

**Written Testimony for the Oregon Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing on Expenditures of 2021 American Rescue Plan Act**

To: Co-Chairs Oregon Joint Ways and Means Committee

From: Eugene and Mandy Jones

As Board members, we are proud to provide the JWM Committee with a letter from the Murdock Foundation in support of the McKenzie River Discovery Center (MRDC).

We have been residents of the Vida, McKenzie River community for over 20 years and truly believe that since the Holiday Farm Fire devastation, the MRDC is vitally important to rebuild the economic value of this community.

The MRDC campaign was making great strides in fundraising until the impact of COVID 19 and then the entire community was devastated from the fire. Our river community was in shock and the MRDC jumped in to help. We opened our main hatchery building as a food bank and recovery center to help those in need. Partnering and collaboration with many organizations is how we help our community and that is why the Murdock Grant was so important to our vision. They believe in our Mission and trust that we will be good stewards of their grant funds.

We urge you to consider the MRDC as a recipient of the American Rescue Plan Act.



M.J. Murdock
CHARITABLE TRUST

April 20, 2021

Ms. Wisteria Stuart
Executive Director
McKenzie River Discovery Center
PO Box 506
Walterville, OR 97489

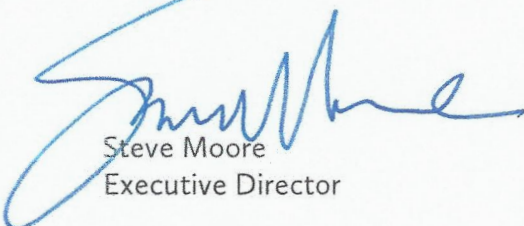
Dear Ms. Stuart,

Congratulations once again on receiving a grant from the Murdock Trust for \$234,500 toward your new executive director position. This grant was based on the merits of your proposal and was made to build capacity for MRDC and your upcoming capital campaign, "Discover the River. Inspire the Future!" It was a pleasure to learn about plans for the new Center and the support already in place for this project.

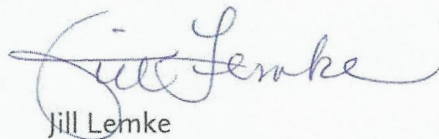
At the Murdock Trust, we seek to partner with and support organizations like yours that find innovative and sustainable solutions to help serve the common good. We are excited to see how this new addition to your organization will help MRDC engage, educate and inspire children, families throughout your community and the broader Pacific Northwest for generations to come.

As a reminder, MRDC is eligible to submit a proposal for support of your capital campaign. We are eager to hear more about your upcoming work and look forward to hearing updates from you in the coming months through your grant reporting.

With warm regards,



Steve Moore
Executive Director



Jill Lemke
Program Director

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