Community Profile

Population 1,010

Location Lowell

Position Description

Sponsor City of Lowell and Lowell School District

Supervisor(s) Chuck Spies, City Administrator, and Debbie Egan, Superintendent of Lowell Schools

Assignment The RARE participant will split her time between the City of Lowell and the Lowell School District 71. With the City, she will coordinate efforts with St. Vincent de Paul, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and Lane County to develop affordable housing. Originally proposed in 1995, this housing development will bring together federal, county and city lands to be donated to St. Vincent’s for the construction of approximately twenty single family homes. The participant will also work with Lane Council of Governments to revise Lowell’s “buildable” lands inventory. Finally, with the school district, the participant will develop a natural resource-based curriculum for implementation throughout the district and will direct efforts to complete a trail on Lowell Butte, at the eastern edge of town.

Required Skills The RARE participant should have strong interpersonal skills, project management skills, Excel proficiency, and a working knowledge of Oregon’s land use planning system. In this position, the participant will need to be able to move complicated projects through various levels of governmental and non-profit agencies and will need to communicate and coordinate effectively with many federal, county, city, and private entities.

RARE Member

Theresa Conley grew up in the far northwest suburbs of Chicago, and earned a BA in Philosophy and BS in Sociology, focusing on social and environmental issues. Upon graduating, Theresa entered the Peace Corps, and completed her service as an Environmental Generalist in Mongolia. Recently returned to the States, Theresa has spent time working as a community organizer in Chicago and Cleveland, as well as with her local parks department. Upon completion of the RARE program, Theresa plans to pursue a Masters in Community and Regional Planning.