

ABSTRACT

This project articulates the plan for The Washburne Collective, a proposed non-profit mutual aid organization in Lane County, Oregon, aimed at fostering community support and resilience. In light of emergencies, such as the severe ice storm in January 2024 and the ongoing risk of yearly wildfires, the necessity for a sustainable mutual aid system has become increasingly clear. Furthermore, the significant influx of new residents over the past decade has driven up housing prices and strained local resources, intensifying existing challenges such as housing insecurity and social service access.

The Washburne Collective seeks to empower residents to share resources and support one another in navigating these compounded pressures. By promoting collective action and establishing a supportive network, this initiative aims to create a culture of caring and collaboration that not only addresses immediate crises but also fosters long-term community well-being, ensuring that all members feel valued, safe, and connected amidst rising challenges.