



SOUTH COAST

COOS AND CURRY COUNTIES

53

Funds

98

Volunteers

214

Scholarships

\$23.5 M

Value of Endowment

\$4 M

Grants & Scholarships

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Bandon Community Youth Center, Bandon

Brookings-Harbor Community Helpers Inc., Brookings

Chetco Historical Memorial Project, Brookings

Coast Community Health Center, Coos Bay

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw, Coos Bay

Coquille Indian Tribe, North Bend

Friends of Curry Public Library, Gold Beach

KAIROS, North Bend

Little Theatre on the Bay, North Bend

Nancy Devereux Center, Coos Bay

Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos Bay

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Penny Allen, Chair

Joseph Bain

Angela Cardas

Les Cohen

Kirk Day

Roger Gould

Jennifer Groth

Bryan Grummon

Chris Hawthorne

Barbara Kronsteiner

Shala McKenzie Kudlac

Georgia Nowlin

Heidi Pahls

Janet Pretti

Jim Seeley

John Sweet

Dale Thomas

Jayson Wartnik

John Whitty

COAST COMMUNITY HEALTH — PORT ORFORD

Coordinating Services, Building Community



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~ Linda Maxon



The most westerly town in the lower 48, Port Orford is one of Oregon's most scenic coastal communities. Nestled between the coast range and Cape Blanco, the town overlooks a perfect half-moon bay whose clear waters, forested cliffs and basalt monoliths make for a stunning view.

As a tourist, Port Orford is a wonderful place to visit. But for residents, life has been tough in recent decades: Jobs have dried up, its suicide rate is now the highest in Oregon, and it has been nine years since the town had a dentist and 21 years since it had a pharmacy. That means that if you have a sore throat or need a prescription refill, you have to drive down to Gold Beach, or up to Bandon or Coos Bay — a minimum two-hour commitment, or most of the day if you rely on public transport. For a primarily low-income community, lost hours

equate to lost wages, schooldays or child care, so it's easy to understand why many Port Orford residents forgo access to regular care.

But all of this is about to change. Coast Community Health Center (CCHC), headquartered in Bandon, first received an OCF grant nine years ago. Since then, they have grown into a regional health care leader, providing a growing number of diversified and collaborative services to Bandon and surrounding communities. Now, CCHC is launching a campaign to build a health center in Port Orford, and OCF is pleased to contribute \$100,000 to seed this invaluable project.

"It's an honor and a compliment to get a grant from OCF, and it's a real affirmation of the work that we are doing," says CCHC's executive director, Linda Maxon. She is

excited about the breadth of services the new center will provide: In addition to much-needed doctors and dentists, it will provide mental health and substance abuse services and a discount pharmacy. It will also partner with other nonprofits and service providers to assist local schools, veterans and people experiencing homelessness.

The goal, says Maxon, is to be a one-stop shop for coordinated services. For Port Orford, she continues, "the barriers to health care access are currently high. But a community health care center is exactly that — services for the community. If you can improve a community's physical health, it trickles over into everything else, improving the emotional, economic, social and educational health of the town. Our mission, and our deep desire, is to bring the resources that make the whole community well."