

A JOYFUL WORLD
WHERE PEOPLE
CULTURES AND
ECOSYSTEMS
THRIVE



McKENZIE RIVER GATHERING
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2007-08

FROM THE DIRECTOR



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Gathering Foundation**
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ON THE COVER

The cover of this year's annual report is unique. The original artwork by Jody Anderson captures the spirit of our new Vision Statement and speaks to the vital importance of the arts in activist movements.

The image was reproduced using soy-based ink, on post consumer paper at a union print shop. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do.

Things are changing at MRG!

Thanks to strong support from the community, MRG Foundation is growing. That's good news for grassroots organizations around the state that are addressing the critical challenges of our time—war, racism, and environmental destruction, just to name a few.

In a world where resources are increasingly being consolidated in the hands of a small number of powerful people, MRG plays a critical role in supporting community-based groups that are changing the world.

MRG's growth is good news for all of us who want to live in a world where people, cultures and ecosystems thrive.

This year we set new strategic directions that will focus our work so we can increase our impact. Here's the short version of what you can expect from MRG in the years ahead:

- » More money for grassroots organizations
- » More people directly engaged in raising and giving money for positive social change
- » More visibility in the community

These aren't pie-in-the-sky goals. They are what you said you wanted, and we are prepared to meet the challenge. On the pages of this annual report you'll find more information about what we've done so far, and what to expect in the year ahead.

We received a huge endorsement of our work this year when the Ralph L. Smith Foundation of Oregon closed its doors and granted \$3 million of its assets to MRG. While we're sad to say goodbye to such an important social justice funder, we are committed to using their gift to dramatically expand MRG's work in Oregon.

That means that now, when you give to MRG Foundation, your gift will have an even greater impact in the community because we have the capacity and infrastructure to expand our programs.

There's no better time to be a part of MRG. With new clarity, new resources, and a growing base of support, we have a real shot at creating significant change in Oregon.

People who are committed to justice are always stronger when we work together. MRG's role is to mobilize the resources Oregon's communities need to change the world. I hope you'll join us.

Mayory Haman



Grantmaking that Makes a Difference

If Oregon's social justice movement were a garden, you could say MRG's role has been to water many seeds—we award a lot of small grants, and watch to see which organizations take root. Seeding the grassroots is important, and we'll keep doing it. And we'll provide greater support to those groups that have taken root.

As we grow, we'll tailor our programs to put more resources where groups are having the greatest impact and meeting unmet needs.

Last year we:

- » Awarded half a million dollars in activist-advised grants
- » Administered an additional \$285,000 in donor-advised grants
- » Convened three strategy sessions for grantees linking peace activism to the larger social justice movement

In the year ahead, we will:

- » Expand grantmaking by \$100,000
- » Increase the size of individual grants so groups can do more
- » Revise our grant programs to better support grantees at different stages of growth

FY08 GENERAL FUND GRANTEES



Amigos Multicultural Services Center



CAUSA

African Women's Coalition *Portland* \$10,000

AWC organizes more than 200 women from 32 African countries to address the wide range of social justice issues African women and their families face in Oregon.

www.awc-portland.org

» **Amigos Multicultural Services Center** *Eugene* \$7,500

AMSC promotes respect for the human rights of Latin American immigrants whose dignity and livelihoods have been challenged by poverty, discrimination, and social exclusion. www.amigosmsc.org

Band of Empowered Advocates Reclaiming Self-Determination

Corvallis \$2,000

BEARS is a group of mental health care consumers and survivors who raise community awareness and advocate for better alternatives in mental health care.

Bark *Portland* \$7,000

Bark protects the Mt Hood National Forest by developing community leaders to educate the public, monitor logging, and challenge destructive logging projects.

www.bark-out.org

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project *Fossil* \$9,000

BMBP protects the biodiversity and ecology of the beautiful Blue Mountains by exposing and dismantling the systems of corporate dominance over ecosystems and communities.

BroadArts Theatre *Portland* \$7,000

BroadArts is changing the world, one joke at a time. Their full-length musical comedies inspire people to take action for equality, peace, compassion and justice.

www.broadarts.org

Cambodian-American Community of Oregon *Beaverton* \$4,000

CACO unites Cambodian families, preserves Cambodian culture, and empowers

Cambodian-Americans to organize for social justice and civil rights. www.cacoregon.org

» **CAUSA** *Salem* \$9,000

CAUSA builds leadership and power in Oregon's Latino immigrant communities to advance the rights and well-being of immigrant workers and their families.

www.causaoregon.org

Center for Intercultural Organizing *Portland* \$10,000

CIO protects and expands immigrant and refugee rights by training and mobilizing new leaders from these communities to resist public policy attacks.

www.interculturalorganizing.org

Central Oregon Jobs with Justice **Bend** \$10,000

COJwJ is a coalition of 21 labor, community, and environmental groups who have joined forces to win higher living standards, better working conditions and greater human rights for all. www.jwjcentraloregon.org

Civil Liberties Defense Center **Eugene** \$8,000

CLDC protects civil liberties through public outreach, litigation, and legal support for Oregon's environmental and social justice activists. www.cldc.org

Community Alliance of Lane County **Eugene** \$7,000

CALC challenges discrimination against the LGBTQ community and People of Color while demanding institutional accountability for their safety and well-being. www.calclane.org

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

CAT develops the leadership of low-income tenants to hold landlords and officials accountable for housing conditions and to take group action for more affordable, safe and stable rental housing. www.oregoncat.org

Community of Welcoming Congregations **Portland** \$6,500

CWC is an interfaith association that uses education and advocacy to build a strong religious voice in support of people of all sexual orientations. www.welcomingcongregations.org

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

CTLR reclaims the history, language, culture and sovereignty of the Native peoples of Southwestern Oregon.

CRAG Law Center **Portland** \$8,000

CRAG provides activists with the legal tools and information needed to build power, educate the public, and hold the government and corporations accountable. www.crag.org

Democracy Reform Oregon (formerly Money in Politics Research Action Project) **Portland** \$5,000

DRO is leading the way in progressive campaign finance and election reform. Through effective "Follow the Money" research and reporting, DRO levels the political playing field. www.democracyreform.org

Disabled United in Direct Empowerment **Medford** \$7,000

DUDE is an aggressive advocacy group led by and for the disabled community. DUDE effectively builds the leadership of people living with disabilities to organize for their rights. www.dudesrus.org



Central Oregon Jobs with Justice



Community Alliance of Tenants

"The day we heard MRG gave us our first grant was a day Juventud FACETA pledged to dedicate our full energy, heart and passion to make every youth participant a community leader."

—Adrianna Montes, Volunteer,
Amigos Multicultural Services
Center/Juventud FACETA

FY08 GENERAL FUND GRANTEES

"MRG Foundation is a beacon of justice and philanthropy in Oregon and must continue to play a strong role as we look forward to the many opportunities and challenges facing our communities in the future."

—Chris Winter, Co-Director,
CRAG Law Center and Co-
Chair, MRG Foundation

Eugene Springfield Solidarity Network Eugene \$7,000

ESSN is a coalition of labor unions, religious congregations, and community groups supporting the civil and economic rights of all working people.

www.solidaritynetwork.org

Grants Pass Intertribal Powwow Committee Merlin \$6,000

Through the Sacred Salmon Ceremony and the Grants Pass Intertribal Powwow, this group is keeping the cultures of Oregon's First Nation Peoples alive.

www.AgnesBakerPilgrim.org

Hells Canyon Preservation Council La Grande \$3,500

HCPC protects and restores the vital Hells Canyon-Wallowa ecosystem by monitoring over 5 million acres of federal public land and empowering local residents to advocate for ecosystem protection. www.hellscanyon.org

Human Dignity Coalition Bend \$9,000

HDC leads a grassroots movement in Central Oregon to prevent discrimination, oppression and hate. www.humandignitycoalition.org

Islamic Social Services of Oregon State Aloha \$3,500

ISOS educates the community, police and health care providers about Arabs and Muslims while expanding these communities' understanding of Oregon's institutions.

www.I-sos.org

Komemmma Cultural Protection Association Yoncalla \$9,500

KCPA researches and preserves the culture and history of the Kalapuya Indians of Western Oregon while dismantling an entrenched anti-Indian infrastructure in Douglas County.

Latinos Unidos Siempre Salem \$8,500

LUS is creating a new generation of socially conscious youth of color to address racist and discriminatory practices within the educational and criminal justice systems.

Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas Woodburn \$9,000

MLP fosters farmworker women's skills and empowers them to respond collectively to the domestic and workplace issues that damage their lives.

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

MASO runs KSKQ Community Radio, a new, low-power FM station in southern Oregon. KSKQ provides a space for community groups to air their own messages while challenging corporate-owned media. www.mcaso.org

Northwest Constitutional Rights Center Portland \$5,000

NWCRC safeguards the rights of political activists, communities of color, immigrants and other vulnerable populations through grassroots advocacy, education and public interest litigation. www.nwcrc.org



Multicultural Association
of Southern Oregon

Northwest Workers' Justice Project *Portland* \$6,500

NWJP provides legal and strategic support to groups that protect low-wage, contingent, and immigrant workers' rights to mitigate the effects of free trade. www.nwjp.org

Not Straight Not Sure *Medford* \$5,000

NSNS is creating a visible, inclusive, safe community for queer youth and young adults in Southern Oregon.

Oregon Fair Trade Campaign *Portland* \$8,000

ORFTC organizes those most directly affected by free trade to support fair trade policies that promote health, labor rights, family farmers, and jobs in rural areas of Oregon. www.citizenstrade.org/orftc.php

Oregon Farm Worker Ministry *Portland* \$6,500

OFWM rallies faith communities to support agricultural workers as they strive for better living and working conditions.

Oregon New Sanctuary Movement *Portland* \$4,500

ONSM—a coalition of over 20 different faith communities—lifts up the voices of immigrants while working for just and humane immigration reform. www.oregonsanctuary.org

Oregon Rural Action *La Grande* \$8,000

ORA organizes residents from immigrant, farming, ranching and logging communities to unite around issues such as toxic pesticide exposure in Ontario, food insecurity in Malheur county and renewable energy development in Union county. www.oraction.org

Oregon Women's Action for New Directions *Eugene* \$7,000

With hands-on demonstrations of how much money goes to the military, Oregon WAND inspires people to push for a redirection of military spending to meet human and environmental needs. www.wand.org

Organizing People, Activating Leaders *Portland* \$6,500

OPAL organizes for environmental justice in communities of color and low-income communities that are most directly impacted by pollution. www.opalpdx.org

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Oregon State Council *Portland* \$5,000

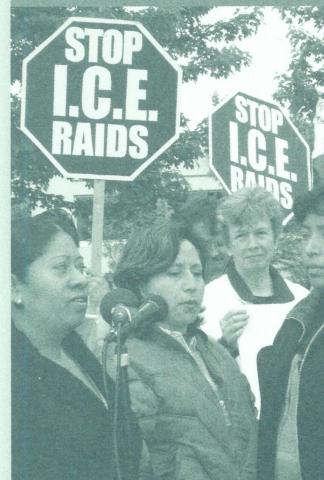
PFLAG, in collaboration with Basic Rights Oregon and Unity Project is engaging, supporting and mobilizing African American parents, families and friends of the LGBT community.

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee *Portland* \$8,000

PCASC educates and mobilizes communities to support human rights and economic justice in Latin America and Mexico and immigrant rights here in the U.S. www.pcasc.net



Not Straight Not Sure



Oregon New Sanctuary Movement



Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Oregon State Council

FY08 GENERAL FUND GRANTEES



Rogue Valley Oregon Action

Portland Jobs with Justice *Portland* \$8,500

Portland JwJ is a coalition of 85 labor, community, environmental, student, and faith based groups that are united to defend the rights of working people and to advance social and economic justice. www.jwjpx.org

» **Rogue Valley Oregon Action** *Medford* \$6,000

RVOA organizes low and moderate-income people in Jackson County to take leadership on key economic justice issues such as immigration, health care and housing. www.oregonaction.org

Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality *Salem* \$8,000

SKCE promotes equality in the education system by organizing and uniting hundreds of mostly Spanish-speaking parents to be strong community leaders for education reform.

Somos Hispanas Unidas *Silverton* \$5,000

SHUS promotes women's equality by uniting Latinas to work collectively and take leadership in the community. www.somoshispanasunidas.org

Southern Oregon Jobs with Justice *Ashland* \$5,000

SOJwJ organizes disenfranchised people to create a healthy community with more locally owned businesses, sustainable economies, strong unions, and responsive government.

Street Roots *Portland* \$8,500

Street Roots empowers those living on the streets to take leadership in the movement to end poverty through their nonprofit newspaper, which is published and sold by homeless individuals. www.streetroots.org

Umatilla Morrow Alternatives *Irrigon* \$6,500

Living in a very conservative area of rural Oregon, UMA is bravely building a strong, visible movement for LGBTQ rights and HIV services. www.umalt.com

Umpqua Watersheds *Roseburg* \$8,000

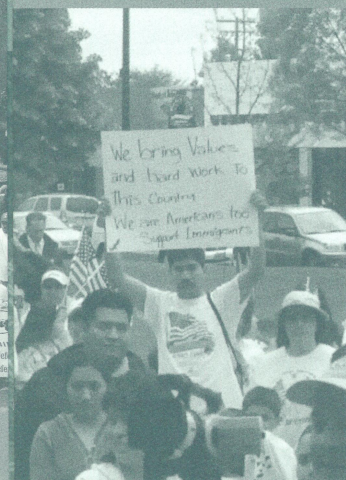
UW tirelessly protects a unique bioregion by exposing damaging forest management plans and developing solutions through public dialogue. www.umpqua-watersheds.org

» **Unete** *Medford* \$9,000

Through community education, cultural presentations and advocacy, Unete is creating a powerful movement of farm workers and immigrants in Southern Oregon.

Unity Project of Oregon (formerly Brother to Brother) *Portland* \$9,000

UP is dedicated to building strong leadership in the African American LGBTQ community in order to win concrete victories that improve peoples' lives. www.unityprojectoregon.org



Unete

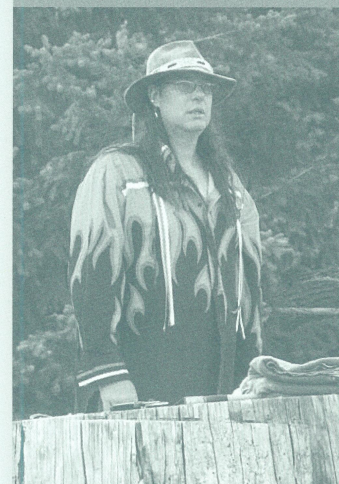
Wisdom of the Elders *Portland* \$5,500

- This American Indian group records and preserves the oral history and cultural arts of tribal elders, storytellers, historians, song-carriers and artists.

www.wisdomoftheelders.org

Young Environmental Professionals of Color *Portland* \$3,500

YEPOC organizes young people of color working in the environmental field to realize their shared vision of an inclusive, diverse, relevant and more effective environmental movement. www.environmentaldiversity.org/organizations.html#YEPOC



Wisdom of the Elders

GRANT PROGRAMS AT MRG

General Fund

This is the primary emphasis of MRG Foundation's grantmaking. Groups receive funding to build community power and organize for social justice and institutional change. MRG Foundation awards grants for both general operating expenses and special projects.

Peace Fund

This fund is dedicated to strengthening Oregon's peace movement so that it has the tools needed to shift public policy away from war and towards peace and social justice.

Travel Fund

Travel Grants provide opportunities for MRG grantees to participate in conferences or training opportunities that strengthen their organizing work.

Critical Response Fund

Critical Response grants provide groups with an opportunity to organize a progressive response to an unanticipated event, opportunity or crisis.

Technical Assistance Fund

This short-term program that ended this year expanded MRG grantees' organizational capacity and effectiveness.

"MRG and CAT have been long-time partners for social change. MRG has provided the long-term support it takes to build a strong movement for housing justice—and the timely critical support needed to jump on strategic opportunities when they arise."

—Steve Weiss,
Board President,
Community Alliance of Tenants

FY08 PEACE FUND GRANTEES

ONE YEAR GRANTS

BroadArts Theatre *Portland* \$5,000

The “On the Road to Peace Theatre Arts Camp” teaches peace activist youth the history of the peace and justice movements. BroadArts uses art mediums to help youth express their feelings and personal stories about peace. www.broadarts.org

Central Oregon Peace Network *Bend* \$5,000

COPN is expanding the peace movement in Central Oregon. www.copn.homestead.com

Eugene PeaceWorks *Eugene* \$5,000

The Committee for Countering Military Recruitment ensures that Lane County youth get accurate information about the military and explore alternatives to military service. www.eugenepeaceworks.org

» **Military Families Speak Out** *Portland* \$5,000

MFSO ensures that the voices of military families are heard in order to highlight the real impacts of war, to advocate for proper care for returning troops, and to push for an exit strategy. www.mfso-oregon.org

Portland Central America Solidarity Committee *Portland* \$5,000

As part of a national campaign to close the International Law Enforcement Academy in El Salvador, PCASC will organize Oregonians to demand an end to the U.S. use of the “War on Terror” as a means to squelch movements for social change. www.pcasc.net

American Friends Service Committee *Portland* \$15,000

Oregon AFSC is building a strong peace movement by engaging young people to combine arts and activism and by exposing the human and financial costs of war. www.afsc.org/portland

Center for Intercultural Organizing *Portland* \$15,000

CIO expands the peace movement to include the leadership of immigrants and refugees while strengthening the alliances between peace and social justice activists. www.interculturalorganizing.org

» **Community Alliance of Lane County** *Eugene* \$15,000

CALC brings together diverse voices including labor, communities of color and youth to oppose the war and gather support for alternatives to war. www.calclane.org

Oregon Action *Portland* \$15,000

OA is building a new coalition based in communities of color that is focused on ending the war in Iraq and ready to oppose future unjust wars. www.oregonaction.org

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) *Woodburn* \$15,000

PCUN, Oregon’s largest Latino organization, is bringing issues of peace, war and justice to the Latino community via its weekly live radio show on KPCN-LP. www.pcun.org

Rural Organizing Project *Scappoose* \$15,000

ROP is organizing in rural communities to expose the true costs of war and to promote policies that are based on principles of peace and justice. www.rop.org



Military Families Speak Out



Community Alliance of Lane County



Building a Stronger Foundation

We've been talking with our community—our grantees, donors and allies—to help us set goals for the years ahead. And what we've been told, over and over again, is that people are ready for MRG to have a greater impact. We've heard you, and we agree.

We shared our plans for raising and granting more money on other pages. Here's what we're doing to grow stronger as an organization and to expand our reach.

Last year we:

- » Increased our financial assets by nearly 50%
- » Welcomed new staff to support expanded grantmaking and fundraising
- » Surveyed grantees to learn about their priorities for additional services

In the year ahead, we will:

- » Develop tools to help grantees tell their stories and increase their visibility
- » Hire a Finance & Administration Director to ensure expert financial management as we grow
- » Increase MRG's visibility in the community

MRG is growing! With your support, we'll be able to increase vital support for grassroots social justice organizations across the state—from Eugene to Fossil, and from Medford to La Grande. Join us!

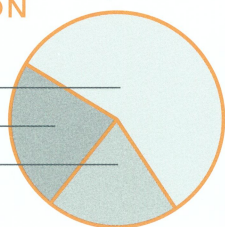
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIVIST-LED GRANTS

Urban 57%

Rural 23%

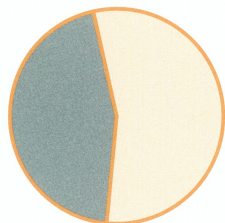
Statewide 20%

*Urban areas include Ashland, Bend, Eugene, Medford, Portland and Salem



RACIAL JUSTICE

45% of our grants supported groups based in and led by communities of color working to create a racially just Oregon.



ISSUE AREAS

Economic Justice 14%

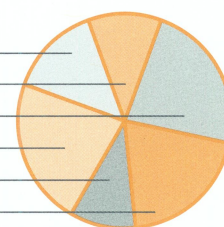
Environmental Protection 11%

Human Rights 23%

Peace/International Solidarity 22%

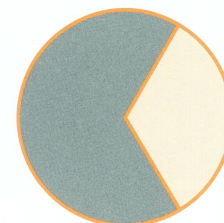
LGBTQ 10%

Immigrant Rights 20%



GENERAL SUPPORT

67% (a full $\frac{2}{3}$) of MRG's grants are for general support. This is important because it allows grantees to build strong organizations and determine the most strategic ways to use MRG's grants.



CRITICAL RESPONSE GRANTS

Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism and Fascism
CAUSA
Center for Intercultural Organizing
Migra Response Team
Rural Organizing Project
VOZ: Workers' Rights Education Project

Total \$5,250

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Bark
Central Oregon Jobs with Justice
Community Alliance of Lane County
International Center for Traditional Childbearing
Komemba Cultural Protection Association
Love Makes a Family
Not Straight Not Sure
Oregon Fair Trade Campaign
Oregon Women's Action for New Directions
Portland Central America Solidarity Committee
Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality
Street Roots
Umatilla Morrow Alternatives
Unete
VOZ: Workers' Rights Education Project

Total \$30,000

TRAVEL GRANTS

Confederated Tribes of the Lower Rogue
Human Dignity Coalition
International Center for Traditional Childbearing
Oregon Fair Trade Campaign
Oregon Women's Action for New Directions
Portland Central America Solidarity Committee
Portland Jobs with Justice
Rogue Valley Oregon Action
Unity Project of Oregon

Total \$4,250

SPECIAL FUNDS HONOR ACTIVISTS AND EXPAND GRANTS

MRG Foundation is proud to manage the following special funds that were established by donors:

- » Maud T. Kernan Fund
- » Michael Smith Fund
- » L'Chaim Fund
- » Lilla Jewel Fund for Women Artists

These funds honor the memories of committed social justice activists and continue their work by underwriting MRG grants in the areas of racial justice, peace, environmental protection, international solidarity and the arts.

If you are interested in learning more about setting up a fund at MRG, please contact us.

DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

In addition to our activist-led grantmaking, we expand giving through our Donor Advised Program. MRG Foundation offers a way for donors to simplify their giving by making a single donation to MRG that is then distributed to one or more community organizations the donor recommends. If you would like more information about donor advised giving, please contact MRG's Development Director, Sheryl Sackman.

1,000 Friends of Oregon
50 Years is Enough
Access, Inc.
ACLU Foundation
Adopt-A-Native-Elder
Albina Rotary Club Foundation
American Bird Conservancy
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish World Service
American Near East Refugee Aid
Amnesty International USA, Inc.
Anthropos Arts
Artists Repertory Theatre
Bat Conservancy International
Bicycle Transportation Alliance
Birth to Three
Bradley-Angle House
CARE Inc.
Cascadia Wildlands Project
CAUSA
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Intercultural Organizing
Central Asia Institute
Central City Concern
Central Oregon Landwatch
Clatsop County Women's Resource Center
Climate Crisis Coalition
Climate Trust
Coevolution Institute
Columbia Riverkeeper
Community Alliance of Lane County
Community Partners for Affordable Housing
Community Veterinary Center
CRAG Law Center
De La Salle North Catholic High School
Deschutes Basin Land Trust
Do Jump! Extremely Physical Theatre
Doctors Without Borders
Dougry Center
Earth Action Network
Earth Island Institute
Earthjustice
East Meets West
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Eugene Friends Meeting

Eugene Public Library Foundation
Eugene Waldorf School
Food for Lane County
Forest Park Conservancy
Friends of Air Land Water
Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah
Friends of Eugene
Friends of Mount Pisgah Arboretum
Global Greengrants Fund Inc
GLSEN
Grassroots International
Green Empowerment
Greenpeace Foundation
Growing Gardens
Hand in Hand
Heifer Project International
High Desert Journal
Huerto de la Familia
International Book Bank
International Development Exchange
International Rescue Committee
Israeli Committee Against House
Demolitions-USA
Jesuit Volunteer Corps NW
KBOO-FM
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center
KLCC Public Radio
Lane Community College Foundation
Latin America Solidarity Committee
Looking Glass Youth and Family Services
Madison Meadow
Madre
MECCS/ Direct Aid Initiative
Mercy Corps
Multnomah County Library Foundation
NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon Foundation
National Audubon Society
National Center for Conservation Science and
Policy
National Immigration Forum
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nature Conservancy
NAYA Family Center
Nearby Nature
Network of Spiritual Progressives
New Israel Fund
Nonviolent Peaceforce
Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to
Pesticides
Northwest Medical Teams International
Northwest Pilot Project
Oregon Bus Project
Oregon Environmental Council
Oregon Fair Trade Campaign
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Oregon Public Broadcasting
Oregon State Public Interest Research Group
Foundation

Oregon Toxics Alliance
Oregon Water Trust
Oregon Wild
Oregon Women's Action for New Directions
OSU Foundation
Pacific Environment and Resources Center
Pangaea Project
Peace Alliance Foundation
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Ploughshares Fund
Population Connection
Portland Community Land Trust
Portland Piano International
Reed Institute
Refugees International
Relief Nursery, Inc.
Rural Art Center
Save the Children
School Garden Project
Seeds of Peace
SEVA Foundation
Shelter Care
Sierra Club Foundation
Siskiyou Regional Education Project
Sisters of the Road Café
Snow Leopard Trust
Spencer Butte Middle School
St. Andrew Nativity School
St. Vincent De Paul of Lane County
THRIVE
Tillamook County Women's Resource Center
Trust for Public Land
Truthout
Tryon Life Community Farm
Umpqua Watersheds
Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.
Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation
Wallace Medical Concern
Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive
Center, Inc.
Water Watch
Western Environmental Law Center
Weston A. Price Foundation
Wildlife Conservation Society
Willamette Farm and Food Coalition
Willamette Resources And Educational
Network
Within Earthly Bounds
Witness for Peace
Women for Women International
Womenspace

Total: \$285,664



Engaging Donors and Funders

MRG plays a critical role mobilizing resources for Oregon communities. So far, people have contributed enough to fund more than \$10 million in grants and to create an endowment so that MRG is here for the long run. We also help people and organizations think about how to use their money to support positive social change, above and beyond what they give through MRG.

Last year we:

- » Received our largest gift ever—\$3 million from the Ralph L. Smith Foundation of Oregon to expand future programs
- » Raised \$525,000 in community donations
- » Launched the new Oregon Social Justice Funders network
- » Held a bi-annual conference on strategic philanthropy

In the year ahead, we will:

- » Engage more community members in raising money for positive social change
- » Join other foundations in documenting who receives funding in Oregon, and identifying where the gaps are
- » Raise even more money to support grassroots groups working for human rights, economic justice and environmental protection

Making a Difference: Ways to Give

Giving to MRG is a powerful way to put your money where your values are.

People give to MRG for many reasons. Some donate because they know MRG supports a wide range of activism. Others are motivated by a desire to build a stronger movement for social justice. And some give to MRG because they believe in the radical idea of activists having greater control over financial resources.

At MRG, every gift really does matter. When people make a gift that is meaningful to them, they join a powerful movement for justice in Oregon. MRG pools these gifts to create a stable source of funding for community-based groups throughout the state.

Many Ways to Give

- » Send a check to MRG or give online at www.mrgfoundation.org.
- » Name MRG as a beneficiary in your will, IRA or insurance policy.
- » Increase your giving by making smaller, monthly donations.
- » Donate appreciated stocks or securities.
- » Ask your employer to match your gift to MRG.
- » Invite others to join you in supporting MRG.

How MRG Gives Back to the Community

Beyond grantmaking, MRG also provides critical support to the community by sponsoring estate planning workshops, socially responsible investing seminars and political forums.

We also offer the opportunity for donors to expand their philanthropy through donor advised funds. You can set up a donor advised fund and make grant recommendations to groups (besides MRG) that you support.

If you want more information about giving opportunities, please contact us.

"I believe strongly in MRG's mission and vision, which is why it's important to me to give as much as I can. Making monthly donations allows me to give even more to support social justice."

—Yee Won Chong

DONORS

MRG Foundation thanks the following for their support in 2007-2008

Carl Abbott & Margery Post Abbott	Susan and Richard Cundiff	Sandra Harder	Evelyn McConnaughey
Pat Ackley	Colleen Curran & Maxwell Foster, Jr.	Harriet Hardiman & Doug Musgrove	Anne McLaughlin
Mary Addams	Alice & Tom Cushman	William & Barbara Harris	Maggie McLaughlin
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 Annah Sidigu
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* Term ended during the year

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2008

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,203,213
Investments	3,522,561
Pledges and grants receivable	750,119
Property and Equipment	18,121
Other assets	15,947

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 7,509,961

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

LIABILITIES:

Grants payable	\$ 20,000
Accounts and other payables	36,409
Total Liabilities	56,409

NET ASSETS:

Unrestricted:

General Fund	183,967
Board Designated, Operating Reserve	467,500
Board Designated, Movement Building	2,168,747
Board Designated, Donor Advised Funds	343,327
Board Designated, Endowment	474,517
Board Designated, Michael Smith Fund	54,436
	3,692,494

Temporarily Restricted:

Maud T. Kernan Fund	810,594
Rob McCay Fund	359,029
Lilla Jewel Fund	70,842
L'Chaim Fund	291,241
Grants	752,142
	2,283,848

Permanently Restricted:

Endowment Fund	1,252,703
Michael Smith Fund	115,949
Lilla Jewel Fund	108,558
	1,477,210

Total Net Assets 7,453,552

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$ 7,509,961

Statement of Activities

Year Ended June 30, 2008

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Public Support:				
General Fund contributions	\$ 2,742,409	\$ 752,000	\$ -	\$ 3,494,409*
Donor Advised Funds contributions	143,124	-	-	143,124
Funding Exchange Endowment contributions	51,348	-	-	51,348
Endowment Fund contributions	-	-	4,835	4,835
Michael Smith Fund contributions	-	-	-	-
Indirect public contributions	11,545	-	-	11,545
	2,948,426	752,000	4,835	3,705,261
Revenue:				
Investment gains (losses)	(91,431)	(121,776)	-	(213,207)
Interest and dividends	157,478	66,269	-	223,747
Other revenue	12,617	-	-	12,617
Administrative fees earned	934	-	-	934
	79,598	(55,507)	-	24,091
Net Assets Released From Restrictions:				
Satisfaction of Maud T. Kernan Fund restrictions	107,139	(107,139)	-	-
Satisfaction of Rob McCay Fund restrictions	145,232	(145,232)	-	-
Satisfaction of Lilla Jewel Fund restrictions	589	(589)	-	-
Satisfaction of L'Chaim Fund restrictions	34,534	(34,534)	-	-
Satisfaction of other program restrictions	6,843	(6,843)	-	-
	294,337	(294,337)	-	-
Total Public Support and Revenue	3,322,361	402,156	4,835	3,729,352
EXPENSES				
Program services:				
Grantmaking	950,987	-	-	950,987
Community Education	117,964	-	-	117,964
	1,068,951	-	-	1,068,951
Administrative	189,565	-	-	189,565
Fund raising	91,335	-	-	91,335
Total Expenses	1,349,851	-	-	1,349,851
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	1,972,510	402,156	4,835	2,379,501
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,719,984	1,881,692	1,472,375	5,074,051
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 3,692,494	\$ 2,283,848	\$ 1,477,210	\$ 7,453,552

Financial statements audited by Jim Richman, CPA.

*MRG Foundation received a onetime \$3 million gift from the Ralph L. Smith Foundation which will be used to expand programming.



MRG Envisions ...

A joyful world where people, cultures and ecosystems thrive.

We seek to create a just world where ...

... We live in harmony with one another and the natural world we all share, and we commit to the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

... We all have the freedom, support and resources to pursue our dreams and live out our full potential as communities and as individuals.

... We cherish and gain strength from the richness of our diverse experiences and the depth of our common humanity.

... We nurture our interdependence and actively care for one another.

We believe that everyone plays a role in creating and sustaining this world. By building community, living our values, and working together towards this vision, we participate in the creation of justice and inspire hope for the future.



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