annual MRG McKenzie River Gathering Foundation report 1998-99

Change not Charity
SOCIAL CHANGE, n. 1. The structural transformation of political, social and economic systems and institutions to create a more equitable and just society. 2. Proponents target the underlying causes of critical social problems such as homelessness, discrimination, and poverty. 3. While a variety of organizing and advocacy methods are utilized, social change organizations are characterized by the activism, cooperation, persistence, and dedication of their members. (example: An association of people with developmental disabilities work collectively to address issues of discrimination by empowering its members to advocate for themselves and collectively challenge service providers, government agencies, and other institutions to ensure equal access and rights for developmentally disabled people.)

syn.: community empowerment, just society, common good, grassroots democracy, accountability.

ant.: status quo, charity, business as usual, temporary solutions.

Definition courtesy of Headwaters Fund.
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bottom, Pickaxe Productions, Eugene

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Linda Reyners, Grants Director
Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “We move from the quicksands of social injustice to the solid rock of human dignity.” Social justice will be won over time; it is the small victories along the way that build a solid foundation toward long-term systemic change. Key to this foundation upon which to build our communities is the need for an infrastructure of financial support.

We invite you to join with hundreds of other Oregonians funding this critical work.

In fact, at a time when we are saturated with hype about the opportunities created by a bull market, low interest rates, and record unemployment, it can be tempting to ease into a state of complacency. History shows us that “boom times” always go bust while a long-term investment will yield higher rewards. So it is with the struggle for progressive social change. Those fighting for socially and ecologically sound economic alternatives premised on human worth and environmental preservation continue to build solid and diverse communities.

Since 1976, MRG has remained committed to investing in progressive grassroots organizations throughout Oregon. We remain committed to funding the fight to show the “other side of the story.” Hidden among the hyperbole exuding the virtues of a market economy are the stories detailing the lack of living wage jobs, the loss of the safety net by the passage of the Welfare Reform Act, record numbers incarcerated and mandatory minimums for first time offenders. Dig a little deeper and you will see that despite low interest rates, fewer can afford to purchase homes. Delve further in and you will no doubt find warnings about environmental degradation and the impact on surrounding communities, most often low-income, and people of color communities.

The 48 groups funded by MRG this past year each add a new chapter to the story. Each advances work in the issues we fund: human rights, economic justice, environmental protection, peace, and international solidarity. The story is filled with pictures of hope as the 11 groups funded through our critical response grants took their voices to the street to challenge injustice. The five groups receiving travel grants took their expertise to the road, and brought home words of wisdom learned from activists on the front lines of the struggle for social justice in other areas of the world.

A dollar is not value, but representative of value, and, at last, of moral values.

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

We can each take pride in knowing we did not remain silent, nor did we become complacent. It is in the spirit of celebration we offer you this annual report detailing the tremendous work being done throughout the state. In all, we granted almost $500,000 to progressive organizations—including the launch of our new funding initiative Project Connect—in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999.

MRG thanks each one of you for your role in making our 23rd year a success. MRG: change, not charity.
AIDS Support and Prevention of Josephine County, Grants Pass, $2,000
For: Developing communications, public education, networking and outreach through technology. ASAP has developed this project in response to the particular conditions limiting conventional communication; these concerns include safety in a predominantly rural county being considered by the Ku Klux Klan for its national headquarters.

Blue Mountain Biodiversity Project, Fossil, $4,000
For: A project challenging federal agency/corporate land exchanges of public lands in a region containing 65% of the state’s forests. Land exchanges typically undervalue public land, overvalue private land, and misrepresent the actual level of old growth being traded away.

Cascadia Wildlands Project, Eugene, $4,000
For: Defending native forests by monitoring destructive, unsustainable resource extraction practices in wild places. They are mobilizing the public to challenge government-sponsored forest clear-cutting, road building, and mining while promoting responsible stewardship practices.

Members of Comite Cipriano Ferrel of PCUN holding the first collective bargaining agreement ever in Oregon Agriculture, signed on Cesar Chavez Day, March 31, 1998.

Alliance of Forest Workers and Harvesters, Mt. Angel, $5,000
For: Seed funding for multicultural organization promoting social, environmental and economic justice for forest workers and harvesters. They are building an active membership and leadership, defining community issues, and developing a network of core groups that bridge the language and cultural differences among their members.

Brother to Brother, Portland, $4,000
For: Organizing African-American gay and bisexual men to have a voice in decisions that shape their lives. They are opposing the radical right, combating the spread of HIV in communities of color, and confronting racism and homophobia.

Centro de Ayuda, Newport, $3,000
For: General support for organization challenging racism and promoting cultural awareness. They are forming coalitions with other groups, gaining attention for their issues through events and media, and providing advocacy and intervention on housing, healthcare, employment and educational issues.
Coastal AIDS Network, Lincoln City, $2,000
For: General support for project countering the intolerance that deters people from learning about safe sex and from taking advantage of health care services. Activities include lesbian/gay/bisexual outreach, community building, advocacy, public education, and referral services.

Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene, $4,000
For: Developing organizational diversity, coalition work and new leadership. CI$CAP links social and economic justice work in the U.S. and Latin America.

Community Alliance of Lane County, Eugene, $9,000
For: General support for CALC's leadership in challenging bigotry and promoting human rights. Programs include Communities Against Hate, Youth for Justice, and Immigrant Rights.

Community Alliance of Tenants, Portland, $8,000
For: The Tenant Organizing Project will organize tenants to secure institutional changes ensuring renters' access to stable, safe housing. The rise in rents is twice that of wages in the Portland area, which now has fewer units of affordable housing available.

Community Networking Technologies/Netcorps, Eugene, $7,000
For: Support for group whose goal is to assist Oregon's progressive movement to conserve resources, develop coalitions, improve communication, and increase the time available to achieve programmatic goals through the use of technology. Funds will be used to train a corps of young adults to provide computer training to grassroots social change groups statewide.

Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue, Coos Bay, $4,000
For: Cultural survival project by descendents of the area's few Native Americans that were not removed from their aboriginal homeland in the 1800s. A major focus is their annual "gathering of the people" to ensure preservation of tradition and encourage multiculturalism in the larger SW Oregon community.

Danzine, Portland, $5,000
For: General support for grassroots organization dedicated to improving the health, safety and human rights of sex workers. They are training women as peer educators and labor organizers to effectively address HIV prevention and the dehumanization of sex workers.

Eaglecap AIDS Support Team, La Grande, $3,000
For: Outreach project in remote Wallowa County to expand awareness and community participation in prevention efforts. EAST is providing education on issues including homophobia, gender and HIV in three conservative eastern Oregon counties.

El Programa de Ayuda, Bend, $3,000
For: Seed funding to organize the fast-growing mono-lingual Latino population in Central Oregon. Their program includes social service advocacy, crisis intervention, leadership development, and immigration support.

Environmental Justice Action Group, Portland, $6,000
For: Program organizing their grassroots membership around issues of health, safety and environmental justice in North/Northeast Portland. Included will be long-term organizational planning, membership development, a newsletter, a speaker's bureau, and a youth leadership development initiative.

Fair Share/Oregon Action, Portland, $6,000
For: Membership organizing drive to build their base to reflect the predominantly low-income and racially diverse character of North/Northeast Portland. Oregon Action's economic justice programs consist of: Money in Politics, Living Wage Agenda, Tax Fairness, and Devolution (of federal "safety net programs").
Fair Share/Rogue Valley Oregon Action, Medford, $5,000
For: The Living Wage Jobs Project which addresses issues facing the working poor in Oregon. A major success is their ability to bridge traditional barriers of race and class to unite low-wage workers, environmentalists, churches, unions, farmworkers and community groups for economic justice.

Headwaters/Progressive Coalition of Southern Oregon, Ashland, $6,000
For: Coordination of a new multi-constituency/multi-racial alliance of organizations working for economic, social, and environmental justice. The alliance is seeking to transform its member organizations and the progressive movement as they address diversity issues and develop a common vision through support of one another's work.

Human Rights Coalition of Jackson County, Medford, $3,000
For: General support to increase their ability to do outreach, alliance building, and project implementation. Activities include monitoring conditions in farmworker labor camps, sponsoring a regional housing conference, and addressing hate group activity.

Human Dignity Coalition, Bend, $2,000
For: Through public education, visibility events, and coalition building, HDC works to increase community awareness in the Central Oregon region. Their goal is to stave off the far right's attempts to shift public policy against minorities.

Illinois Valley Task Force on Social Justice, Cave Junction, $5,000
For: Projects to mobilize area activists around social and environmental justice issues. They are developing a county wide network, educational events, a rapid response program, and outreach to isolated rural areas.

Jefferson Center, Wolf Creek, $5,000
For: General support for association of Southeast Asian, Latino, Native American, and Euro-American forest products workers addressing labor, environmental, and ethnic relations issues. Included will be regional gatherings of workers and a participatory-research project providing an inside analysis of the forest products contract system.

Lambda Community Center Association, Ashland, $3,000
For: Southern Oregon Youth Outreach, a program of this sexual minority community center addressing the conflict and discrimination participants experience at home and school. Many of the youth involved come from conservative rural areas, from as far away as Klamath Falls.

Lesbian Community Project, Portland, $5,000
For: General support for the renewal of LCP through improving their organizational infrastructure and political organizing. LCP will work to have their members see their liberation as intrinsically linked with that of all people who experience discrimination while helping other organizations incorporate anti-homophobia in their work.

Love Makes A Family, Portland, $4,000
For: Parent Teacher Action Project to make public schools inclusive and safe for students of all sexual orientations. This group provides a voice to their 1,200 members who are involved in families headed by sexual minorities.

Multicultural Association of Southern Oregon, Medford, $2,000
For: Multicultural Kids Camp providing a safe and productive environment for 400 children from different backgrounds to learn about other cultures. The camp will help children resist stereotyping, discrimination, and cultural misunderstanding in a region that is experiencing an influx of far right groups.
Multicultural HIV/AIDS Alliance of Oregon, Portland, $8,000
For: Coalition developing and promoting a competent, culturally appropriate HIV prevention and service delivery system. Their meetings throughout the state immerse participants in a variety of cultures so that they can effectively advocate together for all communities.

Neighborhood Women, Portland, $5,000
For: The Women’s Leadership Training Program which will assist participants in developing and maintaining women’s leadership support groups. They organize women to address the most pressing issues in their communities—from land use to racism to affordable housing.

Network for Immigrant Justice, Eugene, $5,000
For: General support for their ongoing work to counter anti-immigrant efforts and promote broad support for immigrant rights and justice. NIJ members include Latino organizations, human and civil rights groups, and labor and international solidarity groups from the south Willamette Valley.

North Coast Pride Network, Astoria, $2,000
For: Increasing the strength, productivity and infrastructure of a new resource center. The center exists to provide visibility and support for the region’s sexual minority community, and to challenge homophobic stereotypes, myths, and bigotry.

ONE/Portland Taiko, Portland, $4,000
For: Cultural organizing by Asian-American drum performance group through the “Bridge Project: Reaching Across Historical Divides Between Japanese American and Filipino American Communities”. This performance piece involves members of both communities in its development and helps to create a more unified voice in addressing common experiences of racism and discrimination.

Oregon American Disabled for Attendant Programs Today, Portland, $5,000
For: Seed funding for group working to make access to programs for people with disabilities more equitable and accessible. People with disabilities are mobilized by ADAPT to challenge barriers through high visibility media events.

Oregon NARAL, Eugene, $3,000
For: General support focusing on maintaining a regional organizer serving Lane, Benton, Linn, and Jackson Counties. They will increase their participation in coalitions with non-traditional allies in order to broaden the base of those who promote reproductive choice.

Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, Depoe Bay, $5,000
For: Developing OSCC’s Coast Watch program to mobilize its 740 participants into a network of grassroots community groups. Coast Watch volunteers each monitor a mile of Oregon coastline; they are taking the next step by joining together to promote collective activist responses in their communities and statewide.

Oregon Tradeswomen Network, Portland, $5,000
For: Implementing OTN’s Tradeswomen Organizing Project to build a statewide membership base, develop leadership, and mobilize rural OTN groups. OTN works to end discrimination and sexual harassment, create safer workplaces, and educate women and girls about opportunities in the trades.

"An injury To One is an Injury To All"

Cross-Border Paint-A-Thon, PCASC
Peace House, Ashland, $3,500
For: General support for southern Oregon’s peace and justice center, whose programs address youth outreach, firearm issues, foreign policy, economic justice, and anti-bignotry.

Pickaxe Productions, Eugene, $3,000
For: Production of a video documentary telling the story of the largest and most successful grassroots campaign to stop old-growth logging in Oregon. The video will be used by organizers to mobilize the public; it will portray the power of ordinary citizens to effectively challenge environmental destruction.

Portland Central America Central America Solidarity Committee, $7,000
For: General support for this group working to oppose military and economic intervention in Latin America. They will use their grant to support their immigrant rights theater project and work with the Cross Border Labor Organizing Coalition.

Portland Network for Immigrant Rights, $3,500
For: Seed funding for work building leadership among immigrant communities and promoting immigrant rights. As the first coalition of groups addressing immigrant rights in the metro area, they will advance the work from reactive emergency efforts put forth by individual organizations to a proactive, coordinated movement.

Rural Organizing Project, Scappoose, $8,000
For: General support for this statewide network of human rights groups that will focus on strengthening member group capacity to take on local issues and respond statewide. ROP is developing new programs to build skills, analysis, and successful actions: Kitchen Table Activism and LEAD (Local Expansion and Development).

SAWERA, Portland, $5,000
For: Three projects to support South Asian Women’s Empowerment and Resource Alliance’s culturally appropriate domestic violence work: 1) outreach and education through a South Asian cultural performance piece, 2) a “welcome packet” with information on rights and resources, and 3) South Asian cultural training for local domestic violence agencies.

Tillicum Foundation/KMUN-FM, Astoria, $4,000
For: Producing timely social, economic and environmental justice programming for the North Coast region. KMUN provides a progressive voice influencing community dialogue and supporting the work of local social change groups.

Umpqua Watersheds, Roseburg,
$4,000
For: Building visibility and organizational capacity for group protecting the environmental integrity of the Umpqua River basin. Their work following the landslide disasters in their area has made them recognized experts on the relationship between forest clearcutting and landslides.

Unete al Movimiento de Conciencia Popular, Medford,
$6,000
For: General support for this farmworker group that visits labor camps, produces educational materials and cultural activities, and networks with supportive organizations. They challenge abuse of immigrants and the substandard living and working conditions of farmworkers.

Sojourner Truth Theater, Portland, $3,000.
For: Expanding the tour of African American Culture 101 to communities throughout Oregon. Using a performance/ workshop format, they will dispel misconceptions and celebrate the contributions of African Americans.

Sisters in Portland Impacting Real Issues Together, Portland, $4,000
For: Support of SPIRIT’s new organizing project addressing the transportation barriers that low-income families face in Portland, with a goal of winning free bus passes for students to be able to attend school. SPIRIT is an organization of low-income women, and women and girls of color.

Power
concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and never will.
–Frederick Douglass

Willamette Valley Law Project, Woodburn, $6,000
For: Public education in support of the first Oregon labor agreements with farm owners. WVLPs efforts to broaden this victory include (1) working to have labor standards included in organic farm certification, and (2) promoting consumer support for union-label products.
Donor-Advised Grants

A Teacher’s Space
ACLU Foundation of Oregon
Amnesty International
CALC
Camp Fire Boys & Girls—Mt. Hood Council
CISCAP
College Fund/United Negro College Fund
Community Advocates
Community Alliance for Lane Co. (CALC)
Community Health Center
Do Jump
El Quetzal
Energy Futures, Inc.
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection
Episcopal City Mission
Episcopal Community Services
Episcopal Divinity School
ESSN Foundation
Eugene Tree Foundation
First Books/Fort Vancouver Public Library
Food for Lane County
French American International School
Friends of Eugene
HIV Alliance
Hurricane Mitch Relief Fund
Hydrologic Group
INFACT
Institute for Traditional Medicine
Jefferson Middle School
KBOO
Lane Shelter Care
Lesbian Community Project/CEP
Literary Arts
McCormack Elementary School
Nearby Nature
Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides
Northwest Youth Corps
NW Medical Teams
Options Counseling
Oregon Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty
Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement
Oregon Food Bank
OSU Lane County Extension Service/4-H
PCASC
Portland Public School Foundation/DaVinci Middle
Portland Public Schools Foundation/Irvington Elem.
Pride NW
Rachel Carson Center for Natural Resources
Save the West
Sheldon High School
So & So & So
Southern Poverty Law Center
Trillium Community Land Trust Project
United Way of Lane County
University of Oregon Honors College Student Assoc.
Westmoreland Wetlands Advisory Group

The Michael Smith Fund
Multicultural Association of Southern Oregon
Tillicum Foundation/KMUN-FM

Travel Grants
Groups receiving grants of up to $250 for domestic travel:
ACLU Foundation of Oregon
Bradley-Angle House
Brother to Brother
CAUSA
Cross Border Labor Organizing Committee
Lesbian Community Project
Portland Jobs with Justice
Shelter Development Committee/RVCDC
Survivor Project
Women of Color Caucus
Youth for Justice

Critical Response Grants
Groups receiving grants of up to $500 for unanticipated organizing opportunities occurring between our regular funding cycles:
Ashland Ad Hoc Organizing Committee for Mumia Al Jamal
El Bracero
Eugene Coalition to Stop the Bombing
Josephine Co. Task Force for Social Justice
La Migra Task Force

Lilla Jewel Fund for Women Artists (visual arts)
Lilla Jewel Award: Linda Wysong, $2,000
Lilla Jewel Special Mention: Cynthia Star, $1,000
MRG funds organizations that bring people together to challenge discrimination, violence, poverty, and environmental destruction through community-based, grassroots action. Funding is directed toward creating a peaceful, just, and environmentally sound Oregon.

**MRG considers proposals for funding from groups that:**
- are organizing for progressive social change;
- are located in Oregon;
- are committed to diversity; and
- have little access to traditional funding sources, e.g., United Way, government, and mainstream foundation grants.

MRG's grants program focuses on organizing efforts addressing human rights, economic justice, environmental protection, and international solidarity. Within these broad areas, MRG grants support work on concerns including: anti-bigotry, racial justice, domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, community-labor coalitions, HIV/AIDS, reproductive rights, lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender liberation, disability rights, protection of our forests and watersheds, environmental justice, activist media and cultural work, anti-militarism, and international self-determination.

**The funding process**

MRG's funding process is designed to involve applicants and grantmakers in constructive dialogue, and to assist novice grantseekers in learning about foundations. Our fall and spring funding cycles each involve four months of evaluation activities. Organizations interested in submitting a funding cycle proposal begin by contacting MRG's grantmaking office in Eugene to receive an application packet. Only proposals submitted by completing MRG's application form can be considered.

MRG's grantmaking committee consists of activists with expertise in the issues funded. After evaluating all of the submitted applications, committee members interview finalists to learn more about their project and to assist them in participating effectively in MRG's process.

During Presentation Day, which caps our information-gathering efforts, finalists describe their proposed projects to the committee and respond to questions. MRG is one of the handful of foundations nationally that enables applicants to make their case before all of the decision-makers—as part of our commitment to a democratic grantmaking process. Presentation Day is also one of the few opportunities that activists from throughout the state have to come together to learn from one another's work and to develop relationships that can help to unite the broad range of activist work across issue, geographic, cultural and economic divides.

**Grantees, 1998-99**
Hundreds of Oregonians contribute to grassroots social change through MRG. By making contributions to MRG, donors are able to take advantage of our unique grantmaking process which involves activists chosen for their in-depth knowledge of the issues we fund and the groups active on those issues in every region of the state.

Most MRG donors make annual gifts ranging from $5 to $25,000, creating a significant financial resource for the progressive community in Oregon. Every gift we receive is very important to us; each one amplifies our ability to empower activists to distribute funds to progressive groups.

People give to MRG’s general fund for many good reasons. The general fund provides an important opportunity to provide seed money to emerging groups and issues. In fact, MRG is a pioneer among philanthropies in Oregon with a track record of providing early money when and where it is needed to make seemingly marginal issues into mainstream concerns. Contributors are also attracted to our activist controlled process of grantmaking that ensures that we are as responsive as possible to the needs of grassroots organizations. MRG’s staff monitors all funded projects, donors may maintain total anonymity, and donors are able to support many important projects with one gift.

In the past year, donor support at all levels made it possible for MRG to distribute almost $500,000 in grants to Oregon groups, including the launch of our new funding initiative Project Connect. If you are interested in learning more about MRG and joining our community of support, or if you would like us to meet a friend or family member who might like to learn more about our work, please contact our Portland office.

MRG offers a range of resources and services to help meet the particular needs of our donors including:

Donor-Advised Giving ~ Donor-Advised giving is a way for MRG donors to nominate grantees or designate a particular field of interest to be the final recipient of their gift. As in any MRG grant, donor anonymity is assured and grants are monitored. MRG staff are available to provide donors with background information on specific organizations or interest areas.

Donor Pools ~ MRG donors can set up special accounts with the foundation known as “donor pools.” These accounts are advantageous to the donor who wants to make a large charitable contribution before they have decided on the interest area or specific organizations they wish to support. Many people choose to establish donor pools in a year when they sell appreciated stocks or real estate that result in significant capital gains for granting over the course of subsequent years. Additional gifts can be added at any time. A donor can transfer gifts from a donor pool to MRG’s general fund, and/or nominate fields of interest or other charitable organizations to be the recipients of grants.

Socially Responsible Investing Seminars ~ MRG’s SRI seminars draw upon the expertise of leaders in the field to explore practical and profitable means of investing individual assets without compromising social and environmental values.

Inherited Wealth Conferences ~ These conferences offer a safe place for progressive women and men with wealth to come together and explore personal, technical and political issues specific to their situation. We offer an annual Women and Wealth Conference in the spring to deal with the special needs of women with wealth.

Financial and Estate Planning Workshops ~ MRG brings in financial and estate planning professionals to teach donors from all income levels about long-term financial planning options and strategies for meeting individual needs and objectives.

Donor/Activist Briefings ~ MRG offers occasional briefings on critical social change issues for the donors and activists of our community. Each briefing concentrates on a specific issue, and includes presentations by, and discussion with, leading activists in the issue of concern.

Planned Giving ~ MRG staff and advisors are available to assist in identifying and developing long-term vehicles to perpetuate the progressive, charitable goals of individual donors throughout their lifetime and beyond. For specific information about the planned giving program, donors should contact MRG’s Portland office.
ways to contribute to mrg

MRG’s donors are a diverse group of people who share one thing in common: a commitment to creating a more peaceful, just and environmentally sustainable society. Whether your financial situation allows you to give $25, $250, or $25,000, you are an important partner in MRG's efforts to win justice and create a more compassionate society. If you are already a donor, thank you! If you’d like to begin participating in MRG by becoming a donor, here are some of your options:

Write a check today.

Make a monthly, quarterly, or annual pledge.
Donate appreciated stock or real property and avoid capital gains taxes, while receiving a tax deduction.
Write MRG into your will, or talk to family members about planning a bequest to MRG in your name.
Contact MRG about establishing a charitable trust.
Make MRG a beneficiary of your insurance policy.
Establish a designated fund (donor pool) to fit your philanthropic purposes and MRG’s tax-exempt program.
Honor a special person or celebrate a birthday or wedding by giving a gift in their name.
Volunteer time or other goods and services.

When appropriate, we suggest verifying details of specific arrangements with your accountant or attorney as we do at MRG. MRG staff are always available for consulting as you plan your giving.

Whatever you do will seem insignificant, but it is very important that you do it.

—Mahatma Ghandi

mrg’s endowment

In October 1993, MRG set a goal of creating a permanent 1 million dollar endowment to secure the foundation into the future. So far, over 60 households have contributed $1 million in total gifts and pledges to the endowment. To everyone who contributed to the remarkable success of this effort, we say THANK YOU!

MRG is a fund raising foundation, and we will continue to raise funds each year for our grants to organizations throughout the state. Why did MRG raise funds for an endowment? Because working for social change is inherently risky. Groups are born, grow, flourish, or die in direct relation to their financial management and fund raising skills. MRG has successfully navigated these waters for over 23 years. An endowment was the next step for a community foundation that has always taken its responsibilities to donors and applicants seriously. The income from MRG’s endowment will make sure that our kind of progressive philanthropy continues in Oregon in our lifetime, and in our children’s lifetime.

Endowment income will be used for program and operating costs, making more of the money raised annually available for grants, and raising MRG’s grantmaking ability significantly. Income from MRG’s endowment contributed over $54,000 to our general fund during the past year.

The income from MRG’s endowment will make sure that our kind of progressive philanthropy continues in Oregon in our lifetime, and in our children’s lifetime.

and that amount of annual support will increase in the next few years as pledges are fulfilled.

MRG’s official endowment campaign is over, but the endowment continues to grow. Following completion of the campaign, a $50,000 gift was made to help us on our way to raising $2 million. MRG welcomes additional gifts to the endowment both from those who have not yet given, and those whose circumstances permit additional gifts. We would also like to encourage MRG supporters to consider the endowment when making estate planning decisions.
### McKenzie River Gathering Foundation

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**June 30, 1999**

#### ASSETS

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
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<td>Office equipment &amp; furniture, less accumulated depreciation of $11,171</td>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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#### LIABILITIES

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<td>Accrued payroll taxes</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
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#### NET ASSETS

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<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>Board Designated, Endowment</td>
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<td>Board Designated, Michael Smith Fund</td>
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<td><strong>Total Unrestricted</strong></td>
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<td>Temporarily restricted, Lillo Jewel Fund</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Permanently Restricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,294,446</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,326,060</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,423,404</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

#### McKenzie River Gathering Foundation

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

#### PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th><strong>Total Year Ended June 30, 1999</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Support Contributions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$751,183</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$751,183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Pools</td>
<td>$597,522</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$597,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Advised</td>
<td>$61,757</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$61,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Exchange</td>
<td>$41,376</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$41,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Smith Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind Rent</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncollectible Pledge Adjustment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,456,638</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,555</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,359,292</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment Gains</td>
<td>$399,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Dividends</td>
<td>$61,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRC Events</td>
<td>$227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$1,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Fees</td>
<td>$1,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>374,223</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of Lillo Jewel Fund</td>
<td>$5,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions</td>
<td>$5,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support &amp; Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,836,266</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Temporarily Restricted, Lillo Jewel Fund</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,476</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permanently Restricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,555</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Year Ended</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,865,297</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Grant Making</td>
<td>$550,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Education</td>
<td>$8,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>$109,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Raising</td>
<td>$34,126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>702,636</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,133,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>76,476</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,555</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1,162,661</strong></td>
<td><strong>702,636</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets at Beginning of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,955,172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets at End of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$3,326,060</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---


human rights economic justice environmental protection peace international solidarity
McKenzie River Gathering Foundation

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
For the Year Ended June 30, 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIRECT GRANTS</th>
<th>SUPPORTIVE SERVICES</th>
<th>TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grant Making</td>
<td>Community Education</td>
<td>Administrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding cycle grants</td>
<td>$220,000</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Connect initiative</td>
<td>83,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical response grants</td>
<td>2,250</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel grants</td>
<td>2,478</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilla Jewel Fund grants</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Advised grants</td>
<td>61,757</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Pool grants</td>
<td>111,815</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Direct Grants</td>
<td>$484,300</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PERSONNEL

| Wages | 37,758 | 3,884 | 47,273 | 19,678 | 108,593 |
| Payroll taxes | 3,921 | 423 | 5,287 | 1,795 | 11,426 |
| Employee benefits | 6,418 | 610 | 5,464 | 2,109 | 13,401 |
| Total Personnel | 48,097 | 4,917 | 58,024 | 23,582 | 134,620 |

OTHER

| Accounting & bookkeeping | - | - | 7,860 | - | 7,860 |
| Books & subscriptions | 14 | 6 | 30 | 108 | 158 |
| Copying & printing | 986 | 431 | 216 | 4,380 | 6,013 |
| Event expense | 174 | 895 | - | - | 1,069 |
| Equipment maintenance | 1,290 | 99 | 1,631 | 1,280 | 4,300 |
| Executive Director search | - | - | 1,265 | - | 1,265 |
| Facility rental | 95 | - | - | - | 95 |
| Funding Exchange #1 | - | - | 9,625 | - | 9,625 |
| Insurance | 250 | 7 | 222 | 197 | 666 |
| Awekings | 4,633 | 206 | 1,456 | 245 | 2,640 |
| Miscellaneous | 16 | - | 2,330 | 52 | 2,382 |
| Office rent | 2,900 | 332 | 3,979 | 1,796 | 9,007 |
| Office supplies | 699 | 46 | 452 | 105 | 1,302 |
| Portfolio management | - | - | 13,823 | - | 13,823 |
| Postage | 1,754 | 326 | 1,089 | 328 | 3,497 |
| Professional services | 1,061 | 861 | 2,827 | 198 | 4,947 |
| Staff development | - | 43 | 43 | 10 | 53 |
| Telephone | 2,724 | 284 | 2,458 | 864 | 6,330 |
| Transportation | 1,135 | 392 | 1,001 | 981 | 3,509 |
| Depreciation | - | - | 1,249 | - | 1,249 |
| Total Other | 17,731 | 3,885 | 51,556 | 10,544 | 83,216 |
| Total Expenses | $550,128 | $ 8,802 | $109,580 | 34,126 | $702,636 |

The above financial statements fairly reflect information presented in audited financial statements prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles for the year ended June 30, 1999.

Note:
Of the current year public support, 58% was received from one estate (approximately one-half to the General Fund and one-half to Donor Pools). Of the current year General Fund contributions, not including the above General Fund amount received from the estate, 36% was received from five households.
acknowledgments

Carl & Margery Post Abbott
Carol Adler
Adolfson Associates, Inc.
Daniel Anderson
Frank & Dorothy Anderson
Stuart Anderson
Evelyn Anderson & Janet Anderson
Barbara Atten
Gilbert & Laura Avery
Joan, Bayliss & Irwin Noparstak
Nancy Becker & Ed Reckford
Ann Bellman & Michael Woods
Ashira & Dick Belsey
Sue Dockstader
Marlene Drescher
Nancy Duinhak
Rachel Eboral
Peter Edberg
Kristy Edmunds, PICA
Ken Eiler & Mary Sellin
Jacquelyn Ellen & Steven Snyder
Teresa Enric
Carinella Ettinger
Nancy Haqee
Catherine Harris
Glenn Harris
William & Barbara Harris
Sylvia Hart
Emily Heilbrun
William S. Herz
Hoeads Inc. Co-op
Terri Hopkins

Karen Belsey
Arwen Bird
Erin Berg, PICA
Ross Bondurant
Leslie Brockelbank
Doug Brown & Jean Demaiffe
Shannon Brown
Florence Byrne
Shelia Canal
Alison Cantril & Andy Pears
Sarah Cantril
George & Fanny Carroll
Laura Castleberry
Hilde Cherry
Citizens for Public Accountability
Debra Connaway
Mary Lynn Cumings
Linda Danielson
Sandra Davis
Myra & Robert Dean
Susanna & Don DeFazio
Harriet Denison
Jill & Dean Desantis
Steve & Beth Deutsch

Evergreen Hill Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation
Kathryn Ferr
Claire Feighan
Jan Fenton & Tim Calvert
Chris Frelas
Ann & David Fidanque
Ruth & Herman Frankel
Romaine Fredricka
Funding Exchange (FEX)
James Gamwell
Larry Garcia
Bill & Leslie Glassmire
Martha Goetsch & Linda Besant
Phil Goldsmith & Susan Newman
David Goller
Jack Gray & Mary Jo Wade
Marge Greenhut &
Sierra Lonespine Brian
D.J. Haanraads
Allen Hancock
Noel Hanlon & Peter Koehler
Tom & Jane B. Happy

Barbara & Kess Hottle
Sally & Todd Huffman
Penoelope Hummel
Bert Huntley
Mark Huntley
Y.E. & Shonna Husbands-Hankin
Hal Jackson & Claire Lichtenfels
Ralph D. Jacobson
Robert & Theresa Jones
Steve Jones
Marjorie & Ogden Kellogg
Michelle Knox
Ann Koucky
Marjorie Kundiger, Sr & Bill Josephson
Gordon Lafer
Leland & Kathleen Larson,
The Larson Legacy
Gillian Leichtling
Miriam Levitt, Technical Assistance
for Community Services (TACS)
Larry Lewin & Linda Barber
David Lifton
LeAnn Locher
Alan Locklear & Marie Valleroy
Lydia Lord
Leslie Scott
Thomas Seddon
Majeska Seese-Green
David Shapiro
Howard & Manya Shapiro
Doug Sherman & Jeanne Henry
Sho Shigeoka
Donald & Peg Smith
Izetta Smith & Ellen Goldberg
Sheila Smith
Carolyn Sonfield
Joy Spalding & Harold Vatter
Missy Stewart & Don Merkt
Joan Strode
Dennis Suggs
Ardis Sussell
Marion Sweeney
Szekely Family Foundation
Linda Tarr
Technical Assistance for Community Services (TACS)
Pamela Teneny
Don & Lisa Teixeira
Monette & Edward Thatcher
Joyce Thomas & Rob Castelberry
Trillium Natural Foods
Olga Turner
Diane Valentine

Marc Valens
Don & Carol Van Houten
Irene Vlach
Carla Wallace
Lindy Walsh
Janet Webster Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation
Laurel Weissman-Gore
Dodie Weyhe
Pam Whyte
Carnet Williams
Martin & Carolyn Winch
Mary Winch
JoAnn Wiser
Pearl Wolfe & Bill Goldsmith
Betsey Wolsion
Martha Yamasaki
Elisabeth Zall
and 14 Anonymous Donors

Endowment Donors
Burley Design Cooperative, Inc.

In Memory of Michael Smith
Bill Farver & Kathy Gordon
Doug Sherman & Jeanne Henry
Don & Peg Smith

In Memory of L. Quincy Sugarman
Betty Sugarman

In Memory of Kim Yamasaki
Richard Rodrigues & Mark Maguire

The Following businesses have supported MRG this past year. We thank them for their commitment to the progressive movement.

David Atkin, Attorney
Steve Jones,
Dain Rauscher, Eugene
Pattie Ladd, Riverrun Graphics
Laurie McClain,
Socially Responsive Investing
Shelly McFarland,
Dain Rauscher, Portland
Madeline Moore,
Socially Responsible Investing

Progressive Investment Management
M. Sellin, Ltd.

Pat Tippett,
Flaming Carrot Catering

human rightseconomic justiceenvironmental protectionpeace international solidarity
Board of Directors

Debra Connaway
Executive Director of the Multicultural HIV/AIDS Alliance of Oregon.

Nancy Haque
Organizer/staff for sustainable economics committee of Portland jobs with Justice, a coalition of community, labor and religious organizations campaigning for workers' rights.

Juan Carlos Ocaña
Active in issues concerning the Latino community—especially those related to immigration—and in tenants rights.

Francie Royce
Urban planner working on alternative transportation issues and active in support of public school funding.

Sho Shigeoka
Coordinator for the Asian/Pacific American Education Office at Oregon State University.

Lindy Walsh
Administrative Director, River Network; Leadership Team of Lesbian Community Project.

Carnet Williams
Founder and President of Netcorps, a nonprofit group involved in helping progressive environmental and social justice groups use technology as a tool to further their missions.

Staff

Leslie Grieb, Administrator
Kathleen Pequeño, Program Associate
Susan Remmers, Executive Director
Linda Reymers, Grants Director
Grantmaking Committee

Debra Connaway ~ (See Board of Directors)
Marlene Drescher ~ President of the Board of the Institute for Economic Justice & Indigenous Technology; working on fair trade and peace issues in Central America; has been active in domestic violence, sexual assault, civil rights, and gay and lesbian issues.
Terese Enrico ~ Executive Director of the Workers Organizing Committee; anti-bigotry activist; trainer on eliminating racism, sexism, and homophobia.
Larry Garcia ~ Public Health Nurse; background in HIV/AIDS care; past Co-chair of Coos County Gay & Lesbian Outreach Network; active in HIV prevention; currently Chair of the Rural Organizing Project.
Nancy Haque ~ (See Board of Directors)
Romaine Fredricka ~ Activist in the domestic violence movement since 1991; currently a member of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence Women of Color Caucus; Field Staff with Rural Organizing Project.

Sogene Mah ~ Active in Asian, queer, and women's issues; has been involved with immigrant youth.
Juan Carlos Ocaña ~ (See Board of Directors)
Rachel Ogdie ~ Co-founder of Community Networking Technologies (CNT); involved in helping progressive environmental and social justice groups use technology as a tool to further their missions.
Kathleen Pequeño ~ Resigned from grantmaking committee to take position as MRG Program Associate; previously was Office Manager for Technical Assistance for Community Services; activist around domestic & sexual violence issues; activist with Teatro Sin Fronteras.

Leslie Scott ~ General Manager, Oregon Country Fair; long-time peace and human rights activist; former volunteer coordinator for Council for Human Rights in Latin America; community organizing for rural action network.
Sho Shigeoka ~ (See Board of Directors)
Pamela Tennity ~ Headwaters' Clean Water Campaign Director and Environmental Center Coordinator; working with Progressive Coalition of Southern Oregon on labor, social justice and political democracy issues.
Diane Valantine ~ Staff for Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition; previously staffed Oregon Natural Resources Council; Board of Directors for the National Abortion and Reproduction Rights Action League.

Investments/Cash Management Committee

Nancy Becker
Leslie Griep (staff)
Carsten Hemmingsen (financial advisor)
Andy Peara
Susan Remmers (staff)

Finance Committee

Nancy Becker
Leslie Griep (staff)
Miriam Levitt (bookkeeper)
Susan Remmers (staff)
Francie Royce
Lindy Walsh

PR Committee

Sho Shigeoka
Susan Remmers (staff)
Linda Reymers (staff)
Carnet Williams

Executive Committee

Nancy Haque
Juan Carlos Ocaña
Susan Remmers (staff)
Lindy Walsh

MRG is proud to announce the launch of a new special funding initiative...Project Connect

Over the past year, the MRG Board and staff decided to explore the current political landscape to address the unique demands our grantees face as we move toward the year 2000. Several issues quickly emerged, and after much research and discussion, we decided to launch a technology initiative. Project Connect was launched in April, 1999 and will come to completion in September, 2000.

Simply put, Project Connect will foster creativity in the way MRG-funded grassroots groups approach organizing and will raise the critical question of the role technology will play as we enter the era of electronic communication.

Project Connect seeks to improve the Oregon progressive movement's infrastructure and organizing capacity by assisting individual grassroots organizations to increase their capacity for communication and information management through technology.

Twenty-four groups throughout the state will participate.

The impact of Project Connect reaches well beyond the "hands-on" technical aspects: it offers an opportunity to broaden our political analysis to incorporate the role technology plays in our lives and work. MRG holds a strong tradition of listening to our grantee and donor activist community about critical issues facing the progressive movement. Our special initiatives are created to meet the demands of an ever-changing political landscape.

Technology is here to stay. Progressive groups need to learn how to effectively utilize the tools of technology to advance program work while constantly challenging the way this medium fundamentally alters the traditional paradigm of the "haves and have nots." While we do not hold all of the answers to the impact this transfer of wealth will have on low-income and minority communities, we do know that the power to control and disseminate knowledge through the use of technology further deepens the class divide. Project Connect seeks to narrow the divide.

Stay tuned for more information as Project Connect unfolds over the next year! For more information, please contact Kathleen Pequeño at 503/289-1517.