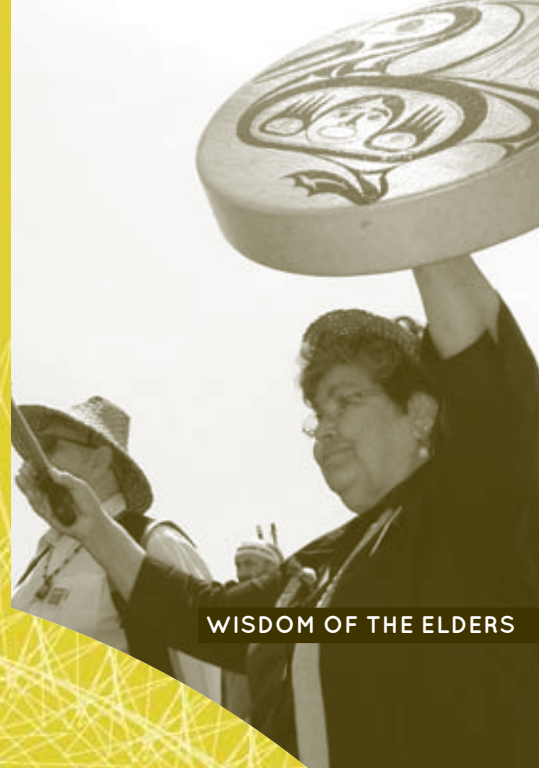


KLAMATH-SISKIYOU WILDLANDS



PFLAG



WISDOM OF THE ELDERS



MRG
McKENZIE RIVER GATHERING
FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010



Dear Friends,

This year, MRG Foundation accomplished more than ever! I'm pleased to share this snapshot of our work supporting social justice work in Oregon, and the groups, donors and volunteer leaders that made it all possible.

- **More grants:** We're awarding over half a million dollars in grants a year now. And our average grant size is going up, which means more funding for groups advocating for racial and economic justice, protecting the environment, and promoting peace.
- **More community support:** The number of MRG donors is growing, as new folks join those of you who have supported us for years. More of you are ensuring Oregon's social justice movement has a long-term source of support by naming MRG Foundation in your will. Our volunteer list is growing so much it doesn't even fit on these pages (you'll find it online).
- **More community education:** Our MIC Project is helping grantees *Maximize their Impact with Communications* through workshops, coaching and online tools that make it possible for them to engage more Oregonians in campaigns for social justice.

In 2009-2010, MRG Foundation accomplished more than ever.

Even with more to write about, we've shortened our annual report this year to conserve resources. You can meet more of our grantees, donors, and MRG leaders on our website. You can find tools to help the nonprofits you love strengthen their communications for social change. And you can follow trends and events that are shaping Oregon's social justice movement through my "Social Change in Oregon" blog.

In the year ahead, we'll be working with other funders to increase the resources for Oregon's social justice movement. We'll be creating new tools that help you think about how to have the biggest impact with your own giving. And we'll be sharing the victories of grassroots organizations working across the state for social justice. You can follow all that and more online at www.mrgfoundation.org.

For those of you who like to cozy up with a cup of coffee and something printed on paper, I hope you enjoy this snapshot of our work this past year. And then I hope you'll join us as we bring together more people to provide *more* resources to Oregon's ever-growing social justice movement.

In peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marjory Hamann".

Marjory Hamann
Executive Director

Grantees:

General Fund, Peace Fund, Critical Response and Travel Grants

IMMIGRATION \$99,045

African Women's Coalition, *Portland* | Amigos Multicultural Services Center, *Eugene* | CAUSA, *Salem* | Center for Intercultural Organizing, *Portland* | Oregon New Sanctuary Movement, *Portland* | Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, *Portland* | Rural Organizing Project, *Scappoose* | Unete, *Medford* | Voz Hispana Causa Chavista, *Woodburn*

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION \$98,500

Bark, *Portland* | Cascadia Wildlands, *Eugene* | Center for Diversity & the Environment, *Portland* | Civil Liberties Defense Center, *Eugene* | Crag Law Center, *Portland* | Friends of Living Oregon Waters, *Grants Pass* | Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, *Ashland* | OPAL (Organizing People - Activating Leaders), *Portland* | Oregon Toxics Alliance, *Eugene* | Siskiyou Regional Education Project, *Grants Pass*

In 2009-2010, MRG Foundation...

PEACE & INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY \$76,000

American Friends Service Committee - Portland Chapter, *Portland* | BroadArts Theatre, Inc, *Portland* | Center for Intercultural Organizing, *Portland* | Central Oregon Peace Network, *Bend* | Community Alliance of Lane County, *Eugene* | Eugene PeaceWorks, *Eugene* | Oregon Action, *Portland* | Oregon Women's Action for New Directions, *Eugene* | Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, *Woodburn* | Portland Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines, *Portland* | Rural Organizing Project, *Scappoose* | Witness for Peace Northwest, *Corvallis*



Grantees (cont'd)

General Fund, Peace Fund, Critical Response and Travel Grants

HUMAN RIGHTS \$133,955

Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, *Portland* | Common Cause Oregon, *Portland* | Community Alliance of Tenants, *Portland* | Community Media Assistance Project, *Portland* | Disabled United in Direct Empowerment, *Medford* | Eugene-Springfield NAACP, *Eugene* | Komemma Cultural Protection Association, *Yoncalla* | Red Earth Descendants, *Ashland* | Portland Parent Union, *Portland* | Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality, *Salem* | Street Roots, *Portland* | Ten Rivers Food Web, *Corvallis* | Wisdom of the Elders, *Portland*

LGBTQ \$43,000

Community of Welcoming Congregations, *Portland* | Human Dignity Coalition, *Bend* | Lotus Rising Project, *Medford* | Oregon Student Association, *Portland* | Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Oregon State Council, *Portland* | Umatilla Morrow Alternatives, *Hermiston*

...made almost \$550,000 in grants...

ECONOMIC JUSTICE \$94,500

Central Oregon Jobs with Justice, *Bend* | Friends of Family Farmers, *Molalla* | Northwest Workers' Justice Project, *Portland* | Oregon Fair Trade Campaign, *Portland* | Oregon Rural Action, *La Grande* | Pinosos y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste, *Woodburn* | Portland Jobs with Justice, *Portland* | Rogue Valley Oregon Action, *Medford* | VOZ Workers' Rights Education Project, *Portland*



42% of our grants supported groups based in and led by communities of color.



COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF LANE COUNTY



PORTLAND COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PHILIPPINES



RURAL ORGANIZING PROJECT



UMATILLA MORROW ALTERNATIVES

Rural Organizing Project (ROP) supports over 50 human dignity groups across the state. Their network engages over 12,000 rural Oregonians in communities like Willowa, Newport, Prineville, and Klamath Falls to organize for peace, LGBTQ equality, immigration reform and democracy.

With 25 member groups organizing on peace issues, ROP is on the leading edge of re-energizing America's peace movement. ROP's rural leaders are making connections in their communities between America's wars abroad, our local economies, and the war against immigrants here at home.

In Eastern Oregon, people face intense pressure to stay closeted in the face of homophobia and silent when confronted with racism. As the only LGBTQ organization run by people of color in Eastern Oregon, **Umatilla Morrow Alternatives** (UMA) is responding by developing powerful local leaders.

Year-round, they engage local businesses and social service providers to change "business as usual" to include LGBTQ folks and people of color. Every summer, UMA hosts a growing multicultural event with presenters about homophobia, disability and racism. UMA is changing rural Oregon.

...to grassroots groups across Oregon.



CRAG LAW CENTER

When an Oregon environmental group needs a lawyer to help them protect Oregon's land, air or water, if they're lucky, they get **Crag Law Center**. Crag's client list includes MRG grantees like Cascadia Wildlands, OPAL, Bark and Friends of Oregon Living Waters.

Crag's court victories have halted thousands of acres of clearcuts, protected fishing rights for tribes and ensured drinkable, fishable water for low-income communities. Crag's defense of wild areas and Oregon's land use system will keep our ecosystems intact for generations to come.

GRANTS PROGRAM

How did these groups become grantees? Our grantmaking committee members select groups that are led by people directly affected by the toughest social justice issues of our time. We fund groups who are organizing their communities to take on the root causes of injustice.

Our grassroots grantmakers are from the community as well, often organizing alongside our grantee groups. As organizers themselves, they quickly recognize emerging issues, effective strategies and truly grassroots leadership.

In 2009-2010, our grantees were working across Oregon to:

- Fix our broken immigration system
- Organize rural communities to pass health care reform
- Stop invasive Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) pipelines

Learn more at www.mrgfoundation.org/grantees

MRG GRANTMAKERS 2009-10 GENERAL FUND: Elisa Aguilera • Gil Avery • Patricia Cortez • Francis Eatherington • Evelyne Ello-Hart • Anne Golden • Shizuko Hashimoto • Kayse Jama • Joan Quaepts • Alejandro Queral • David Rogers • Liza Lynn Tran • Raquel Wells PEACE FUND: Chris Ferlazzo • Dan Goldrich • Nancy Haque • Esther Stutzman CRITICAL RESPONSE AND TRAVEL FUND: Penny Lind • Maud Powell • Terrie Quinteros • Ari Rapkin

Financials

In a down economy, the first question many foundations get asked is, "how's your endowment?" Ours **grew by over \$100,000 this year to \$2.1 million**, even after our annual draw.

MRG Foundation's ability to make grants depends on more than our endowment. Our financial health is based on a balance among annual fundraising, draws on long-term funds that were set up in previous years, and our investment earnings.

Like many organizations, our donations from individuals continue to be lower than before the stock market dropped in 2008. But the number of donors has increased compared to our previous fiscal year—thank you!

Fortunately, our investments gained ground this year, completely erasing losses from the previous fiscal year and offsetting the short-term drop in donations.

As a result, we were able to maintain a historically high level of grants to support social justice organizing.

Our vision goes way beyond the current economic cycle. Join us as we make MRG the strongest possible long-term resource for Oregon's social justice movement!

WHO INSPIRED YOUR PASSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE?

MRG Foundation can help you set up a special fund in their honor. Here are funds that currently provide long-term support for racial justice, peace, environmental protection, international solidarity and women artists by underwriting grassroots grants and programs at MRG:

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

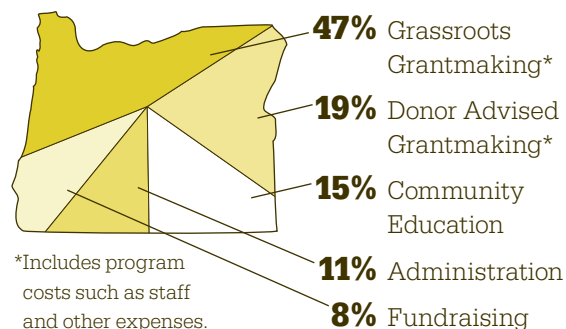
You can also make a tribute gift of any size, as many people did in 2009 to honor the life of MRG co-founder Leslie Brockelbank. **For more information on how you can honor someone who inspires you, contact Sheryl Sackman: Sheryl@mrgfoundation.org**

GROWTH IN GRASSROOTS GRANTMAKING

2005-06: **\$368,125**

2009-10: **\$545,000**

EXPENSES FY09-10 (\$1.5 MILLION)



MAKE YOUR GIVING EASIER WITH A DONOR ADVISED FUND

Do you make donations to a lot of groups each year, and need help managing the paperwork?

Do you want to make a single large donation in one tax-year but spread the impact out to multiple groups over time?

Setting up a donor advised fund at MRG can simplify your giving situation.

Last year MRG managed over \$250,000 in donor advised grants that went out to over 100 groups in addition to the groups you see listed in this report.

If you think a donor advised fund could make your giving easier, contact Sheryl Sackman: sheryl@mrgfoundation.org or visit www.mrgfoundation.org/tools.



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503-232-1731 (fax)

www.mrgfoundation.org

MRG Board Members 2009-10

Elisa Aguilera • Gil Avery •
Ibrahim Hamide • Kayse Jama •
Arbrella Luvert • Marcy Middleton
• Guadalupe Quinn • Rich Rohde
• Suk Rhee • Chris Winter •
Carole Zoom

MRG Staff 2009-10

Edith Casterline, *Office Manager*

Dave Cutler, *Finance and
Administration Director*

Marjory Hamann,
Executive Director

Cris Lira,
Grants Program Assistant

Kathleen Pequeño,
Communications Director

Anita Rodgers, *Program Director*

Sheryl Sackman,
Development Director

Annah Sidigu,
Development Assistant

Finance Committee

Arbrella Luvert • Tom Del Savio •
Olga Turner • Miriam Levitt

Donor Relations Committee

Yee Won Chong • Shadia Duery •
Shizuko Hashimoto • Dianne Riley
• Chris Winter • Carole Zoom



OREGON FAIR TRADE CAMPAIGN

NOT YOUR TYPICAL FOUNDATION REPORT. NOT YOUR TYPICAL FOUNDATION.

Unlike most foundations, which are supported by a corporation or a single family, many people join together to fund McKenzie River Gathering Foundation.

The groups we fund aren't typical either. For nearly 35 years, we've made grants to groups that are less likely to be supported by other foundations because they are working on emerging issues and challenging the status quo. These grassroots groups are working to protect the environment, promote human rights and racial justice, and work for peace.

Take a look inside to see who we funded this year. If you want to support the groups you see, you can do that today:

- Send a check or make a gift online
- Donate appreciated stocks
- Give via your workplace giving campaign
- Name MRG in your will

**For the most up-to-date stories, bios, photos or video, visit our
website: www.mrgfoundation.org**