



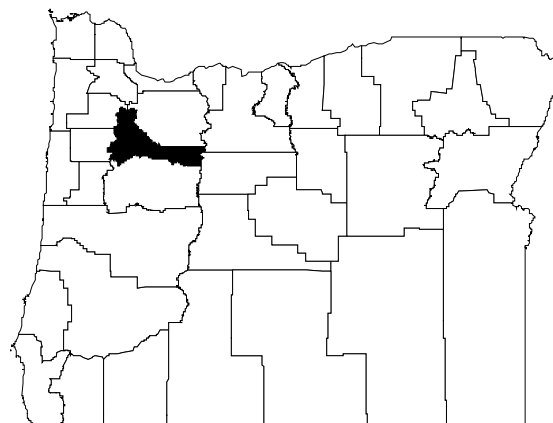
## Marion-Polk Food Share

### Community Profile

County **Marion**  
 City **Salem**  
 Population **157,700**

### Assignment

Organization **Marion-Polk Food Share**  
 Supervisor **Ian Dixon-McDonald**  
 RARE Member **Alexis Stickel**



### About Marion-Polk Food Share

Marion-Polk Food Share is the regional food bank leading the fight to end hunger in Marion and Polk counties. More than 44,000 people, including 16,000 children, receive emergency food each month through the Food Share partner network. As the second largest of 20 regional food banks in the Oregon Food Bank Network, MPFS collects and distributes nutritional foods to food pantries, meal sites, foster homes, low-income day care centers, shelters, and senior housing sites.

Alexis Stickel is placed with Marion-Polk Food Share where she will conduct a comprehensive inventory of regional food systems and resources within Marion and Polk Counties. Alexis will examine local food self-sufficiency including local retail, livable wage farming, and local farmers markets. She will also work to form partnerships with the local farming and agricultural community as a means to increase involvement, and to increase the ability to produce and market locally grown products.

### Meet Alexis Stickel



Alexis received her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Spanish with a minor in Latin American Studies from the Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon. After attaining her Bachelor's degree, Lexi went on to get Master's degrees in Conflict and Dispute Resolution and in International Studies, as well as a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management. She then moved on to work for the Rural Education Institute of Mexico as the Director of Operations, where she worked to expand the institute's communications and developmental abilities. Lexi hopes that the RARE program will provide her with the opportunity to learn from a community of talented young professionals as well as from her placement organization and community in order for her to give back to it at the grassroots level. After her year with RARE, Lexi plans to work in the nonprofit sector utilizing conflict resolution skills to assist in the expansion of services to vulnerable or under-represented communities.