



Lane Community Health Council

Lane Community Health Council Fall 2024 Community Grant Recipient Announcement

Food Insecurity Focus

Lane Community Health Council is pleased to announce the recipients of our Fall 2024 Community Grants! Through these awards, Lane Community Health Council in partnership with PacificSource Community Solutions has invested in upstream solutions that address multiple community needs, including youth behavioral health, housing supports, and food insecurity, as well as projects that address multiple needs in one project. We are excited to fund these organizations as they continue to provide critical services to support community health needs!

Rhonda Busek
Executive Director
Lane Community Health Council

Organization	Project	Project Summary
Bohemia Food Hub	Addressing Food Insecurity in Rural Cottage Grove and Strengthening the Local Food Ecosystem	Aims to improve community health, address food insecurity, and support underserved groups in Cottage Grove by expanding Veggie Rx Program, workforce development space for rural food entrepreneurs, and provide high school students with hands-on culinary education and career pathways in the food sector.
Comunidad y Herencia Cultural	Ask the Expert	Supports the Latinx and Spanish-speaking community by addressing needs in economic stability, education, and social and community health and providing associated resources in Spanish. Provides in-person social and health events, with resources and services delivered through presentations by Spanish-speaking healthcare professionals and community service providers.
NAACP Eugene/Springfield	Xylemous Healing	Supports young adults (14-25 years old) and their families with a multi-pronged approach focused on ecotherapy and behavioral health; combines evidence-based approaches to improve mental health, access to nature, and food security.
South Lane School District	Community Care Specialists	Support for Community Care Specialists (CCSs) in schools to provide culturally responsive support and help with school-related issues, particularly for Spanish-speaking families. Provides basic need support for students including clothing, food, and hygiene products to help reduce stress and keep students engaged in school, and assist homeless families, especially with transportation and accessing essential resources.

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University of Oregon	Project Sankofa: Black Student Services, University Wellness	Expand and sustain programs to support Black students at the University of Oregon facing challenges like racial trauma, food insecurity, and limited mental health resources. Key initiatives include: culturally affirming mental health support during campus events., activities celebrating Black joy through art, music, and movement, virtual and in-person healing space focusing on mindfulness and African-centered practices, and providing meals and wellness resources to address food insecurity.
Looking Glass Community Services	LGCS Capacity Building for Food Insecurity, Housing Supports, and Youth Behavioral Health	Expand Looking Glass Community Service’s Food Security, Housing Supports, and Youth Behavioral Health Services in Lane County, supporting youth toward long-term stability and success. Includes a new housing initiative for trafficking survivors, providing secure housing, move-in kits, and food support.
Catholic Community Services of Lane County, Inc.	Expanding Community Resources for Healthy & Diverse Food, Housing Support & Severe Weather Shelter	Expansion of food pantry supplies and support (including delivery to elderly residents in food deserts), rent assistance programs, and severe weather shelter for unhoused families during extreme weather. This organization helps support community members who are homeless and housing-insecure, including refugees and asylum seekers.
Community Supported Shelters	Improving Health and Housing Outcomes for the Unhoused through Workforce Development	Workforce development and life skills training program for unhoused individuals in Lane County, prioritizing marginalized groups such as BIPOC, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with disabilities. Provides individual support plans for all participants and help teach them job skills with hands-on training and essential skills like financial management, personal hygiene, and social skills when needed.
HIV Alliance	Improving food, basic needs, and housing stability and access to HIV care and prevention services	Supports services for unhoused and low-income clients to remove barriers to healthcare, increase engagement in services, and help clients achieve long-term stability. These include drop-in services; monthly dinners for specific groups to address food insecurity, reduce social isolation, and strengthen social support networks; and assistance with housing navigation and associated support to clients experiencing housing instability, especially those not eligible for other funding support.
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc.	First Place Family Center: Trauma-Informed Support for Unhoused Families	Support and expand programs for unhoused families, including a drop-in day shelter providing resources like food, hygiene supplies, childcare, and access to healthcare; also offers a night shelter for families of all types, including single fathers and non-heteronormative families. Will also expand services like housing assistance, employment support, and food support for families and children with individual dietary needs.
Black Cultural Initiative	Food For the Soul 2025	Empowers Black households, particularly those struggling with food and financial insecurity, using a food pantry and existing resources to improve economic stability and social health. The program focuses on three main areas: financial literacy and budgeting, cooking culturally appropriate (Afro-diaspora) foods from scratch, and understanding nutrition to help families plan healthy meals.

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Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Lane County	Healthy Habits Nutrition Project to Address Food Insecurity Among Rural Children	Provides hot meals and healthy snacks for children and teens in rural Florence and the surrounding Siuslaw region who come from low-income, single-parent, and foster care families and struggle with food insecurity in an area where access to nutritious food is limited. Also sends pantry staples home with students for weekends and breaks. This program has weekly nutrition and cooking classes to help teach students how to prepare healthy and budget-friendly meals.
Burrito Brigade	Little Free Pantry and Waste To Taste Homebound Delivery Expansion Project 2025	Redistributes rescued food (from grocery stores, farms, and restaurants) to individuals through appointments, walk-ins and home deliveries and to fill Little Free Pantries in food deserts and low-income neighborhoods. Organization will expand these services to rural areas like Cottage Grove, Veneta, and Oakridge/Westfir to reduce hunger and household food insecurity.
Farmers Market Fund	Increasing Access and Affordability of Fresh, Local Fruits & Vegetables	Increase access to healthy, locally grown food for underserved Oregonians, focusing on those using SNAP benefits by using their program, Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB), which matches SNAP benefits for fresh produce and helps stretch food budgets while benefiting local farmers.
FOOD For Lane County	FOOD For Lane County Rural Youth and Family Program Pilot	Provide food assistance to families with children in rural areas, and in the future, to more groups, including individuals with transportation barriers or health-related needs, including offering home deliveries of food boxes to rural families and rural partner sites.
Helping Hands Coalition	Food Insecurity Grant	Provides hot meals, grocery gift cards, health education, and connect individuals to support programs in Western Lane County. Targets marginalized populations, particularly those with chronic health conditions, and aims to improve economic stability and community resilience. It will also provide tobacco cessation, diet, exercise, and financial wellness workshops to participants.
Junction City Local Aid	Food Sufficiency Project	Improves food distribution and support services for low-income families in Junction City by providing essential food, pet food, culturally appropriate foods, hygiene products, clothing, utility assistance, medication vouchers, and other resources. Provides case management to families to address underlying issues like housing and health, and improve accessibility for seniors.
Lane County Bounty	Lane County Bounty: An Expanding Local Food Access Point	Increase access to fresh, local foods, with a focus on Native American tribal member households using online SNAP purchases, customized food boxes, and partnerships with local organizations like the Siletz Tribe to expand food distribution and deliver food directly to households or designated drop points, reducing barriers such as transportation issues. This program focuses on offering fresh produce, culturally appropriate foods, and nutrition education, especially to Native American households.
Mapleton School District	Mapleton School District Food Systems and Community Resilience Program	Supports students, families, and the local community through initiatives like: a kitchen for school culinary classes and community use; a coordinator to manage local markets, cooking programs, and food sourcing; support for local vendors and increased access to fresh food; student stipends to care for the garden and integrate produce into school meals; and increased use of locally sourced food in school cafeterias.

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Southtowne Rotary Foundation	Addressing Food Insecurity in Local families & Unhoused Youth	Works with Eugene-area partners to help identify and prioritize families with the most urgent needs, particularly those experiencing food shortages at the end of the month. Offers monthly food boxes delivered to families, including Spanish-speaking households with culturally appropriate foods, and needed hygiene and cleaning supplies, which cannot be purchased with food stamps. This program also partners with local organizations to provide food and support to unhoused youth who are at risk of chronic homelessness.
TRANSPONDER	TransPonder Food Pantry	Expansion of Food Program to offer a food pantry multiple days per week and offer a delivery service for individuals who cannot visit in person, including those in rural areas. The program has a strong emphasis on serving LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, especially transgender and gender-diverse people who experience higher rates of food insecurity, as well as a commitment to cultural inclusivity.
Willamette Farm and Food Coalition	Investing in food security throughout Lane County	Coordinate with multiple agencies to improve food security and access to fresh healthy foods by supporting adults accessing and utilizing incentives to match their SNAP purchases at markets and lower the cost to the shopper. Also offers two nutrition incentives programs, which improve access to healthy protein options for adults and fresh foods for children under 12 years old.