

uniteoregon

ANNUAL REPORT

20
22



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 was a year of survival and remaining rooted in our values. With many major events that occurred over the last year, including the lasting impact of the wildfires in Southern Oregon and the pandemic impacts have affected the lives of Oregonians - these circumstances have continued to illustrate disparities and inequities across the state and within several communities, exacerbating our efforts to bring change. Despite the investments and resources allocated to the communities we serve, it is still not enough.

Through this year, we learned to adapt and be creative to move a bold agenda that closes the gap in reaching more communities. We recognize that we cannot use the same incremental strategies that once worked to achieve this vision. The pandemic has shown us that anything can change at a moment's notice and to survive the inevitable waves of change, we must challenge ourselves to try new tactics and think outside the box.

This year, we celebrated our 20th year of serving our communities. We hosted our first policy action summit, launched our first community garden in East Portland, led new programs and campaigns, and increased our staff size and board engagement.

In 2023, we will carry out the plan to convert our headquarters into a Climate Resilience Innovation Center to provide emergency cooling and heating with emergency supplies as well as offer a space for resource navigation, a childcare center, and a workforce development hub. We invite you to deepen your commitment to our work in 2023. You, our members, shape our agenda and the direction of our organization. To work toward an intercultural movement for justice in Oregon, we need all of us to materialize this bold vision. If you have been thinking about getting involved, now is the time.

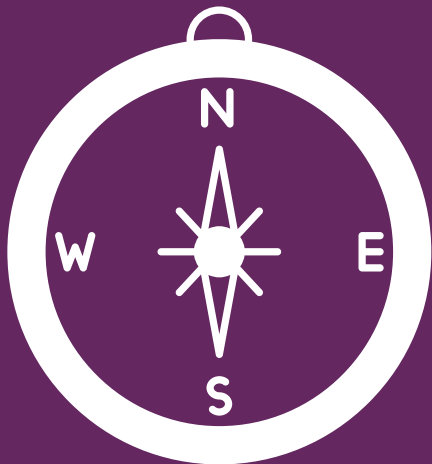
With Gratitude & Solidarity,



Khanh Le
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

We work across Oregon to build a unified intercultural movement for justice.



OUR VALUES

Social Justice, Racial Justice, Equity, Inclusivity, Empowerment, Leadership, Stewardship

OUR CHAPTERS

- Clackamas County
- Multnomah County
- Rogue Valley
- Washington County



HOUSING JUSTICE



In collaboration with our partners, we provided leadership development, housing advocacy, and eviction prevention programs. Our programs aim to cultivate housing leaders, and provide access to emergency housing, rent assistance, and protection from eviction. With the help of our volunteers, our door-knocking campaign informed community members about free legal aid and rent assistance.

We Protect Us: In 2022, we held multilingual renters' rights workshops, sponsored by City of Portland, to educate Portland tenants about tenant rights, current resources available for renters, and strategies to share this education with our community.

Access to Emergency Housing: In 2022, our Rogue Valley Chapter launched the Access to Emergency Housing campaign to ensure emergency housing and fair housing is open to everyone regardless of their documentation status.

Statewide Housing Hotline: This year, our Service to Organizing department launched a statewide Housing Hotline, sponsored by City of Portland and OHCS. This department assists community members by connecting them to housing resources and answering housing questions.

Thank you to our partners: Community Action, Oregon Law Center, Home Plate, Community Housing Fund, Oregon Housing and Community Services, and City of Portland



CLIMATE JUSTICE

Climate Justice Listening Tour

Unite Oregon partnered with various organizations to conduct a virtual climate justice listening tour from July to October 2022. Unite Oregon's Climate Justice team led listening sessions throughout specific regions of Oregon to educate our communities on current statewide policies, the Just Transition framework, and Participatory Budgeting. We also wanted to hear the needs, concerns, and ideas of the frontline communities we serve regarding climate and environmental justice.

Regions: Rogue Valley, Portland Metro Tri-County, Coastal Oregon, and Central Oregon

UO Partners: Oregon Just Transition Alliance, Urban League of Portland, Humble Beginnings, BASE Southern Oregon, and the Fathers Group

East Portland Community Garden

This year, our Pan-Immigrant Leadership Organizing Training (PILOT) leadership development cohort launched our first community garden in East Portland. The 20,000 square foot plot community garden will promote food sovereignty, retain indigenous sustainability practices, and provide entrepreneurial opportunities for immigrants/refugees to grow, produce, and sell food to generate income.

Wildfire Relief & Emergency Preparedness

Our Rogue Valley chapter is supporting community members with wildfire recovery as well as preparing for future climate disasters. This community-led project addresses urgent community needs such as the need for emergency preparedness and attention to the negative health impacts of wildfires. In partnership with Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), Unite Oregon distributed gift cards, air purifiers, and emergency-go bags to community members in need of resources in Rogue Valley and Clackamas County.

The climate justice team deployed an online survey and conducted one-on-one interviews to support this process to supplement the listening sessions. We hope to utilize this information to support the Unite Oregon's strategic plan, influence state-level policies over the coming years, as well as support the development of the statewide environmental justice mapping vulnerability tool.

We also filmed a documentary with Rogue Valley community members about their experiences with the wildfire. This project aimed to bring awareness to how the wildfires impacted and are still affecting the community.

By the Numbers: 40 air purifiers, 500 emergency go bags, and \$50k in gift cards distributed in Rogue Valley and Clackamas County



EQUITABLE ECONOMIC INVESTMENT



Southwest Corridor Equity Coalition (SWEC)

Unite Oregon continued to lead the coordination between the partners and different subcommittees/workgroups of the Southwest Corridor Equity Coalition (SWEC). This year, more culturally-specific organizations joined SWEC.

- **SWEC Community Leadership Cohort Program:** The first group of participants from the SWEC Community Leadership Cohort program graduated in October 2022. We will be launching our second cohort soon.
- **Anti-Displacement in the Portland Southwest Corridor:** Unite Oregon was able to secure funds from the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund (PCEF) to plan projects focused on housing stability and energy efficiency.

West Portland Town Center (WPTC) Plan: Together with several SWEC partners, Unite Oregon met with members of the Portland City Council in September to advocate for the adoption and equitable implementation of the plan’s recommended draft

Anti-Displacement PDX (ADPDX) Coalition

is a leadership development program and cohort that address the needs of those facing displacement, especially Black, Indigenous, immigrants, refugees, and People of Color residents in the Portland Metro region. ADPDX focuses on empowering, educating, and developing advocacy skills to create opportunities that minimize displacement risks for our communities.



YOU CURRENTLY OWN OR HAVE INTEREST IN STARTING A SMALL BUSINESS

BRIDGES is a small business empowerment program for immigrant, refugee, and BIPOC community members who live and/or work in East Portland and East County (including North Portland and Gresham)



Business Support

Learn how to launch & operate a small business



Leadership Development

Courses on leadership development and civic engagement



Funding Available

Offering microloans and matched savings grant programs (IDAs)

Free program launching in early 2023

Spots are limited. To express your interest in the program, please fill out the intake survey. Formal application will be sent following completion of intake survey.

Learn more at <https://uniteeast.com/bridges>



BIPOC, Refugee, Immigrant Development, Growth, and Economic Sustainability (BRIDGES) Program

In early 2022, Unite Oregon launched a free small business incubator program for immigrant, refugee, and BIPOC community members. In partnership with Mercy Corps Northwest, the BRIDGES program provides a culturally responsive training series on how to launch and operate a small business and courses on civic engagement, community organizing, leadership development, and policy advocacy training. Next year, a number of participants will be able to access small business loans and start Individual Development Accounts.

HopeGrove Legacy

Unite Oregon launch a state-wide childcare business program for community members who have or are interested in starting a childcare business. Launching in early 2023, HopeGrove Legacy will provide education on how to launch and operate a childcare business, community organizing, and funding their business. Furthermore, we hope secure centers to provide small business owners the ability to offer more services.



Beaverton Organizing and Leadership Development (BOLD)

With our partners, City of Beaverton, Unite Oregon celebrated ten years of our Beaverton Organizing and Leadership Development (BOLD) program, which provides a leadership development program for emerging immigrant and refugee leaders who live in the city of Beaverton. Community members build cross-cultural relationships as they grow their leadership skills and learn about civic engagement. Unite Oregon has graduated a total of 180 community members from the program since its inception.





HEALTH EQUITY

In 2022, the Supreme Court overruled Roe v. Wade, taking away the constitutional right to abortion. Abortion is still accessible in Oregon and we are fighting to protect our rights by organizing our most impacted IR-BIPOC communities.

Reproductive Justice

Our Rogue Valley Chapter focuses on the rights of IR-BIPOC communities to access reproductive care and make informed reproductive decisions. Unite Oregon provides available resources, education, and access that community members need to make the best decisions for themselves and their families.

Our Forward Youth cohort in Rogue Valley has been working towards reproductive health and justice in the rural Latinx community. This year, our youth came together in listening sessions to learn about reproductive health access.

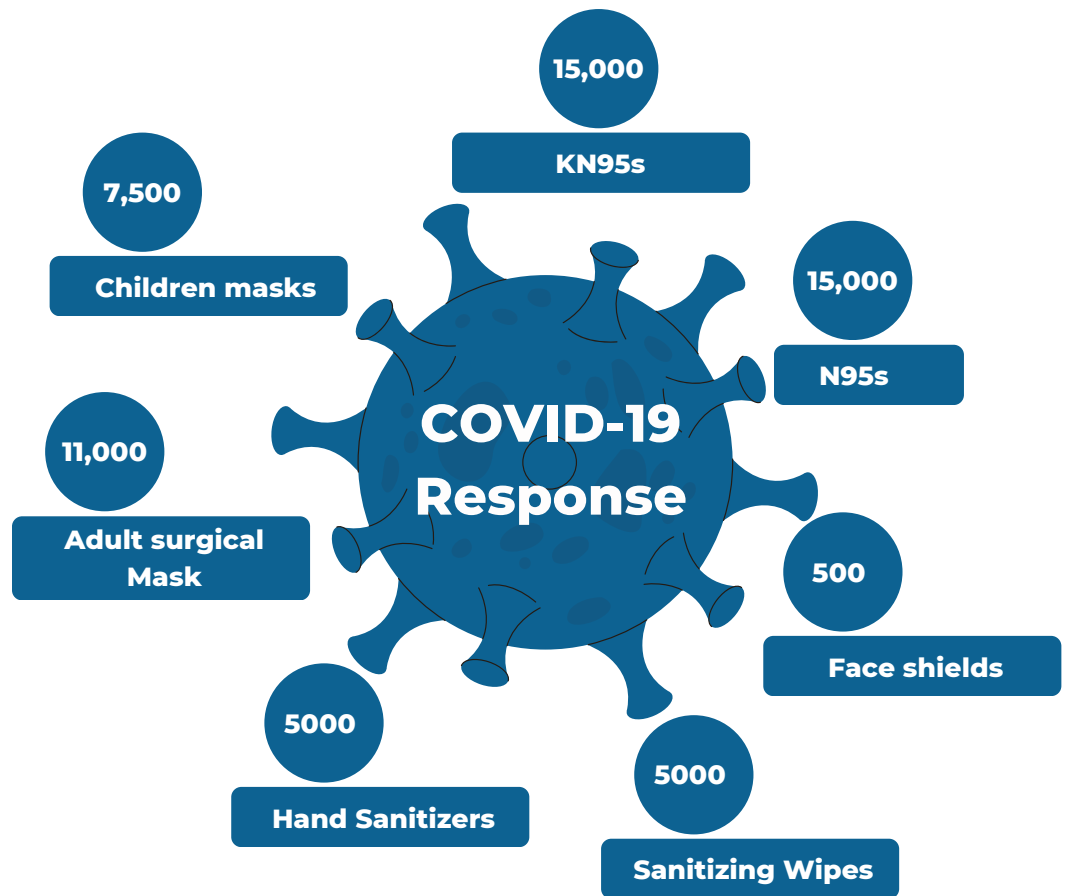




As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, our communities struggled to access comprehensive and culturally responsive healthcare and treatment options. In response, we launched a Community Health Worker Program, training, and State certifying two CHW's who helped advance Unite Oregon's Health Literacy goals. Through our COVID-19 response efforts, we have distributed PPE and education materials to about 10,000 community members living in vulnerable populations. In October 2022, Unite Oregon (along with nine other organizations) was awarded Health Equity and Access Immunization Champions at the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit.

Donors & Partners:

- Oregon Community Foundation
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Ned & Sys Hayes Family Fund
- Oregon Health Authority
- CDC Foundation
- Washington County Health & Human Services
- Heatherington Foundation
- Portland Housing Bureau / OCHS
- Health Share of Oregon
- Community Action
- Oregon Law Center
- Multnomah County Health Department
- Kaiser Permanente
- JOIN
- Joint Office of Homeless Services
- Clackamas County Health Department
- Oregon Food Bank
- Red Cross
- Oregon Nurses Association



EDUCATION EQUALITY



Building Undergraduates through Inclusive Leadership Development (BUILD) Program

Our BUILD program supports parents of BIPOC students in three Portland Public Schools high schools in addressing systemic barriers to educational attainment. The program provides parent programming on leadership development, issue organizing, and mobilizing. During the current 2022-2023 school year, we are serving **43 families**.



Youth-Led Involvement through Engagement and Leadership Development (YIELD) Program

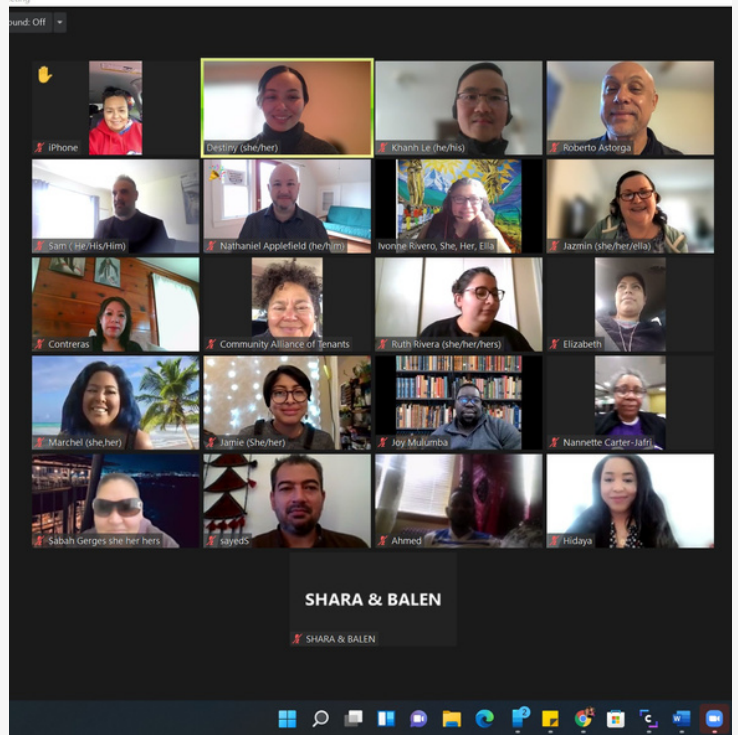
Our YIELD program supports BIPOC students at three Portland Public School middle schools in developing the necessary skills to collectively address educational inequalities they face within their schools. This year, we secured funds to expand our program to Washington County. The program provides students with workshops and activities centered on leadership development, organizing, advocacy, and public speaking.



POLICY ADVOCACY

Refugee, Immigrant, People of Color, Political Leadership and Education (RIPPLE)

Our Refugee, Immigrant, People of Color, Political Leadership and Education (RIPPLE) program educates community members on how to organize, advocate for communities, turn ideas into policy, and run for office. Our goal is to amplify political power for immigrants, refugees, and Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) in Oregon, who make up only 10% of Oregon's State Legislators.



United for Action Summit

In November 2022, Unite Oregon hosted its first policy action summit. We had over 80 participants around the state including Leadership councils, board members, committees, Black Immigrant Policy Table, and other leadership spaces joined us in this event to learn about Unite Oregon's current Action Agenda, influence our priorities and connect to our upcoming 2023 legislative campaigns.

2022 VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

We would like to thank those who decided to share part of their time to team up with Unite Oregon to ensure a lasting impact on immigrants, refugees, indigenous people, communities of color, and all Oregonians. Our efforts for equity, inclusion, solidarity, compassion, empathy and respect for others would not be possible without their support.



John Dougherty | Portland | he/him
Born in Louisiana and raised in the NE and SE parts of the US, he graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in psychology and pharmacology. After working in clinical care and medical research for 20 years, he changed the focus of his work to public health research and community non-profit program development, first for CDC and then for Multnomah County/Oregon Health Division. For the past 25 years he has lived in Oregon and collaborated with government and community programs to strengthen environmental health and justice, increase healthy homes and lead hazard reduction, supported school-based health care programs, developed participative motivational approaches to community harm reduction, and created in-home and clinical coaching approaches to healthy behavior change, mostly through grant-funded programs, technical assistance, and evaluation. John enjoys canoeing and kayaking, volunteering, and discussing issues related to intercultural Understanding.



Muneeb (Muni) Kalenandi | They
Muneeb (Muni) Kalenandi has served on the Beaverton Inclusive Housing Cohort 3 years and is serving as Acting Chair of the Washington County Leadership Council in their second year. They are also active in volunteering with the City of Beaverton, as a member of the Millikan Way CAC. Muni has a lifelong passion for activism in human rights and equity, diversity and inclusion, beginning in college with leadership in student LGBTQIA+, Disability Justice, and South African & Palestinian Liberation movements. This continued with political and volunteer involvement, and a career working to support survivors of domestic and sexual violence and exploitation, and providing harm reduction services for sex workers and unhoused persons. In addition to working with Unite Oregon and the City of Beaverton, Muni is also involved on restoring a community garden and developing it into a Food Forest, in association with the Sunrise Movement and Christ United Methodist Church, and working with several Mutual Aid Groups doing Heat and Cold weather supply and Food/Supply Distribution to local unhoused folks and others in our community.

2022 VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Bonnie Braeutigam

"I'm retired from Oregon Dept. of Human Services after working there over 30 years. I first heard of Unite Oregon at an immigration rights rally. When looking for a place to volunteer, I read more about UO and wanted to support your organization. I like doing the behind the scenes office support and computer work. I'm very happily married. We enjoy walking, reading and traveling."

Alondra Rosales
Amata Small
Ann K
Audrey T Barrett
Bonnie Jean Braeutigam
Carine Arendes
Colleen Carroll
Cynthia Moffett
Emma Koontz
Francis Ty
John A Dougherty

Hali Brooke Naranjo-Anderson
Kalie Raetz
Katrina Dimick
Muneeb Kalenandi
Noah Grunzweig
Sophie Duba
Syed Qasim
William Good
Zhulma Arrobo
Zhulma Zarate