



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The objective of this section is to highlight representative NAO nonprofit members of various sizes, geographic locations and subsectors to showcase the great work our members are doing across Oregon!



1808 SE Belmont Street
Portland, OR 97214

Moving Lives Forward.

www.metfamily.org



What does your organization do? Who does it serve?

Metropolitan Family Service’s mission is to help people move beyond the limitations of poverty, inequity and social isolation. MFS provides a range of social services through 24 programs delivered in schools, community centers, and individual homes in the greater Portland metro area. We serve people of all ages and backgrounds, from early childhood through later life through three community initiatives: *youth success, economic well-being, and health & wellness*. MFS helps 12,000 people a year. MFS strengthens the connectivity between cultures and ages to harness authentic and diverse life experiences to meet our mission.

What has been your organization’s biggest accomplishment lately?

- Our expanded work in intergenerational programming. We developed a partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization to engage elders from these communities with children who are mentored through our AARP Experience Corps program that serves elementary school students.
- Expansion of our unique early childhood program that engages families and communities in new ways called, MFS Ready, Set, Go! (RSG), which focuses on family engagement, parent education, equitable access and being culturally responsive.
- Social Purpose Works – an initiative launched in April that connects nonprofit capacity projects with highly qualified and passionate volunteer professionals. For more information, check out this video: youtu.be/yXDpSVuKhNE



How has being an NAO member helped you succeed in furthering your organization’s mission?

NAO helped us with our CEO search six years ago and serves as a resource to us. It is most helpful to have a range of experts to draw from in support of the work we do, and we are grateful for our membership with NAO.

Anything else you'd like to share?

Expanding on our Social Purpose Works initiative, MFS has invested in a social enterprise model to harness the concepts used in business through earned income to deliver a service that can sustain itself while providing value to the community. SPW creates an innovative, flexible, and inspiring way for people to volunteer their talents honed from years in a career. It gives nonprofits a low-cost way to access extraordinary talent to tackle some of their toughest infrastructure problems. SPW delivers this ability through a unique combination of digital technology and personalized engagement.

Special thanks to Darrin Swaim
Director of Communications, Metropolitan Family Service