

# Nature's Benefits Forum

## Webinar Series



WILLAMETTE  
PARTNERSHIP



### Nature's Benefits: Health and the Outdoors

Wednesday, July 28, 3:00-4:00 PM Pacific

Did you know that your zip code is a better predictor of your health outcomes than your genetic code? Research has shown that there is an explicit connection between healthy forests and healthy people, and the US Forest Service manages public lands that have major impacts on community health at both the local and regional scale.

Join us to learn about the mental and physical health benefits of nature, and how the Forest Service can be a driver to improve community health equity in the Pacific Northwest.



**Barton Robison** knows firsthand the healing powers of nature and is passionate about removing access barriers so that all Oregonians can know the

benefits of time in green space. He leads Willamette Partnership's work on the Oregon Health & Outdoors Initiative, and his strengths include facilitation, strategy development, and relationship building.



**Xavier Borja** is a first generation Mexican-American, born in Redmond, Oregon and grew up in Madras. His passions include serving our youth, communities and getting them outside. Xavier has worked for various youth programs for the past ten years, including the Boys and Girls Club of Bend, Bend Parks and Recreation District, and Education Outside in San Francisco. Lastly, working for Bend-La Pine School District, as a Mentor Specialist for at-risk youth at Summit High School. Once Zavi returned to Bend in 2019, he created a local chapter of the nationally recognized non-profit, Latino Outdoors here in Central Oregon. From that he has been able to make connections with local outdoor partners in order to work in a collaborative manner to create – Vámonos Outside, leading this work as a full-time possession. Most recently, Zavi has been elected as a board of directors for the Bend Parks & Recreation District.

This webinar is presented through a collaboration between the US Forest Service and Willamette Partnership to explore the relationship between outdoor access and community health.

For more information and to register, visit  
<https://willamettepartnership.org/naturesbenefits/>

