broadening access to bicycling & its benefits  

ANNUAL REPORT 2007
Belief & Mission
We believe the bicycle is a tool for empowerment and a vehicle for change. The Community Cycling Center broadens access to bicycling and its benefits through our hands-on programs, volunteer projects, and neighborhood bike shop.

Values
Community, Sustainability, Diversity, Creativity, Accountability

Adding it All Up
We are very proud of our accomplishments in 2007, not only how we impacted the people we served, but also how we responsibly managed the organization.

Impact
- Promoted the health and safety of 543 youth in our bike safety programs including after school bike clubs and summer camp;
- Fostered self-sufficiency by helping 373 low-income adults become bike commuters in our Adult Earn-a-Bike program (Create a Commuter);
- Created new cyclists by giving 493 low-income children their first bike at the Holiday Bike Drive;
- Increased personal safety of cyclists by giving away 400 sets of lights and educating recipients about visibility and security;
- Protected the environment by redirecting 1,076 bicycles from landfills to be given away in our programs or sold in our shop.

Financials
We exceeded all of our revenue goals while maintaining our expense goals. As a result, we were able to develop a cash reserve for a rainy day, which provided some relief during two unusual events; when our shop was ransacked in February and when a truck collided with our bike shop in December.

What a Year!
Every day we see how bicycles help transform people’s lives. Whether riding for fitness, fun, or transportation, people become healthier as they pedal off pounds, reduce carbon emissions, and ease traffic congestion.

To ensure we continue to do our part, the Community Cycling Center went through the process in 2007 of clarifying our mission.

We examined our history, changes in our city, and emerging needs with the help of staff, board members, partners, and people within the community.

The result was a revised mission statement, organizational values, as well as a plan to ensure that we continue to make responsible choices for this important and creative organization that is in our care.

We remain committed to making bicycling accessible, regardless of family income level. In addition to continuing our free earn-a-bike programs for low-income youth and adults, we will offer financial scholarships and earn-a-bike options in all of our programs. Plus, we are expanding programs specifically designed for women, girls, and families.

It truly takes a community to do what we do, so please join us as we roll through 2008! Stop by the shop, take a class, volunteer your time, make a contribution, or simply tell a friend about us.

Thank you in advance for your support this year!

Susan Remmers
Executive Director
Our Community of Supporters

The Community Cycling Center would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions.

Families, Foundations & Government Grants
The Gun and Tom Denhart Family Fund
The Doole Family Charitable Foundation
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A complete list of donors can be found online at www.communitycyclingcenter.org. All donations here and on the website reflect contributions received January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

If we inadvertently made an error regarding your contribution, we sincerely apologize for the mistake. Please let us know so we can run a correction in our next email update.
Youth Programs

The Community Cycling Center created many opportunities for 1,036 kids to learn how to ride bicycles safely. We offered a variety of youth programs, including after school clubs, summer camps, and holiday events.

Bike Safety Club

Our Bike Clubs are free, earn-a-bike programs where 293 children from low-income families, ages 9 to 12 years-old learned safe riding skills, basic bike maintenance, and had the chance to build their confidence as bicyclists. By working hard and participating throughout the 12-session after school program, kids earned their own refurbished bicycle and new lock, helmet, and lights to take home!

Bike Club Passes the Test!

The Community Cycling Center is proud of the results from a program evaluation carried out in partnership with Portland State University’s Center for Science Education and with funding from the Portland Children’s Investment Fund.

The study showed that students’ riding skills significantly improved because of our Bike Club. Students were more skilled and confident, which means more kids riding their bicycles safely. The impact of the program persisted over time; the study showed that after the program 93% of students continued to use their helmets.

Participating Schools in 2007

Earl Boyles Elementary, Faubion Elementary, James John Elementary, Kelly Elementary, Lent Elementary, Marysville Elementary, Sitton Elementary, Woodmere Elementary. Plus, we partnered with the City of Portland, Alta Planning + Design, and the Bicycle Transportation Alliance to implement Safer Routes to Schools in Portland Public Schools.

Summer Camp

Summer is for riding bikes with friends to local parks, pools, and ice cream parlors. Last year, 250 children joined us for the coolest camp in town for kids ages 6-15 years old. We had something for every child, from Girls Camp to Advanced Mechanics. Plus, it’s a blast!

Holiday Bike Drive

The holidays are the perfect time to celebrate the joy of bicycles. On December 9, 493 low income children ages 3-9 years-old received their first bicycle, a new helmet, and safety education. 735 Volunteers played a vital role, dedicating 3,000 hours of time preparing for the event.
Adult Programs

We offer a range of programs for adults because we understand that people have different needs and levels of interest related to bicycling. Some people seek skills, others need a bicycle, and some simply want friends to ride with.

Adult Earn-a-Bike

The first program of its kind in the nation, Create-a-Commuter provided 373 low-income adults with a commuter bike complete with lights, a lock, a helmet, a rack, and a basic repair kit; all the tools necessary for successful year-round bike commuting. To receive the bike, each participant completed five hours of safe commuting and bike maintenance training.

“I was not prepared for a life changing experience that day,” said Shelly after completing the Create a Commuter program. After 16 years of being addicted to heroin and struggling with obesity, Shelly started recovery and changed her diet. She had committed to improving her life and the lives of her children. She wanted a bike, but, unfortunately, couldn’t afford one.

Luckily, Shelly found out through her case worker about Create a Commuter. During the day-long class, Shelly learned how to ride safely, navigate streets, and perform basic repairs. In the process, she earned that bicycle and now uses it to stay healthy and make a difference. Right before Shelly earned her bike she met a troubled young woman who reminded her of herself. She reaches the young woman via bicycle to help turn around a young life on a difficult path.

Get Lit

In 2007, the Get Lit program provided 400 free bike light sets throughout Portland to promote night-time visibility and bicycle safety.

We were amazed to learn the reasons why so many people ride without lights. Here are the top three:

#1 My lights were stolen and had not been replaced. (38% of respondents).
#2 I cannot afford lights for my bicycle. (26% of respondents).
#3 My batteries died and I have not replaced them. (11% of respondents).

Bicycle Maintenance Classes

In a welcoming and fun environment, we helped people build their bicycling knowledge, skills, and confidence. We helped 120 adults achieve their personal goals, whether it was to improve health, become a commuter, increase bike handling skills, or master the bicycle’s mechanical systems.
Volunteer Program

A bike is useful only when all the parts work together, and the Community Cycling Center operates in the same way. In 2007, 1,647 volunteers dedicated 11,893 hours, making volunteers one of the most important components of our machine!

Drop-In Volunteer Night
(Tuesdays 7–9:30pm)
598 volunteers dedicated 2,643 hours during Drop-In Volunteer night. The group did everything from cleaning and repairing bikes for the Holiday Bike Drive to recycling those bikes we couldn’t use in programs and shop.

Program Volunteers
21 volunteers dedicated 323 hour and received first-hand experience with bicycle education by helping program instructors during Bike Club and Summer Bike Camp.

Event Volunteers
We participated in 9 events and had 515 volunteers dedicate 3,145 hours, helping us raise more than $20,000.

Volunteer Groups
50 volunteer groups from supporting organizations and businesses brought 896 volunteers and dedicated 2,948 hours recycling bicycles. It’s a great team-building opportunity and a great way to literally get your hands dirty while giving back to the community.

We would like to thank the following volunteer groups:
- Adidas
- Alpha Conservation Corps
- Bike Gallery
- Boeing
- Bonneville Power Admin.
- Concordia University
- De La Salle High School
- Deloitte Accounting
- Dunn-Carney
- ESCO
- Fishers Landing Ward
- Frito Lay
- Hewlitt Packard
- Hands On Greater Portland
- Job Corps
- Joe’s Sporting Goods
- Kaiser Permanent
- KUFO
- Lime Financial
- Madison High School
- Nike
- Old Spaghetti Factory
- Oregon Legal Recruitment Association
- Oregon Episcopal School
- Pacific University
- Portland Community College
- Reed College
- Regence
- REI
- Sunny Side Middle School
- Tektronix
- The Standard
- University of Portland
- University of Utah
- Waggener-Edstrom
- Westside Christian

Miles Craig, Volunteer 2007
Miles does it all. He is a regular on Tuesdays at Drop-In Volunteer Night, detailed dozens of bikes on Cycle Oregon, and helped teach bike safety at Bike Safety Club. Why? “It means education, empowerment, and sustainability.”

“I always come away from volunteering feeling great about having made a difference,” says Miles, one of our volunteer All-Stars.

Skidmore Prize
Community Cycling Center Volunteer & Events Manager, Neal Armstrong was named one of four Skidmore Prize winners in 2007.

Established in 2004, the Skidmore Prize recognizes and encourages long-term commitment to the nonprofit sector and strives to inspire others to get involved.

Congratulations, Neal!

As part of the Volunteer Appreciation party, the Community Cycling Center held its own awards ceremony for all the great volunteers who make our work possible. The Golden Bike Awards highlighted the importance of teamwork in what we do, from the golden frame to the golden bike chain.
Bike Shop

The Community Cycling Center operates a full-service professional bike shop. Proceeds from the shop benefit our year-round bicycle education programs for low-income youth and adults. All the bikes in our shop have been donated and our professional mechanics refurbish them to ensure a safe and snappy ride.

Retail Sales and Service

The Community Cycling Center’s full-service bike shop is a friendly, welcoming neighborhood shop. In 2007 our bike shop generated $702,292 in revenue, our best year ever!

Our prices are competitive and reflect the skill and care that ensure each refurbished bike is safe and one-of-a-kind. Each refurbished bicycle comes with a 3-month warranty.

Sales were up in every category, except for bicycles, which were down by 16% between 2006 and 2007. This was mostly due to a drop in bicycle donations.

Bicycle Donations—Reusing and Recycling

In 2007 we collected a total of 3,237 bicycles. We held 30 bike collections around the Portland Metro area, which yielded 1,183 bicycles. In addition, 2,054 bicycles were donated by individuals at our bike shop.

We were able to refurbish and reuse 1,186 of the bicycles.

We dismantled and recycled 2,051 of these bicycles due to their poor quality or condition. In exchange we collected $2,000 in processing donations and $7,762 in recycled material sales.
The Community Cycling Center is lucky to have a dedicated and talented group of volunteer board members and advisory board members who guide the direction of the organization, help secure resources, and work to connect us to the community at all levels. Thank you!

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Community Cycling Center Staff
(Pictured from left to right)
Alison Hill Graves, Director of Development and Communications
Ben Pierce, Administrator
David Kuch, Production Manager
Rich Walker, Production Mechanic
Sara Loreno, Assistant Shop Manager
Alex Perdue, Production Mechanic
Mychal Tetteh, Shop Manager
Susan Remmers, Executive Director
James Keating, Used Inventory Coordinator
Benjamin Jaspers, Buyer & Mechanic
Kate O’Donnell, Youth Programs Coordinator
Carl Wilson, Production Mechanic
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Neal Armstrong, Volunteer & Events Manager
Jay Dean, Adult Programs Coordinator
Kevin Macquoid, Production Mechanic

(Not pictured/Seasonal staff)
David Cox, Production Mechanic
Brian Manning, Production Mechanic
Heather Tatman, Office Manager
Nissy Cobb, Retail and Outreach Staff
Chris Cook, After School Program Instructor
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