

2015-Spring/Summer Grant Recipients

Large Grants

211info (Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties) \$46,000

To improve community health outcomes by strengthening connections among health and human services providers. Funds will provide a part-time community engagement coordinator to better coordinate services for those in need calling for information and resources.

Center for Intercultural Organizing (Washington County) \$37,000

To expand the Margins to Mainstream project, a recently-completed pilot project that supports recent immigrants and refugees – many of whom are suffering from psychosocial trauma. The goal is to help them become empowered agents of change in their new communities.

Folk Time (Multnomah County) \$46,000

The Folk Time Northeast Portland Social Program provides free peer-support activities for people living with mental illness. The goal is to help clients become more socialized members of the community – in a safe and supportive environment – that is a proven pathway to recovery.

Growing Gardens (Multnomah County and statewide) \$25,000

This program addresses hunger and nutrition by encouraging people to grow food near their home or school. It builds self-reliance while increasing food security. This will help “grow” the program that serves low-income residents in the Portland area, and those in adult and juvenile correctional facilities around the state.

Helping Hands (Clatsop, Tillamook and Yamhill Counties) \$60,000

Supporting those who are newly homeless, perhaps living in cars or camping in the woods, requires quick, effective wraparound services to get people back on their feet and into permanent housing. The Re-entry Program supports homeless people for 30 days to one year, creating a framework for a sustainable life.

New City Initiative (Multnomah County) \$24,000

New City Kitchen and Village Support Network addresses social determinants of health. They create networks of support and income stability for those exiting homelessness. Clients receive commercial kitchen training to enter the food service industry, as well as build parenting, health and other life skills to live independently.

Urban Gleaners (Multnomah County) \$50,000

Funds will help alleviate hunger by “rescuing” edible surplus food from grocery stores, farmers markets and restaurants that can be diverted to agencies that feed the hungry. A new program will be a mobile market for onsite delivery of free food to subsidized housing, complexes and two elementary schools.

WinterSpring (Jackson County) \$23,000

The Healthy Family Bereavement program provides group support and education for grieving children and their families. With one in seven children losing a parent or sibling before age of 20, addressing unresolved grief is critical to avoiding long-term behavioral and physical ailments, including drug addiction and chronic illnesses.

Mid-size Grants

City Team (Portland metro area)

\$20,000

This faith based ministry meets the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of men in recovery from their addictions to drugs and alcohol. It also serves the basic needs of many homeless men and women by providing food, clothing and shelter on a daily basis. As a result, clients have been able to access additional health services they need. Funds will go to purchase badly needed commercial-quality appliances, including a washing machine, clothes dryer, convection oven and ice maker. It will also be used to repair existing appliances, equipment and facility infrastructure in the food storage areas, shower rooms, laundry and kitchen.

p:ear (Portland metro area)

\$10,000

The mission of this agency is “creatively mentoring homeless youth.” Funds will go to the Educational Kitchen Remodel Project. The grant will help build positive relationships with homeless and transitional youth, ages 15-24, through education, art and recreation to affirm personal worth and create more meaningful and healthier lives. The p:ear Kitchen and Food program provides homeless young people with quality meals in a community setting, as well as opportunities to learn about meal preparation and to gain an understanding of the cultural aspects of food. The existing kitchen is badly in need of a remodel, which would allow it to provide more than 100 meals per day, while developing curriculum and opportunities for youth, including those who are pregnant or parenting.

CASA for Children (Columbia County)

\$10,000

The CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for Children Program supports the individual needs of children from birth through age 18 who are in protective custody. The goal is to help children avoid long-term mental and emotional problems by helping reunite them with their birth family or move them toward adoption or guardianship more quickly. It helps children in foster care by advocating with their teachers, foster families and the court for needed services. Funds will help the program meet the rapidly growing need for CASAs in Columbia County through accelerated recruitment, training and assignment through an improved data and administrative system and an outreach program to attract new volunteers and more local funding.

Children’s Dental Clinic of Jackson County

\$10,000

This clinic provides free dental care to children of low-income Jackson County families who have no other access to care, usually because of lack of insurance – including no Oregon Health Plan coverage. Services are provided by volunteer dentists and hygienists. The funding will be used to upgrade clinic equipment, much of it faulty and unrepairable. The nonprofit clinic, in operation since 1957, provides preventive and restorative oral care, and oral health education.

Teaching Preschool Partners (Portland metro area)

\$10,000

This nonprofit agency strengthens the quality of preschool education for children in high-risk populations. It stresses a teaching environment that gives visibility to the strong capacities of the youngest learners. Funds will be used to help open and operate a high-quality preschool classroom this fall inside the Parkrose School District for the 2015-16 school year. Primary support will come from the school district, but will not be sufficient to achieve the goal of serving 20 vulnerable children, ages 3 to 5, all of them living in poverty. Most are children of color who are English language learners. In order to better support working parents, the school will be an all-day, five day a week program that will include transportation and meals.