

2023 OCAPA Winter Workshop



Michael Held

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Michael Held is a Regional Development Officer for Business Oregon with over 15 years of community economic development experience from Appalachia to the Northwest. With wide-ranging interests and skillsets, Michael has spearheaded multi-million-dollar infrastructure and redevelopment projects, led dozens of small business and industry sector initiatives, worked to revitalize historic downtowns, and recently led Business Oregon's COVID Equitable Economic Recovery Planning effort. Michael holds a BS in Social Work from West Virginia University and an MA in Public Administration from the University of Oregon. When not engulfed in economic or community affairs, you'll find Michael attempting, and probably flailing at, one of his many hobbies like banjo, stained glass, craft ice cream, or stilt walking. Michael lives in The Dalles, Oregon with his partner and their geriatric 18lb chihuahua/golden retriever mix.