

The state of Philanthropy in Oregon

GRANTMAKERS of Oregon and Southwest Washington

October 2016

1,231 funders give in Oregon, according to Foundation Center. Of those:

- 1,224 are located in Oregon
- 935 are independent foundations
- 151 are public charities
- 76 are operating foundations
- 30 are corporate foundations
- 30 are corporate giving programs
- 9 are community foundations
- 668 don't accept applications; and
- 451 are responsive grantmakers (accept grant applications).

Although higher education ranks 8th, 4 of the top 10 grant recipients (by number of grants awarded, not dollars) were universities. 2 more were university foundations. The top 10 grant recipients of 2015-2016 are:

1. Mercy Corps, 104 grants
2. Oregon State University, 51 grants
3. Oregon Health & Science University Foundation, 48 grants
4. University of Oregon, 39 grants
5. University of Oregon Foundation, 35 grants
6. United Way, Greater Douglas, 32 grants
7. The Oregon Shakespeare Festival, 31 grants
8. George Fox University, 28 grants
9. Lewis & Clark College, 28 grants
10. Oregon Food Bank, 28 grants

Top funding priorities look about the same for all funding in Oregon as for responsive grantmaking in Oregon. The responsive grantmakers' top priorities are shown in parentheses.

1. education (education)
2. human services (human services)
3. academics (academics)
4. children & youth (children & youth)
5. low income & poor people (low income & poor people)
6. health (economically disadvantaged people)
7. economically disadvantaged people (health)
8. higher education (higher education)
9. students (arts & culture)
10. religion (students)

Where does the money go? A large majority of grants given end up in Portland; more than the other top 9 cities combined.

1. Portland (2,294 grants)
2. Eugene (346)
3. Roseburg (268)
4. Bend (196)
5. Salem (180)
6. Corvallis (160)
7. Medford (114)
8. Ashland (103)
9. La Grande (51)
10. Klamath Falls (42)

So far, 5,043 - 5,213 grants have been made in 2015-2016, for a total of \$220,557,270. About 85% of these were made in 2015. Reported grant amounts range from \$3 - \$3.5M in size.

A note on data: Foundation Maps vs. Foundation Directory

The data cited above was taken from Foundation Maps, which has information on the years 2015-2016, years which Foundation Directory does not yet have information for. However, data in Foundation Maps is pulled directly from funders' e-reporting and may include re-granted funds. Additionally, grant amounts reported may be for multi-year grants given, but not entirely disbursed, in a particular year. The information given above, is intended to represent a snapshot in time, and despite the possibility of inaccuracies, is useful to understanding the state of philanthropy in our region., especially with regard to how many grantmakers are active, the issue areas that matter most to them, and where the dollars are going.

Looking at 2014 data for a more accurate picture

The best grants data available is from 2014, since all of the grants have been made and reported or captured by Foundation Center staff in the Foundation Directory. According to the 2014 data from the Foundation Center, a total of \$328,810,298 was granted to Oregon recipients in the form of 10,248 grants in 2014.

In 2014, the average (mean) grant size was \$31,820.

The median grant amount was \$5000.

The most common amount (mode) was \$1000.

These numbers show just how much large grants (such as the Gates Foundation's \$25M grant to OHSU) skew the averages; most of the grants given in Oregon are much smaller. That particular large grant represents 7% of all the money given by 1,541 funders to 2,558 grantees in 2014.



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This report was researched, written, & produced by Rhiannon Orizaga, and the scope of the report was defined by Joyce White. All research data comes from Foundation Center.