Central American refugees speak out at an event organized by MRG grantees.

McKENZIE RIVER GATHERING FOUNDATION

Funding social change in Oregon
July 1, 1983–June 30, 1984

454 Willamette, Eugene, OR 97401
(503) 485-2790
DEDICATION

To the memory of George Streisinger, citizen-scientist, whose research and testimony on pesticides before the EPA, Congress, the courts and school boards was critical in decreasing public exposure to toxic substances. George educated many community activists about the scientific complexities involved in protecting public health. He was also a passionate opponent of the nuclear arms race and an active supporter of racial and social justice.

CREDITS

About our cover photographs:
Front cover: Photo by Dan Bates/ Register Guard.
Back cover: Students at Hamlin Middle School in Springfield, Oregon at an event organized by an MRG grantee. Photo supplied by Eugene area Citizen Action for Lasting Security

Typesetting: Production Department
Printing: Northwest Working Press
Writing and Editing: Peter Jensen
Report Design and Assembly: Steven Mueller with help from MRG staff
Dear friends,

Here is our new annual report, which sums up our second very successful year as an Oregon foundation, following six years as a Northwest foundation. We have strengthened every category of our work. Most importantly, our grants to social change groups in Oregon increased by 50% over last year! We think you will enjoy reading about our grantees this year and will agree that their work in all areas is vital.

We are writing this before the critical election of 1984. Many social change issues will be heavily impacted by the results of this election. MRG has found support and made grants to voter registration drives in Oregon, hoping to increase the numbers of people who vote this year, especially those people who most need social change! We have also funded many educational groups, who have much to say to citizens in Oregon about issues of:

- nuclear weaponry
- military solutions imposed on human problems in Central America
- racism in Oregon
- women's rights
- local community building and media
- creation of the homeless through budget cuts
- dangerous public debt
- unemployment
- gay peoples' rights
- effectiveness of the death penalty
- human and environmental exposure to toxic substances.

These and many other Oregon issues are fully explained in this report. Our funding supports groups organized to activate Oregonians.

No matter which way this election goes, these are the unanswered questions and needs of our time. For the last eight years, we in MRG have raised and granted out over $1,110,000 for all kinds of important work. We have grown, as have many of the groups we have been able to support. There is no doubt that this election is critical. Oregon, especially, seems to have suffered more than our share. But not a single group that is working for change has limited what they must do to the fate of politicians. Survival, progress, peace and quality of life are all far too important to think we could leave them solely to government.

The groups we fund are helping to invent the future. They need our support as a social change foundation, and we need your support to make these grants. All of us receive appeal letters. What is different about MRG is that we solicit state-wide for (more)

A tax-exempt public foundation for social change in Oregon
funding proposals, which are evaluated by a committee of fourteen grant-makers active in the issues we fund. The sum total of the issues and projects represented in the appeal letters on your desk probably does not add up to what MRG grantmakers must evaluate each funding cycle. That is why a gift to MRG supports peace, social justice and protection of the environment all with one donation. And you will certainly hear about the groups we fund! So many of them are in your local communities and media that you will have almost instant feedback and see your money at work.

The past fiscal year is spread out before you in our annual report. Over 500 people wrote checks to MRG, and over 50 more gave us their time and their expert help. Last year we planned to raise $100,000 in general donations, and we raised over $106,000. This year we plan to raise $120,000. Help us grow even more this year. Send us a donation now, or make a pledge that fits your plans. Show our report to your friends and relatives. We hope that you will also refer your favorite social change group to us so they can apply to our next funding cycle, and then, please help us make that funding more successful with a contribution.

As we grow, we are sure that both the size of your donation and the numbers of people who give to MRG are related. When more people give, some will give more. When some people give larger donations, they encourage many more Oregonians to give.

As you read this letter, we are in the middle of our Fall 1984 Funding Cycle. We are reading proposals and hope to grant at least $30,000 to the groups we are now considering. Actually, we would like to grant $40,000 or more. If you make a donation soon, you will add to our Fall grants. If you need to wait a while before you give, you will increase the size of our Spring 1985 Funding Cycle.

Please donate or pledge your donation soon! Thank you.

For change and MRG,

Peter Jensen, director

P.S. Remember, many of the social change groups in Oregon were able to reach you and a wider public thanks, in part, to grants from MRG!
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(Above) Attorneys and Native American fishermen meet at traditional salmon bake on the Columbia/Photo supplied by Columbia River Fishers Defense.

(Below) Feminists in Astoria enjoy access to the airwaves on KMUN-FM/Photo supplied by North Coast Community Radio/KMUN-FM.

(Right) Draft age students look over sculpture donated to Alliance to Counter Militarism/Photo supplied by Alliance to Counter Militarism.

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INTRODUCTION

The McKenzie River Gathering Foundation (MRG) is now eight years old. This annual report sums up our second full year as an Oregon foundation. Our funding previously included the state of Washington. This role was assumed by the Seattle-based Common Wealth Fund in 1982. We continue to raise funds in Oregon to grant to community groups working for social and economic justice, for a freeze on nuclear weapons, for peace in Central America, as well as protection of the natural environment in order to protect many of Oregon’s jobs.

In this fiscal year, we operated with a total budget of $187,407 with $141,641 going to grants to support 88 projects, $32,890 for administrative expenses, and $36,354 in low-interest loans made from a restricted revolving loan fund. (Description of projects funded begins on page 5.) In the past eight years, MRG has supported more than 727 projects with grants and loans totalling over $1,110,000.

These figures translate into greater success as a fund-raising, tax-exempt foundation in Oregon than ever! We have a growing state-wide base of contributors and members. Our roots in Oregon come from and return to many large and small communities.

The 1983–1984 Fiscal Year: July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984

MRG’s work this year was done by one full time director and a half time associate director and over 40 volunteer grantmakers, fund-raisers, bookkeepers, planners and skilled social change consultants. This year surpassed the highly successful fiscal year 1982/83 accomplishing another significant jump in MRG progress.

The highlights of this year include:

- 507 people contributed $207,356.50
- increased income by another 33% over last fiscal year
- increased grant dollars by another 50% to more groups throughout Oregon
- kept administrative costs at 19%, half of the national average of foundations like MRG
- sponsored the most nationally successful event on Socially Responsible Investing (SRI)
- received more state-wide media attention than ever, which included an Oregonian analysis of MRG’s social change role in Oregon philanthropy and wide-spread coverage of SRI event and concepts
- published the first SRI directory for Oregon
- co-sponsored the formation of a Northwest network of progressive foundations with interest in Oregon and Washington
- established relationships with SRI groups such as Working Assets Money Fund, South Shore Bank of Chicago, and the Oregon Federation of Teachers, AFT-CIO
- continued our active memberships in the Funding Exchange and the National Network of Grantmakers
- represented social change funding concerns through panel presentations with major Oregon foundations covering foundation grants in this state
- provided national tax-exempt sponsorship for the Pacific Peacemaker Project and sponsorship of many Oregon groups
- made $36,354 in loans from the West End Co-operative Loan Fund to co-operative food businesses in Lane County.

Our second year as an Oregon foundation, and our eighth year as a funding source, has brought us very gratifying successes. Our main purpose, to increase grants made to grassroots groups in Oregon, is where we continue most growth. Our grantmakers were given more funds to grant, and MRG donors gave more both through our two funding cycles and through donor-advised grants. We continue to network donors and activists, share information, impact the media, and train social change activists seeking foundation grants. MRG’s role as a foundation comprehensively serving the Oregon activist community continues and expands.

We hope that this annual report strengthens your understanding of social change work in Oregon that addresses all the difficult and necessary issue areas we fund. We also hope this report conveys our excitement with the work of our grantees. We hope that you are moved to begin, continue or increase your support of MRG. As you will see, this foundation can be a very flexible and wide-ranging agent for social change.
The McKenzie River Gathering funding process is designed to involve grantmakers and grant applicants in constructive, evaluative dialogue. When a new funding cycle is announced, applications and grantmaking criteria are mailed to groups throughout the social change community in Oregon. Our grantmaking committee reads and evaluates each of the proposals that come in to the office. At a screening meeting to narrow the number of proposals, grantmakers share their evaluations and add other information that they may have about the group or its proposal.

An MRG grantmaker visits or calls each finalist. During this interview, MRG members ask the group for additional information. This interview is a time to offer observations about the group’s program and budget plans. The interviewer also answers questions about MRG and offers assistance to the applicant group in preparing its oral presentation.

The community oral presentation is a crucial part of the funding process. At these open meetings, each applicant group gives a brief description of the project they want funded, and then responds to questions from the grantmakers and other applicants. Many groups find this day helpful in developing program presentation skills and in networking with other community activists. The community presentations are always an exciting event for those who participate. It is an opportunity for activists from around the state to learn together about the impacts of Oregon’s social change community.

After the presentations, the grantmakers meet again to evaluate all the information and prioritize the funding requests. Grant recommendations made by this committee are formally approved by the MRG Board.

At the end of the grant term, usually six months to a year, grantees submit a project evaluation. The group is asked to evaluate both the success of their project and the quality of their planning. If a group applies for another grant, this evaluation is part of their field interview, and no new grant is made unless the evaluation of their past grant is complete.

McKenzie River Gathering funds organizations which bring people together to work for progressive social change. We support groups involved in educating the community and challenging the vast social, political and economic inequalities around us. Our funding is aimed at moving us toward a democratic, non-violent, decentralized, ecologically sound society.

MRG will only consider proposals for funding from groups:

- Working actively for social change
- Operating in a democratic, non-discriminatory manner which is responsive to the constituency served
- Located in the state of Oregon
- Unlikely to receive sufficient funding from other sources

In order to more clearly describe our definition of “working for social change” MRG particularly supports projects which:

- Promote grassroots organizing of women, people of color, and low-income and working people.
- Work against violence, racism, sexism, antigay attitudes and economic exploitation.
- Organize for economic self-control and confront our corporate dominated society.
- Work to promote an environmentally sensitive society
- Focus on non-violent social change actions
- Encourage networking of similar social change groups.
- Support the self-determination of Third World and low-income people.
- Oppose over-consumption in our society.
- Connect local problems with the overall issues of social change.
- Work for peace conversion or reduction of the military.
- Present cultural and artistic work with social change impact.
- Conduct social change research.

MRG generally does not fund food co-ops, health centers, alternative schools, or social services unless these projects are promoting social change beyond their basic function.
### I. Human Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aristas Indigena, Warm Springs (2 grants)</td>
<td>$3,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black United Fund of Oregon, Portland (2 grants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cascade AIDS Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicano Affairs Center, Eugene (4 grants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy and Laity Concerned, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochrane Custody Appeal Committee, Eugene</td>
<td>1,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia River Fishers Defense, Portland and Hood River</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comunidad Unida para Justicia, Woodburn</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebene Eves, Eugene</td>
<td>700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edison Chiloquin Support Committee, Chiloquin</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>First People’s Coalition, Eugene</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of Kuiu Kalkozial, Eugene</td>
<td>700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intertribal Council of Douglas County, Roseburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAZMIN Marching Band, Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesbian and Gay Pride, Portland</td>
<td>1,400</td>
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<td>Mid-Valley Women’s Crisis Service, Salem</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native American Heritage Association, Fort McDermitt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon National Abortion Rights Action League, Portland</td>
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<td>Oregonians Against the Death Penalty, Portland</td>
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<td>People for Southern African Freedom, Eugene</td>
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<td>Portland Black United Front, Portland</td>
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<td>Portland Lesbian Forum, Portland</td>
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<td>Six Directions, Portland</td>
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<td>Valley Cultural Awareness, Milton-Freewater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnamese Association of Eugene</td>
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<td>West Women’s Hotel, Portland</td>
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<td>Willamette Valley Law Project, Woodburn</td>
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<td>Women’s Press, Eugene</td>
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<td>World Music Foundation, Portland</td>
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### II. Community Organizing

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<td>Lane County Clients’ Council, Eugene</td>
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<td>Lane Unemployment Project, Eugene</td>
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<td>North Coast Community Radio, KMUN-FM, Astoria</td>
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<td>Northwest Working Press, Eugene</td>
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<td>Oregon Human SERVE Voter Registration, Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>West End Co-operative Loan Fund, Lane County (see p. 8 for loan list)</td>
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### III. Peace and Environment

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<tr>
<td>Citizen Action for Lasting Security, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastal Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Waldport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forelaws on Board, Boring</td>
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<td>Guatemalan Refugee Alliance Consciously Involved Action and Service, Eugene</td>
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<td>Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition, Eugene</td>
<td>1,400</td>
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<td>N. Coast People in Solidarity with Central America, Astoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Eugene</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<td>Peace House, Ashland</td>
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<td>Peoples Test Ban, Portland</td>
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<td>Portland Central American Solidarity Committee, Portland</td>
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<td>Southern Oregon NW Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Grants Pass</td>
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### IV. Donor-advised grants:

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<td>Asians Together, Eugene</td>
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<td>Birth to Three, Eugene</td>
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<td>Black United Front, Portland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Plate Special, Eugene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizen Action for Lasting Security, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<td>Clergy and Laity Concerned, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<td>Coalition for Democratic Alternatives, Bend</td>
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<td>Coalition Opposing Registration and the Draft, Eugene</td>
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<td>Cochrane Custody Appeal Committee, Eugene</td>
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<td>Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene (3 grants)</td>
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<td>Community Advocates for Safety and Self-Reliance, Portland</td>
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<td>Forelaws on Board, Boring</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRACIAS, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<tr>
<td>KBOO-FM, Portland (3 grants)</td>
<td>5,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lane County Clients’ Council, Eugene (3 grants)</td>
<td>15,125</td>
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<td>Lane County Food Bank, Eugene</td>
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<td>Light Valley Waldorf School, Medford</td>
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<td>Mayan Relief Fund, Eugene</td>
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<td>Northwest Action for Disarmament, Portland</td>
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<td>Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Eugene (4 grants)</td>
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<td>Northwest Working Press, Eugene (2 grants)</td>
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<td>Organically Grown, Eugene</td>
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<td>Oregon Low-Income Voter Registration Project, Portland</td>
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<td>Pacific Peacemaker Project, Seattle, WA</td>
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<td>Peace House, Ashland</td>
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<td>Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, Portland (3 grants)</td>
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<td>RAN, community building project, Portland</td>
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<td>Rape Crisis Network, Eugene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sahalie Publishing, Country</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project, Eugene</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Portland</td>
<td>130</td>
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</table>

### V. TOTALS FY 83/84

- Total Funding Cycle Grants: $70,890
- Total Donor-Advised Grants: $70,751
- Total Loans (Restricted Fund): $36,354

**TOTAL GRANTS AND LOANS FOR FY 83/84:** $177,995
Artistas Indigena, Warm Springs, $1,700 and $1,400
Indigenous women’s art shows organize around women’s issues, the preservation of Native cultures, protection of Native resources, and opposition to wars of intervention. These grants support three organizing/art shows of visual, performing and literary works of Native women from throughout the Americas and the Pacific Islands.

Black United Fund of Oregon, Portland, $1,500 and $1,250
These grants provide seed funding for the Oregon chapter of Black United Fund to replicate the success of Fund chapters in other parts of the country. These Funds rely on workplace fundraising in corporations and governmental agencies to benefit Black activist groups.

Cascade AIDS Project, Portland, $1,500
Fourteen known cases of AIDS with two deaths were reported in Oregon at the time of this grant. This project educates about AIDS risk reduction in the Gay community and provides educational seminars for medical personnel, the media and the general public.

Chicano Affairs Center, Cultural Project, Eugene, $1,150 and $1,950
The first grant funded a series of Hispanic and Native American cultural events which fostered an understanding of their common heritage and encouraged organizing within these communities. Issues of importance to Chicanos in the November, 1984 elections were the focus of an events series supported by the second grant.

Chicano Affairs Center, Prison Project, Eugene, $1,500 and $1,500
The only prison outreach and public education project in Oregon for incarcerated Hispanics was supported by these two grants. The project educates church and community groups about the structural economic and language problems facing Chicanos and Central American refugees that result in the large number of Hispanics in Oregon prisons.

Clergy and Laity Concerned, Eugene, $1,500 and $1,400
The first grant supported Eugene CALC’s Multicultural Kids Camp and curriculum materials for teachers which foster multicultural appreciation, the rejection of racist stereotypes, and support for world peace. The second grant funded CALC’s Racial Justice Task Force which collects and disseminates information about racist practices in Lane County and mobilizes pressure on public institutions (e.g. schools and police) to change these practices.

Cochrane Custody Appeal Committee, Eugene, $1,330
This grant supports public education work on a custody case in which the judge awarded custody to the father only because the father remarried. If this decision is allowed to stand, it could be used to discriminate against women since men remarry more often and sooner and have higher earning potential.

Columbia River Fishers Defense, Portland and Hood River, $1,500
Funding for defense of Umatilla and Hood River Native Americans arrested for fishing convictions in their traditional waters was provided by this grant. It will help to assure a fair trial and will emphasize public education on the excessive force and electronic surveillance used in the arrests.

Comunidad Unida para Justicia, Woodburn, $1,700
This group was formed following the police killing of Jose Inez Munoz-Medina in October, 1983. Although one-third of Woodburn’s 12,000 people are of Mexican descent, there are no Spanish-speaking police. This grant supports a campaign for community investigations of alleged police abuses, officer education in the Spanish language and more representative hiring practices within the department.

Native American women show their art across Oregon as a way of organizing support for Native struggles. Photo supplied by Artistas Indigena.
HUMAN RIGHTS

Ebony Eyes, Eugene, $700
This grant sponsored an annual cultural event organized by Black women to organize and unify Lane County’s Black community by celebrating Afro-American achievements.

Edison Chiloquin Support Committee, Chiloquin, $1,000
This grant funded a traditional celebration on the sacred land Edison saved for the Klamath Indians in order to protect and support the indigenous culture. The event promoted the tribal unity necessary to obtain the restoration of tribal status by the federal government and, subsequently, sorely needed economic benefits.

Intertribal Council of Douglas County, Roseburg, $1,105
This grant funded a newsletter to link Native Americans in conservative Douglas County on issues of cultural education, health, mutual support and community building; it also promotes better understanding between Indian and non-Indian communities.

JAZMIN Marching Band, Portland, $1,000
This grant supported the N/NE Community Music Association’s new Afro-American drum project to reinforce the positive cultural heritage of black youth. The JAZMIN Marching band has been a dynamic addition to social change events in Northern Oregon.

Lesbian and Gay Pride, Portland, $1,400
Organizing for Lesbian and Gay Pride Week in June, 1984 was funded. This annual event included over 2,000 people in cultural presentations, voter registration and education, and gay rights issues in order to promote gay pride and educate the heterosexual community away from gay/lesbian stereotypes.

Mid-Valley Women’s Crisis Service, Salem, $500
The development of a public education project on the links between pornography and violence against women and children was funded.

Native American Heritage Association, Ft. McDermitt, $1,000
This grant supported the Paiute Tribe of Southeastern Oregon’s sponsorship of an intertribal Sun Dance to promote cultural survival and organizing under the difficult conditions of this large rural desert area east of the Cascades.

Oregon National Abortion Rights Action League, Astoria, $1,000
This funding was for coordination of house meetings in the Northwest corner of Oregon concerning preservation of the Constitutional protection of the freedom of choice and focusing on accessibility and funding of abortions for low-income, rural women.

Oregonians Against the Death Penalty, Portland, $1,500
A pamphlet and other public education on the disproportionately large number of people of color executed was the focus of this grant. Outreach to Hispanics, Blacks, Native Americans, and low-income whites is being emphasized.

People for South African Freedom, Eugene, $270
PSAF was able to expand the readership for their newsletter focusing on anti-apartheid economics work because of this grant.
Portland Black United Front, Portland, $1,500
Seed money was provided for the first two issues of the national Black United Front newspaper, *The Front Page*, published by the Portland chapter of BUF, covers issues affecting Black communities throughout the country.

Portland Lesbian Forum, Portland, $1,000
This grant will enable a well-known speaker/performer who records and documents Lesbian culture to participate in the first of a series of major annual events to strengthen the Lesbian community and counter homophobia.

Six Directions, Portland, $600
Two multi-cultural forums sponsored by this Native American group were funded. Their focus was to foster unity among people of color and support for the respective cultural traditions represented.

Valley Cultural Awareness, Milton-Freewater, $1,000
Crisis and mediation work to prevent racial violence and to promote understanding between Hispanics, Native Americans and Whites in Northeastern Oregon was made possible by this grant.

Vietnamese Association of Eugene, Eugene, $1,500
This is an independent association and the only one nationally with a woman president. The association will sponsor a series of seminars to assist the Vietnamese with acculturation (e.g. the changing roles of women and men) while preserving their cultural identity. Specific information on the process for becoming U.S. citizens will be given.

West Women’s Hotel, Portland, $1,250
This grant supports a childcare worker/parent educator to enable residents at an emergency shelter for women to seek employment and obtain the resources available to them.

Willamette Valley Law Project, Woodburn, $1,150
This grant helped WVLP find effective legal council for twelve Guatemalans and four Salvadoran refugees which resulted in their cases for asylum, based on fear for their lives, being sent to the U.S. State Department. All sixteen cases are still pending, thereby preventing deportation by immigration officials. This project is compelling serious examination of the dangers faced by Central American refugees.

Women’s Press, Eugene, $185
Funding for a women’s graphics service and a progressive news/feature service to improve publication of the oldest feminist newspaper on the West Coast.

World Music Foundation, Portland, $1,700
Because of this grant, Portland’s annual celebration of the world’s music and cultural diversity included the El Salvadoran exile group, Yolocamba Ita, which was one of the hits of this festival attended by 3,500 people. Their traditional music conveying the spirit of the Salvadoran people will subsequently be featured on KBOO, Portland’s public radio station.

Yolocamba Ita, El Salvadoran musicians in exile played at the World Music Festival in Portland thanks to a grant from MRG/Photo supplied by the World Music Foundation.
COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Burnside Community Council, Portland, $1,000
This grant supported the annual Hobo Parade. The homeless, unemployed and their supporters gathered afterwards for a rally in which speakers addressed issues affecting low-income people, the public record of candidates, and the need for voter registration.

Lane County Clients Council, Eugene, $1,250
This grant educated low-income people about the issues of importance to them, particularly candidates’ positions on the social service safety net. The Client Council’s newsletter and a series of workshops were the vehicles for this effort.

Lane Unemployment Project, Eugene, $1,200
Funding was provided for this project which organizes the unemployed in an area where many jobs in the dominant timber economy have disappeared. This grant was used to establish a store front office to give the unemployed an organizing center.

Northwest Working Press, Eugene, $850
Press rollers for Lane County’s press cooperative were purchased because of this grant. The Press assists social change group’s access to mass distribution of their public education materials.

Oregon Human SERVE Voter Registration, Portland, $1,400
This organization conducts voter registration drives in low-income communities. Their Hispanic Outreach Project, funded by this grant, includes publication of voter education and registration materials in Spanish to stimulate increased involvement of Hispanic people in the November, 1984 elections and, subsequently, greater recognition of their concerns.

The West End Co-operative Loan Fund, c/o MRG, Eugene, $36,354 FY Aid
This fund is a restricted revolving loan fund for programs aimed at providing high quality, low cost nutrition in Lane County. It was created by the organizers of the West End Food Co-operative and the Willamette Peoples’ Co-operative and has supported democratically-managed farms, restaurants, food producers, food distributing co-operatives, and food researchers with $107,500 in aid since early 1979.

Surata Soy Foods, loan ................. $ 7,062
Riverbrook Co-operative
Farm, loan ........................... 12,529
Genesis Juice Co-operative,
loan .................................. 9,500
Groundwork, EPA forestry research
on edible brush and how it protects
fir seedlings from deer and
mountain beaver, loan .................. 1,590
Organically Grown Co-operative,
loan .................................. 6,000
Grower’s Market Co-operative,
loan .................................. 500

TOTAL FY 83/84 LOANS: ............... $36,354

High school age women learn radio skills and gain access to the airwaves at KMUN-FM in Astoria/Photo supplied by North Coast Community Radio/KMUN-FM.

North Coast Community Radio, KMUN-FM, Astoria, $1,500 and $1,000
KMUN is a publicly owned FM station serving the Lower Columbia River Region. Their local public affairs programming was funded to expand the number of social change groups trained to use the station’s facilities. The second grant enabled area activists to confront candidates with social change issues on the air.
Alliance to Counter Militarism, Eugene, $1,400 and $1,700
This grant supported outreach by the Alliance (formerly Coalition Opposing Registration and the Draft) to high school and college students about their rights when faced with draft registration. Public education on the increasing militarization of U.S. society and foreign policy was also conducted.

Citizen Action for Lasting Security, Eugene, $1,400 and $1,200
The first grant focused on public outreach about the U.S. nuclear arms race budget. The second enabled educational canvassing on the production and testing of nuclear weapons.

Coastal Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Waldport, $1,500
Research has shown ten times the Los Angeles levels of cancer-causing particulates in smoke from forest slash burning along the Oregon coast. More immediate effects include increased incidences of pneumonia and other respiratory illnesses. This grant provides for air testing equipment and analysis as well as public education support and investigation into the effects of the forest herbicides present in the smoke.

Committee is Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene, $1,500 and $1,400
CISCAP’s first grant provided general support for this information and action network confronting U.S. involvement in Central America. CISCAP’s organization of an educational canvassing drive focusing on human rights, refugees, and U.S. military intervention in Central America was supported by the second grant.

Forelaws on Board, Boring, $1,600
Statewide educational work about the dangers of radioactive waste disposal in Oregon, particularly the Teledyne Wah Chang radioactive wastes that leak into the Willamette River near Albany, was sponsored by this grant.

GRACIAS, Eugene, $600
GRACIAS raises refugee relief funds for Guatemalans living in Southern Mexico’s camps and educates the public about the human rights violations the refugees are subjected to.

Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition, Eugene, $1,400
A public education “road show” to churches, Native American reservations, and community groups about the human costs of U.S. intervention in Central America as documented by refugees and church workers was funded by this grant.

North Coast People in Solidarity with Central America, Astoria, $300
This grant supports outreach to high schools, churches and labor groups in Northwestern Oregon about Central America.

Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Eugene, $1,500
NCAP’s recent court victory stopped toxic herbicide spraying on federal timber land in Oregon and Washington and the U.S. Forest Service’s aerial spraying of herbicides nationwide. This grant supports an education drive about the Reagan Administration’s EPA record on toxic substances, which emphasizes the often questionable economic benefits of chemicals over risks to humans.

Peace House, Ashland, $1,000
This grant provided support for the annual Southern Oregon Peace Festival. It insured participation by Native American and Third World speakers, as well as coverage of Central American and Nuclear Free Pacific issues.

People’s Test Ban, Portland, $1,400
This grant supported the Oregon Outreach Project of this organization focusing on Canadian-U.S. coalition work to ban the testing of Cruise missiles across terrain similar to that of Russia.

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, Portland, $1,400
A staff position to coordinate public education about U.S. intervention in Central America and raise funds for refugees was supported.

Southern Oregon Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides, Grants Pass, $1,200
This grant supported pesticide reform organizing and public education in rural Southern Oregon, with development of grassroots fundraising as an emphasis. Initial outreach for an Hispanic migrant worker project was included.

Norma Grier, NCAP Director, and Ralph Bradley, environmental attorney, following their major court victory based on the failure of federal timber agencies to acknowledge potential risks of pesticide exposure. Photo by Peter Jensen.
MRG Board of Directors: front row, left to right: Judy Albrecht, President and Co-chairperson, Sharon Hashimoto, Misa Joo. Back row, left to right: Cheyney Ryan, James L. Mason, also an MRG Grantmaker, Ray Willard, and Paul Bestler, Secretary-Treasurer. Not pictured: Mary O’Brien and Ben Priestly, Co-chairperson. Photo by Peter Jensen.

Judy Albrecht, Co-chairperson; works against war, for Hospice and for alternative mental health programs such as Halfway House Services, Inc.

Paul Bestler, Treasurer; works as a carpenter. Paul is also on the boards of OUR Federal Credit Union, White Bird Clinic, and Growers Market.

Sharon Hashimoto works within the Asian community and against racism. She has also worked with women in the prison system and with children in the Black community at the CRIB. Sharon grew up in Hawaii.

Misa Joo, a member of the Asian community. Misa does anti-racism work, multi-cultural education and work for an anti-racist peace movement. Misa is a school teacher.

James L. Mason, also a Grantmaker; works with alienated youth and the administration of justice in the Black community. James can be seen in productions by the Portland Opera company.

Mary H. O’Brien, a botanist, is editor and information coordinator at Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides and an activist with disarmament and reproductive rights groups. Mary works on women’s political campaigns and, each summer, backpacks in wilderness areas.

Ben Priestley, Co-chairperson; social worker active in community organizing primarily in the Black community. Ben is a Vietnam veteran. He edits the national Black United Front newspaper, The Front Page.

Cheyney Ryan, does anti-military and anti-racism work, active also in trade union organizing and local theater. Cheyney teaches college.

Ray Willard works for civil rights, racial equality, equal opportunity in employment and housing for Third World communities. Ray is a grower of Bonsai trees.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Leslie Brockelbank, was a member of the Development Committee this year. Leslie is active with Clergy and Laity Concerned and works against war.

Jack Gray, former Board member; a farmer and member of the MRG Development Committee. Jack is active in fund-raising for MRG.

Peter Jensen, MRG Director, see inside back cover.

Howard Shapiro, member of the Development Committee this year. See his write-up as an MRG Grantmaker.

Doug Sherman, is also a member of the MRG Development Committee, active in planning and fund-raising. Doug is a school teacher.

Linda Reymers, MRG Associate Director, see inside back cover.
Debra Cook works with a Black women’s cultural group, Ebony Eyes and with Clergy and Laity Concerned on racial justice issues. Sarah Cook works with a community radio station and is active in lesbian rights and other feminist issues.

Mary Lynn Cumings worked as an MRG consultant in 1983. She was on the Grantmaking Committee for two years. Beginning Fall, 1984 she will help edit Eugene Magazine. Vietta Helme works on issues of poverty and women and is director of a Salem area women’s crisis center and shelter.

Diane Hess is active in Central American solidarity work and is a client-advocate for low-income people in the Portland area.

Peter Jensen, MRG Director. (See inside back cover.)

Robin Johnson is active in the Native American community and with women’s issues.

James Mason (see listing in Board of Director’s section).

Linda Reymers, MRG Associate Director. (See inside back cover.)

Ada Sanchez is national disarmament field coordinator for Fellowship of Reconciliation, and is on the Board of Directors for the Funding Exchange. She is also active in Third World, non-intervention, civil rights and feminist issues.

Susana Santos is a Native American artist working with Artistas Indigena. She is active in feminist, Native American, peace and non-intervention issues.

Ruben Sholander works with the Chicano Affairs Center in Eugene addressing the needs of the Spanish-speaking community.

Mary Sellin is a small business owner who works on pesticide reform, violence against women and is involved with a north coast community radio station.

Howard Shapiro is a media consultant in the Portland area with a special interest in social change in Oregon. Also on the Development Committee.

Michael Stoops works with low-income people in Portland’s Burnside community and does draft and military counseling.

Jill Heiman, Attorney, a consultant for non-profit and tax-exempt public interest organizations. Jill has served as MRG’s attorney since its inception in 1976.

Patrick V. Ventura, CPA; besides doing our annual audits, Pat has served as technical advisor to MRG. He also works as an auditor and consultant for several other non-profit organizations.
## Financial Report

### McKenzie River Gathering

#### Balance Sheet

**June 30, 1984**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand</td>
<td>$915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank—unrestricted (Note 2)</td>
<td>37,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in bank—restricted</td>
<td>21,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable—brokerage acct.</td>
<td>4,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfund receivable</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans and note receivable, current (Note 3)</td>
<td>16,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>$80,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans and note receivable, long-term (Note 3)</td>
<td>70,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment, at cost (Note 1)</td>
<td>1,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: accumulated depreciation (Note 1)</td>
<td>(409)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total equipment</td>
<td>1,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$151,383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll taxes payable</td>
<td>1,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable—funding cycle</td>
<td>8,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable—donor-advised</td>
<td>1,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>12,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted, West End Co-operative Fund</td>
<td>$107,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in equipment</td>
<td>1,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted—Undesignated</td>
<td>$26,458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>—Designated for donor-advised grant purposes (Note 2)</td>
<td>5,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total fund balances</td>
<td>138,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities and fund balances</td>
<td>$151,383</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

---

### Statement of Support, Revenues and Expenses

**For the year ended June 30, 1984**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support and Revenues</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions—general</td>
<td>$181,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions—restricted</td>
<td>26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted fund interest</td>
<td>2,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising income</td>
<td>6,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenues</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain (loss) on sale of securities</td>
<td>(1,088)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total support and revenues</td>
<td>214,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants made—general</td>
<td>141,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broker fees</td>
<td>795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising expense</td>
<td>12,081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total direct expenses</td>
<td>154,517</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>18,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>7,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>1,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff child care</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copying and printing</td>
<td>816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings and conferences expense</td>
<td>2,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment maintenance and expense</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>1,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll taxes and insurance</td>
<td>1,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous expense</td>
<td>933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation (Note 1)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted fund expense</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and licenses</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total administrative expenses</td>
<td>32,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>187,347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excess of support and revenues over expenses | $27,413
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 1984

NOTE 1—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
Organization—McKenzie River Gathering is a non-profit publicly supported foundation exempt from income taxation under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).
Donated Assets—Assets received as contributions are stated at the fair market value of such assets at date of contribution.
Equipment and Depreciation—Equipment is depreciated by the straight-line method of depreciation over the estimated useful life of the equipment.

NOTE 2—FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR DONOR-AIDEOS GRANT PURPOSES.
At June 30, 1984, $3,579 of cash funds were available from two donor funds and designated for subsequent donor-advised grants.

NOTE 3—LOANS AND NOTE RECEIVABLE
At June 30, 1984, loans and note receivable consisted of:
 Loans from West End Co-operative Fund
Riverbrook Farm Co-operative ........................ $16,300
Thistle Organics ........................................ 1,072
Surata Soyfoods, Inc. ................................. 18,730
Amity Foundation ...................................... 7,457
Organically Grown Co-operative ........................ 17,501
Selstic Bakery Collective ............................. 1,822
Genesis Juice Co-operative ........................... 4,873
Growers Market ........................................ 500

Subtotal—WEF loans .................................. 61,555

Note receivable from Zoo Zoo's Natural Foods Restaurant Collective, assigned to the West End Co-operative Fund by a donor in June 1984 ................................ 25,000

Total loans and note receivable ..................... $86,555

NOTE 4—PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT
The unrestricted fund balance at July 1, 1983 has been adjusted to correct the amount of grant commitments reported in the year ending June 30, 1983. Had the grant commitments been correctly stated in the year ending June 30, 1983, the excess of revenues over expenses for that year would have been increased by $5,905.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
for the year ended June 30, 1984

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund balances, July 1, 1983, as previously reported</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Investment in equipment</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Total fund balances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior period adjustment—correction of grants reported as payable at June 30, 1983 (Note 4)</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>——</td>
<td>3,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances July 1, 1983, as restated</td>
<td>79,700</td>
<td>1,076</td>
<td>30,587</td>
<td>111,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficiency) of support and revenues over expenses</td>
<td>28,166</td>
<td>(200)</td>
<td>(547)</td>
<td>27,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund transfers—net</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>(203)</td>
<td>——</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances, June 30, 1984</td>
<td>$107,855</td>
<td>$1,086</td>
<td>$29,837</td>
<td>$138,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Patrick N. Ventura
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
895 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, SUITE A-140
EUGENE, OREGON 97401
(503) 683-1484

I have examined the balance sheet of McKenzie River Gathering as of June 30, 1984 and the related statements of support, revenues and expenses and of changes in fund balances for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, include such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, the aforementioned financial statements present fairly the financial position of McKenzie River Gathering as of June 30, 1984, and the results of its operations and the changes in its fund balances for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Patrick N. Ventura
Eugene, Oregon
September 14, 1984
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Carl & Margery Abbott  
Eric Ackerson  
Ronda Adams  
Ann Allen & James R. Klonski  
Ala Al-Bazzaz  
Judy & John Albrecht  
Barbara Aldave  
Jo Alexander & Bob Durnell  
Maxine Alex-Martinnie  
Doris R. Alten  
American Friends Service Committee, Portland office  
Anacortes Yacht Charters  
Dorothy & Frank Anderson  
Susan Anderson  
David & Nancy Arnold  
Roger Auerbach/Oregon Federation of Teachers AFL-CIO  
Alice Aughinbaugh  
Dr. Roger Axford  
Laleah & Hugh Bacon  
Dean Baker, journalist  
Richard Baker  
Paula Jean & Robert Ballard  
Catherine Barker  
R. Jerold & Katherine Baum  
Joan Bayliss  
Shawn M. Baz  
Nedra B. Bellloc  
Dr. Richard & Paula Belsey  
Mark Benson  
Daniel Benza  
Linda D. Bernhardt  
Brenda Berstein  
Paul Bestler  
Ann & Thomas Bettman  
Margaret Beyer  
Judah Bierman  
Nancy Biggins  
Randi & Raymond Birn  
Katherine A. Black  
Mariana T. Bloch  
Jane Bloom, KBOO-FM  
Blue Plate Special/KLC-FM  
Michael Bogar  
Barbara Bohm  
Ellen Bondurant  
Ross Bonduart  
Paul & Irene Bonney  
Erdon Boothe  
Mary Borroff  
Artlee Boyce  
Tom & Kristine Bowserman  
Jill D. Bradley  
Janice Brandsrom  
Diane Breisford  
David Brillienger  
Leslie Brockelbank  
Mary Brockelbank  
Jeanne Buell  
Leah Burman  
Doret Burnett  
Guy Burton  
Campaign for Human Development  
Fanny & George Carroll  
Glen Carpenter  
Mariateresa Carter  
Greg A. Chaille  
Thayer Cheatham  
Dorothy & Chapin Clark  
H. Ray Clark  
Maurie Clark  
Olivia Clark  
William Clark & Tracy Woodruff  
Maurice Cline  
Clifton Street Quarterly  
Jan Eker  
A Book Shop  
Julia Conklin  
Debra Cook  
Marylee M. Cook  
Sarah Cook  
Nancy & Allan Coons  
Tanis C. Cordes  
Joy Cowan  
Georgia & John Crompton  
Mary Lynn Cummings  
Kenneth Curry  
Nicky Daniel  
Linda Danielson  
Mark Davis  
Virginia Davis/AFSC  
Peter DeLeuw  
Lane deMoll  
Virginia DeMorris  
Anthony deRiggi  
Elizabeth & Steve Deutsch  
Anne L. Dick  
Jerome L. Dodson/Working Assets  
Money Fund  
Allen G. Dresser  
Marlene Drescher  
Georgia Duncan  
Joyce Duncan  
Karen & Richard Duran  
E & D Services  
Jack Douglass  
Katherine & Burt Eaton  
Jeffrey S. Edmundson  
Melva & Shawn Edrington-Boles  
Jeanne Edwards  
Ken Elliot  
Jain Elliott  
Lorraine Ellis  
Eugene & Barbora Emge  
J. & Margaret Enderle  
Jeanne & John Erter  
Eugene Print Shop  
Alice M. Evans  
Herb Everett  
Kimberly Ewing  
Nanci Fadley/我又方/XFM  
Bill Farver & Kathy Gordon  
Roger F. Fearn  
Peter Fels & Nancy Helget  
Carol Feinberg  
Ann & Dave Fidanque  
Doug Fine  
Bob Fitch  
Pam Fitzpatrick  
Helene Flapaz  
Joyce Follingstad  
Jane M. Fowler  
Ruth & Herman Frankel  
Dr. Bazi J. Freedman  
Louise & Paul Fritz  
William Fritz & Anne Greenfield  
Teressa & Dick Frizell  
Florence Gallop  
Alison Garland  
Tom Gaunt/Oregon Magazine  
Carolyn Geiger & Dale Flowers  
Nancy & Paul Gerhardt  
James Gerrish  
Ted Gies  
Howard & Jace Glazer  
Marion & Paul Goldmand  
Norma Goldstein  
Sylvia Goodman  
Karen L. Gorder  
Grace A. Grantham  
Jack Gray & Mary Jo Wade & Sam Joan Gray & Harris Hoffman  
Carol Green  
Louis & Didi Greenfield  
James Greenfield  
Alice Greth  
Marianne Griffe  
Joyce Gudger  
Joanne H. Gulsvig  
Cynthia Guyer/Youth Project, Portland  
Western office  
Paul Haible, Vanguard Public Foundation  
Joanne E. Haines  
John C. Hale  
Martha & Robert Hale-Abshear  
Eileen Hamblin  
Kathleen Hamilton  
Roselyn R. Handy  
Charles & Elaine Harris  
Teressa & Stephen Harter  
Blane R. Hayes  
William J. Hawks  
Steve Hecker  
Sharon & Tom Heger  
Jill Heimen  
Don Hein/KLC-FM  
Hazel E. Heller  
Vietta Helme  
Sarah S. Hendrickson  
Aleli & Robert Hennusse  
Carsten Henningsen  
Sydney & Edward Herbert  
George & Ruth Hermach  
William S. Herz  
Diane Hess  
George Hill  
Larry Hill  
Barbara Hirschman  
Frances C. Holland  
Sally Human  
A.K. Hottel  
Meta Hough  
Ann Mallory Hubard  
Mark L. Hughes  
Phil Hughes  
Charles Humble/Oregonian  
Wanda Hurtt  
Katherine Hyett  
Karen Irmsher  
A. Lorraine Ironikow  
Frank J. Irvin  
Zann Jacobson & Jonah Peter Jensen  
Jody Coyote Jewelry  
Diane E. Johnson  
Doris A. Johnson & Janet Kozel Waters  
Karen Johnson  
Margaret M. Johnson  
Marvin Johnson  
Mary Johnson  
Michael Johnson  
Rebecca Johnson  
Robin Johnson  
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Galal Kernahan  
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Unemployed millworkers enjoy lunch provided at a rally for "Jobs With Peace" sponsored by the Lane Unemployment Project. Photo by Fred Lasie.
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Charles Wallin
Cheryl Wallin
Ethan & Catherine Walther
Keith Walton
Janet & Steve Webster
Fred Wensky
Grace & Ed Weinstein
Jan Westwater
What's Happening
Kathi White
Daniel Wilder
Ray Willard
B. Curtis Willcox
Christopher & Priscilla Williams
Howard D. Willis
Sherry Wilmson
Denise Wulson
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Cruise missile float in 1984 annual Hobo Parade of the unemployed and homeless in Portland/Photo by Bob Collins
MRG’s growth over the past eight years was made possible by the consistent support of its growing and diverse group of donors in Oregon. Although donors with inherited wealth are MRG’s traditional supporters, most MRG donors are not wealthy, and their contributions come from their salaries and savings. Larger donors encourage many other gifts by the size of their donations, and smaller donors encourage others by their numbers. What MRG donors have in common is a commitment to funding change, not charity, in Oregon. MRG enables you to fund vital groups close to home rather than have your money go to taxes. This is a very effective form of opposition to current government priorities and budgeted deficits—perhaps even as powerful as your vote!

**Services to donors**

MRG grantmaking is our primary service to donors. Wide outreach throughout Oregon is done for each funding cycle—we see far more than the assorted appeal letters on your desk. Local Oregon activists, with state-wide interests and experience, thoroughly evaluate all proposals while making funding decisions. Follow-up reports monitor grant effectiveness. Your donations go to the most timely and viable projects. (See funding cycle grant write-ups beginning on pages 4 and 5.)

MRG also administers and evaluates donor-advised gifts. (See FY 83/84 list on page 4.) The donor chooses the issue area (within MRG granting criteria), the geographic area, and nominates grantees. In FY 83/84 MRG administered over $70,000 in donor-advised gifts. MRG staff work with donors to insure that the donor’s intentions and the purposes of MRG are carried out.

There is an MRG donor group made up of people who have contributed $250 or more in the last fiscal year. This is a support group of people who meet to discuss personal and money issues. This year, forty-seven people were eligible to go to these meetings. Coming out of this group’s interest in investments that “do well while doing good,” MRG sponsored a forum on “Socially Responsible Investing in the 1980’s” on April 8, 1984. 180 people attended, making this the most successful forum of its kind nationally this year. Four speakers (see photos above) covered topics such as the weaknesses of traditional investment advisors, the proven earning power of good politics, creativity when choosing investments, new socially-conscious money market funds, local economic development by banks with socially responsible investment policies, and how unions apply socially responsible investment criteria to their large pension funds. For follow-up in this next year, MRG would like to sponsor more Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) activities such as: SRI opportunities in Oregon, Women and Money, and new national and regional developments for investors.

Our main work, however, continues to be creative community, tax-exempt grantmaking. As a member of the FUNDING EXCHANGE and the National Network of Grantmakers, MRG can put donors in touch with other community-based funds and national and international projects that are worth funding. MRG can provide active donors with information about national and regional donor meetings.

In addition, MRG has several publications that are useful to donors. The 1983-84 Funding Exchange Directory of Socially Responsible Investments and MRG’s own SRI Directory for Oregon give potential investors contacts in this rapidly maturing field. The Gift Giving Guide outlines methods and tax implications of making donations, and Robin Hood Was Right addresses a wide variety of issues involved in having money and being for social change.

**Finding New Donors**

Over 500 people donated more than $207,600 through MRG this fiscal year. We surpassed some of our most important goals for this year: for example, we planned to raise $100,000 in general contributions, and we raised over $107,000! Two hundred more people wrote out checks to MRG this year than last. These MRG donors come from more communities in Oregon than ever. Our dream of being Oregon’s state-wide social change foundation becomes more real with each passing year.

Current donors play an important part in our outreach to new donors. They do this by hosting informational meetings about MRG, asking friends and relatives to become involved with MRG, and working with one of two MRG fundraising committees and staff. You can make your contribution even more effective by helping MRG find new donors.

**Ways to Contribute**

Since MRG is not a currently endowed foundation, we must continually raise money for ongoing grant making. There are many ways to contribute to MRG: cash, checks, pledges, stocks, property, donor agreements and bequests through wills.

- **checks**—please make payable to McKenzie River Gathering Foundation
- **pledges**—gifts pledged for specific amounts at specific times allow MRG to plan ahead more effectively
- **stocks and property**—there are very favorable tax consequences of giving appreciated stocks and/or property directly to MRG
- **donor agreements**—agreement terms with individuals or incorporated donors can be designed to fit social change purposes and MRG’s tax-exempt program
- **wills**—a bequest to MRG can be part of your will
- **endowments**—we are hoping to become an endowed, public foundation and have prepared ourselves to manage long-range resources

We hope you will contact us with new ideas about creative donations and grantmaking. We suggest verifying details of specific arrangements with your accountant or lawyer as we do at MRG. Remember, up to 50% of adjusted gross income can be exempted from tax by donating to the McKenzie River Gathering Foundation for social change in Oregon.
While MRG may be unlike most foundations, we are not unique—not in our social change perspective nor in our source of support nor in our activist grantmaking committee. Instead we have been in part created by and the creator of many similar foundations throughout the country. These foundations, now nine in number, formally interact and reinforce each other through the Funding Exchange.

- **Bread and Roses Community Fund**, Philadelphia
- **Common Capital Foundation**, Washington, D.C.
- **Crossroads Fund**, Chicago
- **Fund for Southern Communities**, Atlanta, serving the Carolinas and Georgia
- **Haymarket People’s Fund**, Boston, serving New England
- **Liberty Hill Foundation**, Los Angeles, serving Southern California
- **McKenzie River Gathering Foundation**, Eugene, serving Oregon
- **North Star Fund**, New York City
- **Vanguard Public Foundation**, San Francisco, serving Northern California

When MRG was just starting in 1976, the existing other funds pooled their experience and donor contacts to help create our growing base of support. Since then, the Funding Exchange has played a role in creating community-based funds that are now in the developmental stage.

- **Common Wealth Fund**, Seattle, serving Washington State
- **Live Oak Fund**, Austin, serving Texas
- **People’s Resource of Southwest Ohio**, Dayton, serving Dayton, Cincinnati and SW Ohio
- **Wisconsin Community Fund**, Madison, serving Wisconsin

There are also funds beginning in Baltimore and Minnesota. In time, we’d like to see similar funds in all parts of the country.

Over the past six years, the Funding Exchange has provided intensive technical assistance and $270,000 in developmental grants from the larger funds to the newer and smaller funds. This has enabled the newer funds to develop their fund raising potential while maintaining a solid level of grants.

Over the years all member funds have been strengthened by working together. Often one fund will learn of a potential donor in another fund’s region and pass along the information.

Publicity generated by the national office has brought in additional donors. Publications such as the *Gift-Giving Guide: Methods and Tax Implications of Giving Away Money* and the *Directory of Socially Responsible Investments* both provide invaluable information and insights for donor financial planning.

Each year, staff members from funds in the exchange meet for professional skills workshops. The Funding Exchange also started similar meetings for activist grantmakers and board members in 1984. In the past four years, the Funding Exchange has built up its largest project—National Community Funds—which makes donor-advised grants to projects nationwide. This fully self-sufficient program now employs a three and a half member staff and made grants of more than $1.6 million in 1983. These grants tend to go to regions in which we do not have a community-based fund. These grants also complement the funding of local foundations by funding projects with national and international scope. In 1983, the Funding Exchange Board established a general fund for National Community Funds to make unrestricted grants to underfunded areas to complement its existing donor-advised funds.

Like all member funds, MRG has committed a substantial portion of staff and volunteer activist time to the Funding Exchange. For social change work in Oregon to have lasting impact, similar work throughout the country must be supported.

**FUNDING EXCHANGE & NATIONAL COMMUNITY FUNDS**

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**MRG STAFF**

**Peter Jensen**, MRG director since 1982. Peter worked as MRG Eugene office director from 1976–1982. Peter has helped many groups searching for funding with MRG and other foundations. Social change interests are peace, non-intervention & local economic development for jobs based on care for the environment. He works as volunteer staff for the West End Cooperative Loan Fund. Personal interests include writing, photography, the arts, boating and volleyball.

**Linda Reymers** has been involved with MRG for five years as the representative of a grantee organization, as a grantmaker, and now as Associate Director. She has been active in feminist and non-intervention issues. Linda has been a staffperson/fundraiser for the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides for six years and is a grantwriting consultant for social change groups.
Each dot on this chart represents the firepower of World War II. All the dots together equal the combined firepower of the nuclear arsenals of the U.S. & the U.S.S.R.