

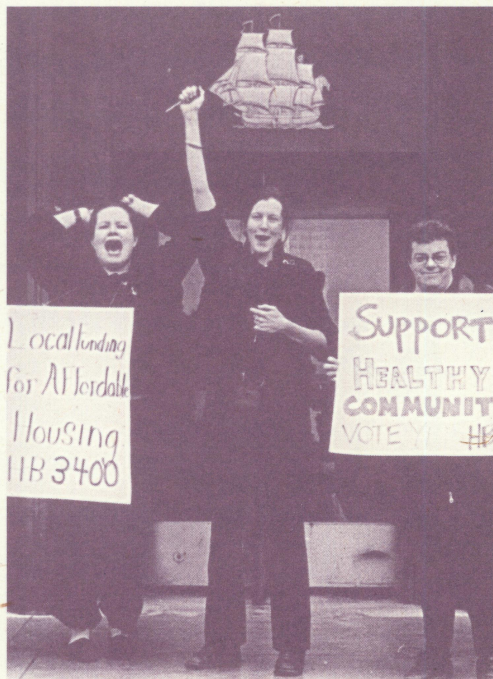
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF FUNDING CHANGE NOT CHARITY



MRC

McKenzie River Gathering
FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2000-01



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

JOIN MRG FOUNDATION AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 25TH YEAR!

And what better way to celebrate our 25th year of funding social change than with the creation of two new programs and increased funding. As a direct outgrowth of our recent strategic planning process, we have developed a Technology Fund and a Capacity Building Fund. Each will launch over this next year, bringing much-needed funds to organizations seeking to build a solid infrastructure to support the work that they do.

We are also taking technology support one step further with our role in creating Project Alchemy, a regional access-to-technology entity borne out of a strategic collaboration between MRG Foundation, A Territory Resource Foundation, Pride Foundation, and the Women's Funding Alliance.

We are proud to report that while some in the philanthropic community are tightening their purse strings, MRG Foundation continues to invest more in the communities we support. In fact, we increased our total funding by 25% over last year's totals!

Key to our success in finding and funding the most effective, strategic work in Oregon is our continued commitment to a democratic, activist-led decision-making process. We are the only Oregon-based foundation that turns to those most qualified to make funding decisions, those actively involved in social, economic and environmental justice issues from around the state. MRG Foundation invites you to join us in our effort to support this vital work. Your continued financial commitment enables us to fund and promote the work of communities committed to justice throughout Oregon. Join us as we look ahead to another 25 years! —Susan Remmers, Executive Director



Juan Carlos Ocaña, Kathleen Pequeño and Richard Rodrigues at the 25th anniversary picnic in Eugene.

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grantees 2000-01

AIDS Education Council of Eastern Oregon, La Grande, \$5,000

Conducting outreach for the only community-based HIV/AIDS group in all of Eastern Oregon. This includes programs for high-risk populations, establishment of a controversial needle-exchange program, and strategies to meet the needs of the growing migrant population.

AIDS Support and Prevention of Josephine County, Grants Pass, \$3,500

Continuing work directed at de-stigmatizing HIV-affected people and families in a rural county with active far-right organizations. They focus on public education and visibility through events, speakers and publications as well as outreach to high-risk populations.

Alliance for Sustainable Jobs & the Environment Education Project, Portland, \$5,000

Seed funding for this network of labor and environmental groups whose mission is to see "nature protected, the worker respected, and unrestrained corporate power rejected." Their major programs are job creation through forest restoration, exposure of corporate irresponsibility, and opposition to global free trade agreements.

Alliance of Forest Workers and Harvesters, Portland, \$6,000

Developing a multi-cultural organization promoting social, environmental and economic justice for forest workers in Oregon. The Alliance will inject a multicultural forest worker perspective that promotes environmentally sound, economically-sustainable decision-making.

ANPO, Portland, \$5,000

Building a kitchen for the Mt. Hood multi-tribal gathering place. Since food is a part of Native religious practice, this gathering place will help ensure the survival of Native American cultural traditions and sacred sites.

Cascadia Wildlands Project, Eugene, \$7,000

Challenging government land "management," which is a cover for corporate seizure of the public's natural heritage. They will continue to build upon their success in protecting the remaining old-growth forests in Western Oregon. None of the timber sales they have opposed has been logged.

CAUSA, Salem, \$10,000

General support for this nationally-recognized statewide immigrant rights coalition of 60 member groups. They will emphasize immigrant labor rights through worksite monitoring, an immigrant worker-labor union working group, media, and public education.

Center for Environmental Equity, Portland, \$3,000

Support for the only Oregon-based organization working to stop mining degradation of water, public lands and wild places. They will identify and document abandoned and inactive-SW Oregon mine sites and then work in coalition with local community groups to pressure government agencies to clean up these sites.

Centro de Ayuda, Newport, \$4,000

Responding to the influx of monolingual Latino workers on the central coast. In addition to gaining attention for their issues through coalition participation, cultural events and media, they are providing advocacy and intervention on housing, healthcare, employment and educational concerns.

Chicano Culture Club, Salem, \$2,250

General support for Latino Oregon State Prison inmate group. They are challenging the use of culturally biased psychological testing by the prison system and working to gain recognition of their right to traditional spiritual practices.

Citizens for a Voice in Growth, Grants Pass, \$4,000

Challenging the massive explosion of unregulated growth in Grants Pass with organizing that links economic justice and environmental protection. Josephine County is known as the "outlaw county"; circumventing the law, often at the expense of low-income residents, is a common practice.

Clatsop County AIDS Coalition, Astoria, \$6,000

Developing resource-sharing coalitions in the wake of funding cutbacks for rural HIV organizations. They will develop a five-county HIV/AIDS network as well as a local Health and Wellness Center uniting HIV, Latino and low-income groups.



Alliance of Forest Workers and Harvesters

Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People, Eugene, \$6,000

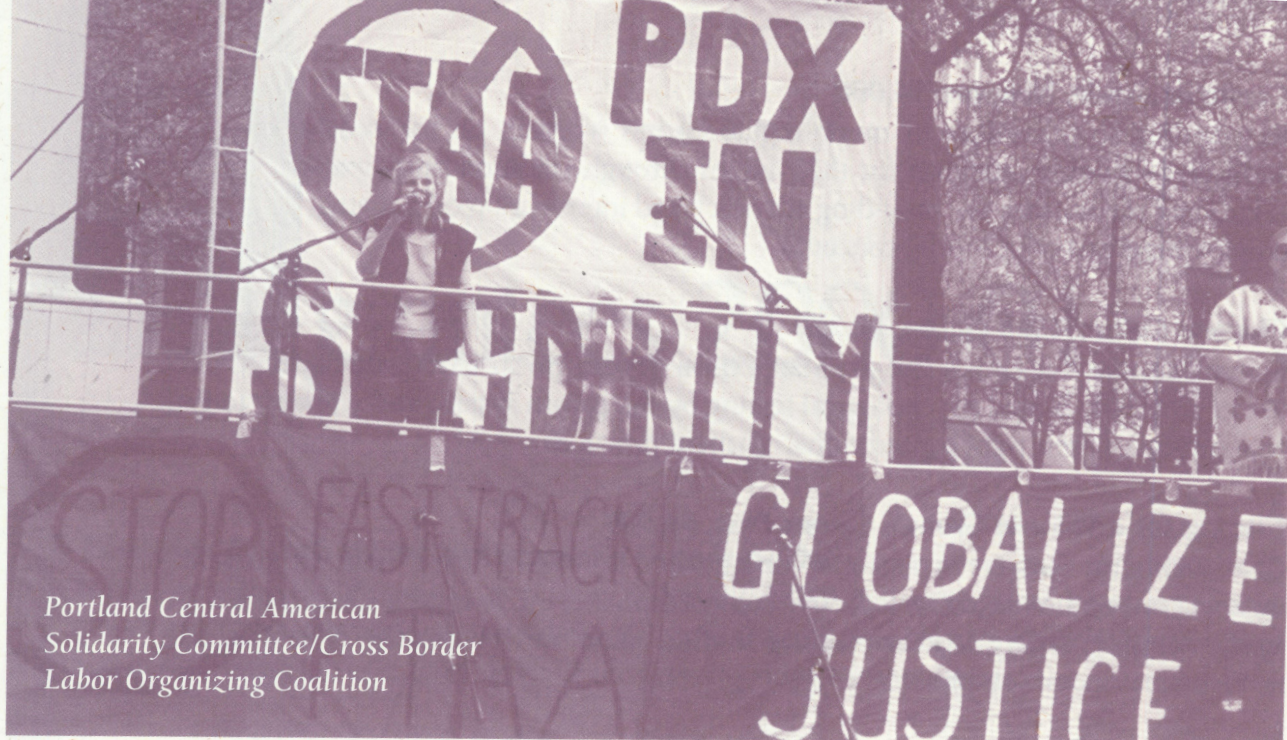
Continuing education and action programs by this group linking social justice work in Latin America and the U.S. Major areas of activity will include the Walk for Farmworker Justice, global free trade resistance, opposition to U.S. intervention in Columbia, and the Mexican Zapatista movement.

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

Support for capacity building by creating a development director position. In addition to their ongoing Housing Justice Campaign addressing the myriad problems tenants face, CAT is organizing low-income renters in a Portland urban renewal district to challenge housing displacement.

Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue, Coos Bay, \$6,000

Sustaining the cultural survival of Southwestern Oregon Native peoples. In addition to organizing their annual Gathering of the Peoples, they will preserve the Tututni language with a project led by tribal members and the few remaining Tututni elders. While professional linguists will assist with the project, it will be led by tribal members to ensure it reflects traditional values.



Portland Central American
Solidarity Committee/Cross Border
Labor Organizing Coalition

Consejo Hispano, Astoria, \$4,500

Advocating for the growing Clatsop County Latino population. They will confront stereotyping issues, mobilize local residents through cultural events and media, and educate their members about access to legal, medical and social services.

Environmental Justice Action Group, Portland, \$6,000

Challenging the disproportionate environmental and public health hazards faced by the low-income, multi-racial N/NE Portland community. They will focus on building membership and on implementing an air quality campaign in an area that has 30 sites included on the federal Toxic Release Inventory.

Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network Fund, Eugene, \$7,000

Launching a program that enables participants to re-conceptualize the local economy as something upon which they can have a progressive impact. This program includes trainings on living wage issues, coalition building, and presentation skill development.

For Us Northwest, Portland, \$3,000

Seed funding for this group advocating on behalf of children affected by HIV/AIDS. Mirroring the changing demographics of the disease, the group is comprised of 50% people of color and 40% women. They seek to change funding priorities, health care systems and schools to be more responsive to the needs of these children and their families.

Freedom Road, Salem, \$2,000

Multicultural program by an Oregon State Prison inmate coalition promoting non-violent problem-solving skills among youth. Freedom Road has conducted programs in over 30 schools across Oregon.

The Healing Circle, Astoria, \$6,000

Strengthening the infrastructure of this group that challenges local norms which overlook child abuse. They will increase their volunteer base, provide a safe space to educate children, and increase community understanding of the link between child abuse and other forms of oppression.

HIV Positive Newsletter, Portland, \$4,000

Capacity-building project to stabilize their organization and expand circulation. Purposely independent of other organizations, they see their role as providing a way for people living with HIV/AIDS to provide an informed consumer voice in public agency decisions affecting their lives.

Human Dignity Coalition, Bend, \$4,000

General support for this group involving people targeted by the far right in organizing for social and economic justice. Located in one of the fastest-growing regions of the country, their activities include a diversity conference and a public education campaign.

Human Rights Coalition of Jackson County, Medford, \$5,000

General support for anti-bigotry group working in a conservative rural region. Their work includes: a police monitoring project, a farmworker needs assessment survey and report, a housing-as-a-human right conference, and ongoing work addressing hate group activity and discrimination.

Jefferson Center for Education and Research, Wolf Creek, \$5,000

Continuing start-up activities for a project bringing together rural workers across employment sectors (forest, seafood, farm, hospitality, etc.) to address problems with low-wage temporary, contingent contract work. Jefferson Center is a statewide multi-ethnic economic justice group.

Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, Williams, \$7,000

Support for K-S Wild's Public Lands Oversight Campaign involving monitoring, public education, organizing and legal strategies 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.

Lakota Oyate Ki, Salem, \$4,000

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

Latinos Unidos Siempre, Salem, \$5,000

Organizing by a youth group based in the Latino community. They will document discrimination against students of color in the schools, address the disproportionate representation of Latino youth in the criminal justice system, and press for more bilingual/bicultural teachers.



Lakota Oyate Ki

Lesbian Community Project, Portland, \$2,000

A project to overcome the marginalization of deaf lesbians. It will include American Sign Language classes, a deaf theater presentation, a web site upgrade to make LCP communications more accessible to deaf women, and a "conversations project" that will further develop LCP's capacity to involve deaf women.

Network for Immigrant Justice, Eugene, \$3,500

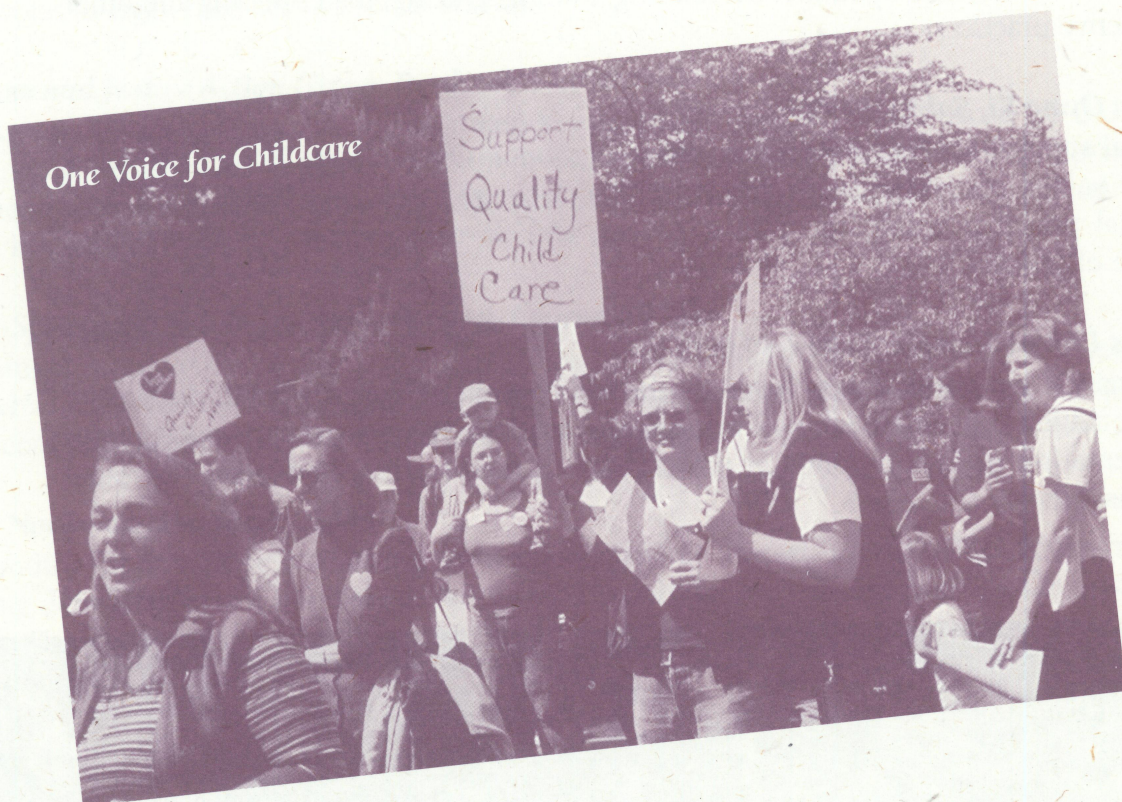
General support for this Lane County group working to counter anti-immigrant efforts & promote broad support for immigrant rights. They are committed to developing their program to reflect the increasing number of immigrants in the region & to respond to intensified oppressive tactics by the federal immigration agency.

Northwest Alliance for Alternative Media and Education, Portland, \$3,000

Developing the Portland Alliance, which has become a major media outlet for local organizing projects. They will establish connections with emerging progressive movements, publicize grass-roots efforts, and expand the paper's distribution.

One Voice for Childcare, Portland, \$2,500

A conference to train advocates who will work together to improve the quality, accessibility, and affordability of childcare in Oregon. They will focus on improving the political awareness of women in this low-paying field and on the needs of working low-income families.



Oregon Coalition on Housing and Homelessness, Salem, \$5,000

Increasing the ability of this 47-member group coalition to organize around poverty, housing, and homelessness issues. They will sponsor a statewide advocacy training, increase organizational involvement of homeless people, and develop the group's visibility and effectiveness through media, a newsletter and a web site.

Oregon Farm Worker Ministry, Woodburn, \$3,000

Educating and mobilizing religious and community groups to support justice for farmworkers. They will address issues including low wages, harsh working conditions, pesticide exposure and subsidies to agribusiness.

ANPO: building a kitchen for the Mt. Hood multi-tribal gathering place.



Oregon Human Rights Coalition, Portland, \$8,000

Mobilizing low-income people to become effective advocates in decisions that affect their lives. OHRC challenges the punitive impacts of welfare reform through educational materials and forums on client rights, a hotline to assist people denied benefits, and participation in economic justice/public policy coalitions.

Oregon Toxics Alliance, Eugene, \$5,000

Seed funding to establish a statewide organization to address toxics (substances that travel through the air, water, food chain, and generations). They will initiate collaborative campaigns, assist local groups responding to toxics exposure, press for fundamental shifts in policies regarding toxics, educate the media, and serve as an information clearinghouse.

Parents with Voices, Salem, \$4,000

Providing a collective voice for bilingual Latino parents to participate in creating local schools that are responsive to the needs of all children. This group assists parents in advocating for their children, documents violations of students' rights, and involves parents in collectively challenging discriminatory school policies.

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, Portland, \$6,000

General support for PCASC's opposition to U.S. military and economic intervention in Latin America. They sponsor immigrant rights theater productions, work with Cross Border Labor Organizing Coalition, and build on the momentum challenging corporate globalization.

Portland Jobs with Justice, Portland, \$6,000

Support for the ongoing work of this 42-group coalition of labor, community, social justice and religious groups working to defend the rights of working people. They will focus on implementing their sustainable economics project, on building the Workers' Rights Board in Portland, and on developing a labor/student/environmental coalition to challenge globalization.

Portland Taiko, Portland, \$5,000

Producing a community-based taiko drumming work, "Rock the Boat Project: Challenging Racism Towards Asian Americans in Oregon." This project will challenge cultural mores that dampen activism against racism and unite Asian communities and generations in an activist network.



Progressive Options, Lincoln City, \$3,000

Advocating by and for people with disabilities who will be trained to ensure their access to community resources. Area human service providers often erect roadblocks to those seeking assistance while tourism-based businesses try to keep people with disabilities invisible.

Rogue Valley Oregon Action, Medford, \$5,000

Expanding their Living Wage Jobs Campaign to include local low-income mobile home park residents whose homes are threatened by developers. The Affordable Housing Campaign will build resident councils and develop new leaders to give residents a voice in determining fair housing policies.

Rural Organizing Project, Scappoose, \$8,000

Broadening the work of this statewide network of more than 50 human dignity groups, some of whom are in areas receiving the federal designation of "frontier" due to their lack of infrastructure. ROP is a critical resource for often-isolated activists because of their multi-issue analyses and the resources they provide for grassroots organizing.

Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality, Salem, \$5,000

General support for this multi-racial coalition addressing the inequities students of color and low-income youth face in local schools. They address issues include reducing drop-out/suspension rates among youth of color, increasing school staff diversity, and restructuring of the English as a Second Language and special needs programs.

Shamrock Collective, Eugene, \$4,500

Providing an inclusive community space and organizing center. The center now includes a library, communications center, kidspace, and meeting area and houses groups involved in low-income organizing, prisoner rights, progressive media, and environmental issues.

Sisters in Action for Power, Portland, \$7,000

General support for this group developing the leadership of low-income women and girls and women of color. Their current organizing campaign is addressing the transportation and education barriers low-income families face in Portland, with a goal of free bus transportation so that all students are able to attend school.

Sojourner Truth Theater Company, Portland, \$4,000

Expanding their 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 and Resource Alliance, Portland, \$6,000

Conducting culturally-appropriate outreach projects that utilize events and places frequented by South Asians. Including eight languages in their efforts, SAWERA's goal is to create a community that does not tolerate violence towards women and children.

street roots, Portland, \$3,000

Producing and distributing a newspaper by and for homeless and low-income people. In addition to the newspaper, this group has developed other forums for providing communication between the city's 3,000 homeless people and the general public.

Sunny Wolf Neighborhood Women, Wolf Creek, \$4,000

Holding ten interactive workshops to increase the ability of rural low-income women to provide leadership in their area. They will focus on addressing controversial economic development decision-making processes from which low-income people have largely been excluded.

Support Coalition Northwest, Eugene, \$3,000

Disseminating the stories of more than 50 Oregon psychiatric survivors to the public and decision-makers. The goal is to move the focus of psychiatric care from forced treatment and commitment to advocacy and service.

***Survivors Advocating for an Effective System, Portland, \$4,000***

Developing an organization comprised of survivors of crime and their allies whose goal is to shift the debate over criminal justice away from vengeance and towards rehabilitation. Activism by those most effected by crime provides a powerful voice in this debate—one that is sought after by media and decision-makers.

Theater Ikcewicasa, Ashland, \$4,000

Cultural organizing by Native American artists presenting Native stories, theater, dance, poetry and song. Using oral tradition and workshops, they include issues of stereotyping, sovereignty, and authentic cultural expression in their performances at schools and community events throughout Southern Oregon.

Umpqua Watersheds, Roseburg, \$6,000

Expansion of their forest monitoring, community outreach & watershed protection campaigns. In an area where environmentalists have been at physical risk, they provide a safe and respected organizational vehicle for voices of change to be heard.

Unete al Movimiento de Conciencia Popular, Medford, \$6,000

Project developing farmworker leadership to defend their rights and participate in decisions that affect their lives. Issues they address include immigration, labor camp health & safety, pesticide use, and better wages.

Voz Hispana, Woodburn, \$5,000

Gaining recognition of farmworker struggles through full implementation of César Chavez Day in the Woodburn School District—an area with a Latino majority. They will be developing their ability to organize around school policies and to challenge the Woodburn power structure.

VOZ: Workers' Rights Education Project, Portland, \$5,000

Organizing day laborers—generally immigrant Latino men—to protect their rights as workers and obtain safer working conditions. They will develop grassroots leadership to educate churches, unions, and government officials about day laborer economic contributions and the abuses they face.

Western Prison Project, Portland, \$7,000

Continuing the development of this new group involved in pressing for prisoner rights and alternatives to incarceration. Their program involves public education, community mobilization, networking & assisting the development of local criminal justice reform groups.

Willamette Valley Law Project, Woodburn, \$6,250

Establishing a “micro” radio station to provide an effective mass communication medium to further the efforts of progressive organizations based in the area’s Latino community. WVLP estimates that the radio station will enable them to quadruple the number of people responding to their mobilization alerts within two years.

Willamette Valley Reforestation, Molalla, \$5,000

Ensuring the visibility and participation of the mobile Latino workforce in the development of community-based forestry. Without this effort, the leadership of this eco-system-based movement is likely to perpetuate the institutional racism of the forest industry and agencies.

Workers' Organizing Committee, Portland, \$6,000

Building leadership and participation among low-wage workers in private sector workplaces using the leverage gained through local government living wage policy. Working with laborers who are primarily immigrants, people of color and women, they will challenge the polarized statewide economic system that enables 77% of jobs to pay less than living wages.

geographic distribution of grants

61 grants totalling \$303,000

	# of grants	total \$	% of grants	% of \$
Northern Corridor (North I-5)	23	109,500	38%	36%
Mid-Willamette Valley (Mid-I-5)	6	32,000	10%	11%
Southern Oregon (South I-5)	10	49,500	16%	16%
Rural	8	38,500	13%	13%
Statewide	14	73,500	23%	24%

other grants

DONOR-ADVISED GRANTS

ACLU Foundation of Oregon
 American Friends Service
 Committee
 American Place Theater
 Basic Rights Oregon
 Birth to Three
 Building Bridges
 CARE Inc.
 Cares Northwest
 Cascade AIDS Project
 Child Reach
 Clatsop County Women's
 Crisis Service
 Coalition for a Livable Future
 Committee in Solidarity with
 the Central American People
 Community Advocates
 Community Alliance of
 Lane County
 Congregation Beth Israel
 Do Jump Dance Theater
 Domestic Violence
 Prevention Fund
 Earth Justice Legal Defense
 Emerald Valley Animal League
 Eugene-Springfield
 Solidarity Network
 Evergreen Housing Inc.
 Fisher Memorial A.M.E.
 Zion Church
 Food for Lane County
 Friends of Buford Park &
 Mt. Pisgah
 Funding Exchange
 Global Exchange
 Good Samaritan Foundation
 Goose Hollow Family Shelter
 Gustavas Community Assoc.
 Hambleton Project
 HIV Alliance
 INFACT
 Institute for Traditional
 Medicine
 KBOO-FM
 Lesbian Community Project
 Mediation Works
 Mobility International
 Mother Kali's
 Mt. Hood Council of
 Camp Fire Boys & Girls
 Network for Immigrant Justice

Northwest Coalition for
 Alternatives to Pesticides
 Northwest Pilot Project
 Oregon Center for
 Public Policy
 Oregon Food Bank
 Oregon Human Rights
 Coalition
 Oregon Natural Resources
 Council
 Oregon Peaceworks
 Outside In
 Planned Parenthood
 Portland Alliance
 Resource Generation
 Rural Organizing Project
 Save the West
 SHCG/Oak Hill School
 Sisters in Action for Power

Sisters of the Road Cafe
 Sojourner Truth
 Theater Company
 Southern Poverty Law Center
 Threatened & Endangered
 Little Applegate Valley
 United for a Fair Economy
 Volunteers in Medicine Clinic
 Walking Stick Foundation
 Western Prison Project
 Western States Center
 Willamette Valley Law
 Project/PCUN
 Women in the Woods
 Women's Community
 Education Project/In Other
 Words Books
 Women's Crisis Center
 Women's Film Collective

the michael smith fund

street roots • Theater Ikcewicasa

lilla jewel fund for women artists

Portland Taiko • Media and Multi-Arts: Aysha Ghazoul

travel grants

Clatsop County
 AIDS Coalition
 Consejo Hispano
 HIV/AIDS Awareness
 Program/ Oregon State
 Penitentiary
 Illinois Valley Safe
 House Project
 Peace in Columbia
 Action Group
 Portland Central America
 Solidarity Committee
 Portland Jobs with Justice
 Shelter Development
 Committee
 Support Coalition
 Voz Hispana
 Western Prison Project

critical response
grants

Alliance for Sustainable
 Jobs & the Environment
 CAUSA
 Coast Range Association
 Community Against
 Railroad Pollution
 Lane Co. Stop the FTAA
 Coalition
 Love Makes a Family
 Oregon Clearinghouse for
 Pollution Reduction
 Oregon Human Rights
 Coalition
 Wake-Up
 Walk for Farmworker Justice
 Willamette Valley Law
 Project

project alchemy: regional access to technology

looking to the future

MRG Foundation is pleased to announce expanded support for Oregon progressive social change activism through our two new grant programs: Technology Fund and Capacity Building Fund. These will be permanent, ongoing programs to support social change in Oregon.

technology fund

More than 90% of the respondents to a statewide survey identified technology support as a need. We have the benefit of building on our experience with Project Connect, a pilot access to technology project we completed in the summer of 2000. One of the key elements to our Technology Fund will be a needs assessment. This ensures that our grants will enable technology to more fully advance the organizational missions of recipient organizations—often in ways unanticipated by applicants. The needs assessments will be provided by Project Alchemy, of which MRG Foundation is a founding member. Grantees can also use other providers to complete the standard needs assessment format we will provide.

A technology grant from MRG Foundation could provide software, hardware, training and a technology consultant's time. As this program develops, we will contact previous MRG Foundation technology grantees to encourage them to reapply to ensure their technology is up to date.

capacity building fund

These grants will provide resources to help grantees develop their organizations to be more effective in carrying out their programs. The largest grant would be \$3,000 and must provide training or facilitation to develop the skills of staff and volunteers—as opposed to hiring outside experts to do the work. Examples of capacity building training include fundraising, coalition-building, long-range planning, leadership development, financial management, building diverse organizations, and media and communications.

project alchemy

REGIONAL ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

As a founding member, the McKenzie River Gathering Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of Project Alchemy. A regional collaboration, Project Alchemy's purpose is to create a permanent program to provide technology assistance to grassroots organizations focused on social justice in the Northwest. Partners include innovative social justice funders, hi-tech industry volunteers, and the community-based groups fighting for change in communities across the Northwest.

Project Alchemy will provide a wide spectrum of hands-on technology support, including technology needs assessments, implementation, and training with support and follow up. But most important, Project Alchemy will assist groups toward advancing their missions while broadening their understanding of the many technology applications relevant to the work they do.

MRG Foundation recognizes the role of technology in social change work can not be ignored. To be effective, activists must have access to basic computer, Internet, and communication technology and understand how to effectively use these tools. Our past experience with Project Connect and the launching of our new Technology Fund will help ensure Project Alchemy's success.

the funding criteria

MRG Foundation 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 Foundation 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 Foundation's grants program focuses on organizing efforts addressing human rights, economic justice, environmental protection, and international solidarity. Within these broad areas, MRG Foundation 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.



Portland Taiko

the funding process

MRG Foundation's funding process is designed to involve applicants and grantmakers in constructive dialogue, and to assist novice grant-seekers 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 Foundation's grantmaking office in Eugene to receive an application packet. Only proposals submitted by completing MRG Foundation's application form can be considered.

MRG Foundation'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 Foundation's process.

During Presentation Day, which caps our information-gathering efforts, finalists describe their proposed projects to the committee and respond to questions. MRG Foundation 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 grant-making process. Presentation Day is also one of the few opportunities activists from around 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.

who are mrg & donors?

Hundreds of

Oregonians support grassroots social change through MRG Foundation. By making contributions to MRG Foundation, 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 Foundation donors make annual gifts ranging from \$5 to \$50,000, 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 Foundation'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 Foundation is a pioneer among philanthropies in Oregon with a track record of providing early money when and where it is needed to elevate 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 Foundation'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 Foundation to distribute almost \$500,000 in grants to Oregon groups. If you are interested in learning more about MRG Foundation 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

Planned Giving ~ MRG Foundation 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, donors should contact MRG Foundation's Portland office.

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

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

Donor Pools ~ MRG Foundation 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. Additional gifts can be added at any time. A donor can transfer gifts from a donor pool to MRG Foundation's general fund, and/or nominate fields of interest or other charitable organizations to be the recipients of grants.

Socially Responsible Investing Seminars ~ MRG Foundation'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 a *Women and Wealth Conference* to deal with the special needs of women with wealth.

Donor/Activist Briefings ~ MRG Foundation 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.

ways to contribute to mrg

MRG Foundation'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 Foundation'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 Foundation by becoming a donor, here are some of your options:

- Write a check today.
- Make a monthly, quarterly, or annual pledge.
- Name MRG Foundation in your will, or talk to family members about planning a bequest to MRG Foundation in your name.
- Donate appreciated stock or real property and avoid capital gains taxes, while receiving a tax deduction.
- Contact MRG Foundation 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 Foundation'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 Foundation. MRG Foundation staff are always available for consulting as you plan your giving.

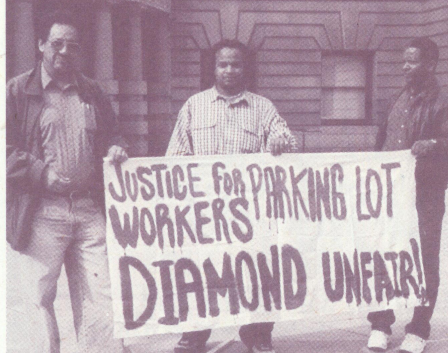
mrg's endowment

Why did MRG Foundation 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 Foundation has successfully navigated these waters. Our endowment was an important step for a community foundation that has always taken its responsibilities to donors and applicants seriously.

Income from MRG Foundation's endowment is used for operating expenses, making more of the money raised annually available for grants. Income from MRG Foundation's endowment contributed more than \$108,000 to our general fund during the past year. MRG Foundation welcomes additional gifts to the endowment from those who have not yet given and those whose circumstances permit additional gifts.

rob mccay fund

MRG Foundation was saddened by the sudden death of long-term supporter and committed activist Rob McCay. Rob will be remembered for his commitment to peace, the environment and nuclear disarmament. After his death, MRG Foundation learned we were the recipient of a charitable remainder trust that will be used to support grantees throughout the state. Rob's bequest to MRG Foundation leaves a lasting legacy to progressive activists in Oregon. Over the past few years, MRG Foundation has been the beneficiary of bequests. These gifts will help ensure support to meet the many challenges we know lie ahead.



acknowledgments

Carl & Margery Post Abbott
 Carol Adler
 Judith Aftergut
 Dan Anderson & Joy Strand
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 Stuart Anderson
 Evelyn Anderton & Janet Anderson
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[Photo, above:
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In Memory of Joseph Schoenfeld

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In Memory of Michael Smith

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 Sweet Life Bakey
 Tazo Tea



Voz Hispana

financial report, 2000-01

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION For the Year Ended June 30, 2001

ASSETS

Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 1,295,749
Investments	3,036,452
Pledges receivable	78,593
Office equipment & furniture, net of accumulated depreciation	15,145
Other assets	5,883
Total Assets	\$ 4,431,822

LIABILITIES

Grants Payable	\$ 36,760
Accounts and other payables	20,559
Total Liabilities	57,319

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted:	
General Fund	708,882
Board Designated, Operating Reserve	220,000
Board Designated, Donor Pools	492,196
Board Designated, Endowment	258,787
Board Designated, Michael Smith Fund	57,655
Total Unrestricted	1,737,520
Temporarily restricted:	
Lilla Jewel Fund	64,248
Rob McCay Fund	1,056,726
Contributions for future periods	50,000
Total Temporarily Restricted	1,170,974
Permanently restricted:	
Endowment Fund	1,243,852
Michael Smith Fund	113,599
Lilla Jewel Fund	108,558
Total Permanently Restricted	1,466,009
Total Net Assets	4,374,503
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 4,431,822

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended June 30, 2001

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE				
Public Support Contributions:				
General	\$ 306,581	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 356,581
Donor Pools	443,050	-	-	443,050
Donor Advised	28,485	-	-	28,485
Funding Exchange Endowment	54,796	-	-	54,796
Rob McCay Fund	-	1,056,726	-	1,056,726
Endowment Fund	-	-	63,390	63,390
Michael Smith Fund	-	-	1,100	1,100
Total Public Support	832,912	1,106,726	64,490	2,004,128
Revenue:				
Investment Gains (Losses)	(243,918)	(23,129)	-	(267,047)
Interest and Dividends	104,872	3,964	-	108,836
Other Revenue	1,173	-	-	1,173
Administrative Fees	612	-	-	612
Total Revenue	(137,261)	(19,165)	-	(156,426)
Donor Pool Transfer to Endowment Fund	(100,000)	-	100,000	-
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Lilla Jewel Fund Restrictions	10,352	(10,352)	-	-
Total Public Support & Revenue	606,003	1,077,209	164,490	1,847,702
EXPENSES				
Grants and Grant Making	634,406	-	-	634,406
Community Education	31,192	-	-	31,192
Administrative	211,402	-	-	211,402
Fund Raising	34,232	-	-	34,232
Total Expenses	911,232	-	-	911,232
Change in Net Assets	(305,229)	1,077,209	164,490	936,470
Net Assets, June 30, 2000	2,042,749	93,765	1,301,519	3,438,033
Net Assets, June 30, 2001	\$ 1,737,520	\$ 1,170,974	\$ 1,466,009	\$ 4,374,503

Salem Keizer Coalition for Equality



financial report, 2000-01

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES For the Year Ended June 30, 2001

	PROGRAM SERVICES		SUPPORTIVE SERVICES		TOTAL
	Grants and Grant Making	Community Education	Administrative	Fund Raising	
DIRECT GRANTS					
Funding Cycle grants	\$ 303,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 303,000
Travel & Critical Response grants	14,713	-	-	-	14,713
Project Connect initiative	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Lilla Jewel Fund grants	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Donor advised grants	28,485	-	-	-	28,485
Donor pool grants	193,210	-	-	-	193,210
Total Direct Grants	551,408	-	-	-	551,408
PERSONNEL					
Wages	41,776	14,215	88,366	10,159	154,516
Payroll taxes	3,662	1,246	7,746	891	13,545
Employee benefits	7,004	2,383	14,816	1,704	25,907
Total Personnel	52,442	17,844	110,928	12,754	193,968
OTHER					
Accounting & bookkeeping	-	-	10,200	-	10,200
Books & subscriptions	22	8	56	69	155
Copying & printing	3,077	1,268	2,601	6,921	13,867
Event expense	57	451	-	104	612
Equipment & technology purchases	995	306	1,592	340	3,233
Equipment repair & lease	3,419	169	3,856	235	7,679
Staff search	1,002	-	1,010	341	2,353
Funding Exchange tithe	-	-	13,375	-	13,375
Insurance	420	(15)	1,480	1	1,886
Meetings & travel	4,646	860	4,772	848	11,126
Miscellaneous	64	432	2,635	1,589	4,720
Office rent	6,045	1,518	9,816	992	18,371
Office supplies	1,656	1,445	3,299	363	6,763
Portfolio management	-	-	16,562	-	16,562
Postage	1,332	990	1,750	1,640	5,712
Professional services	5,656	5,216	18,571	6,021	35,464
Staff development	-	-	828	1,697	2,525
Telephone	2,165	700	3,495	317	6,677
Depreciation	-	-	4,576	-	4,576
Total Other	30,556	13,348	100,474	21,478	165,856
Total Expenses	\$ 634,40	\$ 31,192	\$ 211,402	\$ 34,232	\$ 911,232

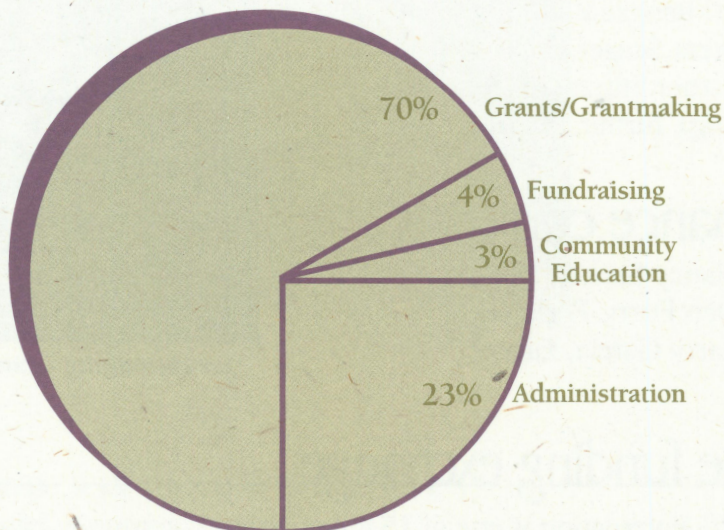
NONCASH OPERATING AND INVESTING ACTIVITY

MRG received a contribution of stock investments worth \$1,056,726.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Cash Flows of Operating Activities:	
Change in Net Assets	\$ 936,470
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	
Noncash support, Robert McCay Fund	(1,056,726)
Noncash expense, depreciation	4,576
Nonoperating support, current year permanently restricted contributions	(164,490)
Investment (gains) losses	267,047
(Increase) decrease in other assets	(27,268)
Increase (decrease) in grants payable	(92,969)
Increase (decrease) in accrued settlement	(45,000)
Increase (decrease) in other liabilities	1,793
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Provided (Used) by Operating Activities	(176,567)
Cash Flows of Investing Activities:	
Purchase of equipment and furniture	(3,786)
Proceeds from sale of investments	351,760
Purchase of investments	(378,258)
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	(30,284)
Cash Flows of Financing Activities:	
Permanently restricted fund contributions received	164,490
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents Provided (Used) by Financing Activities	164,490
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(42,361)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, June 30, 2000	1,338,110
Cash and Cash Equivalents, June 30, 2001	\$1,295,749

expenses, 2000-01



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.

mrg's leaders

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Larry Garcia, *Eugene*

MRG Foundation thanks the following for their participation on the Staff, Board and/or Grantmaking Committee over the past year:

Kathleen Pequeño
Amara Perez
Jamie Peta
Marta Repollet
Francie Royce
Lindy Walsh

MRG Foundation thanks the following for their volunteer support:

Evelyn Anderton
Gil Avery
Nick Daniel
Zorba Frankel
Doug Heiken
Bonnie Hill
Cait Hill
Gillian Leichtling
Julie Miller
Doug Quirk
Leslie Scott
Linda Tarr
Laurel Weissman-Gore



Grantmaking Committee & Grantees on Presentation Day

the funding exchange

MRG Foundation 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 Foundation. 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.



Ron Keebler Photography

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