

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Voqal Invests \$136,000 to Advance Social and Racial Equity in Oregon**

**February 13, 2019**—Voqal is excited to announce seven grants to organizations working in Oregon to strengthen the community through progressive organizing and citizen empowerment. The grants of \$21,000 to Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), \$20,000 to Building Power for Communities of Color, \$20,000 to Color PAC Action, \$20,000 to Latino Network Action Fund, \$20,000 to Unite Oregon Action, \$20,000 to Accion Politica PCUNista (PCUN) and \$15,000 to Oregon Progressive Fund reflect Voqal's commitment to supporting progressive movements that support social and racial equity.

### **Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon**

The Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) is a statewide, grassroots organization, uniting Asians and Pacific Islanders to achieve social justice. It uses its collective strengths to advance equity through empowering, organizing and advocating with its communities. Among other things, Voqal's support enables APANO to conduct a comprehensive campaign focused on advancing racial equity in politics.

### **Building Power for Communities of Color**

As its name illustrates, Building Power for Communities of Color aims to build political power for communities of color in Oregon. Voqal's support assists Building Power for Communities of Color in developing the vision and comprehensive strategy needed to empower communities of color to effectively advocate for a racial equity agenda at the state and local levels and build the racial equity movement that the state needs.

### **Color PAC Action**

Color PAC Action uplifts leaders of color to enter public office and govern effectively. Voqal's support enables Color PAC Action to continue supporting candidates of color throughout the entire process of running for office creating elected bodies that better represent the diversity of the state.

### **Latino Network Action Fund**

An affiliate of the Latino Network, The Latino Network Action Fund works to empower and engage the Latino community to develop a strong, effective, unified political voice to advance social justice issues that will transform the lives of Latino youth and families. Voqal's support helps build the organizational infrastructure needed to mobilize Oregon's Latino community.

### **Unite Oregon Action**

Unite Oregon Action works to increase the political capacity of people of color, immigrants and refugees, rural communities, and people experiencing poverty. Voqal's support permits Unite Oregon Action to conduct a statewide small donor campaign during the 2019 legislative session focused on encouraging a greater number of low-income and marginalized Oregonians to participate in elections, evening the playing field for candidates without powerful and monied backers and enabling its community members to run for elected office.

### **Accion Politica PCUNista (PCUN)**

Accion Politica PCUNista (PCUN) is dedicated to achieving a more just and equitable society by promoting, motivating and effecting progressive civic participation, especially within the Latinx community. Voqal's support allows PCUN to more effectively increase and amplify the voice of the Latinx community.

### **Oregon Progressive Fund**

The Oregon Progressive Fund develops and implements programs for the promotion of progressive issues and social welfare. Voqal's support ensures a collaboration of groups focused on advancing progressive social change will have access to the resources needed to reach out to and mobilize voters around their progressive agendas.

"We are proud to support these organizations as they work to create a more socially equitable state for all the people of Oregon," said Voqal board member Thom Hartmann.

*Voqal is a national collaboration of EBS (Educational Broadband Service) licensees that work to advance social equity by creating an educated, empowered and engaged public. Voqal makes grants and impact investments, expands internet access and digital equity, offers fellowships and protects the public airwaves. Our efforts focus on the education and enrichment of all, not just those who are well-off socially, economically and politically.*