



NeighborImpact

Supporting People, Strengthening Communities.

Friends,

If ever there were a time to ponder what we're made of, that time is now. Haven't we all – as individuals, as members of a community, and NeighborImpact as an agency – discovered or remembered our strengths as well as our capacity to survive, even to grow? It seems fair to say that most of us have faced daunting challenges in our lifetimes; each of us has overcome personal trials. Now, we share trials posed by a global pandemic, and we ask ourselves, **“Do I have what it takes?”**

Like you, we at NeighborImpact have stretched ourselves, wondering sometimes if we have strained our capacity. I can tell you that NeighborImpact has not. Rather, we have found ourselves remarkably flexible, creative, and supremely willing to evolve. In this way, we resemble the people of Central Oregon. All of us have been tested beyond belief, but we also have stretched and grown to emerge from the ordeals we have faced, most notably COVID-19 and the toll it has taken on our residents and our region. **Yet we're still here - in large part because you're still here, helping us serve people in need in every way you can.**

In the last months, NeighborImpact staff and programs have changed in ways we never imagined. Now, we take applications for housing, utility assistance and financial education services online or by phone. We provide financial education counseling and workshops remotely, deliver program information through videos, perform trainings via teleconference, and meet with clients by phone. To protect persons experiencing homelessness who have the virus, have health conditions that raise their risk of contracting it, or are elderly, we provide motel rooms as well as food boxes. All this, to ease and speed access to services, meet increased needs and protect everyone's health. Your contributions made it possible for us to become more creative, more efficient, and more useful. Because we can and did change – very quickly and very well - individuals, families, and even units of government have turned to us more than ever for help. **Your support gave us the extra tool we needed to dig deeper, to find new and better ways to serve our residents and our region – literally, to help people survive.**

People searching for help and people like you searching for a way to help know that we are here. We will continue to tackle poverty and its consequences, made exponentially worse by the COVID-19 virus. **With your help, we can.** The pandemic has reminded us that we have what it takes.

Your hope gives us hope. May our strength give you strength.

Suzette Chapman
Chief Development Officer

2303 SW First Street Redmond, OR 97756 • tel 541.548.2380 • fax 541.548.6013 • www.neighborimpact.org.

United Way
of Deschutes County



