Southern Oregon is a very diverse community; nestled in a quiet little hamlet, we enjoy our mountains, lakes, rivers, and great entertainment Oregon that has to offer. Our population is just as diverse, welcoming both young and old, with working fields ranging from medical to farm work.

When the economy is slow, however, many are able to soften the blow by collecting unemployment benefits until work is available again; unfortunately, the education field does not share that benefit: many of us find ourselves without funds to help us make it through the summer. What we ask for is not *unlimited* funds to help us for years to come--we only ask for a little help to see our families through those months when work is not an option for us. As much as we love spending time with our families, we find ourselves on *very* tight budgets throughout the year or in a work field that is unfamiliar to us.

We love our students and our work, but sometimes those few months we go through without income may make the difference on what job we choose--and the more we enjoy our jobs, the better educators we can be...

Respectfully, Louise Garner IA, Translator Pheonix-Talent