



## NeighborWorks Umpqua

### Community Profile

County Douglas

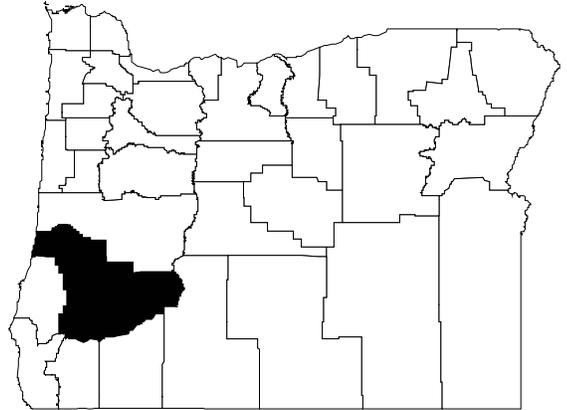
City Roseburg

Population 21,181

### Description

Sponsor NeighborWorks Umpqua

Supervisor Mikey Beech



**Assignment** INeighborWorks Umpqua is a private rural 501(c)(3) organization established in 1991 to develop affordable housing for low and moderate income residents in Douglas County, Oregon. NeighborWorks Umpqua began as Umpqua Community Development Corporation, with development of their first affordable multi-family rental housing complex in nearly 20 years. In 1999, the organization added community-based economic development to their mission. In addition, NeighborWorks Umpqua expanded their service area to include Coos and Curry counties.

The RARE participant placed with the NeighborWorks Umpqua will follow up and initiate implementation of a recently completed comprehensive inventory of regional food systems and resources in Douglas County. Specifically, the participant will facilitate further building of partnerships with the local farming and agricultural community via an array of outreach activities. The participant will also work with local organizations and groups to increase the ability to produce and market locally grown products. Additionally, the participant will work to increase food access to low-income individuals in ways that support local food systems, create opportunities for farmers to create value-added goods at a premium price, make connections between different aspects of the food system and educate consumers, producers and everyone in between with both formal and informal events.

### Meet Gabby Pauling



Gabby received a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and Sustainable Design from Pacific University. As a student, Gabby became increasingly interested in sustainability and food security. After realizing her passions, she became very involved with Pacific University's permaculture garden. Upon receiving her Bachelors Degree, Gabby spent a year as an AmeriCorps Vista at the Phoenix Charter School in Roseburg, Oregon. After her year with the RARE Program, Gabby hopes to find work that will allow her to continue to make a significant difference in Oregon's rural communities and environments.