Washington State Philanthropic Leader Honored with Exponent Philanthropy’s Outsized Impact Award

Sherwood Trust’s Danielle Garbe Reser Recognized for Work Helping Underserved Communities

St. Louis, Mo. – Exponent Philanthropy today recognized Danielle Garbe Reser, CEO of the Sherwood Trust, with the 2019 Outsized Impact Award. The award honors an individual at an Exponent Philanthropy member organization whose style of philanthropy is achieving greater than expected impact.

Sherwood Trust, a non-profit foundation that serves the Walla Walla Valley in Washington State, is the largest discretionary funder in the state’s southeast region. However, its roughly $1 million each year is not enough to meet local needs in its rural region. With her board, Garbe Reser identified a strategy to attract outside philanthropy to the region by hosting a funders’ tour. The tour, coupled with other outreach and collaboration with organizations around the region, has resulted in more than $500,000 in grants to local organizations.

“Danielle’s creative thinking to help her region’s underserved, rural nonprofit leaders exemplifies the spirit of this award,” said Henry L. Berman, CEO of Exponent Philanthropy. “She demonstrates what lean funders can do to create a brighter future when they collaborate with and are responsive to the communities they serve.”

By creating opportunities for funders to meet one another and interact with local nonprofit and community leaders, the Sherwood Trust was able to help participants learn about the initiatives underway in the region, as well as opportunities to invest in these rural communities. The funders’ tour also helped grantmakers and local organizations learn more about one another and how to build relationships with funders.

The Outsized Impact award was announced during Exponent Philanthropy’s 2019 CONNECT Conference, held October 2-4 in St. Louis. A membership committee reviewed nominations, selected finalists, and a public voting process determined the award recipient.

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About Exponent Philanthropy

Exponent Philanthropy is the country’s largest association of funders – nearly 2,000 members strong – and the only one dedicated to serving foundations with few or no staff, philanthropic families, and individual donors. Its vibrant network has in common lean operations and a style of philanthropy
motivated by personal passion, community needs, and the strong desire for better outcomes. Exponent Philanthropy provides high quality and cost-effective programs, resources, and connections that maximize members’ dollars and time for the benefit of diverse communities and causes. Learn more about the Exponent Philanthropy community and its impact at https://www.exponentphilanthropy.org