

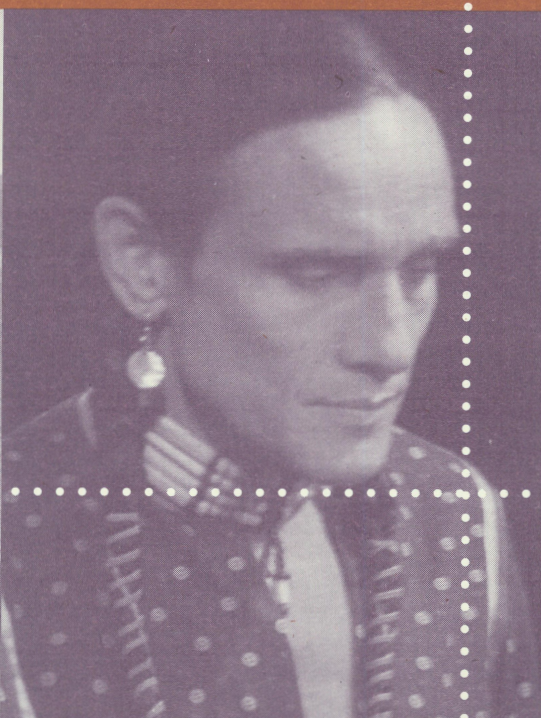
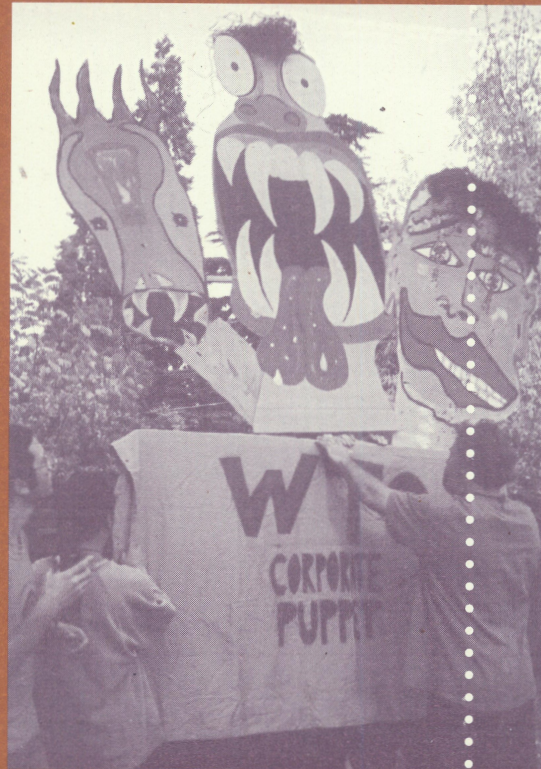
# annualreport

1999-00

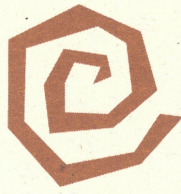


## MRCG

*McKenzie River Gathering*  
FOUNDATION





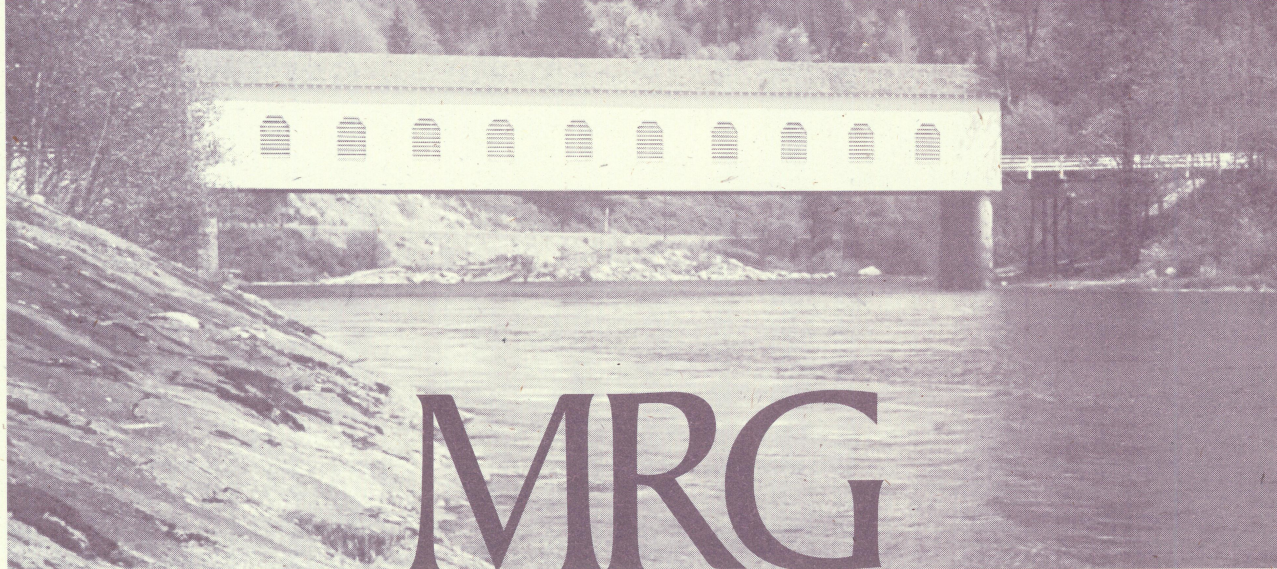


**SOCIAL CHANGE**, *n.* 1. The structural transformation of political, social and economic systems and institutions to create a more equitable and just society. 2. Proponents target the underlying causes of critical social problems such as homelessness, discrimination, and poverty. 3. While a variety 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.*

*Front cover photos represent the following grantees, clockwise from top left: Money in Politics Research Action Project; Multicultural Kids Camp/Multicultural Association of Southern Oregon; Peace House/WTO protest; Theater Ikcewicasa; Columbia Deepening Opposition Group.*





# MRG

## McKenzie River Gathering FOUNDATION

Ron Keebler Photography

**W**elcome to McKenzie River Gathering's 24th annual report! It has been a busy year! On July 1, 1999 the board put forth an ambitious goal: to give away every dollar raised up to \$290,000. Not only did we meet that goal, we surpassed it. Thank you for your part in meeting the challenge! With strong community support we awarded more money than ever before while simultaneously implementing Project Connect, our access to technology initiative, and the WTQ Emergency Response Fund. Partnering with the Funding Exchange, we hosted gatherings and garnered press attention for the re-release of the classic book, *Robin Hood Was Right*, updated to promote alternative philanthropy to new prospective supporters.

MRG wrapped up the year by kicking off a strategic planning process. We have contracted with Portland State University researchers and pulled together a separate Steering Committee to learn about how we might better meet the demands of Oregon's progressive community over the next five-year period. This process elicits input from over 45 MRG grantees and donor supporters statewide. From this input the board will craft a five year written plan detailing expansion strategies for both our grants and development programs.

With the close of fiscal year 2000, we turn an expectant eye to 2001. Thank you for your support; we hope you will renew your commitment to fund this vital work and join us in our efforts to promote progressive social change throughout Oregon.

— Susan Remmers, Executive Director

## contents

Grantees.....	4-14
Funding Guidelines.....	15
Donors.....	16-17
Financial Report.....	18-19
Acknowledgments.....	20-21
MRG Members.....	22


### PORTLAND OFFICE

6707 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon 97211  
503/289-1517 • 503/289-1598 (fax)  
[www.mrgf.org](http://www.mrgf.org)  
Leslie Griep, Administrator  
Kathleen Pequeño, Program Associate  
Susan Remmers, Executive Director

### EUGENE OFFICE

454 Willamette  
Eugene, OR 97401  
541/485-2790 • 541/485-7604 (fax)  
1-800-489-6743 (MRGF)  
Linda Reymers, Grants Director

Design: P. Ladd, Riverrun Graphics

Printing: Bridgetown Printing Company 

Paper: Genesis, 100% post-consumer





Portland Central America Solidarity Committee

# grantees 1999-00

## ***Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, Fossil, \$4,000***

For: General support for this group's ecosystem defense work which involves forest agency monitoring, legal challenges and public education/mobilization. They have played a lead role in developing a regional movement challenging corporate domination that includes a newly formed labor-environmental alliance.

## ***Bosco-Milligan Foundation for Architectural Heritage, Portland, \$4,500***

For: Producing the *Cornerstones Documentary*, a video on the importance of African Americans to Portland's development; it will be used to organize people to claim neighborhood landmarks in the face of gentrification. Accompanying forums will detail prior racist red-lining practices, threatened cultural resources, and strategies to preserve the community's heritage.

## ***Cascadia Wildlands Project, Eugene, \$5,000***

For: Supporting efforts defending native forests by monitoring destructive resource extraction planning and organizing the public to resist unsustainable land management practices. They will help prepare an inventory of western Oregon roadless areas and mobilize support to ensure that these lands are protected.

## ***CAUSA, Salem, \$10,000***

For: Expansion of this diverse 60-group coalition working to counter the rise of an anti-immigration agenda in Oregon and defend the rights and well-being of immigrants. They will focus on developing their work among the growing Latino population in Eastern Oregon and on the coast.

## ***Chicano Culture Club, Salem, \$1,500***

For: General support for this group comprised of Latino inmates at the Oregon State Prison. Their focus is on 1) continuing their success in challenging the use of culturally-biased psychological testing by the prison system and; 2) gaining recognition of their right to practice traditional spiritual rituals.



### ***Clatsop County AIDS Coalition, Astoria, \$3,500***

For: Development of their AIDS Resource Center, which focuses on promoting HIV prevention and reducing discrimination against people with HIV. This project will address the isolation of the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered (GLBT) community in general and GLBT youth in particular.

### ***Coast Range Association, Corvallis, \$3,500***

For: A project exposing investor-driven forestry based on an analysis of the role global market forces play in intensifying Coast Range forest extraction—with attendant environmental and economic loss. Using two investor-owned companies as models of corporate exploitation, they will press for public participation in the management of corporate-owned lands.

### ***Columbia Deepening Opposition Group, Astoria, \$5,500***

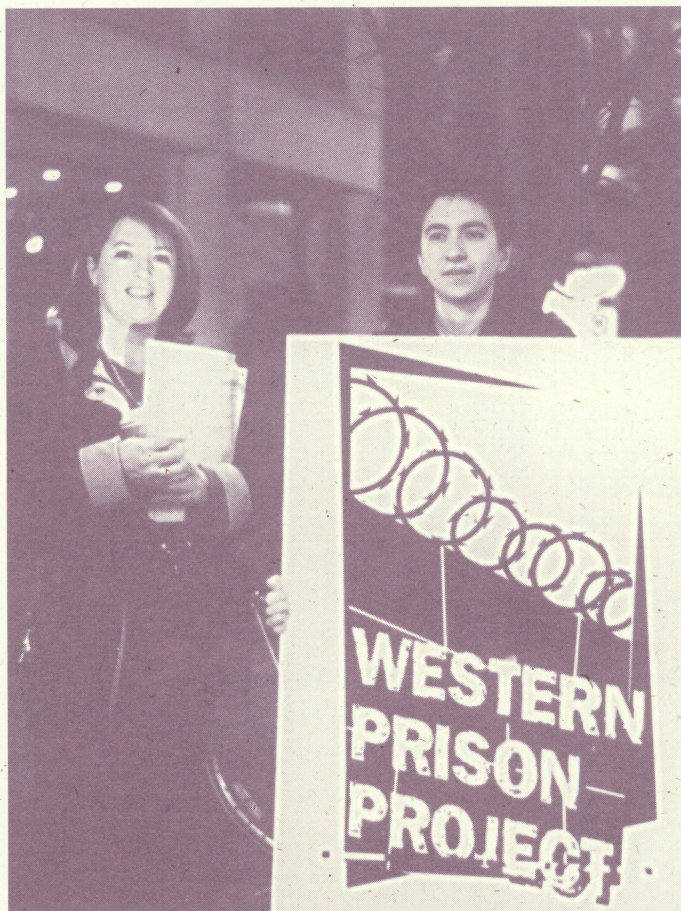
For: Seed funding for a group challenging the massive deepening project proposed for the Columbia and Willamette Rivers navigation channels. Government agency planning has ignored Columbia estuary communities' concerns about adverse consequences to local economies and the environment.

### ***Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene, \$4,500***

For: General support with an emphasis on their coalition work to end military aid to Mexico. Their Mexico work will address the repression of the indigenous movement in Chiapas, immigration to the U.S., the impacts of trans-national corporations, and the use of the "war on drugs" as a cover for counter-insurgency warfare.

### ***Community Alliance of Lane County, Eugene, \$8,000***

For: General support for CALC's leadership in promoting human rights during a time of major organizational transition. They will emphasize two programs: Youth for Justice, which has recently mobilized community leaders to commit to an ongoing anti-bigotry campaign, and Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect, which is developing as a grassroots resource for addressing human rights concerns.



Western Prison Project vigil in Portland. Photo: Coyote Days.

### ***Community Alliance of Tenants, Portland, \$8,000***

For: The Tenant Organizing Project, which empowers renters to directly participate in making fundamental changes in unjust housing policies and practices. TOP is embarking on a multi-year Housing Justice Campaign addressing the stability, affordability and habitability of low-income housing.

### ***The Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue, Coos Bay, \$5,000***

For: Work sustaining the cultural survival of Southwest Oregon native peoples. Their program includes an historical photo archiving project and the Annual Gathering of the People; the gathering brings together a steadily increasing number of tribal and other community members to commemorate Native people and dispel racist stereotypes.





### ***Consejo Hispano, Astoria, \$4,000***

For: Seed funding for grassroots community group to build their capacity to organize and advocate for the growing Clatsop County Latino population. They will address stereotyping in their rural community, mobilize through cultural events and media, and educate members about legal rights and access to medical and social services.

### ***Danzine, Portland, \$6,000***

For: General support for this organization dedicated to improving the health, safety and human rights of sex workers who are often isolated because of stigmatization. They publish a magazine that serves as an organizing tool, conduct risk-reduction health education programs, and provide peer-based resources to build their collective power.

*PCUN member with fruit box carrying the union label.*

### ***Environmental Justice Action Group, Portland, \$5,000***

For: General support for this group organizing low-income people of color around issues of health, safety and environmental justice. Their projects include leadership development of girls, an air quality campaign, and ensuring access to EPA funding for low-income communities located near toxic sites.

### ***Fair Share/Rogue Valley Oregon Action, Medford, \$5,000***

For: The Living Wage Jobs Project which unites low-income families, farmworkers, churches, union workers and community groups in addressing issues facing the working poor in Oregon. Strategies include the use of corporate report cards to assess employer commitment to addressing the needs of low-wage workers.

### ***HAAP/OSP HIV/AIDS Awareness Program, Salem \$3,000***

For: General support for this inmate-based education program created by and for prisoners. They will educate 1,500 inmates in the next year, and address homophobic violence and mistreatment of HIV-positive prisoners.

### ***HIV Alliance, Eugene, \$4,000***

For: A bi-cultural, bi-lingual outreach worker who will be shared by HIV Alliance and their Latino Outreach Project co-sponsor, Centro Latino Americano. In addition to doing HIV prevention work, this project seeks to convince the county health department to provide accessible outreach to the Latino community.

### ***Human Dignity Coalition, Bend, \$5,000***

For: General support for this Central Oregon group that involves people targeted by the far right in organizing for social and economic justice. Their activities include a newsletter, speakers' team, a public visibility strategy and presentations of their human rights curriculum.



*Oregon Human Rights Coalition, Paper Plate Campaign*



### ***Human Rights Advocates of Coos County, North Bend, \$2,000***

For: This group's work addresses the impact of the South Coast's declining economy on community dynamics. They respond to harassment, hate crimes and other human rights issues while proactively promoting diversity.

### ***Illinois Valley Task Force on Social Justice, Cave Junction, \$4,500***

For: General support with an emphasis on developing a county-wide organization and increasing the number of activists in this rural southern Oregon area. Specific projects will address campaign finance reform, political accountability, homophobic right wing groups and youth organizing.

### ***International Center for Traditional Childbearing, Portland, \$4,000***

For: General support for efforts directed at reversing the disproportionate rates of infant and maternal mortality in the African American community. They will provide outreach, training, educational forums and a platform to involve women in an alliance challenging discriminatory health care delivery systems.



*HAAP/OSP HIV AIDS Awareness Program members donate stuffed animals to children with AIDS or affected by HIV disease.*

### ***Jefferson Center for Education and Research, Wolf Creek, \$7,500***

For: Development of a new project bringing together rural workers across employment sectors (forest, seafood, farm, hospitality, etc.) to share experiences, analyses and strategies about the problems with low-wage temporary, contingent contract work. The Jefferson Center is a state-wide multi-ethnic economic justice group.

### ***KIDS, Portland, \$3,000***

For: General support for a youth-led youth rights group that is sponsoring a Youth Liberation Conference. Their work includes conducting educational presentations in schools, promoting the visibility of youth, developing youth leadership, and helping other organizations become more youth-friendly.

### ***Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Williams, \$5,000***

For: General support for this southwestern Oregon group applying legal strategies and mobilizing volunteers to force federal land management agencies to comply with environmental laws. They monitor activities on over five million acres of public land threatened by timber overcutting, mining, grazing, road building and other destructive practices.



***Komemmma Cultural Protection Association, Yoncalla, \$4,000***

For: General support for this Native American cultural survival group based in a rural, conservative area. Using research, public education, and cultural presentations, this group will be counteracting the omnipresence of pioneer history and challenging such notions as the purported extinction of the Kalapuya people.

***Lake County Crisis Center, Lakeview, \$4,000***

For: Hiring a bi-lingual Latino outreach educator and advocate to work with the rapidly increasing Latino population—a population that is under-utilizing the Center. Social problems in this vast rural area have intensified with economic conditions typified by a net job growth rate of - 41%.

***Lakota Oyate Ki Cultural Organization, Salem, \$3,000***

For: General support for Native American inmate group at the Oregon State Prison. Applying Native values, they address groups of at-risk youth, work to retain cultural and spiritual practices within the prison system, and develop support for their issues outside of the prison.

***Latinos Unidos Siempre, Salem, \$7,000***

For: General support for this group of 250 young people working for the educational, cultural, social and political development of Latino/a youth. With the drop out rate for Latino/a youth almost four times that of the state average, they will be working on a Racial Justice Report Card for schools, developing youth leadership, and addressing the over-representation of Latino/a youth in the criminal justice system.

***Love Makes a Family, Portland, \$2,000***

For: The Parent Teacher Student Action Project which is directed toward making Oregon schools inclusive and safe for students of all sexual orientations. A key component of this is working to have educational materials include recognition of family diversity.

***LOWD/Northwest Trails Archive and Restoration Project, Williams, \$3,000***

For: Sponsoring educational/organizing hikes in unprotected roadless areas for the purpose of creating citizen advocacy on behalf of wilderness. Policies affecting roadless areas for years to come are being determined now, making this project especially timely.

***Money in Politics Research Action Project, Portland, \$4,000***

For: Providing educational resources on the role money in politics plays in the oppression of people of color, women and poor people. They will also link human rights groups in statewide and national efforts to create a just campaign finance system.



*Sisters in Action for Power  
outside Tri-Met offices  
in Portland.*



KIDS, a youth  
rights group.



### ***Multicultural Association of Southern Oregon, Medford, \$4,000***

For: A series of Multicultural Kids Camps in three conservative rural communities. A major emphasis is on an intense training program for their staff and volunteers that is designed to build the foundation for their ongoing work.

### ***Multicultural HIV/AIDS Alliance of Oregon, Portland, \$8,000***

For: General support for this 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.

### ***Network for Immigrant Justice, Eugene, \$5,000***

For: General support for this Lane County group working to counter anti-immigrant efforts and promote broad support for immigrant rights and justice. They are committed to developing their program to 1) reflect the increasing number of immigrants in the area and; 2) respond to the intensification of the INS' oppressive tactics.

### ***North Coast Pride Network, Astoria, \$3,500***

For: General support for expanding this group's presence, activities, and networking. Their work provides visibility and support for the region's sexual minority community while challenging homophobia and discrimination.

### ***NW Alliance for Alternative Media/Portland Alliance, \$4,000***

For: General support for development of Portland's progressive newspaper. They will increase their educational, community-building and organizing capacities in order to foster their appeal to existing and potential activists, and the social change organizations the paper serves.

### ***ONE/Portland Taiko, \$3,500***

For: Solidarity Performance Outreach Project, a proactive effort to build bridges between diverse communities, link human rights issues, and support ongoing social change projects. This Asian American drum group will tailor the social/political content of each performance to the needs of the sponsoring group's event.

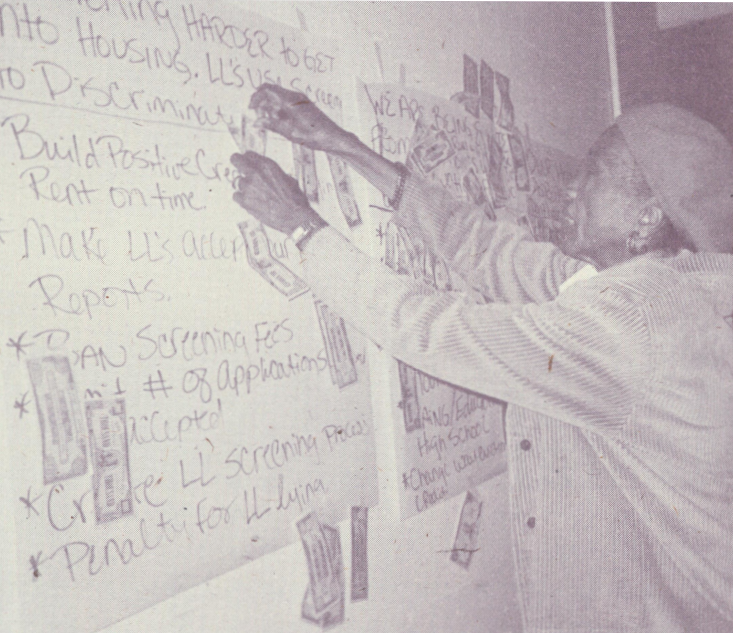
### ***Oregon Coalition on Housing and Homelessness, Salem, \$4,000***

For: General support for a 47-member group coalition advocating for safe, accessible shelter and affordable housing. They will establish an office and hire staff to overcome present limitations to their effectiveness; the coalition will then be better able to network, train advocates, and educate the public and decisions makers.

### ***Oregon Human Rights Coalition, Portland, \$6,500***

For: Promoting the resurgence of OHRC which exists to assist low-income people in becoming effective advocates. They challenge the punitive impacts of welfare reform by developing their members' leadership capabilities and by participating in economic justice coalitions.





Community Alliance of Tenants

### ***Oregon Tradeswomen Network, Portland, \$6,000***

For: Project organizing and advocating for changes in conditions that foster discrimination, harassment and barriers to success for women in the trades. They will be building a statewide network of activists, representing tradeswomen in key policy bodies, and monitoring recruitment and retention programs.

### ***The Other Paper, Eugene, \$3,000***

For: Increasing the readership of a progressive multi-issue Lane County monthly newspaper. Over 70 groups have used the publication to get information, analyses and plans for organizing activities out to the public.

### ***Peace House, Ashland, \$2,000***

For: General support for regional peace and social justice organizing center whose projects focus on challenging homelessness, bigotry, and U.S. militarism. They are involved in developing youth leadership and serve as a resource/networking hub for progressive activism.

### ***Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, \$7,000***

For: General support for PCASC's opposition to U.S. military and economic intervention in Latin America. They will focus on their immigrant rights theater project and their work with the Cross Border Labor Organizing Coalition.

### ***Portland Jobs with Justice, \$8,000***

For: The ongoing work of this 42-group coalition of labor, community, social justice and religious groups working together to defend the rights of working people and demand economic reform. They will focus on implementing their sustainable economics project, increasing their mobilization capacity and building the Workers' Rights Board in Portland.

### ***Rogue Valley Pow Wow Committee, Ashland, \$4,000***

For: A gathering of Indian people from different nations focusing on cultural survival issues. In addition to providing forums addressing a range of Native American issues, the pow wow provides a basis for developing projects such as a youth culture camp and a regional Native American theater group.

### ***Rural Organizing Project, Scappoose, \$9,000***

For: General support for Oregon network of 75 social/economic justice groups developing local and statewide organizing strategies. ROP provides technical assistance, peer support, political education and other resources that assist the development of organizations and activities appropriate to each community.

### ***Sisters in Action for Power, Portland, \$9,000***

For: Continuation of their organizing project addressing the transportation and education barriers low income families face in Portland, with a goal of winning free bus passes for all students to be able to attend school. This group, consisting of low-income women and girls and women of color, has succeeded in initiating a working group of government, school and regional transportation representatives to address their concerns.



***Sojourner Truth Theater Company, Portland, \$3,000***

For: Expanding the tour of African American Culture 101 to communities throughout Oregon. Using a performance/workshop format, they dispel misconceptions and celebrate the contributions of African Americans.

***South Asian Women's Empowerment & Resource Alliance, Portland, \$6,000***

For: Culturally appropriate outreach projects using newsletters, brochures and domestic violence information cards in eight languages. SAWERA will target events and places frequented by South Asians in their effort to create a community that does not tolerate violence toward women and children.

***Theater Ikcewicasa, Ashland, \$4,500***

General support for Native American cultural organizing project performing Native stories, theater, poetry, dance and song. Using oral tradition and workshops, they address issues of diversity, stereotyping, sovereignty, and native cultural expression during school and community-sponsored events.

***Tillicum Foundation/KMUN-FM, Astoria, \$3,000***

For: Efforts to expand public affairs coverage in outlying areas of Northwestern Oregon by this progressive radio station. They provide programming serving the growing local Latino community, train at-risk youth, and serve as an information clearinghouse and public forum for progressive groups.



*Sojourner Truth Theater Company*

***Umpqua Watersheds, Roseburg, \$4,000***

For: Expansion of their work to protect and restore the watersheds in the Umpqua River basin at a time when there is increased pressure on public forest and water resources for short-term economic gains. They will monitor forest practices on public and private land, educate and mobilize supporters to intervene when necessary, and implement multiple strategies to publicize environmental stewardship.





*Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment*

### ***Unete al Movimiento de Conciencia Popular, Medford, \$5,000***

For: General support for developing farmworker leadership to address issues including immigration, labor camp health and safety, pesticide use and better wages. They also work in coalition with other progressive organizations, build public support for their issues, and sponsor cultural organizing events.

### ***Western Prison Project, Portland, \$5,000***

For: Seed funding for this organization addressing prison issues through public education and advocacy, community organizing, and support services for prisoners. They will involve more existing organizations in prison issues as well as lend their support to the new prison groups now emerging in the state.

### ***Willamette Valley Law Project, Woodburn, \$6,000***

For: Project mobilizing 150 student activists to learn about and participate in the farmworker movement. These young people will return to their schools to build support for improving farmworkers' economic and workplace well-being.

### ***Women's Community Education Project, Portland, \$4,000***

For: In Other Words, the only non-profit feminist bookstore in the country, provides accessible education and resources in support of activism. They publicize organizations serving low-income women and women of color, sponsor educational seminars, and work to bring new audiences to their social change resources.

### ***Women's Gathering, Pendleton, \$4,000***

For: Using a series of workshops on a range of women's issues as a springboard, this group will develop ongoing projects in rural Northeastern Oregon. They include a newsletter, community speakers events, a multi-issue educational website, a women's arts project, and development of a grassroots organization addressing women's issues.

### ***Workers Organizing Committee, Portland, \$8,000***

For: The Day Laborer Project, which involves leadership development and organizing of this worker community that consists largely of Latino immigrant men. Day laborers frequently work under adverse conditions for lower wages than industry standards and are often taken advantage of by employers.



# general fund designated grantees

## donor-advised grants

ACLU of Oregon  
Agape Foundation  
All Women's Health Services  
American Camping Association, Inc.  
American Friends Service Committee  
Amnesty International  
Better People  
Bicycle Transportation Alliance  
Canine Assistance Partners  
Center for Commercial Free Public Education  
Christ Church  
Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People  
Community Advocates  
Community Alliance of Lane County  
Community Outreach  
Congregation Beth Israel  
Earth Justice Legal Defense  
Environmental Justice Action Group  
Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide  
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network Foundation  
First Books  
Fisher Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church  
Food for Lane County  
Four Winds Center for Body, Mind, Spirit  
Friends of the Eugene Public Library  
Hambleton Project  
HIV Alliance  
Institute for Traditional Medicine  
KBOO-FM  
More Than Money  
Mother Kali's  
Mt. Hood Council of Camp Fire Boys & Girls  
Multnomah County Library Foundation  
Native American Rights Fund  
Network for Immigrant Justice  
Northern Alaska Environmental Center  
Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides  
Northwest Pilot Project  
Northwest Project/Institute for Public Accuracy  
Oregon Center for Public Policy  
Oregon Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

Oregon Coast Aquarium  
Oregon Food Bank  
Oregon NARRAL Foundation  
Oregon Peaceworks  
Organic Consumers Association  
PACUP  
Pacific Festival Ballet  
Pathwork of California  
Planned Parenthood  
Porcupine Clinic Health Board/KILI Radio  
Portland Alliance  
Pride Northwest  
Real Options for City Kids  
Rhode Island Breast Cancer Coalition  
Rural Organizing Project  
Save the West  
Sisters in Action for Power  
Sisters of the Road Cafe  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Threatened & Endangered Little Applegate Valley  
Thresholds Bridge North  
Unitarian Universalist Services Committee  
United Way of Lane County  
Village School  
Western Prison Project  
Willamette Valley Law Project/PCUN  
Workers Organizing Committee  
Yale University Alumni Fund  
YMCA-Milwaukee

## the michael smith fund

Tillicum Foundation/KMUN-FM  
Women's Community Education Project

## lilla jewel fund for women artists (music & dance)

Lilla Jewel Award: Jenny Levison, \$2,000  
Lilla Jewel Special Mention:  
Margo Van Ummersen, \$1,000





## travel grants

*Groups receiving grants of up to \$500 for domestic travel.*

CAUSA

Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People

Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue

Eugene-Springfield NAACP-ACTSO

Youth Council

Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network

Multicultural HIV/AIDS Alliance of Oregon

Oregon Peaceworks Fund

Peace and Justice Works Iraq Affinity Group

Portland Central America Solidarity

Committee

Rural Organizing Project

Shelter Development Committee

Western Prison Project

Willamette Valley Law Project

## critical response grants

*Groups receiving grants of up to \$1,000 for unanticipated organizing opportunities occurring between our regular funding cycles.*

Community Alliance of Lane County

Oregon Wildlife Foundation

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee

Portland Jobs with Justice

Portland WTO Project

## project connect

Project Connect, our access to technology grant initiative, hit the ground running in the summer of 1999. The goal of this initiative was to assist grantees in improving their infrastructure and organizing through technology. Twenty-four organizations were selected to participate in the Needs Assessment phase. Together, they comprise a group diverse in terms of issue area, size, geography, and constituency. Special care was given to include groups that were largely comprised of women and/or people of color, constituencies that have traditionally had the least access to technology.

By Fall 99, Needs Assessments were completed. The demand ranged the gamut from basic computer workstations to database upgrades, web sites, and specialty software. Each group mapped out their training needs to ensure that the value of Project Connect continued beyond the initial implementation.

## WTO response fund grants

*Special funding initiative for 2000—Groups receiving grants of up to \$2,000 to build on the momentum opposing multi-national corporations generated by the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle.*

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project

Eugene Alliance for Democracy

Oregon Peaceworks

PCASC/Cross Border Labor Organizing

Committee

Portland Art and Revolution

## project connect grants

CAUSA

Chicano Culture Club

Community Alliance of Lane County /Youth for Justice

Community Alliance of Tenants

Eaglecap AIDS Support Team

Fair Share/Rogue Valley Oregon Action

Lakota Oyate Ki

Lambda Community Center Association

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee

Oregon Health Access Project

Peace House

Rural Organizing Project

Sisters in Action for Power

Umpqua Watersheds

Unete al Movimiento de Conciencia Popular

Willamette Valley Law Project

A final core of 16 groups was chosen to participate in Project Connect's Training and Technology Award phase. (The groups that were not selected retained their Needs Assessments as a tool for planning purposes and for approaching other funders.) In early 2000, NetCorps, who we sub-contracted with to provide technology expertise, sent teams to implement the projects on site.

MRG and Project Connect have received rave reviews from grantees. It should be gratifying to everyone involved with MRG to know that significant leaps have been made in grantees' communication, outreach, and information management strategies. The overall impact of Project Connect will affect the strength and vitality of Oregon's progressive movement for years to come! Warm thanks are in order for Kathleen Pequeño, MRG's Project Connect lead staff, NetCorps, MRG Project Connect grantees, and to you; without continued contributions from MRG's donor community, this initiative would not have been possible.



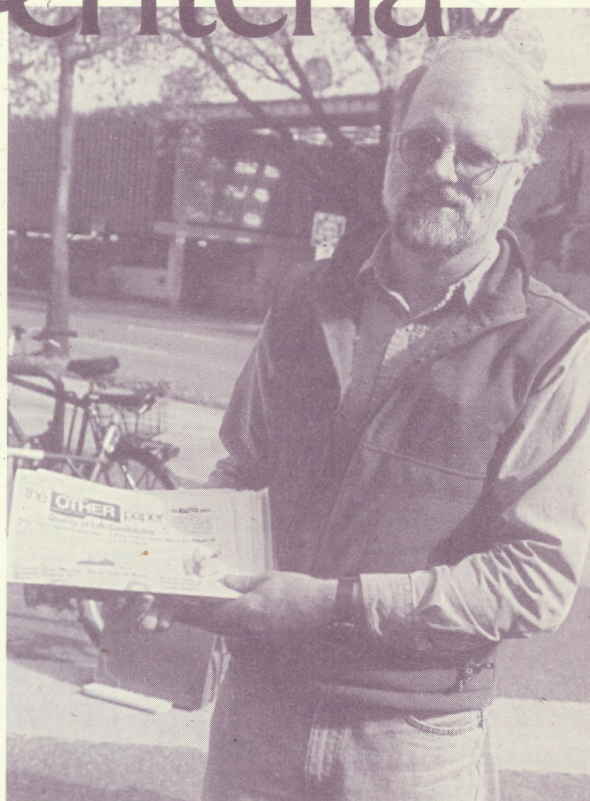
# the funding & criteria

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, gender, homelessness, poverty, community-labor coalitions, HIV-AIDS, reproductive rights, lesbian/gay/bisexual/liberation, disability rights, protection of our forests and watersheds, environmental justice, activist media and cultural work, anti-militarism, and international self-determination.



*The Other Paper*

# 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.

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS, 1999-00 • 59 Grants totalling \$287,000

	# of grants	total \$	% of grants	% of \$
North I-5	28	\$138,500	49%	48%
Southern Oregon (I-5 S)	11	\$49,500	19%	17%
Statewide	9	\$55,500	15%	19%
Coast	7	\$26,500	12%	9%
Central Oregon	3	\$13,000	5%	5%
Eastern Oregon	1	\$4,000	2%	1%



# who are mrg donors?

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.

# why give to mrg?

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.

# get involved with mrg!

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.

# donor services

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.**

When I use my  
power in the  
service of my  
vision, it becomes  
less and less  
important whether  
I am afraid.

—Audre Lorde

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.

## 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 24 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 \$90,000 to our general fund during the past year, 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.



# financial report, 1999-00

## McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION June 30, 2000

### ASSETS

Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 1,338,110
Investments	2,220,275
Pledges receivable	51,329
Office equipment & furniture, net of accumulated depreciation of \$12,430	16,633
Other assets	5,181
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,631,528</b>

### LIABILITIES

Grants Payable	\$ 129,729
Accrued settlement	45,000
Accounts and other payables	18,766
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>193,495</b>

### NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:	
General Fund	664,882
Board Designated, Project Connect	20,540
Board Designated, Operating Reserve	220,000
Board Designated, Donor Pools	497,688
Board Designated, Endowment	551,374
Board Designated, Michael Smith Fund	88,265
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<b>2,042,749</b>
Temporarily restricted, Lilla Jewel Fund	93,765
Permanently restricted:	
Endowment Fund	1,080,464
Michael Smith Fund	112,497
Lilla Jewel Fund	108,558
<b>Total Permanently Restricted</b>	<b>1,301,519</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>3,438,033</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,631,528</b>

## McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended June 30, 2000

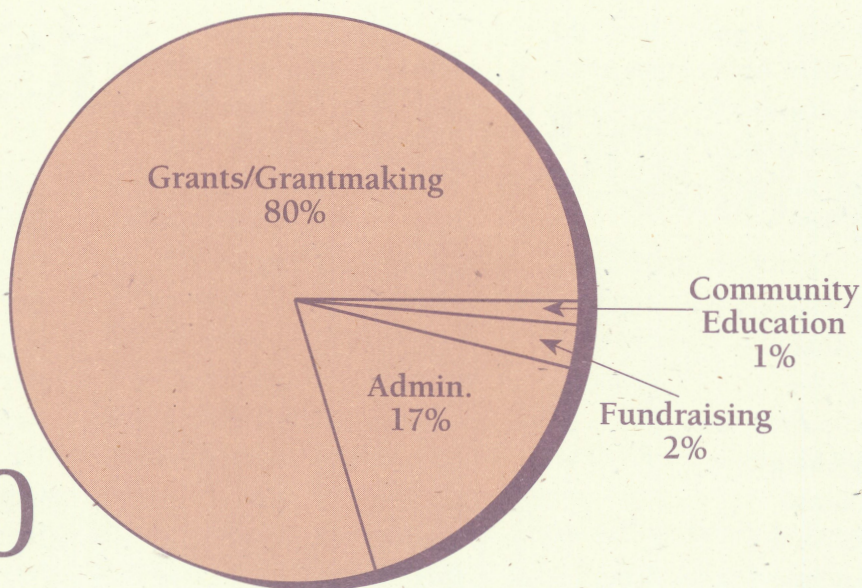
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total Year Ended June 30, 2000
<b>PUBLIC SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>				
Public Support Contributions:				
General	\$ 358,125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 358,125
Donor Pools	139,347	-	-	139,347
Donor Advised	333,307	-	-	333,307
Funding Exchange Endowment	48,080	-	-	48,080
Funding Exchange Project Grant	5,000	-	-	5,000
Endowment Fund	-	-	4,074	4,074
Michael Smith Fund	-	-	3,000	3,000
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>883,859</b>		<b>7,074</b>	<b>890,933</b>
Revenue:				
Investment Gains	239,969	22,429	-	262,398
Interest and Dividends	103,396	3,645	-	107,041
MRG Events	275	-	-	275
Other Revenue	1,471	-	-	1,471
Administrative Fees	3,128	-	-	3,128
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>348,239</b>	<b>26,074</b>		<b>374,313</b>
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Lilla Jewel Fund Restrictions	8,752	(8,752)	-	-
<b>Total Public Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>1,240,850</b>	<b>17,322</b>	<b>7,074</b>	<b>1,265,246</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Grants and Grant Making	931,158	-	-	931,158
Community Education	7,282	-	-	7,282
Administrative	195,918	-	-	195,918
Fund Raising	18,915	-	-	18,915
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,153,273</b>			<b>1,153,273</b>
Change in Net Assets	87,577	17,322	7,074	111,973
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	1,955,172	76,443	1,294,445	3,326,060
Net Assets at End of Year	\$ 2,042,749	\$ 93,765	\$ 1,301,519	\$ 3,438,033



Director/Author  
Michael Moore  
with Alliance Editor  
Don McIntosh



# expenses 99-00



This financial information was derived from MRG's audited financial statements on which our auditor expressed an unqualified opinion. To obtain a copy of MRG's complete audited financial statement and auditor's opinion, please contact MRG's Portland office.

Of the current year General Fund contributions, 41% was received from five households.

## Pledges Receivable:

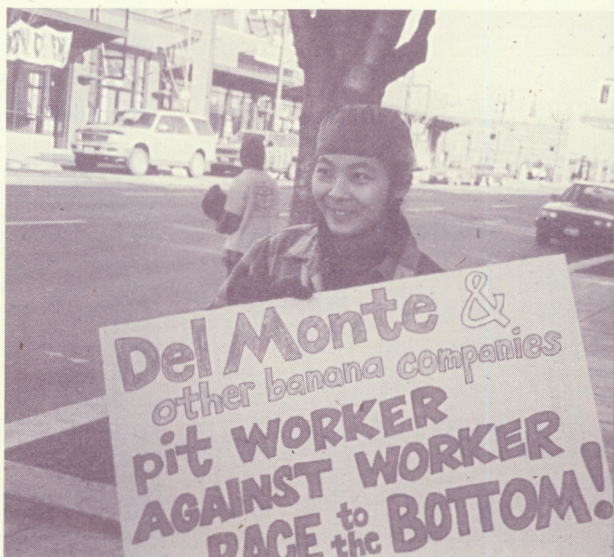
MRG has received promises to give from donors. The pledges receivable balance is from three households at June 30, 2000; 40% is from one household and 29% is from another.

## Settlement Expense:

MRG settled an employee claim for \$45,000 in August of 2000, based on facts and circumstances that existed at June 30, 2000. The amount is included in administrative expenses.



Rogue Valley PowWow Committee



Portland Central America Solidarity Committee



# acknowledgments

Carl & Margery Post Abbott  
 Leslie Abbott  
 Carol Adler  
 Adolfson Associates, Inc.  
 Judith Aftergut  
 Leo Alfonso  
 Dianne Alves  
 Dan Anderson & Joy Strand  
 Frank & Dorothy Anderson  
 Stuart Anderson  
 Evelyn Anderton &  
 Janet Anderson  
 Nancy Arbogast  
 Barbara Aten  
 Gilbert & Laura Avery  
 Joan Bayliss & Irwin Noparstak  
 Nancy Becker & Ed Reckford  
 Ann Bellman & Michael Woods  
 Ashira & Dick Belsey  
 Robert & Leslie Bentley  
 Arwen Bird  
 Sierra Bird  
 Ross Bondurant  
 Sue Brantley  
 Dave & Gretchen Brauer-Rieke  
 Leslie Brockelbank  
 Doug Brown & Jean Demaiffe  
 Shannon Brown & Lance Cole  
 Burley Design Cooperative, Inc.  
 Florence Byrne  
 Alison Cantril & Andy Peara  
 Sarah Cantril & Thomas Nesbit  
 Kathy Caple  
 Stephanie Carnahan  
 George & Fanny Carroll  
 Amy Chang  
 Carol Cheney  
 Debra Connaway  
 John Crabbe & Jeri Janowsky  
 Nicole Czarnomski  
 Nick Daniel  
 Harriet Denison  
 Rochelle Desnick and  
 Rob Jaffe  
 Steven & Beth Deutsch  
 Lisa Grove Donovan  
 Steven Dotterrer

Marlene Drescher  
 Peter Edberg  
 Jacquelyn Ellenz & Steven  
 Snyder  
 Evergreen Hill Fund of Oregon  
 Community Foundation  
 Kathryn Farr  
 Clare Feighan  
 George Fence  
 Jan Fenton & Tim Calvert  
 Ann & David Fidanque  
 Khaiersta Flowers  
 Ruth & Herman Frankel  
 Zorba Frankel  
 Mike Fritchman  
 Funding Exchange (FEX)  
 Larry Garcia  
 Shelly Getzlaf & Tonia Cottrell  
 Howard & Jane Glazer  
 Steve & Monique Goldstein  
 David Goller  
 Jack Gray & Mary Jo Wade  
 Terri Grayum  
 Marge Greenhut & Sierra  
 Lonepine Briano  
 Drina Guzman  
 D.J. Haanraadts  
 Allen Hancock  
 Tom & Jane B. Happy  
 Nancy Haque  
 Catherine Harris  
 William & Barbara Harris  
 Sylvia Hart  
 Rayko & Hideo Hashimoto  
 Chisao Hata  
 Doug Heiken  
 Emily Heilbrun  
 William Herz  
 Helen Hill  
 Larry Hill  
 Hoedads Inc. Co-op  
 Barbara & Kess Hottle  
 Sally & Todd Huffman  
 Penelope Hummel  
 Bert Huntley  
 Hal Jackson & Claire  
 Lichtenfels  
 Ralph D. Jacobson

Jacquie Heller Jacques  
 Steve Jones  
 Marjorie & Ogden Kellogg  
 Megan Kemple  
 Michelle Knox  
 Ann Koucky & Andrew Burke  
 Dawn Lamp  
 Gillian Leichtling  
 Jenny Levison  
 Miriam Levitt, Accounting  
 Services for Nonprofits  
 Larry Lewin & Linda Barber  
 Christine Lichtenfels & Mark  
 Johnson  
 Robert Liebman & Elaine  
 Friedman  
 Penny Lind  
 Alan Locklear & Marie  
 Valleroy  
 Cynthia Lord  
 Norman C. Lumian  
 Ann Macrory  
 Jerome & Sylvia Manheim  
 John & Martha Marks Fund of  
 the Oregon Community  
 Foundation  
 Michael McCann  
 Laurie McClain  
 Bayard & Evelyn  
 McConnaughey  
 Carlo McKee  
 Anne McLaughlin  
 Walter McMonies, Jr.  
 Barbara Meislin  
 Jeffrey Menashe & Wendy Lee  
 Gutmann  
 Mark Mikolavich & Marsha  
 Willard  
 Bonnie & Mark Miller  
 Julie & Martin Miller  
 Charles & Dian Missar  
 Madeline Moore  
 Michael Mooser  
 Peg Morton  
 National Interfaith Committee  
 for Worker Justice  
 Beth Naylor, Jim Watson, &  
 Leah Naylor-Watson  
 NetCorps



Carol Newman  
 Christopher Nielsen  
 Rudi & Laureen Nussbaum  
 David Oaks  
 Juan Carlos Ocaña  
 Rachel Ogdie  
 Kim Ohmart  
 Karen Olch  
 Oregon Natural Resources  
 Council  
 Theodore & Laramie Palmer  
 Gina & Edward Parrack  
 Amara Perez  
 Michael Peterson, Smoke &  
 Mirrors  
 Sandy Polishuk  
 Naomi & Dale Pope  
 Paul Poresky & Gail Mueller  
 Foncy Prescott  
 Mary Norris Preyer Fund  
 Progressive Investment  
 Management  
 Doug Quirk  
 Ralph L. Smith Foundation  
 Richard Ray  
 Shad Reinstein & Jody Laine  
 Rennie's Landing  
 Marta Repollet  
 Resist, Inc.  
 Lydia Rich & Rex Burkholder  
 Jeffrey Richard  
 Jewel Robinson  
 Richard Rodrigues, Jr. & Mark  
 Maguire  
 Pam Rogers  
 Deb Ross  
 Thomas Ross & Laurel  
 LaBathe  
 Michael & Francie Royce  
 John Saemann  
 Mary Lynn Sasso  
 Gregory Satir & Adrienne Fuson  
 Tonia Schmidt  
 James Scott & Elaine Robin  
 Janice Scroggins  
 Trent Seager  
 Thomas Seddon  
 Kenneth Selling  
 David Shapiro  
 Howard & Manya Shapiro  
 Doug Sherman & Jeanne  
 Henry  
 Sue Sherman  
 Sho Shigeoka

Donna & Jerry Slepach  
 Izetta Smith & Ellen Goldberg  
 Sheila Smith  
 Spencer Smith  
 Carolyn Sonfield  
 John & Betty Soreng  
 Joy Spalding  
 Sarah Stephens, Matt, & Owen  
 Wuerker  
 Joan Strouse & Bill Greenfield  
 Esther Stutzman  
 Marion Sweeney  
 Szekely Family Foundation  
 Alice Tallmadge  
 Linda & Brad Taylor  
 Joyce Thomas & Rob  
 Castleberry  
 The Tides Foundation  
 Cathy Travis  
 Trillium Natural Foods  
 Olga Turner  
 Marc Valens  
 Wendy Van Elverdinghe  
 Irene Vlach  
 Carla Wallace  
 Lindy Walsh  
 Howard Waskow & Grey Wolfe  
 Janet Webster Fund of the  
 Oregon Community  
 Foundation  
 Carnet Williams  
 Martin & Carolyn Winch  
 Mary Winch  
 JoAnn Wiser  
 Elisabeth Zall

and 16 Anonymous Donors

#### Endowment Donors

Laurie McClain  
 John & Catherine Smith

#### In Memory of Michael Smith

Doug Sherman & Jeanne Henry  
 Don & Peg Smith

#### In Memory of Quincy Sugarman

Betty Sugarman

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

David Atkin, Attorney  
 Steve Baca, Davis Wright  
 Tremaine  
 Sarah Cloud; Cloud 9 Catering  
 Godfather's Books & Espresso  
 Growers Market  
 Steve Jones, Dain Rauscher,  
 Eugene  
 KBOO - FM, Jack  
 KMUN - FM, Dave Ambrose  
 Pattie Ladd, Riverrun Graphics  
 Laughing Horse Books  
 Laurie McClain, Socially  
 Responsive Investing  
 Shelly McFarland, Sutro  
 & Co. Incorporated  
 Madeline Moore, Socially  
 Responsible Investing  
 Progressive Investment  
 Management  
 M. Sellin Ltd.  
 Pat Tippet, Flaming Carrot  
 Catering  
 Tsunami Books

—Louis Ginsberg





# MRG members

## board of directors



- Leslie Brockelbank, Eugene
- Debra Connaway, Astoria
- Larry Garcia, Eugene
- Nancy Haque, Portland
- Larry Hill, Portland
- Juan Carlos Ocaña, Portland
- Amara Perez, Portland
- Marta Repollet, Portland
- Francie Royce, Portland
- Sho Shigeoka, Corvallis
- Lindy Walsh, Portland
- Carnet Williams, Eugene

## executive committee

- Debra Connaway, Astoria
- Juan Carlos Ocaña, Portland
- Lindy Walsh, Portland

## grantmaking committee

- Debra Connaway, Astoria
- Marlene Drescher, Eugene
- George Fence, Selma
- Larry Garcia, Eugene
- Nancy Haque, Portland
- Larry Hill, Portland
- Penny Lind, Roseburg
- Juan Carlos Ocaña, Portland
- Rachel Ogdie, Eugene
- Trent Seager, Eugene
- Esther Stutzman, Yoncalla
- Olga Turner, Eugene

## steering committee for Strategic Planning

- Arwen Bird, Portland
- Debra Connaway, Astoria
- Larry Garcia, Eugene
- Penny Lind, Roseburg
- Claire Oliveros, Portland

## finance committee

- Nancy Becker, Portland
- Francie Royce, Portland
- Lindy Walsh, Portland

## investment committee

- Leslie Brockelbank, Eugene
- Jack Gray, Noti
- Andy Peara, Eugene

# the funding exchange

MRG is one of 15 autonomous community-based foundations that make up the Funding Exchange, a national foundation committed to funding progressive grassroots activism. The Funding Exchange was founded in 1979 by six of these foundations, including MRG. Today, the Funding Exchange provides grants totalling nearly \$3,000,000 to support social change, and as a network, over \$15,000,000 is awarded nationwide every year.





*Umpqua Watersheds. Photo by Christine Masters.*

human rights. economic justice environmental protection. peace. international solidarity.



change, not charity



MRG