

A 20 second (maybe a full minute) update on the activities of NWCDC!



## Twenty on the Twenty

A 20-second (or so) monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month.

Visit our Website



### Roc-A-Palooza 2016

Directors from across Oregon and Washington arrived by car, train and bus for a weekend gathering celebrating residential-owned communities and sharing lessons with each other. The annual meeting was held near Portland, OR and hosted by NWCDC and CASA of Oregon. Funding for this event came from the [USDA Rural Cooperative Development Grant](#) and the [Ralph K. Morris Foundation](#).

Approximately 15 Washington ROC directors traveled in a bus Caravan organized by NWCDC that crossed the state and then traveled south to Oregon. This gave the Washington delegation a chance to learn about each other informally through games and activities on the bus led by NWCDC Executive Director, Diane Gasaway.

The directors learned tactics in have difficult conversations, the role of [ROCUSA.org](#) and other resources, and were able to ask attorneys from Washington and Oregon questions about cooperative law and laws related to management of their ROCs.

Planning for next year's event is underway.

### Homecare Co-ops Meet in D.C.

The inaugural Homecare Cooperative conference took place from September 12-14 in Dulles, VA just outside the Nation's Capital at the 42 acre campus of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Finance Corporation (CFC). Representatives from almost all of the existing home co-ops were present as well as several initiatives that are in the final stages of

formation. Co-op practitioners shared their story through multiple rounds of "My Co-op in 2 minutes" while gaining useful information on marketing, personnel management, and other key topics. There was also three special break-out sessions over lunch so that Directors, Technical Assistance Providers, and Start-up Organizers could meet each other and discuss issues specific to their roles.

NWDC Current and Former Clients, (Cirde of Life, Peninsula Home Care and Capital Home Care) were all represented.



NWDC's Deborah Craig discussing "Marketing on a Shoestring Budget."



### PNW Fiber Web Gearing up for Processing Plant

After a long discussion and a lot of research, the **Pacific Northwest Fiber Web** has developed a feasibility study and plan for creating a full service fiber (wool and other animal fibers) on the Olympic Peninsula. The group has toured fiber mills in Montana and Oregon and believes that the project will meet their goals of supporting the local fiber production and fiber arts community. Last year, the group produced a short video about their work: [Watch It!](#) Learn more about [PNW Fiber Web at their Facebook Page](#).

## Help us provide technical assistance to co-ops!

The giving season is coming up fast!

Please consider NWDC in your annual giving budget.

Rural grants only go so far and Urban areas have few, if any resources. You don't have to wait for the end of the year to support our programs! You can provide a **tax deductible** one-time or monthly donation to help fund the work of co-op development at [Network for Good!](#)

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