



A Message of Support to our Community

March 13, 2020

These last several days have been a turning point in the statewide response to the COVID-19 pandemic and, as with many of you, we've spent much of our time planning for and considering how best to support staff, partners, and our grantees.

We wanted to reach out to all of you to communicate our deep care and support. Your health and safety is of concern to us. As the situation rapidly evolves, Gray Family Foundation, and Oregon Community Foundation, are taking steps to protect and uphold our internal team, our external partners, and volunteers.

Working Remote: Beginning Monday, March 16, the staff of Gray Family Foundation, as well as our colleagues at the Oregon Community Foundation, are transitioning to working from home. We have cancelled all work-related travel and are transitioning to virtual meetings. These recommendations are in place through March 27 at which time we will review workplace and community safety recommendations from local and state public health officials.

Nell and I will be working our usual hours and can be reached most easily by email, though we will also be checking voicemails and following up on all calls. Contact information can be found on our [website](#).

Monitoring the Situation with Our Peers: We are in close communication with partners like Oregon State Extension Services Outdoor School, Friends of Outdoor School, Oregon Community Foundation, and Grantmakers of Oregon and SW Washington, and we will continue to monitor the situation locally and statewide for philanthropic responses to emerging community needs.

Flexibility for Our Grantees Should COVID-19 disrupt your organization's ability to operate as planned, Nell and I are available to support you. Please reach to let us know your concerns and discuss together how we might need to adapt. For some of our grantees, your ability to meet grant-related reporting requirements or objectives may be impacted. If you're concerned about this, please let us know so that we can work with you to adjust expectations as we face new challenges in the work ahead. We encourage everyone to stay informed and stay safe.

And to all who are impacted by this in a myriad of ways, our thoughts are with you.
Thank you for all you do for your communities!

Here are a few resources that might be helpful:

[Nonprofit Association of Oregon Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resources](#)

[Tech Soup: Nonprofit Resources for Remote Work During COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

[Oregon State Extension: Letter to Outdoor School partners \(pdf\)](#)

[Navigating Fundraising Amid the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

Stay well!

Nancy & Nell



The Gray Family Foundation is founded on the belief that fostering an understanding and appreciation of our natural world is a crucial part of a child's education. By supporting programs such as Outdoor School, geography education and professional development for teachers, we seek to give Oregon students a greater understanding of the world outside their classroom. Learn more at www.grayff.org

STAY CONNECTED:

