECEIVE \$1.2M FUNDING BOOST

Oregon Community Foundation Distributes Record Investments in 2024, Announces New Grant Opportunities for 2025

EUGENE, Ore. – Child care and parenting resources. Services to homeless youth. A stronger mobile health unit for rural communities. These are just a just some of the projects and programs in the Southern Willamette Valley and South Coast receiving a \$1,171,200 boost from the 2024 Fall Cycle of Community Grants from Oregon Community Foundation. The statewide funder has distributed 50 new grants in the Southern Willamette Valley and South Coast to support capacity building, small capital and new or expanding projects by nonprofits.

The announcement comes on #GivingTuesday, an international day of generosity that follows Thanksgiving.

Statewide, the new round of funding includes 248 grants for nearly \$5.8 million. That brings the total awarded in Community Grants by OCF to a record \$11.1 million for the year, including funding previously announced in the spring.

"As a statewide foundation, OCF supports community-driven solutions and opportunities in every part of Oregon," says Julie Manning, who represents the Southern Willamette Valley on the OCF Board of Directors. She's a retired communications professional in Corvallis.

"In the Southern Willamette Valley and South Coast, our nonprofit partners are serving Oregonians through programs that provide child care, support for young people experiencing homelessness, and mobile health care to rural communities. That's just to name a few. This is what responsive grantmaking looks like."

The grants are possible because of the generosity of Oregon Community Foundation donors.

Just as the new funding reaches Oregon nonprofits, OCF has opened the next round of Community Grants to be distributed in spring 2025. The deadline is Jan. 14, 2025. Find

<u>details here.</u> The goal is to provide equitable access to flexible funding for organizations serving communities' most pressing needs throughout Oregon.

<u>Find the full list of fall 2024 grantees here</u>. The list below of representative grants demonstrates the breadth of impact the funding has on nearly every aspect of life for Oregonians.

Waterfall Clinic, Inc | North Bend | \$20,000

To hire and support a Mobile Health Unit Coordinator to better serve members of under resourced communities.

"Waterfall's Mobile Health Unit hosts care team members to provide fully integrated healthcare services for our community. Patient education, primary care, health screenings, vaccines, and social health efforts are just a few of the uses for this amazing resource! The Mobile Health Unit allows for both in-person and remote access to complex medical analysis tools and providers in our clinics, or even across the state when needed. Waterfall is excited to hire a Mobile Health Unit Coordinator to strengthen community partnerships and increase utilization, so the community gets the most benefit out of Mobile Health Unit!"

~Lance Nelson, CEO Contact: Courtney Acosta, Waterfall Community Health Center 541-756-6232, Ext. 192 cacosta@wfall.org

Curry County Master Gardener Association | Corvallis | \$25,000

To develop a demonstration greenhouse and garden in Curry County.

"OSU Master Gardener volunteers are excited about expanding their sustainable gardening education activities and the additional opportunities for community engagement. Watch for educational workshops to begin in spring of 2025."

~Debbie Carroll, Co-President Contact: Julia Bott 650-520-5673 jbott@batnet.com

McKenzie Little Eagles Childcare Center | Vida | \$25,000

To provide childcare and parenting resources.

"Everyday we strive to create, move, sing, discuss, observe, read, play! These are seven things I am thankful that we do in our classroom. It brings your children joy!"

~Kelli Stockford, Little Eagles Preschool Instructor

"Our family greatly appreciates the staff. They are amazing and it truly makes the program what it is. We love the skills the teachers possess and value the opportunity for newer teachers in the field to grow. The focus on social emotional learning is greatly appreciated as this is one of the most important developmental areas at this age, in my opinion. Your program excels in sharing our child's growth through having parent teacher conferences." - Megan Weiss, Little Eagles Parent

~Lacey Joy, Special Programs Director McKenzie School District 541-822-1110

Community Outreach through Radical Empowerment | Eugene | \$15,500

For organizational capacity building efforts.

"At CORE, we are dedicated to the belief that young people are the experts in their own lives. If we operate from this understanding, our job as a community is to create spaces for young people's voices to be heard without shame, stigma or preconceptions."

~Dylan Weil, Executive Director of Community Support dylan@coreeugene.org

Coquille Library | Coquille | \$20,000

To expand Junior programming for children grades 2nd - 6th

"I am fortunate to be able to live and work in a community that is supportive of our library. The City just completed a \$2.8M project that renovated an old bank into a new, modern public library. The new library has an upstairs perfect for library programing. We received a grant from Americorps for a service member to develop and implement an afterschool program. This is a new program is designed to catch kids at a vulnerable age from falling through the educational cracks. The elementary school has chosen 30 students who will benefit most from our program and will bus them to the library afterschool, giving parents the peace of mind that their latchkey

child is safe and getting the extra homework help they need. Thank you so much for helping the children of Coquille!"

~Teresa Lucas, Library Director (541)396-2166 teresa@coquillelibrary.org

Total for Fall 2024: 248 grants of \$5,789,074

Southern Willamette Valley: \$965,200

Central Oregon: \$394,562
South Coast: \$206,000
Southern Oregon: \$545,000
Eastern Oregon: \$322,617

Portland Metro: \$2,349,889

• North Coast \$265,806

• Northern Willamette Valley: \$700,000

• Out of State: \$40,000

About OCF's Community Grants Program

For 27 years, OCF's Community Grants program has invested in community livability and vitality by listening and responding to people closest to innovating opportunities they want to advance. As Oregon has grown, so too has the complexity of issues facing so many Oregonians. Compounding these challenges is a history of systems that have not benefited everyone equitably. OCF recognizes this reality. The Community Grants program continues to provide funding for nonprofits addressing the pressing needs of communities across Oregon, informed by the voices of people who know their communities the best.

Since 1973, **Oregon Community Foundation** has worked to improve the lives of all Oregonians through the power of philanthropy. In partnership with donors and volunteers, OCF strengthens communities in every county in Oregon through grantmaking, scholarships and research. In 2023, OCF distributed \$225 million in grants and scholarships. Individuals, families, businesses and organizations can work with OCF to create charitable funds to support causes important to them. To learn more, please visit oregoncf.org.

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