

RHIP and COVID-19 MINI-GRANT PROJECT SUMMARIES

COVID-19 Final Report for Council on Aging for Central Oregon (RHIP) “Addressing Urgent Food Needs for Seniors” Reviewed by the Address Poverty and Enhance Self-Sufficiency

Summary of Results:

- This project focused on supporting the urgent food needs of the older population in Central Oregon via our organization’s meal programs.
- By providing additional food for the growth of our meal programs, Meals on Wheels and Congregate dining which we are now delivering via drive-through to-go meals, this grant has allowed us to serve more clients and reduce food insecurity.
- We are still handing out and delivering our meals in a safe, socially-distant manner to keep our clients, volunteers and staff safe.
- Thank you for contributing to our program's success and the growing number of meals served to older adults throughout Central Oregon.
- The generous funds provided covered the cost of food for 1,000 of these meals - approximately 8% of the total meals (12,900) provided in May 2020.

Story:

Our free meal services provides nutrition and an opportunity for connection for all. Providing meals and an chance to connect with a volunteer or other attendees in the drive through, allows our clients to feel seen which has an enormous impact on the well-being of our most vulnerable members of our community. One of our new clients in Sisters became very emotional when she discovered the drive through service. She shared with our team member that she usually just opens up a can of peaches or makes of bowl of oatmeal and that is all she has to eat. She was grateful to read about this through the Nugget (Sisters, OR newspaper) so she can pick up and eat these amazing meals and connect with others in the community throughout the week.