

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 21, 2023**

**Ashland Community Health Foundation**  
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### **ACHF Welcomes Five New Board Members**

*Growing ACHF family is dedicated to community health and wellness for Ashland, Talent, & Phoenix.*

**ASHLAND** — Ashland Community Health Foundation (ACHF) is pleased to announce its newest board members, who will serve two three-year terms alongside nine returning members.

**Blancaluz “Lucy” Brossard** was born and raised in Southern Oregon to a migrant family who worked in the orchards around Phoenix and Medford. As an educator in Phoenix-Talent schools, Lucy worked for 9 years with at-risk, homeless youth and students with exceptionalities. She has been a leader in the post-Alameda fire recovery effort, which led to her hiring as the Regional Disaster Recovery & Resilience Coordinator for Oregon Housing & Community Service. Lucy also serves as board president for the Jackson County Community Long Term Recovery Group.

**Diane Knox**, originally from Denver, graduated from Colorado State University with a BS in Medical Technology. Throughout her career, she has managed laboratories including Hematology Oncology Associates (Denver) and Boulder Community Hospital. Diane also served as outreach program manager for the Mayo Clinic. She founded WarmHeart, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provided baby blankets to infants in Zimbabwe, and in areas affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2010, Diane moved to Ashland where she worked as a mortgage loan officer as well as a personal banker at People’s Bank of Commerce before her retirement.

**Rosario Medina**, a life-long Talent resident, is a Community Care Coordinator for the Phoenix-Talent school district. From an early age, Rosario has helped her parents, family, and community with translating and interpreting as needed. She continues serving the community through her work, empowering families to support their children’s health and well-being. Rosario is also an adjunct professor at Rogue Community College where she teaches Spanish for early childhood/elementary professionals and is vice president of the teaching association in the Phoenix-Talent district.

**Becky Orf** has lived in Ashland for over 45 years, where she began her legal career as a VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) attorney. Becky has worked in private practice, as a circuit court judge, and as staff counsel for the Oregon Judicial Department. She actively participates in numerous local boards, task forces, committees, and advisory councils, including as a founding board member of the Rape Crisis Council (now part of Community Works) and the Community Dispute Resolution Center (now Resolve). Becky volunteered with humanitarian aid groups at the US border with Mexico and is currently a court appointed special advocate (CASA) for foster children.

**Nick Palmesano** is a Captain at Ashland Fire and Rescue and Realtor at Rogue Real Estate. Nick grew up in Ashland and graduated from Ashland High School (Class of 2003). After high school, he attended the University of

Oregon where he graduated in 2007 with a major in Human Physiology and minor in Psychology. Nick began his firefighting career in 2007, spending time at Jackson County Fire District 5 and Rogue River Fire District before landing his dream job at Ashland Fire and Rescue in 2012, where he still serves the community to this day. In 2017, he earned his real estate license, fulfilling another lifelong dream, and has been helping buyers and sellers throughout the valley ever since.

For more information about our board members, visit [achfoundation.org/board](http://achfoundation.org/board).

*Ashland Community Health Foundation is very fortunate to have so many talented, community-minded volunteers serving on our Board of Directors. Each one brings a different perspective to the table and their insight is invaluable as we work together to fulfill our mission. – Janet Troy, ACHF Executive Director*

## **ACHF BOARD**

### **Officers:**

Cindy Bernard, President  
Jeff McCullough, Vice President  
Larry Gibbs, Secretary  
Melissa Grudin, Treasurer

### **Members:**

Blancaluz "Lucy" Brossard  
Diane Knox  
Tiffanie Lambert  
Rosario Medina  
Liz Murphy  
Becky Orf  
Nick Palmesano  
Judy Pavlik  
Zeph Robertson  
Gary Turner

### **Emeritus:**

Brian Almquist  
Chuck Butler  
Ed Colson  
Jack Davis  
Kurt Knudsen  
Marjorie Lininger  
Jed Meese

Ashland Community Health Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) leading philanthropic efforts to advance innovative and equitable approaches to community health and wellness. Donations to the foundation are tax-deductible and can be made securely through our website at [achfoundation.org](http://achfoundation.org) or mailed to our office at 123 Clear Creek Drive, Suite 101, Ashland, Oregon 97520.

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Photos attached