



United Way of Southwestern Oregon

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sara Stephens, Chair
Jamar Ruff, Vice Chair
Haley Lagassé, Treasurer
Stephanie Hadley, Secretary
Heather Casas
Drew Farmer
Anna Huit
Justin Miller
Nina Nolen
Joe Paulet

STAFF

Jen Shafer, Executive Director
Kelli Wirebaugh, Office Manager
Grant Crim, Every Child Coos
Bonnie Ell and Mendy Hayne,
Every Child Curry

CONTACT US

PO Box 1288
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541) 267-5202
info@unitedwayswo.org
[facebook.com/UnitedWaySWO/](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedWaySWO/)

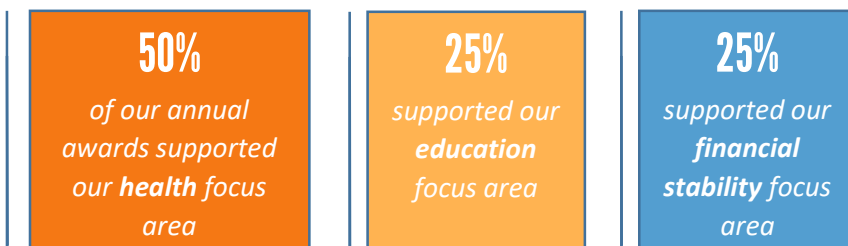
DONATE

www.unitedwayswo.org

ANNOUNCING OUR 2021 GRANT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year, United Way of Southwestern Oregon hosts a grant cycle for local nonprofits and community organizations serving Coos County and Curry County. This year, we were thrilled to receive significant donations from Advanced Health and local individuals, enabling us to distribute \$45,500 to the south coast!

Three award categories were offered this year. Our **Annual Award** is designated for 501(c)(3) organizations working to improve the health, education, and financial stability of Coos and Curry County residents.



The following organizations were awarded an annual grant:

- \$5,000 - **Alternative Youth Activities** (capacity expansion)
- \$6,000 - **Brookings Harbor Community Helpers** (Fresh Food for Seniors program)
- \$5,000 - **Consumer Credit Counseling of Southern Oregon** (Financially Fit Women program)
- \$2,500 - **Harmony & Me Music Outreach** (intergenerational online class support)
- \$3,500 - **Lakeside Senior Center/Lakeside Feed the Need** (food pantry support)
- \$2,500 - **SMART Reading** (volunteer-led reading sessions for pre-K through 3rd grade students)
- \$5,000 - **The Devereux Center** (winter Warming Center support)
- \$5,000 - **The SAFE Project** (Emergency Shelter program)
- \$5,000 - **Waterfall Community Health Center** (flex funds for Hispanic community members)

Our new **Community Partner** award, up to \$1,000, was available to organizations without a 501(c)(3) status whose projects or programs addressed health, education, or financial stability. **South Coast Together** was awarded \$1,000 toward printing "Help that Helps" guides (English and Spanish) for their Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) training participants.



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Our special **2021 Community Connections** award provided up to \$5,000 for organizations addressing social isolation and loneliness on the south coast. Funding for this award was provided by Rabbi Jeff and Mindy Glickman from Connecticut, who had embarked upon a [Tour to the Wonderful](#) “listen and learn” national road trip in 2020 to understand the ongoing and emerging needs of rural communities. Along the way, the Glickmans donated to every United Way agency in the United States, and after speaking with them to thank them for their generous donation to our local agency, Rabbi Jeff and Mindy gave an additional \$5,000 to support our work on the southern Oregon coast. Our team opted to turn this donation into a specific grant award for organizations addressing social isolation and loneliness on the south coast (a common need heard throughout the Glickmans’ Tour). Two awards were funded:

- \$2,500 to **Harmony & Me Music Outreach** for their Care a Grams/Gramps program - videos from community members that are shared with seniors who reside in assisted living facilities or who are homebound; and
- \$2,500 to **Little Theatre on the Bay** for their Matilda production originally scheduled for Spring 2020, now planned for Spring 2021

We are grateful for everyone who contributed toward our 2021 annual grantmaking program and we thank the awarded organizations for their tireless work to make our community stronger. We would also like to thank our Grant Allocation Committee volunteers (Addie Hutchison, Andrew Brainard, Anna Huit, Commissioner Court Boice, Elaine Lortscher, Joe Paulet, Paula Thompson, Renee’ Menkens, Starla Paris, and Stephanie Hadley) for their time and energy that went into this year’s grantmaking program.

UPWARD BOUND: TAKING ACTION!

This July marked another successful partnership with the Upward Bound summer leadership program! In 2019 and 2020, we partnered with Upward Bound to connect them with local community leaders and nonprofit organizations addressing our community’s pressing issues. This year, the students wanted to **TAKE ACTION!**



The students organized a local food drive, “Pals and Paws,” to benefit the Coos Bay SDA Food Pantry and Friends of Coos County Animals. Donations were dropped off at the Coos Bay Farmer’s Market on July 28. In total, the students collected three full boxes of nonperishable food and a shopping cart of pet food! Thanks to the SWOCC TRiO team (Emily, Chelsea, Nick, and Grant) and the Upward Bound students for helping us **LIVE UNITED!**



Programs like these rely on local community support - \$0.99 of every dollar donated stays local!
Will you join us in building a better tomorrow for Coos County and Curry County?
Visit unitedwayswo.org and click “#StartTodayUnited” to support our efforts on the south coast!