



WISCONSIN
COMMUNITY FUND

CHANGE NOT CHARITY™

Wisconsin Community Fund raises money and gives it away to progressive groups that are too new, too small or too controversial for mainstream funders.

Wisconsin Apprentice Organizers Project Class of 2009 held a Graduation Celebration on October 7, 2009. Back row left to right: Brenda Harmon, Todd Sprewer, Juan Ruiz, Lang Xiong, and Monica Adams. Also pictured, front row left to right, WI-AOP founders: Art Lloyd and Ted Shannon. AOP has received a number of grants between 2004 and 2009, most recently a \$7,000 General Fund grant.



Strength Through Adversity: From the President



Recently I spent time on a train between Milwaukee and San Francisco, which gives one a lot of time to ponder! Going via train reminded me of the abundance of natural resources and the sheer stunning beauty of this country. That also got me to thinking about the resource we don't often mention—the culture of giving that is so strong in the United States and is certainly echoed in Wisconsin.

Your generosity, and that of hundreds like you, helps us provide much needed grant funding to a wide range of organizations providing services that are vital to the quality of life for Wisconsinites.

Among a host of issues our grantee organizations address are environmental justice, disability rights, improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and working to address the root causes of violence, poverty and racism in low income communities.

What a year this has been. Challenges in our country's economic system remained with us well into 2009 and it has been reported from a number of nonprofit commentators around the country that it's not over yet. However, we know that the demands on non-profit organizations are great and they need funding now more than ever.

These trying times affect Wisconsin Community Fund in several ways. Of course, you are under a great deal of pressure in your own giving. As you can imagine, the financial situation greatly impacts the organizations we traditionally support—those that are too new, too controversial and often too small to attract support from mainstream foundations and funders. That's where you come in; with your continued support, you help us carry out this vital mission. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you!

In order to serve our grantees better, this year we will be looking for ways to make our grant process easier and less labor intensive for both the grant applicants and the committee of activist-volunteers that makes our funding recommendations. While we at the Fund work on the process, we continue to count on you to assist us in raising the funds that help us make these grants. You are a vital piece of the process of supporting groups across the state.

However, it's not only your financial support we need. I would be remiss if I didn't remind you of the numerous other options for involvement:

1. Create your own Donor Advised Fund, which we administer and you tell us who you wish to support with your funds;
2. Set up a monthly pledge payment, which will allow you to contribute directly from your checking account or credit card;
3. Volunteer your talents and time to serve on a committee or on the board of directors.

All you have to do is pick up the phone and call 608-251-6834. I also encourage you to visit our website at www.wcfund.org

And now for a few thank yous. I'd like to thank our terrific Board of Directors. They have given unselfishly of their time, talent and treasure to ensure that this organization continues to make a difference in the lives of the people of Wisconsin. In addition, we could not do the work we do without the support of a professional staff that works diligently every day to support our many donors and grantees across the state. This past year saw a restructuring of staff positions. Our staff showed great understanding and professionalism during this difficult time.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for stepping forward to work with us as we support organizations challenging unjust systems in Wisconsin.

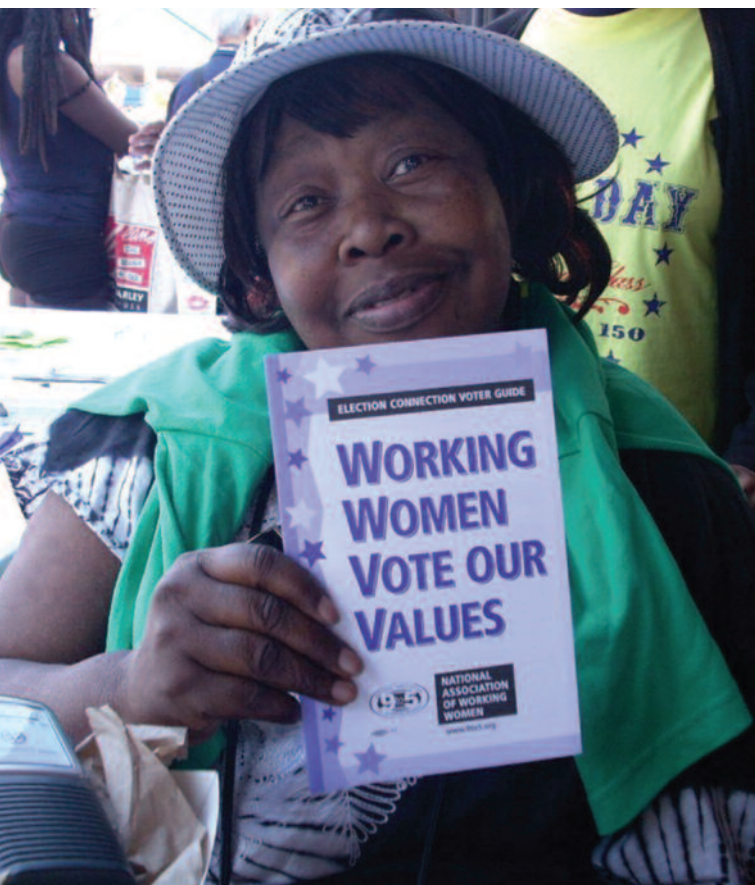
—Karen Campbell, *Board President*

Funding the Good Fights: Grant Making July 2008 – June 2009

Activist Determined Grants: Media Justice Fund

The Media Justice Fund was a three year grant program designed to fund organizations challenge the status quo of big media and promote their missions through the media. The 2008-2009 Media Justice Fund cycle is the final year for this program. Many thanks to the Ford Foundation for prioritizing and funding equal access to media and to the Funding Exchange for administering the program across the country!

The 3rd Media Justice Fund granted \$40,000 to seven groups working on media-related issues in Wisconsin.



9to5 members led the successful campaign to pass a Paid Sick Days Ordinance in Milwaukee in November 2008. 9to5 received a \$7,000 Media Justice grant in 2008.

Media Justice Fund Grantees for 2008-2009

9 to 5 Milwaukee, Milwaukee—\$7,000

9to5 Milwaukee is a grassroots membership organization of low-income women, women transitioning from welfare to work, and women who have experienced discrimination or harassment on the job. Most recently they helped win paid sick days for all workers in Milwaukee. The grant helped train members in the methods of media creation by giving them the tools and skills to tell their own stories and advocate for change.

CityWIDE LPFM, Madison—\$5,000

CityWIDE LPFM, a coalition of social change groups, shares a frequency with another station (SoulWIDE LPFM) as part of an FCC approved settlement of competing applications for the same frequency. CityWIDE operates from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM weekdays and all day Saturday. The grant helped train progressive political groups and youth from local community centers to frame their own stories for presentation to the public.

Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition, Milwaukee—\$6,000

Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition, a volunteer driven organization for more than 13 years, is the only Muslim women's organization in the Milwaukee area. It provides support for Muslim women, both native and foreign-born, in the Milwaukee area. The grant helped build the MMWC website as an alternative to the hundreds of well-funded websites that are dedicated to denigrating Islam and Muslims and promote a false understanding of Muslim women.

Native American Educational Technologies, Hayward—\$5,000

NAET creates, produces, preserves and distributes educational materials in print, audio, broadcast and video formats, with a particular focus on American Indian populations. The grant funded operational expenses for the "Voice of the People Project" which secures and increases the public media infrastructure to guarantee a place for the viewpoints and interests of the diverse, rural, poor, northern Wisconsin counties.



WNRB Community Radio station is the voice of the Hmong Community in Central Wisconsin. WNRB received a \$5,000 Media Justice grant in 2008.

Progressive Media Project, Madison—\$5,000

The Progressive Media Project is an affiliate of the Progressive magazine and has been presenting writing clinics since 1993 for social justice activists and nonprofit staff from around the country. The grant funded Media Policy Advocacy Clinics, to train community-based nonprofit organizations and individual activists in advancing effective, creative and ongoing media justice dialog with the general public and policy makers.

Voces de la Frontera Action, Milwaukee—\$7,000

Voces de la Frontera Action (VFA) is the 501c4 advocacy arm of Voces de la Frontera (a 501c3). VFA's primary campaign is to win humane immigration reform that provides a path for legalization, family unity and strong worker rights. The grant helped fund the Voces newspaper, member-led press conferences, member-written letters to the editor and member-created video for social networking sites.

WNRB-FM 93.3 LP, Wausau—\$5,000

93.3 FM WNRB-LP Wausau is a low-power community radio station in the Wausau area. To serve its primarily Hmong listenership, much of the programming is Hmong language and advocacy programming. The grant helped fund a part time station manager and web-streaming, which will enable Hmong listeners around the state and the world to tune in to Hmong and progressive programming.



Wisconsin Rural Women's Initiative has engaged more than 2,800 rural/farm women in 57 of 72 counties through gathering circles, a unique and safe process for skill development, total wellness and empowerment. WRWI received a

\$2,000 General Fund grant in 2008 and a \$2,000 Sandy Klippel Memorial Donor-Advised grant in 2009.

Movement Building Grant

WI Legislation Coalition, Milwaukee—\$2,000

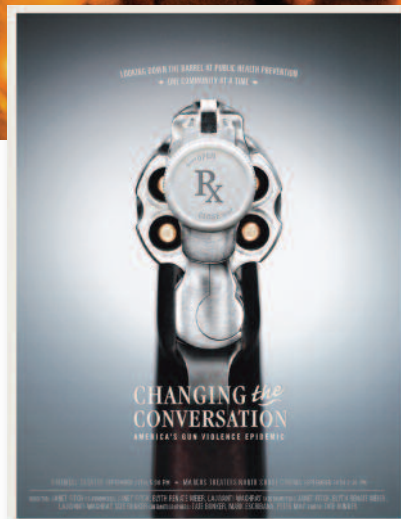
The WI Legislation Coalition advocates for the creation and passage of national legislation for just and general legalization for undocumented workers and their families living in the U.S. The grant funded efforts to recruit new members to the organization.

Special Opportunity Grant

WI Network for Peace and Justice, Madison—\$500

In the last 8 years, the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice more than doubled their number of member organizations, who work toward the creation of a world free from violence and injustice. The grant helped revive their crashed website, which is a crucial service to their members and the general public with events calendars, action alerts, and success stories.

Changing the Conversation: America's Gun Violence Epidemic, a documentary series of New Moon Productions, made its world premiere at the 2009 Milwaukee Film Festival. New Moon received a \$5,185 Media Justice Grant in 2007.



Donor Advised Grants:

Some donors to Wisconsin Community Fund go the extra mile in supporting social justice in Wisconsin; they've established Donor Advised Funds to augment their annual giving.

What is a Donor Advised Fund? Donor Advised Funds allow individuals to donate a lump sum of money to Wisconsin Community Fund and direct a grant or grants to be made from the Fund to particular groups or areas of interest as determined by the donor.

Wisconsin Community Fund offers administrative support to donors who wish to create a privately-advised fund of \$2,000 or more. The Fund's Donor Advised grant program complements our General Fund program by providing services to donors and additional funds to the social justice groups around the country.

Amy Gilliland Fund

Porchlight, Inc. \$10,000
Small Miracles \$10,000

Anonymous Funds

Intercultural Leadership Initiative \$2,000

BethAnne Yeager/David Schwartz Fund

ACLU Foundation of Southern California \$3,000
Workers' Rights Center \$2,000
Mikva Challenge \$2,000
Midwest Environmental Advocates \$3,000
Principia College of Elsah, Illinois \$3,000

A birth doula is a woman trained to assist women during labor and birth with the goal of easing and speeding labor.

Small Miracles Volunteer Doula Program exists to provide free doulas to women who cannot afford to pay a doula. "No woman in Madison need be alone during labor," according to Rose Marie Bertrand, Director of Small Miracles.

Small Miracles received a \$10,000 Donor-Advised Grant in 2009.

Frederick Douglass Edhlund Fund

Voces de la Frontera \$1,000
Peace Education Project \$500
Rethinking Schools \$500
ACLU of WI \$1,000
IFCO/Pastors for Peace \$500
Central United Methodist Church \$1,000

Jim Barrett Justice Fund

WI Apprentice Organizers Project \$4,800

Mildred Harnack Memorial Fund

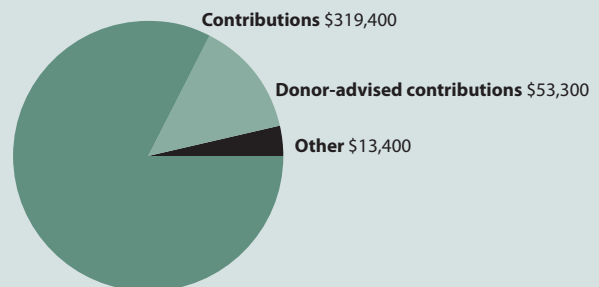
Scholarship for a student at the University of Chicago \$1,000

Sandy Klippel Memorial Fund

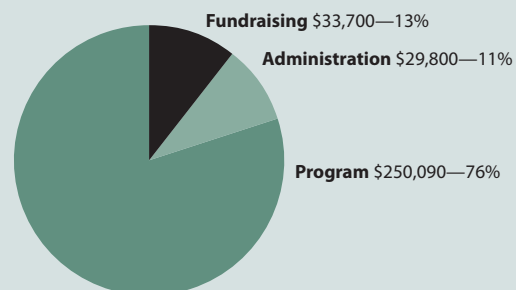
Fair Wisconsin Education Fund \$2,000
Anathoth Community Farm \$2,000
WI Rural Women's Initiative \$2,000

Financials July 2008 – June 2009

FY09 Income: \$386,100



FY09 Expenses: \$313,500



Who Supports and Advances Social Justice Grantmaking in Wisconsin?

Grant Abert	Maureen Brady & Cheri Maples	Harvey Dym	Warren Hagstrom
Seymour & Shirley Abrahamson	Sue Bronson	Marsha & Stuart Dymzarov	& Doleta Chapru
Betsy Abramson & David Seligman	Cynthia Brown & Andrew Moss	Carol Edgerton	Arneita Halle
Nancy Adams Johnson	Lucy Brown	Sandra Edhlund & Arthur Heitzer	Mary Ann Halvorson
Chris Ahmuty	Tom & Lee Brown	Mohamed & Kathryn El-Assal	Joel Handler
Cheryl Ajirotutu	Joan & William Burns	Shirley Ellis	Jim Hannon & Jessica Ronalds
Robert Akamatsu	Eliot Butler	Laura & Mustafa Emir	Roberta Hanus
Huda Alkaff & Mohamed Ayoub	Patrick Butler	Frank & Dolores Emspak	Sarah Harder
Pamela Alsum	Gerald Campbell	Julie & James Enslow	Reuben & Mildred Harpole
Joe & Guadalupe Ancel	Karen Campbell & Kevin Ronnie	Epic Systems Corp.	Ian Harris & Sara Spence
Crystel Anders & Jay Solwold	Margaret Carlson & Carla Draper	Amy & Miles Epstein	Paul Harrison
Julie Andersen & Steve Greb	Mary Ellen & Ronald Carne	Judith Ettinger	Henry Hart
Constance Anderson	David Carrig	Shirley Anne Evenson	Kathleen Hart
Gail Anderson & Daniel Elsass	Carol & Peter Carstensen	Inshirah Farhoud	Hatheway Hasler
Mary Anglim	Sharon Cerny	Gene & Linda Farley	Virginia & Perry Henderson
Benjamin Anton	Dana & Patricia Chabot	Karen Faster	Herbert H. Kohl Charities
Rima & Michael Apple	Roger Chapman	Gordon & Judith Faulkner	Steven Herschleb
Bette Arey	Nan & David Cheney	Welcome Fawcett	Helen Hift
Maqbool & Naheed Arshad	Jean Christie	Pamela Fendt	Anthony Hill
Judy Ashford	Bill Christofferson & Karin Borgh	Cindy Fesemyer & Rob Ferrett	Robert Hill
Alicia Ashman	Nancy Ciezki & Diane Kostecke	Marshall & Heidi Fields	Ruth & Joseph Hind
Marian Ashman	Constance Clark	Catherine Fink	Peggy & Steve Hintzman
Robert Ashmore	Christopher Clayton	Ted Finman	David & Deborah Hoffman
Ihsan Atta	Michael Cohn & Fran Serlin	Lucy & Gerhard Fischer	Carol Holley & Greg Wille
Othman Atta & Ahlam Atallah	Fred & Wendy Coleman	Kevin Flaherty	Harvey Honig & Jean Scott-Honig
Janan Atta-Najeeb & Waleed Najeeb	Johnston Connelly	Patricia Foley	Robert Horwich
Bill Aylward	& Terri Connelly Cronk	Rachel Forman	Evelyn & Herbert Howe
Mary Babula	Lucy Cooper	Jeanette Foster	Evelyn Howe Payson
Linda Balisle	Dan & Pat Cornwell	John Fournelle & Judith Munaker	& Charles Payson
Judith Barisonzi	Dennis & Karen Coyier	Patrick Fox	Joan Hoyer
Kay & Dan Barry	William Craig	Harriet Fricke	Cynthia Huebschen
Beverly Bassin	Denise Crumble	Mary Fulton & Steven Koslov	Barbara Hummel
Jerry Batson & Brenda Schilke	Amy Curl	Martin Garment	Allen Hunter & Linda Gordon
Michael & Sue Baumbhatt	Howard Czoschke	Deirdre Garton	Jeff Hynes
John & Penelope Beasley	David & Janet Dahl	Tracy Gary	Tony Ingram
Ellouise & Marvin Beatty	Grace Dale	Gary & Pam Gates	Islamic Society of Milwaukee
William Bechtel	Phyllis Daly	Sheldon & Doran Gendelman	Celia Jackson
Patricia Becker	Susanne Dane & Liz Lusk	Joy & Robert Gibson	Monica Jaehnig
Radleigh & Susan Becker	Susan & Richard Davidson	Elaine & David Glowacki	James & Mary Beth Jansen
Patrick Bellegarde-Smith	Frederick Davis	Robert Godfrey	Joan Janus
Brynn Bemis	Elizabeth Day	Ken & Jeannette Golden	Bernadine Jaszewski
Phyllis Berentsen	Dorothy Dean	Sue Goldwomom & Arlene Zaucha	David Jenkins
Frank Berkowitz	Helen DeBardelben	Laura & Jim Good	Ed Jepsen
Roger Bindl & Jacalyn Schultz	Jacqueline & Frank Dettloff	Dorothy Gosting	Gary & Lynn Johnson
Jan & Dennis Blakeslee	Marjorie Dick	Marilyn Gottschalk	Marjorie & David Johnson
Angela Blank	Richard & Patricia Diemer	Tammy Gray	Charles Kahn
Philip & Bea Blank	Christina Dohm	Robert Greenler	Barbara Karavolas
Joan Bleidorn	Hildegard Dorrer	Dianne Greenley	Richard & Patricia Kark
Charlotte Bleistein	Nancy & Robert Dott	Tom & Jeri Grogg	Trudy Karlson & David Weber
James Block & Terese Allen	Kelly Douglas	Dennis Grzezinski	Imad & Sahar Katib
Dave Blouin & Claire Gervais	William Dowling	Patricia Guhleman & Joel Wall	Don Katz & Rebecca Krantz
Helen Boley	Robert Dreps & Elizabeth Koehl	Jan Gunnulson	Jesse Kehres
Judith & Carl Bowser	Laura Dresser & David Austin	Carolyn Haack	Mary Kellner
Jackie Boynton	Henry Drewal	Kenneth & Delores Haak	Fred & Joan Kessler

John Kessler & Mara Zimmerman
 Eric Key & Judith Martel
 Audrey Keyes
 Abdul Khaleh Azzab
 & Tahany Azzab
 Barbara Kneer & Alice Holbrow
 Sharon Knopp & Ingolf Vogeler
 James & Ruth Knutson
 Brenda Konkel & Robert Bloch
 Rena Kornblum & Joseph Schmitt
 Arthur Krantz
 Ed & Bobbie Krinski
 Daniel & Margaret Krupp
 Bob Kuller
 Mary Kunkel & Douglas Smith
 Atsuko & Paul Kusuda
 Adam LaFave
 Mary Lamar
 JoAnn Lampman
 Howard & Judith Landsman
 Rob Latousek & Brian McCormick
 Betsy Lawrence & David Nance
 Edward Lee
 Mary & Robert Lerner
 Sharon Lezberg & Brian Yandell
 Cynthia Lin
 Elliot & Eva Lipchik
 Efrat Livny
 Sue & Art Lloyd
 Cathy Loeb & David Griffearth
 Matthew & Julie Logan
 Martha Love
 Steven Luecke
 Nancy Lurie
 Monica Macaulay & Joe Salmons
 Stewart Macaulay
 Kevin Mackey & Susan Le Vine
 David MacMaster
 Richard Magyar & Lyria Palas
 Gordon Malaise
 Lizabeth Maltman
 Joanne Malvik
 Alexandra Marchosky
 Laurel Mark
 Mary Marks
 Laird Marshall & Alice D'Alessio
 Terry Marshall
 William & Barbara Marten
 Salli Martyniak
 Mary Mastaglio
 Robert McChesney & Inger Stole
 Tom & Jeri McCormick
 Beverly & Chandler McKelvey
 Jack McLeod
 Brent McNabb
 Joel McNally
 & Kit Murphy McNally
 Ann McNeary
 Patrick Meier
 Lynn Messinger

Marion Meyer
 Misao Michelfelder Kusuda
 Sven Midelfort & Petra Ressler
 Cathy Miller
 Mark Miller & Jo Oyama Miller
 Midge Miller
 Lisa Mink
 Jonathan & Donna Moberg
 Bruce Moffat
 Mary Moffat
 Polly Morris
 James & Mary Moser
 Shawn & Stacey Mulvihill
 Lucia & Jack Murtaugh
 Andrea Musher
 Peter & Helen Muto
 Margaret Nellis
 Larry Nesper
 Aileen & Al Nettleton
 Phyllis Noble
 Elam & Eeva Nunnally
 Nurses & Medical Staffing
 Susan O'Leary & Jim Roseberry
 Laura & Frank Olah
 Margaret Olson
 Norm & Darlene Olson
 Richard Ouren
 Susan Pack
 Ann Marie Palmisano
 Bob Paolino
 Kristina Paris
 Barbara Parsons
 Donna Paske
 Hollis Patzer
 Jonathan Peacock
 Daniel & Judith Pierotti
 George Pillsbury & Mary Tiseo
 Eugene Pocernich
 Kevin Pomeroy
 Martha Porter Kilgour
 & William Kilgour
 Lynn Preston
 Joyce Radtke
 Nancy & Kenneth Ragland
 Richard & Krista Ralston
 Antonio Ramirez
 Cathy & Carl Rasmussen
 John Rasmussen
 Jane Raymond & Bob Mouglin
 Fred & Nancy Risser
 Marianne & Matthew Robbins
 Darlene Roberts
 John Rogan & Ann Rogan
 Joel Rogers & Sarah Siskind
 Kathy Ronco
 Peggy Rose
 Lucy Rosenberg
 Janet Ross
 Michael Ross
 Robert Ruggero & Terese Lohmeier

Carolyn Rumph
 Timeka Rumph
 Linda & Jeff Russell
 Betty Salamun
 Nobil Salous
 Joan & David Sample
 Max Samson & Nancy Pinter
 Mary Sanderson-Bolanos
 Felicia Santini
 Daniel Sargeant & Elfrieda Abbe
 Joanne & Don Schalch
 Theodore Scher
 Peg & Peter Scholtes
 Mark Schroeder
 Edward & Marilyn Schten
 AJ Schumacher
 Bruce Semon & Lori Kornblum
 Mary Ellyn & Joe Sensenbrenner
 Erica Serlin
 Nina Severini
 Pamela Shannon & Douglas Bradley
 Ted Shannon
 Julianna Shaul & Eric Howland
 Julie Shiner-Bazan & Bernard Bazan
 Judy & Bob Siegfried
 Sisters of St Dominic Unit 1150
 Terry Sizer & Mark Miller
 Marilyn & David Slautterback
 Robert & Suzanne Smith
 Leonard Sobczak
 Charles Sommers
 Carolyn Sonfield
 Sheila & Thomas Spear
 June & Stanley Spencer
 Sheryl Spitzer-Resnick
 Addrena Squires
 Kaylin Stampfl
 Ralph & Melba Stockhausen
 Norman Stockwell
 & Melanie Herzog
 Judith Strasser
 Augusta Strozak
 David Stute & Peg Rasch
 Nancy Sugden & Robert Newberry
 Catherine & Michel Sultan
 Sundberg & Connolly
 Memorial Fund
 Mark & Sarah Sundquist
 Jean Swanson
 Kathleen Swanson
 Keith & Mary Louise Symon
 Paul Szedziewski
 Robert Szymanski
 Jeanne & Bob Tabacknick
 TAPIT/New Works
 Judith Taylor
 Community Pharmacy
 Rayla Temin
 Irene Temple
 Marilynn Thaney & Karen Mahler

Rita & David Thofern
 Sharon Thomas
 Joseph & Pauline Thome
 Jack & Virginia Tiffany
 Robert Tobon
 Sally Tolan
 Karen Trembath
 Brian Turany
 Ray Vahey
 Gail & William Van Haren
 Mary Vernon & Robert Fenchel
 Dick & Margy Walker
 Joseph Wall
 Peg & Ron Wallace
 David Wallner
 Maricolette Walsh
 Catherine & Bill Washabaugh
 Carolyn & Morris Waxler
 A Erick Weber
 Becky Weber & Matt Bains
 Marilyn Weiland
 Laurence & Frances Weinstein
 Foundation, Inc
 June Weisberger Blanchard
 Gloria & Edward Weiskotten
 Suzy & Jerry Weisman
 Lee Weiss
 Edward Wellin
 Lenard Wells
 Nancy & Jack Westman
 Mariamne Whatley
 Jody Whelden & Scott Simanski
 Bill White & Kathie Nichols
 Mack & Rebecca Whitmore
 Dale Wiehoff
 Roger & Kristi Williams
 Karen & John Wilson
 Charles Workman
 Robert Wrenn
 Alexandra Wright & Michael Soref
 Marcia & Erik Wright
 BethAnne Yeager & David Schwartz
 Alex Young
 David & Abigail Young
 Joan Zeiger
 Rose Zerwick
 Joan & Steven Ziegler
 Charlotte Zieve
 Laurie Zimmerman & Renee Bauer
 Len & Ruth Zubrensky
 David & Sandra Zweifel

Thanks to all our
 devoted donors!



Crawford Stewardship Project— Resisting Factory Farms for the Health of Crawford County

by Jeff Streier



Crawford Stewardship Project volunteers and board members in the Gays Mills Apple Festival Parade, Sept. 27, 2009. The Project received an \$8,000 General Fund Grant in 2009.

Here's a funny one for you: why did the cows cross the road? To protest the factory pig farm - cows and pigs, now that's solidarity!

Unfortunately, it's no joke. On September 27th, 2009, one peculiar herd did more than cross the road: they marched right down the middle of the road in protest. The bovine protesters were volunteers and board members of the Crawford Stewardship Project. Jennifer Nelson, Crawford Stewardship Project Board Member, says the protesting cows were welcomed by the community and they even made the front page of the local paper.

The demonstration in the Gays Mills Apple Festival Parade helped raise awareness of the first Contained Animal Feeding Operation, or CAFO, in the county, Roth Feeder

Pig Farm. CAFOs are often referred to as factory farms because they're huge, corporate, crowded facilities designed to maximize profit. Roth has operated for two years in Crawford County without proper permits or oversight - leaving their harmful environmental impacts and labor practices virtually unchecked.

"The CAFO here is pigs, but we figured that a CAFO is a CAFO in terms of the potential community and environmental damage," says Edie Ehlert, Project Coordinator of the Crawford Stewardship Project.

CAFOs produce massive amounts of concentrated animal waste containing agrochemicals, pesticides, growth hormones and antibiotics. These harmful substances pollute air, soil and groundwater. Additionally, CAFOs have been shown to over-use available water and energy resources. Workers, neighbors, the local community, tourists and, ultimately, Wisconsin taxpayers pay for the environmental and human damage wreaked by CAFOs.

Crawford Stewardship Project staff, board, and volunteers monitor the air and water quality near the Roth CAFO. They also monitor the county's CAFO applications and advocate for state and local regulators to prohibit or severely limit CAFOs. In lieu of effective state policy and oversight, intensive citizen monitoring provides crucial evidence for legal action by environmental advocates or, as Ehlert hopes, by the DNR and the justice system.

"We feel the facts are in our favor. We don't need to make it any worse, the truth is bad enough," said Ehlert about their approach to educating the public with scientific evidence of harm.

Ehlert goes on to explain that the Clean Water Act was designed to remedy the problems they're seeing in Crawford—point source pollution—but that the regulations are

weakly enforced. “If any enforcement is actually done, it’s citizens and neighbors monitoring, and the data has to be collected carefully to stand up in court.”

Ehlert and Nelson feel the key to fighting CAFOs lies in better laws and enforcement through statewide grassroots organizing and monitoring. “It’s a real deterrent to CAFOs because if they have to operate within the regulatory environment, they can’t do it, so they go somewhere else. We’re trying to create a climate where everyone feels they have the tools. It’s an issue of rural communities being destroyed,” says Ehlert.

Crawford Stewardship Project supporters are not alone in their fight. Ehlert and Nelson cite a recent survey of all rural townships in Crawford County in which over 80% of respondents wanted to maintain the environment with open land and family farms. Respondents also showed a high interest in prohibiting or limiting factory farms. Thus, Nelson and Ehlert are organizing the community around the shared values of sustaining the environment.

Coming up for the Crawford Stewardship Project are continued CAFO monitoring and advocacy, plus a farmer panel discussion, film screenings, and a Karst Identification Workshop, all scheduled for the next few months. Details can be found at www.crawfordstewardshipproject.org.

Crawford Stewardship Project received \$8,000 through Wisconsin Community Fund’s 34th General Fund Cycle and \$2,000 from an anonymous Donor Advised Fund. ■

The Funding Exchange Seeks Executive Director

Wisconsin Community Fund is a proud member of The Funding Exchange (FEX). FEX is a network of 16 public foundations and a national office that together grant nearly \$15 million annually to grassroots organizations working for social, racial, economic and environmental justice around the country.

The Funding Exchange, located in New York City, is hiring an Executive Director. A social justice background is required. The Funding Exchange is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The deadline for submitting resumes is November 30th.

Please go to <http://fex.org> for more information.

Your Commitment Results in Increased Grant Making

Despite all you’re hearing about the economic downturn, your Wisconsin Community Fund topped itself in the amount given in grants this past summer. At the time when small, new and controversial organizations most need financial support, the money was there!

Ten deserving groups received \$60,000 between them. These ten groups are advocating for social justice for the people of Wisconsin. These groups are:

- forming a statewide coalition in support of comprehensive immigration reform (Worker’s Rights Center-Madison),
- advocating on behalf of rural citizens who are adversely affected by Confined Animal Feeding Operations or CAFOs (Crawford Stewardship Project-Gays Mills),
- promoting responsible economic development policy in urban neighborhoods (Good Jobs and Livable Neighborhoods-Milwaukee).

And so much more—all the details follow. I hope you feel a sense of pride in the fact that you helped support these 10 daring, hard-working social justice organizations. You and hundreds like you deserve that moment of pride for investing in a more just Wisconsin for all. Thank you.

—Cindy Fesemyer, *Chief Development Officer*



“Tear Up the Front Page,” a play by Danielle Dresden, recently produced at UW Marathon Co., Wausau. Pictured: John Gustafson (L) and Matt Shrader (R). TapIt received a \$3,000 General Fund Grant in 2007. (Photo by Pete Rydberg.)

34th General Fund Funding Cycle



Members and allies of Operation Welcome Home marched on the capitol on July 24, 2009 to demand the city address the root causes of homelessness rather than using displacement and criminalization to deal with homelessness. OWH received a \$4,000 General Fund grant in 2009.

Wisconsin Community Fund is the only Wisconsin foundation that channels charitable contributions to grassroots organizations working for progressive social change in every part of the state. We raise money and give it away to groups that are too new, too small or too controversial for mainstream funders. The Fund's annual grant cycle provides non-profit organizations with funding for projects and general operating expenses. Following are the most recent General Fund grantees.

Crawford Stewardship Project, Gays Mills Environmental Justice—\$8,000

The Crawford Stewardship Project protects the environment of Crawford County from threats posed by Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) and promotes sustainable land use, local control of natural resources and environmental justice. This grant helps them fund a part-time staff position.

Equality Wisconsin Fund, Milwaukee

LGBTQ—\$2,000

Equality Wisconsin Fund exists to improve the quality of life of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Wisconsin by improving public understanding and public policy through education, organizing, coalition-building, and other charitable activities. This grant helps them raise awareness of their mission.

Freedom, Inc, Madison,

Community Organizing—\$7,000.

Freedom, Inc. works for social, political, cultural, and economic change resulting in the end of violence against women and children in communities of color. Through leadership development and community organizing, Freedom, Inc. challenges the root causes of violence, poverty, racism, and discrimination in low-income communities. This grant helps them fund a part-time staff position.

Good Jobs and Livable Neighborhoods, Milwaukee

Community Organizing—\$7,000

The Good Jobs and Livable Neighborhoods Coalition promotes responsible economic development policy and practice through civic participation and community organizing. They work to ensure equity in the development of their community and an economy that works for all. This grant helps address the need to prioritize employment opportunities for disadvantaged and low-income populations in projects funded through federal stimulus funding.

Intercultural Leadership Initiative, Lac du Flambeau

Youth and Native American—\$7,000

The Intercultural Leadership Initiative serves students in the Lakeland Union High School District which is fed by four K-8 schools, one predominantly Native American, while the other three are all non-native. ILI helps eradicate the racism inherent in this system by educating students from an early age on racial justice issues. This grant helps pay for the After School Leadership program and community meetings.

**Operation Welcome Home, Madison
Homelessness and Community Organizing—\$4,000**

Operation Welcome Home helps homeless people organize in their fight for justice and educates the community by addressing root causes of homelessness and the criminalization of homelessness. This grant funds a theater and media project, supplies for events and workshops and ongoing operational expenses of the Residential Leadership Development Program.

**WI ADAPT, Madison
Disability Rights—\$4,000**

WI ADAPT is a national network of disability activists that employs non-violent civil disobedience as part of a social change strategy. They demand an end to exclusionary policies that deprive people with disabilities from meaningful inclusion in American society. This grant supports the office and staff and pays for member transportation and attendant care.

**WI Apprentice Organizers Project, Milwaukee
Community Organizing—\$7,000**

The Wisconsin Apprentice Organizers Project builds a strong culture of grassroots community organizing for social, economic, racial and environmental justice in Wisconsin through a paid apprenticeship program. This grant helps cover direct costs related to training and supporting the wages, taxes, and wellness stipend associated with developing a new organizer from a marginalized community.

**Wise Women Gathering Place, Green Bay
Native American and Health—\$7,000**

Wise Women Gathering Place provides women and their families with information, advocacy and referrals regarding health problems, treatment options and the accompanying benefits and risks enabling them to make informed choices. This grant advances coalition building around the "Peace, Respect and Belonging" movement in Oneida, specifically addressing prevention of domestic violence, sexual assault and adolescent pregnancy.

**Workers' Rights Center, Madison
Worker's Rights—\$7,000**

The Workers' Rights Center gives low-wage workers in South Central Wisconsin a greater voice in the workplace and the community. This grant helps build a statewide coalition in

support of comprehensive immigration reform fortified and expanded by educational and outreach efforts with greater media coverage outside of the major metro areas.

Note: The grants for the 34th General Fund cycle were made in Fiscal Year 2009/2010. As such, they are not included in the financial statements for the July 2008 – June 2009 Annual Report. Rather, the 34th Funding Cycle will hit the 2009 – 2010 Annual Report a year from now.

Because the 34th Funding Cycle was complete by the time this report was published, the list of grants was included. We at Wisconsin Community Fund like to share our good news with our supporters as soon as possible. Thanks for your support of these marvelous organizations!

Ways to Donate

- **Gifts of Cash** The Fund accepts cash, checks, MasterCard, VISA and American Express. Electronic fund transfer is available for monthly or quarterly pledges. Secure online donations can also be made at www.wcfund.org.
- **Workplace Giving** Many employers make Community Shares of Wisconsin part of their charitable payroll deduction programs. Contributions made through this program benefit the Fund as well as other non-profit organizations.
- **Stock & Securities** You can avoid capital gains taxes while receiving a tax deduction by giving a gift of stock or securities.
- **Donor Advised Giving** As a donor, you can make gifts to particular groups or areas of interest.
- **Planned Giving** Bequests and other Planned Giving mechanisms are a powerful way to leave a lasting legacy of devotion to change.

Contributions are fully tax-deductible in accordance with the law. For more information on making a donation, contact Cindy Fesemyer, at 608.251.6834 or cindy@wcfund.org.



WISCONSIN COMMUNITY FUND

1202 Williamson St.
Suite D, Madison, WI
53703

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 2956
Madison, WI

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Karen Campbell
Vice President: Timeka Rumph
Secretary: Cathy Miller
Treasurer: Kathy Ronco
Dennis Grzezinski
Paul Harrison
Cynthia Lin
Rob Meiksins

STAFF

Chief Development Officer:
Cindy Fesemyer
Project Coordinator: Jeff Streier
Financial Manager: Barb Kneer

1202 Williamson Street, Suite D
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
608.251.6834

info@wcfund.org
wcfund.org

In-state Tuition VICTORY!

The Voces de la Frontera youth-led campaign for in-state tuition for immigrant students in the 2009-10 state budget was passed and signed into law in spring 2009. Voces has received a number of grants between 2002 and 2009, most recently \$7,000 to their 501c4 through the Media Justice Fund.

This is a single example of the power in donors pooling funds to support a more just and equitable Wisconsin. Look inside for many more examples of donor-power in numbers.

