1000 friends of Oregon

2026 ANNUAL REPORT



To the people who fought for us and didn't know our names

Before we jump into this year's annual report, we want to personally thank you.

Because of supporters and partners like you, 1000 Friends of Oregon is able to show up for our farmers and farmworkers who faced threat after threat to pave over their lands and their livelihoods.

Because of you, we were able to represent our teachers, farmers, and local business owners by bringing a first-of-its-kind lawsuit to claw back over a billion dollars in property tax breaks to 17 data centers in Hillsboro.

Because of you, we were able to launch our statewide Housing Solutions Center that provides tools and choices for communities to push for policy solutions that bring millions of dollars to fund our communities. The Housing Solutions Center supports our local leaders to create communities where everyone—from the people who feed us, teach our children, fight our fires, and provide medical care—can continue to proudly call Oregon home.

Because of you, we were able to build a new way forward for thousands of people who believe that if you work hard and do good in your community, you will be able to afford your basics and save up for your long-term goals.

We also want you to know how you support this cause—by advising, volunteering, organizing, testifying, and donating. Not only does this inspire others to get involved, but also together we can and do shape policies and politics and build friendships that last for a lifetime. That's why and how we win. Which is why we dedicate this year's annual report to the people who fought for us and did not know our names. These historic figures—some of whom are still fighting alongside us—built the foundation for our land use program and with it, gave us a means to strengthen our democracy, our shared prosperity, our communities, our lands, and our humanity. Together, we can continue this tradition: We can bring people from different generations, backgrounds, professions, hometowns, interests together around a shared vision.

From our flagship leadership program with 350+ alumni and a 50 person+ waiting list, the Land Use Leadership Initiative (LULI), to our Forestry Agricultural Advisory Committee, to our statewide affiliate network and annual Affiliate Partner Conference, we are able to build an agenda for a better future for you and everyone in our state.

Thanks to you, 1000 Friends of Oregon takes on some of the biggest land conservation and development challenges and questions, including but not limited to: How do we prepare for wildfire? How do we build our cities and towns? Lastly, how do we steward our lands? Thanks to you, we can ensure that 1000 Friends of Oregon works every day to secure land use decisions that will make life better for everyone tomorrow than life is today.

We hope this annual report invites you to celebrate the progress that you, us, and the thousands of Oregonians have made possible together by taking action. It is a privilege to be able to carry our work forward together. Thank you for including us as part of your life's work and shaping this cause for the future of all of our families and communities.

Here's to a better Oregon, together,



Sam Diaz
Executive Director



Gil Kelley
Board President

2026

OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

1000 Friends of Oregon doesn't do anything alone. Our impact is possible because of collaboration with our coalition partners, affiliate network, Forestry and Agriculture Advisory Committee, members, and our growing list of land use champions across the state. Help us make an impact for Oregon.

61,373
Acres protected for agricultural use in the face of proposed sprawl

80
Articles highlighting our work across the state

36
Bills tracked in the 2026 short session

8,462
Advocacy messages we helped supporters send to policymakers

152
Land use advocates trained

36
Presentations and power-building events held across Oregon

$25 million
Secured to preserve existing affordable housing as buildings age

47
Organizations engaging in our statewide Stand Up to Data Centers Oregon coalition

1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON

Sam Diaz | *Executive Director*
Mary Kyle McCurdy | *Associate Director and Managing Attorney*
Omar Abdelmegeid | *Salesforce Data Coordinator*
Ben Asher | *Operations Associate*
Sofia Baum | *Membership Experience Manager*
John Butterfield | *Senior Staff Attorney*
Jenni Denekas | *Communications Manager*
Eve Goldman | *Staff Attorney*
Anna Kemper | *Great Communities Program Director*
Jacky Lee | *Oregon for Everyone Manager*
Lou Ocampo | *Operations Manager*
Sarah Settimo | *Working Lands Program Director*
Cassie Wilson | *Legislative Manager*
Robb Wolfson | *Legal Apprentice*
Sarah Yeoman | *Digital Communications Manager*

Gil Kelley | *Board President*
Meriel Darzen | *Board Vice President*
Baker Lyon | *Board Secretary and Treasurer*
Nellie McAdams | *Policy Committee Chair*
Justin Pabalate | *Board Membership Experience Committee Chair*
Ken Hayes, Edward B. Hill, Alana Kenagy, Jeff Mapes, Rod Park, Victor Platt, Christian Richmond, Albert Roberson, Ben Williams | *Board Members*

Forestry and Agriculture Advisory Committee (FAAC)
Anna Jesse | *Cochair*
Dan Keeley | *Vice Cochair*
Nellie McAdams | *Cochair*
Shelley Wetherell | *Vice Cochair*



◂ ON THE COVER
Laszlo the farm dog frolics around Lazy M Ranch in Linn County

TILLAMOOK COUNTY

FIGHTING FOR THE STEWARDS OF OUR LANDS legal team highlights

See more of what our legal team achieved in 2026

for our land

As Oregonians, we have been entrusted with a visionary land use system that helps us build true and lasting shared prosperity. This system ensures that our state's future rests firmly in the hands of all Oregonians because we know there is one thing all Oregonians are good at: Finding creative ways to benefit our communities—whether that's growing our food and export crops, building new affordable housing choices in our cities and towns, or managing our forests to sustainably produce our uniquely Oregon wood and paper products.

But purveyors of short-sighted deals that squander the state's natural resources for meager returns continue to try to chip away at the critical protections that ensure that our farmers, farmworkers, ranchers, foresters, forest land managers, and other residents and local business people aren't priced out, bought out, or pushed out as Oregon grows and changes.

Since our founding, 1000 Friends' legal team has supported a brighter future for all Oregonians by pushing back on these attempts to weaken, evade, or eliminate critical pillars of the land use system. This year was no different. Our legal team submitted dozens of comments in cities and counties around the state. We challenged permits from Yamhill, Clackamas, and Marion counties at LUBA, and continued advocacy to protect farmland related to enforcement orders filed against Linn and Deschutes counties. We stopped two unfounded urban growth boundary (UGB) expansion proposals and remain in litigation on a third.

Bottom line: We are here to work with and for the stewards of our lands, ensure that our irreplaceable natural resources and special places remain protected, and create a future in which economic development is not at odds with conservation.

Here are some of our legal team's key wins from the past year:

In Yamhill County, we won important victories at LUBA, restricting the ability of developers to push luxury hotels into the exclusive farm use (EFU) zone through the "home occupation" loophole—and helping to keep working lands in working hands instead.

In Marion County, we reversed the County's approval of a permit to transform 20 acres of high-value farmland into luxury acreage residential estates.

In Hillsboro, we are fighting back against millions of dollars in tax breaks being given to data centers—data centers that the City pushed through with no public participation in the decision-making process.

In North Plains, after years of litigation and grassroots advocacy, the city has finally abandoned its proposal to double its UGB. This win protects the rich farmland that was threatened by the proposed expansion and helps to ensure that the city can use proven smart growth principles, like redevelopment of existing parcels and building compact housing options for residents at all income levels.

2026 short session recap

During the 2026 legislative session, thousands of Oregonians showed up to protect our access to affordable and abundant housing, an abundant agricultural economy, and other key facets of life in Oregon.

With your help, we defeated seven bills that would have opened up farm and forest lands for development. This includes the successful grassroots effort to defeat SB 1586—the proposal to bring 1,700 acres of world class soil into Hillsboro's urban growth boundary (UGB) for speculative industrial development, including data centers. This community victory built a strong foundation for the data center organizing we have engaged in since then (see p. 6).

1000 Friends also supported the passage of 12 bills which seek to increase housing affordability and accessibility, eradicate pests that are harming Oregon nurseries (including Japanese beetles), disconnect state tax code from duplicating federal tax cuts, and support development of industrial lands within our cities and towns.

Despite strong organizing in partnership with Friends of Family Farmers, Central Oregon LandWatch, Ag for Oregon, and our affiliates, HB 4153 (the "farm stores" bill) passed—and without essential guardrails to mitigate harm caused by commercial development and events on farmland. We are closely tracking the bill's impacts to build our case to fix it in a future session.

12 bills passed that we supported

2 bills passed where we were neutral

1 bill passed that we opposed

7 bills died that we opposed

The legislature faced the transportation funding gap again, this time making significant cuts to critical programs like Safe Routes to School as a short-term fix to a much larger operations and maintenance funding issue. Due to the continued transportation budget shortfall, the legislature is likely to take this issue up again in the 2027 session.

See more bills we tracked on our legislative overview.

Read our full legislative recap

for our democracy



▲ Legislative Manager Cassie Wilson meets with Rep. April Dobson during January legislative days in Salem.



▲ Our team with farmers and local advocates in Salem to testify against SB 1586, which would have supersited 1,700 acres of farm land for data centers and advanced manufacturing in Hillsboro.

FIGHTING FOR LIVABILITY in the face of data center development

for our land

Data center proliferation has quickly become an unavoidable, hot-button issue across the United States and particularly in Oregon, where about 140 data centers are located to date, and where we have the second-highest IT load from data centers in the world (Cushman and Wakefield).

Data centers threaten Oregon's precious farm and forest lands; impact the success of Oregon farmers and ranchers by dipping into land, water, and other resources; and harm local communities. Impacts on communities can take many forms, including but not limited to their negative impacts on local tax revenue that funds infrastructure, emergency services, and schools. Public sentiment is largely against data centers because of these impacts. In response, various counties, cities, and states have introduced policy and legislation that temporarily bans, or significantly restricts, data center development.

1000 Friends is actively involved in this critical land use conversation; our work on this topic spans legislative policy, community organizing, and legal strategy.

Legislative policy

1000 Friends supports policy changes to keep data centers out of places we cannot replace, end subsidies for data center development, and prioritize and invest in a diverse economy of the future that is aligned with Oregonians' values.

We are leading with legislators on land use policy changes and supporting reforms in other areas such as taxation and energy and water management. The land use concept we are working on would prohibit urban growth boundary (UGB) expansions for data centers. This would also prohibit rezoning, redesignation of resource lands, and making goal exceptions to allow for data center development. Additionally, the bill would limit the footprint of data centers—requiring that they build up, not out.

Currently, many local governments do not hold hearings on data center developments until public pressure forces them. In some cases, non-elected government staff members can sign off on development applications without approval from a planning commission, city council, or county commission. Changing this will give more weight to public opinion. Accordingly, the bill we are working on will also expand meaningful public engagement before the approval of any data center development applications—supporting Land Use Planning Goal 1 (public involvement) and our strategic focus area, For our Democracy.

Community organizing

This summer, 1000 Friends staff dedicated substantial time and resources to convening a statewide data center policy coalition: Stand Up to Data Centers Oregon. As one of the coalition leaders, we're uniting groups all over the state with 60 members and counting. True to 1000 Friends' values and long-time tradition, we've convened a big tent of people bringing expertise on energy, water, taxation, land use planning, agriculture, labor, environmental justice, and more—who are working to shape responsible, equitable policy on data center development ahead of the 2027 Oregon Legislative Session. The coalition aims to address data centers, especially hyperscale data centers, and their impact on Oregon communities through legislation and other avenues.

Learn more about the Stand Up to Data Centers coalition

Legal strategy

1000 Friends' legal team has elevated data centers as a top priority area. As we discuss on page 4, in June 1000 Friends brought a lawsuit in Washington County Circuit Court against the City of Hillsboro challenging 17 data center Enterprise Zone (EZ) applications approved by the City under the Oregon Enterprise Zone Act. Staff attorney Eve Goldman is one of three attorneys representing the 12 plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Eve has also been active in several additional data center fights, including providing testimony to Salem's city council and planning commission in opposition of a proposed 600,000 square foot data center campus proposal in Salem.

1000 Friends also signed on to an opposition letter from Beyond Toxics regarding a Zone Verification in Eugene to allow Data Centers in the former Hynix Superconductor Campus. 1000 Friends' legal team continues to monitor the state for additional data center applications, zone amendments and comprehensive plan amendments, and other land use actions that pave the way for future data center development in Oregon's rural and urban spaces.



▲ **Above:** Participants ride in a data center bike tour in Hillsboro.

▼ **Below:** Executive Director Sam Diaz speaks during a community gathering on data centers in Washington County.



This work is only possible with donor support

You can help us continue to advocate for and protect Oregonians in the face of this unprecedented statewide data center proliferation. To help communities fight back, 1000 Friends has set up the Data Center Reform Fund. This directly supports our policy, organizing, and legal efforts related to data centers.

"I want the government to invest in schools, not data centers. Schools are closing and students are struggling. I have seen the impact of giving tax breaks to corporations instead of investing that money in local public schools. I am not surprised that the community is fighting against more corporate handouts."

—Dr. Tammy Carpenter, Beaverton School Board member

Donate to the Data Center Reform Fund

for our prosperity

Essential stories from 2026

This year, we spent a lot of time on the ground with communities and individuals directly affected by land use issues around the state. These stories are essential to building a system that works for all Oregonians in all stages of life.

for our communities



◂ What happens when a community fights back against an airport expansion? In partnership with Friends of French Prairie, we explored how homes and businesses would be condemned to make way for corporate jets.

Watch the airport video

Watch the apartment tour

▸ This tour of Legislative Manager Cassie Wilson's apartment highlights the gaps in Oregon's accessible housing types. Presented in front of legislators, it helped move the needle on policy to close those gaps.



TOD: Reducing emissions & displacement

For Oregon to hit its housing production targets while contributing to its climate goals, one smart growth strategy is increasingly appropriate: transit-oriented development (TOD). Our Gerhardt Intern, Jackson Schroeder, created a modeling program that shows how simply allowing more people to live near transit can reduce displacement and greenhouse gas emissions.

Learn more about TOD and Jackson's project

THE ASTORIA HOUSING INITIATIVE

A grassroots effort for housing availability

Astoria has a shortage of homes that working residents can afford—yet they have hundreds of homes voluntarily left empty for most of the year. Enter: The Astoria Housing Initiative, a grassroots ballot initiative to create a locally-controlled community housing fund, funded by taxing empty homes.

Taxing empty houses will encourage property owners to sell or rent their homes, creating more opportunities for locals and working families. Those who choose to leave their homes empty can instead pay a tax, which supports locally-governed housing programs.

If Astoria is the first in the state to pass an empty homes tax, it will set a powerful precedent for other communities struggling with similar issues. And in this time of housing instability, cities need every option to provide attainable housing for their residents.

Read more about the AHI

GREAT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM ENSURES ALL OREGONIANS CAN THRIVE

Our team kicked off 2026 by launching the Housing Solutions Center (HSC), an online hub that translates housing data, policy, and land use laws into accessible guidance—a critical tool for advocates and communities working on land use and housing supply.

The HSC provides concise information on Oregon's housing needs, what is legally allowed today, effective infill and redevelopment strategies, and tools for engaging communities in real conversations about growth. We also share six key strategies for approaching housing policy at the local level, including streamlining permits, building workforce capacity, and expanding housing options for all family sizes and income levels.

Since the launch, Oregon for Everyone Manager Jacky Lee and Great Communities Program Director Anna Kemper have been meeting with communities from Yachats to Eugene to promote solutions that actually work. Together, we have hosted workshops and presentations for over 400 people in nine different cities across the state.

There is no single solution to the housing challenges Oregon communities face, but partnership between statewide groups like 1000 Friends and local advocates is critical. The Housing Solutions Center is a key piece of the puzzle providing essential tools and resources to partner groups to help achieve our state's housing goals.



▲ Oregon for Everyone Manager Jacky Lee presenting on the Housing Solutions Center at an event in Bend, put on with our partners at Bend YIMBY and Central Oregon LandWatch.

More housing highlights

- As of January, our previous Membership Experience manager Anna Kemper is now our Great Communities Program director.
- Anna and Legislative Manager Cassie Wilson hosted over 90 people for an accessible housing policy webinar this spring.
- This summer, Gerhardt Intern Jackson Schroeder helped our team develop a key part of our newly-launched legislative platform for transit-oriented development. This platform will also cover accessible housing, including reform of elevator and stair codes that unnecessarily restrict needed homes.
- Anna and Jacky continue to work with local advocates and planners to support cities in their critical Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) implementation. Long advocated for by Associate Director Mary Kyle McCurdy, this statewide directive requires cities to plan for and determine how to build the housing their communities need.

Check out the Housing Solutions Center

for our communities







"We're in this together. It means something to be one of the 1000 Friends of Oregon... I want to put my legacy not into the wild blue yonder, but something a little bit more practical than that: Creating opportunity for other people who have their feet on the ground to take and bring opportunity to us as the next step, whatever that next step is."

— JOHN ALLCOTT

Legacy Circle member and former board member



"Preserving the coast, the waterfalls, the old-growth forests, the starry night skies, and the bountiful farmland are all worth fighting for, and none of that has to be at the expense of economic development. We use economic development as a reason why we can't do it. But there's a way to have both."

— IAN REES

2026 LULI alumnus

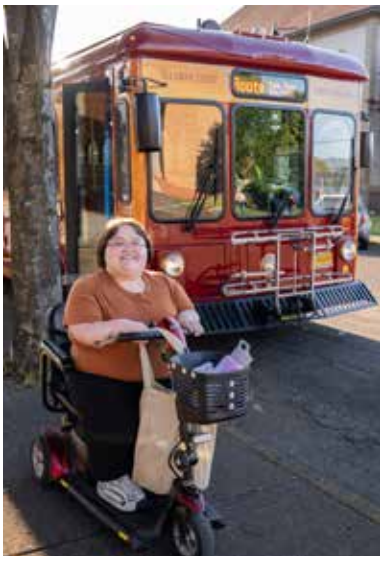
"Meeting my fellow land use advocates [at the 2025 1000 Friends of Oregon Affiliate Conference] from around the state and hearing their stories was an encouragement to me to keep on working."

— SUZANNE REINGANS

Affiliate Partner Conference attendee

◂ FARMS ON THE EDGE OF THE WALLOWAS

Our team visited beautiful Enterprise this summer to work with community members on housing and wildfire issues.



A YEAR OF TRANSIT TALKS





▲**Above:** With Multnomah Youth Commission's Ishaan Bhardwaj.
◂**Far left:** Cassie in front of Tillamook's trolley bus.
◂**Near left:** Interviewing Sen. Khanh Pham.

It's one thing to know a lot about public transportation; it's another to experience it firsthand. It's been one year since our landmark series Transit Talks debuted, initiating important conversations with local leaders and advocates around the state. Here's what our Transit Talks team—Legislative Manager Cassie Wilson and Digital Communications and Engagement Manager Sarah Yeoman—experienced this summer on a trip to Tillamook County.

The Tillamook Transit Center was bustling on the July weekday when we showed up to film. Riders with bicycles, backpacks, and mobility devices boarded buses headed to different parts of Tillamook County.

There was a clear sense of community: Most riders seemed to know each other and know their driver. Riding the bus is clearly part of their routine and they know what to expect. So, when our driver pulled up in a brand new trolley-style bus to drive the town loop, everyone was surprised and impressed. The new buses are rolling out as part of the regular fleet soon, but that day, we all got a sneak preview.

Line 1, the Tillamook Town Loop, stops by grocery stores, health clinics, retirement communities, the community college and high school, banks, small businesses, churches, and, of course, the Tillamook Creamery. Throughout the day, we rode with riders of all ages and abilities. People rode to and from work, the grocery store, social outings, and appointments.

On the bus, we listened to riders who hadn't seen each other recently catch up, including a young kid excited to see an older, regular rider they knew. Our driver for the day remembered riders' usual stops. One rider who was Blind recognized the driver's voice. While you can pull the stop cord like in most buses, the driver also has a clipboard to track where you're going. There's a cash box at the door, but most riders have monthly passes. The county buses may be small, but they were regularly full throughout the day.

Tillamook is faring better than some other small transit providers in Oregon, including the fact that the Town Loop still has weekend service. But its 7:00 AM–7:00 PM schedule and its loop format have their limitations.

Transit in small cities and towns isn't just another way to get around; it's a lifeline and part of the community's social fabric. Approximately 30% of Oregonians can't or don't drive due to age, ability, and/or cost. Public transit services like the ones provided by the Tillamook County Transportation District are essential for allowing people to age in place, live in community, and maintain independence. That is why we're proud to share stories about transit and community from around the state.

Watch the full Transit Talks series on YouTube:

Land use: A critical tool to living safely with wildfire

See more Wildfire Wednesday stories

Wildfire is a natural part of ecosystems across the Western United States. However, human-caused climate change, sprawl, and excessive fire suppression have increased wildfire frequency, intensity, and impacts on communities and landscapes. In 2026, an historic number of acres burned in Oregon—more than 2 million—and claimed several lives.

The good news is that a better, safer, and more sustainable future is possible—especially because our land use system already has many tools to create more wildfire resilient communities. 1000 Friends has been a longtime leader in advancing wildfire resilience. Associate Director Mary Kyle McCurdy is a member of Oregon's Wildfire Programs Advisory Council (WPAC), which oversees multi-agency efforts to mitigate wildfire risk and implement community wildfire resilience actions statewide. This year, we also launched Wildfire Wednesday, a storytelling project that shares the information communities need to become more wildfire prepared.

Here are some wildfire-smart land use tools 1000 Friends has been helping to implement and strengthen:

Urban growth boundaries (UGBs): UGBs have largely prevented development from sprawling into the wildland urban interface (WUI) at the rate that other western states have, keeping Oregon's communities safer from wildfire risks. In the face of increasing pressure from developers, private property interests, and corporations, 1000 Friends continues to advocate for compact communities that keeps communities safe.

Transportation planning: 1000 Friends is a leader in efforts to make our communities safer by incorporating sensible transportation and development criteria into local plans. Currently, Oregon requires local governments to create transportation plans. However, these have not incorporated wildfire risk—yet—which local governments can and should do. Our recommendations include designating and maintaining evacuation and emergency response routes and adopting standards for neighborhood development—particularly ensuring there is more than one way in and out that is also accessible to emergency vehicles.

Reducing wildfire risk around homes and other buildings: Wildfires spread primarily through fire embers, which can travel up to two miles away. Local development codes—especially in more wildfire prone areas—should include the following requirements, which 1000 Friends is advocating for, and some cities are starting to adopt:

Defensible space: The first five feet around a structure should be clear of all flammable materials.

Home hardening: Building new homes and major remodels with materials and techniques that meet the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code can cost about the same as traditional materials and methods (and greatly reduces the chance of homes catching on fire).

These are just a few of the land use tools Oregon already has to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of wildfire and its root cause: Human-caused climate change. While the challenges we face are significant, at 1000 Friends we see a lot of hope in Oregon's land use planning program. Together, we can sustain great communities where all can thrive, support the stewards of our farm and forest lands, and protect our natural resources—for current and future generations.

for our communities



▴**Above:** Attendees of our 2025 Affiliate Partner Conference at Oregon State University.

We are stronger together

Thank you for showing up with us this year





▸ **Right:** Membership Experience Manager Sofia Baum during our plant pop up sale.

▾ **Below:** Discussion during the Our Future Starts at Home event in partnership with Fair Housing Council of Oregon.



▴ **Above:** LULI cohort, board members, and staff participate in a story circle on SB 100.

▾ **Below:** Supporters sport our custom 1KF & Timbers branded scarves at Environmental Awareness Day. Timbers won!





▴ **Above:** Repping the 1000 Friends booth at the Oregon State Fair.

▸ **Right:** Our Washington County community legislative gathering in Hillsboro.





▲ **Above:** Membership Experience Manager Sofia Baum on a helicopter flight to view the Aurora Airport and Butteville dump site in French Prairie.



▸ **Right:** Farmer Gary Harris and Working Lands Advisor-In-Residence Jim Johnson on a visit to Gary's farm near Madras.





▲**Above:** Great Communities Program Director Anna Kemper and Membership Experience Manager Sofia Baum with partners at our Salem housing happy hour.

▾ **Below:** Stoneboat Farms was a vendor at our first ever Holiday Arts & Agriculture Market. Our next one is coming up on Dec. 2.



◂ **Left:** Housing advocates meet in Eugene during our summer happy hour.

▾ **Below:** Our newest cohort of Land Use Leadership Initiative graduates.





Thank you to our partners

Creative services: Art Design Xchange (ADX, Atrum Arte, Brimstone Ceramics, Cathey Armillas' Speaker Skills Academy, For Love of Plants, Happylucky, Jarrette Werk, Jenn Joslin Art & Nature, Mashall Sharma, Maya T'aan Oregon, ok crochet, Twahna Creation, ZGF Architects

Farms, ranches & foresters: Aspen Valley Ranch, Aurora Farms, Bannockburn Farms, Blue Heron Farm, Bumps Farm LLC, Carabella Vineyard, Cohesive Farms, Dear Ranch, Dry Hollow Limited Partnership (cherries), Duyck Family Farms Produce, Est Wines, Holcomb Farms, Inc., Kenagy Family Farm, McCarthy Family Farm, Northwoods Nursery, Organically Grown Company, Park's Nursery, Stoneboat Farm CSA, Vanasche Farm LLC, Winter's Hill Estate, Zena Forest Products

Food, beverage & lifestyle: Barry's, Boyco Foods, Carabella Vineyard, CASCADA, El Pilon, Est Wines, O'Vive Cafe, Parkrose Coffee Shop, Plaid Pantry, Winter's Hill Estate (winery), Wild Reed Yoga,

Governmental entities: East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, Port of Portland

Manufacturing: Fought & Company

Nonprofit partners: AARP Oregon, Ag for Oregon, Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, Crag Law Center, Forest Park Conservancy, Friends of Marion County, Intertwine Alliance, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, LandWatch Lane County, WeShine, Willamette University

Real estate: weave & seed

Retail: Columbia Sportswear

Sports: Portland Timbers, Portland Thorns

WELCOME new staff and board members



Sofia Baum – she/they
Membership Experience Manager

Based in Junction City, Sofia's early experiences grounded her commitment to equity, movement-building, and protecting Oregon's natural beauty. In her free time, Sofia is an avid traveler, loves Latin dancing, is a proud dog mama, and enjoys spending time outdoors exploring Oregon's landscapes.,



Jackson Schroeder – he/him
Gerhardt Intern

Jackson recently graduated from Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. His internship project was modeling the impacts of transit-oriented development (TOD) on climate and housing supply. After his internship, he's looking forward to volunteering with a regenerative agriculture nonprofit in Kenya then going to law school.



Sarah Settimo – she/her
Working Lands Program Director

Sarah comes to 1000 Friends after six years as Chief of Staff for Sen. Jeff Golden. She's interned at the USDA's Farm Service Agency and worked on policies on land use, agriculture, forestry, and wildfire. Originally from Rogue Valley, her favorite places include Mt. Ashland, the Hood River Valley, and Whale's Head Beach.



Mac Cunningham – he/him
Board Member

An affordable housing developer and policy advocate, Mac believes that housing is first and foremost a human right and the linchpin issue of our time in addressing historical inequities. His background is in real estate and community development, public policy, and community organizing.

MOVING FORWARD

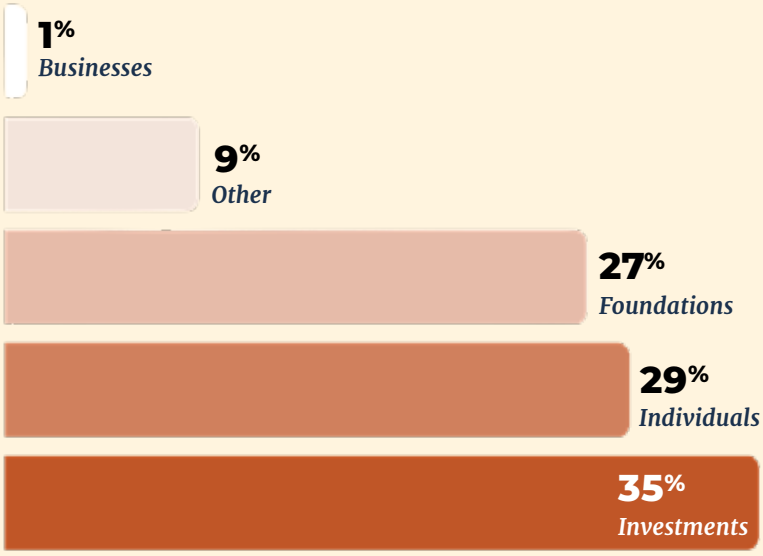
We're excited to announce that our attorney **John Butterfield** has been promoted to Senior Staff Attorney. Our former Working Lands Policy Director **Jim Johnson** will now be our Working Lands Advisor-In-Residence during his "retirement."

LAST FISCAL YEAR

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

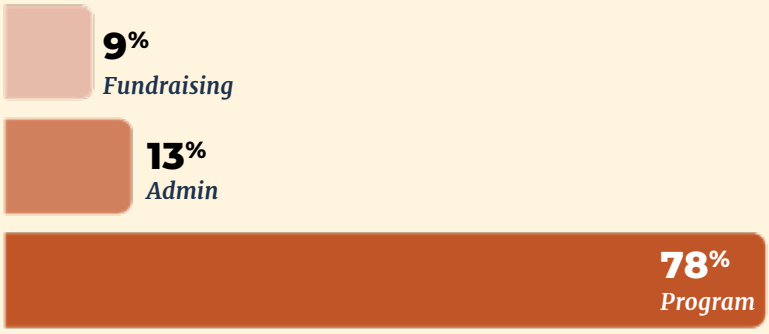
Revenue

$2,262,164



Expenses

$1,978,671



FINANCIAL MEMO

Year over year, 1000 Friends of Oregon's support comes from you and thousands of people who care about making tomorrow better than today by inspiring the stewardship of our lands—our farms, forests, and watersheds as well as our cities and towns.

Our fiscal year ended on March 31, 2026. 1000 Friends of Oregon closed the fiscal year in a strong financial position, with a strong primary focus on our Great Communities and Working Lands Programs and reduced expenses in administrative and fundraising activities to serve you better. This reflects both stability and growth in our core areas of support.

We value financial transparency and are always happy to answer questions from our members, partners, and donors. To see our 990 and audited financial statements, please visit friends.org/financials.

1000 Friends of Oregon is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our tax ID is 93-0642086. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2027

With your continued partnership and support, you can help keep us on track. It is a privilege to partner with you to secure land use decisions that will make life better for everyone tomorrow.

The majority of Oregonians, while anxious about the present and future, are hopeful about the possibility of finding common ground on core issues. We work together to support Oregon agriculture, secure housing solutions, and block data center development on our most irreplaceable lands. With thousands of people and hundreds of partner organizations in our coalitions, 1000 Friends of Oregon is prioritizing high-impact areas for solutions that unify us.

For 2027, our team is ready to:

PROTECT THE PLACES WE CANNOT REPLACE

from our working lands to beloved natural areas

- Protect our farms, forests, and watersheds and the stewards whose lives and livelihoods are connected to them from runaway sprawl—especially data center development.
- Build new partnerships to make it easier for more hardworking, smart, and determined people who want to follow their dreams of stewarding our lands.
- Continue to co-lead a statewide data center reform coalition to address immediate setbacks and hazards from the current approaches to data center development, and to protect lands that we cannot replace, like Oregon's world-class farmland and natural areas.

BUILD WHERE IT MAKES SENSE

in ways that uplift all Oregonians

- Continue Oregon for Everyone's organizing in Oregon towns around the state to improve policy, remove barriers, and bring funding to support the housing Oregonians need now and into the future.
- Bring transit and transportation choices to you through our Transit Talks series.
- Ensure there are affordable, accessible, well-located housing options in every neighborhood.
- Speed up and scale out solutions for communities to be ready for wildfire, steering housing, schools, hospitals, and local businesses out of known extreme-risk areas.
- Help keep Oregon communities more wildfire resilient—including supporting smart growth, compact UGBs, and transportation planning that improves access for emergency services and evacuation (see p. 13).

ENSURE ALL OREGONIANS CAN FULLY PARTICIPATE

in how our communities are planned

- As our flagship program the Land Use Leadership Initiative (LULI) turns 15, we will graduate another 30-person cohort, bringing our total land use leaders trained to approximately 360.
- Leverage our new website to provide interactive, user-friendly, and accessible multimedia storytelling and other practical content for our partners.
- Strengthen our Forestry Agricultural Advisory Committee (FAAC), affiliate network, and the LULI alumni network by doubling our year-round events—with formats ranging from gatherings to workshops, from webinars to site visits, and from story circles to strategy sessions.
- Expanding the research that our team produces and shares with partners, to ensure that our partners can effectively advocate for the changes they want and need.
- Host our Affiliate Partner Conference at Oregon State University for the third year.

Ways to give

Contribute now at friends.org

BECOME A MEMBER

Become a member of 1000 Friends of Oregon by making a gift of $35+ today!

HONOR GOV. McCALL

McCALL SOCIETY
1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON

Members of the McCall Society carry Governor Tom McCall's legacy forward by providing annual support of $1,000 or more.

SHARE 1000 FRIENDS

Give the gift of a one-year membership.

MAKE A PLANNED GIFT

Legacy Circle members build a brighter future for Oregon by including 1000 Friends of Oregon in their estate plans.

SIGN UP TO GIVE MONTHLY

Monthly giving is a great way to ensure we stand at the ready to address land use threats wherever and whenever they arise.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR BUSINESS

Business partners enjoy year-round recognition and additional sponsorship and partnership opportunities.

JACKSON COUNTY

340 SE 6th Ave
Portland, OR 97214

2027 KEY DATES

January 11: LULI applications open | January 19: First day of the 2027 legislative session

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook.com/1000friendsoforegon
Linkedin.com/1000friendsoforegon
Instagram: @1000Oregon
BlueSky: @1000Oregon

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES

Friends.org/newsletter

