



**HEART OF
OREGON
CORPS**
Empowering change.



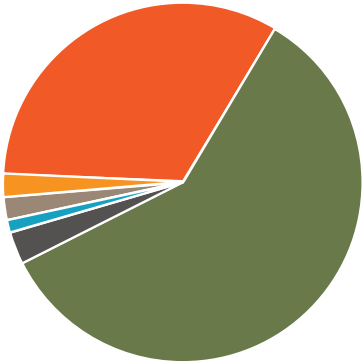
2015 ANNUAL REPORT





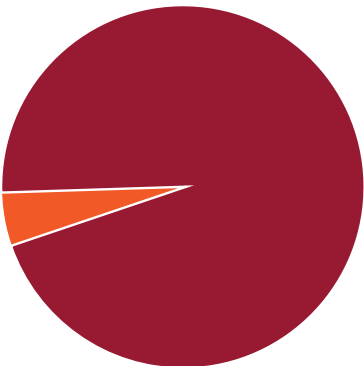
OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE. We inspire and empower positive change in the lives of young people through jobs, education, and stewardship. **OUR VISION IS CLEAR.** We aim to improve economic and social vitality while increasing pathways out of poverty.

2015 FINANCIALS



REVENUE \$2.4M

- Grants (public and private) 59%
- Fee-For-Services (earned income) 33%
- Contributions/Events 2%
- School District Agreements 2%
- Other 1%
- In-Kind 3%



EXPENSES \$2.4M

- Program Services 93%
- Administration & Fundraising 7%

W

e are a Central Oregon non-profit organization engaging local opportunity youth, ages 16-24. Every year, we create opportunities for paid job skills training, education, and leadership development for over 300 young people who face major barriers to success. In our **work-earn-learn** programs, youth work to maintain hiking trails, build affordable homes, and operate a thrift store while earning wages and learning the soft skills employers seek. We are empowering a generation of youth to believe in themselves and achieve self-sufficiency.

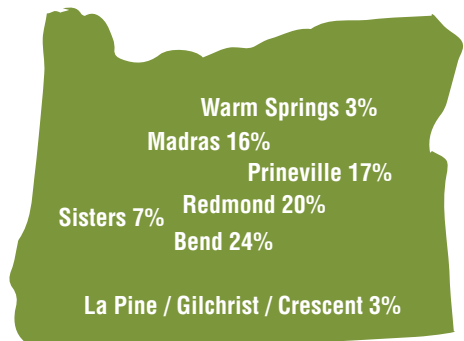
There is something about that word, empower, that makes it stand apart from its synonyms. Its essence is in giving power to the other, or in some cases, tapping into that power which exists already but has not yet been called upon. That shy smile that begins to curl a young person's lips as they realize their capabilities, as they learn job skills, as they help others in their community, as they earn GED's/diplomas and secure jobs. That is what inspires us. That is what we strive for. Thank you for 16 years of support, Central Oregon!



MILESTONES OF 2015

310 Youth Served
2 Affordable Homes Built
\$200,000 of AmeriCorps and Oregon State Scholarships
\$750,000 Paid to Youth Participants
5,500 Acres and
117 Miles of Trail Improved

WHERE WE SERVE



Outside of CO 10%

RISK FACTORS YOUTH FACE

30% dropped out of high school and unemployed
55% considered low income
22% with previous court involvement
37% with a disability
52% first job experience

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



“When I say **YOUTH**,
you say **BUILD...**”

Affordable homes aren't the only thing built in our **YouthBuild** program. Young participants, mostly teens who are out of school and work, also rebuild their lives while they rebuild their community. YouthBuilders complete some amazing projects – in 2015 they built an entire house in Madras called Casa Soñada (Dream Home) that will become just that to local agricultural workers. They also constructed an ADA accessible ramp at Skyliners Lodge to make it more inclusive to all the children who take field trips there each year. When they are not gaining construction job skills in the field, they are re-engaging with education in the classroom, all the while developing invaluable skills like leadership, accountability, and self-esteem. When talking about what it is that makes our YouthBuild program so impactful and so possible, mentor Signe J. puts it simply: “It's the love.” Mentors are key in helping these youth to unleash their potential. Learn how you can be that support by visiting heartoforegon.org.

Transforming Land & Lives

If you have visited any public lands around Central Oregon, you've probably seen our **AmeriCorps** Crews at work, or enjoyed the service they do to maintain these areas. When they are not in town doing fire fuels reduction projects to protect our communities from wildfire, they are out in places like the Black Canyon and Mill Creek Wilderness Areas. These incredible areas are home to a wealth of wildlife and plant species and enjoyed by hikers, horse riders, backpackers, and more. To preserve these areas, our AmeriCorps members build and maintain trails to mitigate the effects of heavy foot (or hoof) traffic. They spent 24 days over the 2015 summer improving almost 30 miles of trail systems. Many of our young members have never camped before, and the outdoor immersion experience can lead to lifelong changes. Take Seth, who, after completing AmeriCorps, got a job with a wilderness therapy program in Utah!



Joey, 19, Warm Springs

We employed our first youth with full hearing loss this year. His Crew Leader Butch shares:

“I had the pleasure to have Joey on my Heart of Oregon work crew. One of Joey's strengths was his ability to fix and repair fences!”



Isabell, 18, Redmond

“This program has opened my eyes to the options I have in life. Now I know that people support me. I am a part of the community. Heart of Oregon Corps is my family.”



Angel, 17, Madras

“Before I became a part of Heart of Oregon... I almost never went out of my way to do something for anyone or anything. With everything I've learned in YouthBuild I realize that a good leader has the potential to move mountains. There are no boundaries.”



- Abacus Photography
- AT&T Foundation
- ♥ Aperion Property Management Group
- Autzen Foundation
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Bend Broadband
- Bend La Pine School District
- Bend Oil
- Bend Parks and Recreation District
- BLM-Prineville District
- Braemar Charitable Trust
- Broken Top Bottle Shop
- Central Oregon Community College
- Central Oregon Employer Council
- Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
- Cluster Cabins and Wildflower
- The Collins Foundation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- ♥ Corporation for National and Community Service
AmeriCorps & Social Innovation Fund
- Crevier Family Foundation
- Crook County Parks and Recreation
- Crook County School District
- Denfeld Miller Paints
- Deschutes County Solid Waste
- Donors to Dave Holmes Assistance Fund
- East Cascades Back County Horsemen of Oregon
- Facebook- Prineville Data Center
- Firewood Customers
- ♥ G5
- Gary Miller/Sisters Country Photography
- GoodLife Brewing
- Gordon Elwood Foundation
- Harvest Foundation
- Herbert A. Templeton Foundation
- Housing Works
- ♥ Individual Donors of 2015
- Intel-ENCORE Fellows Program
- Jefferson County School District
- Juan Young Charitable Trust
- Lake Chinook Fire and Rescue
- Madras Sanitary Service
- ♥ Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund
- ♥ MDU Foundation/Knife River
- Miller Lumber
- ♥ Mt. Bachelor Charity Ski Weeks
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Neighbor Impact
- Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
- ♥ Oregon Community Foundation
- ♥ OCF Donor advised funds – Douglas Crary Laidlaw Charitable Fund, FJ Hodecker Family Fund, Moss Family Fund, Robert W. Chandler (I&II) Fund, and Shelk Fund
- Oregon Natural Desert Association

- Oregon State Parks
- Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation
- Oregon Youth Conservation Corps
- PGE Foundation
- Pole House Condos
- Press Pros
- Progressive Screen Printing
- Pronghorn Resort
- Redmond Habitat for Humanity
- Ridge at Eagle Crest Homeowners Association
- Seeing the Gift Photography
- Sign Pro
- Simple Actions Family Foundation
- Simplicity by Hayden Homes
- Sisters Parks and Recreation
- Sisters Rodeo Association
- Sisters School District
- Sunrise Village Association
- Thrift Store Donors and Customers
- United Way of Deschutes County
- Unity Community of Central Oregon
- US Bancorp Foundation
- ♥ US Department of Labor Employment and Training
Administration YouthBuild Grant Initiative
- US Forest Service- Deschutes & Ochoco National Forests,
Crooked River National Grasslands
- West Family Foundation
- Youth Transition Program-
Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation Services

AFFILIATIONS

- 21st Century Conservation Service Corps
- Bend Chamber
- Better Together
- Central Oregon Builders Association
- Children's Forest of Central Oregon
- Central Oregon Latino Partnership Program of OCF
- The Corps Network
- Homeless Leadership Coalition
- Jefferson County Chamber
- Non Profit Association of Oregon
- Oregon Volunteers
- Prineville Chamber
- Redmond Chamber
- Sisters Chamber
- YouthBuild USA
- Volunteer Connect

♥ = Fleet for the Future Campaign Donor

Fleet for the Future is our capital campaign to modernize our old vehicles and equipment. As of December, 2015, we are 67% towards our campaign goal of \$400,000. Thank you!