

PGE 2023 Drive Change Fund Grant Recipients

Audubon Society of Portland

Audubon Society of Portland is a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to wildlife conservancy. Their DCF project includes the purchase of three electric vehicles which will transport Green Leaders participants, conduct facilities maintenance activities, transport injured animals to the Wildlife Care Center, transport plants for the Backyard Habitat Certification Program, and support program staff. They will also install public charging infrastructure at their Cornell campus in NW Portland.

Catholic Community Services Foundation

Catholic Community Services Foundation is a non-profit that supports underserved communities within their service area with affordable housing, financial support, and more programs. Their DCF project is for chargers and an electric truck that will be used to support CCSF Services including community-based outpatient mental health, family shelter, food pantry, supportive housing, disability services, affordable housing, and independent living for foster youth and crisis respite. The electric truck will also transport large objects, furniture, deliver food, as well as transport people across CCSF service sites. The electric vehicle will be used to support the Certified Community Health Workers and provide goods/services with the Fostering Hope Initiative to create strong families and healthy neighborhoods. The free, public EV charger will be located at the Bishop Steiner Building in Salem.

City of Salem Public Works Department

The City of Salem's public works department is supporting the City's Climate Action Plan goal of increasing the size of their electrified vehicle fleet. Their DCF project is for the acquisition of a compact electric street sweeper and a transport trailer. This will help clean pedestrian plazas, public spaces, bike lanes and narrow spaces in the city that could not be accessed without this street sweeper.

Columbia Slough Watershed Council

Columbia Slough Watershed Council is a non-profit dedicated to protecting the Columbia Slough and making it more accessible through community engagement, education, and restoration. Their DCF project is for an electric truck, which will haul a canoe trailer to launch sites to provide free paddle experiences for Title I schools, BIPOC-led partner organizations and a wide array of other community members of the watershed. Savings from the switch to an electric truck will be redirected to help ensure CSWC programming remains free to all.

Constructing Hope Pre-Apprenticeship Program

Constructing Hope is a non-profit organization based in Portland, Oregon, that provides pre-apprenticeship training and job placement services to individuals with diverse backgrounds who are interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry. Their DCF project

includes two electric passenger vans to transport program participants and two chargers. Constructing Hope trainees will be trained on EV and charger maintenance and will have skills needed for careers with EVs.

Corbett SD 39

Corbett School District 39 is a public district in PGE's service area serving over 1,000 students. Their DCF project includes installing public charging infrastructure and purchasing two electric vehicles to begin their district's electrification journey. Savings from the switch to electric vehicles will be diverted to other forms of support for students and families in the community.

Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural Resource Center

Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural Resource Center is a culturally-specific non-profit that works to strengthen families by providing support to immigrants and refugees with limited access to information and language barriers. Their DCF project includes the purchase of two electric vehicles to support their senior outing activities, youth mentoring and tutoring, and children's activities as well as outreach to their community about the benefits of electrification and environmental sustainability.

Family Building Blocks

Family Building Blocks is a non-profit certified Relief Nursery committed to keeping children safe and families together. Their DCF project includes a charger and an electric bus to provide vulnerable children and families with transportation to impactful services. This will allow for more children and families to be transported to vital programs.

Friends of Noise

Friends of Noise is a nonprofit that supports culturally-specific youth music enrichment with programming services that are directed toward communities that have been historically underserved. Their DCF project includes a charger and an electric vehicle to increase services and offer more programming in new neighborhoods and serve more youth.

Friends of Trees

Friends of Trees is a nonprofit with a mission to inspire community stewardship of our urban forest by bringing people together to plant and care for urban trees and natural areas. Health impacts related to rising temperatures are worsening, and lower-income communities are disproportionately impacted. Friends of Trees increases access to shade, which lowers temperatures, as well as provides cleaner air and other benefits. Their DCF project will purchase chargers and an electric vehicle to continue their services of planting and watering trees with community volunteers.

Growing Gardens

Growing Gardens is a nonprofit that supports low income and BIPOC individuals, families, and communities in neighborhoods with food insecurity, lack of access to fresh foods, and lack of access to culturally preferred foods. Their DCF project includes chargers and three electric vehicles to transport staff and materials to continue their horticultural education, backyard garden program and other workforce development surrounding horticulture.

Habitat for Humanity Portland Region

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit organization that helps families build strength, stability, and independence through affordable homeownership. Their DCF project includes four chargers and five electric vehicles (including four electric forklifts), to continue their services of transporting Habitat families and staff, as well as improving the air quality in their warehouse. The public charger will provide much needed charging infrastructure in a dense, low-income residential area.

Latino Network

Latino Network is a nonprofit organization that provides culturally-specific education that lifts their youth and families to reach their full potential through programs and services. Their DCF project includes an electric vehicle and chargers at their new La Plaza Esperanza community center and preschool in the Rockwood neighborhood. The electric vehicle will support the onsite preschool students, provide educational services, and other culturally-specific wrap-around services for the historically underserved communities they serve.

NW Pilot Project

Northwest Pilot Project provides services to low-income, disabled, and disenfranchised seniors in Multnomah County. Their DCF project includes an electric vehicle to transport clients into housing, deliver supplies and furniture, and transport in-person staff to check in visits. NW Pilot Project staff and clients want to provide healthy housing and transportation, considering that low-income citizens are the vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change.

SOLVE

SOLVE is a non-profit organization that restores and preserves Oregon's environment through litter cleanups. Their DCF project is the acquisition of a charger and electric vehicle. The vehicle will be used to transport debris, larger items, and tools for cleanup vents, as well as expand the impact of this organization across the state. This electric vehicle will help serve unhoused and low-income areas, waterways, greenspaces, and neighborhoods in a more sustainable way.

The Community Services Network

The Community Services Network is a non-profit that facilitates a network of nonprofits, community members, government agencies, and companies that provide wraparound services to communities. Their DCF project includes electric vehicle education, an electric vehicle, and chargers. This project will help the organization's growing need for transporting necessities such as clothing, equipment, donations, and materials for educational fairs in underserved communities.

The Street Trust

The Street Trust is a non-profit that advocates for multimodal transportation centered around safety, accessibility, equity, and climate justice. They provide marginalized community members first access to a low carbon, affordable, and effective tool for personal mobility.

Their DCF project will provide 75 electric bicycles in a ride-to-own program in underserved communities. This program will enable participants to travel from their home to work, school, and other essential daily destinations. This project will serve 75 low-income community members, and 75% of the electric bicycles are committed to members of the BIPOC community.

United Way of Mid-Willamette Valley

United Way of Mid-Willamette Valley is a non-profit that convenes and mobilizes local businesses, community leaders, public officials, and community members to provide opportunities for success. Their DCF project is an EV Switch Vehicle and Build Kit for the Career Technical Education Center (CTEC), a technical career high school program for high school juniors and seniors specializing in Autobody Paint and Repair services. This project will empower students in the Salem-Keizer School District to pursue EV car maintenance and repair training in high school while also giving them the opportunity to obtain a tech job at an autobody shop after graduation. This also helps small automotive shops in the area that can't afford to send their staff out of state for expensive EV training to service these vehicles. This project will fill a big gap in the EV industry, as few body techs are currently qualified to work on electric vehicles.

Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation

Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation is a non-profit that provides comprehensive and culturally appropriate primary health care to the communities of Washington and Yamhill counties, with a special emphasis on migrant and seasonal farmworkers and others with barriers to receiving health care. Their DCF project is for the acquisition of an electric vehicle to deliver prescriptions to patients who are unable to visit the Cornelius Wellness Clinic pharmacy because due to long working hours, lack of transportation, mobility issues, etc. This project will allow the clinic staff to provide critical prescriptions, while promoting clean energy and reducing pollution for patients with asthma and other chronic health issues.