WINTER 2016 GRANT AWARDS

Totaling $3.5M

- Meyer-Directed: 45%
- Housing Opportunities: 16%
- Building Community: 10%
- Equitable Education: 16%
- Healthy Environment: 12%
Equitable Education portfolio

Grants awarded: 7
Total awarded: $583,050

In a flourishing Oregon, equitable education means that all students — regardless of race, ethnicity, family income, geography, disability or language — have the opportunity to succeed in school at all levels of the education continuum. We expect that all students enter school ready to succeed, are reading at benchmark by third grade, are on track for graduation when they enter high school, and graduate high school with a plan for post-secondary and career success. We aim to build a unified movement to advance equitable education, create systems and policy level impact, and improve student achievement and college and career readiness.

Foundations for a Better Oregon
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $33,000
For general support for the Chalkboard Project

Western States Center
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $25,000
To create the Oregon Tribal Literacy Project, a tribal, community and education coalition-building project to support the Oregon American Indian/Alaska Native State Education Plan

Malheur Education Service District Region 14
Vale
Malheur County
Award Amount: $50,000
To provide LEAP training and technical assistance to serve children with autism and other complex needs in local inclusive school settings

Oregon Community Foundation
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $140,000
For continued support of the Oregon Parent Education Collaborative (OPEC), a partnership between OCF, Meyer, Ford Family Foundation, the Collins Foundation, and Oregon State University

Oregon Community Foundation
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $250,000
For a multi-year collaborative investment to address disparities in Oregon’s child care provider training system

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $15,050
To convene a Tribal Water Forum in Summer 2017, which will bring the nine federally-recognized Oregon tribes together along with key state and federal partners and community leaders to capture Tribes’ common interests around water

BestCare Treatment Services
Redmond
Deschutes County
Award Amount: $70,000
To support the Let’s Talk Diversity Coalition’s Papalaxsimisha Program, supporting American Indian students and their families in 6th through 12th grade on their educational journey

Building Community portfolio

Grants awarded: 4
Total awarded: $370,000

Our Building Community portfolio is focused on improving conditions for communities of color, Oregonians living on low incomes and other marginalized populations. The singular goal: to help all Oregonians contribute to building vibrant communities, influence the decisions that affect them and reach their full potential. We aim to invest in strategies that dismantle inequities and create new opportunities to advance equity, to support efforts to encourage and strengthen civic engagement and public participation in democratic processes, and to support arts and cultural initiatives that create inclusive communities.

Common Cause Education Fund
Washington
Award Amount: $150,000
For project support to strengthen the influence and civic engagement of disenfranchised communities by advancing campaign finance reforms aimed at achieving a more inclusive and equitable democracy

Northwest Employment Education and Defense Fund
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $130,000
To bolster and expand efforts by the Northwest Workers’ Justice Project to advance fairness and safety in the workplace for Oregon’s most vulnerable workers

Portland Jobs with Justice Education Fund
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $85,000
For operating support and technical assistance for this agency that works to create alliance with diverse groups to advance economic justice at the intersection of workers' rights, racial justice and gender justice

Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues
New York
Healthy Environment portfolio

Grants awarded: 4
Total awarded: $428,327

Our Healthy Environment portfolio investments are grounded in the belief that a flourishing Oregon depends on healthy ecosystems and clean water and air for all. To that end, we focus on the environment on two levels, by prioritizing efforts that protect and improve the health of the environment and by addressing the underlying disparities affecting specific populations and communities. Meyer supports healthy and adaptive natural systems. We further commit to an environmental movement that is effective and relevant to all Oregon’s diverse communities and statewide efforts to equitably spread environmental impacts and benefits among communities. Ultimately, we aim to support community well-being, economic vitality and environmental stewardship.

Freshwaters Illustrated
Corvallis
Benton County
Willamette River Initiative
Award Amount: $45,000
To create versions of the WRI-supported film UPRIVER that can be used in 5th to 12th grade classrooms and serve diverse educational audiences across the Willamette River basin

Nature Conservancy
Portland
Multnomah County
Willamette River Initiative
Award Amount: $303,327
To rehabilitate legacy gravel pits and restore habitat and natural river functions at TNC's Willamette Confluence Preserve, an ecological crossroad east of Eugene

University of Oregon
Eugene
Lane County
Willamette River Initiative
Award Amount: $60,000
To expand and update the Slices framework, a tool for tracking progress toward restoration goals, to include floodplain forest extent in three Willamette River tributaries

Willamette Partnership
Portland
Multnomah County
Willamette River Initiative
Award Amount: $20,000
To engage strategic partners in the Willamette Basin to advance restoration funding, water quality goals and health outcomes

Housing Opportunities portfolio

Grants awarded: 9
Total awarded: $1,616,000

Safe and affordable housing is essential to vibrant communities and individual opportunity. Oregon needs more units of affordable housing, more housing stability, more innovations and more systems change. To achieve these goals, Meyer uses a three-prong approach to housing. We believe in building and preserving units of affordable housing and strengthening housing providers and the sector. We invest in emerging opportunities and innovations in housing development, service delivery, systems alignment and housing finance. And we support residents through better access to available housing and wrap-around services that help residents retain housing and advance their goals.

Northwest Housing Alternatives
Milwaukie
Clackamas County
Affordable Housing Initiative - Cost Efficiencies
Award amount: $400,000
To support development of a 22-unit downtown Oregon City affordable housing project, piloting a rigorous focus on cost-efficient design suited for smaller rural and suburban projects

REACH Community Development
Portland
Multnomah County
Affordable Housing Initiative - Cost Efficiencies
Award Amount: $400,000
To support development of a 151-unit affordable senior housing project in Southeast Portland, with a rigorous focus on cost-reduction through the application of “lean” principles of planning and coordination

SquareOne Villages
Eugene
Lane County
Affordable Housing Initiative - Cost Efficiencies
Award Amount: $200,000
For support of development of a "tiny house" village in Cottage Grove, and completion of documentation for a detailed "Toolbox" meant to assist other communities in building on their model

Transition Projects
Portland
Multnomah County
Affordable Housing Initiative - Cost Efficiencies
Award Amount: $500,000
For support of a pilot project in North Portland using a flexible, cost-efficient modular approach to affordable housing development, in partnership with Housing Development Center, a housing nonprofit support organization.

Neighborhood Partnerships
Portland
Multnomah County
Housing Opportunities Affordable Housing Initiative
Award Amount: $6,000
To support an event in Portland with author Matthew Desmond highlighting the urgency of housing instability and poverty.

Neighborhood Partnerships
Portland
Multnomah County
Housing Opportunities Affordable Housing Initiative
Award Amount: $15,000
For technical assistance to hire a consultant to reset the organization’s strategic goals, with a focus on an equity and inclusion lens.

The Library Foundation: Serving the People of Multnomah County
Portland
Multnomah County
Housing Opportunities Affordable Housing Initiative
Award Amount: $5,000
To widen the engagement and reach of Everybody Reads 2017, focusing on Matthew Desmond’s book "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City".

Community Alliance of Tenants
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $70,000
For tenant outreach and mobilization by the Stable Homes for Oregon Families coalition, which operates in rural Oregon.

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County
Eugene
Lane County
Award Amount: $20,000
To address immediate needs at a manufactured home park in Northeast Portland being acquired by SVPD, including deconstruction of abandoned homes, testing for meth-related chemicals, and general cleanup.
Meyer Equity Grants

Grants awarded: 3
Total awarded: $560,000

Central City Concern
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $500,000
For a collaboration with health systems to invest in a transformational integrated campus providing comprehensive health care with housing

Grantmakers of Oregon and SW Washington
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $50,000
For bridge funding and flexible operating support during GOSW's leadership transition

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation
Portland
Multnomah County
Award Amount: $10,000
To co-sponsor the "Giving Back: The Soul of Philanthropy" exhibit, which presents stories of the African American philanthropic experience and giving traditions grounded in faith, fellowship and social justice