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# funding social change in oregon

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## \$225,000 in Grants for Community Organizing: Where the Action Happens!

### News and Announcements

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUE, 2012-06-12

Whether it's advocating for human rights, pushing for more equitable and just policy, or building leadership in our communities, MRG's latest slate of grantees represent a wide range of groups that are truly putting their values of social justice into action. Thanks to [your support \(https://secure.commonground.convio.com/mrgfndtn/donate/\)](https://secure.commonground.convio.com/mrgfndtn/donate/), our grantees will be better equipped to pursue crucial organizing campaigns and win victories that will change lives across Oregon.

Take a look at three examples of our latest grantees that are addressing the roots of injustice, and check out [the full list \(http://www.mrgfoundation.org/grantees/general-fund-grants-spring-2012fy\)](http://www.mrgfoundation.org/grantees/general-fund-grants-spring-2012fy) to see all 20 grantees and a photo slideshow.

### [International Center for Traditional Childbearing \(http://www.ictmidwives.org\)](http://www.ictmidwives.org)

Portland, OR

\$10,000

Infants born to African American mothers in Oregon are more than twice as likely to die in their first year as those born to white mothers. ICTC is organizing the Birth Justice Movement in Oregon to reduce infant mortality rates in all communities by



increasing the number of women of color who are doulas and midwives, working with hospitals to end oppressive policies and practices, and empowering families to create change at the local and state legislative levels. With the lives of vulnerable infants and families of color in focus, ICTC's work is where the action happens for Birth Justice.

### **[Beyond Toxics \(http://www.beyondtoxics.org\)](http://www.beyondtoxics.org)**

Eugene, OR

\$14,000

Exposure to toxins can cause irreparable damage to human health.

Beyond Toxics challenges the widespread practice of spraying pesticides on forests, farms and public areas. They champion the right of everyone to live free from unwanted



chemical exposure. Beyond Toxics is

partnering with Centro LatinoAmericano to empower Latino residents in West Eugene to take leadership in organizing for environmental justice. Building a movement in communities that are experiencing the worst effects of pollution, Beyond Toxics' leadership is where the action happens for Environmental Justice.

### **[Umatilla Morrow Alternatives \(http://www.umalt.com\)](http://www.umalt.com)**

Hermiston, OR

\$10,000

Umatilla Morrow Alternatives started in March of 2006 in response to the need for more HIV/AIDS services in Umatilla and Morrow counties. Living in a very conservative area of rural Oregon, this group is bravely building a strong, visible movement for Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Trans/Queer



(LGBTQ) rights, racial justice, and HIV/AIDS services. Creating community-led solutions and building inclusive, grassroots power in Eastern Oregon, Umatilla Morrow Alternatives' vision and practice is where the action happens for LGBTQ justice.

***Do you feel inspired by MRG's grantees working to build a progressive movement for social justice in Oregon?***

***Consider putting your values into action—and make change happen—by [donating to MRG \(https://secure.commonground.convio.com/mrgfndtn/donate/\)](https://secure.commonground.convio.com/mrgfndtn/donate/) to support grants for community organizing across the state!***