



Connected  
Lane County



# 2024 - 2025 Annual Report ***A YEAR OF IMPACT***

Every young person deserves a future they can be excited about. We connect youth ages 14–24 with opportunities, experiences, and support to help them build lives full of possibility and purpose—helping them explore careers, access paid job training, receive education guidance, find needed resources, and thrive in safe spaces.

# What We Achieved Together

As we say goodbye to the 2024–25 year, we are energized by the progress we’ve made and excited for the opportunities ahead. Guided by a strong sense of purpose, we have been listening, learning, and working to expand opportunities for youth across our community.

**This year’s achievements reflect what is possible when community and purpose come together.**

We strengthened our Excelerator model to expand one-on-one support for youth with disabilities, provided \$100,000 in direct cash assistance to 45 young adults at risk of homelessness, empowered 47 youth through the inaugural Black Youth Leadership Summit in partnership with the Eugene Springfield NAACP, and launched hands-on STEM Invention Clubs in three middle schools with Oregon MESA. These accomplishments represent just a portion of the impact we’ve made this year, and reflect the power of collaboration and community-driven action, yet they also remind us of the work still ahead. As we look forward, we are eager to deepen partnerships, engage more community voices, and keep advancing our shared mission of uplifting youth and expanding opportunities for every young person to thrive.



**\$620,086**  
Paid Youth Wages



**2,062**

Youth  
Served



**320**

Youth  
Paid



**45,102**

Participation  
Hours



**188**

Industry and  
Community Partners

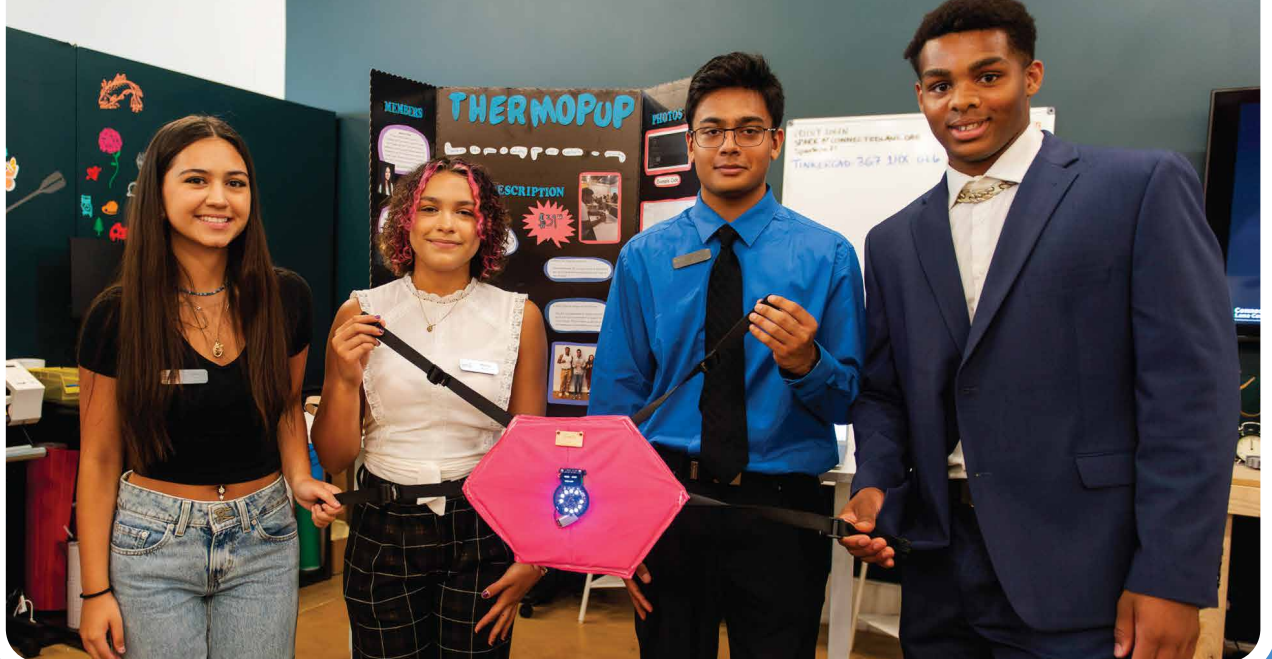
**Meet Day**  
(she/her)



“I really appreciate the classes and the program staff, everything they did, and the effort they put into the Healthcare Excelerator. Working with my friends helped me study and refresh everything. I don’t really like to study, but they made it fun and I felt like I was actually helping them study too. I never felt like I was stupid.”

## Learn Her Story

Day connected with our team while working toward her GED at Kalapuya High School. She took part in Rent Well and DevNW Financial Foundations and built her confidence and organizational skills. Her Resource Navigator encouraged her to pursue the Health Excelerator, where she committed fully, leaving her day job and coordinating childcare to complete the 10-week program. Despite past struggles in school, Day finished at the top of her class and earned her CNA-1 certification. She now plans to use that credential to support her family and help others, and she credits her study group as one of the best parts of the experience.



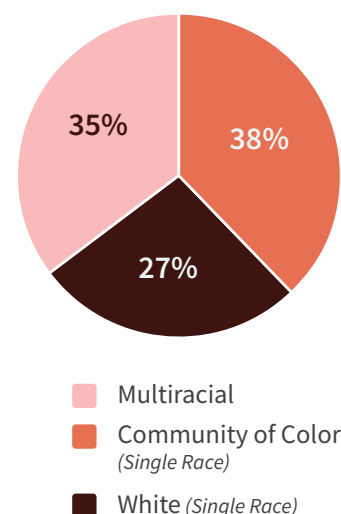
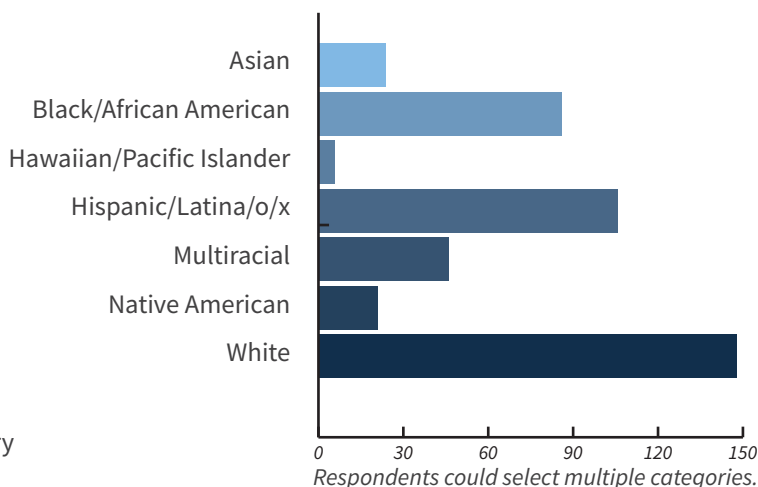
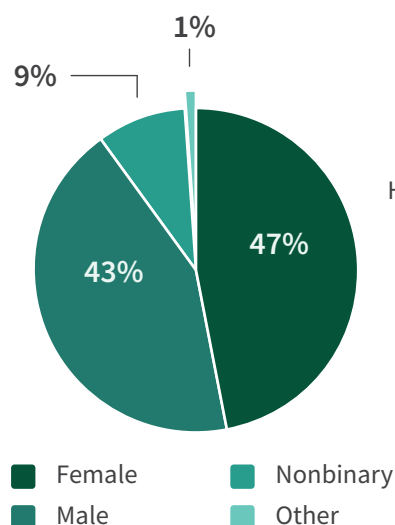
## Learn His Story

In Summer of 2024, Kishan participated in Invention Lab after his sophomore year at Willamette High School. During this time, he (shown in bright blue) and his team created ThermoPup, a product designed to alert dog owners when it is unsafe for their pet to be outside in extreme temperatures. He and his team worked on their product over the course of the four-week Invention Lab program and presented their work to family and supporters at the 2024 Invention Lab Showcase! He stayed connected through the school year as a member of The Agency and became a mentor to students at Cascade Middle School through their after-school Invention Club and MESA Chapter.

Meet Kishan  
(he/him)

"My experience was a big eye-opener for trying to find career options that suit me. It helped me learn that I enjoy designing and creating. Using the CPX was a huge learning experience, teaching me how to code in basic computer skills."

## Who We Engaged Through Paid Opportunities (Gender and Race/Ethnicity)



All data is self-reported participant data. Percentages are only of those who reported.



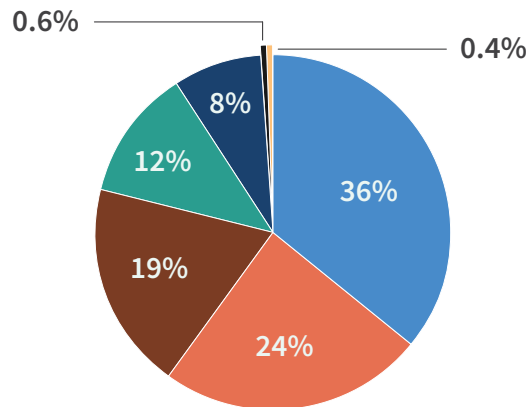
## Turning Talents Into Impact

Albert has long had an interest in passing his wealth of technical and engineering knowledge on to the next generation. He has volunteered in Connected Lane County's Tech and Manufacturing Excelerators since spring 2024. Always patient, Albert guides Excelerator participants through projects in programmable logic computing, welding and metal fabrication, and sheds light on what it's like to work in the industry.

*"Something that stayed with me as an instructor was this one student who stayed late, welding quietly long after the others had moved on. As a dad, I see how much today's youth carry. Watching her set that aside and give herself fully to something new that could grow into a career and a creative outlet meant a lot."*

## Our Funding Sources

*Diverse funding makes us resilient; community giving makes us thrive.*



State Grants	\$1,462,711
Local Education & Workforce Partners	\$963,422
Federal Grants	\$760,906
Foundations & Donor Advised Funds	\$472,845
Earned & In-Kind	\$330,913
Individual Donations	\$21,725
Business Contributions	\$10,344

**Total Income \$4,022,866**

*"Connected Lane County greatly influenced my desire to pursue my skills in computer science... it significantly strengthened my resume, confidence, and experience, which led me to achieve scholarships, a job in information services, and remain confident in pursuing my degree."*

## How to Get Involved

- Give — [connectedlane.org/donate](https://connectedlane.org/donate)
- Partner — Host a Job Shadow or Internship
- Share — Spread the Word with Your Networks
- Follow our Socials — @connectedlane

Learn More

