United Way of Lane County's

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT





A note from our President & CEO, Noreen J. Dunnells

I am excited to share with you our 2022-23 annual report. This past fiscal year, we witnessed deep commitments from the community members who guide our work - our Board and specifically our Community Investment Steering Committee. Countless volunteer hours were dedicated to defining grant priorities and embedding equity and inclusion in all of their decisions. This is both challenging and rewarding as we work together to build a more equitable future for children and their families.

In Lane County, many children and their families do not have the same opportunities and outcomes as their peers due to systemic barriers. These disparities exist within education, income, and health, and disproportionately impact people of color, those experiencing poverty, people living in rural locales, LGBTQ+ communities, and those marginalized due to other aspects of their identities. Together, we can help change these realities for all kids and families.

We are so grateful to all who have been a part of this impact. We look forward to the year ahead as we strive to ensure that all children are successful in school and life. Thank you for making this possible!

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Noreen J. Dunnells President and CEO

OUR MISSION & VISION

United Way's mission is to create opportunities for a better life for all. We know that when our children thrive, so does our entire community. This is why we envision a community where **all kids succeed in school and life**.

Because of you, United Way of Lane County was able to invest \$5,222,510 in our community in 2022-23*



Healthy, Stable Families

69,438 people served by **35** emergency food pantries

9 Family Resource Centers served **2,669** kids and their families

600 people received free doula, lactation, peer support, and parenting education

 34 home visits and
28 play groups were provided to families with Black children ages 0-8

1,299 South Lane households received basic needs and housing assistance



Kindergarten Readiness

485 children enrolled in free, high-quality preschool through Preschool Promise

22,216 books were mailed to 2,410 kids in rural areas through Imagination Library

185 children and their families received 1,476 classes and 1,700 home visits to support their high-risk children

461 kids and 289 parents participated in KITS, preparing them to start kindergarten strong



Elementary Success

BookFest expanded to 19 schools, providing 2,748 kids with free, age-appropriate books

327 West Lane students enrolled in high-quality afterschool, summer, and sport programs

154 Latino and immigrant children built social, emotional, language, and literacy skills

200 Eugene 4J teachers participated in LETRS training to improve how they teach literacy



Youth Knowledge & Skills

143 youth received safe overnight space, basic needs, and/or support and connection to our other homeless youth services

5 rural youth had weekly counseling for a year who otherwise couldn't afford it

45 Black K-12 youth received advocacy, mentoring, and support to successfully navigate involvement with the justice system

* Through Community Impact Grants & Programs, Community Agency Investments, and Donor Restricted Funds

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COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

One of United Way's key roles is strategically investing grants in local program and initiatives helping kids succeed in school and life. Most grants are multi-year investments, offering stability and flexibility to organizations, and are reviewed and selected by community volunteers who know the challenges, and solutions, first-hand.

Community Change Coalition Grants

funded 4 new coalitions working to tackle complex community challenges

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Community Support Grants

funded 19 programs providing basic needs and stability for kids and families in Lane County

Racial Justice Grants

funded 10 initiatives addressing racial injustice and/or led by people of color

Community **Response Grants** funded 4 agencies responding

to the 2022 Cedar Creek Fire

Early Childhood Hub Grants

funded 20 organizations providing parenting education, family preservation, and local family resource centers

We greatly appreciate the multi-year funding! A two-year grant allowed us the flexibility to set longer-term goals and build out an Invention Lab Pathway that supported youth to progress from a paid STEM Internship, to the Agency, and ultimately towards supporting their peers... and serving as role models for youth.

- Connected Lane County, whose grant-funded Invention Lab builds youths' skills and confidence in STEM, and connects students with internships, mentoring, and paid, hands-on experience with local industry agencies (pictured above)

-23 Funded Partners

Be Your Best † **Bethel School District** • **Bethel School District FRC** • **BLACKS § Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane** County * CASA of Lane County * **Catholic Community Services Refugee** and Immigrant Services § **Centro Latino Americano * Community Sharing Program * Connected Lane County * Creswell School District** • **Creswell School District FRC** • Daisy C.H.A.I.N. * **Ecostudies Institute §** Escudo Latino § Eugene 4J School District • Eugene 4J School District FRC • Family Relief Nurserv • Fern Ridge School District •

Fern Ridge School District FRC • Florence Food Share * FOOD for Lane County * † Hope and Safety Alliance † Human Rights Human Stories § **Junction City Local Aid *** Junction City School District • King Silky's Blessing Boxes § Lane Arts Council § Lane Community Health Council + Lift Every Voice • § Looking Glass Community Services * **Lowell School District** • **Lowell School District FRC** • Marcola School District FRC • **McKenzie School District FRC** • Nurturelv • Oakridge Food Box * Oakridge School District • **Options Counseling** • **Oregon Blacks in Government * Oregon Community Programs * •**

Oregon Social Learning Center • Pearl Buck Center * • Pleasant Hill School District FRC • **Relief Nursery * •** Solid Strides § South Lane Mental Health Services * South Lane School District • South Lane School District's Early Learning Center * • St. Vincent de Paul's First Place Family Center * St. Vincent de Paul's First Place Kids • Springfield School District • The Child Center • White Bird Clinic's HOOTS * Willamette Family Treatment Services • Xcape Dance Company § *Community Support Grants † Community Change Coalition Grants

- **§** Racial Justice Grants
- Early Childhood Hub of Lane County Grants

IMPACT SNAPSHOT:

Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane County

We have a grandmother who is raising two young grandsons... She reached out to us about wanting to get her school-aged grandson into the after-school program but lacked financial means to do so. We let her know we would be able to provide a full scholarship for her grandson so that he would have a safe and positive place to go after school. She was beyond grateful. He is now in his third year with us and will be entering the teen program this fall. He has gotten to experience activities in arts & crafts, science, culinary, sports, technology, engineering, and so much more and he is thriving. I can't wait to see what this remarkable young man has to offer the world as he continues to grow.



As you know a non-profit faces extra challenges with sustainable funding to continue to serve their mission. With the support and confidence of your staff, board, and donors, we were able to ensure that no child was turned away due to the inability to pay for high quality after-school, summer, and sports programs. Thank you, United Way for helping us to make a difference in the lives of the young children we serve.

- Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane County, whose 2021-23 United Way Support Grant funded high-guality after-school care for over 300 children, including scholarships for 75 families



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CONVENING, CAPACITY-BUILDING, AND NONPROFIT SECTOR SUPPORT

Mobilizing Volunteers

As Lane County's volunteerism hub, United Way mobilized over 853 volunteers to support local nonprofits and guide United Way's work during 2022-23. Of those volunteers, 696 participated in United Way's annual Days of Caring event, providing a total of 2,600 service hours across three days, a value of over \$78,000.

Integrating Early Childhood Parent and Provider Support

Last year, we were thrilled to debut The Early Childhood Hub of Lane County – a merger of our early childhood efforts previously known as LaneKids and The Early Learning Alliance. The new identity integrates the parent support of LaneKids and the provider support of the Early Learning Alliance into one cohesive brand supporting parents and providers alike. The mission remains the same: to ensure all parents in Lane County have the knowledge, tools, and support to nurture their child's optimal development for success in school and life. Find parenting resources, educational programs, a calendar of free/low-cost family events, and more at <u>www.earlychildhoodlane.org</u>. Since 2013, United Way of Lane County has served as the backbone for this collective impact initiative.

Improving Literacy Education for Teachers

Even with Bachelor's and Master's level education, many teachers do not enter the field with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively teach students how to read. Thanks to funding from United Way, Meyer Memorial Trust, and the Miller Foundation, the Eugene 4J School District is now offering the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) course to educators. Based on the Science of Reading, it provides teachers with key knowledge on how students acquire literacy skills, as well as training on how to use it to effectively teach a range of learners. Almost 200 local educators have now taken the course, with many more eager to participate.



LETRS will be a game changer in our district. The depth of learning involved exceeds all that I received in my Special Education Masters and Reading Specialist Degree. The thought of a huge cadre of teachers becoming reading experts will allow them to provide literacy instruction the likes we've not seen in 4J. We will be changing students' lives. THANK YOU.

- 4J Educator



Addressing the Child Care Crisis

To address the lack of accessible, affordable child care in Lane County, United Way helped launch a new county-wide role of Child Care Sector Strategist. The position, part of the larger Sector Strategy Team at Onward Eugene, was formed after conversations between United Way, Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce, Lane Workforce Partnership, Lane Community College, and others, exploring how to create quality, affordable child care across the county. United Way secured funding to make this role possible. Since last fall, this position has launched a statewide Marketing and Media Campaign around child care and the role of Child Care Resource & Referral agencies, assisted with the launch of Child Care Business Accelerator, and supported the Florence-area businesses in building capacity for child care in west Lane County.

Expanding Rural Outreach

This past year, United Way is thrilled to have created a new Rural Engagement Coordinator position on our team to be more present to and support rural communities in Lane County. In July, Florence community member and educator Anika Miller was hired for the role. Anika is eager to continue building relationships throughout the western, eastern, and southern parts of Lane County, and would love to connect with you! You can reach her at <u>amiller@unitedwaylane.org</u>.

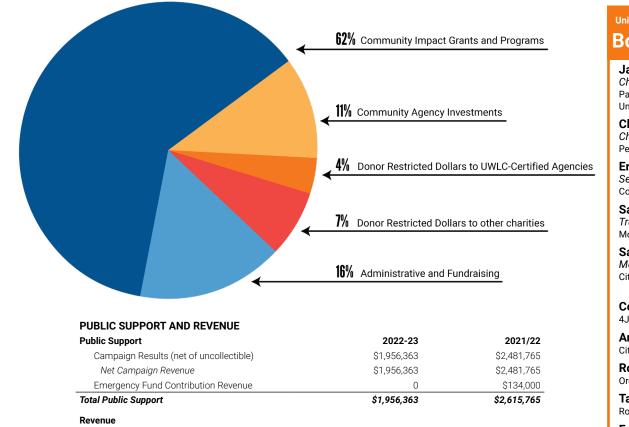


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HOW YOUR UNITED WAY DOLLARS WERE INVESTED



I want to thank United Way, because I had a vision. And **they didn't just believe in my vision, but they supported that** vision with funds. And this is how I was able to really get BLACKS off the ground. I originally applied with a fiscal sponsor, and after I received the grant, now I have a 501c3... so I'm very thankful to United Way for that opportunity. – Dr. Brenda Joyce Sanders, BLACKS



\$2,870,764 \$2,233,859 Grant Revenue Sponsorships, Fees, and other \$286,620 \$182,139 Total Revenue \$3,157,384 \$2,415,763 Total Public Support and Revenue \$5,113,747 \$5,031,763 **EXPENSES** Program Grants \$3,235,657 \$3,094,650 Community Impact Program Services \$600,000 \$600,000 Donor Designation to 501© Agencies \$914.531 \$576.387 Support Service - Administration \$390.055 \$273.511 Support Service - Fundraising \$420,411 \$414,462 **Total Allocations and Expenses** \$5,222,510 \$5,297,154 Increase (decrease) in Net Assets (\$108,763) (\$265,391) Net Assets Beginning of Year \$4,515,174 \$4,780,565 Net Assets End of Year \$4,406,411 \$4,515,174

(numbers derived from June 30, 2023 unaudited financial statements)

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THANK YOU. Children's success is only possible thanks to your support.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023-24 SPONSORS:



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