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.
Welcome 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 draft 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

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Linda Reymers, Grants Director
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.

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.

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 statewide 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.
Komemma 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.
**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.
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.

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.
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.
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 Youths 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

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 were 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 Pequeno, 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.

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.
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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th># of grants</th>
<th>total $</th>
<th>% of grants</th>
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<td>Eastern Oregon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:

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

—Audre Lorde

- 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.

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 in 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, 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  16,693
Other assets  5,381
Total Assets  $3,631,528

LIABILITIES
Grants Payable  $129,729
Accrued settlement  45,000
Accounts and other payables  18,766
Total Liabilities  193,495

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
Total Unrestricted  2,042,749
Temporarily restricted, Lilla Jewel Fund  93,765
Permanently restricted: Endowment Fund  1,080,464
Michael Smith Fund  112,497
Lilla Jewel Fund  108,558
Total Permanently Restricted  1,301,519
Total Net Assets  3,438,033
Total Liabilities and Net Assets  $3,631,528

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2000

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE
Unrestricted Temporarily Permanently Total Year Ended
Public Support Contributions: Restricted Restricted June 30, 2000
General  $358,125 $  $ $ 358,125
Donor Pools  139,347
Donor Advised  333,307
Funding Exchange Endowment  48,080
Funding Exchange Project Grant  5,000
Endowment Fund  4,074
Michael Smith Fund  3,000
Total Public Support  883,859
Revenue:
Investment Gains  239,969
Interest and Dividends  103,396
MRC Events  275
Other Revenue  1,471
Administrative Fees  3,128
Total Revenue  348,239
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:
Satisfaction of Lilla Jewel Fund Restrictions  8,752 (8,752)
Total Public Support & Revenue  1,240,850

EXPENSES
Grants and Grant Making  931,158
Community Education  7,282
Administrative  195,918
Fund Raising  18,915
Total Expenses  1,153,273
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 $ 3,101,519 $ 3,438,033

Director/Author
Michael Moore
with Alliance Editor
Don McIntosh
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.
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 Bayliis & 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  
Jacquelynn 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  
Dina 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 Friedmann  
Penny Lind  
Aidan 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 Guttmann  
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
The only thing we ever have is what we give away.

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 Responsible Investing
Shelly McFarland, Sutro & Co. Incorporated
Madeline Moore, Socially Responsible Investing
Progressive Investment Management
M. Sellin Ltd.
Pat Tippett, Flaming Carrot Catering
Tsunami Books
MRG members

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

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

executive committee

Debra Connaway, Astoria
Juan Carlos Ocaña, Portland
Lindy Walsh, 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.
change, not charity

MRG