



United Way of Southwestern Oregon

OCTOBER 2020

United Way of Southwestern Oregon fights for the health, education, and financial stability of all residents of Coos and Curry Counties.

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FALL SPOTLIGHT: EVERY CHILD CURRY

Every Child programs across Oregon mobilize local communities to provide love, care and support to foster youth, foster parents, and families of origin in partnership with Oregon's Department of Human Services (ODHS).

Earlier this summer, United Way of Southwestern Oregon was proud to become the backbone organization for Every Child Curry and Every Child Coos. As part of our 3-year strategic plan, we also launched the Foster Coalition of Coos and Curry (FC3), which includes representatives from



Every Child Coos, Every Child Curry, ODHS Child Welfare, the Foster Parent Association of Coos and Curry, CASA of Coos and Curry, and United Way. The FC3 supports our southern coastal foster community through collaborations on foster family programs, community outreach/education, and fundraising.

In the coming months we'll be sharing FC3 projects as well as showcasing individual groups participating in the FC3. This month's spotlight is on Every Child Curry!

Every Child Curry's steering committee and community volunteers have been hard at work supporting vulnerable children and families in the foster system, and showing radical hospitality to their local ODHS Child Welfare staff.

Along with other Every Child programs around Oregon including Every Child Coos, this spring Every Child Curry kicked off a robust community mobilization effort called My NeighbOR, designed to quickly meet tangible needs of foster families, youth in foster care, and families of origin during the pandemic. Requests for help with groceries, educational activities, supplies, and more are shared through an online portal where caring community members can sign up to help (see "GET INVOLVED" on page 2 for more information). Through the generosity of community members in Curry County, children in care have received brand new bicycles, free swimming lessons, clothing, toys, diapers, bedding and more.



'Thanks-a-Latte' notes and coffee cards for ODHS Child Welfare staff; restaurant gift cards and notes of encouragement are other examples of ODHS-CW radical hospitality



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.



*Every Child Curry volunteers Mendy and Logan Hayne assembling Flash Boxes*

Over the summer, the Every Child Curry team delivered Flash Boxes containing games, gift cards, activities and other fun items to every foster family in Curry. Additional and ongoing outreach efforts allow the team to continue to show appreciation to local foster families.

In November, Every Child Curry will launch a Tutoring/Enrichment program for children in care and their relative foster siblings, as well as to children who have recently been reunified with their families of origin. This tutoring program will provide both academic and social/emotional support to students, as well as some much-needed respite time for their parents. Also in November, Every Child Curry will mail 'Foster Parent Night Out

(FPNO)-in-a-box' kits to foster parents, providing them with a meal gift card, Amazon gift card to rent or purchase a movie, crafts for their kids and a yummy fall recipe.

Christmas in Curry plans are already underway to help ensure that every child receives a gift, and in 2021 the team will launch in-person small group FPNO events to help provide additional respite for parents. Online trainings focused on education and support are also in the works.

Every Child Curry sends their sincere thanks to Advanced Health, AllCare Health, Brookings Harbor Education Foundation, Coos-Curry Electric Charitable Foundation, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, Wild Rivers Community Foundation, and countless local businesses and individuals, for their generous support of Every Child Curry!

## GET INVOLVED:

- To help meet tangible needs through the My NeighbOR program, visit [www.everychildoregon.org/myneighbor](http://www.everychildoregon.org/myneighbor).
- If you know a foster family or family of origin who has tangible needs, refer them to [www.everychildoregon.org/needs](http://www.everychildoregon.org/needs).
- To volunteer for FPNO events, My NeighbOR anchor site support, the Tutoring/Enrichment program, or Christmas in Curry, please email [everychildcurry@unitedwayswo.org](mailto:everychildcurry@unitedwayswo.org) or call (971) 219-9949.
- To donate to Every Child Curry, visit <https://unitedwayswo.org/donations/every-child-curry-county/>.

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## EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANTS CONTINUE

In March 2020, United Way of Southwestern Oregon launched our COVID-19 emergency relief fund. Thanks to generous donations from Advanced Health, AllCare Health, Dutch Bros Foundation, The Ford Family Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, and numerous local individuals, to date we have distributed **\$170,000** to more than 50 Coos and Curry County nonprofits and community organizations whose clients and/or services have been impacted by COVID-19. Visit <https://unitedwayswo.org/emergency-relief-fund/> for a list of grant recipients and information on how to donate.

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*Local United Way programs like these are made possible by generous community members like you. Visit [unitedwayswo.org](http://unitedwayswo.org) to donate, sign up to volunteer, or to just learn more. Thank you!*