Grantmaking to Oregon grew 6% between 2014 and 2016.

Echoing Northwest trends, education and health remained top priorities for funders to Oregon, accounting for 30% and 26% of total grant dollars. Despite the large share of grant dollars targeting health, an even bigger share went to education and human services-related organizations.

- **Ford Family Foundation** awarded $240,000 to the Oregon Infant Mental Health Association (OIMHA) to support the rural Oregon Infant Mental Health Endorsement Initiative. OIMHA’s mission is to support the emotional health and well-being of Oregon’s infants, toddlers, their families and communities statewide.

- **Northwest Health Foundation** gave $70,000 to the Health Care Coalition of Southern Oregon to expand the leadership and influence of parents within systems in Southern Oregon including school districts, early learning, health care and others; and to develop a Healthy Children’s Agenda in order to improve outcomes in early life.

- **Oregon Community Foundation** provided $17,500 to the Latino Community Association in Bend for immigrant services and to provide education, affordable legal advice and application assistance for citizenship and work authorization.

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**Top 10 Foundations Awarding Grants to Recipients in Oregon, 2016**

1. Oregon Community Foundation (OR)
2. Knight Foundation (OR)
3. Meyer Memorial Trust (OR)
4. Fidelity Charitable (OH)
5. M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust (WA)
6. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (WA)
7. Schwab Charitable (CA)
8. The Ford Family Foundation (OR)
9. Bloomberg Family Foundation (NY)
10. The Collins Foundation (OR)

**TOTAL GIVING BY 2,732 FUNDERS TO 5,108 ORGANIZATIONS:** $655.5 MILLION

**MEDIAN GRANT:** $5,000

**NUMBER OF GRANTS:** 25,651

**CHANGE IN GIVING BETWEEN 2014 AND 2016:** +6%

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*Based on matched set of funders awarding grants to Oregon.
NORTHWEST HEALTH FOUNDATION
$70,000 to activate migrant parents and families to improve health and education systems

Northwest Health Foundation gave $70,000 to the Successful Transitions Collaborative of Southern Oregon to expand the leadership and influence of parents and families with health and education systems.

The funds were intended to improve health outcomes for young children as part of a five-year Health Beginnings + Healthy Communities initiative to build power among rural and urban communities of color in Oregon and Southwest Washington.

The Successful Transitions Collaborative is focused on families involved with the Migrant Parent Advisory Council at the Southern Oregon Education Service District. Parents have organized forums to share their concerns with school district officials but have felt frustrated by the lack of response and solutions from the school districts.

But parents also knew that there were system barriers at the state level that needed to be addressed.

"Migrant parents in the district needed the healthcare and education systems to be more supportive," said Jen Matheson, Northwest Health Foundation’s director of programs. "But they also lacked driver’s licenses to drive their kids to sports or school, so when a bill came up to expand Oregon driver’s licenses to all, that’s what felt the most relevant to them."

Matheson said the grantee then connected the parents to a legislative advocacy partner working in their region, Unite Oregon Rogue Valley, which continues to work with migrant parents to develop their advocacy skills.

"The 2016 election really changed things for us," Matheson said. "We had been thinking in a certain way, and then it became clear to immigrant families and community organizers that there was a need to respond to racist and hateful rhetoric and to build some momentum around a political movement that supports immigrant communities."

Matheson said that if you want to influence health and education and early life, you must make sure the people affected are at the decision-making table and able to cast their votes.
MEYER MEMORIAL TRUST
$40,000 to mobilize diverse voices for a fair cleanup of Portland Harbor

In 2016, Meyer invested $40,000 in the Portland Harbor Community Coalition (PHCC) to help catalyze the communities most impacted by river pollution in efforts to decontaminate the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. The site includes a stretch of the Willamette River that runs from the Broadway Bridge to the Columbia Slough.

PHCC elevates the environmental justice concerns of immigrant and refugee communities, Native American, African American, and people experiencing homelessness, who have historically been left out of the conversation about the river’s future. The grant’s goal was to ensure impacted communities benefit from and lead cleanup, restoration, and redevelopment of the harbor as part of the $746 million Superfund cleanup effort to address the cancer-causing soils that line the river.

This grant reflects an increased focus on equity in river restoration efforts, a new goal adopted by Meyer’s Willamette River Initiative in 2015. “The coalition seeks a strong, fair plan that entitles those most harmed by the river’s polluted history to an equally outsized benefit from the cleanup,” said Willamette River Initiative (WRI) Program Officer Cristina Watson. “They are pushing for rigorous cleanup standards and agreements to ensure that impacted communities have a meaningful role in the cleanup workforce.”

Meyer’s 10-year WRI ended in 2019, becoming the Willamette River Network, a community-driven, long-term effort to ensure communities and rivers thrive together alongside a healthy Willamette River system.

ENDNOTE

**Includes individual categories for which at least 5 percent of grant dollars were allocated. Grants may occasionally be for multiple issue areas and would thereby be counted more than once.

The data in this report includes information from the data sources described in the Methodology section of the full report. Only those organizations that responded to our requests for information or had reliable information publicly available elsewhere have been included in this report.
This report is based on the analysis of two closely-related datasets from 2014 and 2016 collected by or reported to Foundation Center, now operating as Candid, by December 31, 2018:

- Analysis of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 philanthropic giving to the Northwest relies on data from 73,813 grants totaling $2.97 billion from a national sample of 7,445 funders that awarded at least one grant of $1,000 or more to the six-state region — Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

- Analysis of the changes in giving to the Northwest between FY’s 2014 and 2016 uses a matched subset of 4,253 funders so as not to distort data due to changes in the funders in each year.

Dollar amounts may represent the full authorized grant award, or the amount paid in that year, depending on how the foundation reports its activity. Similarly, FY 2014 and FY 2016 may include grants awarded in late 2013 and late 2015, respectively, depending on a foundation’s fiscal calendar. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number, leading to some figures reflecting slightly more than 100% totals. Dollar amounts are rounded to the tenth place.

ABOUT THE DATA

What data was collected? This report includes grants data, primarily, but also foundation-administered programs, program-related investments and mission-related investments, collectively called “transactions.”9 The data come from:

- IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF
- Lists provided directly by funders
- Foundation websites
- Other sources (including news and press releases or via partner organizations), learn more on Candid’s website at candid.org.

New since 2016, each reported transaction is now machine-coded according to Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System. The change increased the number of grants in the database and provides a more comprehensive picture of the philanthropic sector.

Candid manually reviews machine-assigned codes for transactions of $250,000 or more made by 1,000 of the largest U.S. foundations, as well as for some special projects. The automated system uses a deliberately conservative methodology to track grant recipients that primarily work with people of color by population group, focusing on:

1. Identifying the population served by the transaction.

2. If there is no beneficiary population associated with the transaction, then Candid identifies the population served by the recipient organization.

Some transactions benefit multiple population groups, such as African Americans and LatinX Americans. In these cases, the full dollar amount is allocated for each beneficiary population, since it’s not possible to specify the share of support that is intended for each population group.

For detailed information about Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System or to learn more about how the data were classified visit the website at taxonomy.candid.org.
TRENDS IN NORTHWEST GIVING 2019 is a joint project of Philanthropy Northwest and Foundation Center, now known as Candid.

Data processing, research and analysis conducted by Reina Mukai (of Candid, formerly Foundation Center) in conjunction with Paul Kim (formerly with Philanthropy Northwest). Report strategy and production guidance provided by Philanthropy Northwest staff: Kiran Ahuja, Danielle Crystal, Megan Fairweather, Lyn Hunter, Anjana Pandey and Karen Westing. Funder interviews, writing and editing provided by Caitlin Copple Masingill of Full Swing Public Relations.

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