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HIV Alliance's youth education program receives Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation grant

HIV Alliance received a \$2,640 grant from Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation to support Camp Alliance, an education and community building program for LGBTQIA+ youth in Lane, Douglas, and Marion Counties. Camp Alliance is a large part of the agency's Education program that educates youth while school is not in session. This award will allow for expanded reach of educational materials, increased engagement of youth who participate in the program, as well as provide in person activities and a supportive environment for participants for youth in Douglas and Lane county.

HIV Alliance was founded in 1994 with the mission to support people living with HIV and prevent new HIV infections. Today, HIV Alliance provides a range of care and prevention services across Oregon. The Education program presents evidence-based, non-judgmental, and culturally responsive sexual health information to middle and high school students in Lane, Douglas, and Marion Counties to reduce risks for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and reduce HIV stigma among youth.

Camp Alliance is a virtual and in-person program for LGBTQIA+ high school students during school breaks when they do not have access to regular supports. It is a two hour weekly virtual meeting where Education staff give presentations to educate youth on LGBTQIA+ issues, facilitate discussions, and discuss unmet needs. Examples of presentations include STI 101, healthy boundaries and relationships, and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

Founded in 1997, the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation is a private, independent foundation representing the Tribe. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$20 million in grants to community non-profit organizations in the seven counties of the Tribe's homeland territory. HIV Alliance expresses gratitude for the generosity of the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation in their support of LGBTQIA+ youth in Lane and Douglas counties. HIV Alliance is honored to partner with the Foundation in working toward educating youth.

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