“You have made managing and surviving through our current crises possible. Your kind spirit and incredible concern for my family has been encouraging and uplifting. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

- Oregon Energy Fund client
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Dear friends,

Back in January, none of us could imagine what this year had in store: a global pandemic, mass unemployment, monstrous wildfires, and waves of social upheaval. Trial after trial, I don't often say this, but I won't be sorry to say goodbye to this year.

And yet 2020 has not broken us. Through these difficult months, we've also seen unprecedented acts of compassion and generosity, cooperation and grace. We've seen countless people look out for their neighbors and make sacrifices for the common good. And as we at OEF have stood on the frontlines of this economic crisis, helping our neighbors pay for the basic costs of light and heat, we've felt the unwavering strength of our donor community behind us all the while.

To all of you, I say thank you.

COVID-19 defined this year. As incomes dropped and more people than ever fell behind on their utility bills, we pivoted promptly to respond, taking our workspace virtual and launching an emergency fundraising campaign. We teamed up with our partners to adjust our application process and allow clients to receive energy assistance from their own homes instead of traveling office buildings.

As part of our advocacy efforts, we helped craft an agreement between the Public Utility Commission and the investor-owned utilities across the state to extend shutoff moratoria through spring 2021. And we distributed more than $754,000 in funds to 3,072 people across the state, ensuring our neighbors could continue to pay for energy without sacrificing food, rent, or medicine.

In the midst of this, we also launched a new Year of the Student campaign to address the energy burdens experienced by students and their families as they take classes from home this year. The inaugural program, a collaboration with the K-5 charter school KairosPDX, will provide $20 in monthly energy bill assistance for one year to qualifying families. And that’s only the start: we look forward to introducing more programs like this in 2021.

Our work is only beginning. And as our neighbors face the prospect of a long, cold winter, your continued support is that much more critical. But I have hope. Thanks to you, we have met the challenges of this tumultuous year. We did not break. And if we stand united as we have these past months, if we refuse to be discouraged by the road ahead – then I believe a brighter future is out there, waiting for us. Let’s go there together.

Brian Allbritton
Executive Director

VOICES OF OREGON ENERGY FUND

“Oregon Energy Fund is my favorite charity to give to. I went through a time in my life when I was financially unable to deal with my bills...I went without heat for a year. Oregon Energy Fund saw me through those lean times. It was a godsend. And I realized giving back was really important. You were the first charity I donated to when I was able. It meant that much to me, my life, and how I’ve turned out.” - Michelle, OEF donor & former client

“Since COVID-19, I’m taking care of my grandchildren, which has impacted me greatly financially. I am now learning of new resources, like Oregon Energy Fund. Thank you and bless organizations like you.” - Christine, OEF recipient

“Thank you for doing this for those in need. I’m very grateful for the help I got when I needed it most.” - Jan, OEF donor

“Deborah lost her job due to COVID-19, and had to stay home to help care for her mom, who is disabled and immunocompromised. They had no income for weeks, and took a long time to get approved for unemployment. She eventually received several UI checks, but used them immediately to pay back rent.”

OEF made up the difference and helped Deborah catch up on her past-due energy bills. - St. Vincent de Paul, OEF partner

“Ensuring access to warmth and light is critical for the health, safety, and dignity of all Oregonians. As my own home has become a school and an office these last few months, I’m reminded on a daily basis that Oregon Energy Fund’s mission remains as relevant today as when I first joined the board. This year has taught us the importance of working together to support our communities, and OEF has been right there with us: powering homes, powering lives.” - Adam Lowney, OEF Board of Directors

THE IMPACTS OF COVID-19

$61% of Oregonians with lost income cannot pay their bills.

24 billion in unpaid energy bills nationwide.

1 in 5 Americans gave up food or medicine to pay for energy in May 2020.

$144k Raised by Oregon Energy Fund in 2020 in response to COVID-19.
### FUNDING SOURCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals &amp; Businesses</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utility Partners</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Earnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oil Program</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Cash - Unrealized Gain</td>
<td>-0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on Investments*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SPENDING

- **Portland Metro**
  - Households: 623
  - Individuals: 1,337
  - Children: 391
  - Seniors: 360
  - Disabled: 194
  - **Partners:**
    - Care To Share
    - Clackamas County Social Services Division
    - Community Action Organization
    - Human Solutions, Inc.
    - IRCO
    - Impact NW
    - Latino Network
    - NAYA
    - The Salvation Army (Hillsboro)
    - Sandy Community Action Center
    - SEI
    - SnowCAP

- **Coast**
  - Households: 40
  - Individuals: 103
  - Children: 40
  - Seniors: 13
  - Disabled: 21
  - **Partners:**
    - Care Inc.
    - Clatsop Community Action
    - Oregon Coast Community Action
    - St. Mary's Society of SVDP
    - The Salvation Army (Coos Bay)

- **Mid-Valley**
  - Households: 296
  - Individuals: 1,337
  - Children: 391
  - Seniors: 360
  - Disabled: 194
  - **Partners:**
    - Catholic Community Services of Lane County
    - Community Services Consortium
    - The Salvation Army (McMinnville)
    - The Salvation Army (Salem)

- **Southern**
  - Households: 126
  - Individuals: 316
  - Children: 96
  - Seniors: 54
  - Disabled: 34
  - **Partners:**
    - ACCESS
    - Klamath & Lake Community Action Services
    - The Salvation Army (Klamath)
    - The Salvation Army (Medford)
    - UCAN

- **Columbia Gorge**
  - Households: 9
  - Individuals: 12
  - Children: 1
  - Seniors: 6
  - Disabled: 3
  - **Partners:**
    - Mid-Columbia Community Action Council, Inc.

- **Central**
  - Households: 88
  - Individuals: 250
  - Children: 93
  - Seniors: 44
  - Disabled: 19
  - **Partners:**
    - NeighborImpact

- **Eastern**
  - Households: 71
  - Individuals: 200
  - Children: 85
  - Seniors: 25
  - Disabled: 26
  - **Partners:**
    - Community Action Program of East Central Oregon
    - Community Connection of NE Oregon
    - Harney County Senior & Community Services Center
OREGON TEEN RAISES COVID-19 AWARENESS, SUPPORTS OEF

In March 2020, as the first US outbreaks of COVID-19 began, Lake Oswego high schooler Claire Fennell watched as confusion and arguments about social distancing broke out around the nation. Worried that misinformation could make the pandemic worse, Claire decided to start a virtual campaign to promote public awareness. She called it the #SixFeetTogether campaign.

Starting with a simple graphic, Claire branched out to design stickers and masks, which she sold online to raise money for COVID-19 relief. That’s when she first found out about the Oregon Energy Fund.

“There’s a lot of talk around supporting healthcare, housing instability, and food pantries,” Claire says, “but not nearly as much discussion about energy insecurity. Nationally, 25 million households reported having to make tradeoffs between food, healthcare, and utilities. And that was before the pandemic!”

She points out how energy insecurity can make it harder for laid-off workers to find new employment, as energy “is essential for things like hygiene and job searching online.”

Since May, the #SixFeetTogether campaign has sold over 100 products and donated the proceeds to OEF’s COVID-19 relief fund, raising awareness of the need and helping OEF ensure our pandemic-impacted neighbors can keep the lights and heat on.

Thank you, Claire!