

Siuslaw Vision receives tax-exempt status, multi-year grant

Siuslaw Vision recently announced it has been recognized, as of January 2021, by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

In addition, the organization was just awarded a \$249,000 grant to support core operations for 2021-2023.

"These changes mean a solid foundation for the work of Siuslaw Vision and the many volunteers and organizations working together on a shared future," said Stephanie Sarles, coordinator with Siuslaw Vision.

Siuslaw Vision is a grassroots effort to enhance opportunities in western Lane County-Siuslaw region. The organization supports local residents in implementing a community-developed Vision.

The Vision was created by local people over a two-year period and officially launched in 2016. The work of the organization focuses on three strategies:

- Connecting people and organization in the region with each other and with the resources needed to accomplish their goals.

- Convening like-minded, and unrelated, people and groups to build individual and organization capacity within the region.

- Catalyzing community-led projects to build a better Siuslaw region together.

"For this upcoming three-year period, we will be focusing on first helping the Siuslaw region Recover from the effects of the pandemic; second, checking in with local people to Refresh the priorities identified in their Vision; and third, supporting community members and groups to Respond to those identified priorities," said Sarles.

The grant award, from The Ford Family Foundation, will continue funding for three Siuslaw Vision employees: the coordinator, financial support, and information technology support, along with stipends for Vision volunteers.



Siuslaw Vision Team, Board of Directors and Staff. From left: Erin Gordenier, Susy Lacer, Meg Spencer, Janine Stewart, Dina Pavlis, Stephanie Sarles, Jo Beaudreau, Jacquie Beveridge, Mike Webb, Brenda Gilmer. Not pictured: Maggie Bagon, Brigette Stickney.

port, along with stipends for Vision volunteers.

In addition to the paid staff, Siuslaw Vision relies on a core group of volunteers, the Vision Team, to

do its work of connecting, convening and catalyzing.

Current Vision Team members include: Maggie Bagon, Jo Beaudreau, Jacquie Beveridge, Brenda

Gilmer, Dina Pavlis, Erin Gordenier, Susy Lacer, Meg

Spencer, Janine Stewart and Brigette Stickney. Board of Directors members are: Susy Lacer, Meg Spencer

and Mike Webb.

For more information to get involved with Siuslaw Vision, visit www.SiuslawVision.org or call 541-590-2425.

Western Lane Community Foundation to award 13 CES scholarships

WLCF has announced its seventh-annual Continuing Education Scholarships program for 2021 offering 13 scholarships totaling \$15,200. These scholarships

are awarded annually and are designed for students who use permanent home addresses within the Florence or Mapleton school district-geographical areas

and have already graduated from high school (2020 or earlier), have their diploma, GED or were homeschooled and are eligible to enter higher education or a trade school or a graduate program.

This includes non-traditional students starting or returning to a program after a career or family change or job loss. Criteria includes academic achievement, financial need, outside activities, work history and volunteerism to name a few.

Scholarships available:

- \$3,000 Arlis Ulman Health Careers Scholarship to a Lane Community College student this summer. The Ulman Scholarship is designed to assist students enrolled at LCC in their nursing or pre-nursing curriculum either in Florence or the Eugene campus. Students must have a permanent residence in the Florence/Mapleton school district area, have graduated in 2020 or earlier, major in the Nursing Program, including students completing prerequisites prior

to admission to the nursing program, and who have demonstrated a commitment to academic achievement and have financial need.

- \$1,200 Don Tiegen Scholarship to a student who is re-entering upper education after a significant interruption such as military service, injury, or a career change. Students may be working on obtaining their GED.

- Eleven \$1,000 Scholarships to students who are in their sophomore or higher year, re-entry students and other career changing adults attending graduate programs, traditional four-year colleges as well

as community colleges and accredited trade schools and special arts programs. Home schooled students are eligible if they are attending a qualified school in the fall and have earned their GED.

- Six \$1,000 Western Lane Community Foundation Scholarships

- Three \$1000 John Seaver Scholarships

- One \$1,000 Glenn Butler Scholarship

- One \$1,000 Dr. A. J. Brauer Founder Scholarship

Applications are available online at www.wlcfonline.org. Deadline for postmark or receipt is June 30.