



Jay Lyons, Board Chair,
& Katy Brooks, CEO,
Bend Chamber

Collaborating to Solve Bend's Business Challenges

2023 was another successful year of convening and connecting, developing business leaders, advocating for employers and for infrastructure, funding and ideas that support our business community.



Leadership Bend 30th Anniversary Celebration



Business Excellence Awards



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Bend, OR 97702
541.382.3221

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www.bendchamber.org

VISION

The Bend Chamber's vision is to catalyze an environment where businesses, their employees and our community thrive.

We do this by collaborating to solve problems and create new opportunities for our business community and advocating for business at the local and state levels.

We also provide resources such as high-quality, affordable health insurance and work to strengthen our community's leadership and workforce pipeline.

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BEND YP REPRESENTATIVE

Quinn Hanson
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“ We are here to serve, to collaborate and find solutions to the unique needs of our business community. ”

—Katy Brooks,
CEO

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Thank you for your ongoing support!

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BEND
CHAMBER
2023 | ANNUAL REPORT

To Our Members, Partners and Employers in Bend,

Bend's businesses make the economy healthy. They provide jobs to Central Oregonians and contribute much to the community. Our work at the Bend Chamber is to help them and their employees thrive. We identify the most pressing issues facing businesses and work to tackle them, be that through our Chamber or by collaborating with community partners. Our role as a business association is to organize, lead and support efforts that require a larger voice and collective action to solve challenges that affect our city's employers and their employees.

The Bend Chamber had another successful year of convening and connecting, developing our community's business leaders, advocating for employers and for infrastructure, funding and ideas that support our community. We had an outstanding year of raising awareness and advocating for more attainable housing and more childcare to support our working families. We celebrated the Chamber's efforts to support a housing project where Bend employees became first-time homeowners, and we are actively seeking out employers and builders to find more housing solutions.

In our 2023 report, you will also see what we were able to accomplish in this year's legislative session and policies and outcomes right here in Bend. We are watching the horizon for changes in the economy and the continuing impacts of growth on Central Oregon. We are here to serve, to collaborate and to find solutions to the unique needs of our business community.

Please join our efforts to keep Bend and its businesses healthy and tackle our challenges together. I encourage you to reach out to us if you would like to learn more.

In service to Bend businesses and our community,

Katy Brooks

CEO
Bend Chamber

Katy Brooks

PLEASE JOIN OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP BEND AND ITS BUSINESSES HEALTHY AND TACKLE OUR CHALLENGES TOGETHER.



Bend Chamber Members and Supporters,

It's hard to believe the year is almost over and my time as Bend Chamber's board of directors chair is coming to an end. It has been an incredible honor serving as chair and working with the board members and staff. I see the hard work going on behind the scenes and can say unequivocally, Chamber members are in great hands.

That said, the significant challenges that face our community still remain. Bend's lack of affordable housing, lack of available childcare and rapid growth are issues that continue to impact our business community. Tackling these issues is extremely important, but cannot be accomplished overnight. Years of hard work, strategic planning, and collaboration are required just to start "moving the ship" in the right direction. Fortunately, the Bend Chamber is up for the challenge. Using our connections across the community, we're confident we can bring organizations and decision makers together to implement positive change in our community.

A big "Thank You" to the Bend Chamber members, sponsors and investors for your incredible support year after year. Tackling the challenges in front of us is not possible without your dedication and commitment to this organization.

Sincerely,

Jay Lyons

Partner, Principal Broker
Compass Commercial Real Estate Services

Jay Lyons

THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERS, SPONSORS AND INVESTORS FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT YEAR AFTER YEAR.

2023 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Thank You for Your Dedication to Bend's Business Community!

It is with deep gratitude that we thank all our members, sponsors and financial contributors for their generous investments allowing us to grow and sustain our work at the Bend Chamber. We appreciate all the individuals and organizations who have supported this work over the years—we could not do it without you.



Chloe Manke

Chloe@bendchamber.org | Sponsor Relations Lead



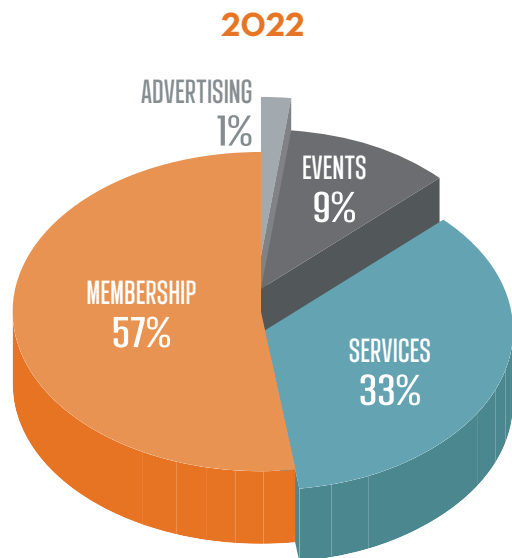
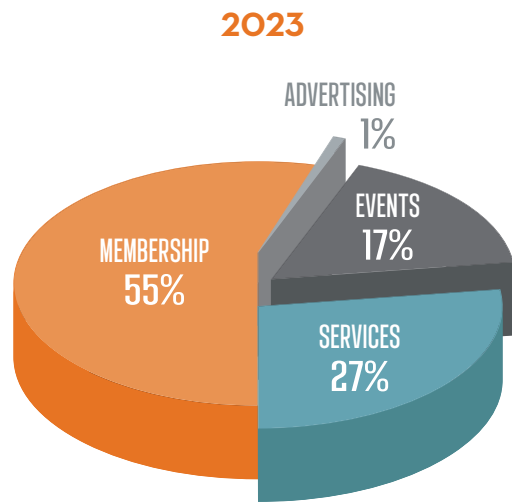
MEMBERSHIP

Thank You for Your Ongoing Support

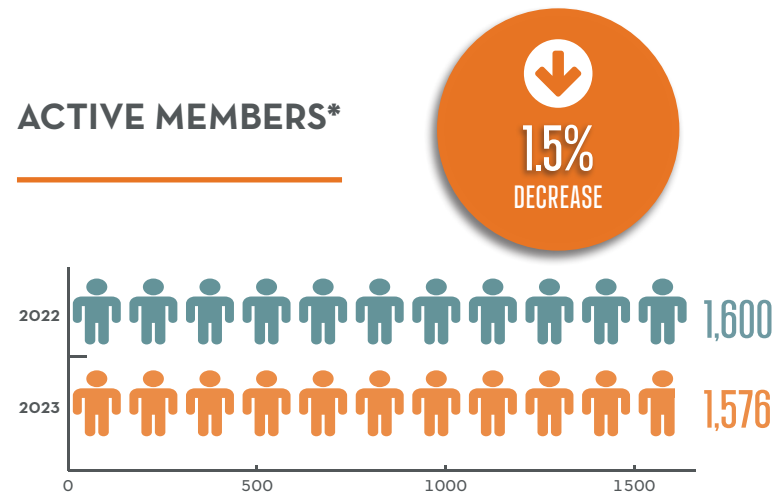
The post-pandemic struggles continued over the past year for many businesses and their employees. The Bend Chamber is genuinely grateful to those members who have maintained their memberships, some for decades, and those new ones who recently joined us. Your support is critical to enabling

the work we do on behalf of the business community. We understand that under the current economic conditions, many of you have to make careful choices about where to spend your available funds. We are ever so thankful that you have chosen to support the Bend Chamber.

INCOME SOURCES



ACTIVE MEMBERS*



* 12 mo. period: September 2022 vs. September 2023

TEAM

Meet the Bend Chamber Staff

The professionals that make up the Bend Chamber staff are dedicated to our mission of creating an environment where businesses, their employees and our community excel together through collaboration, advocacy, resources and leadership to meet Bend's business challenges.

We do this through member promotions, enabling key networking connections, convening with community experts to tackle large issues like the lack of workforce housing and childcare and by providing health insurance plus workforce development programs for your employees.



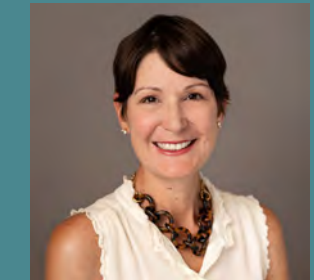
Katy Brooks
CEO



Talena Barker
VP of Leadership Development



Garrett Jaenicke
Director of Marketing and Member Services



Sara Odendahl
Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives



Shelley Junker
Membership Lead



Chloe Manke
Sponsor Relations Lead



Cyrus Mooney
Events and Programs Lead



Lisa Nielsen
Marketing Lead



Jen Hammond
Operations Manager



Ande Munro
Accounting & Data Specialist



Colleen Prinster
Events and Admin Coordinator

CONNECTIONS

80+ DIVERSE BUSINESS EVENTS

- ADU Resource Fair
- Bend 101 (3)
- Biz & Bevs (6)
- Business Excellence Awards
- Commerce & Coffee (6)
- DEI Training Sessions (4)
(in collaboration with community partners)
- Holiday Party
- Impact Conference
- Legislative Update Webinar
- Membership 101 (11)
- Ribbon Cuttings (20+)
- What's Brewing (8)
- Workforce Housing Collaborative Workshop
- Young Professionals (YP) Summit
- YP Socials (10)
- YP Expert Labs (7)
- Bend YP Holiday Party
- YP Passport Kickoff Party
- YP Passport Holder Educational Session

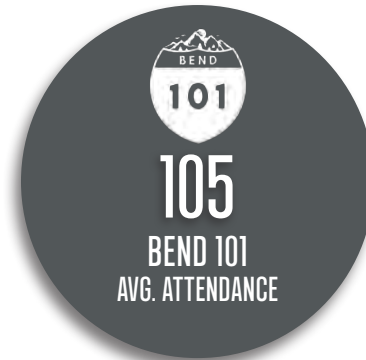


Inspired Engagement for the Business Community

The Chamber came back in full force with our events and programs in 2023, tallying more than *eighty* gatherings for the business community, from monthly networking events highlighting various nonprofits in the region all the way to an annual conference that accumulated 450+ attendees.

We made an intentional effort to evolve our current events to reach a broader audience to make our gatherings as accessible as possible. Our programs have become an avenue for professionals in Central Oregon to learn, connect with others, and become informed about how they can contribute to an even stronger regional economy for years to come.

Whether it's an opportunity to raise awareness about Deschutes County and City of Bend policies with our Commissioners and Councilors or teach newer residents about the history of Bend, we will continue to take a proactive and strategic approach to providing the information and resources that will continue to diversify and build resilience in our vibrant market into 2024.



To learn more about Bend Chamber events and programs, please contact:

Colleen Prinster
Events & Admin Coordinator
Colleen@bendchamber.org

KEY INITIATIVES | WORKFORCE HOUSING



CONVENING WITH EMPLOYERS & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Housing for a More Affordable and Inclusive Bend

Launched in 2021, the Bend Chamber's Workforce Housing Initiative continues to shed light on and address Bend's housing shortage and its impacts on the business community. The availability and cost of housing is at a critical level, making it too expensive for many to live in the town they work in. Employers know that housing continues to be one of the biggest hurdles to hiring and retaining employees—and by extension, a major hurdle to generating sufficient revenue to stay in business.

This impacts the stability of available services in our community, including healthcare, education, law enforcement, personal care industries, and many other essential jobs. Many people working in these fields, who in the past would have had little trouble finding a place to live in Bend, simply can't afford the now exorbitant rent or home prices now available on the market.

As the Workforce Housing Initiative enters its third year, we continue to make strides toward solutions for this long-term issue. Funding and launching an employer-supported housing pilot, hosting an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) resource fair, and spearheading a legislative list of local and state policies that support more workforce housing are some of the highlights and accomplishments of 2023.

Learn more at: BendChamber.org/WorkforceHousing.

EMPLOYER-SUPPORTED HOUSING PILOT

We launched a pilot housing project with RootedHomes where the Bend Chamber and other employers in Bend contributed funds to reduce the overall build cost of the houses. The employer partners' employees then were given preference in the lottery process for selecting the qualified home buyers. This demonstrated to Bend businesses that they can, and should, be involved in some way in housing for employees.

- 7 new homes built in SW Bend
- \$200,000 contributed by Bend Chamber and other employers



BEND
CHAMBER
WORKFORCE HOUSING
INITIATIVE

KEY INITIATIVES | WORKFORCE HOUSING

BEND ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT (ADU) GUIDE

With the adoption of House Bill 2001, homeowners have more options to add additional housing to their lots. This can provide homeowners with income to offset their mortgage and add more workforce housing to our community.

The **Bend ADU Guide** answers some questions about the process of financing, permitting, building and renting an ADU.



SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

The Workforce Housing Initiative social media campaign was recognized by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and received an award for outstanding communications in July 2023.

Participate in the conversation about our Workforce Housing Initiative by following Bend Chamber on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



ADU RESOURCE FAIR

The Bend Chamber, in partnership with Simplicity by Hayden Homes, hosted a resource fair for those interested in building an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on their property. More than 153 attendees were able to interact and get answers to questions regarding financing, permitting, construction, and design from representatives of the City of Bend, local developers, architects, and financial institutions.

View the Bend ADU Guide at: BendChamber.org/ADU.

KEY INITIATIVES | WORKFORCE HOUSING



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

We anticipate comprehensive recommendations from the Governor's Housing Production Advisory Council (HPAC) to inform state-level policies for the 2024 short session and the 2025 long session. Among other ideas, the following represent priority areas for the Chamber as we advocate for policy solutions to address Bend's challenges and work together towards the Governor's goal of 36,000 new housing units per year.

2023 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Building on prior years' work, the Chamber focused efforts in 2023 on supporting local and state policy changes to accelerate production of workforce housing, specifically focusing on 80-120% of Area Median Income (AMI).

We collaborated with local and state partners to advance policy solutions in five key areas:

- **Reduce barriers to build** including, delayed Systems Development Charges; addressing liability for vertical home ownership and increasing construction/building workforce.
- **Enhance funding streams** including loan programs and/or tax credits for System Development Charges and infrastructure projects; middle income tax credits; additional investments in first time home ownership programs.
- **Increase the supply of land** including land use policies to prioritize workforce housing; incentivizing employer-sponsored housing; mapping available public and private land assets.
- **Improve administrative efficiencies** including permitting processes and timelines; modifying the appeals process at local/state levels.
- **Support investments** in homeless/transitional housing, including wrap-around services.

Help Us to Do the Work to Implement Change!

Working toward solutions to alleviate the lack of affordable workforce housing is a daunting and long-term endeavor. It takes resources of the human and financial kinds to make things happen. If you'd like to help the cause, please use the QR code at right. **We greatly appreciate any and all contributions to this initiative!**



- **Simplifying the land use appeals process**
- **Expanding the inventory of ready-built plans**
- **Reducing barriers in the permit review process**
- **Expanding construction trade apprenticeship programs**
- **Encouraging and incentivizing production of middle housing types**
- **Creating a statewide infrastructure fund**
- **Creating an expedited UGB expansion process**

ADVOCACY

Cultivating Relationships to Elevate the Collective Voices of Central Oregon Businesses

THE ANNUAL SESSION IN REVIEW

The annual legislative session in Salem was anything but ordinary this year, as lawmakers gathered for the 160-day session lasting from January through mid-June. The session started with a new Governor, new House and Senate leadership and a significant number of first term legislators. Bend was represented by Senator Tim Knopp, Representative Jason Kropf and Representative Emerson Levy.

As is customary, the session began with a bipartisan atmosphere and much of the first 100 days of work was without significant conflict. A shared focus on housing and homelessness, coupled with Governor Kotek's Executive Order (EO 23-04) created political will to pass significant housing legislation, and laid out an ambitious goal of 36,000 new housing units per year. Other priority areas for lawmakers included behavioral health funding, early literacy and K-12 funding, substance use prevention and treatment, and economic development tools.

Lawmakers were afforded a unique opportunity with the state's budget projections exceeding prior forecasts. The

2023 economic forecasts showed that Oregon sustained revenue growth for the past 12 forecast cycles, a record period of strong revenue. This continued increase in revenue translates to a higher biennium ending balance, higher reserves, and a much larger kicker payout in 2024. Additionally, budget writers had surplus revenue for the FY 2023-25 budget and were able to make transformational investments across the state.

Unfortunately, the latter part of session was challenging as work ground to a halt with members of the Senate Republican caucus denying quorum on the Senate floor for 45 days. Of specific concern were two bills dealing with firearms and reproductive/gender affirming health care. The House continued to meet as well as Senate committees, but no work was done on the Senate floor during the walk-out. A compromise was reached in the last week of the session with concessions on both sides of the aisle. However, this was too little too late for many of the hundreds of bills waiting in the queue.

2023 POLICY PRIORITIES

Whether reviewing local city ordinances and development codes or weighing in on legislative proposals in Salem, the Bend Chamber has an active advocacy program. Our guiding policy principles, set by the Chamber Board of Directors, include:

Increasing the supply of **affordable and attainable workforce housing** to support Bend's growing population.

Economic vitality, workforce development and innovation that lead to a vibrant business community.

A **diverse, equitable and inclusive chamber membership**, workforce and business community.

Support for **transportation and infrastructure projects** to alleviate traffic congestion and plan for future growth.

Access to affordable, high-quality child care for infants, toddlers and preschool age children.

A thoughtful balance between **environmental sustainability and economic health**.

While there were over 3,000 bills introduced, many quickly fell by the wayside and several hundred ended up passing into law and obtaining the Governor's signature despite the walk-

out. The following is a list of key issues the Chamber engaged in during the 2023 session and the full legislative wrap-up is available at BendChamber.org/2023-Session.

ADVOCACY

2023 POLICY PRIORITIES – CONTINUED

Housing

- **Affordable Housing and Emergency Homelessness Response Package (HB 2001, HB 5019):** \$200 million investment helps shelter Oregonians living on the street, prevent more homelessness, and ramp up affordable housing production across the state. *Passed.*
- **HB 3414:** Limits conditions under which local governments may deny variance for housing development within urban growth boundary and establishes the Housing Production and Accountability Office. *Failed.*
- **HB 2980:** Establishes the Affordable Housing Revolving Loan Fund using Tax Increment Financing for eligible housing projects including single-family and multifamily dwellings, and accessory dwelling units available for rent or ownership, available to households with an income no greater than 120 percent of area median income. *Failed.*

General Business/Tax and Fiscal Policy

- **SB 127/HB 2433:** Increases exempt amount and filing threshold for purposes of corporate activity tax. Several information hearings were conducted; however, legislators would not get over the desire to hold CAT revenue harmless from reductions. *Failed.*

Economic Development

- **SB 4/HB 2009:** Directs Oregon Business Development Department to develop a grant and loan program to support businesses applying for financial assistance under CHIPS Act and allocates \$200M. Allows Governor to designate certain lands to be brought within urban growth boundaries for federal CHIPS Act uses. The package includes a research and development tax credit (limited to the semiconductor industry), extends enterprise zone program, and updates the strategic investment package. *Passed.*
- **HB 3250:** Establishes Task Force on the State of Sports in Oregon to make recommendations for growing businesses in athletics, team sports, outdoor activities, and recreation ecosystem to establish Oregon as most conducive location in North America for sports economy. *Failed.*

Childcare

- **HB 2991:** Directs Department of Early Learning to study barriers to early childhood workforce; directs Early Learning Council to promulgate rules that address barriers to early childhood workforce. *Passed.*
- **HB 3005:** Directs Oregon Business Development Department to provide financial assistance to eligible applicants to pay for allowable costs related to early childcare infrastructure activities. Provides \$50 million for the fund. *Passed.*



Budget & Funding Requests

Sustained revenue projections gave the state large amounts of additional revenue to spend and spend it they did in a flurry of budget allocations during the last week of the session. The much-anticipated "Christmas tree" included a variety of specific allocations and funds for the Legislative Emergency Board. The bill appropriates \$1.04 billion in general funds, \$1.79 billion in other funds and \$515 million in federal funds through 320 separate spending items, packages and adjustments to other budgets. The City of Bend was a winner in the budget process with a direct \$5 million appropriation for the Hawthorne Overcrossing, which combined with \$20 million federal grant will make the project become reality in the near term.

Interim Work and Looking Ahead

Over the interim, the legislature is out of session, but the Joint Emergency Board can meet for budget issues or appropriations that arise. Additionally, legislatively created task forces and work groups meet informally to develop policy recommendations for the 2024 short session. The Governor's Housing Production Advisory Council is also meeting regularly to develop recommendations for the 2024 short session, focusing on reducing barriers to build, increasing land supply, and improving administrative efficiencies.

Your engagement is a key component to the Chamber's ability to successfully advocate and we welcome your participation. You'll find more details at:

BendChamber.org/Advocacy.

ADVOCACY

2023 ADVOCACY COUNCIL

Katy Brooks
BEND CHAMBER

Matt Chancellor
PACIFICORP

CHAIR
Garrett Chrostek
BRYANT, LOVLIN, &
JARVIS

Travis Davis
MARSH McLENNAN
AGENCY

Scott Douglass
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Morgan Greenwood
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Karna Gustafson
CENTRAL OREGON
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Andy High
THOMPSON PUMP
& IRRIGATION

Ken Katzaroff
SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON
& WYATT

Don Myll
EDCO

Tyler Neese
CENTRAL OREGON
ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

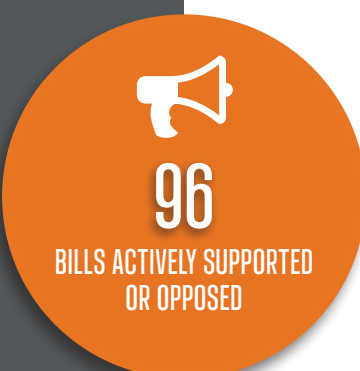
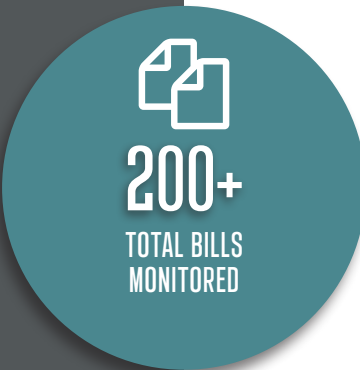
Hunter Neubauer
OREGROWN

Sara Odendahl
BEND CHAMBER

Heather Simmons
PACIFCSOURCE HEALTH PLANS

Caleb Trowbridge
PODSKI

Jackie Westover
UMPQUA BANK



FOCUSING ON LOCAL ISSUES

While much of the work of the Chamber Advocacy Council is focused on state level policies, the Chamber has been equally active supporting local initiatives with the Bend City Council and the Deschutes County Commission. Chamber leaders advise the city as part of the Bend Economic Development Advisory Board (BEDAB), Core Area Advisory Board (CAAB), and participate as a stakeholder in issues impacting the business community. The Chamber has been particularly active in advocating for policy changes to increase the supply of workforce housing, improve infrastructure and address the childcare shortage.

Workforce Housing

The Chamber actively engaged with city leadership to explore and promote policy changes to incentivize middle market housing and ADU construction. Chamber leaders have been actively engaged in ongoing discussions regarding City permitting processes, System Development Charge methodology, and the upcoming Transportation Utility Fee. At the County level, the Chamber supported the \$1 million allocation of transient room tax (TRT) dollars to create a Workforce Housing Trust Fund.

Infrastructure

The Chamber has developed a unique and pragmatic partnership with the City of Bend and local nonprofit Central Oregon LandWatch to promote issues of shared importance. Most notably weighing in on state funding for infrastructure loans, grants, and other investments to drive housing, as well as an advocacy effort to secure federal and state funding for the Hawthorne Overcrossing.

Child Care

The Chamber supported the City's Sustainability Fund and Childcare Center Start-Up grant program to help offset permitting costs, site infrastructure and design or other unique costs associated with the childcare industry. The Chamber facilitated collaboration and conversations with stakeholders to address barriers to childcare in our community, including workforce, facility, and administrative/regulatory issues.



RESOURCES

Providing Valuable and Relevant Resources to Our Members to Help Them Succeed



HEALTH INSURANCE

Finding affordable and high-quality health care can be challenging for small businesses. Since 2010, we have provided small businesses access to low-cost, high-quality health insurance. We believe this offering has been essential to the well-being of employers and their employees and we continuously work to improve, adapt and deliver a quality product.

Our first and foremost responsibility is to our members' small businesses. Small businesses are struggling, and it is our responsibility to get the best price for the best plan.

With over 100 agents statewide that can offer the Chamber Association plan, the impact of this great resource is felt throughout Oregon... and that's good for business.

BendChamber.org/Chamber-Health-Insurance

FINANCIAL SAVINGS

Member-to-member discounted offerings for products and services remain a fundamental resource for the membership.

Members can post coupons and discounts at no charge. If you are interested in adding your business to the list of participants, contact Shelley Junker at Shelley@bendchamber.org.

View discounts at: BendChamber.org/Member-to-Member.



Thank you for your support of the Bend Chamber! Please reach out with any questions/feedback or if I can be of further assistance with your membership.

Shelley Junker
Membership Lead
Shelley@bendchamber.org



ASSOCIATION HEALTH PLAN



BENDNEXT FOUNDATION

BendNEXT
FOUNDATION

**Inclusive Workplace
Training Stats:**



DEI Workshop for Employers

Foundation and Initiatives

Initially founded in 1997 as the Leadership Bend Foundation, the organization was expanded and renamed the BendNEXT Foundation in 2019. Today, BendNEXT is the community-based philanthropic arm of the Bend Chamber of Commerce.

BendNEXT exists to strengthen our businesses, economy, and our community through workforce development and retention, leadership development, and activating partnerships to tackle our region's most pressing issues.

The Foundation's initiatives address obstacles to a robust workforce, including employee needs for housing, affordability, childcare and other essential supports as well building a business culture of belonging in an informed and connected community.

In addition to the flagship **Leadership Bend** and **Bend Young Professionals** programs, the Foundation offers Bend 101. This program was designed to present newer residents of Bend with a foundational understanding of the history of our community, its evolution over time, our challenges and opportunities and the pathways to civic engagement. It's proven to be a go-to for local employers as part of their robust onboarding process for new hires.

Examples of past and present initiatives include a multi-year Workforce Housing Initiative (see p. 11), a Childcare Initiative, and leading collaborative community efforts to incorporate effective DEI practices into our Central Oregon workplaces. The Foundation remains responsive to the challenges of local employers, their teams and our community as a whole.



Bend 101

LEADERSHIP BEND



Leadership Bend Class of 2023

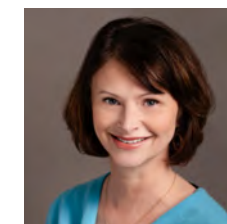


LEADERSHIP BEND

Leadership Bend (LB) is a nine-month community leadership development program designed to identify, educate and connect committed citizens to leadership roles in our community. LB is supported by **Taylor Northwest, St. Charles Health System** and businesses who believe that a healthy and vibrant community comes from investment in leadership.

The 2023 cohort marked 30 years of Leadership Bend graduates, and there are now nearly 600 alumni who serve our community through board service, elected office, mentorship and volunteerism.

These alumni also become part of the Leadership Bend Alumni Association (LBAA), which is run by an all-volunteer group of graduates. They have organized educational, social and charitable events for the association—helping to strengthen bonds, continue learning and deepen the engagement of alumni year over year.



To learn more about BendNEXT Programs and to become a contributor, please contact:

Talena Barker
VP of Leadership Development
Talena@bendchamber.org

2023 BENDNEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Renée Alexander
BBT ARCHITECTS

Rebecca Berry
ST. CHARLES HEALTH SYSTEM

Stephanie Betteridge
CITY OF BEND

Katy Brooks
BEND CHAMBER

Cody Cloyd
ABLIS CBD

Heather Hansen
SERÁN BIOSCIENCE

Brittania Leja
ST. CHARLES HEALTH SYSTEM

Jay Lyons
COMPASS COMMERCIAL

Travis Ulrich
WEBFOOT PAINTING

“ In Leadership Bend I have made not only connections throughout the community, but also real friendships with many of those in my cohort that have lasted beyond graduation. My biggest takeaway was that people in Bend share a common connection in feeling lucky to live here and wanting to make it better. In Bend, a thriving community and healthy surrounding environment are the draw, the lifestyle, and the economic engine. It doesn't really matter if you have lived here for 30 years or 30 days, if you are committed to giving back and making this place better, you are welcome. Leadership Bend is a fast track to figuring out where you can best fit in to make an impact. ”

—Trevor Campbell, Partner, Kernutt Stokes

2023 AMBASSADOR & ADVISORY COUNCIL

Cody Cloyd
ABLIS CBD

Breck Flanagan-Caldwell
OREGON WATER
RESOURCES DEPT.

Kirsten Habermann
RILEY WIGLE CPAS, LLC

Quinn Hanson
G.A. ROGERS

Tanner Hupka
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Kyle Johnson
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ST. CHARLES HEALTH SYSTEM

Brittany Nichols
COCC FOUNDATION

Katie Pelchar
LOANDEPOT

Kaleb Pool
LOANDEPOT

Lauren Simpson
SUTERRA

Sam Terrell
LANDLEADER NW

Bri Wolfe
SUNRIVER RESORT

Chad Young
SKANSKA



875

YP EVENT
ATTENDEES



2023 YP Summit



Bend Young Professionals (Bend YP) is a career development program that trains and connects emerging leaders in Central Oregon. Each year, Bend YP designs and implements networking and educational events that help this talented pool of individuals grow and succeed in their careers.

2023 provided reflection on current programming and brought new changes and creativity for the remainder of the year and into the next. We've added a short educational, or interactive, element to our Socials. To date we've learned more about the new developments in Bend, including how the Central District is shaping up.

We know how important learning and development are not only for the success of the individual, but for businesses as well. Our goal continues to be providing our community with critical training to grow and retain our emerging leaders. We're excited to share more about our 2024 programming ideas this winter!

“Bend YP has been such an asset in developing my personal network and learning new skills that are helpful in the workplace.”

YP has helped me meet those who I would never run into on a day-to-day basis. Having this platform has sparked not only my own, but many other young professionals' interest in being more involved in the community.”

—Bri Wolfe, National Sales Manager, Sunriver Resort and Ambassador and Advisory Council Member



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BEND YP EVENTS HELD
IN 2023



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YP PASSPORT
HOLDERS



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MISSION

Creating an environment where businesses, their employees and our community excel together through collaboration, advocacy, resources and leadership to meet Bend's business challenges.



BEND CHAMBER

2023 | ANNUAL REPORT



Dr. Megan Lawson, Headwaters Economics,
Presenting at the 2023 Impact Conference