

2025 Annual Report

SOUTHERN OREGON
ASPIRE



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1465 NE 7th St, STE B Grants Pass, OR 97526

ABOUT SOUTHERN OREGON ASPIRE



A Message From Our CEO

Sarah Collins

Our Story

Southern Oregon Aspire was founded in 1975 by a group of parents wanting more for their children. Instead of placing their loved ones in a state institution or restricting their interaction to only their home, these parents sought a better life for their children, believing their children had the right to *live the life they choose* in our community.

Today, we continue to make that belief a reality as we provide Residential and Employment services for over 130 individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) in Josephine County.

Our Vision

We believe everyone deserves the chance to live their best life—and we're here to make that happen! Our mission, ***Inspiring Unlimited Opportunities for People to Create the Life They Choose***, drives everything we do.

We are dedicated to empowering adults with I/DD to lead fulfilling, independent, and meaningful lives. With our programs we are making a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve, their families, and the broader community.

Our Values

**Person-Centered • Relationship-Focused
Inclusive • Integrity • Respectful**

A YEAR OF IMPACT: Empowering Possibility and Inclusion

This year marked a remarkable milestone—our 50th anniversary. For five decades, Southern Oregon Aspire has been a force for inclusion, dignity, and opportunity for adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Today, we proudly support 123 individuals; behind every number is a story of growth, strength, and possibility. It is our privilege to walk alongside those we serve, helping each individual build a life of choice, independence, and belonging.

Our 50th Anniversary Gala was a powerful reminder that our success is shared. We honored our founders, celebrated our staff and board, recognized our partners, and expressed deep gratitude to the supporters who continue to champion our mission.

As we look ahead, we are focused on addressing emerging needs within the IDD community with the increasing prevalence of dementia among individuals with IDD. In response, Southern Oregon Aspire invested in support with, The Rose Douglas Grant through The Four Way Community Foundation, critical training for our employees and host workshops in Josephine County, to equip staff and community members with the skills needed for early detection, effective communication, and dementia-capable environments.

This year also brought continued success in community engagement, highlighted by our 3rd Annual Golf Fundraiser. Events like this not only generate vital resources but strengthen a shared commitment to inclusion and opportunity for all.

None of this work would be possible without the generosity of our donors and community partners. Together, we are building a more inclusive, compassionate community.

Thank you for being part of this journey—and for helping us continue to create lives filled with opportunity, belonging, and hope.

With Gratitude,
Sarah Collins



EMPLOYMENT SERVICES: EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS, STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

JOSHUA SERVING HIS COMMUNITY

For months, Josh had consistently shared his desire to volunteer at a “soup kitchen” to serve his community with his Job Coach.

Josh had been consistently sharing with his Job Coach that he would like to volunteer at a “soup kitchen” to serve his community. Josh is very community-oriented and loves to help others.

After some hard work, networking around town, completing multiple applications, and studying for and passing his food handler’s certification, Josh had his first successful day volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul.

He portioned and organized different foods that would be included in sack lunches to be distributed at various locations in the community. He assisted with cleanup and got to know several new people who also volunteered there. Josh was welcomed by everyone at the facility, and they were grateful to have his help, inviting him back to assist in the future.



RESIDENTIAL SERVICES: INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT, MEANINGFUL LIVES

SUSAN’S COOKIE ADVENTURE

They began their day at the Josephine Animal Shelter, where Susan got to pet furry friends like Garlic Bread the bunny and a few playful kitties. Susan became a little overstimulated and decided to go home to check on her stuffed animal friends, who couldn’t join the adventure. After a quick pitstop, they continued on to Pennington Farms.

They arrived after a nice jam session of Dolly Parton and Johnny Cash and were greeted by the owner, who said with a smile, “There’s no smiling in this place.” Susan told him to behave and asked for a chocolate chip cookie. After ringing it up, he said she

could smile now, but Susan was focused on the delicious cookie in her hand. After a few bites, Susan declared it the best cookie ever and their cookie place from now on!

Everyone faces life’s challenges, and while some days are difficult for Susan, her team supports her in finding joy through outings, big or small, shared moments, or jam sessions.





Leadership Team



Sarah Collins
Chief Executive
Officer - 2017



Meghan Boehm
Chief Financial
Officer - 2018



Jessica Eldred
Human Resources
Director - 2015



Anthony Hauckes
Employment
Development Director
- 2022



Brittany Bunting
Residential Director
- 2009



Julia Evans
Residential Director
- 2000

Board of Directors



Jim Hamilton
President - Dec. 2020



Seth Benham
Vice President
May 2024



Margaret Forsberg
Secretary/Treasurer
Feb. 2020



Doni Hamilton
Board Member
Sept. 2024



Faith Reiling
Board Member
Nov. 2024



Inga Craig
Board Member
June 2025



Stephen Edwards
Board Member
June 2025

ZACH'S TABLE ROCK CONQUIRING

Zach is always up for a challenge. The previous summer, Zach and his DSP, Brittany, had hiked the local Cathedral Hill trails almost every weekend with the goal of one day hiking Table Rock. When summer came, they started preparing early by hiking every weekend to build their strength and endurance. After consistently hiking 2 miles for a few weekends, Zach decided it was time. They were going to hike up Table Rock, which would be their longest hike yet at 3.7 miles round trip.

Zach pushed through the steep terrain, stumbling over many rocks and tree roots, but he persevered. It took nearly three hours, and a few out-of-breath breaks to reach the top, and what a view it was! After calling his mom to share the exciting news, eating lunch, and taking in the scenery, they headed back down the trail, pride beaming on his face at his now accomplished goal of hiking Table Rock.

Zach and Brittany prepared their gear and snacks and started their journey up the trail. They met many people along the way who encouraged Zach to keep going!



2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

50 Year of Changing Lives

123

Total Individuals Served

Total amount of individuals served in all programs; Employment Services, Residential Support, and Community Living Services.

90

Individuals in Employment Services

Total individuals supported through Employment Services, including Small Group employment, community job coaching, and job development.

34

Small Group Contracted Sites

Number of organizations contracting SOA for janitorial and/or landscaping, providing supported employees with valuable experience and skill-building opportunities.

44

Community Business Partners

Total Business Partners the individuals we support or serve as assessment sites, providing opportunities to build skills and explore different jobs

40

Individuals Receiving 24/7 Support

Individuals receiving 24/7 support by our Direct Support Professionals in one of our fourteen residential homes.

22

Individuals in Community Living

Individuals living in their own home or our Mid-step complex while receiving regular, personalized support from Direct Support Professionals.

FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE

\$11,362,969

TOTAL REVENUE

**+ Contracted Services
through State Funding**
\$9,325,793

**+ Commercial
Contracted Services**
\$937,998

+ Room & Board
\$456,764

+ Grants & Donations
\$106,269

**+ Others - Leases,
Investments, etc.**
\$563,845

EXPENSES

\$10,768,878

TOTAL EXPENSES

- Residential Supports
\$9,969,271

- Employment Services
\$2,346,418

- Community Living
\$576,367

- Administration
\$1,876,822





YOUR SUPPORT CREATES OPPORTUNITIES

Everything we achieve is thanks to our amazing supporters. Your contributions fuel programs, spark opportunities, and make dreams come true for adults with I/DD. Every contribution directly impacts the lives of adults with I/DD, creating a more inclusive and supportive community for all.



JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Scan to Donate
or visit soaspire.org/donate

Checks can be mailed to
Southern Oregon Apsire
1465 NE 7th ST STE B
Grants Pass, OR 97526



Thank You—SPONSORS

- AllCare Health
- People's Bank
- Caveman
Kiwanis
- Verizon
- Crater Car Wash
- Walter E Nelson
Hospital
- Evergreen Bank
- Diamond Home
Improvement
- Cascade Self
Storage
- Wild River
Brewing & Pizza
- Perez Kitchen &
Bar
- Tops & Tees
- Taylor's Sausage
- Primo Water
- Valley Animal
Hospital
- Rogue Shred
- IMA
- Erik's Tree
Service
- Grang Co-Op
- Brownell's
Electric

GOLF FUNDRAISER

\$150/ All-Inclusive
Player Ticket

4- Person Scramble

JUNE 26 Dutcher Creek
Golf Course

\$10,000 Hole-In-One
Prize Opportunity



**REGISTER
NOW**

soaspire.org/golf



SOUTHERN OREGON
ASPIRE

EVERGREEN
FEDERAL BANK

Benefiting individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
in Josephine County through Residential & Employment services

Thank You—DONORS

- 808 Ohana Grindz
- Linda Jane Hansen
- Diamond Home Improvement
- Eagle Point Golf Club
- Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce
- Caveman Bowl
- Grants Pass Golf Club
- Wild River
- Bolt Grafix
- Tops & Tees
- Taylor's Sausage
- Perez Kitchen and Bar
- Dutcher Creek Golf Course
- Grants Pass Ladies 9 Holers
- Josie Hatton
- Tonya Harboldt
- Primo Water
- Sue Orris & Ferron Mayfield
- Anthony Bennett
- Margaret Forsberg
- Linda Althouse
- Jed Kany
- Jimmy Su
- Bea Ryan
- John Redlinger/ Case by Case
- Revolution Benefits Group
- Inga Craig
- Donna Duval
- Lisa Leishman
- Jeri L Gudgel
- Kurt & Barbara Tamashiro
- Lyle & Mary Jackson
- Terry & Cindy Nelson
- Ben & Cheryle Freudenberg
- Robby & Danette Harfst
- Jim Hamilton
- Nelson R. Maler Foundation
- Susan Edwards
- Sharon McCorkle
- Wild River Brewing & Pizza Company
- Larry York Dann
- Lorene Elzea
- Brad & Kat Clayton
- Grace Tamashiro
- Jim & Alison Huber
- Glenn Nagumo
- Dave Dotterer
- Kathi Holmbeck
- Gary Rolsness
- Mark & Faith Reiling
- Stephen & Kristi Roe
- Ron Shrode
- Jeffery & Kyra Ecklund
- Ann S. Bauer
- Kim Nicholl
- Thomasina Gould
- J. Erinn Fralich & Eunora L. Fralich
- Michael & Kathleen Klem
- Debbie & Steve King
- Seven Feathers Casino Resort
- Three Rivers Casino Resort
- The Mill Casino Hotel & RV Park
- Mount Shasta Resort

- Rain Rock Casino
- Rogue Valley Muffler & Hitch LLC
- Lewis Power Equipment
- HEB Woodcraft
- Orange Torpedo Trips
- Glass Forge Gallery & Studio LLC
- Steam Distillery
- The Laughing Clam
- Sarah Collins
- Weekend Beer Co.
- The Kitchen Company
- Area 61 Taphouse
- Pints n Wine Pourhouse
- Lonnie Johnson
- Birdie Juice
- Holiday Inn Express
- Grants Pass Toyota
- AMP Realty
- SOTAR
- Sundance Distilling
- Farmer's Building Supply
- Oregon Pizza & Pour Authority
- Applegate River Golf Club
- Leaf & Lily Tattoo
- Fiona Bean
- Cut Throat Ink
- Michelle Walters

Thank You—PARTNERS

- A-1 Exterminators
- Gates Home Furnishings
- Herb Pharm
- Pacific Botanicals
- Roe Motors
- Subway Agness Drive
- Newman Church
- Holmbeck Law
- Partake
- Holiday Inn
- JC Jones
- Logan Design
- Paradise Automotive
- Grants Pass Daily Courier
- Dr. Welch
- Grants Pass Barbershop
- Century 21
- City of
- Grants Pass
- A-One Exterminators
- Dr. Edward Welch
- Express Employment
- Grants Pass Clinic
- Josephine County Food Bank
- Planned Parenthood
- Tigor Title
- Valley Animal Hospital
- Verizon
- Travel Information Council
- Army National Guard-Recruitment Office
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- St. Paul's Church
- Watch Technologies
- West Coast Holdings
- Century 21-JC Jones
- Creative Supports
- Oregon Department of Forestry
- Grants Pass Department of Motor Vehicles
- Family Nurturing Center
- John L Scott Realty
- Kids Coalition
- TK Dental
- Vocational Rehab
- Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce



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**Create Change With
Your Donation**

Make a one-time or
recurring donation at
soaspire.org/donate