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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Health Share of Oregon announces \$11 million in grants to support new housing and nutrition benefits

Health Share will provide grants to 38 community-based organizations to ensure access to these first-in-the-nation benefits

**PORTLAND, Ore.**—Health Share, Oregon's largest coordinated care organization (CCO) serving over 450,000 Oregon Health Plan members in the tri-county region, is announcing a list of Community Capacity Building Funds (CCBF) grant recipients who will help deliver Oregon's groundbreaking Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) benefits, which include climate, housing and nutrition supports. These organizations were chosen through a rigorous and inclusive process based on their ability to engage with and serve a multitude of diverse populations within Health Share's service area.

Working with its county partners, Health Share has designed an innovative delivery model that will allow cross-collaboration between health systems, county departments and community-based organizations. This will result in better data sharing and more effective, culturally appropriate outreach and services.

"Investing in climate, housing and nutrition is yet another way that Health Share is working across sectors to break down barriers," said Mindy Stadtlander, CEO of Health Share. "We're eager to leverage the relationships and expertise of our county partners as well as the close connections and cultural competency that community-based organizations bring to the table."

"The CCO model was founded on the principles of community collaboration and whole-person care, including upstream investments in the social determinants of health," said Beth Spinning, Chief Operating Officer at Health Share. "But the work we're doing now represents a giant step toward shared accountability and partnership – especially around integrating housing and health."

Health Share has been at the forefront of Oregon's CCOs in demonstrating its commitment to addressing the needs of housing-insecure members. Between 2020 and 2021, Health Share led the Metro 300 initiative, which leveraged an initial investment from Kaiser Permanente and a unique partnership with the metro area's three counties and local community-based organizations to house 416 individuals. In 2022, Health Share collaborated with health and housing systems to study the potential addition of a housing

benefit to Oregon Health Plan coverage. The two-year pilot that followed ultimately provided housing navigation and support to 505 individuals who were at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.

"We can no longer think of homelessness as a single sector issue," said Dr. Phyusin Myint, Health Share's Chief Health Equity and Impact Officer. "The link between housing insecurity and poor health outcomes creates a moral imperative for cross-collaboration, and I'm proud of the equity-centered approach we've taken to award CCBF funds."

Health Share worked closely with its board of directors and Community Advisory Council (CAC) to select funding recipients, over two-thirds of which are culturally specific organizations.

"This is a great example of solid collaboration, having the right people at the table – providers, organizations routinely connecting members to services, and members on the Oregon Health Plan," said Holden Leung, Health Share board member and CEO of Asian Health and Service Center.

"The meaningful partnership within the Health Share collaborative elevated expertise from the supportive housing service sector and also elevated client voices to focus this opportunity for maximum benefit to our community," said Andy Mendenhall, President and CEO of Central City Concern. "We are proud of Health Share's groundbreaking work in support of health-related social needs. The deployment of these resources will have a direct human impact, improving the quality of life and health of many thousands of vulnerable community members."

### **Community Capacity Building Fund grant awardees are as follows:**

211Info

Adelante Mujeres

Asian Health and Service Center

Bienestar Bridge-Pamoja

Cascade AIDS Project

Central City Concern, Inc.

Clackamas County

Clackamas Women's Services Community Action Organization

Community Development Corporation of Oregon

Centro Cultural del Condado de Washington

**Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon** 

Familias en Acción Feed the Mass

Feed'em Freedom Foundation

Friends of Zenger Farm

Greater New Hope Family Services LLC

Home Forward Latino Network

Meals on Wheels People, Inc.

Multnomah County

Native American Rehabilitation Association of

the Northwest, Inc.

Neighborhood House, Inc.

**New Narrative** 

Northwest Family Services
Oregon Chinese Coalition

Oregon Human Development Corporation

Oregon and SW Washington African Community

**Development Center** 

Portland Homeless Family Solutions

Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center,

Inc.

Project Access NOW

**Project Quest** 

Red Lodge Transition Services Sequoia Mental Health, Inc.

The Immigrant & Refugee Community

Organization

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette Washington County Department of Housing

Services

#### **About Health Share of Oregon**

Health Share of Oregon is the state's largest Medicaid coordinated care organization (CCO), serving Oregon Health Plan members in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. Our mission is to partner with communities to achieve ongoing transformation, health equity, and the best possible health for each individual. Health Share was founded and continues to be governed by 11 health care

organizations serving OHP members: Adventist Health, CareOregon, Central City Concern, Clackamas County, Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health, Multnomah County, Oregon Health & Science University, Providence Health & Services, Tuality Health Alliance, and Washington County.

www.healthshareoregon.org

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