



PacificSource Foundation for Health Improvement

Community Impact Report

2023



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear friends,

2023 was an active year of continuing long-term relationships, while discovering new partners. Together, we advanced access to healthcare while furthering prevention and intervention of health inequities.

We funded over \$1.5 million in grants, supporting 55 aligned nonprofit organizations across Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Clark, Pierce, Spokane Counties in Washington.

We also took a closer look at our organizational impact, while sponsoring an evaluation project for several of our safety-net clinic grantees. This in-depth self-assessment helped provide insight into the stability and evolving practices of our grant partners, as well as the efficacy of our grantmaking.

We learned that, despite challenges over the last few years, our partners continue to demonstrate resilience and adaptability. We are inspired by their capacity to respond in times of crisis, to address unmet needs, and to continually seek ways to improve their service to community.

The PacificSource Foundation for Health Improvement is committed to supporting these mission-driven nonprofits and to fostering community-created solutions that advance health and equity.



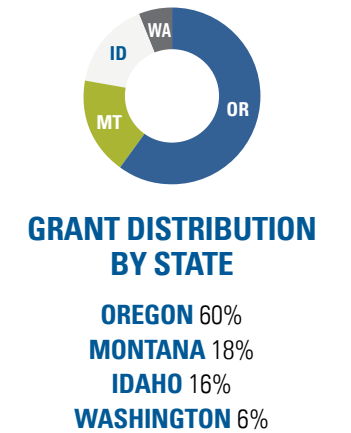
With gratitude,

Marian Blankenship
Executive Director
PacificSource Foundation for
Health Improvement

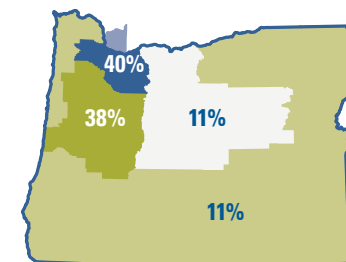


Uplifting and strengthening our communities

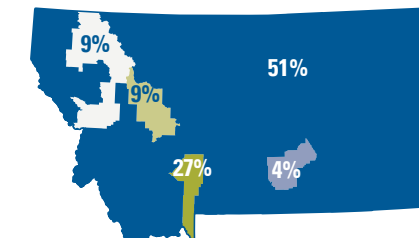
2023 funding totals



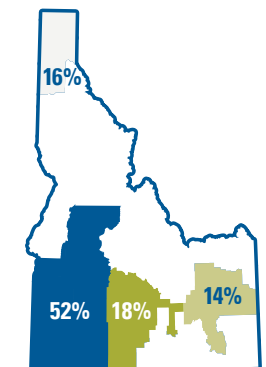
Grant distribution by region



- OREGON**
- Portland metro **40%**
 - Willamette Valley **38%**
 - Central OR and Columbia Gorge **11%**
 - Statewide **11%**



- MONTANA**
- Statewide **51%**
 - Bozeman **27%**
 - Missoula/Kalispell **9%**
 - Helena **9%**
 - Billings **4%**



- IDAHO**
- Treasure Valley **52%**
 - Magic Valley **18%**
 - Northern **16%**
 - Eastern **14%**



Priscilla Gould (1953-2023)

In 2023, we lost a community champion and long-time board member. Priscilla Gould served on the PacificSource Foundation Board from 2011 until she passed in September 2023. She was CEO of United Way of Lane County for 25 years and understood the intersection between health and social needs. Priscilla advocated for the healthcare safety net, and in particular community-sponsored clinics (“free” clinics), that provide care for those who otherwise don’t have access. On behalf of these clinics, she led the Foundation’s creation of the Healthcare Access Partner Program (HcAP), which provides multi-year funding, peer-to-peer learning, and technical assistance.

When Priscilla stepped down from serving as Chairperson, the board honored her by renaming the HcAP program: **The Priscilla Gould Healthcare Access Partners**. Priscilla leaves an indelible mark on the PacificSource Foundation, and we are profoundly grateful for her leadership.



Evaluating our community partners

In 2023, the PacificSource Foundation trained its focus on building **evaluation capacity** among grant partners. We sponsored a Project Impact cohort, led by Dialogues in Action for clinic participants within the Priscilla Gould Healthcare Access Partners program. Clinics crafted an evaluation framework, undertook in-depth interviews, and gathered survey data from their patients and/or providers.



While each clinic’s assessment and findings were unique, several themes emerged that underscore the important role these clinics play within the health system of care.

Clinical themes that emerged

- Clinics are **meeting critical health needs** of vulnerable individuals, and their impact **reaches beyond their patients**, including family members, volunteer providers, staff, and community partners.
- Many noted opportunities exist to **strengthen and expand educational resources** for promoting knowledge and engagement among patients.
- Clinics are prioritizing services and supports that **foster cultural competence** and responsiveness.

You can dig deeper by reading the compiled clinical findings in a single, published report. It is available for purchase from Amazon at [A.Co/d/8SIY4zd](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0C8SIY4zd).

Evaluating ourselves

The PacificSource Foundation embraced the opportunity to learn alongside our clinic partners by conducting a self-assessment focused on our Healthcare Access priority area. We sought to learn whether we were successfully achieving our intended impacts:

- Fostering organizational strength among our nonprofit grant partners
- Supporting their capacity to meet the healthcare needs of vulnerable individuals
- Promoting their capacity for collaboration
- Addressing patient needs through a “whole person” approach

The picture that emerged was one of organizational resilience, commitment, and adaptability. However, our findings also spotlighted the headwinds these partners have weathered in recent years.

Key Foundation findings

- Despite unprecedented challenges (pandemic, economic, climate impacts) our grant partners demonstrate organizational strength and staying power. Nearly all have been able to either maintain or strengthen their financial position, and many are seeking to expand in various ways.
- Grant partners are prioritizing cultural competence and culturally and linguistically appropriate services. They are investing in bilingual and bicultural staff, and in their own organizational development regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Patients are presenting with increased health and social need complexity and grant partners are enhancing how they build trust, screen, refer, and collaborate on behalf of their patient’s clinical and social needs.
- Grant partners highlighted various workforce challenges and are deploying numerous strategies, but these challenges are systemic and putting pressure on the nonprofit sector broadly.
- We heard that our approach to grantmaking contributes to stabilizing our healthcare safety net partners. This approach includes willingness to fund staff, consider general operating support, and sustain multiyear commitments.

Our evaluation journey provided an opportunity for deep learning and has surfaced important insights that will inform our future work.



2023 Grant Spotlights

A highlight of grants given that further our mission

Each grant is listed with its duration and total grant amount.

Oregon

CAPACES Leadership Institute, 1-year grant—**\$60,000**

Funding to scale up their programming, including their bilingual nutrition and wellness curriculum. Supports two part-time traditional cooking and nutrition instructors from within the community, to ensure the programming is delivered in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way. This grant also supports community access to fresh and dried, healthy, and culturally specific foods and ensures that participants have a safe and supportive community space to improve resilience.

Kinship House, 1-year grant—**\$30,000**

Funding focuses on meeting the needs of children experiencing adoption/foster care, including cases involving DHS. Serving a higher than community percentage BIPOC population, the grant supported mental health therapy, psychiatry, and advocacy to more than 315 children. Those served had a historically high rate of 98% not needing hospitalization or residential treatment.

Borland Free Clinic, 1-year grant—**\$30,000**

Supports healthcare access to those who are uninsured and underinsured, providing comprehensive medical care, including primary and urgent care, diabetes education, chronic disease treatment, mental health, physical therapy, gynecology and women's health, prescriptions, and more. Funding supports the salary of Borland Free Clinic's Certified Community Health Worker.

Boys & Girls Club of Salem, Marion and Polk Counties, 1-year grant—**\$30,000**

Supports access to dental care for low-income children through the Health & Dental Services Center, which is a dental home to nearly 2,000 uninsured/underinsured youth. The program provides comprehensive dental care and serves their school-based members, eight local clubhouses, and community members at-large.

Montana

YWCA Helena, 2-year grant—**\$50,000**

Supports the YWCA in Helena, which is focused on preventing homelessness among women and children. Their WINGS program provides wrap-around care to women, including housing, recovery assistance, and assistance with community programs. The Caterpillars program includes a therapeutic daycare, the Clubhouse, and the Parenting Center.

Thrive, 1-year grant—**\$60,000**

Supports Thrive's mission for all children to have the opportunity to grow, succeed, and become valuable members of the community. The grant provided resources to Family Support Workers (FSWs) providing home visiting and one-on-one support. FSWs help families identify their unique needs and accomplish their goals.

Messengers for Health, 1-year grant—**\$10,000**

Funds the mission of achieving and sustaining the health and well-being of the Tribal people of Apsáalooke (Crow Nation) and their community. A recent Crow Community Health Assessment identified transportation as one of the top two barriers cited by community members. This grant supported gas cards to be distributed to program participants who experience transportation barriers to medical appointments.

Idaho

WICAP Community Collaborative, 1-year grant—**\$60,000**

Supports a pilot program addressing a community-identified need for 24-hour drop-in childcare to support people seeking qualified healthcare services, such as those offered at behavioral health crisis centers, counseling, substance use treatment, dialysis, chemotherapy, reproductive health, etc. The grant supports up to 20 families per day.

NAMI Idaho, 1-year grant—**\$25,000**

Supports the Young and Well and Mental Health Court programs, enabling staff to conduct outreach, recruit, and train volunteers. Also funds the youth support group and mental health drug court programs.

Washington

YWCA Clark County, 1-year grant—**\$40,000**

Supports early childhood programming including the creation of the first therapeutic preschool in SW Washington to serve children who have experienced trauma, child abuse, and neglect. Since 1988, the Y has operated a preschool and childcare center for homeless and low-income children. The Therapeutic Preschool will integrate with wraparound family trauma support.





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