

Good Morning. Thank you for coming today. My name is Carma Mornarich and I'm executive director of the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation.

For almost twenty years, this Foundation has awarded grants to a large number of charities in southwestern Oregon. Every single one of those grants has made a difference in educating youth, in feeding the hungry, and, in general, improving community. The total monies awarded since the Foundation's beginnings total \$15,521,977. The problems left unsolved would be staggering in number without the work done by your non-profit organizations. It is this Tribe's great privilege to be involved in funding assistance for each of these efforts.

This round of giving, the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation is awarding \$374,500 to 64 different non-profit organizations in seven counties in Southwestern Oregon.

Collectively, we won't all know of the good, the success, that your 64 organizations will achieve but it will happen. The why of that lies in the word "commitment." Each of those 64 charities is committed to their mission. The Cow Creek Umpqua Tribe is committed to the mission of their Foundation. And, when the executive director of the Foundation forgets to reserve the correct room for the Awards Ceremony - as happened this time - the staff at Seven Feathers becomes committed to finding a place for us to hold our function. I gave them lemons and they made lemonade. And I'm grateful.

I want to thank each of you for your commitment to providing essential services and opportunities to people in our community. It takes commitment from each of us to move forward, do our part and improve our corner of the world.

On behalf of the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation, I applaud each and every one of you.

Introduce Lee...