

# Partnership Descriptions

#### 1. Area Health Education Centers (AHEC)

AHEC and ASPIRE received a two-year grant from the Oregon Community Foundation to open three ASPIRE centers focused on health career fields in Chemeketa CC, Rogue CC, and Blue Mountain CC. ASPIRE plans to expand into additional career fields and community colleges.

#### 2. Career and Technical Education (CTE)

ASPIRE is working with the Department of Education and CCWD to help develop a partnership and a strategic alignment between CTE and Career Pathways. ASPIRE is also working with Lane ESD to learn how processes can be streamlined to serve more students.

## 3. Career Information Systems (CIS)

Lori Ellis, ASPIRE and Outreach Administrator, sits on the CIS board and participated in the search committee for the newly hired CIS Executive Director. ASPIRE and CIS have partnered together for many years to bring additional training and resources to ASPIRE sites. The ASPIRE middle school program uses CIS Jr. to provide activities to middle school ASPIRE students.

## 4. Career Pathways

ASPIRE is working with the Department of Education and CCWD to help develop a partnership and a strategic alignment between CTE and Career Pathways.

#### 5. Department of Human Services (DHS)

ASPIRE partners with DHS to provide materials and resources to foster youth and Independent Living Providers (ILP). DHS provides funding to ASPIRE to maintain its website, update curriculum, infuse information about the Chafee grant into trainings and materials, and provide travel reimbursements for the ASPIRE fall conference.

## 6. Educational Credit Management Corporation (ECMC)

ECMC relies on ASPIRE staff and coordinators to review, update, and edit the Opportunities Booklet annually. Paula Craw, ECMC Outreach Director, participates on Lane County's Path to 40-40-20 steering committee.

## 7. EduGuide – EduCash Program

Eight ASPIRE sites participated in the EduCash Program focused on increasing FAFSA completion nationally. ASPIRE site, Thurston HS received the prestigious EduCash Excellence Award and increased FAFSA completion by 31% - the highest in the EduCash Program

## 8. Incight

ASPIRE and Incight received a three-year grant from the Kresge Foundation to provide services to students with disabilities in 17 ASPIRE sites with plans for expansion.



## 9. Oregon College Savings Plan (OCSP)

OCSP is a new partner for ASPIRE. During the 2012-13 academic year, Lori Ellis, ASPIRE and Outreach Administrator, and Michael Parker, Executive Director of OCSP, visited eight communities in Oregon and provided "How to Pay for College" seminars with plans to continue in the future. Ms. Ellis and Mr. Parker produced six webcasts on paying for college to be housed on their agency websites.

#### 10. Oregon Community Foundation (OCF)

ASPIRE was developed as a collaborative project between OCF and OSAC. OCF continues to support ASPIRE with annual grants that have funded an evaluation, a training and development specialist, and partnership grants for ASPIRE sites.

#### 11. Oregon GEAR UP

ASPIRE is in the fifth year of a six-year grant with Oregon GEAR UP. This grant provided ASPIRE with funding to create and develop two pilot projects: eASPIRE and ASPIRE for middle schools. ASPIRE staff and GEAR UP staff work together to support middle schools and high schools that participate in both programs.

#### 12. Oregon Mentors

The Juan Young Trust awarded Oregon Mentors a grant to develop trainings and resources for the ASPIRE program, which included Vodcasts and trainings on mentoring and grant writing for ASPIRE sites. Additionally, Lori Ellis currently serves on Oregon Mentor's Provider Council.

#### 13. The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF)

TFFF has been a strong supporter of ASPIRE since its inception and has been instrumental in the growth of ASPIRE since 1998. Currently, ASPIRE has a three-year grant from TFFF to support ASPIRE sites and staff in Eastern Oregon.

#### 14. US Bank

For the 2012-13 academic year, US Bank provided two regional grants to help support ASPIRE sites. US Bank continues to be a partner and is currently strategizing with ASPIRE on the partnership for 2013-14.

## 15. Western Oregon University (WOU)

WOU provides up to two \$500 scholarships per ASPIRE site to ASPIRE students. WOU has hosted the ASPIRE fall conference multiple times and continues to be a strong supporter of the ASPIRE program.

## **16.** Youth Transition Program (YTP)

YTP is a new partnership established by Keith Ozols, YTP Executive Director, and Lori Ellis, ASPIRE and Outreach Administrator, based on their previous partnership through Incight. ASPIRE staff will train YTP specialists on how to access education can training beyond high school.

