**Carma Mornarich Remarks**

**1-9-19**

Welcome and thank you for coming today to receive your grant awards from the Fall grant cycle. We will be awarding $496,550 to 73 non-profit organizations. This brings the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation giving total since the beginning up to $17,948,524.

The quote in the main press release for this round of giving that you all received when you came in, talks of the impact upon community with the non-profit organizations who received a grant today. At the end of that quote I say it is so gratifying to have that feeling about impact upon community with our work.

I’ve thought more about my gratitude. And I wanted to tell you why I’m thankful.

It’s because these activities of assistance and help are creators of resilience and strength. Every hungry person fed, everyone who gets winter clothes for the harsh season, every child nurtured...these and so many more impact the giver and the recipient and improves all.

And this happens with everything each of you does out there. The non-profit two blocks over is also meeting basic needs and supporting and nurturing. And another just within a block the same. Each act of giving begins to create more strength. More resilience.

Yes, someone has been assisted but so much more has happened. There’s been connection and help and community has been strengthened.

As other non-profits also assist, more community is strengthened.

Each of us here knows a piece or a few pieces about what occurs. But truth be told, most of this goodness happens invisibly. It happens, though unseen to us. And with the devotion and daily determination of all of you here community is improved. This creates better people, better towns, counties, cities, region, and state. And that makes for a stronger country.

I believe that what each of you does every day in your work with helping makes for stronger and more resilient people. Better people that make Oregon stronger and inevitably makes America stronger.

That’s why the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation admires all of you and are grateful for our work.

Thank you.