At Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO), our mission is to address the suffering of our neighbors while lifting up a vision of a more just, more compassionate world. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called us to act with “the fierce urgency of now.” He also acknowledged, “The arc of the universe is long, but it bends towards justice.”

We take this same holistic approach at EMO, as we work to heal the fractures and meet needs in our society. Our programs help the marginalized among us by providing affordable housing and food, a home for refugees, legal help for immigrants, and social support for vulnerable communities. We strive to bend the arc of the universe by confronting the root causes of suffering through political advocacy; working to eliminate poverty and institutionalized inequality; and addressing the crisis of climate change. All of our work is based upon our deeply held values—the inherent dignity of every person, the inherent worth of all creation, and our sacred responsibility to care for one another and the earth.

Recently, I listened to a young refugee tell her story. She spoke of the horrific hardships that she endured as a child, fleeing conflict and starvation in her native country. When asked about how she survived, her answer was this, “I was always on the lookout for people who were willing to share. I wasn’t asking for charity, only that people would share what they could with me—a place of shelter, some food, assurance that someone cared about my life. For those who were sharers, there was always enough.”

We all have the capacity to share something. I ask that each one of you consider what you might personally give of yourself that will make a positive difference to someone who is in need.

We can harness the energy of love. We can translate the passion of our hearts into concrete actions. And in our collective actions, we will change the world. None of us can do everything, but we can all do something. And we can do something very well.

With gratitude,

Jan Musgrove Elfers
President
Taking the child in his arms, [Jesus] said to them, “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.” Mark 9:36-37

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon’s programs serve communities in crisis and people in need. Our diverse programs are many and they are transformative. We provide nutritious meals, affordable housing, social support, and integrated refugee and immigration services.

Caroline van der Harten (right), director of SOAR Immigration Legal Services, worked with Rahma (left) for 10 arduous years to process her son’s visa petition; they had been separated for more than 25 years due to civil war in Somalia. On Feb. 16, 2017, after a delay due to the Trump Administration’s travel ban, Caroline accompanied a joyful Rahma to the Portland airport to finally reunite with her son.

Refugees & Immigration
We offer comprehensive and compassionate services to thousands of refugees and immigrants in the Portland metro area.

- Russian Oregon Social Services (ROSS) gave direct assistance to 512 Russian-speaking refugees and immigrants in 2017, including breast health education, dental care, translation services, ESL classes, and support for survivors of domestic violence/sexual assault such as transitional housing, mental health counseling, and family and immigration law assistance.

- Last year, Sponsors Organized to Assist Refugees (SOAR) resettled 221 refugees—the majority of whom came from Cuba, the former Soviet Union, Afghanistan and Ethiopia—and assisted them in their adjustment to a new life in the Portland metro area; 34 refugee children were enrolled in the Oregon Refugee School Impact Project.

- In 2017, SOAR Immigration Legal Services provided low-cost immigration representation and education services to more than 2,500 immigrants and refugees.
EMO’s newest affordable housing program, Metro HomeShare, was launched in October. The home matching program helps home providers stabilize and retain their housing, while offering access to affordable rent to home seekers.

Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17

Affordable Housing

EMO has a long history of developing and advocating for affordable housing and is dedicated to filling the housing needs of the most vulnerable.

- In 2017, Metro HomeShare assisted 36 individuals by facilitating the home matching process and providing case management after matches were made.

- The Patton Home—a 131-year old single-room occupancy residence—provided affordable housing for 63 individuals who were in recovery from substance abuse, transitioning from homelessness, or striving to maintain their personal independence. Annual events for residents included a Christmas in July BBQ, an excursion to Seaside, and Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner celebrations.

- Second Home—a community response to the housing needs of unaccompanied, homeless youth while they attend high school—facilitated housing arrangements last year for 15 students with volunteer host families, providing approximately 2,500 nights of housing and 7,500 meals.
For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in. Matthew 25:35

Last year, Northeast Emergency Food Program gathered and distributed more than 900,000 pounds of nutritionally balanced food (including 12,000 pounds of locally grown produce), valued at more than $3 million, to 9,000 households in critical need.

Nutrition & Social Services
Serving communities in crisis and people in need is central to EMO’s basic human needs programs.

- In 2017, our Food Services prepared 17,161 nutritious, home-style meals for 2,488 people in need, including residents of the Patton Home and clients of our HIV Services programs; cooked Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for Patton Home residents.

- Healthy Retail Network completed our third and final year of partnering with neighborhood corner stores to improve access to affordable food—particularly fresh fruits and vegetables—in areas of northeast and east Portland that lack full-service grocery stores.

- Last year, our HIV Services programs offered assistance for 304 low-income people living with HIV/AIDS. Clients made 8,331 visits to the HIV Day Center for meals, counseling, peer support, computers, phones, laundry, hygiene supplies, clothing and showers; 7,543 meals and supplements were delivered by the Daily Bread Express to home-bound individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

- In addition to providing food, Northeast Emergency Food Program distributed more than 50,000 items of clothing, 2,000 books and comics, and expanded its Cully Mobile Food Pantry.
And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. **Micah 6:8**

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon’s public witness and advocacy efforts support the marginalized, poor and voiceless. We are a consistent faith presence at the Oregon Legislature, and we also train and empower congregations and people of faith to participate in this important aspect of our ministry.

**Public Policy Advocacy**

- **During the 2017 Legislative Session,** EMO joined with our policy partners to successfully advocate for informed criminal justice investments (the Safety and Savings Act), health care, and solidarity with our immigrant neighbors (the passage of HB 3464 strives to keep families together by prohibiting the sharing of certain confidential information for the purposes of immigration enforcement).

- **In February,** a record number of nearly 500 people motivated for action gathered in Salem for **Interfaith Advocacy Day** to advocate for vital services for Oregonians in need. Specific issues addressed included housing, hunger, health care, gun safety, wage theft, and climate justice.

- **Communities of Support & Accountability** developed a new convocation with our partners in the Episcopal Dioceses of Oregon to help people of faith effectively serve and advocate with persons impacted by the criminal justice system. (*Hearing the Cries for Justice* was held in January 2018.)
Pastors Jeremy Hajdu-Paulen (left) of Tigard United Methodist Church and E.D. Mondainé of Celebration Tabernacle participated in the Pulpit Exchange.

Last year, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and the Albina Ministerial Alliance created the opportunity for 18 places of worship to engage with people of differing races, cultures and religious traditions. The Pulpit Exchange—between predominantly community of color churches with predominantly white churches—focused on sermonic themes of race, justice and reconciliation.
The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Psalm 24:1

Our Creation Justice programs foster an awareness that care for creation is integral to a life of faith. We connect, inform, inspire and empower people, congregations and religious institutions to work for justice and the care and renewal of the earth. We accomplish this through education, building relationships and advocacy.

Creation Justice

- Last year Oregon Interfaith Power & Light (OIPL) created a statewide network of congregational advocates to work together as one strong voice to advocate for legislation to curb Oregon’s climate pollution.

- In 2017, OIPL partnered with congregations, climate advocates, nonprofits and inspirational speakers to lead six Climate Justice Legislative Workshops in Beaverton, Medford, Lincoln City, Pendleton, Bend and Eugene. Over 90 people attended the workshops, representing roughly 30 congregations throughout these six distinct regions of the state. During and following the workshops, participants contacted their elected officials 160 times, urging support for legislation that will put a cap and price on climate pollution.

The Rev. John Pitney sings a United Nations climate song during a Climate Justice Legislative Workshop at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Pendleton.
Donors & Partners 9

Thank you to the 1,408 donors and foundations who gave $1,298,538 to Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon during 2017.

Congregations & Religious Organizations
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community/ Rizwan Mosque, Portland
Augustana United Methodist Church, Portland
Bainbridge United Church of Christ, Portland
Beavercreek United Church of Christ, Portland
Bethel Congregational United Church of Christ, Beaverton
Bethel Congregational United Church of Christ, White Salmon, Wash.
Bridgeport United Church of Christ, Portland
Cedar Hills Baptist Church, Portland
Central Lutheran Church, Portland
Central Lutheran Church Women, Portland
Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene
Christ Church Episcopal Parish, Eugene
Lake Oswego Community of Christ, Portland
Community of Christ, Crooked River Ranch
Congregational Church of Lincoln City
East County Church of Christ, Gresham
Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist Church, Portland
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Eugene
First Baptist Church, McMinnville
First Christian Church, Albany
First Christian Church, Portland
First Christian Church, Silverton
First Christian Church, Forest Grove
First Christian Church of Eugene
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Corvallis
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Portland
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Salem
First Presbyterian Church, Portland
First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg
First Presbyterian Church, Bandon
First Unitarian Church, Portland
First United Methodist Church, Portland
First United Methodist Church, Eugene
First United Methodist Church, Corvallis
Fremont United Methodist Church, Portland
Gorge Ecumenical Ministries, Hood River
Gresham United Methodist Church
Habitat for Humanity Florence
Habitat for Humanity of Central Lane, Eugene
Hillsboro United Methodist Church
Hillsdale Community Church, United Church of Christ, Portland
Hood River Valley Christian Church
Interfaith Council of Greater Portland
Keizer Christian Church
Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego
Lake Oswego United Church of Christ
Lake Oswego United Methodist Church
Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Portland
Maybell Center for Community, Portland
Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland
Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, Portland
Mosaic Church, Portland
Murray Hills Christian Church, Beaverton
Muslim Educational Trust, Tigard
Northwest Catholic Counseling Center, Portland
Oak Grove United Methodist Church
Open Door Baptist Church, Troutdale
Operation Nightwatch, Portland
Oregon Center for Christian Voices, Portland
Parkrose Community United Church of Christ, Portland
Peace Church of the Brethren, Portland
Portland Mennonite Church, Portland
Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst, Portland
Presbyterian Women of the Cascades, Vancouver, Wash.
Providence St. Vincent Medical Center Pastoral Services, Portland
Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, Portland
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Beaverton
St. Luke by the Sea Episcopal Church, Waldport
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Portland
St. Mark Lutheran Church, Salem
St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Portland
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Eugene
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, Portland
St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church, Portland
Salem Friends Meeting
Savage Memorial Presbyterian Church, Portland
Sisters of the Holy Names, Portland
SnowCap Community Charities, Portland
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Portland
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Willamette Falls, Oregon City
United Campus Ministry, Corvallis
Unity Church of Portland
Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Portland
Vancouver First Christian Church
Vermont Hills United Methodist Church, Portland
West Hills Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Portland
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Portland
Westside Community Church, Beaverton
Willamette West Habitat for Humanity, Hillsboro
Woodland Park Baptist Church, Portland
Zen Community of Oregon, Clatskanie

Denominations
American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast
Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon
Central Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Oregon & Southwest Idaho
Community of Christ – Greater Pacific Northwest
Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon
Episcopal Diocese of Oregon
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – Oregon Synod
Presbytery of the Cascades
United Methodist Church Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
Willamette Quarterly Meeting of the Society of Friends

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Extracto / Extracto II
Feast Community Choir
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Ford Food & Drink
Garden Bar
Glassbaby White Light Fund
GlaxoSmithKline
Gracie’s Restaurant
Grand-Benedicts
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
Immigration Counseling Service
Income Property Management
Lat Primas Inc.
Le Pigeon
Legacy Health System
Little Bird Bistro
Marandas Sinlapasai PC
McMenamins Pubs & Breweries
Metropolitan Public Defender
Morel Ink
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Northwest Industrial and Foundry Supply Co. Inc.
OnPoint Community Credit Union
Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Lawyers for Good Government
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Government
City of Beaverton Office of Cultural Inclusion and Community Services
City of Hillsboro Community Services
City of Portland East Portland Action Plan
Clackamas County
Multnomah County
Portland Housing Bureau
Oregon Dept. of Human Services – Cuban Haitian Assistance Program
Oregon Dept. of Justice, Crime Victims Services Division
U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security
U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
U.S. Dept. of Justice
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Last year, 536 volunteers helped us serve the needs of nearly 19,000 Oregonians.
2017 Finance Report

Revenues: $3,697,859

Expenses: $3,454,499

*In addition, $500,000 was received for EMO's endowment.