

SPIRIT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FUND



\$100 MILLION *in* GIVING!
Building Stronger Communities Together





HOMELANDS

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR:

We are happy to share our annual report with you, highlighting some of our notable accomplishments, partnerships and changes in 2024.

In September, we bid farewell to our long-time friend and valued Trustee Michael Cherry. While we were sad to see her go, we were happy for the opportunity to welcome back former Trustee Kathleen George to re-join our board.

Throughout the year, the Community Fund developed 30 new relationships with nonprofit partners, providing them with \$717,076 in grant funding. During the summer months, we hosted our Youth Grantmaking Program, exposing five Tribal youth to the incredible world of philanthropy. And in November, we sent a young, talented Native American to serve as the Hatfield Fellow and intern for eight months in Rep. Val Hoyle's Washington, D.C., office.

Through our responsive grant programs, the Community Fund awarded 104 grants, totaling \$3,387,064, to local nonprofit organizations and Oregon Tribes doing important work in the program areas of arts and culture, education, environmental preservation, health, historic preservation and public safety.

This was an exciting year for the Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Spirit Mountain Casino, as we celebrated an incredible milestone in giving. In December, we closed out the year with a special check presentation, providing funding for 10 small grant recipients, 13 large grant recipients, eight Tribal grant recipients and six celebration award recipients, totaling \$1,417,805. This funding brought our total giving since inception to 3,394 grants and \$100,177,653 in grant funding.

We are honored and blessed for the partnerships we've created throughout the years and are so thankful for our nonprofit partners who work tirelessly to provide much needed support and services for some of our most vulnerable communities.



As a once terminated Tribe, I never imagined we would rebuild such a strong Tribal community and be in a position to invest in and give back to our surrounding communities in such a substantial way. There was a time when our Tribe didn't have anything to give and it was the people in our communities who provided support for us.

I'd like to acknowledge the contributions of those who were instrumental in getting us to where we are today. None of this would be possible without the vision and foresight of our Tribal leaders who knew that by working together, we could build stronger communities and create a better life for people living in northwest Oregon. It is our Tribe's cultural values and beliefs that guide our giving, allowing us to respond to the many challenges people face today.

In our Chinuk language, we say hayu masi (many thanks) to our nonprofit partners working to create positive change. It has been an honor and a pleasure to do this work beside you.

Sincerely,

 Angie Sears, Executive Director


 Brenda Tuomi, Board Chairwoman

FUNDING BY PROGRAM AREA

Arts & Culture
12 - \$635,000

Education
29 - \$996,910

Environmental Preservation
8 - \$279,847

Health
50 - \$1,388,913

Historic Preservation
2 - \$54,080

Public Safety
3 - \$32,314

11.5%

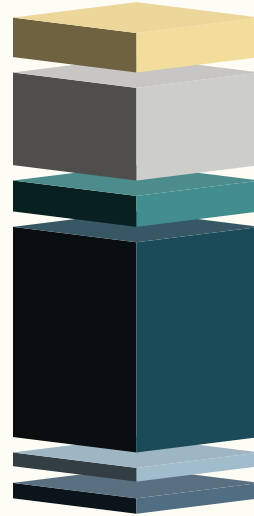
27.9%

7.7%

48.1%

1.9%

2.9%



104 - \$3,387,064
total

FUNDING BY COUNTY

2 BENTON - \$23,000

8 CLACKAMAS - \$301,000

16 LANE - \$383,000

3 LINCOLN - \$62,314

4 LINN - \$160,000

10 MARION - \$193,500

31 MULTNOMAH - \$889,842

8 POLK - \$273,910

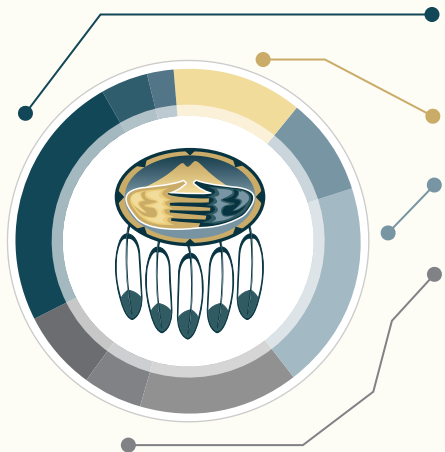
7 WASHINGTON - \$100,000

7 YAMHILL - \$200,498

8 TRIBAL - \$800,000

104 - \$3,387,064
total

FUNDING BY PRIORITY AREA



Education
- Effective Education for All
- Reading Success
- Ready for School

\$519,410 - 16 Grants
\$92,500 - 3 Grants
\$57,500 - 2 Grants

Environment
- River Health

\$259,847 - 5 Grants

Health Prevention & Treatment
- ACES
- Mental Health

\$195,000 - 5 Grants
\$417,491 - 15 Grants

Healthy Parents/Healthy Child
- Domestic Violence/Child Abuse
- Pre/Post-Natal Care
- Youth Homelessness & Support Services

\$318,498 - 9 Grants
\$120,000 - 5 Grants
\$155,000 - 3 Grants

63 - \$2,135,246
total

GENERAL PURPOSE GRANTS SMALL AND LARGE

34 - \$220,729
small grants

50 - \$2,306,335
large grants

84 - \$2,527,064
total

ALL GRANT FUNDING

GENERAL PURPOSE
84 - \$2,527,064

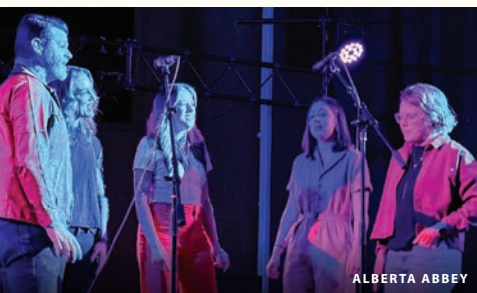
TRIBAL
8 - \$800,000

SUMMER YOUTH
5 - \$25,000

\$100 MILLION
GIVING CELEBRATION
6 - \$30,000

SPONSORSHIPS
1 - \$5,000

104 - \$3,387,064
total



ALL GRANTS BY PROGRAM AREA

Arts & Culture

12 Grants - \$635,000

Alberta Abbey
Arts Action Alliance Foundation
Bag and Baggage Productions
Bridgeworks Oregon
Burns Paiute Tribe
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower
Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde
Community of Oregon
Confluence
Friends of Tryon Creek
The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Wonderfolk



Education

29 Grants - \$996,910

Adelante Mujeres
Assistance League of Portland
Be-BLAC Foundation
Boys and Girls Club of Corvallis
City of Independence
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Constructing Hope Pre- Apprenticeship Program
Coquille Indian Tribe
Gate Youth Association
Get Schooled
HomePlate Youth Services
Keizer Community Library, Inc.
LatinoBuilt
Northwest Housing Alternatives
Our United Villages - The Rebuilding Center
Outside In
Pearl Buck Center
Portland State University Foundation
Salem Dream Center



School Garden Project of Lane County
Shadow Project
Singing Creek Educational Center
SMART Reading
Social Venture Partners Portland
University of Oregon Foundation
Wayside Friends Church
Wordcrafters in Eugene
Yamhill Enrichment Society
Youth Progress Association

Environmental Preservation

8 Grants - \$279,847

Elakha Alliance
Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics, and Ecology
Human Access Project
Long Tom Watershed Council
Native Fish Society
The Klamath Tribes
Water Climate Trust
Wisdom of the Elderberry Farm

Health

50 Grants - \$1,388,913

A Family For Every Child
A Village For One
ABC House, Inc.
Agape Village
ALS Northwest
Arbor House Portland
Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force
Bambinos, OR
Bridge Meadows
CASA of Clackamas County (Child Advocates, Inc.)
CASA Voices for Children
Community Outreach through Radical Empowerment
Daisy C.H.A.I.N.
Forward Stride
Future Generations Collaborative
Horses Adaptive Riding And Therapy (HART)



Jackson Street Youth Shelter
 Juliette's House
 Liberty House
 Lines for Life
 Linn County Animal Rescue
 Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oregon, Inc.
 Marion Polk Food Share, Inc.
 Marys River Gleaners Association
 McMinnville Area Habitat for Humanity
 On-the-Move Community Integration
 Oregon Health and Education Collaborative
 Parenting with Intent
 Peace in Schools
 Pile of Puppies
 Pink Lemonade Project
 Portland Community Football Club
 Radical Rest
 Relief Nursery, Inc.
 Responder Life
 Returning Veterans Project
 Salem Free Clinics
 South Lane Mental Health Services, Inc.
 Store to Door
 Transformative Justice Community
 Union Gospel Mission of Salem
 We Belong PDX
 Western Oregon Center for Pediatric
 Therapeutic Lifestyle Change
 Western Oregon University Development Foundation
 Willamette Farm and Food Coalition
 Youth Villages, Inc.

Historic Preservation

2 Grants - \$54,080

KBOO Foundation
 Wisdom of the Elders, Inc.

Public Safety

3 Grants - \$32,314

Oregon Justice Resource Center
 Sheridan Rural Fire Protection District
 Siletz Fire District Volunteer Firefighters Association

Grantee Spotlights

CONSTRUCTING HOPE

Constructing Hope's (CH's) mission is to rebuild the lives of people in our community by encouraging self-sufficiency through skills training and education in the construction industry. We provide no-cost, 10-week construction skills and life skills pre-apprenticeship training programs, placement services and career advancement support. Our youth summer program provides skills, motivation, awareness and access for construction career pathways.

CH helps people of color, returning citizens (formerly incarcerated), and low-income adults enter careers with middle-class wages and defined

benefits to support themselves and their families. Our goals are to help the long-term unemployed attain sustainable careers, increase workforce diversity, reduce recidivism and meet hiring needs in the construction industry.

Last year, CH graduated 72 community members and placed 75 current and former graduates in construction careers with an average starting wage of \$24.03. Graduates were 81% people of color, 58% returning citizens (formerly incarcerated), and 100% entering low-income. Graduates entered careers as carpenters, laborers, cement mason/bricklayers, insulators, plumber/steamfitters, sign installers, heavy equipment operators, roofers, electricians, and iron workers.



FORWARD STRIDE

Big breakthroughs happen in small moments every day at Forward Stride where people living with challenges gain life skills and build self-confidence through horse-assisted services. Where others focus on what can't be done, we focus on what can! Since 2003, Forward Stride has been helping people learn, grow and heal through interactions with horses, building lasting relationships, improving self-confidence, teaching new skills and providing healing to underserved populations in an inclusive community.



"Without Forward Stride, my daughter's story would be one of isolation. It is a rare place that gives incredible opportunities to a child who has so few."

Our Continuum of Care allows children and adults of all abilities and backgrounds to begin in one of our therapeutic programs and move to more independent programming as they are able, developing skills, fitness independence and self-confidence, while maintaining their support network of peers at Forward Stride.

Forward Stride's Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) program utilizes activities with horses to develop life skills for educational, professional, and personal goals. This is one way Forward Stride reaches out to underserved communities. Forward Stride's EAL program currently partners with Victory Academy, McLaren Correctional Facility and Native American Rehabilitation Association.



The Spirit Mountain Community Fund enabled Forward Stride to continue our impactful partnership with Victory Academy, working with students to successfully increase engagement, improve verbal communication and self-regulation skills.

PILE OF PUPPIES

Pile of Puppies (POP) exists to remind children with chronic illness that there is light within the darkness and joy in the most challenging times. Pile of Puppies sole purpose is to bring joy to chronically and terminally ill children in Portland and its neighboring communities by surrounding them with a pile of puppies.

Founder and Executive Director, Jennifer Thompson Trepanier, took her experience of facing mortality as a child, her love for animals (especially dogs), and her passion for helping those with health challenges and bridged them to create Pile of Puppies.

Time and again, they have witnessed POP families working through mental and physical pain have a "Joy Healing," a moment of pure joy with the puppies. These puppies genuinely perform a service for these families. Parents have shared comments like, "This is the most joyous moment we have experienced in over two years" and "This was the first time I saw my child light up since his diagnosis."



POP has established a network of community partners, breeders and volunteers who support the organization. POP partners with four

large organizations: Ronald McDonald House, Doernbecher Hospital and Candlelighters send a steady stream of children in need of a "Prescription of Joy." POP partners with more than 20 fully vetted breeders who volunteer and often travel 1-4 hours to bring puppies to a POP event. Together, POP, their community partners and breeders are truly making a difference in the lives of families they touch each year.



WILLAMETTE FARM AND FOOD COALITION

In May of 2024, Willamette Farm and Food Coalition launched three new Food Equity programs to support local farmers and food banks, increase access to healthy food, and improve health outcomes in Lane County by providing low barrier, direct support to families in need. These programs are designed to provide folks with meaningful, direct support that they can easily participate in with dignity.

Little Lettuce - provides kids 12 years old and under a \$5 token to purchase fresh fruit, veggies, and edible plant starts. **Bucka Bucka Bucks** - provides folks making 300% of the Federal poverty line or less a \$10 token to spend on eggs, chicken, and duck. **Farm to Food Pantry** - is an end of day produce buyout program at small and rural markets designed to provide free produce to food-insecure folks, reduce food waste and decrease the risk of small farmers not selling their produce at market.

Combined, Little Lettuce and Bucka Bucka Bucks have generated \$85,040 in extra income for small farmers and provided locally grown & raised veggies, poultry and eggs to more than 12,312 people at zero cost to them and full reimbursement to the farmers (and we're still waiting on final numbers for the season). Farm to Food Pantry has provided thousands of dollars' worth of free food to families in need by diverting locally grown food that would be composted at the end of market from the waste system and redistributing it to local food pantries.



Thanks to the support of Spirit Mountain Community Fund, we've been able to provide robust administrative support for these programs, ensuring a successful first season, and we're excited to see how the impact of these programs will grow and ripple outwards as more people learn about them.





HATFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde established the Mark O. Hatfield Fellowship in 1998 as a living tribute to Sen. Hatfield to honor his accomplishments as the Governor of Oregon and U.S. Senator. Each year, Spirit Mountain Community Fund sponsors a highly motivated Native American to serve as the Hatfield Fellow and intern in an Oregon congressional office, enhancing the mutual understanding between leadership in Washington, D.C., and Indian Country.

COMMUNITY FUND SELECTS KWANI-FAWN MARCELLAY AS THE 2024-25 HATFIELD FELLOW

Marcellay is set for eight-month term in Rep. Hoyle's D.C. office

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understanding between leadership in Washington, D.C., and Indian Country.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Spirit Mountain Community Fund are pleased to announce Kwani-Fawn Marcellay as the 2024-25 Hatfield Fellow. Marcellay is a citizen of the Colville Confederated Tribes in Washington state. She is a recent graduate of Reed College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology.

While studying at Reed College, Marcellay served as the American Indians Student Union president. She also worked as a legal assistant for her Tribe's public defender's office, and conducted community-based research for her Tribe related to sexual assault reporting.

Marcellay is the 25th Native American to serve as a Hatfield Fellow. She will begin her fellowship on in November with a month-long orientation at the American Political Science Association (APSA) in Washington, D.C. Following orientation, she will assume her congressional placement in Rep. Val Hoyle's office. This is Hoyle's first time to host a Hatfield Fellow.

"I'm thrilled to welcome Kwani to my office this fall, and I look forward to seeing the unique perspective she brings to the table," Hoyle said. "The Hatfield Fellowship, established by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, is key to strengthening relationships between Oregon's Tribal governments and the congressional delegation. It also creates the opportunity for

talented individuals to work in our nation's capital to promote positive, systemic change and gain first-hand knowledge of the legislative process."

"I am honored to be selected as the 2024-25 Hatfield Fellow. I am passionate about protecting Tribal sovereignty and want to leverage the skills I will gain from the Hatfield Fellowship to advocate for policies that advance tribal rights and promote meaningful consultation with our communities," Marcellay said. "My long-term professional goal is to become a powerful Native attorney who will proudly represent my tribe and pursue justice throughout Indian Country. I feel the most passionate about legal issues concerning criminal jurisdiction, violence against Indian women, and treaty rights. I view this opportunity as the beginning of an industrious career fighting for Tribes in and beyond the courtroom.

"I am eager to serve as a bridge between Tribal-federal relations and continue the legacy of public service as exemplified by Sen. Hatfield."



YE?LAN LIMA

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Spirit Mountain Community Fund are pleased to announce **Pat Daniels, Aldin Porcic and Loretta Cukale** as the 2024 ye?lan lima (Helping Hand) award winners.

Each year, the Spirit Mountain Community Fund selects three individuals (an unpaid volunteer, a paid staff member and a paid management member) doing incredible work in the nonprofit sector to receive our annual ye?lan lima award. (In our Chinook language, ye?lan lima means Helping Hand.) Each award recipient receives a special award, a free night stay and dinner for two at Spirit Mountain Casino and \$500 for their outstanding efforts to helping those in need.

PAID MANAGEMENT

Pat Daniels ~ Constructing Hope

There's an organization in Portland that changed my life and the lives of many others. That organization is Constructing Hope. And behind that great organization is a great woman, a true leader. Her name is Pat Daniels. Pat has dedicated her life to helping others and she has spent the past 17 years leading Constructing Hope. Pat is retiring next year at age 67. I am writing today to nominate Pat for the ye?lan lima "Helping Hand" award. It would mean a lot to see Pat receive that recognition before she retires.

I came from a tough background. I was homeless when I was 16. I struggled with drugs and alcohol, and I had a criminal record. As an adult, I was stuck in a dead-end job at Home Depot for 12 years. I believed there was no way to overcome my history. Then I met Pat and learned about Constructing Hope.

In 2013, I graduated from Constructing Hope and joined Carpenter's Local 1503 with a starting wage of \$23.35/hr. Life looked good—but one troubling thing was that my sons Scott and Robert were entering low-wage, low-skill jobs. Inspired by my success, Scott attended Constructing Hope's summer youth camp in 2014 and joined the adult program in 2015. Robert enrolled in 2016. Thanks to Constructing Hope, we all advanced to journeyman carpenter, earning \$51.70/hr. We all own our homes. I have four cars. My wife, who I have been happily married to for 25 years, and our eight children are provided for. I speak and volunteer to give back



to the community. None of this would have been possible without Pat Daniels and Constructing Hope.

Pat Daniels saw the untapped potential of people of color coming from prison, that they didn't have to just flip burgers. The drive, the passion and the caring is what strikes me. The staff emulate Pat's values and goals. They didn't laugh at me because I didn't know how to read a tape measure. Instead, they pulled me aside and asked, "Do you know how to read a tape measure?" I had to humbly say no, and they said, "Here's how it works." They don't leave anyone behind. Pat instills patience, and I have brought this quality into my life. It's like a family. Everyone cares about you. If you have obstacles like a failed drug test or don't have a driver's license, or if you don't know basic things, they will be patient with you. Failure is not an option at Constructing Hope.

It was Pat who introduced me to intergenerational wealth and building credit. She taught me how

to network and how to ask questions and listen instead of acting like I know everything. It was Pat who I knew I could call no matter what. It didn't have to be a business call. We could talk as friends. She wants to know about my family, my health. She's retiring soon, but she has taught her staff how to embrace people—and hold them accountable—

just like she does, so I am confident for Constructing Hope's future.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I want to honor Pat and her legacy, and I hope you will too.

Sincerely, Raleigh Morrison

PAID NON-MANAGEMENT

Aldin Porcic ~ Community Transitional School

Aldin Porcic wears many hats at the Community Transitional School. Though he's technically our Transportation Coordinator, he's also our maintenance man, bus driver and part of the office administration. We're a PreK-8th grade school for homeless children, and every student knows his name and feels comfortable coming to him for help; whether it's a broken faucet, accident on the playground or their tummy isn't feeling well. Whenever there's a spill, a leak or bodily discharge, Aldin is first to jump up and handle the situation.

An essential component of our ability to serve our at-risk students is our Transportation Program. Four buses cover a 120-square mile area daily to pick our students up from wherever they're staying, ensuring their ability to attend school regardless of how many times they relocate throughout the year. As the Transportation Coordinator, Aldin oversees the entire program. In the office, he's constantly fielding calls from parents updating



their whereabouts while making efficient and effective changes to the bus routes. This year, we've been suffering from the driver shortage the whole country is experiencing, but not to worry, because Aldin is at the wheel every morning and every afternoon, starting early and working late so that no child gets left behind.

But the greatest thing about Aldin is that regardless of the hat he's wearing at any moment, he does it all with a smile and grace. He's the light of our school, a constant source of joy and laughter, and we're lucky to have him.

NON-PAID VOLUNTEER

Loretta Cukale ~ Dougy Center

Loretta Cukale has been a dedicated peer grief support volunteer at Dougy Center for over 36 years and continues to facilitate groups at multiple Dougy Center locations. Her journey with us is especially meaningful, as she was the group facilitator for current Executive Director, Brennan Wood, who joined Dougy Center at age 12 after her mother's death. Reflecting on Loretta's impact, Brennan recalls, "I remember Loretta vividly from that time in



my life. Her calming presence, warmth, bright smile and genuine care and compassion stewarded me through the darkest time of my childhood. Coming to Dougy Center truly changed my life – it saved my life – and a huge part of that was Loretta.”

Loretta brings her own lived experience to her role, tragically having lost her own son in a car accident. Her ability to empathize and her remarkable gift for offering comfort with just the right words create a safe space where families feel seen and supported. Whether stepping in to cover a last-minute session,

staying late to walk someone to their car or individually checking in with participants, Loretta’s care for our families and dedication to our mission is truly unmatched. As one of the most reliable and long-standing volunteers, she provides a sense of stability and continuity that is incredibly important for grieving families and inspires our team.

“There are not enough words to express what I have learned from her. I am a better facilitator and person because she is in my life.” - A member of the Dougy Center Team



WONDERFOLK



AGAPE VILLAGE



JACKSON STREET YOUTH SHELTER



NORTHWEST HOUSING ALTERNATIVES



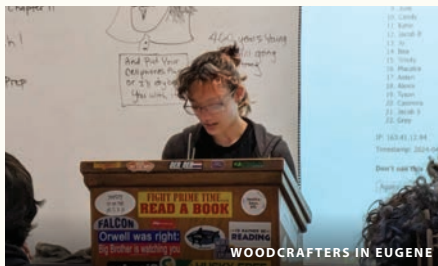
PORTLAND COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB



WE BELONG PDX



YAMHILL ENRICHMENT SOCIETY



WOODCRAFTERS IN EUGENE



YOUTH GRANTMAKING



YOUTH GRANTMAKING



YOUTH GRANTMAKING



YOUTH GRANTMAKING



YOUTH GRANTMAKING

YOUTH GRANTMAKING PROGRAM

The Youth Grantmaking Program began in 2022 as a way to engage Native students (grades 11 – 12) with philanthropy and community service by introducing them to nonprofit organizations, allowing them to experience first-hand the need for assistance in local communities and learn how they can help make a difference through volunteerism and philanthropy.

The youth work with SMCF staff to learn about and select nonprofit organizations to apply for a special youth grant award. Interns work as a group to read, review, and evaluate all applications. They also conduct site visits and, if possible, they volunteer with each of the organizations prior to making funding recommendations to the SMCF Board of Trustees. Once funding decisions are made, the grant recipients are invited to a check presentation, where the youth present them with their grant awards.

In 2024, we had five youth interns, Laney DeLoe, Annabelle Guardiola, Cohen Haller, Laila Holmes and Mikayla Mercier. They recommended five nonprofits for funding, and presented each of them with a check for \$5,000. The nonprofits they selected were:

A Family For Every Child

ABC House, Inc.

Daisy C.H.A.I.N.

Liberty House

Linn County Animal Rescue



YOUTH GRANTMAKING

\$100 MILLION *in* GIVING!

Building Stronger Communities Together



BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Chairwoman



JULIE FAHEY
Vice Chairwoman



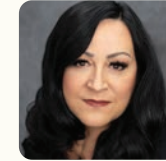
DENISE HARVEY
Secretary/Treasurer



VICTORIA ERNST
Trustee



KATHLEEN GEORGE
Trustee



CAMILLE MERCIER
Trustee



MARIA ROJO DE STEFFEY
Trustee



MARTHA SCHRADER
Trustee

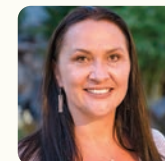
STAFF



ANGIE SEARS
Executive Director



JESSE KNIGHT
Grants Coordinator



ANGELA SCHLAPPIE
Program Coordinator



PAMALA WARREN-CHASE
Administrative Assistant

hayu masi
(many thanks)

WHO WE ARE:

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is committed to honoring the Tribal traditions of sharing and giving back. In 1997, through a formal compact agreement between the Tribe and the state of Oregon, Spirit Mountain Community Fund was established as a way for the Tribe to give back to the local communities that supported them during their most vulnerable time, the termination era.

Through the Community Fund, the Tribe donates 6% of revenue from Spirit Mountain Casino to nonprofit organizations throughout northwest Oregon. We accomplish this by providing competitive grant programs in an 11-county service area, as well as to government agencies in Lane, Polk, Tillamook and Yamhill counties, and to the nine federally recognized Tribes of Oregon.

Our primary focus is to improve the quality of life for all people living in northwest Oregon through community investments consistent with the Tribe's culture and values.

Building Stronger Communities Together

