

# IMPACT REPORT

Fiscal Year 2023



## COMMUNITY VISION

Dear CV Community,

The past year felt like a re-emergence. We re-learned how to be in physical space with each other. We started to figure out what still works from the “before times” and what needs to be transformed.

At Community Vision, we recognized this moment of openness as an opportunity to change thinking around disability. In communities as diverse as green energy employers and refugee groups, we discovered curiosity had emerged around how to truly be inclusive. And our vision of a world where people with disabilities are accepted, included, and able to live the life they choose grew brighter.

We look forward to continuing our work toward that vision and to expanding our sphere of influence. We invite your partnership as we build connections outside of the disability world. We know that it will take all of us challenging our own thinking in order to re-emerge as a more inclusive world.

Thank you for joining us on the journey.

With gratitude,

*Jennifer Knapp*

Executive Director



# DIRECT SERVICE

## SUPPORTED LIVING

Our Supported Living Program serves people with developmental disabilities so they can live independently.



**358** Individual community connections  
**149** Skills Developed  
**169,278** Hours of support provided



Tony is a lifelong Star Trek fan. When our Supported Living team saw that the Oregon Symphony was hosting an event called “Star Wars vs. Star Trek,” Tony immediately came to mind. He has a goal of getting out and about in the community, and he loves all things music. The opportunity was too good to pass up. Tony’s team helped him purchase affordable tickets through the Arts for All program. His staff assisted him with transportation downtown and with navigating the venue. Tony was able to fully enjoy the show. It was “fantastic,” he said. He looks forward to seeing more music. Live long and prosper, Tony!

## HOUSING

Our Housing Access Program supports people with disabilities to find affordable, accessible housing.



**171** Individuals took steps toward housing  
**29** Renters matched to housing  
**10** People in rent assistance pilot



KC had to leave her old apartment because of mold, accessibility issues, and unaffordable rent. Couch surfing and hotel living were hard on her mental, physical, and financial health. Her housing search became overwhelming. KC’s friend saw that KC was at risk of being unhoused and referred her to our Housing Access Program. We worked with KC to find a new affordable home with lots of windows and trees, where she can live independently. “I really like it [here]! My friends helped me set it up nicely, and it looks really cute and feels comfortable,” KC wrote us. “It feels like an actual, literal miracle.”

Direct support for people with disabilities is the core of our work. We assist people so they can move toward their individual goals. We challenge assumptions about what is possible. This transformational work takes time, experimentation, and creativity. The result is the people we serve live a richer and more self-determined life.

## EMPLOYMENT

Our Employment Connections Program assists people with developmental disabilities to find jobs and succeed at work.



- 8** New jobs created
- 19** Individuals receiving job coaching
- 15** Individuals in their job 1 year or more

Serena was referred to us by her vocational rehabilitation counselor. In the past, she never felt like she fit in at her job. They were often short-lived and didn't leave her feeling good. We worked with Serena to discover the kind of place she'd like to work, visiting potential worksites to get a feel for them. After an informational interview at Old Navy, Serena told us she wanted to apply there. With support from our team, she applied, interviewed, and was offered a job! Since then, she's been receiving on-going job coaching and is a rock star at work.

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Our Assistive Technology (AT) Lab connects people with disabilities to assistive technology.



- 113** People receiving consultations
- 125** Items loaned through our loan closet
- 496** People using Open Lab/Advice Line

Spencer worked with the AT Lab to improve his computer skills. He wanted to start a career and move beyond the retail work he had been doing. He knew that he needed new skills and a good setup, since he was a one-handed typer. We recommended free apps and tutorials for him to get better at typing and learn key programs and platforms. Spencer also tried different computer accessibility settings, as well as computer stands and other ergonomic items borrowed from the AT Lab Loan Closet. "I am now a faster typer. I have a Gmail account, use Google Calendar, and I am updating my resume to include my new computer skills," Spencer wrote us. "The AT Lab has given me strategies to advocate for myself at work. Thank you AT Lab!"

# CAPACITY BUILDING

In order to expand our impact, we work to develop and strengthen the skills, resources, and knowledge of others. We provide education and help build capacity to create more inclusion for people with disabilities.

One example of this is the AT Lab's work to train and support an early childhood program, Childsworld Learning Center, with growing their Preschool For All (PFA) program. The PFA measure was passed by voters in 2020 for free, culturally responsive, inclusive preschool experiences. Childsworld contracted with the AT Lab to expand their ability to support children with learning or developmental disabilities and/or behavioral challenges.

We are working with two pilot classrooms and helping expand support for children with disabilities to all of their classrooms. Our work focuses on creating:

- Safe, Intuitive, Sensory-balanced Environments
- Predictable Routines
- Explicit Instruction



**858**  
People  
educated  
on how to  
expand  
inclusion

# ADVOCACY

People with disabilities experience harmful power imbalances in their lives. We are working to change the societal conditions that create these inequities.

This year Community Vision worked tirelessly alongside advocates with disabilities, Disability Rights Oregon, and others during the long legislative session at the Oregon State Capitol. Our main focus was House Bill 3309, which directs the state to create incentives for housing developers to build more accessible housing. We are excited to share HB 3309 passed! Housing is a complex issue, and this is a positive step toward creating more accessible housing. We look forward to continuing to work with partners and push for more change.



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