



2022 Community Grant Application

Futel East Portland Installation Constellation

Amount Requested: \$9,000.00

Request Type: Project

Organization Budget Size: \$7,000.00

03/14/2022 12:41 AM

Section 1: Organization Contact Information

Organization name:	Futel	EIN:	83-1684562
Alternate name/acronym:			
Address:	POB 15153 PORTLAND, Oregon 97293		
County:	Multnomah		
Website:	http://futel.net	Phone:	(503) 395-7468
Exec dir or board chair:	Karl Anderson, Director		
Email:	operator@futel.net		
Year established:	2014		

Fiscal Sponsor information (if applicable):

Fiscal sponsor name:	PDX Hackerspace	EIN:	83-1684562
Address:	7600 N INTERSTATE AVE STE 857 PORTLAND, OR 97217		
Fiscal sponsor contact:	Jon Hannis, Executive Director		
Fiscal sponsor email:	jon@pdxhackerspace.org	Phone:	(503) 560-3551
I understand that a fiscal sponsorship is a legal relationship between two entities, and will upload current documentation of this legal relationship in the "required documents" section of this application prior to submitting the application: Yes, I understand and will upload the documentation			

Section 2: Organization Details

2.1 Organization mission and primary activities:

Futel is a social service and art organization which refurbishes salvaged payphones and telephony equipment and rebuilds them into public installations. Our installations provide free calls, live human interaction, community engagement, service directories, and interactive audio art. We have been active for eight years, currently have nine public phones in Portland, and provided over 10,000 free calls in 2021.

2.2 What is your organization's primary focus? While your work may include several of the categories here, choose the one (or up to 3) that BEST describe(s) what you do.

Arts & Media

Housing Justice/Houselessness Issues

If you selected other, please elaborate on your focus areas:

2.3 Counties where services are provided:

Multnomah

2.4 Tell us about your board, staff and volunteers:

Number of board members:	1	Number of FTE:	0.00
Number of staff:	0	Number of volunteers:	10
Number of executive staff:	0		

Section 3: Organization Financials

3.1 What size is your operating budget? \$7,000.00

3.2 In what month does your fiscal year begin? January

3.3 Organization financial details:

Financials for last year and this year	Budget for current fiscal year	Actuals to date for current fiscal year	Actuals for last completed fiscal year
Organization Revenues	\$7,000.00	\$17.00	\$9,581.00
Organization Expenditures	\$7,000.00	\$450.00	\$9,680.00
Operating Surplus/Deficit	\$0.00	(\$432.00)	(\$99.00)

3.4 Please briefly explain any operating deficits, significant surpluses or changes in budget size in the information above (optional).

Our budget varies from year to year since we are a grant driven organization. While there are usually several proposals in progress at any time, payments often bunch up on some years and skip others. While we attempt to maintain a steady pace of projects, exhibits, and campaigns, we are a small organization and don't always keep that momentum, so in years when we have not been able to successfully pursue funding, we lower our expenses and focus on maintaining our existing installations and services.

3.5 What is your organization's financial outlook for the coming year? What resources, if any, do you have to support your needs (cash reserves, endowment, loans, federal/state relief funds, etc)?

With successful grant awards from the Oregon Community Foundation, the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, and others, we will have funding for one or more programs and public installations. If grant funding is not available we will rely on a projected \$1165 of crowdfunding and individual donations, as well as volunteer labor, to maintain our current network and research and prototype new projects.

Section 4: Grant Request

Project contact:	Karl Anderson, Director
------------------	-------------------------

Phone:	(503) 395-7468
Email:	operator@futel.net

4.1 Please provide a two-sentence description of your organization's priorities, people served and how you would use OCF grant funds.

Over the year we will grow our network of nine Portland installations by installing four more, increasing the communities we reach with free telephony, communication services, and participatory audio art. OCF funds will be used to pay workers, purchase hardware, and pay for services.

4.2 How much are you requesting from OCF? \$9,000.00

4.3 Total cost: \$9,000.00

4.4 What funding has been received or pledged towards the total costs? If none, enter 0.
\$0.00

4.5 Please identify anticipated source(s) of remaining needed funds:

Proposed Sources of Funding	Secured	Pending	Planned
Host in-kind support		\$900.00	
installation labor in-kind		\$1,280.00	
engineering labor in-kind		\$1,000.00	

4.6 Which of the following populations is this request designed to specifically serve or benefit:

- Black, Indigenous, Latinx and people of color
- Immigrants and/or Refugees
- People experiencing disabilities
- People living on low incomes
- People living in under-resourced communities and/or communities lacking critical infrastructure
- People who are homeless/unsheltered
- People who identify as LGBTQIA+
- Survivors of domestic and/or child abuse

Applicant selections:

People living on low incomes

People who are homeless/unsheltered

4.7 What counties will your work serve and/or take place in?

Multnomah

4.8 Will your work primarily take place in and/or serve rural communities?

No

4.9 If your work includes strategies specifically designed to serve or benefit one or more Tribal reservations or communities, please tell us which community or communities will be served (optional)

If you selected other, please specify:

4.10 Please describe the expertise or relationships your staff, leadership, board and/or decision makers have to serve the populations you selected above.

Karl Anderson has 7 years experience as director of Futel, delivering free communication services and assistance to under-resourced communities with walk-up kiosks and telephone support calls. Karl recently developed projects with the Village Coalition and Right To Dream Too.

Mathew Lippincott has 15 years experience in environmental monitoring and 12 years experience in sanitation policy and design. Mathew is a program and project designer for Futel, developing a sanitation program and supporting documentation and outreach.

Russell Senior has 13 years of experience as President of the Personal Telco Project. Personal Telco builds public access internet networks, bringing communication tools to Portland communities and recently providing services for C3PO villages. Russell has consulted with Futel to improve the technical and human aspects of Futel's communication infrastructure.

Partners for recent or ongoing Futel programs include Right To Dream Too, the Social Justice Action Center, and Sisters of the Road. The leadership and workers of these organizations are members of the houseless and low income communities they serve.

4.11 How do you involve the population you serve in the development and/or leadership of the activities proposed for this application?

We will continue with a framework we've used before, by leveraging our partnerships. Futel's relationships with Sisters Of The Road and the Social Justice Action Center will help us grow our community integration. They will continue to provide guidance for the services and programs featured on our installations, and for future projects, they will run calls for proposals and other selections of contributors.

4.12 Does your organization collect demographic information on race/ethnicity about your leadership (board and/or executive staff)?

No

4.13 Do you have racial/ethnic demographic data (or estimates) for the people you intend to serve through this application?

No

4.14 Please tell us more about your responses to the demographic questions above about race/ethnicity. What else do you feel is important for us to know, or if you don't collect this information, why?

We don't collect this information. Our installations are accessible to the public unattended at all hours, and we don't require any identification from our users. We have found a large proportion of usage is by houseless and low-income people from informal conversations with users.

4.15 How is your organization advancing diversity, inclusion, and equity, both internally within your organization and through your outreach and programs?

We advance inclusion and equity through our programs by recruiting artists and creators from the communities which are hosting our installations. We do this by partnering with organizations dedicated to strengthening those neighborhoods, including Open Signal, the Social Justice Action Center, and Sisters Of The Road.

We advance diversity and inclusion through our programs by centering our work on radical accessibility. By combining art and a well-understood public service, and by deliberately using implementations which can be accessed in public places, unattended, at all hours and days, we provide a unique entry point for interaction and offer opportunities to join participatory creative experiences.

Section 5: Grant Narrative

5.1 What type of support are you requesting?

Project

5.2 Describe the proposed work including priority need(s), the communities this request aims to serve and the purpose of the funds. Include any challenges and opportunities you are working to address through this request, and if/how you plan to engage the target community in the effort.

We will expand our network of nine installations in Portland by adding four more:

Social Justice Action Center, SE 12th Ave

Sisters Of The Road, NW 6th Ave

Hedron Hackerspace, SE Bush St

Microcosm Publishing, N Williams Avenue

Our installations will provide essential communication services to their neighborhoods, as well as help to revive the social sphere of their public spaces.

The installations will be accessible to the public at all hours. On the practical side, they will provide free telephone calls, voicemail, and directories of services. On the creative side, they will provide opportunities to contribute to ongoing interactive audio projects, extending and changing the experience for other phone uses.

Through live operators and recorded messages, community members will be able to communicate with Futel workers, providing feedback and guiding feature improvements.

As part of the project, we will continue to maintain our existing network of installations.

All of these installations will be available for future creative projects featuring neighborhood members.

5.3 What are your plans for staffing this project? If staff will be hired, how will you sustain the position after the grant period?

Staffing will use workers from previous and current Futel projects, with workloads consistent with previous years.

5.4 What is the timeline for implementation?

Sept 2022 - Dec 2022

We will purchase equipment and prepare and refurbish four kiosks.

Dec 2022

We will install the kiosks at Social Justice Action Center, Sisters Of The Road, Hedron Hackerspace, and Microcosm Publishing.

Mar 2023

We will update the programs and features on our installations according to usage patterns and feedback from our partners.

Jun 2023

We will update the programs and features on our installations according to usage patterns and feedback from our partners.

Sept 2023

All installations will remain operational and accessible through this date and beyond.

5.5 If your project involves partners, describe their roles and commitments.

Social Justice Action Center, Hedron Hackerspace, Sisters Of The Road, and Microcosm Publishing will host installations and provide services such as electricity, internet, and site upkeep. Their stewardship of the installations will position them to guide and direct future opportunities through them, such as creative projects which will provide compensation and expression for artists in the communities they work within.

5.6 Describe the community support for this request. This could include financial support, in-kind support, volunteer support, partnerships, referrals, etc.

We have the support of 10 volunteers for many tasks including installation, maintenance, engineering, operations, project development, and other tasks.

Our nine current hosts maintain installation sites, allow public access, and provide \$900 a year of in-kind support of services, supplies, and maintenance.

Staff at Sisters Of The Road and Social Justice Action Center will continue to contribute project development collaboration.

We are also supported by crowdfunding and individual donors.

5.7 What will the success of this project look like? What will be different for your organization and the community/people you serve as a result?

There will be many facets to a successful project. We will be successful when we have increased our presence in Portland with several more installations, and when those installations see use by the communities they serve. We will judge the extent of that success by monitoring how the phones are used, without tracking identifiable usage. For example, if the phones see a large amount of daily outgoing calls, if the social service directories are accessed, and if the artistic projects see access and contributions, the installations will be successful.

More strategically, this project will be successful if it allows us to form closer relationships with our partners and their communities. We hope to see collaboration in project design, artistic inspiration, and feedback which leads to future joint projects and benefits for us, our partners, and the community members.

5.8 Is there anything else you'd like to tell us that would let us know OCF should prioritize your request?

Additional artistic projects aren't included in this OCF grant, but we expect funding from other sources will enable new projects, either during the OCF grant period or after. We hope that the expansion of our installations funded by the OCF grant, as well as the new relationships with organizations hosting the installations, will help to enable future projects.

Oral history and storytelling have been a natural direction for our projects, but we are most effective when we can take these concepts in a new media direction, combining audio content with public participation in unexpected ways. We have a proven track record of using grant funds to successfully implement this over several years, both solo projects and in collaboration with Open Signal, the Village Coalition, and other organizations.

Futel installations are tools like microphones and video cameras. They don't have a single, predetermined function. They are the infrastructure for interaction and communication. This grant will give us another opportunity to use these tools in the support of people and communities.

By submitting and signing this application, I certify the following:

- The above information is correct;
- I am authorized by the governing board of this organization to submit this grant application to Oregon Community Foundation;
- This organization is in good standing with the IRS, retains its 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, and is further classified as a public charity and not a private foundation OR has a documented fiscal sponsorship relationship with an organization that fits the criteria above;
- This organization does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical circumstances, age, status as a veteran, or national origin.

Signed: Karl Anderson

Date: 3/14/2022