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**Kaiser Permanente partners with Northwest Health Foundation to dole out over \$3 Million in Public Health Grants**

PORTLAND, Ore.— Kaiser Permanente Northwest and the Northwest Health Foundation awarded more than \$3 million in grant funds to aid 25 Oregon organizations that work to address the social determinants of health in our communities.

The money is part of an annual grant-giving initiative financed by the Kaiser Permanente Community Fund to advance the health of the areas served by Kaiser Permanente Northwest.

“The Kaiser Permanente Community Fund is an integral part of our efforts to improve the health of our community,” said Dan Field, Director, Community Benefit and External Affairs at Kaiser Permanente Northwest. “Healthy communities require more than just access to medical care. Real health care reform means addressing the underlying social determinants of health, and these grants aim to do just that.”

Each of the selected organizations seeks to enhance the social factors that promote health equity and/or eliminate the factors that contribute to health disparities in our communities. Projects range from establishing youth councils to improve the outcomes of school-based health centers to addressing the health and equity impact of urban planning. Many of the projects take a preventive or “upstream” approach to improving our community’s health by addressing the root causes of health disparities.

“These grant recipients are all committed to addressing the behaviors that lead to healthy and unhealthy outcomes,” said Thomas Aschenbrener, president of Northwest Health Foundation. “They also know that improving the health of everyone in the community means reducing health disparities among different populations.”

The following organizations received grants:

• Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Portland	\$50,000
• Casa Latinos Unidos de Benton County, Corvallis	\$50,000
• Center for Diversity and the Environment, Portland	\$182,273
• Center for Intercultural Organizing, Portland	\$225,000
• Central City Concern, Portland	\$90,000
• Child Advocates, Inc., Oregon City	\$82,500
• Clark County Health Department, Vancouver, WA	\$50,000
• Community Cycling Center, Portland	\$49,976
• Community Health Partnership (Capacity Building), Portland	\$49,926
• Community Health Partnership (Implementation), Portland	\$138,971
• Ecotrust, Portland	\$139,580
• Fair Share Research & Education Fund, Portland	\$300,000
• Innovative Housing, Inc., Portland	\$50,000
• Multnomah Cty. Commission of Children, Families and Community, Portland	\$49,879
• Native American Youth and Family Center, Portland	\$50,000
• Neighborhood Partnerships, Portland	\$150,000
• Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., Portland	\$50,000
• Organizing People, Activating Leaders (OPAL), Portland	\$20,000
• Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon, Portland	\$210,000
• Partnership for Safety and Justice, Portland	\$225,000
• Sisters of the Road, Portland	\$250,000
• The Children's Institute, Portland	\$200,000
• Upstream Public Health, Portland	\$250,628
• VOZ Workers' Rights Education Project, Portland	\$95,000
• Western States Center, Portland	\$100,000

The Kaiser Permanente Community Fund at Northwest Health Foundation was established with \$28 million in 2004. To date, the Community Fund has awarded more than \$15 million in public health grants to 100 Oregon organizations. The fund was established to support community-based efforts to enhance social factors that promote health equity, and help eliminate those factors that contribute to health disparities.

While health care reform is being debated across the country, the Kaiser Permanente Community Fund is achieving real, effective health care reform right here in the Northwest-by addressing the critical factors that lead to healthier people and healthier places.

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*Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. Founded in 1945, the organization serves the health needs of more than 8.4 million people nationwide. More than 474,000 people in Oregon and Southwest Washington receive their health care from Kaiser Permanente. For more information, go to [www.kp.org/newscenter](http://www.kp.org/newscenter).*

*The mission of the Northwest Health Foundation is to advance, support and promote the health of the people in Oregon and southwest Washington. The Foundation invests in the root causes of health through community-driven solutions and seeks to ensure that the voices of all people are represented in health policy discussions. Northwest Health Foundation focuses its work in three areas: public health, health care reform, and health workforce. More information can be found at [www.nwhf.org](http://www.nwhf.org).*