

# PGE Foundation Impact Report 2024





# A future of opportunity



Angelica Espinosa - Chair

As the philanthropic arm of Portland General Electric, the PGE Foundation sees the profound impact of a job that offers opportunities to learn, grow and build long-term economic well-being. That is why we focus on education and career pathways to strengthen urban and rural communities across Oregon.

This year, our Career Pathways program saw incredible growth, with a 30% increase in grant requests and nearly half of our grantees being new to the Foundation. Through our Career Pathways grants, we deepened our partnerships with organizations dedicated to equipping Oregonians with the essential tools, skills and knowledge needed to enhance their economic mobility. Among them are inspiring organizations like Street Roots, Voz Workers' Rights Education Project, The Contingent, Latino Business Alliance, and Xcelerate Women — each playing a critical role in building pathways to opportunities.

After nearly five years of providing young adults with hands-on experience in the green career sector through Portland General Electric's Project Zero internship program, we are thrilled to transition the internship program to our long-time community partner, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC). This shift marks an exciting new chapter, and we are proud to continue supporting POIC as they expand opportunities for young adults pursuing careers in the green economy.



Kregg Arntson - Executive Director

Organizations that offer hands-on applied learning opportunities are at the center of our investments in career connected learning. These investments in career technical education, STEM and creative experiences are vital for improving educational outcomes and equipping students with the skills, confidence and determination to pursue their future.

Our commitment includes supporting organizations that help communities build resilience and thrive. Through our Responsive Philanthropy Fund, we supported nonprofits by providing shelter and other vital services to those most impacted by the January storm. We also invested \$25,000 in the Portland Central City Task Force to support the collaborative efforts of businesses, community leaders and government partners to revitalize Portland's Central City.

Your partnership is vital to the success of the PGE Foundation. Together, we can continue to create lasting, meaningful impact for the people of Oregon and the beautiful state we're so proud to call home.

Sincerely,

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## **Career Pathways**

#### **EMPOWERING RURAL COMMUNITIES**

Investing in education and workforce development is key to creating lasting economic mobility in Oregon. Through our Career Pathways grants, we're proud to support the Latino Community Association (LCA) in its mission to empower Latino families in Central Oregon. By breaking down language and technology barriers, LCA opens doors to new opportunities, helping individuals gain the skills they need to thrive.

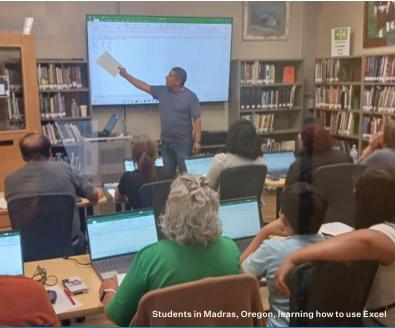
With tailored programs in English and computer proficiency, job readiness and small business support, participants build confidence and economic independence. Thanks to the Foundation's support, LCA is fostering prosperity in rural communities — helping families increase their incomes, start businesses, and secure sustainable careers for the future.



"Todo ha sido muy lindo y las maestras son excelentes y muy amables. Gracias por todas las horas que nos dedicaron. Mil gracias por todo."

"Everything has been very nice and the teachers are excellent and very kind. Thank you for all the hours you dedicated to us.
Thank you so much for everything."

- LCA participant



"La Asociación de la Comunidad Latino me ayudó a encontrar clases de inglés."

"The Latino Community Association helped me find English classes."

- LCA participant



#### PROJECT ZERO INTERNSHIP MOVES TO PORTLAND OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER

After five years of equipping youth with hands-on experience in green careers, Portland General Electric's Project Zero internship program will transition ownership to its trusted community partner, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC).

Launched in 2020 with support from the PGE Foundation, Project Zero was designed to help youth overcome barriers to success while addressing environmental and social challenges. The program offers six month, fulltime internships with local environmental justice and stewardship organizations, complemented by career coaching and social services addressing issues like homelessness and food insecurity.

Since its inception, Project Zero has partnered with 43 organizations, providing internships to 64 individuals nearly half of whom are now employed in the green career sector.

To meet growing youth demand, PGE and POIC strategically transferred program ownership to POIC, a leader in workforce development with a proven track record of empowering underserved communities in the Portland area. Together, they ensure Project Zero's mission continues to thrive.

"POIC is so excited for this transition. This is the right time with the right partner. We were proud to be Project Zero partners in the early years as PGE launched and tested a great program. We are confident that we will carry it forward and make it stronger to expose more young people to energy conservation and natural resources career paths they never thought about before."

- Joe McFerrin II, President and CEO, POIC

### **Creative Expression**

#### **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES ACROSS TIME THROUGH THE ARTS**

At the PGE Foundation, we believe in the transformative power of the arts to open doors and inspire young minds. For over two decades, we have invested in arts education programs that foster confidence, perseverance and innovative thinking. From urban centers to rural communities, the arts create connections that extend far beyond the canvas or stage, offering young people mentorship and a sense of belonging that can ignite new paths of discovery.

This year, we're proud to support Portland Opera's Portland Opera to Go (POGO) program, which delivers the magic of opera to students across Oregon and beyond. Traveling over 5,000 miles annually, POGO company members present accessible, 50-minute versions of classic operas, enriched with bilingual performances,

interactive workshops and teacher guides. Programs like POGO ensure that even in the most underserved areas, students experience the joy of creative expression.

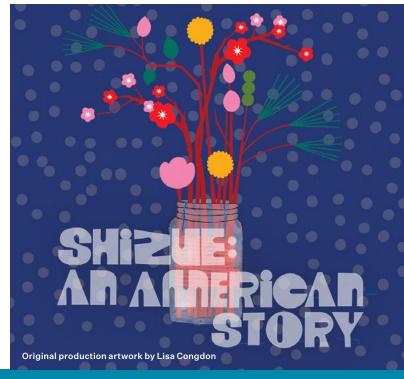
POGO's latest endeavor is Shizue: An American Story, which tells the courageous journey of Shizue Iwatsuki, a Japanese immigrant who endured the injustices of incarceration camps and Alien Land Laws with resilience and dignity. Reaching up to 15,000 students, Shizue illuminates a vital yet often overlooked chapter of Oregon's history, fostering empathy and awareness among young audiences.

Programs like POGO remind all of us of the power of the arts to engage youth, enrich education and build a stronger, more connected community.

"At Portland Opera we are committed to sharing the true tales of Oregonians who have shaped our communities and continue to inspire future generations. By honoring Shizue's journey, we recognize the importance of history, identity, and the enduring impact of those who came before us."

-Sue Dixon, Portland Opera General Director





### Education





"Because of tremendous partnerships like this one, our kids are better equipped for academic success and are more prepared with the skills needed to enter the 21st century workforce. We are thankful to be able to help our Warm Springs youth achieve great futures."

-Marci Volmer, Chief Operating Officer, Warm Springs **Boys & Girls Club** 

#### BRIDGING EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY FOR NATIVE YOUTH

As part of our mission, we embrace strengthening economic prosperity across Oregon by investing in education and workforce initiatives that empower under-resourced communities. One organization making a critical difference for young people in their community is Warm Springs Boys & Girls Club, where innovative programs bridge cultural identity and career preparedness.

At the Club, native youth of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs engage in initiatives like Career Launch and InspireHer, which provide online career exploration, college readiness tools and interactive activities to help youth explore educational and career pathways. Project Learn complements this by offering tutoring, homework assistance and skill-building activities to ensure academic success.

Through partnerships like FUTURE U., created by Boeing and Discovery Education, students experience hands-on STEM learning designed to inspire the next generation of innovators. Virtual career and literacy events with Verizon and partnerships with the Warm Springs School District ensure these programs reach rural youth on tribal lands, reducing barriers to participation and aligning Club activities with school-day learning.

By fostering connections, offering STEM exploration and reinforcing cultural identity, Warm Springs Boys & Girls Club helps ensure that every young person has the tools they need to thrive and contribute to their community and to Oregon's shared prosperity.

### Responsive Philanthropy





#### **ANSWERING THE CALL IN 2024**

Established in 2021, the PGE Foundation's Responsive Philanthropy Fund is a dedicated fund designed to swiftly address community needs following crises. This flexible fund operates outside the Foundation's typical grant cycle, ensuring nonprofits can respond promptly to natural disasters, public health emergencies and social challenges.

In 2024, awards from the fund supported recovery and resilience efforts. After a January storm brought ice, snow and high winds to Oregon, \$50,000 was granted to nonprofits operating warming shelters and providing

basic needs like food, clothing and housing assistance across three counties.

Additionally, the Responsive Philanthropy Fund supported the efforts of the Portland Central City Task Force, a public-private partnership initiative working to improve livability and economic recovery in Downtown Portland and Central City.

Through the Responsive Philanthropy Fund, the PGE Foundation ensures that when crises strike, communities receive timely support, fostering resilience and well-being across Oregon.

### RESPONSIVE PHILANTHROPY SUPPORTED LOCAL LEADERS IN OUR COMMUNITIES DURING THE JANUARY STORM

#### **Clackamas County**

AntFarm
The Father's Heart Street Ministry

#### **Multnomah County**

Cultivate Initiatives Do Good Multnomah Transition Projects

#### **Washington County**

Just Compassion
West Slope Community Library

# 2024 by the numbers

\$31 million+

Grants paid since 1997

\$1,602,000

Total grants paid in 2024

64%

Dollars awarded supporting communities of color

45

College scholarships

18

Grants given by Community 101 students in 10 PGE Foundation-supported schools

65%

Project Zero interns from communities of color

**50%** 

Grants of \$25,000 or more

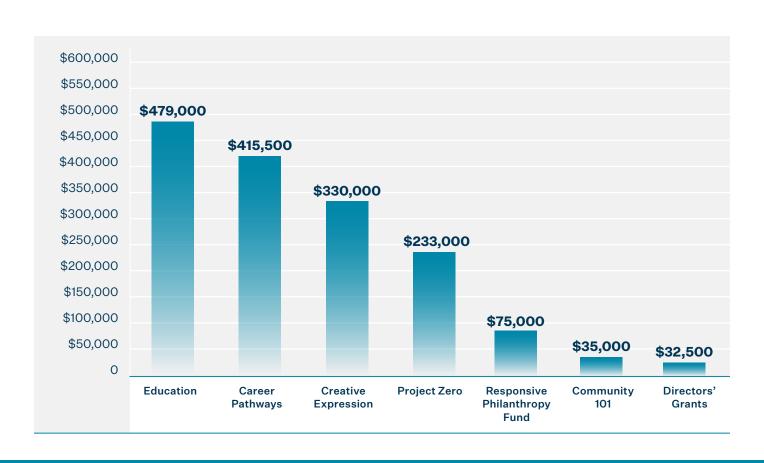
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EEI Corporate Citizenship Award 8th

Corporate Philanthropy Award rank, Portland Business Journal

17%

Dollars granted outside Portland Metro, exceeding 15% goal



### **Grants**

#### **Career Pathways**

#### \$25,000+

- Adelante Mujeres
- Centro Cultural
- Constructing Hope Pre-Apprenticeship Program
- Heart of Oregon Corps
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)
- Portland Community College Foundation
- The Contingent

#### \$20,000+

- Business Impact NW
- Hacienda Community Development Corporation
- · Impact NW
- · Our Just Future

#### \$17,500+

· Street Roots

#### \$15,000+

- AHIVOY (Asociación Hispana de la Industria del Vino en Oregon y Comunidad)
- Community Action Washington County
- Latino Community Association
- · New Avenues for Youth
- Voz Workers' Rights Education Project
- Warm Springs Community Action Team
- Xcelerate Women

#### \$10,000+

- Dress for Success Oregon
- · Latino Business Alliance
- · Northwest Native Chamber
- Portland YouthBuilders

#### **Creative Expression**

#### \$25,000+

- · Arts for Learning Northwest
- · Literary Arts
- PHAME Academy
- Portland Art Museum and Northwest Film Center

#### \$15,000+

 PassinArt: A Theatre Company

#### \$10,000+

- · Arts Council of Pendleton
- Bag & Baggage Productions
- Caldera
- Confluences
- Metropolitan Youth Symphony
- Michael Allen Harrison's Play It Forward
- Native Arts and Cultures Foundation
- · North Pole Studio
- · Oregon Ballet Theatre
- Oregon East Symphony
- Oregon Symphony Association
- Portland Center Stage
- Portland Opera Association
- · World Stage Theatre
- · Write Around Portland

#### \$7,500+

- Hand2Mouth
- Portland Playhouse
- Tananáwit

#### \$5,000+

- · High Desert Museum
- MetroEast Community Media
- Miracle Theatre Group
- Oregon Children's Theatre Company
- Portland Classical Chinese Garden
- SFF Presents (aka Sisters Folk Festival)
- · Steps for Youth
- Wonderfolk

#### **Director's Grants**

#### \$25,000+

· Dougy Center

#### \$3,000+

• Oregon Consular Corp

#### \$1,500+

- Kairos PDX
- · Oregon Public Broadcasting
- Portland Community College Foundation

#### **Education**

#### \$25,000+

- All Hands Raised
- Latino Network
- Oregon Community
   Foundation Black Student
   Success Initiative
- Oregon STEM
- POIC and Rosemary Anderson High School

#### \$20,000+

- Camp ELSO
- Elevate Oregon

#### \$15,000+

- Beaverton Education Foundation
- Chemeketa Community College Foundation
- · College Possible
- Friends of the Children Portland
- · Girls Build
- Girls Inc. of the Pacific Northwest
- Open School
- Oregon Health & Science University Foundation — OnTrack!
- Oregon MESA
- Self Enhancement, Inc.

#### \$10,000+

- Friends of Saturday Academy
- Project LEDO

#### \$5,000+

 Warm Springs Boys & Girls Club

#### **PGE Project Zero**

#### \$200,000+

In4All

#### **Scholarships**

#### \$35,000+

 Oregon Alliance of Independent Colleges and Universities

#### \$25,000+

- Oregon State University Foundation
- Portland State University Foundation

#### \$15,000+

• Oregon Tech Foundation

#### \$10.000+

 University of Oregon Foundation

#### \$5,000+

- Black United Fund
- Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber
- Pride Foundation
- The Skanner Foundation
- · United Negro College Fund

### Responsive Philanthropy

### \$50,000

 Grants made to 7 organizations providing community services during the 2024 January storm

#### \$25,000

 Portland Central City Task Force

#### **Community 101**

#### \$35,000

 Community 101 is the student leadership program created by the PGE Foundation in 1997 and now administered by the Oregon Community Foundation.

## **About the Foundation**

PGE Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Portland General Electric. Founded in 1997, the Foundation was created through an endowment with the express purpose of improving the quality of life for Oregonians. Since its inception, more than \$31 million has been awarded to community organizations across the state.

#### **OFFICERS**



Angelica Espinosa Chair Senior Vice President, Chief Legal and Compliance Officer, PGE



Verlea Briggs Vice-Chair Senior Manager, Strategic Asset Management, Supply Chain Fleet Storeroom, PGE



**Kregg Arntson Executive Director** Director of Community Impact, PGE



Ian Preddy Treasurer Director, Supply Chain, PGE



**Julie Franz** Secretary Senior Executive to COO, PGE

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**Chris Liddle** Senior Director Risk Management and Assistant Treasurer, PGE



James F. Lobdell Retired CFO and Sr. VP Finance and Treasurer, PGE



Randolph L. Miller President Produce Row Property Management



**Maria Ouellette** Director Engineering Services, PGE



**Maria Pope** President and CEO, PGE

#### STAFF



Melissa Dubois Lewis Program Officer



Michele Keever Grants Administrator

