



Co-op Developments

A short monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month. Please share with your network!

Support Co-op Development in the PNW: Donate Today!

BLACK LIVES MATTER

The Board and Staff of Northwest Cooperative Development Center stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and we join with those demanding the replacing of systems that are fraught with racist practices. We recognize that this level of fundamental change cannot happen without multi-racial, working-class organizing developed within our communities, organizations and institutions. [Read the full statement here.](#)



CDF Funds CROCC 2020

The Cascade ROC Conference (CROCC) for 2020 received a generous \$1,000 donation from the [Cooperative Development Fund's](#) Cooperative Education Fund. This conference brings the leaders of Resident Owned Communities from Oregon and Washington together for an intensive one-day training in best practices for governance and cooperative practices.

The **Cooperative Education Fund** supports cooperative research, sponsors cooperative education events and scholarships, and develops cooperative education materials and programs. The Fund provides about \$100,000 in grants annually. The Fund is a project of the [Cooperative Development Foundation](#) (CDF), a public charity headquartered in Washington, DC that promotes and develops cooperatives to improve economic opportunities for all.

Co-ops Reopening Amid New Push for Human Dignity



As many counties in Washington and Oregon, including Thurston, entered into Phase 2 of the re-opening plan just as protests and furor over the police-killing of George Floyd swept the nation and the world. Co-ops in our community responded both to the needs of their members and their community.

- Burial Grounds re-opened on June 10th and then participated in the General Strike on June 12th called by Black Lives Matter.
- Orca Books Coop completes its move to its new location, but is also encouraging their members to shop at black owned book stores and is turning a percentage of the proceeds of its moving sale to local BLM bail funds.
- Central Co-op in Seattle closed in honor of BLM on June 12 with workers receiving pay for the day and has been highlighting black owned producers and partners in their store.
- New Moon Cafe also re-opened for business and joined Burial Grounds and Orca Books in providing safe spaces for demonstrators during the on-going protests.

Board Leadership Training for Homecare Co-ops

NWCDC launched its first Board Leadership Training for Washington Homecare co-ops. Board members from all four homecare co-ops, as well as from a new homecare co-op in development, are participating in the training. We hope the sessions of Co-op Governance, Policy Development, Effective Meetings and Member Engagement will give Board members the leadership skills they need to take their co-ops to the next level and beyond!

Opportunity to Purchase

Grace Lee, a Master's in Public Administration Graduate student at The Evergreen State College, has been researching limited equity housing co-ops, housing land trusts, and opportunity to purchase law in collaboration with NWCDC. Grace recently wrapped up her [final capstone project](#) where she coordinated a community forum on creating an opportunity to purchase ordinance in Olympia. Such an ordinance would give tenant organized co-ops, and other eligible organizations a first right of refusal in purchasing their housing properties when they come up for sale. This would change the landscape for affordable housing preservation and housing co-op/land trust development in Olympia. Grace has created an open-source [website](#) and youtube presentation that will be used as an educational tool to support the progress of an opportunity to purchase initiative in Olympia. We think you will enjoy her 20 min presentation and project website which presents her compiled research. We thank Grace for her dedication to this ongoing work which will aid us in our advocacy efforts moving forward.



Co-op Marketing Symposium Going Virtual

Although we looked forward to visiting with people in person to discuss the co-op advantage in Ashland, Astoria, and Olympia, the uncertainty around covid-19 and a potential second wave forced us to move the symposium on-line. Instead of one full-day event in those

communities, we will be offering webinars every Friday in September. Our schedule for now includes:

September 4th Marketing Basics at 10 am and Marketing Our Co-op Advantage at 2 pm
September 11th Business Model Canvas at 11:30 am
September 18th Digital and Social Media at 10 am and Print and Radio at 2 pm
September 25: Panel Presentation: Tales from the Field

We have an [event page](#) with ticket information. The event is free, but we encourage donations.

International Day of Cooperatives 2020 is July 4th

The International Day of Cooperatives celebrates cooperation around the world on the first Saturday of July. This year, the International Cooperative Alliance (the world's largest non-governmental organization representing over 1/8 of the world population) has declared the theme, "[LET'S COOPERATE AND INVITE EVERYONE TO FIGHT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE](#)". "Climate change severely impacts people's livelihoods around the world, especially the most disadvantaged groups such as small-scale farmers, women, youth, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, who have to cope with extreme natural disasters and degradation of natural resources. This year we will focus on the contribution of cooperatives to combating climate change." Spread the word! #Coops4ClimateAction

Help us provide technical assistance to co-ops!

You don't have to wait for the end of the year to support our programs! You can provide a tax deductible one-time donation or monthly sustaining gift to help fund the work of co-op development! Any amount is welcome.

[Donate Today and Support Our Mission](#)



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