



# Resource Development

The primary goal of OCCF Resource Development is to develop short- and long-term partnerships with the private, corporate, and federal sectors to secure funding and resources for the OCCF system. We inform public and private partners of OCCF's unique role in shaping state and local priorities. With our partners, we identify common goals and work together in a coordinated effort to leverage and maximize our resources.

Over the past biennium, OCCF Resource Development has focused its efforts in three core areas:

- Strengthening public-private partnerships
- Project management and accountability
- Grant resource information and technical assistance

## Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships

Resource Development efforts have been successful in cultivating existing and creating new public-private partnerships with the following national, statewide and regional foundations.

- Casey Family Programs
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Paul G. Allen Family Foundation
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Ford Family Foundation
- Holzman Foundation
- Spirit Mountain Community Fund
- Juan Young Trust, Western
- Collins Foundation
- Northwest Health Foundation
- National Governor's Association

Many of these partnerships have resulted in significant funding over the past two years to support Oregon children and family systems, services and educational programs.

## OCCF Resource Development Status: Funds Leveraged and Secured

	2003-2005	2005-2007	2007-to date
Foundation Funds(National, Statewide, Regional)	\$251,446	\$553,562	\$2,487,295
Corporate Foundation and Local Business Funds	\$7,750	\$17,750	\$0
Federal Funds	\$268,368	\$750,000	10,000
Total Funds Secured	\$527,564	\$1,321,312	\$2,497,295

Two examples are highlighted below.

## I. Casey Family Programs Partnership

In an unprecedented collaboration, OCCF and the Department of Human Services have developed a three-year partnership with the Casey Family Programs, a national foundation based in Seattle. This partnership has embarked on a major effort to safely reduce the number of children in Oregon's foster care system. The Casey partnership officially began in October 2008 and will continue through December of 2011. It is anticipated that Casey Family programs will invest approximately \$2 million in Oregon over the next three years. These funds are also eligible for federal matching dollars. The Casey Partnership will focus on four primary strategies:

- Fully Implement the Oregon Safety Model, a practice framework which, among other things, will make child removal decisions more objective and will lead to greater family participation in case planning;
- Reduce disparate outcomes for children and families of color in the child welfare system;
- Increase placement with relatives when children can not remain safely in their own homes;
- Support implementation of these strategies by increasing the quality of data, increasing community participation, and increasing the agencies' ability to share information with stakeholders.

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## II. CASA Get Ready, Get Set, Go! Capacity-Building Funding Collaborative

With strong leadership and significant funding support from the Oregon Community Foundation and the Meyer Memorial Trust, four Oregon foundations; the Ford Family Foundation, Collins Foundation, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, and Juan Young Trust Western, the *CASA Get Ready, Get Set, Go!* Collaborative is strengthening the capacity of local CASA programs statewide to better serve abused and neglected children. This collaboration has resulted in direct grants to local CASA programs, direct grants to OCCF for coordination, training, technical assistance, data collection and reporting, and additional training workshops for local programs. Total funding from the six core foundations represents a \$1,700,000 investment in CASA programs statewide.

### Project Management and Accountability

A significant responsibility of OCCF Resource Development is identifying and planning for funding opportunities that align with local comprehensive plans and State Commission leadership priorities. Collaborative grant projects that are awarded funding require ongoing management, oversight and accountability to ensure that project goals are met and proposed outcomes are achieved. The Reading for Healthy Families grant is an example of the follow-through necessary to make sure grant projects are successful.

In partnership with the Oregon State Library, local libraries and Healthy Start programs, a three-year matching grant was awarded to OCCF in 2008 from the Oregon Community Foundation and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. Reading for Healthy Families Oregon: Building Communities of Learning is a statewide early literacy training and community engagement effort. This project trains all children's librarians and Healthy Start family support workers across the state on evidenced-based early-literacy curriculum, and provides them with tools and resources to work directly with high-risk families on increasing the school readiness of their young children.

## Grant Resource Information and Technical Assistance

OCCF Resource Development acts as a clearinghouse for grant opportunities and grant-related information from federal, state, foundation and corporate sectors. Relevant funding opportunities and grant resources specific to children and family serving agencies and organizations are researched and distributed monthly to the OCCF system. Regular postings of local technical assistance workshops for grant writing, professional development and grant-related information are also made available. In addition, alerts or updates to funding announcements or funding sources are sent out to keep the system informed of changes so that deadlines are not missed and accurate and up-to-date information is provided. Technical assistance and support is provided by the Resource Developer to the Commission system to identify and match funding sources with Commission initiatives or priorities.

## Future and Economic Climate

Given the worsening economic climate, foundations and corporate giving programs will have sharply reduced charitable funding over the next few years. This will greatly affect Oregon's children and family systems, services, education programs and communities. As a result, OCCF Resource Development will work with current private partners and communities to identify their greatest priorities and needs to best support children and families. Through the Casey Partnership, Reading for Healthy Families and CASA projects, we expect to help increase reading levels for children entering Kindergarten, safely reduce the number of children entering foster care, and decrease the cycle of abuse and neglect of Oregon's children.

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