

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Voqal Invests \$150,000 to Advance Social and Racial Equity in Oregon

February 25, 2020 — Voqal is excited to announce six grants to organizations working in Oregon to build the power of communities of color. The grants of \$25,000 to Oregon Futures Lab, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Building Power for Communities of Color, Latino Network Action Fund, Unite Oregon Action, and Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) reflect Voqal's commitment to supporting progressive movements that advance social and racial equity.

Oregon Futures Lab

Oregon Futures Lab uplifts leaders of color to enter public office and govern effectively. Grounded in principles of racial justice, its work is built on disrupting the ideas of who is best positioned to lead and how those leaders are found. Thanks in part to funding from Voqal, Oregon Futures Lab is supporting leaders from marginalized communities by providing them much needed assistance with the policymaking process.

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 by empowering, organizing and advocating with its communities. Voqal's support is assisting APANO in its efforts around the census and civic engagement of the Asian Pacific American community in Oregon.

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 grant is assisting Building Power for Communities of Color in its efforts to conduct strategic planning and meaningfully engage communities of color.

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, and unified political voice to advance social justice issues that will transform the lives of Latino youth and families. With support from Voqal, Latino Network Action Fund is advocating for racial justice priorities on the ballot, preparing its 2021 legislative agenda with impacted communities at the center, and implementing a paid field program to engage Latinos in the 2020 Census.

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 is helping Unite Oregon Action build the infrastructure needed to advance a public financing statewide ballot initiative in 2020.

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) is dedicated to achieving a more just and equitable society by promoting, motivating, and affecting progressive civic participation, especially within the Latinx community. Voqal's grant is supporting PCUN's efforts to engage its community in the 2020 election.

"We are proud to support the important work of these organizations as they continue to build progressive power for Oregon's communities of color," said Voqal board member Charles Marr.

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.