

# SPIRIT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FUND



A N N U A L R E P O R T

2019

# Spirit Mountain Community Fund

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde fulfill its native tradition of potlatch, a ceremony at which good fortune is distributed, through the Spirit Mountain Community Fund.

The Spirit Mountain Community Fund's focus is to improve the quality of life in Northwest Oregon through community investments that provide lasting benefits consistent with the Tribe's culture and values.



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR & BOARD CHAIR

The Spirit Mountain Community Fund is the philanthropic arm of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. Together, we are happy to share our 2019 Annual Report with you.

As we prepared this message with accomplishments and milestones of 2019 in mind, it was a very challenging endeavor in light of the current events affecting all of our lives. In many ways, it feels as though we've experienced an entire year in just a few short months! Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we work together to break down barriers that prevent us from connecting and from being of service to others. Healthy families and strong relationships have always been at the core of Native American values and the undeniable interconnectedness we all share.

We've compiled this report to share the positive impact of tribal grantmaking across the state of Oregon. The Grand Ronde tribe is committed to sharing and giving back to local communities in our native tradition of potlatch, a ceremony in which good fortune is distributed.

Through our responsive grantmaking programs, we provided 115 grants to local nonprofit organizations, government agencies in Polk and Yamhill counties and the federally recognized tribes of Oregon, totaling \$3,348,654 and bringing our grand total of giving since inception to \$82,872,739!

At the Spirit Mountain Community Fund, we have five inherent Core Values: Equity & Diversity, Integrity, Justice, Engagement and Respect. These core values are evident in our philanthropic decision-making, ensuring that the marginalized populations are served. In that light, we're delighted to report that our 2019 grant awards impacted the following marginalized communities: 91% of funding went toward serving Low-income Communities, 77% served Communities of Color, 45% served Rural Communities and 36% served People with Disabilities.

### **Exciting youth initiatives:**

Youth are the future leaders of our communities. It's not only critical to remove obstacles that prevent their future success, but to expose them to new situations and environments that inevitably open doors to endless possibilities.

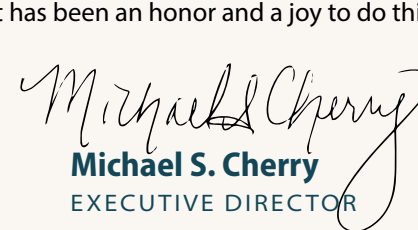
Excitingly, in an effort to bring awareness and firsthand experience of local and tribal governments, we implemented a Junior Hatfield internship in 2019. The internship is a spin-off of the Hatfield Fellowship Program that was created in 1998 as a living tribute to honor Senator Mark Hatfield for his outstanding public service to the people living in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Grand Ronde Tribal Member Amaryssa Mooney was selected as the first Junior Hatfield intern.

In closing, we were thrilled to welcome two new Trustees to our Spirit Mountain family last year: State Senator Arnie Roblan (D-Coos Bay) and Representative Karin Power (D-Portland). Now more than ever, we are thankful for all of our board members who pour so much time, compassion and effort into their communities. They are a reflection of the dedication and passion of our ancestors and we are so grateful for their leadership.

Our dynamic board of trustees and experienced staff are committed to strengthening our relationships within the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. We know the Spirit Mountain Community Fund and the Grand Ronde Tribe are making a positive difference in the quality of life for people living in Northwest Oregon and that together, we can make good things happen.

We want to extend our gratitude in our native Chinuk wawa language by saying, "p<sup>h</sup>ał-təmtəm ntsayka. ntsayka wawa hayu masi k<sup>h</sup>apa k<sup>h</sup>anawi msayka, ntsayka shiksh pi tilixam". (With a full heart we say many thanks to all of you, our friends and family).

It has been an honor and a joy to do this work beside you.

  
**Michael S. Cherry**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

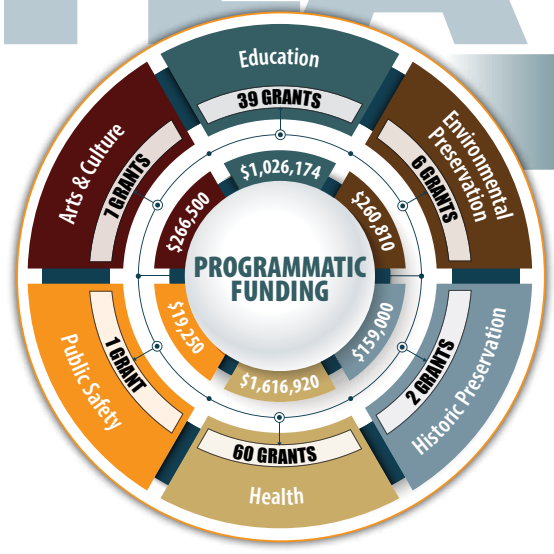
  
**Chip Lazenby**  
BOARD CHAIRMAN

# POT FLATCH



## CONTRIBUTIONS BY COUNTY

- 1 BENTON  
9 Grants - \$218,500
- 2 CLACKAMAS  
7 Grants - \$159,500
- 3 LANE  
17 Grants - \$387,535
- 4 LINCOLN  
1 Grant - \$49,000
- 5 LINN  
3 Grants - \$30,000
- 6 MARION  
10 Grants - \$287,550
- 7 MULTNOMAH  
44 Grants - \$1,035,965
- 8 POLK  
4 Grants - \$188,500
- 9 TILLAMOOK  
2 Grants - \$80,000
- 10 WASHINGTON  
4 Grants - \$106,050
- 11 YAMHILL  
6 Grants - \$156,054



**2019 TOTAL FUNDING**  
115 GRANTS \$3,348,654

The following types of requests were supported through our 2019 grantmaking:

<b>Programmatic</b> <i>(direct project costs)</i>	33.04%
<b>Capacity Building</b> <i>(new staff to expand project needs)</i>	25.22%
<b>Salaries/Wages</b> <i>(existing staff to carry out project needs)</i>	22.6%
<b>Capital</b> <i>(renovation/equipment/acquisition)</i>	9.57%
<b>Operations</b> <i>(day-to-day ops &amp; "keeping the lights on")</i>	4.35%
<b>Consultants/Professional Services</b> <i>(staff training, assessments, feasibility studies, etc.)</i>	2.61%
<b>Marketing</b> <i>(advertising, collateral, printing, etc.)</i>	2.61%

The following demographic groups were served through our grantmaking in 2019:

<b>Low Income</b>	105 Grants	91%
<b>Communities of Color</b>	88 Grants	77%
<b>Rural Focus</b>	52 Grants	45%
<b>People with Disabilities</b>	41 Grants	36%

(Note: Some grants/projects serve multiple demographic groups.)



## OREGON TRIBAL GRANTS PROGRAM



- Burns Paiute Tribe  
\$84,000
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians  
\$75,000
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
\$84,000

- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon  
\$80,000
- The Klamath Tribes  
\$84,000
- Coquille Indian Tribe  
\$84,000

- Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon  
\$75,000
- The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
\$84,000

8 Grants - \$650,000

# PROGRAMMATIC AREA FUNDING



AUGUST WILSON RED DOOR PROJECT: EVOLVE!

## ARTS & CULTURE

7 GRANTS - \$266,500

- August Wilson Red Door Project
- Kukatnon
- Oregon Childrens Theatre Company
- Oregon Native American Business & Entrepreneurship Network
- World Stage Theatre
- Burns Paiute Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians



KUKATNON: AFRICAN DANCE TROUPE PROGRAM EXPANSION

## ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

6 GRANTS - \$260,810

- Native Fish Society, Inc
- Verde
- Willamette Riverkeeper
- Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon
- The Klamath Tribes



NATIVE FISH SOCIETY, INC.: REWILD THE WILLAMETTE

WILLAMETTE RIVERKEEPER: PEARLS OF WISDOM



## EDUCATION

39 GRANTS - \$1,026,174

- All Hands Raised
- Alliance for Equity in Montessori Education
- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon
- Bethel Education Foundation
- Black United Fund Of Oregon, Inc
- Camp Fire Columbia
- CAUSA Oregon
- ChickTech
- Childrens Book Bank
- Children's Institute
- College Possible
- Constructing Hope Pre-Apprenticeship Program
- Direction Service, Inc
- Downtown English
- Elevate Oregon
- Falls City School District #57
- Family And Community Together
- Family Building Blocks, Inc
- Financial Beginnings Oregon
- Food Roots
- Friends of the Children Portland
- KindTree-Autism Rocks
- Long Tom Watershed Council
- Micro Enterprise Services Of Oregon
- Mid-Valley Healthcare, Inc
- Music Workshop
- Neighbors For Kids
- Old Mill Center For Children And Families, Inc
- Oregon Children's Foundation
- Reading Results
- Solar Energy International
- Strengthening Rural Families
- The School Garden Project
- Todos Juntos, Inc
- Tucker Maxon School
- United Way of the Columbia-Willamette
- Wisdom of the Elders, Inc
- Wordcrafters In Eugene
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

COLLEGE POSSIBLE: INTENSIVE SUMMER TRANSITION PROGRAMMING FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



COLLEGE POSSIBLE: INTENSIVE SUMMER TRANSITION PROGRAMMING FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

## HEALTH

60 GRANTS - \$1,616,920

Active Children Portland  
 A Smile for Kids  
 Albertina Kerr Centers Foundation, Inc  
 American Military Encouragement Network  
 Benton Furniture Share  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Emerald Valley  
 Bradley Angle House  
 Bridge Meadows  
 Bridgeway House  
 CASA For Children, Inc  
 CASA Of Lane County  
 CASA of Linn County  
 CASA of Marion County, Inc  
 CASA Voices for Children  
 Cascade Aids Project, Inc  
 Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, Inc  
 Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence  
 Clackamas Women's Services  
 Corvallis Environmental Center  
 Dental Foundation of Oregon

Family Justice Center Of Washington County  
 Florence Food Share  
 Forward Stride  
 Fresh & Local First  
 Gleaners Of Clackamas County, Inc  
 Horses Adaptive Riding And Therapy  
 Horses Of Hope Oregon  
 Juliette's House  
 Liberty House  
 Lines For Life  
 Lutheran Community Services NW  
 Marion-Polk Food Share  
 Mental Health For Children, Inc  
 NAMI Lane County  
 Northwest Housing Alternatives, Inc  
 Northwest Kidney Kids, Inc  
 Oasis Ministries Portland Oregon  
 One Hope  
 Ophelia's Place  
 Oregon Health And Science  
 University Foundation  
 Oregon Justice Resource Center  
 Our House Of Portland, Inc  
 Perrydale Domestic Water Association  
 Philomath Youth Activities Club Inc  
 Portland Homeless Family Solutions  
 Project Able  
 Qigong Sensory Training Institute  
 Salem Free Clinics  
 Shriners Hospitals For Children - Portland  
 SPOON Foundation  
 St Vincent De Paul Society  
 Of Lane County, Inc  
 Store To Door  
 The ALS Association Oregon and  
 SW Washington Chapter  
 Tryon Life Community Farm  
 Volunteer Caregivers  
 Volunteers Of America, Inc  
 Warrior Sisters  
 William Temple House  
 Yamhill Community Action Partnership  
 Coquille Indian Tribe



HORSES OF HOPE OREGON: FOSTER CHILDREN OUTREACH PROJECT

OASIS MINISTRIES OF PORTLAND: HOMELESS LIFE PACKS

MARION POLK FOOD SHARE: WAREHOUSE IMPROVEMENT - FREEZER REPLACEMENT



## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

2 GRANTS - \$159,000

Confederated Tribes of the Grand  
 Ronde Community of Oregon  
 The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs



WARM SPRINGS OLD HISTORIC COMMISSARY REHABILITATION CONSTRUCTION PROJECT



DUNDEE FIRE AND RESCUE



DUNDEE FIRE AND RESCUE

## PUBLIC SAFETY

1 GRANT - \$19,250

Dundee Fire-Rescue Volunteers

2019 TOTAL FUNDING 115 GRANTS - \$3,348,654



## HATFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde established the Mark O. Hatfield Fellowship in 1998 as a lasting tribute to Senator Hatfield, who played an instrumental role in the tribe's restoration.

Each year, the 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. Hatfield Fellows begin their Capitol Hill experience in November with a month-long orientation at the American Political Science Association (APSA), followed by an eight-month term in an Oregon congressional office. The Fellowship includes a monthly stipend, relocation and travel expenses.

## 2018/19 HATFIELD FELLOW

Traven Joseph, who was born and raised in Oregon, is a member of the Koyukon Athabaskan of Tanana, Alaska/Doyon Corporation and the Gros Ventre (White Clay) tribe in Fort Belknap, Montana.

Joseph is a graduate of the University of Oregon where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Business and Economics. He has an active history in Indian Country, with past work at the Native Wellness Institute and Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.

Traven began his Fellowship in November of 2018 with a month-long orientation at APSA before assuming his eight-month congressional placement in Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici's office, where he worked with members of staff on a number of important issues such as transportation infrastructure, climate change, violent crime in Indian Country and violent crime against Indigenous women.

"Having the opportunity to live in D.C. and experience working in a congressional office has opened so many more doors for me," said Joseph. "Everyone the congresswoman's office has been beyond helpful and have shared their experiences and the steps they took to get where they are in life."



TRAVEN JOSEPH

I've taken a lot of time to reflect on my experiences while in Washington, D.C., and am extremely thankful for this opportunity. I've learned so much about the legislative process and how a bill moves through a congressional office from start to finish. Understanding this process and actually being a part of a legislative team has been extraordinary, especially because Congresswomen Bonamici and all of her staff have been extremely helpful and encouraging throughout my fellowship journey."

Traven completed his fellowship in July of 2019 and is currently working on his master's degree at the University of Oregon.

## 2019/20 HATFIELD FELLOW

Cholena "CC" Wright is from Chiloquin, Oregon, and is a member of the Klamath Tribes.

CC is a graduate of the University of Oregon where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a minor in Native Studies. She has a passion for education, indigenous studies and building Tribal Nations. She is very active in Indian Country, with past work as the Native American Recruitment coordinator and Director of the Native American Student Union at the University of Oregon, as well as serving on the board for the Oregon Indian Education Association. Wright also interned in Peter DeFazio's District Office, working as the Staff



CHOLENA "CC" WRIGHT

Assistant for Veterans Affairs in 2015/16.

CC began her Fellowship in November with a month-long orientation at the American Political Science Association (APSA) in

Washington, D.C., Following orientation, she assumed her congressional placement in Congressman Peter DeFazio's office. This is the congressman's second Hatfield Fellow.

"Congratulations to Cholena Wright, the 2019/20 Hatfield Fellow—we're excited to welcome CC back to the team," said DeFazio. "CC is a proven leader as demonstrated through her work in her community, as a student at the University of Oregon and most recently Coordinator of Native American Recruitment. She was an asset to my Veterans Affairs casework team during her time in my Eugene office several years ago, and I'm glad she's coming back to learn more about the legislative process in our D.C. office. Her passion for public service, law and public policy will serve her well in this fellowship and will benefit the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District as she works with us to respond to the needs of my constituents. The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Spirit Mountain Community Fund's Hatfield Fellowship is a distinguished

program that has brought mutual benefit for years to fellows, Pacific Northwest Tribes and Oregonians."

CC looks forward to being a part of the congressman's team again to gain a deeper understanding of the government-to-government relationship between Tribal, state and federal governments and to gain the practical experience needed to navigate Tribal politics and policy.

"I am excited by the prospect of working in a bipartisan environment and experiencing the challenges of working with those with whom I may disagree. This experience will make me a more resilient leader," said Wright. "Adversity and struggle are some of the most effective teachers. I would love the opportunity to embrace political difference and advocate on behalf of the interests of The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Indian Country in general."

## 2019 JUNIOR HATFIELD INTERN

In an effort to bring awareness of the significance of the Hatfield Fellowship among Tribal youth, we implemented a Junior Hatfield internship in 2019. Grand Ronde Tribal Member Amaryssa Mooney, a sophomore in high school, was selected as the first Junior Hatfield intern.

The program is designed to give Tribal youth a glimpse of what a career in public service would entail and hopefully prep them for a future Hatfield Fellowship in Washington, D.C. This opportunity is open to youth who are at least a sophomore in high school up to a senior in college.

Amaryssa began her program working with the Tribe's Chief of Staff Stacia Hernandez to learn more about the day-to-day responsibilities of Tribal Council. She then transitioned to Salem to intern in Senator Arnie Roblan's office where she worked closely with his staff to plan and prepare for the 2019 Oregon Coastal Caucus Economic Summit.

"The idea of the internship is to give youth an opportunity to experience working with local government agencies and our Tribal government to determine if this is something they'd like to explore more in the future," said Executive Director Michael Cherry. "They're able to make valuable connections with staff members, and are able to ask questions and get firsthand information about what it takes to pursue this type of career. This experience can help them determine what path they want to take in college and beyond."



AMARYSSA MOONEY

## YE?LAN LIMA

(HELPING HAND AWARD RECIPIENTS)



The Spirit Mountain Community Fund frequently celebrates the success and remarkable achievements of Oregon nonprofits through an annual Helping Hand Award.

Each year, SMCF Board of Trustees and staff recognize three outstanding members of the nonprofit sector for their unwavering hard work and dedication to making their communities a better place for the people living and working in northwest Oregon. Last month, we delivered awards to the unsuspecting winners in the following award categories:

- Non-paid volunteer
- Paid non-management staff
- Paid management staff

Each of the award recipients received a distinctive recognition award, a one-night stay and dinner for two at Spirit Mountain Casino, and a gift card in the amount of \$500.

### VOLUNTEER AWARD

#### VERNA SCHARBACH – Volunteer for Catholic Community Services

In 1988, the Benedictine Sisters in Mt. Angel opened St. Joseph Shelter, a transitional housing program for homeless families. When the Sisters opened the shelter, they also began to operate a food bank, and ran it out of someone's garage.

That was more than 30 years ago and that garage belonged to our non-paid volunteer nominee, Verna Scharbach. It wasn't enough for Verna to volunteer her home's garage to help serve those in need. Verna also donated her time, and collected food, clothing, and household items for the pantry, now known as Mission Benedict.

When Mission Benedict relocated to the large basement of the now St. Joseph Family Shelter campus, Verna came along, too, bringing her dedication and commitment with her and leading by example. In June of 2019, Verna turned 101 - and she continues her more

than 30 years of service to the Mission today by volunteering on Wednesdays and Fridays. Although Verna can no longer buzz around to step in the way she used to or carry bags of clothing and boxes of food, Verna continues to be an integral part of the Mission's service. Often, Verna's face is the first one a visitor to the pantry sees. Verna works the registration table at Mission Benedict, welcoming all, signing them in, inspiring many. Verna loves her community and helping her neighbors. Verna's daughter, Susan, volunteers with her and says her mother leads by example. "She walks the talk," Susan said, "and so does the rest of her team."



### PAID STAFF AWARD

#### JACQUI MCDUGAL - Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), Early Learning Coordinator at Ventura Park Elementary.

Jacqui is IRCO's Early Learning (P-3/pre-natal through third grade) Coordinator at Ventura Park Elementary School. Jacqui's persistence to promote equity and inclusion practices is commendable. Three years ago, Jacqui initiated African American Empowerment Dinners at her school to solicit feedback from Black parents to improve school climate. Soon after, Jacqui led an afterschool class, "Beyond MLK," to introduce students to African American experience like history, art, cuisine, heroes. Last year, when the African American Empowerment group members invited parents from other communities to join, Jacqui supported to transform this group into the Multicultural Empowerment Group. Jacqui organized Ventura Park's first Black History Month event last year, which saw an astounding number of families in attendance, including families that never attended school events previously.

Her resilience stands out in the Ventura Park Food Backpack Program she created. Though originally not part of her program goals, Jacqui emphasized the need for this program. That way, students in need would have food over the weekend. Jacqui started a student volunteer system to help her fill the food backpacks efficiently. By the same token, this fostered a spirit of civic-mindedness among the students. IRCO is incredibly proud to have Jacqui's creative, thoughtful, and resilient mind on our team. She promotes the adoption of equity and inclusion practices not only for Ventura Park and its students, but also within her IRCO work team. She goes beyond what is expected of her to make everyone in her sphere feel included, respected, and involved.



### PAID MANAGEMENT AWARD

#### TRAVIS WILLIAMS – Willamette Riverkeeper, Executive Director

In 2020, Travis Williams will celebrate 20 years as the Executive Director and Riverkeeper for Willamette Riverkeeper. Throughout those years Travis has inspired people with his genuine, direct demeanor and unwavering courage to take a stand for the values in which he believes.

He is unabashedly honest in his desire to serve the best interest of the river, the environment and the greater Willamette Valley community. He is not afraid to step back and look at an issue from all sides - he is quick to look toward solutions, and open to understanding different ways of getting there. Travis encourages others to connect to the river on multiple levels, but one of the most effective ways in which he does this is by simply getting people out on the water, experiencing the magic of the river

firsthand. He is a patient guide with a deep knowledge of the Willamette Rivers dynamics, history, wildlife ecology, and stewardship efforts.

As a leader at WR, Travis mentors each person's career path, helping staff navigate in office positions as well as making it possible for all of us to enjoy the Willamette River by encouraging on-river experiences through participation in research, paddling, camping, and honing our guiding and communications skills. He imbues each staff member with curiosity, skills, appreciation and a strong connection to the river.



# A GLIMPSE OF OUR 2019 PARTNERS AT WORK



1. Shriners Hospitals For Children: Family Meal Support
2. Marion-Polk Food Share: Warehouse Improvement/Freezer Replacement
3. Childrens Book Bank: "A Story Like Mine" for Native American Children
4. Neighbors for Kids: Family & Community Support Project
5. American Military Encouragement Network (AMEN): Feeding Military Families
6. Bridge Meadows: Strengthening Communities through Intergenerational Health and Well-Being
7. Kukatonon: African Dance Troupe Program Expansion
8. Falls City School District: FACES Program
9. Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund: Newberg Water Quality and Aquatic Habitat Enhancements



Back row, left to right: Jim Holmes, Angie Sears, Kathleen George, Arnie Roblan, Jack Giffen Jr., Ron Reibach

Front row, left to right: Michael Cherry, Val Hoyle, Denise Harvey, Karin Power, Chip Lazenby, Marissa Leno

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Henry "Chip" Lazenby**  
Board Chairman

**Denise Harvey**  
Tribal Council Representative

**Val Hoyle**  
Oregon Labor Commissioner

**Jack Giffen Jr.**  
Tribal Council Representative

**Ron Reibach**  
Director of Facilities,  
Spirit Mountain Casino

**Kathleen George**  
Tribal Council Representative

**Arnie Roblan**  
OR Senator for District 5

**Karin Power**  
State Representative  
for House District 41

## STAFF

**Michael Cherry**  
Executive Director

**Angie Sears**  
Program Coordinator

**Jim Holmes**  
Grants Coordinator

**Marissa Leno**  
Administrative Assistant

*Hayu Masi*  
(many thanks)



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