



When I dare
to be powerful,
to use my
strength
in the service
of my
vision,
then it becomes
less and less important
whether I am
afraid.

Audre Lorde

MRCG

McKenzie River Gathering

FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2002

*"If you are neutral in
situations of injustice,
you have chosen the
side of the oppressor.
If an elephant has his
foot on the tail of a
mouse and you say that
you are neutral,
the mouse will not
appreciate your
neutrality."*

Desmond Tutu



These are perhaps the most politically conservative times we have seen in many decades.

Despite this and the current economic uncertainty, MRG Foundation embraces its work with both a sense of hope and a renewed commitment to serve those struggling to bring about social and political justice statewide.

In fact, we granted more than \$350,000 to local grassroots organizations throughout Oregon, the most we've ever distributed in our 26 year history! We also launched the much anticipated Technology Fund and were the first foundation to provide funding to those responding to 9/11 in Oregon.

MRG Foundation is continuing to strengthen and build upon our own infrastructure to more effectively manage growth and implement new programs. Priorities include board development, political education and leadership training.

As an active member of the Funding Exchange, MRG Foundation is working hard along with 15 other funds throughout the country to assess and address institutional racism both within the network and throughout the progressive communities we support. This work comes at a critical time, given the erosion of civil liberties and economic injustice that continues to sweep the nation following 9/11.

These are difficult and uncertain times in which we live. MRG Foundation, our grantees and our donors remain undeterred in our efforts to address inequities and to support human rights, economic justice, environmental protection and international solidarity.

MRG Foundation and the dedicated activist groups working to build a progressive social change movement in Oregon can accomplish our goals only through the continued financial support of current and future donors. Your support over the past year has been inspiring and greatly appreciated.

As Board Chair, I invite you to join us as we continue to increase our efforts in support of the very vital work being done at the grassroots level all over our state.

Debra Connaway, Board Chair, MRG Foundation



Portland Office

2705 E. Burnside, Suite 210

Portland, Oregon 97214

Phone: 503-289-1517

Fax: 503-232-1731

Susan Remmers, Executive Director

Edith Casterline, Administrator

Sheryl Sackman, Development Director

Eugene Office

P.O. Box 50160

Eugene, Oregon 97405

Phone: 541-485-2790

1-800-489-6743 (MRGF)

Fax: 541-485-7604

Linda Reymers, Grants Director

Richard Rodrigues, Program Associate

Web: www.mrgfoundation.org

E-mail: info@mrgfoundation.org

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JANE & HOWARD GLAZER

Howard Glazer's outlook on life is best expressed by the Pulitzer-prize winning biologist René Dubos: "I can't get up in the morning without being an optimist, but that doesn't keep me from despairing."

Howard and Jane Glazer despair daily over what they consider "the egregious misuse of resources and human potential" reflected in the status quo. Being part of the MRG Foundation feeds their optimism. MRG Foundation, Jane says, offers "a vision for a better world, a sense of being part of a bigger movement."

Jane, a writer and ardent environmentalist, was first attracted by the Foundation's poetic name which suggests a sense of place and a sense of belonging. Howard, an architect and community activist, knew the family of founder Leslie Brockelbank. "Everything we do," Jane says, "has something to do with community." They found that commitment mirrored in MRG Foundation.

"Everything we do has to do with community."

The Glazers depend on the Foundation's activist-led grantmaking process, which targets resources to where they will produce the greatest change. "It would be impossible to duplicate the selection process ourselves," says Howard. "We would have to have a whole staff." MRG Foundation is dedicated to the kinds of groups the Glazers value most, which Howard describes as "organizations that are outside of the mainstream, that can't depend on other sources of funds."

From their book-lined, art-filled home on the lush fringes of Portland's Washington Park, the Glazers embrace many avenues towards social change, from Jane's teaching and writing and passionate protection of Heritage trees, to Howard's visionary community planning efforts that were recently recognized by a street named after him. The Glazers epitomize what they in turn admire about MRG Foundation: social conscience put to work.

"Howard and I have fantastic blessings," Jane says. "The world we live in is a beautiful place. The least we can do is pass on our good fortune."

This year the Willamette Valley Law Project (WVLP) celebrates its 25th year of partnership with community based organizations working in the Valley's Mexican communities to improve working and living conditions. Just one year younger than MRG Foundation, "we've grown up together," says WVLP Co-Founder Larry Kleinman. With a total of 20 grants in the last 23 years, the relationship demonstrates that the combination of persistence, support, and solid long-range strategy does produce tangible change.

The WVLP collaborates with and facilitates the development of organizations Piñeros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) and Voz Hispana Causa Chavista. Together they support immigrants, rights organizing and education, farmworker women's leadership development, and farmworker labor rights work. "The community does not see itself as divided along 'issue' lines," says PCUN President Ramón Ramírez. "As we have often said, for organizations engaged in community-based social change work, our successes cause our work to triple: we need to expand on our successes, defend against the backlash they usually cause, and reinforce our base."

This multi-tiered strategy and unified vision has produced groundbreaking victories. The most recent and prominent is a historic breakthrough on collective bargaining. For more than a decade, Oregon agribusiness tried everything they could think of to resist collective bargaining. This year, hundreds of growers rallied on the Capitol steps demanding collective bargaining rights for farmworkers. While the growers' version is problematic and much work remains to secure farmworkers' collective bargaining rights, control over the terms of the debate has shifted for the first time to the workers.

Larry credits part of the momentum behind this shift to a key educational tool, the video documentary *Aumento Ya! A Raise Now: The Story of PCUN's Tenth Anniversary Organizing Campaign*. With

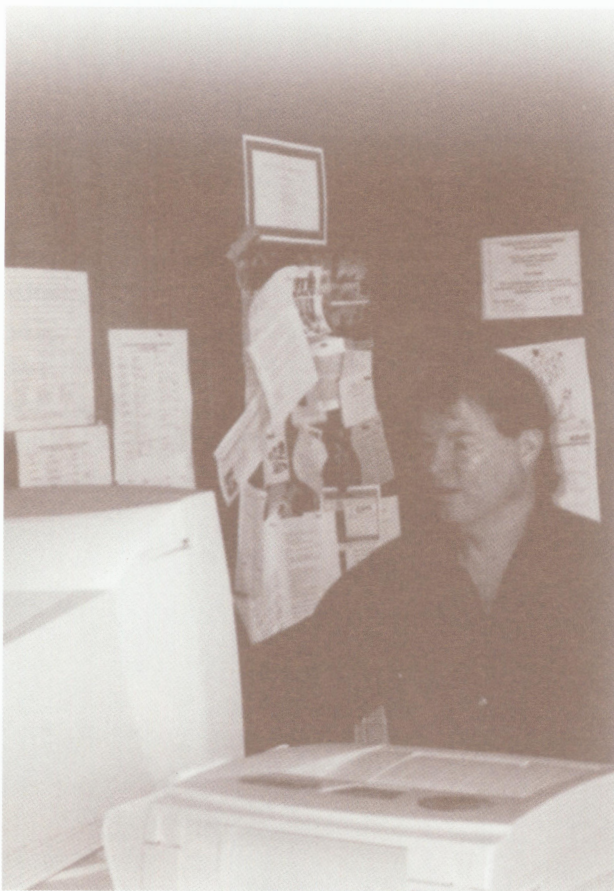
support from MRG Foundation, WVLP distributed 1,300 copies across the U.S. and Canada. "This documentary brought the struggle for workers' rights into the living rooms, classrooms and meeting rooms of people who hadn't or couldn't come see conditions for themselves," Larry says. Another grant from MRG Foundation brought social change funders and activists from other organizations out into the fields with PCUN organizers to see farmworker conditions in person.

"MRG Foundation has supported and funded much of WVLP's work, including projects dealing with some of the most controversial issues," says Larry. "Funding from MRG places the farmworkers' struggle squarely in the fold of broader grassroots social change work." The dramatic increase in Oregon's Latino population in the last decade raises the stakes even higher. According to Ramón, "It creates the conditions for changes on many levels, but it also exponentially increases the work to be done. Just think of all the isolated communities, for example on the coast or in rural Clackamas County, where a significant Latino population now resides with virtually no organized support, much less a mass based social change movement."

WVLP and its sister organizations count MRG Foundation among the allies contributing to their successes to date and into the future. Larry says, "We hope that our example of struggle, survival and success motivates MRG supporters to renew and increase their commitments. MRG and WVLP both make manifest the farmworker credo: '¡Si Se Puede!'"



"¡Si Se Puede!"



Southern Oregon's Rogue Valley is a portrait of "haves" and "have nots." Wealthy Californian retirees have driven up property values while family wage jobs have steadily declined. The Rogue Valley chapter of Oregon Action has had its hands more than full addressing a wide array of economic justice issues.

"Right now we are working on campaigns for a living wage, for affordable housing, and for the rights of people living in mobile homes," says Rich Rohde, Oregon Action's Rogue Valley organizer (photo, left). "To grow and effectively build power in rural communities we need to be able to address more than one issue. The only way to do this with our limited resources is to develop our capacity with technology. MRG Foundation is enabling this to happen."

One of the first grant recipients of MRG Foundation's new Technology Fund, Rogue Valley Oregon Action received \$6,500. Rich says, "From the first we heard of this new fund, it has been a stimulus for all our members, leaders, and staff to move past old ways of organizing to develop the skills that make us all more efficient and successful."

The technology grant has transformed the way Rogue Valley organizes. Low-income leaders are acquiring both computers and new skills. On-line research and email communication are extending the reach of the political education and relationship-building that are at the heart of any campaign. Computer-assisted graphics and a new projector will soon simplify public presentations on the living wage and affordable housing campaigns. Leaders who were once computer-phobic are now passing their skills along to help others get connected.

Support for improved technology is not the only way MRG Foundation has helped Rogue Valley Oregon Action get better connected. According to Rich, "MRG has been a consistent presence in the valley encouraging the development of strong, stable organizations with the maturity and commitment to work together. Through regional meetings hosted by MRG we have been able to build a strong base of peace, labor, community organizing, environmental, and farmworker groups. As new organizing projects find success they reach out to give support to others and begin to develop a regional progressive network. That is where we are now—and it's built on the MRG model of movement building."

*The technology grant has transformed
the way Rogue Valley organizes.*

Rich cites their relationship with the farmworker group Unete al Movimiento de Conciencia Popular as an example of the relationships fostered through the Foundation. The two organizations collaborated on fighting guest worker legislation in Congress, and Unete turned out their members to a recent Living Wage action at the Medford City Council. Oregon Action provided office space when Unete first started; they are still located in the same building. The two groups will share the computer projector funded by MRG's technology award.

"There is no doubt that MRG Foundation's steady and thoughtful support has allowed Rogue Valley Oregon Action to grow and prosper and provide stability, support and leadership in encouraging more organizing projects," says Rich. "The technology training for our staff and members is the next critical step for Oregon Action in enabling us to win on economic issues in southern Oregon."

Esther Stutzman knows first-hand the legacy of social, economic and environmental injustice in Oregon. A Kalapuya/Coos woman, Esther lives 38 miles south of Roseburg on land once solely populated by the Yonkalla bands of the Kalapuya, the largest tribe in western Oregon.

Esther's work as a traditional story teller, educator, and community organizer advances justice on the most fundamental level: promoting the survival of her people. Seeking to recover vanishing traditions and to influence accurate historical teaching about the Kalapuya, Esther founded the Komemma Cultural Protection Association in 1996. Esther heard about MRG Foundation, which funded Komemma and soon after invited Esther to join as a grantmaker.

"It was an enlightening, eye opening experience," Esther says of her first term on MRG Foundation's grantmaking committee. "I wasn't aware there were so many organizations interested in environmental, racial and economic issues—small, grassroots groups that you normally wouldn't hear of."



ESTHER STUTZMAN

Esther quickly came to value the connections made among the grantmakers and prospective grantees. "It gave me and my organization a chance to do some networking and to support others," she says. As a result of these connections, Esther cites Komemma's fully wired technology capabilities—now "very savvy" thanks to NetCorps—and friends whom she intends to "keep for a lifetime."

"People who make presentations to the grantmaking committee are often nervous that it will be bureaucratic and stuffy... I assure them we're a group of real people, of activists who've been through it ourselves and know where they're coming from."

"People who make presentations to the grantmaking committee are often nervous that it will be bureaucratic and stuffy," she says. "I assure them we're a group of real people, of activists who've been through it ourselves and know where they're coming from."

The only hard part of serving as a grantmaker for three years was choosing among so many worthwhile applicants. "It was heart-wrenching sometimes," she recalls. "Every grant has some component you want to see happen. Each organization has a chance to make some kind of difference to the way society functions."

CRITICAL RESPONSE TO 9/11

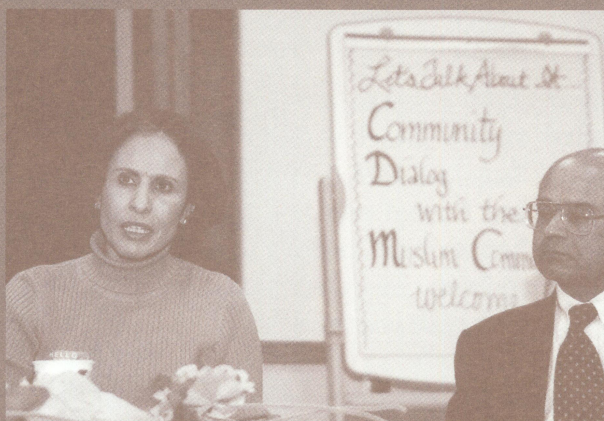


Audience, above, and speaker Elizabeth Furse, below, at "Making War, Waging Peace," sponsored by Columbia River Fellowship for Peace.

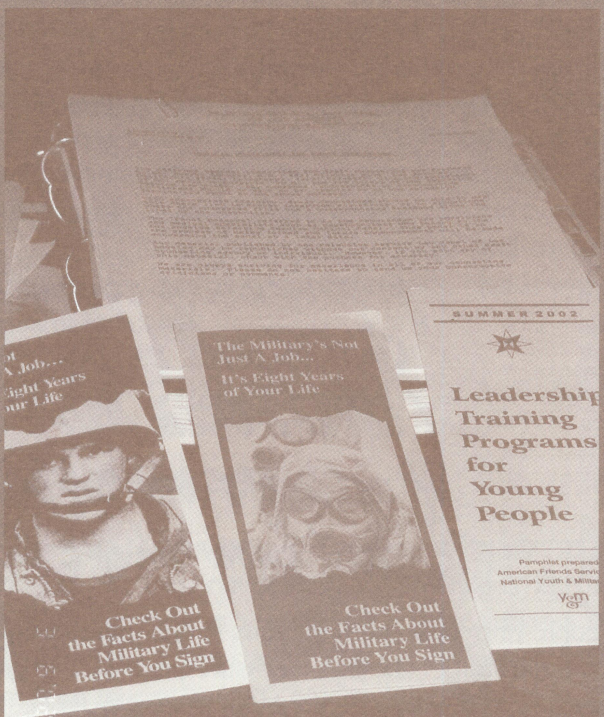
"I was very impressed by MRC's rapid response to our emergency grant proposal for 'Making War, Waging Peace,' attended by more than 400 people from the mid-Columbia region. We wanted to move quickly to get information out to our community in a timely manner.

Without the availability of emergency assistance such as yours, that would not have been possible... the event was not only informative, but inspiring because of the fellowship of others concerned about our government's retaliatory response to the events of September 11."

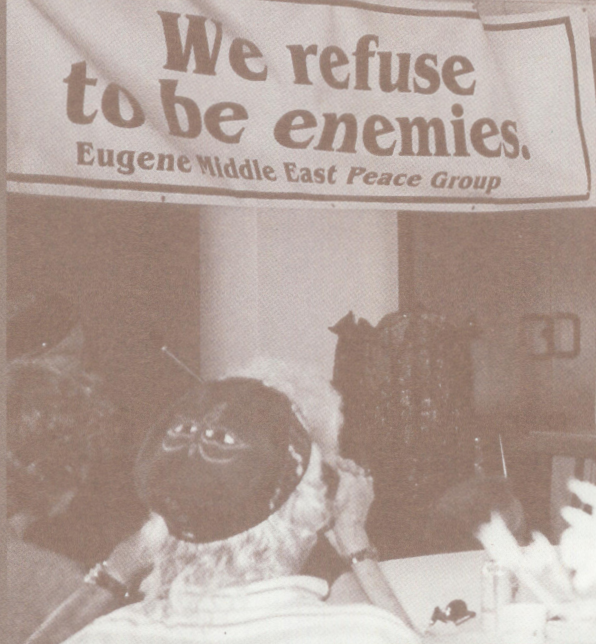
—Paul Woolery, Columbia River Fellowship for Peace



"Dialogue with the Muslim Community," organized by the Interfaith Forum and sponsored by Neighborhood House.



Information about military service distributed by CALC.



200 community members attended the Eugene Middle East Peace Group's "Celebration of Courage" in June. Speakers included local restaurateur Ibrahim Hamide, pictured, and Nir Pearlson, former Israeli Army Refusnik.



At a workshop for educators, "The Many Faces of Afghanistan," sponsored by the Middle East and Central Asian Education Committee.

9/11 CRITICAL RESPONSE GRANTEES

Columbia River Fellowship for Peace
 Community Alliance of Lane County
 Eugene Middle East Peace Group
 Interfaith Forum
 Local to Global
 Middle East & Central Asia Education Committee
 North Coast Peace Coalition
 Northwest Justice Coalition
 Oregon Friends of the Middle East
 Oregon PeaceWorks
 Peace, Justice & Globalization Coalition
 Physicians for Social Responsibility
 Portland Central America Solidarity Committee
 Progressive Response
 Rural Organizing Project



"Vigil for a Just Peace," sponsored by Community Alliance of Lane County and Faith in Action.

MRG Foundation makes grants to organizations that bring people together to challenge social economic, international and environmental injustice through community-based, grassroots action. MRG Foundation considers proposals for funding from groups that:

- use organizing to bring about 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.

THE FUNDING CRITERIA

MRG Foundation's grants program focuses on strategic organizing in support of human rights economic justice, environmental protection, and international solidarity. Within these broad areas, MRG Foundation grants address issues including racial justice, domestic violence, gender poverty, community-labor coalitions, HIV-AIDS, lesbian/gay/bisexual liberation, disability rights protection of our forests and watersheds, toxics exposure, activist media, cultural work, peace anti-militarism, and international self-determination.



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

THE FUNDING PROCESS

Our 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 projects 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 only foundations nationally that enables applicants to make their case before all of the decision-makers—as part of our commitment to a democratic grantmaking process. Presentation Day is also one of the few opportunities that activists from throughout the state have to learn from one another's work and to develop relationships that can unite the broad range of activist work into a progressive movement.

GRANTEES

ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE JOBS & THE ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION PROJECT, Statewide, \$6,000. Two projects by this labor/environmental coalition: Promotion of alternative energy, and educational outreach focusing on making complex global trade issues accessible.



AMERICANS UNITED FOR PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS, Portland, \$2,500. Developing a resource kit for use by this multi-faith organization in their public outreach about the conflict in Israel/Palestine.

*Sisters in Action for Power
protesting the war at a march
on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
in Portland.*

BROADARTS, Portland, \$5,000. Statewide tour of "Wonderbroad," a musical comedy about 40 progressive women who changed the world.

BARK, Portland, \$4,500. Training activists to monitor timber sales in the Mt. Hood National Forest.

BLUE MOUNTAINS BIODIVERSITY PROJECT, Fossil, \$3,500. Publications, media campaign, workshops and speaking tours about corporate dominance in ecosystem decision-making.

CASCADIA WILDLANDS PROJECT, Eugene, \$9,000. Mobilizing the public to challenge destructive land management practices and achieve permanent protection for old growth forests on public lands; over 3,500 people participated in their activities last year.

CAUSA, Statewide, \$10,000. Organizing tour of Oregon communities to galvanize response to stepped-up INS activity in isolated rural areas and increased attacks on Arab-Americans and Latinos since 9/11.

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY, Statewide, \$3,000. Working with local groups in areas with inactive mine sites to develop technical expertise and build grassroots momentum to limit mining on public lands.

CHICANO CULTURE CLUB, Salem, \$2,000. The Psychological Evaluations Reform Project challenging the unjust use of culturally-biased testing in determining criminal justice proceedings.

CLATSOP COUNTY AIDS COALITION, Astoria, \$7,000. Maintaining a community center housing HIV, Latino and low-income groups and providing a united presence that confronts discrimination in Clatsop County.

COMMITTEE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PEOPLE, Eugene, \$5,000. Linking social justice work in U.S. and Latin America through programs that support farmworker justice, resistance movements in Mexico and Columbia, and proactive responses to the war on terrorism.

TWO THOUSAND TWO



*Members of the Portland
Central American Solidarity
Committee at an Anti-
Fast-Track march.*



*The Lake County Crisis Center's
Hispanic Outreach Program
addresses the under-utilization
of domestic violence programs
through bilingual outreach
and education.*

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF LANE COUNTY Eugene, \$4,500. Advancing CALC's core programs—Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect, and Network for Immigrant Justice—and rebuilding and broadening their anti-bigotry program.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE LOWER ROGUE, Coos Bay, \$8,000. Sustaining the cultural survival of Southwestern Oregon Native peoples by producing their annual Gathering of the Peoples locating historical documents and photos, and preserving the Tututni language.

DANZINE, Portland, \$5,500. HIV and violence prevention project capable of reaching sex workers because peer educators are equipped to overcome the effects of cultural stigmatization.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION GROUP, Portland, \$6,000. Addressing air quality in N/NE Portland by fighting I-5 corridor expansion and training community members to respond to the high rates of environmentally-caused respiratory conditions.

EUGENE MIDDLE EAST PEACE GROUP, \$4,000. Muslim/Jewish group providing community leadership against hate crimes and a model of mutual understanding in the wake of September 11th and increasing Mid-East tensions.

EUGENE SPRINGFIELD SOLIDARITY NETWORK FUND, \$7,000. Establishing community standards that promote economic justice by conducting economic education workshops, expanding the Living Wage Campaign to Springfield, and coalition-building.

FOGGY CREEK COUNCIL, Powers, \$ 3,000. Spirit of the Siskiyou Pow Wow and Community Celebration to foster community awareness of Native culture and provide a place where Native Americans excluded from tribes can practice and honor their heritage.

G.A.S.P., Hermiston, \$5,000. Protecting community health from unsafe incineration of chemical weapons at the Umatilla Army Depot by promoting safer alternatives, reviewing 5,000 documents, being a watchdog over emergency response plans, and doing outreach to farmworkers.

THE HEALING CIRCLE, Astoria, \$4,500. Strengthening this program challenging local norms that overlook child abuse by extending their outreach to the Latino community and increasing community understanding of the linkage between child abuse and other forms of oppression.

HIV/AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAM, Salem, \$6,000. Peer educators reaching more than 1,200 inmates annually and producing culturally-specific materials that further collaboration among the diverse prison population.

HUMAN DIGNITY COALITION, Bend, \$3,000. Developing relationships with diverse populations in rapidly growing Central Oregon by co-producing Fiesta Latina, an event to further build coalitions among groups responding to organized bigotry.

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES OF COOS COUNTY, North Bend, \$2,500. Promoting diversity education/events, and responding to hate crimes and human rights issues by a group that grew out of efforts that prevented a Ku Klux Klan leader from recruiting in their area.

HUMAN RIGHTS COALITION OF JACKSON COUNTY, Medford, \$5,000. Anti-bigotry work in a conservative, rural region that includes a police monitoring project, farmworker outreach, hate groups response, and housing-as-a-human-right mobilization.

ILLINOIS VALLEY SAFE HOUSE ALLIANCE, Cave Junction, \$4,000. Seed funding to plan for a safe house facility and rally community support to prevent domestic and sexual violence in this rural area with 20% unemployment.

JEFFERSON CENTER FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, Statewide, \$4,500. Continuing their project bringing together multi-ethnic rural workers across employment sectors (forest, seafood, farm, hospitality, etc.) to address problems with low-wage temporary, contingent contract work.

KLAMATH-SISKIYOU WILDLANDS CENTER, Williams, \$6,000. Campaigns to protect 4.2 million acres of an extraordinarily significant ecosystem and to continue efforts that have successfully listed imperiled species as endangered.

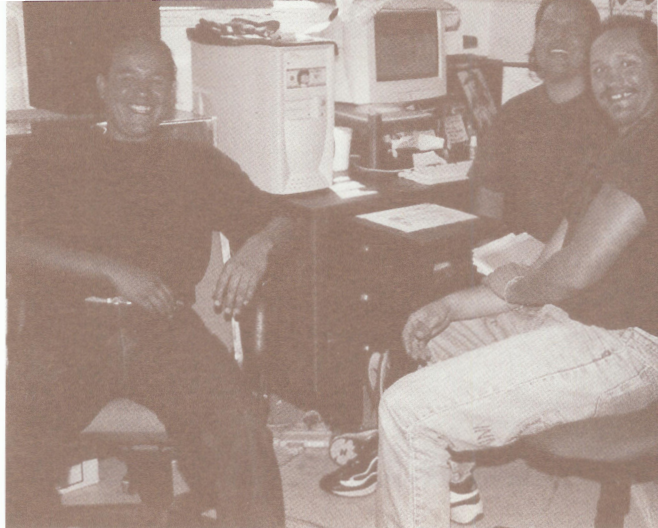
LAKE COUNTY CRISIS CENTER, Lakeview, \$4,000. Hispanic Outreach Program to address under-utilization of domestic violence programs through bilingual outreach and education.

LANE COUNTY STAND FOR CHILDREN, Eugene, \$3,000. Developing the organizing skills of low-income childcare workers in efforts to increase wages and gain educational opportunities that will improve the quality of care.

LATINOS UNIDOS SIEMPRE, Salem, \$7,500. Latino youth leadership program directed toward obtaining equal access in public education and challenging racist harassment of students, including those of Arab-American and South Asian descent.

LOCAL TO GLOBAL, Statewide, \$5,000. This coalition's Fair Trade Awareness Project uses a professionally produced video and study guide for organizing around international self-determination, fair labor practices, and environmental protection.

LOVE MAKES A FAMILY, Portland, \$5,000. Based on increasing understanding of the inter-relatedness of racism and homophobia in communities of color and the lesbian/gay/bi/trans community, this project seeks to make changes supportive of sexual minority youth of color in high schools.



*Lakota Oyate Ki's council members
at their new computer station, 2001.*



*Cascadia Wildlands Project works
to achieve permanent protection
for old growth like this 658 year
old Douglas Fir, 210' tall and
6'10" in diameter.*



The Oregon Toxics Alliance educates the public about sites like these, where bleached paper residue has been dumped on Willamette Valley farmland.

MIDDLE EAST WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & RESOURCE CENTER, Portland, \$5,000. Supporting a community organizer who will develop culturally appropriate ways of addressing domestic violence in their community and respond to increased requests for information on Mid-East issues.

MUJERES LUCHADORAS PROGRESISTAS, Woodburn, \$5,000. Developing the participation of women farmworkers within the farmworker movement and the larger community through an economic development project.

MULTICULTURAL HIV/AIDS ALLIANCE OF OREGON, Portland, \$6,000. Trainings for rural health providers and organizations to ensure equal and culturally appropriate services for all ethnicities and sexual minorities.

NORTH COAST PRIDE NETWORK, Astoria, \$2,500. Providing visibility and support for the region's lesbian/gay/bi/trans community while challenging homophobia and discrimination.

NORTHWEST ALLIANCE FOR ALTERNATIVE MEDIA AND EDUCATION, Portland, \$3,500. Expanding the distribution of the *Portland Alliance*, a publication supporting the development of more diverse and effective local organizing projects.

NUESTRA COMUNIDAD SANA, Hood River, \$5,000. Culturally-competent outreach for HIV-AIDS prevention that is challenging homophobia, AIDS-phobia, gender inequalities that place Latinas at particular risk, and the invisibility of Latinos in the local power structure.

OPEN HAND, Portland, \$3,000. Using self-defense classes as a vehicle to build a diverse base to confront the oppression and violence inherent in sexism, racism, and homophobia.

OREGON FOREST RESEARCH & EDUCATION GROUP, Statewide, \$3,000. Seed funding for a strategic long-term survey and habitat-monitoring project that equips forest activists to mount challenges aimed at preserving intact ecosystems on public lands.

OREGON HUMAN RIGHTS COALITION, Portland, \$5,000. Support for OHRC activities that develop the leadership and voices of low-income people in decisions that affect their lives.

OREGON TOXICS ALLIANCE, Eugene, \$5,000. Forging a systemic reevaluation on the use of toxic substances by serving as an information clearinghouse, assisting the participation of local groups in policy decisions, and educating Oregon media.

OREGON WILDLIFE FEDERATION/STATE FOREST ORGANIZING INITIATIVE, Portland, \$3,000. Building the first localized, grassroots organizing campaign to reform management of Oregon's state forests at a time when the state is planning for a huge increase in logging.

PAN ASIAN COMMUNITY ALLIANCE, Eugene, \$4,000. Events linking the forced removal of people of Japanese descent into concentration camps during World War II to present day efforts to prevent the sacrifice of civil liberties in the name of national security—again.

PORTLAND CENTRAL AMERICA SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, \$6,000. Organizing around international labor rights and corporate globalization work through the Cross Border Labor Organizing Coalition and coalition efforts responding to 9/11.

PORTLAND JOBS WITH JUSTICE, \$6,000. Programs including an economic justice project by workers and communities of color, globalization education, and application of the area's Workers Rights Board in economic justice campaigns.

ROCK 'N' ROLL CAMP FOR GIRLS, Portland, \$6,000. Year-long program with mentors, self-defense training, and popular education using the lens of the music industry to develop the voice and leadership of 100 girls.

ROGUE VALLEY OREGON ACTION, Medford, \$8,000. Mobilizing for living wage jobs in Medford and bringing their affordable housing project to additional mobile home parks whose residents' homes are threatened by development.

SALEM/KEIZER COALITION FOR EQUALITY, \$7,500. Launching a major membership drive and newsletter as well as an educational door-to-door canvass to activate parents in advocating for educational equality, access, and success for their children.

SISTERS IN ACTION FOR POWER, Portland, \$4,000. Organizing to gain implementation of public policy proposals that expand educational and economic opportunities for women and girls of color.

SURVIVORS ADVOCATING FOR AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM, Portland, \$5,000. Building infrastructure support for this group of survivors of crime whose goal is to shift the debate over criminal justice away from vengeance and towards rehabilitation.

TILlicum/KMUN-FM, Astoria, \$4,000. Increasing Spanish-language news and public affairs programming to provide a forum for Latino activism, with a focus on immigration issues stemming from September 11th.

UMPQUA WATERSHEDS, Roseburg, \$7,000. Involving nearly 1,000 area residents in educational events challenging illegal timber sales, the de-listing of salmon as an endangered species, and private industrial forest practices related to dangerous landslides.

UNETE AL MOVIMIENTO DE CONCIENCIA POPULAR, Medford, \$5,000. Mobilizing farmworker leadership and community support around farmworker issues including immigration, labor camp health and safety, pesticide use, HIV, and economic justice.



The Pan Asian Community Alliance sponsored a Japanese American authors program on the Day of Remembrance, 2002, acknowledging the 60th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which interned Japanese Americans during WWII.

Wonderbroad's cast and crew on the way to a Grants Pass performance.





Members of Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas receiving paychecks from a Christmas wreath project. MLP develops the participation of women farmworkers within the farmworker movement and the larger community through economic development projects.

VOZ HISPANA CAUSA CHAVISTA, Woodburn, \$5,000. Gaining recognition of farmworker struggles through full implementation of Cesar Chavez Day in the Woodburn School District, whose students are 65% Latino.

VOZ: WORKERS' RIGHTS EDUCATION PROJECT, Portland, \$8,000. Organizing day laborers—generally low-income immigrant Latino men—to protect their rights as workers and obtain safer working conditions.

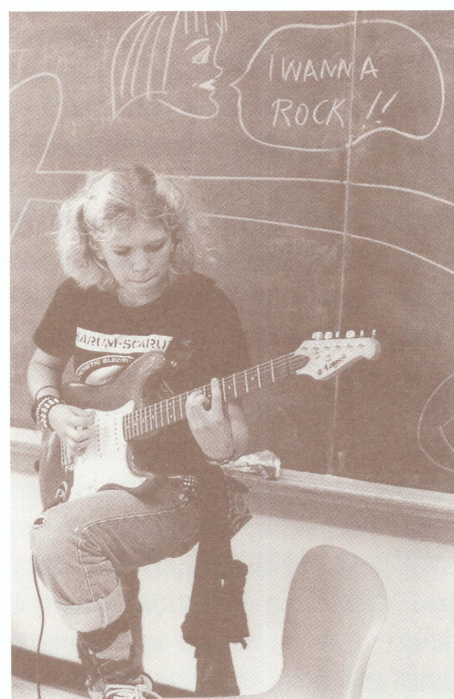
WESTERN PRISON PROJECT, Portland \$9,000. Progressive criminal justice program that includes building coalitions, developing citizen monitoring teams for Oregon prisons, educating the public, and organizing rural residents where prisons are proposed.

WILLAMETTE VALLEY LAW PROJECT, Woodburn, \$5,000. Galvanizing the public around the dangerous, unhealthy working conditions endured by primarily immigrant workers at the PictSweet mushroom processing plant.

WILLAMETTE VALLEY REFORESTATION, Molalla, \$4,000. Workshops for Latino forest workers focusing on fire work from an ecosystem management perspective so that better employment in the new restoration-based forest economy can be obtained.

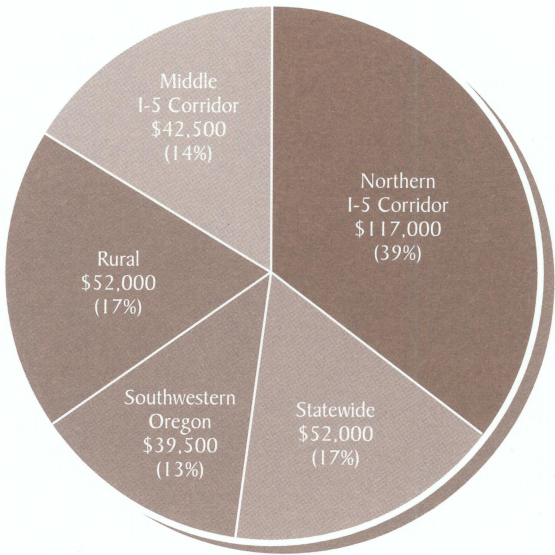
YOUTH FOR JUSTICE, Eugene, \$3,000. Developing an autonomous youth organizing group that educates and organizes youth participation in social justice issues and fosters new leadership for the progressive social change movement.

At the Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls, organizers use the lens of the music industry to develop the voice and leadership of girls.

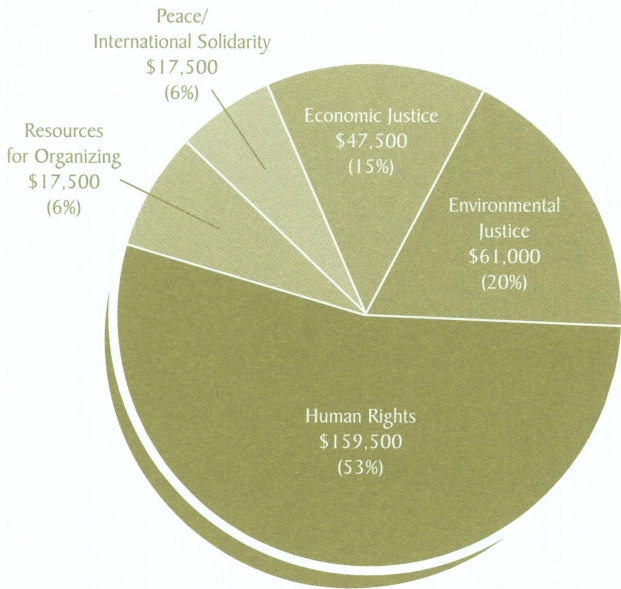


DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL FUNDING CYCLE GRANTS

by geographic area



Fiscal Year 2002	# of grants	% of grants	total \$	% of \$
Northern I-5 Corridor	23	38%	117,000	39%
Middle I-5 Corridor	9	15%	42,500	14%
Southwestern Oregon	7	12%	39,500	13%
Rural	12	20%	52,000	17%
Statewide	9	15%	52,000	17%
TOTAL	60	100%	303,000	100%



by issue area

Fiscal Year 2002	# of grants	% of grants	total \$	% of \$
Economic Justice	8	13%	47,500	15%
Environmental Justice	12	20%	61,000	20%
Human rights	32	53%	159,500	53%
Peace/International Solidarity	4	7%	17,500	6%
Resources for Organizing	4	7%	17,500	6%
TOTAL	60	100%	303,000	100%

MORE 2002 GRANTEES

ACLU Foundation of Oregon
 American Friends Service Committee,
 Seattle
 American Red Cross
 Basic Rights Oregon
 Birth to Three
 CARE, Inc.
 Carter Center
 Center for Brain Injury Caused Behavior
 Center for Constitutional Rights
 Clatsop County Women's Resource
 Center
 Committee in Solidarity with the
 Central American People
 Community Alliance of Lane County
 The Dance Brigade
 Echo Theater-Do Jump Dance Theater
 Eugene Springfield Solidarity
 Network Fund
 Food for Lane County
 For Us, Northwest
 Friends of Eugene
 Funding Exchange
 Global Exchange
 Grassroots International
 Growers Market
 Hambleton Project
 HIV Alliance
 INFACIT
 Institute for Traditional Medicine
 Lesbian Community Project
 Love Makes a Family
 Media Project
 Mediation Works

MS Society of Oregon
 Northwest Alliance for Alternative
 Media & Education ~ *Portland Alliance*
 Northwest Coalition for Alternatives
 to Pesticides
 Northwest Project / Institute for
 Public Accuracy
 1,000 Friends of Oregon
 Open Meadows Learning Center
 Oregon Center for Public Policy
 Oregon Food Bank
 Oregon Human Rights Coalition
 Oregon NARAL Foundation
 Oregon Natural Resources Council
 Oregon Peaceworks
 Outside In
 Planned Parenthood of Southwestern
 Oregon
 Portland Jobs with Justice
 Portland YouthBuilders
 Resist
 Rural Organizing Project
 SE Works
 Sisters in Action for Power
 St. Mary's Home for Boys
 Threatened & Endangered
 Little Applegate Valley
 Tillamook Women's Crisis Center
 Transitions Project
 UNICEF
 Urgent Carnival Street Theater
 Western Prison Project
 Willamette Valley Law Project
 Women's Community Education Project

*A well attended
 Community
 Election Forum
 in Woodburn,
 sponsored by
 PCUN and
 Voz Hispana
 Causa Chavista.*



*Members of the
Middle East
Women's Empowerment
and Resource Center
gather on International
Women's Day, 2002.*



CRITICAL RESPONSE GRANTS

Against Patriarchy
Coalition Against White Supremacy
Columbia River Fellowship for Peace
Columbia Riverkeeper
Community Alliance of Lane County
Community Peace Institute
Concerned River Road Neighbors
Eugene Middle East Peace Group
Interfaith Forum
Local to Global
Middle East & Central Asia Ed. Com.
North Coast Peace Coalition
Northwest Justice Coalition

Oregon Friends of the Middle East
Oregon Health Access Project
Oregon PeaceWorks
Oregon Progressive Alliance
Peace, Justice & Globalization Coalition
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Portland Central America Solidarity Committee
Progressive Responses
Rural Organizing Project
Russel Creek Neighbors
Social Welfare Action Alliance
Western Prison Project
Willamette Valley Law Project

TECHNOLOGY FUND

Community Alliance of Tenants
Eugene Springfield Solidarity Network Fund
HIV/AIDS Awareness Program
Oregon Toxics Alliance
Portland Jobs with Justice
Rogue Valley Oregon Action
Sisters in Action for Power
Unete
VOZ: Workers Rights Education Project
Voz Hispana Causa Chavista
Western Prison Project

TRAVEL GRANTS

c-layan
Eugene Springfield Solidarity Network Fund
Mano a Mano
Oregon Human Rights Coalition
Portland Art and Revolution
Portland Jobs with Justice
Portland People's Law Collective
Rogue Valley Oregon Action
Support Coalition Northwest
Unete

LILLA JEWEL FUND for WOMEN ARTISTS

2001: VISUAL ARTS
Christine Clark, Award Recipient
Sholeh Dalai, Special Mention

2002: MUSIC AND/OR DANCE
Habiba, Award Recipient
Janice Scroggins, Artistic Achievement
Leila Chieko, Emerging Artist

MICHAEL SMITH FUND

Tillicum/KMUN
Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls

WHO ARE MRG FOUNDATION DONORS?

Hundreds of Oregonians contribute to grassroots social change through MRG Foundation. By making contributions to MRG Foundation, donors are able to take advantage of our unique grant-making 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 FOUNDATION?

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 anonymity, and donors are able to support many important projects with one gift.



Coordinators of FLAVORS, a social support group for queer youth of color, a project of Love Makes a Family.

GET INVOLVED WITH MRG FOUNDATION!

In the past year, donor support at all levels made it possible for MRG Foundation to distribute more than \$350,000 in grants to Oregon groups, including the launch of our new Technology Fund. 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.

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE TO MRG FOUNDATION

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.
- Donate appreciated stock or real property and avoid capital gains taxes, while receiving a tax deduction.
- Write MRG Foundation into your will, or talk to family members about planning a bequest to MRG Foundation in your name.
- Contact MRG Foundation about establishing a charitable trust.
- Make MRG Foundation 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. Staff members at MRG Foundation are always available for consulting as you plan your giving.

PLANNED GIVING: Leaving a Legacy for Social Justice

Over the past few years, MRG Foundation has benefited greatly from bequests. In fact, a couple of large bequests (gifts left to MRG Foundation in peoples' wills), enabled MRG Foundation to increase its general fund grants programs and build staffing capacity to implement new outreach and grants programs. Many people choose to create a lasting legacy for social justice by naming MRG Foundation in their wills. This can be done through any of the following methods by making a:

- specific bequest of cash or real property;
- proportionate bequest representing a percentage of your estate;
- contingent bequest, should one or more of your primary beneficiaries not survive you;
- residual bequest, which distributes the balance of your estate after other specific bequests have been distributed.

Your will should be prepared by an attorney who specializes in estate planning. The full and complete name of the organization should be used. Including the fund's Federal Tax Identification Number (McKenzie River Gathering Foundation's number is 93-0691187) may also be useful to identify the proper organization. You or your attorney should contact MRG Foundation to confirm this information. For more information about Planned Giving, please contact our Portland office at 503-289-1517.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Maya Abels & Stewart Holmes
Jeff & Lisa Adatto
Carol Adler
Dan Anderson & Joy Strand
Frank & Dorothy Anderson
Stuart Anderson
Trell Anderson & Jennifer Schneider
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Crysttal Atkins
Gil & Laura Avery
Rob & Carol Baird
Robert Barber
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Nancy Becker
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Christine Derbyshire & N.I. Birndorf
Steven & Beth Deutsch
Joel Dippold
Gabriella Donnell
Steven Dotterer
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Barbara Dudley
Jane Ediger & Douglas Swanson
Christine Ehlert
Jacquelyn Ellenz & Steven Snyder
Eugene & Barbara Emge
Teresa Enrico
Carmella Ettinger
Evergreen Hill Fund of The Oregon
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Ann & David Fidanque
Jonathan Fields & Jacquie Moon
Randy Fishfader
Marilyn & Patrick Fleming
Ruth & Herman Frankel
Dan & Carol Freedman
Mark Friedman
Tom & Maya Frost
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James Gamwell
Linda Ginenthal
Jane & Howard Glazer Fund of The
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 Ann Macrory
 Virginia Malbin
 John & Martha Marks Fund of The
 Oregon Community Foundation
 Michael McCann
 Gin McCollum, M.D.
 Bayard & Evelyn McConnaughey
 Shelly McFarland
 Joseph McKinney
 Anne McLaughlin



*Through the HIV/AIDS
 Awareness Program, peer
 educators reach more than 1200
 inmates annually and produce
 culturally-specific materials that
 further collaboration among the
 diverse prison population.*

Ed McNamara
 Lee Medovoi & Marcia Klotz
 Karen Mellin
 Jeffrey Menashe &
 Wendy Lee Gutmann
 Barbara J. Mendijs
 Harriet Merrick
 David & Margaret Mesirow
 Bonnie & Mark Miller
 Julie & Martin Miller
 Madeline Moore
 Michael Mooser
 Stephen & Linda Mooser
 Steve Morgan
 Peg Morton
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 Martin & Carolyn Winch
 Mary Winch
 JoAnn Wiser
 Ray & Barbara Wolfe
 Elliot Zais & Holly Pence
 Elisabeth Zall
 Cathy Zheutlin & Edis Jurcys
 And 57 anonymous donors

Endowment Donors

Madeline Moore
 Laurie McClain
 John Saemann

Tribute Gifts

In Honor of Eunice & Maury Be
 Natasha Beck & Richard Lochne

In Memory of Joseph Schoenfeld
 Helene Flapan

In Memory of Michael Smith
 Donald & Peg Smith

In Memory of Mr. Harold G. Vatte
 Joy Spalding

In Memory of Quincy Sugarman
 Betty L. Sugarman

In Honor of Arwen Bird and
 Susan Remmers

Anonymous through Charitable
 Gift Fund

Business Donors

Burley Design Cooperative, Inc.
 Hein Consulting Group
 Progressive Investment Management
 Socially Responsible Investing,
 Laurie McClain
 Trillium Natural Foods

Additional Support Provided by:

Ellen Adler, Attorney at Law
 David Atkin, Non Profit
 Support Services
 Cafe Soriah
 Carry on Q
 Critical Path Software, Inc.
 Nick Daniel
 Flaming Carrot Catering
 Growers Market
 Carsten Henningsen, Progressive
 Investment Management, Inc.
 The Kiva
 Pattie Ladd, Riverrun Graphics
 Shelly McFarland
 Madeline Moore, Socially
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 Mark Maguire
 New Day Bakery
 Oasis
 Odwalla Juice, Inc.
 Peet's Coffee & Tea
 Scott Pope, Progressive
 Investment Management, Inc.
 Rennie's Landing
 Starbucks Coffee
 Sundance Natural Foods
 Tazo Tea



Youth for Justice sponsored a day of Silence at South Eugene High School.

MRCG

McKenzie River Gathering
FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL REPORT, 2001-02

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of June 30, 2002

ASSETS	
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 878,231
Investments	2,662,123
Pledges receivable, net	27,534
Office equipment & furniture, net	11,224
Other assets	9,070
Total assets	<u>3,588,182</u>
LIABILITIES	
Grants payable	20,000
Accounts and other payables	<u>22,851</u>
Total liabilities	<u>42,851</u>
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted:	
General Fund	381,580
Board designated, Operating Reserve	350,000
Board designated, Donor Pools	286,662
Board designated, Endowment	152,887
Board designated, Michael Smith Fund	<u>27,181</u>
Total Unrestricted	<u>1,198,310</u>
Temporarily restricted:	
Lilla Jewel Fund	36,400
Rob McCay Fund	<u>843,537</u>
Total Temporarily restricted	<u>879,937</u>
Permanently restricted:	
Endowment Fund	1,243,927
Michael Smith Fund	114,599
Lilla Jewel Fund	<u>108,558</u>
Total Permanently Restricted	<u>1,467,084</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>3,545,331</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 3,588,182</u>

McKenzie River Gathering Foundation STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended June 30, 2002

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE				
Public Support Contributions:				
General	\$ 264,357			\$ 264,357
Donor Pools	117,154			117,154
Donor Advised	29,635			29,635
Funding Exchange Endowment	57,468			57,468
Grants	30,000			30,000
Rob McCay Fund		\$ 8,149		8,149
Endowment Fund			\$ 75	75
Michael Smith Fund			1,000	1,000
Uncollectible pledge		(25,000)		(25,000)
Total Public Support	<u>498,614</u>	<u>(16,851)</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>482,838</u>
Revenue:				
Investment Gains (Losses)	(259,705)	(156,025)		(415,730)
Interest and Dividends	109,351	2,690		112,041
Other Revenue	1,048			1,048
Administrative Fees	820			820
Total Revenue	<u>(148,486)</u>	<u>(153,335)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(301,821)</u>
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Lilla Jewel Fund Restrictions	10,276	(10,276)		0
Satisfaction of Rob McCay Fund Restrictions	85,575	(85,575)		0
Satisfaction of Time Restrictions	<u>25,000</u>	<u>(25,000)</u>		<u>0</u>
Total Released Net Assets	<u>120,851</u>	<u>(120,851)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Public Support & Revenue	<u>470,979</u>	<u>(291,037)</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>181,017</u>
EXPENSES				
Grants and Grant Making	723,464			723,464
Community Education	93,954			93,954
Administrative	169,518			169,518
Fund Raising	<u>23,253</u>			<u>23,253</u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,010,189</u>			<u>1,010,189</u>
Change in Net Assets	(539,210)	(291,037)	1,075	(829,172)
Net Assets June 30, 2001	<u>1,737,520</u>	<u>1,170,974</u>	<u>1,466,009</u>	<u>4,374,503</u>
Net Assets June 30, 2002	<u>\$ 1,198,310</u>	<u>\$ 879,937</u>	<u>\$ 1,467,084</u>	<u>\$ 3,545,331</u>

Unaudited Financial Statement. Audited Financial Statement will be available later in the year. Please call if you would like a copy.

Board of Directors

Arwen Bird
Leslie Brockelbank
Debra Connaway, Chair
Deb Furry
Sarah Jacobson
Juan Carlos Ocaña

Finance Committee

Nancy Becker
Deb Furry
Miriam Levitt

LEADERSHIP

Technology Fund Grantmaking Committee

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Spencer Smith
Esther Stutzman

Lilla Jewel Fund for Women Artists Committee

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Ann Ishimaru
Gillian Leichtling
Jenny Levison

VISUAL ARTS

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Valerie Otani
Linda Wysong

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Juan Carlos Ocaña, Co-Chair
Abel Carbajal
Kathleen Doyle
James Johnston
Penny Lind
Alanna Aiko Moore
Foncy Prescott
Sri Renganathan
Esther Stutzman
Olga Turner



Staff

left to right: Sheryl Sackman, Linda Reymers,
Richard Rodrigues, Susan Remmers, Edith Casterline

Picnic Committee

Evelyn Anderton
Gil Avery
Leslie Brockelbank
Julie Miller
Olga Turner

*Thanks to the following for their participation
on the board, staff, or grantmaking committee
over the past year:*

Liz Foucher-Branch
Larry Garcia
Leslie Griep
Larry Hill
Trent Seager

THE FUNDING EXCHANGE

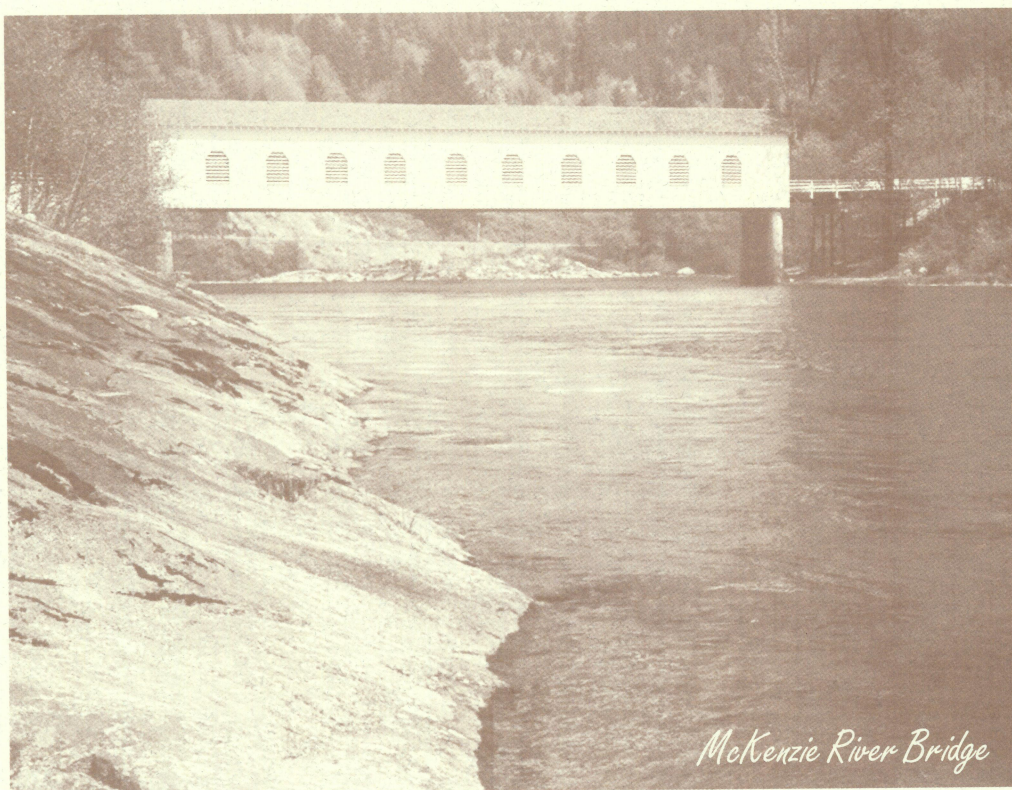
MRG Foundation is one of 16 autonomous community-based foundations that make up the Funding Exchange, a national foundation committed to funding progressive grass-roots activism. The Funding Exchange was founded in 1979 by six of these foundations, including MRG Foundation. Today, the Funding Exchange provides grants totalling nearly \$3,000,000 to support social change, and, as a network, awards more than \$25,000,000 nationwide every year.

Design: Pattie Ladd, Riverrun Graphics



Printing: Bridgetown Printing Co.

human rights
economic justice
environmental protection
international solidarity
peace



McKenzie River Bridge