



Foundation

PGE Foundation impact report 2021



To help families experiencing hunger, Salem Harvest intern, Rachel, harvests broccoli that would otherwise go to waste.

After the challenges of 2020, we, like many of you, started 2021 with renewed hope and a sense of possibility. And although the year brought its own challenges — economic uncertainty, ongoing racial tensions and the ever-changing pandemic — we continued to adapt. We believe that when we embrace and embed what we learn from past challenges, we become more nimble, resilient and ready to face whatever comes next.

And we aren't alone. Time and time again, our nonprofit partners listened and responded to the changing needs of the community — looking forward, not back to the way things used to be.

It's undeniable that the pandemic, social changes surrounding racial justice and the climate crisis continue to disproportionately impact communities of color. In 2021, we deepened our investment in culturally specific BIPOC-led community organizations, granting more than \$350,000, up 52% from 2020. And in the wake of the historic February ice storm, the PGE Foundation and Portland General Electric supported community partners in five of the hardest hit counties with \$225,000 in recovery grants.

One of our proudest moments was celebrating the achievements of PGE Project Zero green job interns. In 2021, the program expanded to Central Oregon, reaching even more young adults, empowering them to build new skills, get hands-on experience and explore career opportunities.

As we reflect on 25 years of investing in the people of Oregon, it's heartening to see how much progress has been made by our community, and renews our hope that, together, we can ensure Oregon families have the opportunity to build the knowledge and skills they need to create a more prosperous future.

Sincerely,

Peggy Y. Fowler

Kregg Arntson



Peggy Fowler
Chair



Kregg Arntson
Executive director

Bringing green job opportunities to Central Oregon

One of the most thrilling parts of 2021 was watching 13 young adults expand their world and launch the next chapter of their careers through the PGE Project Zero green job internships program. Now in its third year, Project Zero extended its reach into Central Oregon, strengthening interns' community and business connections and increasing interest in environmental and natural resources work.

As part of the expansion, Project Zero added several new partners, including Heart of Oregon Corps, Discover Your Forest, Deschutes Land Trust, Deschutes River Conservancy, Vámonos Outside, The Environmental Center and Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council.

The young adults who joined Project Zero, the majority of whom identify as members of the BIPOC community, completed an intensive six-month internship with community-based environmental organizations in Portland and Central Oregon, building a strong foundation for their future employment. We'll stay connected with these new environmental champions and support them on their journey. And we'll continue our commitment to connecting them with potential employers whose values match their own. You can read more about the program at portlandgeneral.com/projectzero.



Project Zero's 2021 Portland Metro Intern cohorts pause for a photo during their Impact Day at Nadaka Park in Gresham, Oregon.

“One of my favorite parts of the program would be the connections we made between us and the community of Gresham and Rockwood. A lot of the kids we were working with came from disadvantaged home lives and to offer some stability, while also teaching them how they can better their community through stewardship, was just great.”

— Ellie Taylor, 2021 Project Zero Cohort



Project Zero is a registered trademark of International Designs Corporation, LLC

Ellie, intern and Noelle, Ellie's Project Zero Champion

Fathers offer leadership to BIPOC students in Central Oregon

When several Black fathers were concerned about the experiences their children were having in school and in the broader community in Central Oregon, they decided to do something about it. Bend has a very low percentage of Black students — currently less than 1% — and around 8 to 10% people of color (including those identifying as multiracial). Those numbers can lead to isolation, lack of representation and lack of understanding. To support these students, they founded The Father's Group, a Black-led organization that embraces collaboration and works cross-culturally with other education, business and social service agencies.

We granted The Father's Group \$5,000 for the development of an afterschool leadership program for BIPOC middle and high school students. The program is designed to strengthen cultural identity, help with academics, and provide enrichment and support through engaging activities and mentoring.

Long-term, The Father's Group is partnering with the Bend-La Pine School District, Bend Police Department, City of Bend and several local businesses. Together, they're working to overcome racial discrimination, increase diversity and provide a safe space for people to talk and share experiences. The result: Central Oregon is becoming a more inclusive community.



Through the Ujima afterschool program, students explore leadership, academic achievement, culture awareness, and self-care.

Honoring the rich culture of Oregon's Indigenous People

The PGE Foundation supports creative educational experiences that connect us to our shared humanity and deepen our understanding of complex social issues. In 2021, we awarded several grants to support the art, culture and heritage of Oregon Tribes, celebrating their future while also facing the painful impacts of colonization and discrimination.

The Native Arts & Cultures Foundation (NACF) is creating the new Center for Native Arts & Cultures, a thriving place to empower Native artists and cultural producers with the space, tools, and resources to create and present art. The center will serve as a gathering place where art and justice come together to improve Native and overall race relations in Portland and the state of Oregon.

“Support for burgeoning artists is critical in developing fresh voices and envisioning the future of our respective Native practices,” said Barbara Mumby Huerta, vice president of programs and partnerships at the Native Arts & Culture Foundation. “We encourage artists to uplift communities, advance positive social change, point courageously toward environmental sustainability and foster communal meaning-making.”

The Siletz Tribal Arts & Heritage Society was a first-time grantee in 2021. Planning is underway for a new community center — A Place for The People, Ghii Dee-Ne Dvn — to promote the practice, conservation and restoration of the tribal cultures of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. The PGE Foundation supported a virtual reality traveling exhibit (which will become a permanent exhibit) focused on engaging students in learning about the Termination Era (1954-1967), the final act in the federal government's efforts to “kill the Indian, save the man.”

“As adults we look back and wish we would have listened to our elders. Yet, we were children doing what children do, only occasionally stopping to listen to their stories. Now, we have the opportunity to record their thoughts and share them with future generations. As we experience the passing of more tribal elders, there is an urgency to memorialize the painful and heroic stories of our past for future generations.”

— Gloria Ingle, Chair of the Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society



Henu Josephine Tarrant (Rappahannock, Kuna & Ho-Chunk), multi-disciplinary artist and NACF 2021 LIFT Awardee.



Pre-apprentice Chelsea

Constructing Hope skills up Oregonians for high-demand jobs

We all need people in our corner to guide and mentor us through life, especially when we encounter roadblocks along the way. That's where organizations like Constructing Hope come in. They provide pre-apprentice job training, career placement and mentoring for Oregonians, many of whom are part of the BIPOC community. They also work with people rebuilding their lives after experiences in the criminal justice system.

Constructing Hope has a strong track record of changing lives by breaking down systemic barriers for hardworking people determined to achieve greater economic and career stability. And with the construction industry expected to create thousands of high-demand, high-wage jobs over the next decade, many of which can be mastered without a college degree, Constructing Hope is helping people rebuild their lives, strengthen their families and contribute to improving the overall vitality of the region.

“We are committed to working with our community to provide education, training and support services that give more Oregonians the skills and knowledge they need to find meaningful, family-wage career opportunities.”

— **Dave Robertson**, PGE vice president of public affairs and vice chair of the PGE Foundation

Finding a safe place of warmth and security

Having a place to live. Safe. Secure. Home. It's something everyone deserves. Homelessness is one of the major issues in our region and solving it is critical to family stability and economic prosperity.

In 2021, the PGE Foundation provided more than \$200,000 in grants to address houselessness and support affordable housing. Our community partners are helping individuals and families with permanent supportive housing solutions. They are breaking down barriers, ensuring more Oregonians have opportunities to have a place to call home and build multigenerational wealth and economic security.

One of our partners is Proud Ground, which is dedicated to removing barriers to homeownership often experienced by lower- to moderate-income working families. Through their 2021-2025 Opening Doors initiative, Proud Ground is creating 200 new permanently affordable homeownership opportunities focused on communities historically denied access to homeownership.



Christine Carter and her family, in front of their home.

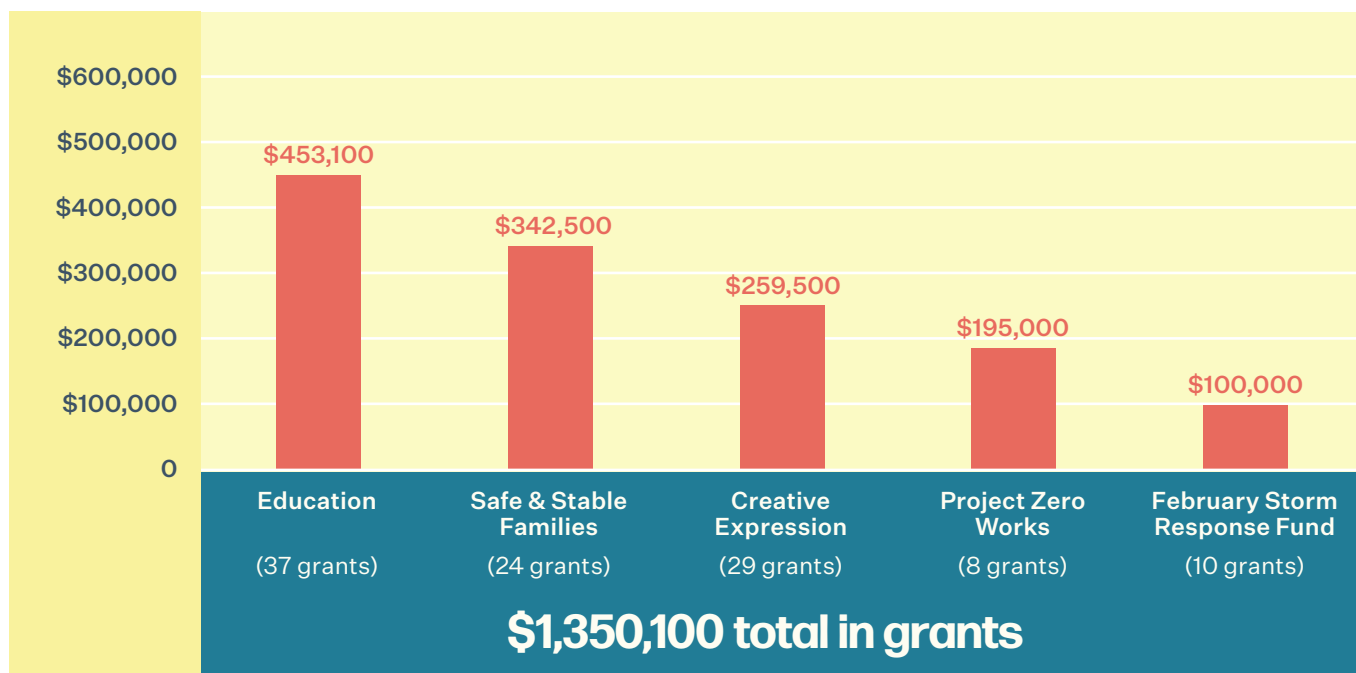
“Moving into my own home, I was finally able to create a safe place of love and security. Our home has not only provided love and safety for my family, but for several others who would have otherwise been houseless. The financial stability we achieved by paying off our mortgage brought a tremendous feeling of safety and protection for my entire family.”

— **Christine Carter**, Proud Ground homeowner and board member

By the numbers

- **\$1,350,100** invested in the life-changing programs of 108 community organizations
- **52%** increase in grant dollars to culturally specific BIPOC-led community organizations (\$354,000)
- **53%** of dollars supported prevention programs through Safe & Stable Families grants
- **\$225,000** granted (including PGE corporate support) to community organizations providing services in five counties hardest hit by the historic February ice storm
- **43** college scholarships totaling \$107,500, including scholarships through Black United Fund, Pride Foundation, United Negro College Fund and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- **75%** of Project Zero interns were BIPOC young adults
- **80%** of Project Zero interns completed six-month green jobs internship program
- **60%** of interns conducted informational interviews with destination employers
- **\$35,000** granted to support Community 101, which continues to provide student leadership despite the shift in educational delivery due to COVID-19. (Created in 1997 by the PGE Foundation and now administered by the Oregon Community Foundation)

2021 grants by focus area



Grants

SAFE & STABLE FAMILIES

\$25,000+

- Brown Hope
- El Programa Hispano Catolico
- Human Solutions
- Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)
- JOIN
- Proud Ground
- Ride Connection

\$15,000+

- Hacienda Community Development Corporation
- Impact NW
- New Avenues for Youth
- Oregon Food Bank

\$10,000+

- KIDS Center
- Kôr Community Land Trust
- Lines for Life
- MountainStar Family Relief Nursery
- Neighborhood House
- Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon
- Pathfinders of Oregon
- Salem Harvest

\$5,000+

- Family Building Blocks
- High Desert Food & Farm Alliance
- OK You, Inc.
- Trillium Family Services

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

\$25,000+

- Native Arts & Cultures Foundation
- Young Audiences of Oregon & SW Washington

\$15,000+

- Silte Tribal Arts & Heritage Society

\$10,000+

- Artists Repertory Theatre
- Beaverton Arts Foundation
- Caldera
- Confluence
- Literary Arts, inc.
- Metropolitan Youth Symphony
- Oregon Children's Theatre
- Portland Playhouse
- Regional Arts and Culture Council

\$5,000+

- Arts Council of Pendleton
- Creative and Emergent Technology Institute (CETI)
- Miracle Theatre Group
- Oregon Ballet Theatre
- Oregon Bravo Youth Orchestras
- Oregon East Symphony
- Portland Art Museum and NW Film Center
- Portland Center Stage
- Portland Opera Association, Inc.
- Portland Youth Philharmonic
- Salem Art Association
- WorldOregon
- World Stage Theatre
- Write Around Portland

EDUCATION

\$25,000+

- All Hands Raised
- Black Student Success Initiative (Oregon Community Foundation)
- Constructing Hope Pre-Apprenticeship Program
- Latino Network
- Oregon Alliance of Independent Colleges & Universities
- Oregon State University Foundation

\$15,000+

- Oregon Business Council Charitable Institute
- Oregon STEM
- Oregon Tech Foundation

\$10,000+

- Airway Science for Kids
- Centro Cultural de Washington County
- Chemeketa Community College Foundation
- College Possible
- Elevate Oregon
- Friends of the Children - Portland
- Girls Inc. of the Pacific Northwest
- Open School
- Oregon Health & Sciences University Foundation
- Oregon MESA
- Portland Community College Foundation
- Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center
- Portland State University
- REAP, Inc.
- Stand for Children Leadership Center
- University of Oregon Foundation

\$5,000+

- African Youth & Community Organization (AYCO)
- Beaverton Education Foundation
- Heart of Oregon Corps, Inc.
- Holla Mentors
- Pride Foundation
- The Fathers Group

\$2,500+

- Black United Fund
- Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber
- United Negro College Fund

COMMUNITY 101

\$35,000

PGE PROJECT ZERO

\$195,000

2021 FEBRUARY STORM RECOVERY FUND

\$100,000

About the foundation

The PGE Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Portland General Electric. Founded in 1997, the foundation was created through an endowment with the expressed purpose of improving the quality of life for Oregonians. Since its inception, more than \$27 million has been awarded to community organizations across the state.



PGE Foundation celebrates the February 2022 opening of the Patricia Reser Center of the Arts in Beaverton. Left to right: Gregg Arntson, executive director, PGE Foundation; Quisha Light, The Reser board member; Patricia Reser; Beaverton Mayor Lacey Beaty; Dave Robertson, PGE vice president, public affairs and vice chair, PGE Foundation.

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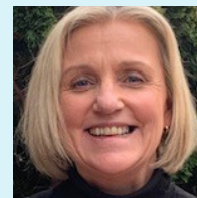
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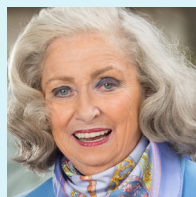
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