

working together

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR
ORGANIZATIONAL
COLLABORATION**



CENTRAL OREGON

PARTNERSHIP

BREAKING CYCLES *of* POVERTY
IMPROVING LIFE FOR ALL *of* US

WHY YOUR ORGANIZATION SHOULD PARTNER WITH US

OUR APPROACH

Effectiveness. When leveraged as an important piece of an integrated puzzle, your collaboration builds long-lasting, comprehensive solutions, defragments the system, and bridges service gaps.

Funding. In addition to bringing our own funds to projects and Partners, the collaborative nature of our work is attracting new sources of local, regional, and national funding.

Regional Solutions. We provide outreach and feedback communication between local communities and the region through our network of Community Action Teams. With our Partners, we develop and implement solutions built on the assets and needs of each community—and the region.

Volunteers. A magnet for volunteers, our high-profile media campaign will raise awareness about poverty alleviation, and encourage volunteerism to the benefit of all our Partners.

Measured Success. We're building a one-stop online system to track statistics and data benchmarks for all our Partners—making it easier for our Partners to measure and prove their effectiveness (and get their data into the system).

Public Awareness. Collaborative projects generate more PR value for all project Partners, primarily because each Partner is contributing their PR voice to produce a louder chorus.

Shared Vision to Attain a Common Goal. Intentional collaboration and interdependence coupled with a shared vision allow this ambitious effort to succeed. Our vision is not static. Continuous research, feedback, and improvement are necessary to understanding and addressing root causes of poverty.

Poverty reduction is possible once these conditions are met:

1

The environment for action is built

2

Comprehensive solutions are developed to address the multiple factors which trap people in poverty

3

Existing resources and organizations collaborate together to amplify their combined impact

4

The impact of this work is measured, so feedback can inform changes to improve ongoing, future efforts

COLLABORATION
KNOWLEDGE
INCLUSION

Our *Break Cycles* Public Service Announcement Campaign helps raise awareness of our Partners and our shared work on community projects



1

THE ENVIRONMENT FOR ACTION

We worked hard work to understand the roots, causes, and dynamics of poverty. Truly transformational solutions require involvement and participation by people from all ages and walks of life, including those who:

- deliver services to those most in need
- bring additional resources to the effort, but have not been involved in poverty reduction before (ie: the business community, and volunteers)
- are living in poverty, or have personally experienced poverty

Action leads to change

Real change at both the personal and systems level, is most likely to occur through person to person, neighbor to neighbor, community-based solutions.

Systems level change

The environment for action requires support systems to be in place, allowing those who want a better job to improve their job skills, for instance. Another example: for single mothers, quality daycare may be an essential requisite for holding a steady job.

“Whether you believe you can
or you believe you can’t,
you are probably right.”

—HENRY FORD

Personal level change

Many caught in poverty’s cycles have lost hope— which we will rekindle with a new sense of possibility— and nurture the dreams of their children, helping kids develop the self-esteem necessary for them to succeed.

“We must be
the change we
wish to see in
the world.”

—GHANDI

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COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS

Our comprehensive approach is bridging gaps in services, integrating service delivery where possible, launching programs that foster individual change (parenting classes, mentoring programs) and creating systems solutions (transportation, housing, medical services for the underserved).

Poverty Reduction Strategies

A framework of five poverty reduction strategies underlie our solutions:

- ① Expand knowledge and awareness about poverty and increase inclusive participation in solutions through action projects, research, analysis, shared information and broad public engagement
- ② Increase the income and economic assets of low-income people by increasing business, employment and asset building opportunities
- ③ Prevent and break poverty’s cycles in children and adults through the creation of an effective support services network that is fully utilized
- ④ Improve employable skills of low-income people by identifying training and education needs and providing continuous learning opportunities that are fully accessed
- ⑤ Improve individual and family resilience by fostering positive self-concept, improving decision making and life skills of children and adults in poverty

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ACTION INITIATIVES FOR COLLABORATION

So where do you, or your organization fit?

We offer our help, and could use your help with any of our ten core initiatives below. Many directly break poverty's cycles, while others are pre-conditional to the success of cycle-breaking strategies:

1. Giving voice to poverty

- Build awareness in the region about poverty and its causes, elevate poverty reduction to one of the highest priorities of the region, and provide hope to those in poverty
- Attract volunteers to help our Partners with their work, and our projects
- Increase participation of people living in the lowest economic quartile in Partnership work and leadership roles in the region

2. Childhood development & readiness to learn

- Ensure that quality, affordable childcare is available throughout the region to assist working parents
- Make certain all young children have access to cognitively stimulating early life experiences

3. Affordable housing & inclusive neighborhoods

- All people have shelter
- Working families can afford to own a home, if they choose
- People can afford to live in the community in which they work, if they choose
- Affordable housing is well integrated into neighborhoods throughout the community

4. Business development and cultivating an entrepreneurial economy

- Increase opportunities for lowest quartile individuals, Native American, Hispanic and women entrepreneurs to start and succeed in their own self-sufficient businesses
- Encourage family wage job creation

5. Public transportation

- Create both intra- and inter-community public transportation options for low income people

6. Mentoring and life skills training

- Provide life skills training for children & adults
- Provide mentoring for children, families and individuals

7. Food security

- Meet the nutritional needs of all people in Central Oregon

8. Health care and well-being

- Assure access to primary health care for low-income and uninsured in each community
- Assure referral and treatment services for alcohol and drug, mental health and family violence problems

9. Literacy

- Increase the overall literacy, including financial and computer, of those in the lower quartile

10. Youth development

- Create a positive youth development environment in each community

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MEASURING OUR COMBINED IMPACT

Almost all the results of our initiatives are measurable in finite terms. The Partnership has developed a focused set of indicators to measure the outcome/impact of the five strategies and initiatives associated with them.

Further, we have identified outside factors that might skew results and will track these factors so a fair evaluation of impact is possible.

Finally, we have process indicators in place that link to the outcomes desired. These process indicators will provide the day-to-day feedback needed to ensure the strategies and initiatives are being implemented as planned and to continuously improve programs and approaches employed.

SHARE THE VISION AND JOIN US

The Partnership and Community Action Teams (CATs) are building relationships with Partner organizations and attacking poverty at its roots. We're mobilizing a broad cross-section of the public who can bring clarity, ideas, action, and contributions.

OUR COMMUNITY ACTION TEAMS



BEND CAT

Allan.Flood @copartnership.org
Sue.Smit @copartnership.org
541-330-5980



LA PINE

LA PINE CAT

Kristi.Otteni @copartnership.org
541-536-3972



MADRAS
AREA

MADRAS AREA CAT

Angie.Madden @copartnership.org
541-475-0301



PRINEVILLE
& CROOK COUNTY

PRINEVILLE/CROOK COUNTY CAT

Mike.Templeton @copartnership.org
541-416-9288



REDMOND
AREA

REDMOND AREA CAT

Laurie.Thom @copartnership.org
541-504-1300



SISTERS

CAT OF SISTERS

Judy.Trego @copartnership.org
541-549-2287



WARM
SPRINGS

WARM SPRINGS CAT

Shawnele.Surplus @copartnership.org
541-553-3148



CENTRAL OREGON

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Karen.Timchak @copartnership.org • 541-504-1389
Development Director / Interim Director

www.copartnership.org