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**Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation Gives $471,100**

**to Fifty-three Non-Profits in Southwestern Oregon**

 ***Canyonville, Oregon***………..The Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation (CCUIF) will award a total of $471,100 to 53 non-profit organizations located in Coos, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, and Lane Counties. In order to observe COVID-19 guidelines for the second consecutive time, there won’t be a presentation awards ceremony. Checks will be mailed to all 53 recipients.

The CCUIF was founded in 1997 and began its philanthropic efforts in 1998. To date, the Foundation has awarded $19,726,424 to the seven southwestern Oregon counties from which it accepts grant requests. Grants are awarded semi-annually, in January and June. In June of 2020, the CCUIF awarded $329,300 to 59 non-profits.

Foundation Executive Director Carma Mornarich said, “COVID-19 and the Wildfires of 2020 have given our communities a one-two punch and have left non-profit organizations staggering as they work tirelessly to keep up with the ever increasing demands for abuse prevention, basic needs relief, educational support, and access to essential health needs. As we work together to have the COVID-19 vaccinations given to Americans, it is vitally important the organizations that continue to open their doors to clients receive the support they need in order to keep providing basic and sometimes, life-changing services to children and families in Southwestern Oregon.”

The mission of the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation is to offer assistance in youth education, strengthen youth and family, provide for positive youth development, and add to the quality of life for people in southwestern Oregon. The Foundation has put increasing emphasis upon basic needs so more hungry people get fed.

Fifty-three grantees for this round of giving will be: five grantees from Deschutes County will receive $52,000; fourteen grantees from Douglas County will receive $127,500; nine grantees from Jackson County will receive $85,800; five grantees from Josephine County will receive $43,500; five grantees from Klamath County will receive $55,000; twelve grantees from Lane County will receive $89,800, and three grantees that serve multiple counties will receive $17,500.

Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation awards are made separately from and in addition to regular philanthropic decisions made by the Cow Creek Tribal Board.

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