**Carma Mornarich Remarks**

**January 7, 2016**

**Good morning. Thank you everyone for coming today.**

**Today the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation awards $499,430 to 67 non-profits in Coos, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, and Lane Counties. We are so proud to do this.**

**Over the last nineteen years, the Cow Creek Foundation has invested a total of $15,147,477 in their historical homeland, an area that they and we call home. A lot of good things have happened in Southern Oregon as a result of that investment. But it wouldn’t have happened, investment or no, without good people addressing the needs in our communities.**

**Each of you is part of an organization or effort that has seen a need that should be filled. Whether it’s feeding people or providing a safe and constructive after school program or making sure children who can’t afford it get dental exams – there are hundreds of examples - the people in this room, each of you, is part of meeting the needs that arise and finding solutions. Each of your organizations is unique and you see diverse needs but together the people here today have brought incalculable good and improvement to Southern Oregon.**

**The Cow Creek Foundation is proud to partner with each of you. Together we bring positive change into our corner of this world.**

**This is no small thing.**

**Thank you for your commitment to our community and your effort to impact the lives of those in need.**

**I know this is a time for resolution and there probably isn’t a person here that, as we walk into this fresh slate, the beginning of 2016, hasn’t made a New Year’s resolution. It’s a good time for that.**

**My New Year’s resolution, on behalf of the Cow Creek Foundation Board, was to tell you today how proud the board and staff of the Foundation are to partner with you. It is inspiring to read your grant requests, to become more aware each year of how well you meet needs in each of your communities.**

**Thank you for what you do.**

**Today, the grants will be awarded by Foundation Board Member Chris Davidson.**