OUR MISSION

Working together to build more just, productive and resilient communities in the Pacific Northwest
To Our Supporters,

Thank you for your commitment to helping people in our region build a better future. Your support is an investment in motivated individuals and hard-working families throughout the Pacific Northwest.

In 2015, you helped hundreds of entrepreneurs start and build businesses. You helped formerly incarcerated mothers secure jobs so they could provide for their children. You helped refugees, new to Portland after years in refugee camps, earn income at farmers markets and bring fresh produce to their neighbors and families.

Your compassion helps make the Pacific Northwest a more just, stable and secure community for those most in need, and for all of us.

The toughest challenges are often right in our backyard. With your support, we can work to solve them together. We applaud your generosity in 2015 and look forward to your continued support. We are honored to share our impact and these stories with you.

John W. Haines
Executive Director

Larry Ettnner
Board Chair
For Robin, practicing martial arts began as a way to work through frustrations and develop her confidence. She rose to considerable success, holding the title of FCFF Superfight Champion, but still confronted misogyny and other negative attitudes. She decided to either start her own gym or quit the sport. With help from the education and lending programs at Mercy Corps Northwest, she opened her own gym in February 2015.
Mercy Corps Northwest believes that with access to the right resources and training, people can create opportunities for themselves. Our small business program provides education, training, microloans and matched savings grants for entrepreneurs in Oregon and Washington. We support these efforts by coordinating a team of AmeriCorps VISTA members placed at nonprofit organizations that expand economic opportunities in low income communities.

**OUR IMPACT:**

- **Disbursed**
  - $1,537,043
  - 30 microloans
  - 135 matching grants

- **96%** of loan clients remain in business 2 years after receiving services

- **432** hours of business education taught to aspiring entrepreneurs by industry professionals

Statistics on business growth are compiled with the Aspen Institute and reflect client outcomes in 2014.
Ebony will be released from Coffee Creek Correctional Facility this year. She is a student in Mercy Corps Northwest’s LIFE class for women prisoners, where she is learning valuable business and life skills that will help her transition from incarceration to life in Multnomah County. For now, she is focusing on short-term goals: parole, a job post-incarceration, and getting back to a stable life with her sons.
Everyone should have the opportunity to improve their life, regardless of their background. Our prison reentry program assists formerly incarcerated individuals by providing for their immediate and long-term needs, navigation to community-based resources, and long-term assistance in employment, housing and healthcare. Our classes for incarcerated women teach important skills for life, business and a successful reentry to the community.

OUR IMPACT:

- 345 jobs secured for ex-offenders
- Saved more than $8 million public safety system dollars in 2015
- 1,025 ex-offenders served through our Reentry Transition Center

“I came into this prison a wreck. We all do, really. But I’ve left the negative behind me now.”

-Ebony, left

mercycorpsnw.org
Tee Mu Paw came to the United States with her family three years ago. She spent the first 20 years of her life in her hometown in Myanmar, then the next 25 years in a refugee camp in Thailand. Now, Tee Mu works on the farm at Refuge Gardens in Damascus, Oregon and sells her produce at the farmers market every Wednesday. She says, “I work outside in the garden so my family has organic healthy food to eat and sell. I don’t think about the bad things. I work. I pray. I help people.”
Creating just systems and equitable access to resources for our community’s most vulnerable populations builds opportunity and inspires hope. Through community gardening, nutrition education and small farming enterprises for recently resettled refugees and incarcerated women, we are shifting the mindset from disempowerment to empowerment as our clients become providers, thought-leaders and pathfinders for themselves and for their neighbors.

OUR IMPACT:

- 5,000 pounds of produce grown at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
- $6,000 in average sales for a family of refugee growers
- 60 refugee participants at Refuge Gardens

“I have to keep strong and stay happy. If I am happy, then my children will also be happy. Working in the garden makes me feel good.”

-Tee Mu Paw, left

mercycorpsnw.org
**DONATE TODAY**

$35  buys organic starter seeds for a refugee farm  
$100 buys a 1-month bus pass for an ex-offender seeking a job  
$500 covers the cost of a reentry support stipend for an incarcerated woman being released from prison  
$1,000 is a contribution to the Catalyst Capital Fund, which is the core source of funding for innovative projects like the Community Investment Trust  

**Online:**  www.mercycorpsnw.org/donate  
**By check:**  43 SW Naito Parkway  
Portland, OR 97204

**TOGETHER, WE CAN INNOVATE**

Your support enables us to innovate, create and apply better solutions to meet the challenges faced by the communities we serve.

**CASE STUDY: COMMUNITY INVESTMENT TRUST**

Mercy Corps Northwest has created a private Real Estate Investment Trust for low-income and unaccredited investors, the first of its kind in the nation. For $10 to $100 a month, community members can invest in a commercial property less than 2 miles from their home and earn income through annual dividends, debt reduction and rising property values.

In the past, real estate investment opportunities have been unavailable to low-income people. With your support, Mercy Corps Northwest has opened up this opportunity to everyone. This project was funded exclusively through private and corporate donors. Join us in driving innovation and donate today.
2015 AUDITED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2015 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE
- State and local government grants $846,169
- Federal government grants 872,113
- Foundations and corporate grants 509,996
- Gifts-in-kind 146,664
- Individual contributions 238,114
- Earned income 280,939
- Other income 112,934

TOTAL REVENUE $3,006,929

PROGRAM EXPENSES
- Individual development accounts $671,934
- Reentry Transition Services 697,547
- Training, farm and business development 484,258
- Lending 246,250
- AmeriCorps VISTA 206,722
- Community Investment Trust 275,695

SUPPORT SERVICES
- Management, General and Fundraising $131,058

TOTAL EXPENSES $2,778,145

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

FY2015 FY2014
- Total Assets $4,280,895 $3,001,828
- Total Liabilities 3,749,952 2,642,977

TOTAL NET ASSETS $530,943 $358,851

2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chair

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Everyone should have the opportunity to improve their life regardless of their background. Mercy Corps Northwest believes that by investing in those without ready access to resources, motivated hard-working individuals and families will have opportunities to break intergenerational cycles of poverty for good. Donate today to help us drive change and help more families.