



# Woodburn, Oregon

JVCNW has a long history in Woodburn. JVs were in Woodburn from 1975-2004, took a break, and then reopened in 2016. The JV house is named Casa de Guadalupe.

Woodburn is an agricultural town about 30 miles from Portland and 20 miles from Salem (Oregon's capital). It is a rural locale, yet it is easy to access other larger towns/cities. The total population is a multicultural community of 24,080 residents that primarily identify as White, Hispanic/Latinx, and Russian Orthodox Old Believers. Often referred to as "Little Mexico of the PNW," Woodburn is largely an immigrant/migrant farmworker community, with high levels of poverty, and lack of access to resources and opportunities. The JVs in Woodburn get to come alongside providing services to this community, as well as community organizing efforts. Oregon's Farmworker Union, PCUN, is based in Woodburn and there are many opportunities for JVs to get involved.

Because Woodburn is a tight-knit community, community leaders are accessible and available to residents, including JVs. Woodburn is nestled in a beautiful agricultural setting surrounded by lush fields and farms, quaint towns, wineries, outdoor recreation opportunities, waterfalls, forests, and mountains. A day trip for JVs could include going to the coast, the mountain, the national forest, a state park, hot springs, or visiting Portland.

## Joys of being a JV in Woodburn:

- o JVs with interest in Spanish-speaking or Latinx culture have many opportunities to learn from, speak with, and get to know people within that context. Fun cultural opportunities include: Salsa dancing class at the community college, Cinco de Mayo celebrations, and Fiesta Mexicana.
- o Woodburn is home to the famous Tulip Festival that attracts thousands of visitors each spring to stroll the 40 acres of tulips, ride on a hot air balloon or tractor, and picnic.
- o As a more rural locale, simple living is easier in Woodburn and the JVs find many creative ways to spend their time from taking walks to the community center to get ice cream or coffee, biking around town, going to the high school football games, hosting game nights, finding a pick-up soccer game, or planning weekend excursions.

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