



## 2026 Community Benefit Initiative Reinvestments

### Funded Project Summaries

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#### Opt- in Projects

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##### **Harney County Health Department**

**Project Title:** AI Technology to Drive Provider Satisfaction and Patient Care

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Health Information Technology (HIT) and Risk Adjustment

**Funded Amount:** \$10,000

**Summary:** HCHD would like to implement AI into our primary care practice to reduce our providers' burnout and improve patient care and experience. Our EMR now has the option of adding AI technology that performs scribing during office visits. This allows providers to focus on the patient during visits instead of capturing all the patient history. We would like to implement the program for all three primary care providers and provide training as needed. We believe providers will see more patients, be able to keep up on documentation and lead to providers who stay in primary care longer.

##### **Valley Family Health Care, Inc.**

**Project Title:** DAX Copilot Project

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Health Information Technology (HIT) and Risk Adjustment

**Funded Amount:** \$25,000

**Summary:** Valley Family requests funds to support the full implementation of the DAX Copilot "Ambient Clinical Intelligence" solution developed by OCHIN Epic for use with their proprietary EHR. This AI assistive tool has been successfully piloted by our medical clinicians to document patient encounters at the point of care. Preliminary assessments indicate that DAX Copilot is capable of reducing appointment duration and administrative time, helps to close encounters more rapidly, and increases patient access to care by allowing clinicians to add additional appointments to their schedules. We hope to improve the healthcare experience for our patients as providers focus more attention on them rather than on a computer monitor screen during their visit, and improve provider satisfaction by reducing clinical documentation time.

##### **Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness**

**Project Title:** EHR Optimization for Initiation and Engagement

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Initiation & Engagement in Substance Use Disorder Treatment

**Funded Amount:** \$12,500

**Summary:** Recognizing that Substance Use Disorders (SUD) require timely, coordinated, and person-centered care, this project will optimize VVVCWs newly built service area in the OCHIN EHR and leverage the platform PointClickCare to reliably identify and act. We will (a) create automated EHR alerts/work-queues and use PointClickCare cohorts to flag new IET-eligible patients and prompt immediate outreach/scheduling, (b) formalize communication pathways and data-sharing agreements with the local hospital and FQHC for shared accountability, and (c) host regular care-coordination meetings/case conferences (that include THWs/peers) focused on new or high-need SUD patients. By year-end, WVCW will have durable IET workflows embedded in OCHIN with equity-aware monitoring, faster outreach, and better follow-through.

## **Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness**

**Project Title:** EHR Optimization for Social Needs Screening

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Social Needs Screening Implementation

**Funded Amount:** \$12,500

**Summary:** This project funds the build-out of WVCW's new service area in OCHIN to support Social Needs Screening (SNS), closed-loop referrals through Unite Us (Connect Oregon), and reporting aligned to EOCCO's SDOH metric. We will implement a CHA-approved screening tool inside OCHIN flowsheets, configure role-based workflows and dashboards (including REALD/GI), and integrate Unite Us so screening, referral, and completion status are captured in one place. By year-end, WVCW will have standardized SNS policies/protocols, equity-aware reporting, and a reliable funnel from screen → positive → referral → completed that supports member access and accountability.

## **Umatilla County Health Department**

**Project Title:** Increasing School Based Immunization

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Wellness and Preventive Care for 7-21 Year Olds

**Funded Amount:** \$19,000

**Summary:** Our goal with this project is to offer on-site school vaccination clinics to all Umatilla County schools. Vaccines will be offered to all K-12 students. We will target providing vaccines for the adolescent age group and helping schools meet their 7th grade Tdap exclusion requirements. All ACIP recommended vaccines including HPV and Meningococcal will be offered at all events. We hope to provide one event per Umatilla county school. Given our connection to the Hermiston School District with the Hermiston Student Health Center (HSHC) we hope to provide two events per middle school in Hermiston School District.

## **Winding Waters Medical Clinic**

**Project Title:** Sustaining In-School Dental Screening in Wallowa County

**Funding Type:** Opt-In: Wellness and Preventive Care for 7-21 Year Olds

**Funded Amount:** \$21,495

**Summary:** Winding Waters is requesting funding to purchase two portable dental carts and associated peripherals to sustain our established in-school oral health screening program. Since 2023, our team has partnered with all Wallowa County elementary schools to provide essential dental screenings and sealants to children in kindergarten through third grade. We've used aging dental carts to perform past screenings, and now one cart is beyond repair and the second cart is in end-of-life status. The acquisition of two new carts will allow us to sustain and improve the efficiency of school screenings for years to come, ensuring access to screenings, identifying potential dental issues early, and supporting student learning.

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## **Continuing Current Projects**

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## **Pharmacy Foundation of Oregon**

**Project Title:** Rural Pharmacy Lockers in Fossil, Oregon

**Funding Type:** Continuing Current Projects

**Funded Amount:** \$20,000

**Summary:** The Pharmacy Foundation of Oregon (PFO) seeks to enhance medication access for rural Oregonians through our innovative Pharmacy Access Initiative. This grant will sustain the successful pharmacy locker system currently operating in Fossil, Oregon, while planning strategic expansion to secure additional funding partners in future years. The requested funding will cover essential operational expenses including lease payments, technology subscription fees, HVAC maintenance, and securing specialized grant writing expertise to ensure long-term program sustainability. By continuing this initiative, we aim to improve medication adherence, enhance health outcomes, and advance healthcare equity for vulnerable rural populations in Eastern Oregon.

## **Umatilla County Health Department**

**Project Title:** Continuing Adolescent Well Visits at HSHC

**Funding Type:** Continuing Current Projects

**Funded Amount:** \$6,214.84

**Summary:** This project aims to promote Hermiston School District students to complete their annual wellness visit. Hermiston Student Health Center (HSHC) is located at Hermiston High School campus which provides an opportunity for youth to easily access healthcare services. The continuation of this project will build on the high engagement and utilization seen in the 2025 project, build on the active advertisement strategies, continue the effective incentive program and continue the robust youth engagement strategies to promote youth coming to HSHC for their Adolescent Well Visit (AWV).

### **Umatilla County Health Department**

**Project Title:** Reducing Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) in Umatilla County

**Funding Type:** Continuing Current Projects

**Funded Amount:** \$14,195

**Summary:** The Umatilla County STD Reduction Project has been well received by the community, especially among youth, people experiencing homelessness, and individuals who use drugs. Since its implementation, we have seen an increase in the number of rapid tests for syphilis and HIV, as well as greater use of free condoms distributed through strategically placed dispensers. The initiative has been supported and accompanied by several community-based organizations (CBOs), which has strengthened its implementation and extended its reach. We are requesting additional funding to continue and expand these efforts, increase geographic coverage, and reinforce sexual health education in both English and Spanish.

### **Winding Waters Medical Clinic**

**Project Title:** Medical Legal Partnership of Wallowa County

**Funding Type:** Continuing Current Projects

**Funded Amount:** \$10,000

**Summary:** In 2024, this EOCCO-funded project established a Medical Legal Partnership (MLP) integrating legal professionals into the healthcare setting to address the non-medical determinants of health that often have legal solutions, such as housing, employment, and custody concerns. Through close, confidential collaboration, healthcare and legal teams continue to provide holistic care and support to at-risk individuals and families in Wallowa County. This project is improving patient outcomes, reducing health disparities, and enhancing community well-being. This application seeks continuation funds to continue to build the Wallowa County MLP's long-term efficacy and sustainability.

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## Public Health Department Projects

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### **Winding Waters Medical Clinic**

**Project Title:** Enhancing local public health response capacity through N95 fit testing

**Funding Type:** Public Health Department Projects

**Funded Amount:** \$18,000

**Summary:** This project seeks funding to procure and implement a Portacount N95 Mask Fit Testing system to serve public health staff in our community. By ensuring the proper fit and effectiveness of N95 masks, this initiative directly enhances the safety of our frontline healthcare workers who treat patients with airborne infectious diseases, thereby building critical local public health capacity. The acquisition of this system represents a vital investment in our community's infrastructure, significantly strengthening our preparedness for current and future public health emergencies. Furthermore, this project is designed to foster collaboration, as we will extend fit-testing services to our local healthcare partners. This shared resource will fortify our collective response capabilities and ensure a safer, more resilient community health network.

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## New Ideas Project

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### **Community Counseling Solutions**

**Project Title:** EMDR for staff retention and member clinical benefit

**Funding Type:** New Ideas

**Funded Amount:** \$15,000

**Summary:** We intend to train an additional 20 clinicians and clinical supervisors in EMDR, inclusive of post training EMDR consultation throughout member EMDR facilitated visits. This is the number one training requested by our staff, providing them confidence in treating trauma, anxiety and depression. It's also one of our top requested evidence-based practices from members, an approach which often contributes to briefer treatment episodes and better clinical outcomes. We have partnered with Wendy Sue Horn of the EMDR Resource Center in Portland to provide this training and consultation if awarded.

### **Eastern Oregon Health and Wellness**

**Project Title:** Bupe in the Field

**Funding Type:** New Ideas

**Funded Amount:** \$10,000

**Summary:** We will provide Suboxone (buprenorphine) to Union County EMS so they can offer induction onto Suboxone (buprenorphine) in the field after administration of Narcan (naloxone). We will be providing training on Suboxone induction in the field through separate funding. We have already made arrangements not requiring funding for immediate follow up with patient to further engage in treatment preventing GRH ED or Union County EMS from being "on the hook" for managing ongoing treatment. We expect to engage a sizable percentage of patients into OUD MAT thus dramatically improving their prognosis if not saving their lives.

## **Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center**

**Project Title:** Rural Ready: Preparing the Healthcare Workforce Through Simulation

**Funding Type:** New Ideas

**Funded Amount:** \$50,000

**Summary:** Established in 1991, Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center (NEOAHEC) works collaboratively with the AHEC Program Office at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) and four other Regional Centers throughout Oregon to develop a well-prepared, high quality health care workforce to improve the health of Oregonians.

NEOAHEC is an independent non-profit organization primarily serving eleven counties in eastern Oregon (Baker, Gilliam, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler) and secondarily partnering with Cascades East AHEC to serve Grant and Harney counties.

This project will assist NEOAHEC in procuring an Advanced Maternal and Neonatal Simulation system to allow the organization to deploy obstetric and maternal health training critically needed to keep healthcare professionals in a practice ready state.

Healthcare professionals require training and practice to keep their skill and competence high to achieve optimal patient outcomes. The need for training is observable in rural communities where patient volume is lower than in urban settings. Low patient volume combined with high-risk patient scenarios challenge healthcare professionals' practice ready state. Put in the context of maternal health and the closure of birthing services creating maternity deserts in our rural communities, the potential for poor outcomes is serious.

Specifically, this project will also strengthen the healthcare workforce by equipping rural professionals and health professions learners disproportionately impacted by challenges with expanded skills, ability, and awareness through high-fidelity simulations that are needed to serve the complex needs in eastern Oregon.