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News Release – November 23, 2020

New staff to advance climate policy and justice strategy in Oregon

Leadership investments made to drive the next stage of Oregon's climate action

(Eugene, OR) - Beyond Toxics, an environmental justice nonprofit organization with offices in Lane and Jackson counties, announces the hire of a new Climate Policy and Legislative Affairs Manager. **Danny Noonan** will join the staff to support the Beyond Toxics' climate research and policy strategy. A top priority for the environmental advocacy organization is introducing a bedrock of state and local practices that tackle the imminent threat from climate change.

Prior to joining Beyond Toxics, Noonan worked for the internationally-acclaimed climate litigation organization, **Our Children's Trust**, from 2017-2020. In his role as Global Program Coordinator, he played a major role in developing human rights-based legal campaigns to push for climate action based on the best available science. This work included supporting climate change litigation and associated campaigns at the federal level in Canada and Mexico, as well as the landmark **Juliana v. United States lawsuit**.

"One of the things that drew me to this position was that Beyond Toxics not only has its feet firmly planted in local communities and grassroots organizing, it also has a seat at the table with the most influential policymakers in the state," says Noonan. "We will carry out both a major grassroots mobilization along with policy advocacy at the legislative and agency level to achieve equitable climate policies in Oregon."

Earlier this year, Beyond Toxics hired **Haley Case-Scott** as the new Climate Justice Organizer. Case-Scott is a graduate of the University of Oregon and previously worked at the campus' Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples Project. She was recently appointed by the Lane County Board of Commissioners to a position on the county's Climate Advisory Committee.

"These two highly trained and experienced young staff members are exactly the kind of bold leadership Beyond Toxics offers to Oregon communities to address the climate crisis," says **Executive Director Lisa Arkin**. "We're thrilled to expand our capacity to work for environmental justice."

The public will have the opportunity to meet Noonan and Case-Scott during the organization's **annual membership party on Tuesday, December 1st**, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. This year's theme, "**Rise Up for Climate Justice**," acknowledges the urgency of climate issues. Free give-away gifts, a new film on Oregon's climate challenges and a live-streamed music concert are part of the festivities. Visit beyondtoxics.org/events to register without cost.

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Beyond Toxics is a statewide non-profit based in Eugene using environmental justice engagement and community-based environmental grassroots organizing to ensure environmental protection and health for all communities.