

*We dream of communities:*

with the lowest levels of **poverty** in the nation

where **employment** and decent **housing** are accessible by all

all where **health** outcomes are excellent

where vibrant community life emerges from **diversity**; and,

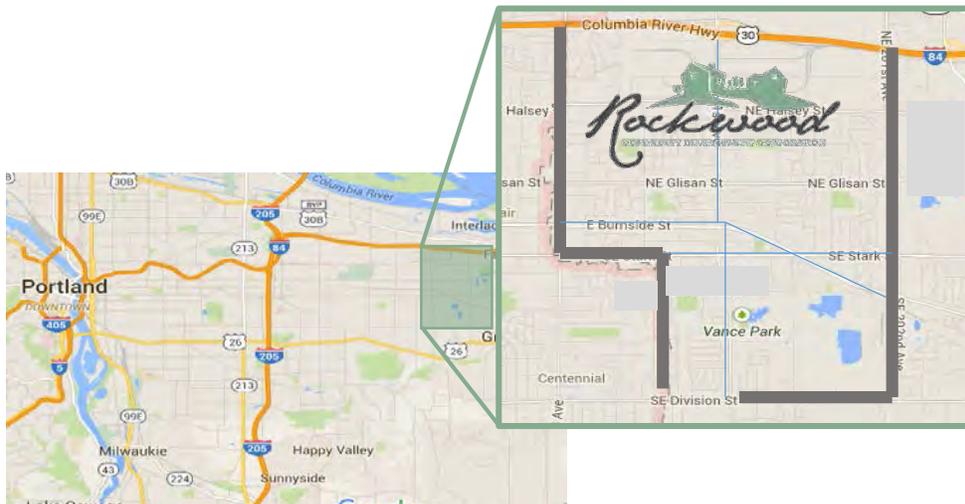
where all show **compassion** to those in need.



# 2015 Annual Report

## To understand what we do, you need to meet our neighbors.

Rockwood is Oregon's poorest community. It is also its sickest, most violent, most diverse and the least church-ed community. All of its schools have a greater than 90% participation rate in free or reduced lunch, and score in the bottom quintile of schools statewide. Our neighbors have the highest incidence of asthma, low birth-rate babies, high body mass index and other indicators of poor health. Gangs, human sex trafficking, and narcotics trafficking are concentrated here.



### Community Needs Index



Rockwood is the only 5 in Oregon

At this time, the trends are still pointing to further declines in income, educational attainment and health. Between 2000 and 2012 the number of Rockwood's 33,000 residents living in poverty grew by 61%. And the recent appearance of mass evictions in Rockwood has meant the rise of families experiencing homelessness – many for the first time.

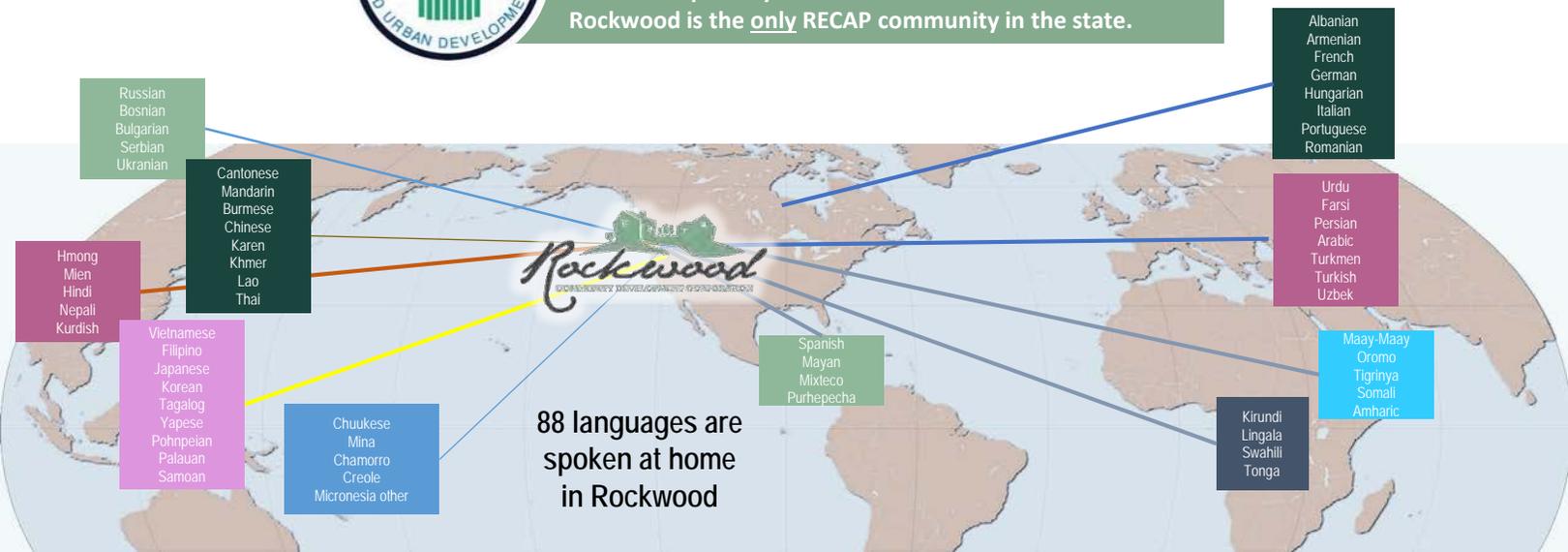
Working to create wealth and health in Rockwood is one of the biggest challenges that Oregonians face. Broad, system-wide changes will need to be made in order to turn this community around. There are neighbors here who want to help, and *need* outside resources to be successful. That's why the Rockwood CDC seeks donations, volunteers, new initiatives and collective impact. The job is too big for any one of us. But together, we can work to create a vibrant future. As you read this Annual Report, we invite you to see yourself as part of a very broad movement of hundreds of local neighbors, dozens of region-wide organizations, and even many national and international groups.



#### Racial & Ethnic Concentrated Areas of Poverty:

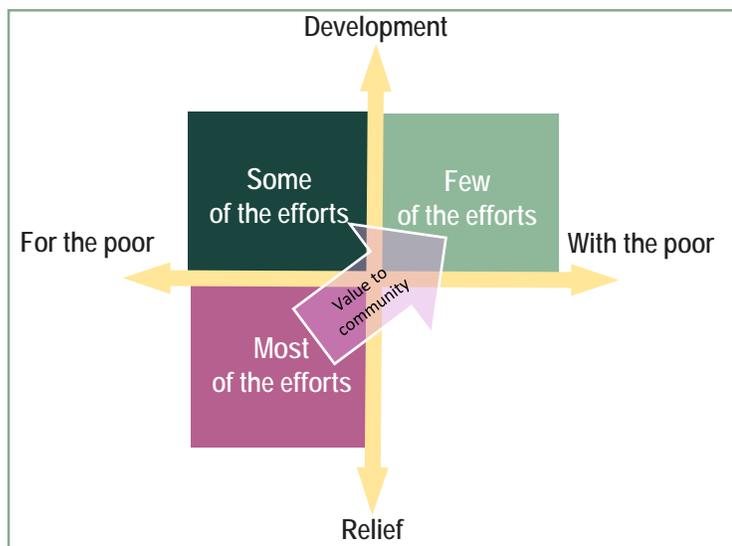
- >50% people of color
- >40% poverty rate

Rockwood is the only RECAP community in the state.



88 languages are spoken at home in Rockwood

# Principles of Community Transformation



There are hundreds of programs in existence today in Rockwood. Most are Relief services for the poor, while few are about Development of a prosperous community *with* the poor. **To the extent that we can drive resources from the lower left to the upper right, we can build community.**

But this is not done in a vacuum. We are part of several formal and informal collaboratives. We speak at public events, on average, two times per month. We coordinate the impact of dozens of organizations.

Pursue the disconnected  
• Reconciliation

Ethic of inclusion  
• Build bridges, not armies

Fidelity to process  
• Never leave the Table

In-person interaction  
• It's personal

These are four principles that we keep in front of us as we pursue development with our neighbors.

## Board & Staff

Pam Ferguson (Bookkeeper), Ebla Mohammed (Intern), John David Pitts (Immigrant & Refugee Services Manager), Brad Ketch (President), Scott McCracken (Interfaith Facilitator), Lynn Ketch (Director of Community Wellness)



Makrina (Intern), Demesse Tadasse (Intern – Legal Clinic), Pablo Vidal (Facilities and Events Manager), Andrea Eversmeyer (Community Navigator), Lindsey Boulais (Community Navigator). Not Pictured: Gennie Nguyen (Community Development Manager), Peter Eversmeyer (Team Leader, Community Navigators)

**Board of Directors:** Ed Heissler, Chair; Mary Edmeades, Treasurer; Lynn Ketch, Secretary; Rev. Jason Albelo; Robert Lee; Brad Ketch

# Immigrants & Refugees



HOMEWORK  
CLUB  
50  
KIDS TAUGHT

SUMMER  
PROGRAMS  
150  
KIDS SERVED



## Rockwood English Language Institute (RELI)

In May we launched a Pilot Program to determine if there is **need** in Rockwood for adult literacy. We opened one six-week class for up to 15 pre-literate adults. **68 people signed up!** We scrambled, and ended up serving all of these aspiring immigrants and refugees.

In 2016, we have an aspiration too. Once we have the **funding**, we will open RELI with a capacity of **480 adults** per year. Because we have already established a formal pathway with Mt. Hood Community College, our students will learn the English that they need for **meaningful employment**.



*“Research shows that one of the most important factors in determining student outcomes is the literacy capabilities of their parents. **We support the expansion of RELI.**”*

- Dr. Linda Florence, Superintendent, Reynolds School District



Because of Rockwood Speaks, we have known that for years, our neighbors have needed a **community center**.

In January 2015, we took a big step forward and **leased** a 12,500 ft<sup>2</sup> former restaurant. We filled it up this year with great tenants and users.

In early 2016 we hope to **purchase** this building. The Gresham Redevelopment Commission has led the way with a pledge for a \$400,000 loan.



- ✓ After-school enrichment activities to dozens of Latino kids
- ✓ Parenting and English classes
- ✓ Mexican dance on Saturday mornings



- ✓ Thriving Protestant congregation that is income and racially/ethnically diverse
- ✓ Free meals and items of clothing to the homeless every week
- ✓ Help more than 60 adults every week gain freedom from addiction
- ✓ Sustained outreach to Barberry Village in partnership with our Community Navigators



- ✓ 6 microentrepreneurs now have an accessible and legal environment to make food products for market. We have capacity for 30 more!
- ✓ All of them are making and selling more product since they moved into the Sunrise Center. These businesses now employ 5 Rockwood workers.



*"It's awesome. I'm very thankful to be part of this place."  
- Ed Gibson, Pie to the People*

**Some of the brands that are created at the Sunrise Center Kitchen**



We engage in a variety of activities aimed at strengthening the fabric of our community through conversation and volunteering.

**Rockwood Speaks** is a formal, facilitated conversation with our neighbors. Since 2014, we have led **21** conversations with **311** adults. Sessions have been conducted in Arabic, Chuuk, English, Spanish and Somali. All of our programs arise directly out of the information that we learn from our neighbors. Our reports have been used to drive change in the government sector.



*Event on Dec 30<sup>th</sup> with **500** volunteers*

***420** valid surveys about food and transportation*

***3,100** voter registration packets*

*Recruit **160** community volunteers*



Massive neighborhood party that is led by our partner Pathfinders. We handle the volunteer recruitment. We drew from our Speaks and Knocks participants, and filled up **325** volunteer slots.



May 2015

We have participated in, or led, engagement with communities that are broader than Rockwood, like:

- Hosting a Gresham City Council listening session in June;
- Co-leading the Promise Zone application to the federal government;
- Being on the Gresham Redevelopment Commission Rockwood Rising team;
- Leading the Rockwood Community Action Team; and,
- Speaking to numerous college and Masters-level students.

*In May 2016, we will host the second Rockwood Listens event, where the leaders of the government, healthcare, social services, faith, business and education sectors will meet our neighbors and get all of the data from Rockwood Speaks and Listens.*

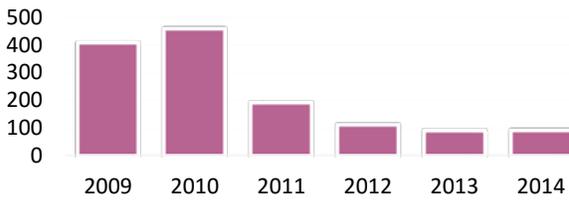
# Community Outreach

Team Leaders Peter and Andrea Eversmeyer with kids from Barberrry Village.



Crime in Barberrry Village is down 80% since Community Navigators moved in.

**Police Calls**



Community Navigators *know* the neighborhood. They promote neighborliness and engagement in an area that is plagued by isolation.



Community Navigator Lindsey Boulais



Community Navigators *connect* their neighbors to outside resources. They connect churches, agencies and governmental units to people who could benefit. If you or your organization want to reach these neighbors, our Navigators will help.

There is a **waiting list of apartments that want a Community Navigator to move in**. These apartments sometimes offer rent reductions in exchange for this service.

# Rockwood Pathways Project

The project is a coalition of two dozen organizations that serve our neighbors. It redesigns the way that neighbors access the services they need. The outcome is greater efficiency, less duplication, and a better experience for the families.

Neighbors from Barberrry Village

Neighbors from The Pines

Neighbors from Rockwood Knocks

Navigator

Navigators have special access to scarce resources

*We participated in a Pilot Program this year, and will go big in 2016. We will be both a service provider and an employer of Navigators. We also are part of the five-member Executive Committee that is making this coalition happen.*



Shalom Rockwood churches meet twice each year to network and plan for joint impact. About 50 people gather here in October and decide to focus on homelessness



Vibrant, diverse and caring churches are a part of community health. People with high social capital are more resilient, healthier, and build wealth faster than those who have low social capital. Our neighbors develop social capital by being a part of a faith community.

In Rockwood  
**35**  
CONGREGATIONS

“The Rockwood CDC has done more for church unity than anyone else, and I have been in Rockwood for 27 years!”



Shalom Rockwood churches at Neighbor’s Night Out in August. **88** backpacks with school supplies are given to kids for free. The team that put this all together represented three different racial/ethnic groups.



Shalom Rockwood Steering Team (from left)

- Pastor Jose Gonzalez
- Pastor Benny Moore
- Pastor Yuriy Bigun
- Catherine Nicewood
- Pastor Vance Hays
- Pastor Gene Heinrich
- Scott McCracken (RCDC staff)

## Legal Clinic



IF YOU ARE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE, YOU HAVE (ON AVERAGE) **3 TO 5** OPEN LEGAL ISSUES AT ANY GIVEN TIME



Brad Ketch, President, and Lynn Ketch, Director of Community Wellness, receive the 2015 Peace Award for the work in establishing a new Legal Clinic

**Start  
Delivering**

# Volunteers and Partners

**We rely on volunteers and partners to get the job done.  
We are proud of these groups who have worked hard this year.**

State of Oregon, Multnomah County and City of Gresham are actively engaged.

Health care providers are now at the table.

About 20 churches participated this year.

Social service agencies are in strong and constant communication about collective impact.



Reynolds School District is now formally committed to partnering with us on the RELI school. We are a key partner with SUN schools, too.

**718** individuals volunteered through us this year. We also provided volunteers to Nadaka Nature Park, Salvation Army, Home Forward, City of Gresham, Human Solutions & others.

## Formal Partners



Our region's community college entered into a formal agreement in November to work with us on the development of the Rockwood English Language Institute. They will refer pre-literate students to us, and we will graduate our students into their higher-level programs.



This non-denominational, Christian ministry builds and sends teams to world cities. Scott McCracken and Lindsey Boulais of our staff are associated with this group. They and the interns that also come from this organization work with us on staff.

## Internships & Temporary Employment



This non-profit agency serves families who are working to overcome a severe life crisis. One temporary (but full-time) administrative position is filled by Community Works.



Multnomah University placed Demesse Tadasse, an Ethiopian who is pursuing a masters-level degree in community development and justice. This summer, Demesse worked full-time to study the creation of our legal resource.



This collaborative of agencies placed three full-time workers this summer.



Our county sponsored two full-time staff this summer thru its SummerWorks program.

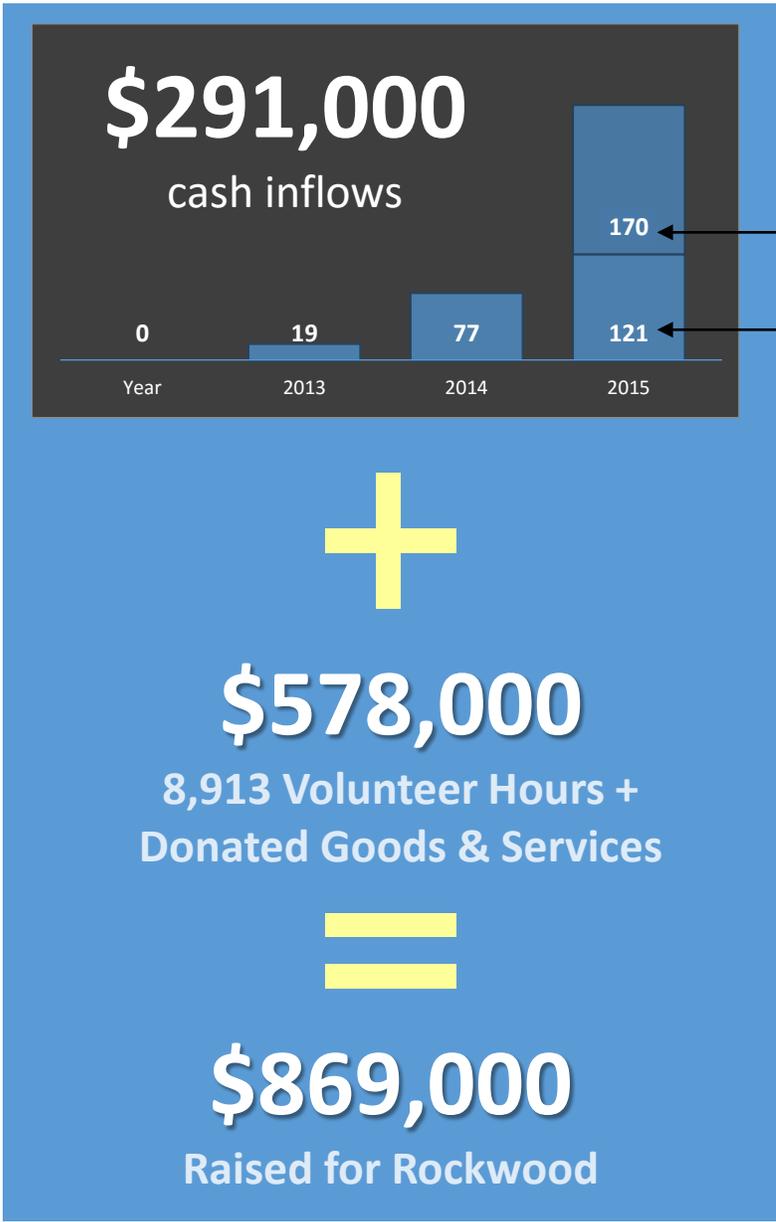
"There is a **neighbor** who is really **struggling** with maintaining their **apartment** to the housekeeping standards that their landlord requires. There was a **significant amount of garbage**, clutter and strong, off putting odors in the unit and it was challenging and rather surprising for someone to come into, when they have never seen this kind of a situation. I asked the **interns** if they would be interested in **playing a part** in trying to help the resident pass an upcoming housekeeping inspection.

We went to the unit and initially, it was **really difficult for all of us to see**. **A lot of folks would have turned around and said "no way."** However, the interns literally pulled up their bootstraps, threw on some gloves and a smile and **went to work**, side by side with the resident and I, to try to help get her unit to a place of passing her inspection. After we were done working, the resident expressed feeling a strong, human connection to the interns, specifically because they saw past the clutter and mess to see her as a human who was overwhelmed and in need of help. It was a beautiful moment of **human connection** that I won't soon forget!"

--Sarah Berkemeier, Community Services Coordinator



# Our Resources

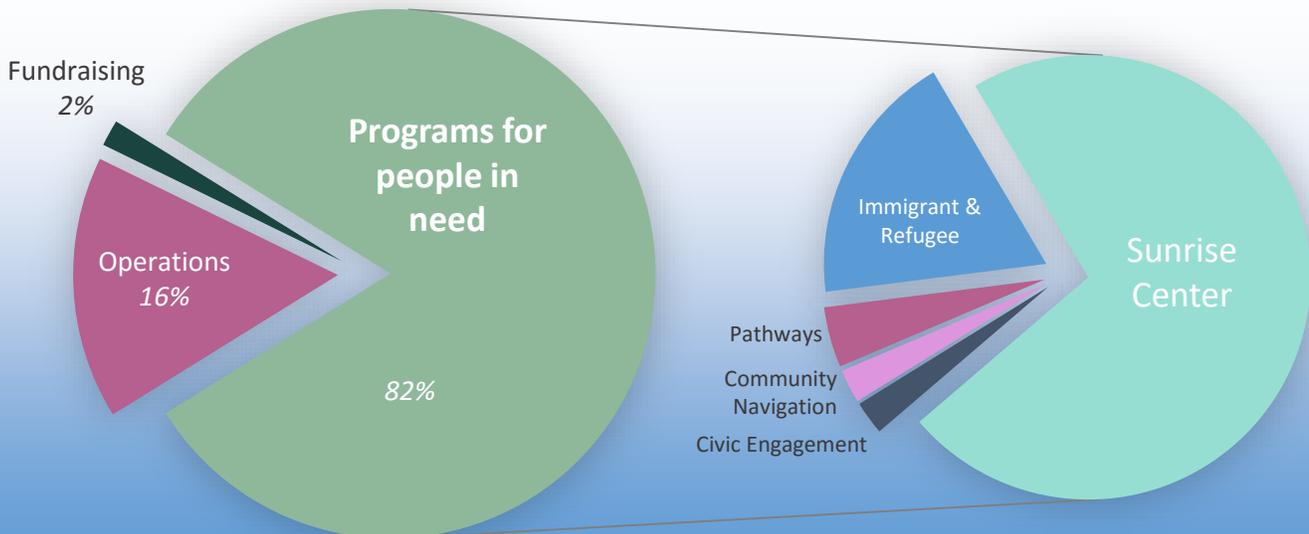


- Individuals**
    - Supporters (\$1 - 1,200 per year): over 200
    - Rockwood Associates (\$1,200 - \$2,399 per year): 4
    - Presidents Club (\$2,400 per year and above): 4
  - Foundations**
    - The Bill Healy Foundation
    - The Jackson Foundation
    - William Penn Foundation
  - Non-Profit Corporations**
    - Abundant Life Church
    - Communities of Christ
    - Cru
    - Damascus Community Church
    - East Hill Church
    - Pathfinders of Oregon
    - Project Access NOW
    - Fellowship Greenville
    - Reynolds School District
    - The Chapel
    - Wallace Medical Concern
  - Government**
    - Gresham Urban Renewal District
  - For-profit Corporations**
    - Albina Community Bank
    - Clackamas Community Bank
    - Umpqua Bank
- 
- AS IS Church
  - City of Gresham
  - Kitchen makers and event users
  - Latino Network
  - Multnomah County
  - ORCHWA
  - Pathfinders of Oregon
  - Phoenix Transition Services
  - Project Access NOW

donations

revenues

# How We Used Our Resources



Here is where the rubber meets the road. There are many ways that you can invest in the future of Rockwood, and we invite you to take action now.

## Give

- Become a **Rockwood Associate**. Rockwood Associates commit to give \$1,200 per year, and to be an ambassador out in their world. As a form of thanks, we will host social events throughout the year, and offer discounts at merchants in Rockwood.
- Become a **President's Club** member. President's Club members commit to give \$2,400 per year, and receive the benefits of Rockwood Associates, *plus* an estate dinner in August.
- **Sponsor** one adult for a 6-week English class term at RELI for \$190
- Donations are accepted online or by check. Please see the back of this Annual Report for more information.

## Our Needs for 2016

Program	Budget	Already Committed	Need
RELI	50,000	10,000	40,000
Homework Club	5,000	0	5,000
Civic Engagement	12,000	6,000	6,000
Sunrise Center	195,000	156,000	39,000
Legal Center	33,000	11,000	22,000
Operations	107,000	42,000	65,000
Food Access	75,000	0	75,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>477,000</b>	<b>225,000</b>	<b>252,000</b>

## Learn More

- Lunch & Learn is every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from noon-1:15. It is at our office.
- We will offer seminars throughout 2016
- Invite us to speak to your group

## Volunteer

- Help with summer activities in the parks
- Work at the office two hours per week
- Read to kids at Homework Club
- Tutor RELI students



Our name	Our legal name is the Community Development Corporation of Oregon We do business as Rockwood CDC
Incorporation and Start	We incorporated in the State of Oregon November 27, 2012. We began operations January 1, 2013.
Corporate Status	We are a 501(c)(3) organization
EIN	Federal Employer Identification Number is 46-1475038
Mailing Address	4233 SE 182 <sup>nd</sup> Ave., PMB #367, Gresham, OR 97030
Websites	<a href="http://www.rockwoodcdc.org">www.rockwoodcdc.org</a> <a href="http://www.sunrise-center.com">www.sunrise-center.com</a>
Phone	(503) 847-9163