



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Rural Business Developments Grants  
October 2020  
Oregon

| Counties | Senators                  | Reps                   | Borrower          | Grant Amount | Jobs Created | Jobs Saved | Description   |
|----------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---|
| Benton   | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | DeFazio, Peter (OR 04) | City of Philomath | \$49,000.00  |              |            | This Rural Development investment will be used to develop small and emerging businesses in Benton County in western Oregon. The rural community of Philomath will use the USDA grant to implement the Linn-Benton Collaborative using an already proven entrepreneur development program offered by the nonprofit Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (Oregon RAIN). The collaborative will help build an entrepreneurial ecosystem and economy in the region by providing technical assistance to local entrepreneurs. Oregon RAIN will provide entrepreneurs with workshops, pre-launch business development, seminars and training, a mentoring program, referrals, and financial resources. In addition, the nonprofit will host a "pitch-fest" featuring start-ups introducing its business concepts. In the first year, this project will culminate in a user survey and case study, with the intention of continuing the program in subsequent years. |



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| Hood River      | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | The Next Door Inc. | \$35,980.00         | 11                  | 140               | This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the viability of Latino businesses in the Mid-Columbia Gorge region in northern Oregon. The nonprofit The Next Door will use this USDA grant to help create economic opportunity for Latinos through its Programa Promoviendo Prosperidad (Promoting Prosperity Program or PPP). The program will help Latinos build sustainable small businesses and increase its financial stability. The nonprofit will provide technical assistance and support to Latino small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, including assistance with business registration, health department permits, and other licenses; financial literacy; and access to capital. Overall, this project will create 1 full-time and 10 part-time jobs while also helping local businesses retain 85 full-time and 55 part-time jobs in the small, rural towns of the Columbia River Gorge. |
| Klamath         | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | The Klamath Tribes | \$90,115.00         | 20                  |                   | This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the viability of Native-owned businesses among the Klamath Tribes in central Oregon. This USDA grant will be used by the Klamath Tribes to provide financial and computer literacy technical assistance and resources to tribal community members through its Small Business Development Program. The Klamath Tribes will also provide life skills training through entrepreneurship and youth initiatives. Overall, this project will create 20 jobs in this rural, Native community.  |



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| Wallowa, OR<br>Deschutes. OR<br>WA/Whatcom, WA<br>Petersburg CA, AK<br>Hoonah-Angoon CA, AK<br>Sitka AK<br>Island, WA | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02)<br>Larsen, Rick (WA 02)<br>DelBene, Suzan (WA 01)<br>Young, Don (AK 00) | Ecotrust        | \$85,000.00         | 43                  | 20                | This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the viability of small- and medium-sized farms, ranches, and fishing operations across rural communities in the Pacific Northwest. The nonprofit Ecotrust will use this USDA grant to assist agricultural producers in rural Oregon, Washington, and Alaska with growing and harvesting whole, minimally-processed food products that are vital to community wellbeing. Ecotrust will use the grant to provide training, tools, and networking opportunities to help improve our domestic regional food system in rural counties across three states, including Deschutes and Wallowa counties in Oregon, Island and Whatcom counties in Washington, and Sitka County, along with Hoonah-Angoon and Petersburg census areas, in Alaska. Overall, this project will create 43 jobs and retain 20 jobs in rural communities across the Pacific Northwest. |



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| Wasco                                  | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | Mid-Columbia Economic Development District | \$40,000.00         | 11                  | 125               | This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the viability of small and medium-sized businesses, particularly Hispanic-owned businesses, in the Columbia River Gorge area. The Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) will provide technical assistance to help rural businesses improve their operations and expand. This assistance will include business planning, resilience training, improving preparedness for accessing capital, and leveraging broadband-based tools to support business opportunities. The nonprofit will also host lender round-tables to better connect businesses with potential financing opportunities. Sessions will incorporate Spanish language tools and generate digital resources for future access in order to enhance the positive impact of this training on rural Hispanic businesses. |
| Wasco<br>Lake<br>Hood River<br>Klamath | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | Sustainable Northwest                      | \$44,000.00         | 5                   | 20                | This Rural Development investment will be used to further electric transformation in the rural central Ore. agriculture industry. The Electric Tractor Demonstration and Analysis project is a cooperative team that includes Sustainable Northwest, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Forth, and the Wy'East Resource Conservation and Development District. This project will increase market demand for electric agricultural equipment, which will reduce fossil fuel use and improve the health and working conditions of farm workers.  |



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| Klamath         | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | South Central Oregon<br>Economic Development<br>District | \$32,500.00         | 20                  |                   | This Rural Development investment will be used to develop a regional marketing strategy for small food hub producers. The South Central Oregon Economic Development District (SCOEDD) will develop a regional marketing strategy, brand, and branding standards.  |
| Grant           | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02) | Grant County   | \$49,000.00         | 7                   | 15                | This Rural Development investment will be used to develop small and emerging businesses in Grant County in central Oregon. Grant County will use the USDA grant to implement the Startup Grant County initiative using an already proven entrepreneur development program offered by the nonprofit Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (Oregon RAIN). This initiative will help build an entrepreneurial ecosystem and economy in the region. Oregon RAIN will provide workshops, one-on-one mentoring, and help developing and updating business plans for local entrepreneurs. In addition, this project will help startups and small businesses weather the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic by connecting Grant County entrepreneurs to a network of experts and programming to help them rework its finances, improve its outreach, connect them to emergency funding sources, and help them complete applications. Overall, this project will create seven jobs and enable local businesses to retain 15 jobs in this rural county while helping businesses get started, grow, and survive the pandemic and economic crisis. |



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| Polk<br>Marion  | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Schrader, Kurt (OR 05)  | City of Independence | \$99,520.00         | 9                   | 10                | This Rural Development investment will be used by the rural town of Independence in northwest Oregon to support food-based entrepreneurship in Marion and Polk counties. The USDA grant will be used to develop a rural hub for food-based entrepreneurship. The hub will provided a shared commercial kitchen, micro-retail marketplace, and community event space to support business success and propel growth in the food industry. Overall, this project will save nine jobs and create an additional 10 jobs in this rural area.   |
| Umatilla, OR<br>Harney, OR<br>Polk, OR<br>Swain, NC<br>McIntosh, OK<br>McCurtain, OK<br>Cherokee, OK<br>Sequoyah, OK<br>Tulsa, OK | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Walden, Greg (OR 02)<br>Schrader, Kurt (OR 05)<br>Butterfield, G.K. (NC 01)<br>Mullin, Markwayne (OK 02)<br>Hern, Kevin (OK 01) | ONABEN               | \$76,262.00         | 45                  |                   | This Rural Development investment will be used to improve the quality of economic activity in Native communities in Oregon, Oklahoma. and North Carolina. The tribal-run nonprofit ONABEN will use this USDA grant to implement the training program Journey: Expanding the Landscape of Native Entrepreneurs. This program will provide business development training in rural, underserved Native communities, including Harney, Polk, and Umatilla counties in Oregon; Cherokee, Sequoyah, McCurtain, McIntosh, and Tulsa counties in Oklahoma; and the Eastern Band of Cherokee community in North Carolina's Swain County. ONABEN will provide 31 in-person entrepreneurial training events, 52 online training opportunities, and provide 484 hours of training and technical assistance for Native entrepreneurs over the course of one year. Overall, this project will create 45 jobs and improve the economy in rural, Native communities across three states. |



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| Columbia        | Jeff Merkley<br>Ron Wyden | Bonamici, Suzanne (OR 01) | Columbia-Pacific<br>Economic Development<br>District | \$20,000.00         | 1                   | 4                 | This Rural Development investment will be used to enhance the resiliency and sustainability of the local food supply chain on the north Oregon coast. The Columbia-Pacific Economic Development District of Ore.(Col-Pac EDD) will use this USDA grant to develop a food hub serving Tillamook and Clatsop counties. The North Coast Local Food Distribution System will establish distribution logistics and market data to be used for the development of the food hub system. Overall, this project will create one job and retain four jobs while benefiting small agriculture and fishing producers, the restaurant industry, and local consumers in this rural area. |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>   |                           |                           |  | <b>\$621,377.00</b> | <b>172</b>          | <b>334</b>        |  |