

Reimagining Safety

Community-Led and Black-Centered effort for Safety

Executive Summary

In the wake of continued Black deaths at the hands of law enforcement, Black Oregonians have started to think further about the systems and structures we need to truly keep us safe. We identified the need for space and time to reimagine what safety could look like for our community and for all Oregonians. Between the COVID-19 pandemic and nationwide calls to reform law enforcement, we have an opportunity to build better systems and to meet the core needs of Oregonians, especially those of us who are most vulnerable.

Reimagining Safety is a community-led, Black-centered effort to do just that, supported by public and philanthropic dollars, and engaging Oregonians from across the state.

Guiding Framework

Reimagining Safety will use these questions to guide our work:

- What does safety mean to Black Oregonians?
- What alternatives already exist or could exist to the current policing and law enforcement model?
- How do we educate and engage the public in a meaningful way?
- What actions are necessary to build trust in a public safety system?

Goals

Over the course of the next year, the Reimagining Safety workgroup will:

- Engage Oregon's Black community as leaders in this effort.
- Educate and engage Oregonians to share information and source potential models.
- Surface, examine and develop promising or proven pilots, policies and practices.
- Advance policy proposals for local jurisdictions and state lawmakers to consider over the course of the next few years.

Budget

Year	Line Item	Description	Amount
2020	Legal assessment and support	Legal assistance, policy drafting, legislative memos, and other technical legal support	\$50,000

2020	Organizational Stipends- Policy Development support	This would support 10-16 Black organizations to create the capacity needed to participate with grants from \$50,000-\$200000	\$1,600,000
2020	Public and policy research	Community focus groups, public research, mapping, surveys and policy research.	\$210,000
2020	Public outreach and education	Digital outreach, internal communications, forums, and educational events.	\$215,000
2020	Project delivery and consultation	Contract, grant and invoice management, DAF fees	\$315,000
2020	Coordination, data and backbone services	Staff and consultant costs to provide project coordination and guidance	\$230,000
2020	TOTAL		\$2,620,000

Governance and administration

The Northwest Health Foundation has agreed to house the Reimagine Safety Fund to receive public and philanthropic contributions and distribute funds for Reimagining Safety. While NWHF will house the Fund, it will not make programmatic or expenditure decisions. The Fund and the project itself will be governed by a yet-to-be-named group of Black leaders with a wide range of experiences and perspectives.

How to contribute

Contributions can be made to Northwest Health Foundation Fund II, a 501(c)(3) Oregon nonprofit corporation (Tax-ID 93-1293344).

Contact

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