

# YOU BELONG.

NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2025

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## SUMMER IS HERE!

With summer comes outdoor time, trips to Oregon's beautiful mountains and coast, the indulgence in tasty berries fresh from our gardens and local farms, and hopefully time with loved ones. I send you my wishes for a peaceful summer season.

Here in the Civil Rights Unit, we love the summer season in part because we spend time at Oregon's many outdoor festivals: tabling, handing out amazing swag, and simply showing up to spread the message that **You Belong**. This is one way we help make this state an inclusive and welcoming place for all. We show up! In spite of our many differences and idiosyncrasies that make us unique humans, we show up for each other, celebrate each other, and stand together in solidarity, without othering, hate, or manufactured divisions.



As I reflect on our summer tabling initiatives and nature's many gifts here in our state, I wanted to share a message I recently received from John A. Powell, [Show Them Who We Are](#), in response to ICE raids, protests, and the National Guard dispatched to LA. I found it a powerful and important message. I'll leave you with John's words: "Today, we face a manufactured crisis designed to divide us, dehumanize our neighbors, and tear at the constitutional fabric that binds us together... Let's meet each other on shared, sacred ground and call them [the National Guard or police] to protect our community, rather than engage on the battleground where there is only violence and mutual dehumanization... **We do not have to agree on everything to reject othering and cruelty.** We're being tested politically, morally and spiritually. The question before us is whether we'll allow ourselves to be divided by manufactured fear, or whether we'll remember that our strength lies in our commitment to each other, to justice, and to the belief that everybody belongs, unconditionally."

Sincerely,

*Fay Gletz-Waters*

Oregon DOJ Director of Civil Rights and Social Justice



The Civil Rights Unit is conducting hundreds of presentations and information sessions on Oregon's sanctuary laws and our Sanctuary Promise Hotline around the state. Sign up on our [Community Toolkit page](#) if you'd like to host an info session. A recorded version of our information session is available [here](#).

Have you experienced or witnessed a hate crime or a bias incident due to race, color, disability, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity?

**REPORT HATE & BIAS  
IN OREGON**

**1-844-924-BIAS**

StandAgainstHate.Oregon.gov

**YOU BELONG.** 

**Oregon's Sanctuary Promise**

 **Call Us**  
**Sanctuary Promise Hotline:**  
**1-844-924-7829**  
Monday-Friday | 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

 **Services available in**  
**240+ languages.**  
We accept all Relay calls.

 You can leave a message after hours.

 **Find us online**  
Visit [SanctuaryPromise.Oregon.gov](https://SanctuaryPromise.Oregon.gov) to learn more about Oregon's Sanctuary Promise Laws.



**YOU BELONG.** 

June is Juneteenth, Pride Month, Immigrant Heritage Month, Father's Day, and many other celebrations of who we are! Check out our social media to find out more about what's happening in the CRU and in Oregon. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

Check out the following events happening in your communities!

### [June 22nd Latino Cultural Festival \(Hillsboro\)](#)

The Hillsboro Hops baseball team hosts this annual festival that features culturally rich connections with the community. Join the fun at the Latino Cultural Festival on June 22 at Hillsboro Ballpark, hosted by the Hillsboro Hops! This free, family-friendly celebration runs from 12-7 PM and highlights the vibrant traditions of Latino culture with live music, dance, a colorful parade, local art, delicious food, a futsal tournament, and activities for all ages. It's a day full of community pride, cultural connection, and non-stop entertainment! Learn more [here](#).



### **June 22nd Umpqua Valley Rainbow Collective Pride (Roseburg)**

Celebrate Pride with the Umpqua Valley Rainbow Collective on June 22 in Roseburg! This grassroots event brings the community together with music, food, fun, and a strong message of love and inclusion for the LGBTQIA2S+ community in Douglas County. Learn more [here](#).

### **June 26th Yakama Nation Willamette Falls Lamprey Celebration**

The public is invited to this free event that includes cultural and educational activities including speeches from tribal leaders and salmon conservation experts, a live demonstration of the traditional lamprey fillet and preservation techniques, and more. RSVP is required. Learn more [here](#).



### **June 28-29th World Beat Festival (Salem)**

This year, the festival celebrates Turtle Island and the indigenous peoples of North and South America. Join the festival at Salem's Riverfront Park for music, dance and food. Learn more [here](#).

### **June 28th Eugene Pride**

Get ready for an unforgettable day of celebration at Eugene Pride on June 28 at the Lane Events Center! Start with a rally and march from Kesey Square, then dive into a full day of live music, tasty food, local vendors, and fun for all ages from 11 AM to 7 PM. It's all about love, community, and showing your pride! More info at [eugenepride.org](http://eugenepride.org).



### **June 28, July 19, August 2, August 16 Saturdays in the Park (Canby)**

Embrace the vibrant rhythms and flavors of Latine American culture at our "Saturdays in the Park" events! Hosted by Bridging Cultures, this exciting celebration is a way of bringing the community together throughout the summer. This event is held on multiple dates across various parks, ensuring everyone has a chance to join the festivities. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate right in your neighborhood! More info [here](#).

### June 30th 7pm–8:30pm, McMenamins Kennedy School – Outliers and Outlaws: A Story of Lesbian World Builders in Oregon (Portland)

Documentary film screening followed by Q&A and panel discussion with director Courtney Hermann and film participants. Outliers and Outlaws uncovers the vibrant history of lesbian world-builders who forged an alternative community in Eugene, Oregon, that ultimately transformed mainstream culture, regional politics, and LGBTQ+ history. Through intimate, candid portraits, the film shares stories of resilience, creativity, and social change — capturing lesbian lives, both past and present, with hope and humor.

### July 19th-20th Portland Pride Festival and Parade

Get ready to party at the Portland Pride Festival & Parade on July 19-20 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park! Two days packed with live music, delicious food, colorful community booths, and an epic parade full of floats and performers celebrating love and inclusion. Whether you're dancing, cheering, or just soaking in the good vibes, this is Portland's biggest Pride bash and everyone's invited! More info at [portlandpride.org](http://portlandpride.org).

### August 22nd-24th Northwest Art and Air Festival (Albany)

Join for music, balloon launches, night glow, art vendors, and car show at Timber Linn Park.

### September 19th-21st Newport Pride

Celebrate pride and community at Newport Pride in September! Enjoy a fun-packed weekend with pub nights, drag shows, a colorful pride run, brunch, and a picnic, all celebrating love and inclusion on the beautiful Oregon Coast. Check out [newportoregonpride.com](http://newportoregonpride.com) for details!





## RESOURCES AND TOOLS



The National Crime Victim Law Institute partnered with CRU to launch the **Victim Rights Advice: Guiding Victims of Hate Crimes Project**. The project is an interactive website that provides general information about hate and bias crimes. In addition, hate crime victims in Oregon can reach out to obtain no cost victim rights advice from an attorney about their criminal case. Check it out [here](#).

**The CLEAR Clinic**, formerly the Legal Resource Center located at Portland Community College, made their transition to an independent nonprofit organization earlier this year. The CLEAR Clinic now provides free legal services to Oregonians ranging from court records relief (expungement), name & gender-marker changes, eviction expungement and tenant advocacy (Portland only), and more. Check out [their website](#) for more information on how to contact them and access their services.



**The Othering and Belonging Institute's [Racial Disparities Dashboard](#)** has been updated and expanded, from 15 indicators measuring Black-White disparities in American society to nearly 80. This resource is now the most comprehensive repository of existing racial inequalities available anywhere. They gauge disparities for education, criminal justice enforcement, employment, health, and much more. Each of them is rated as either high, moderate or low based upon a novel methodology. The Disparities Dashboard was originally launched two years ago.

The Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD), is pleased to open a grant application process for **2025 John R Justice (JRJ) public lawyer loan assistance funds**. The application period will be open until 6/30/25, unless extended. JRJ funding is designed to support public service attorneys in Oregon, including public defenders and prosecutors, in helping to repay law school loans. For information about the JRJ grant, including how to apply, click this link to [CVSSD's John R. Justice \(JRJ\) Student Loan Repayment Program Website](#).

Oregon DOJ launched the [Federal Oversight and Accountability Cabinet](#) to bring together legal, policy and community leaders to be an innovative partnership in Oregon's work to defend against potential federal impacts on the state and its people. [Community members can report personal impact by recent federal actions here](#). Note: the Oregon Attorney General represents state agencies and is unable to provide direct assistance to those who submit reports. Residents who seek assistance on impacts related to federal actions should contact their [representative in the U.S. House of Representatives or Oregon's U.S. Senators](#).

**RESL: Racial Equity Support Line**, a program of Lines for Life We were saddened to learn [RESL](#) is closing its hotline as of June 30, 2025. **Lines for Life** remains **Oregon's home for 988**. When you call, text, or chat the 988 Lifeline, your conversation is free and confidential. The 988 Lifeline is a safe, nonjudgmental space for you to get support for the challenges you face.

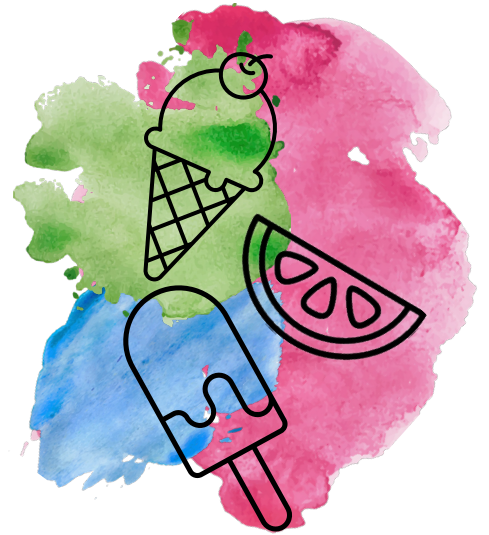


# TRAINING AND LEARNING

Watch [Healing and Equity United's Bystander Intervention Webinar](#), teaching communities how to disrupt harm when it happens.

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Join the Friendly House of Portland for their special guest speaker series. More information here: [Home - Friendly House](#)



Upcoming Speakers:

- Friday, July 18th: Dion Jordan, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the State of Oregon
- Friday, August 8th: Kimberly Stowers Moreland, Author of African Americans of Portland

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## [The Oregon Historical Society: Japanese American Incarceration 101](#)

presented by Hanako Wakatsuki-Chong is an event to learn more about the Japanese American incarceration experience during WWII. This program is part of the exhibition The Yasui Family: An American Story.

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The Fair Housing Council of Oregon has pre-recorded courses that the community can access here: [Pre-Recorded Courses - Fair Housing Council of Oregon](#). Topics range from Fair Housing for Renters with Disabilities, Fair Housing for Shelter Providers, and Protections for the LGBTQ+ population.

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Earlier this month, NCVV partnered with the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence to host a critical virtual conversation: [Navigating the Media Spotlight](#). "This virtual panel explored the realities of media coverage for victims, survivors, and the professionals who support them, and how to manage those challenges with care and intention. Panelists walked through key insights on responding to media requests, setting boundaries, and understanding the emotional toll that public attention can bring, offering practical strategies to uphold survivor dignity."

## [Recognizing and Responding to Elder Abuse in Tribal Communities](#)

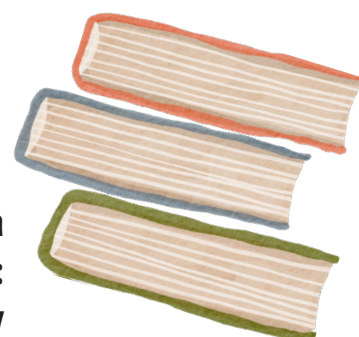
is a recorded webinar presented by NCVV. The presentation focuses on recognizing and responding to elder abuse within Tribal Communities, equipping law enforcement and victim services professionals with the knowledge and resources to address this critical issue effectively. We explore the signs and indicators of elder mistreatment, emphasizing the importance of cultural awareness and community engagement in identifying and addressing concerns.

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## [Land, Liberation, and Legacy: Black and Indigenous Farmers' Fight for Justice](#)

is a recorded webinar from the American Bar Association. In this Juneteenth Chair Chat, join April Love, Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic Clinical Instructor, for a profound conversation with Dãnia Davy—founder of Land & Liberation and longtime advocate for Black farmland preservation. Together, they explore the civil rights dimensions of land loss, the historic Pigford litigation, and the ongoing fight for economic justice and autonomy for Black, Brown, and Indigenous farmers.

## **WHAT IS THE CRU WATCHING AND READING?**



The American Cancer Society offers insight to the health disparities in their new documentary titled “Real Lives: Cancer Stories of Indigenous People.” Watch their new video here: [Cancer Stories of Indigenous People | American Cancer Society](#)

[The Last Cuentista \(Newbery Medal Winner\)](#) by Donna Barba Higuera: The Last Cuentista is a mesmerizing science fiction tale for the ages, sprinkled with Mexican folklore. Petra Pena’s journey through space and time is a stunning reminder of the power of stories, and how those stories shape both our past and future. This brilliant space epic is a must-read for fans of The Giver.

[Marsha: The Joy and Defiance of Marsha P. Johnson by Tourmaline](#): The inspiring story of an activist, a difference maker, and an icon. This is a comprehensive celebration of the hero that Marsha P. Johnson is, written with the panache that Johnson deserves.



[Accidentally on Purpose](#) by Kristen Kish: As much a fascinating window into the high-octane life of an aspiring chef as it is a personal story of identity. This is an immensely relatable story about passion, ambition, the weight of stress, and the search for self.

[Watermelon and Red Birds: A Cookbook for Juneteenth and Black Celebrations](#) by Nicole A. Taylor: The first of its kind, this cookbook celebrating Juneteenth is the perfect companion to any parties or gathering surrounded around the holiday. With over 75 recipes and masterful storytelling that bridges recipes and stories together, Watermelon & Red Birds is a fantastic cookbook to add to your kitchen to help make the holiday extra tasty. In this post, we hear from Nicole A. Taylor about what celebrating Juneteenth has meant for her as well as a sneak peek at one of her recipes.

[All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom](#) by Angela Johnson, E.B. Lewis (Illustrator): Recognized as a special day of observance in all states, Juneteenth denotes June 19, 1865, the day when all slaves in the Confederate South were declared free. The day is expressed here in weightless, lyrical prose and muted watercolor illustrations that masterfully evoke the tone and emotion of the first day of new life for all the formerly enslaved men and women on a Texas plantation. Told from a young girl's perspective, we experience her surprise, exhilaration, and anticipation for the new life that awaits her. Your children will be instantly awed and engaged, and will likely want to hear her story again and again.

## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Eugene-Springfield NAACP is actively recruiting for their next Education Coordinator. This full-time role is central to advancing NAACP's youth-centered work, including ACT-SO, tutoring, enrichment, and summer bridge programming. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Interested applicants can apply by sending a resume and brief cover letter to [hr@naacplanecounty.org](mailto:hr@naacplanecounty.org) with the subject line "Education Coordinator Application."

Follow the CRU on social media!

