

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CO-CHAIRS

Michelle Obama once said:

"People who are truly strong lift others up. People who are truly powerful bring others together."

As Project Redwood celebrates our first year as an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit, we stand ever committed to providing our grantees with the funding, expertise, and connections needed to advance positive change at speed and at scale.

We realize that Project Redwood has the ability to both lift people up and bring people together – and we're taking full advantage of this unique position as we fight poverty in the US and around the world.

This year, for the first time ever, Project Redwood will surpass \$1 million in grants to support 27 bold change makers whose organizations are lifting people out of poverty. Reaching this grantmaking milestone is only possible because of our record year in fundraising, reflecting the growing involvement of Stanford Graduate School of Business alumni across 40 GSB classes who have generously offered their time, talent, and philanthropic support.

Project Redwood is also evolving as a grantmaker as we continue to explore more effective ways to help our grantees build capacity and strengthen sustainability. In another first, we are providing unrestricted funding to five previous grantees, following the guidelines of trust-based philanthropy as practiced by many global funding leaders.

In our drive to accelerate impact, we will continue to use our power to bring people together. We realize that convening mission-driven leaders to facilitate idea exchange is one of the most powerful strategies for advancing change. Look for Project Redwood to take an even more active role in gathering thought leaders, grantees, sponsors, and allies through our Annual Meeting, Leadership Circles, the Skoll World Forum, Opportunity Collaboration and other supportive venues.

There's never been a better time to join
Project Redwood and be part of a program
that is redefining alumni-led philanthropy.
We can't think of a better way to "Change
organizations. Change lives. Change the world"
– and we welcome your engagement!

Project Redwood Co-Chairs Claudia Lindsey and Ken Inadomi



ABOUT US

Project Redwood is a non-profit collaboration of Stanford Graduate School of Business alumni volunteers who have come together to fight global poverty. We founded Project Redwood to provide funding and in-kind support to social venture organizations that address poverty worldwide. In line with our business backgrounds, we focus on education, job training, job creation and entrepreneurship.

All funding comes from alumni members. As alumni with deep experience in both the public and private sectors, we bring skills across many functions to provide nonfinancial support. We supplement grants with mentoring, consulting, and connections to strengthen these organizations further.

OUR MISSION

To provide funding, expertise, and connections to social entrepreneurs who address the challenge of global poverty.

OUR HISTORY

Founded in 2006 by Stanford GSB alumni as a non-profit partnership, today active members represent over 40 classes spanning 50 years and others affiliated with the GSB.

Grants Awarded

\$5,648,372

Lives improved

1,019,126

Funded Projects

195

Stanford GSB Alumni Working Together to Fight Poverty

We Nurture Solutions Across the Globe

Today, more than one and a half billion people live in abject poverty. We work with social entrepreneurs whose ideas, energy, and know-how directly tackle poverty and help improve standards of living.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE AROUND THE WORLD

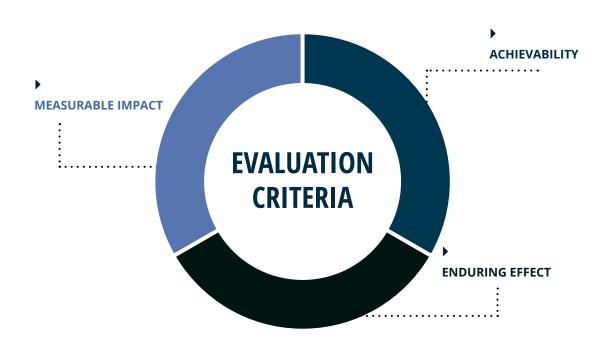
Bolivia	Guatemala	Mexico	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Haiti	Mozambique	South Sudan
Cambodia	Honduras	Nepal	Tanzania
Côte d'Ivoire	India	Nicaragua	Uganda
DR Congo	Kenya	Nigeria	United States
Ecuador	Liberia	Peru	Vietnam
Ethiopia	Malawi	Rwanda	Zambia
Ghana	Mali	Senegal	



OUR **APPROACH**

We Fund Projects That Focus on Tangible Impacts

Project Redwood makes grants to mission-aligned organizations to fund projects with measurable impact achieved through education, job creation, job training or entrepreneurship. We provide small grants to support projects where our contributions will help validate the grantee's purpose and achieve sustainable scale.



GRANT MAKING PROCESS

Preview Survey

Application

Review

Member Vote Board Decision

Grant Agreement



Over the past five years, Project Redwood has achieved significant growth: our support of social enterprises dedicated to alleviating poverty has expanded through increased donations, and from welcoming GSB alumni members beyond the founding class of 1980.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the last five years, total funds raised increased by over 350%, granted funds grew over 400%, and the number of grantee organizations tripled. This substantial growth highlights the enhanced support and engagement of the broader GSB alumni community.

We continue to innovate the ways we grow our organization and support our grantees.

GRANTEE: PROJECT HOPE AND FAIRNESS



INTRODUCING IMPACT BUILDING GRANTS

Past Project Redwood grant-making focuses on funding well-defined projects with strong short-term results. In November 2023, the Project Redwood Board approved a pilot program to award up to five relatively "unrestricted" grants to help organizations grow and build capacity over the medium and long term.

A volunteer panel of Board and Grant Review Committee members completed a rigorous due diligence process to nominate pilot participants. Each candidate completed a self-assessment exercise to assess their medium and longer term needs and participated in a virtual interview as part of the decision-making process.

Our purpose: to test new methods of achieving impact by helping to grow organizations aligned with Project Redwood's mission, and evaluating effectiveness of unrestricted, trust-based grant-making.

HIGHLIGHTS

We have been able to quadruple our grants awarded over 5 years. In 2023-24, we awarded funds to organizations in 14 countries.

2023 Campaign Donations

\$1,223,051

Grants Awarded

\$1,145,000

Non-Profit Grantees

27*

* Includes 7 grants for work in U.S. communities

CONNECTING GRANTEES THROUGH LEADERSHIP CIRCLES

The **Community of Grantees and Sponsors (COGS)** provided PRW grantees a confidential forum to share their ideas, thoughts and problems. Quarterly discussions in each of three geographically-based Leadership Circles were facilitated by a PRW member. Grantee participants overwhelmingly reported appreciation for this opportunity to network and learn from each other.

GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

- The Cristo Rey Network received a \$2,000,000 grant from the Deloitte Foundation to fund college scholarships to graduating seniors in the Class of 2024. Cristo Rey Network also received a \$500,000 award as a semi-finalist in the Yass Prize Competition.
- One Village Partners and Educate! were featured in the Stanford Social Innovation Review during this past year. The featured stories, titled respectively, "The Nonprofit Decolonizing Itself," and "Doing More About Less: A Targeted Approach to Education Reform," explain the impact these organizations have had in their communities.
- received a \$150,000 grant from the County of San Diego District Attorney's Office and \$350,000 from the San Diego Workforce Partnership to continue support of previously incarcerated women so that they can qualify for jobs, raise families, and lead productive lives. Founder and ED, Jackie Reed, was featured on local ABC News on January 5.
- Youth Design Center, a two-time PRW grantee, was awarded the prestigious \$100,000 Spark Prize by Brooklyn.Org for their impactful work in closing the racial wealth gap for creative youth in Brooklyn. This honor is a testament to YDC's commitment to fostering positive change in their community and empowering the next generation of creative minds.

PRW HIGHLIGHTS

- PRW at the *Skoll World Forum*, where an impressive network of attendees collaborated on social change, learned from speakers from across the globe, and were inspired by performances of artists and activists. Together, the attendees explored opportunities to unite and drive enduring change, valuable information that will be applied to the work we do at PRW.
- ▶ In 2022, we launched **Leadership Roundtable**, a series of one-hour virtual sessions designed to increase the two core metrics that drive all non-profits:
 Funding and Impact. Each session featured a prominent alumni from Stanford GSB, sharing their wisdom, taking questions, and openly engaging with the audience including Project Redwood's grantee organizations.
 - ▶ The most recent Leadership Roundtable featured Dan Whalen (MBA '80) speaking on Business Principles that Drive Nonprofit Success. Mr. Whalen offered insights from his experiences as a successful serial business entrepreneur, social entrepreneur, philanthropist, and private investor to more than 75 attendees at the virtual meeting.
- Project Redwood's **2023 Annual Meeting** drew 64 attendees, including participants from 23 GSB classes, and 4 participants from other organizations. A panel of 3 charismatic grantee representatives discussed their organizations' accomplishments and challenges.

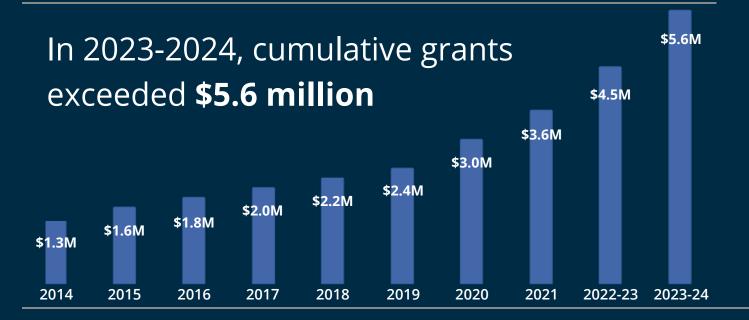
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

SUMMARY FUND ACTIVITY

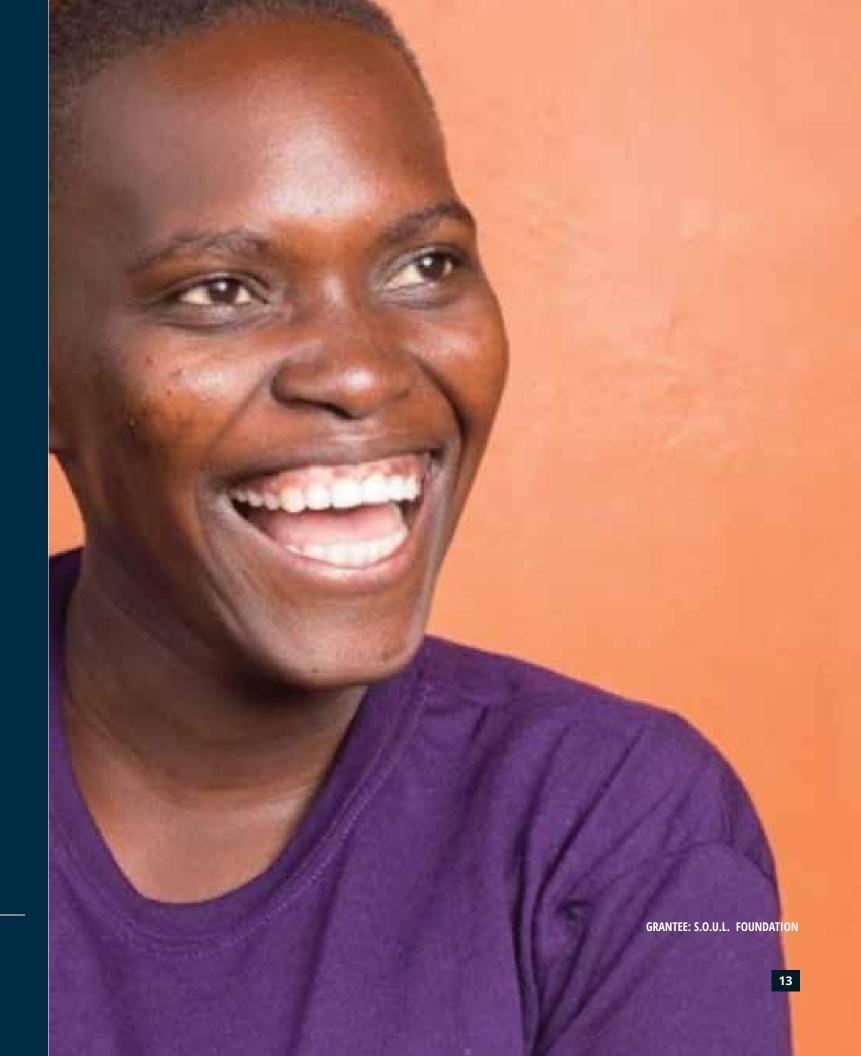
Opening Balance	\$273,661 ¹	
Total Revenue	\$1,470,443 ^{2,3}	
Amount Awarded	\$1,157,513 ⁴	
Expenses	\$201,214	
Closing Balance	\$385,376	

¹PRW Assets held by Tides, transferred on PRW's "spin" to independent operation.

⁴In addition to the 27 Grants, we made 5 other awards.



Click **here** to view the 2023-24 Financial Statement from the report.



² Donations and other funds received July 2023-June 2024.

³ Including Visionary gifts from the 2022 Campaign received in July 2023 and a Visionary gift for the 2024 Campaign received in April 2024.



This year marks Project Redwood's highest level of gifting and the introduction of a pilot program awarding unrestricted grants to help organizations build capacity.

MEET OUR GRANTES

In 2024, five US organizations received \$50,000, and seventeen international organizations received up to \$40,000. We also awarded Impact Building grants of \$55,000 to two US organizations and Impact Building grants of \$45,000 to three international organizations.

IMPACT BUILDING GRANTEES



Andean Alliance for Sustainable Development

Sponsor: Jorian Wilkins

AASD supports marginalized farming communities in the Andes through sustainable agricultural projects and social enterprise models. AASD provides business skills, agroecology training, and market access, while fostering community.

Grant Purpose **Expand marketing, fundraising and network**



Educate2Envision International

Sponsor: Vijay Raghunathan

E2E empowers first-generation secondary students to tackle poverty by providing practical skills, training, and support services to help graduates secure higher-level employment than typically available to rural youth in Honduras.

Grant Purpose

Planning, evaluation and strategic giving analysis



READ 718

Sponsor: Sharon Wurtzel

Read 718 uses 10-week instructional cycles to improve literacy, with students gaining 1.5 reading levels per cycle. Students report greater confidence in their reading and parental satisfaction is universal. Read 718 Remote extends its reach through online instruction with volunteer tutors.

Grant Purpose **Planning and hiring additional staff**





Somo

Sponsor: **Tom Phillips**

Somo supports social entrepreneurs working to break the cycle of poverty in marginalized Kenyan and Tanzanian communities by providing tools and support to build businesses, establish income sources, and improve living standards.

Grant Purpose

Planning for scaling and fundraising

Tomorrow's Leaders NYC

Sponsor: **Alan Kern**

TLNYC helps over-age left behind middle and high school students increase GPAs so they can advance their education and have prospects for productive employment opportunities in the future. TLNYC focuses on students from underserved communities where many encounter personal trauma.

Grant Purpose **Strategic planning and Board expansion**

PROJECT GRANT GRANTEES



Agape Heart International Organization

Sponsor: Ann McStay

AHIO supplies humanitarian relief, health and hygiene training, education, and vocational training programs in the US and Africa, with a field office in Uganda. AHIO exists to raise the needy up from poverty to a flourishing standard of living.

Vocational training program for BidiBidi resettlement refugees



Sponsor: Vijay Raghunathan and Mike Watt

Kantaya is increasing the quality of education in Peru through an after-school program for children in impoverished communities and a training program to prepare teaching assistants to help fill the need for qualified educators to teach the children.

Expansion of the Podera program



Building Our Lives Together

Sponsor: Connie Liu and Ken Inadomi

BOLT is empowering a future where every neighborhood thrives, led by the people living there. BOLT meets leaders' needs through a community organizing curriculum, a strategic management curriculum, and a curriculum in navigating the local ecosystem in Philadelphia.

BOLT School for Grassroots Leadership





Breaking the Chain Through Education

Sponsor: Mike Fitzgerald

BTCTE was established with the goal of rescuing trafficked children in Ghana. BTCTE now provides education, vocational training, and related services including room and board, supplies, clothing and uniforms, transportation and medicine for children rescued from servitude.

Campus in Sogakope, Ghana

COMER Education Campus

Sponsor: Carla Williams and Jim Haddon

This Chicago based youth advancement organization invests in the life outcomes of thousands of young people annually through programs that integrate academics, enrichment and college/career preparation. Through collaboration with partners from both the private and public sector, CEC has been able to develop a unique approach to guide its participants.

Proiect Pilot one-on-one tutoring program





Delta Education Collective

Sponsor: K. Danae Pauli and Jeff **Buenrostro**

Inspired by the power of community-led development, DEC was founded in 2019 in Uganda as a community-driven movement to create quality education for all. They organize parents, educators, students, and local stakeholders to take ownership of their schools' academic performance.

Supplies for Village Education Volunteers





Girls Gotta Run Foundation NEW

Sponsor: Gelila Bekele

GGRF uses running to create safe spaces, end child marriage, and expand secondary school access for vulnerable girls. Programs focus on education, life skills, and financial literacy, empowering girls and their mothers to create generational change.

Life Skills classes for older teen girls

Hatua Network NEW

Sponsor: Mike Fitzgerald

Hatua aims to end generational poverty in Kenya by providing low-income youth with scholarships for high school and university education, workplace experience, job readiness mentoring, and professional networking, enabling them to build successful careers and thrive in the modern economy.

Gap Year mentoring programs



Hero Women Rising

Sponsor: Carol Head

Hero Women Rising brings women in the Democratic Republic of Congo together to both master new skills and gain an appreciation for working collectively to make positive change in their communities and achieve sustainable income.

Project **Expansion of the Three Pillars Program**





Juma Ventures

Sponsor: Mark Breimhorst

Provides job skill training, mentorship and employment for underserved youth 18-24 years old in the U.S. Students receive basic job training and skills development including personal financial management and longer-term job search skills so each of these underserved youth are better prepared for long term employement.

Project **Evolution of Pilot Program**

Kiwimbi International NEW

Sponsor: Brian Hegarty

Provides educational and vocational programs through libraries and community centers in Kenya. It supports schools with staff, books, and supplies, benefiting 50,000 students and the wider community by improving math and English skills, mentoring, and nutrition.

New computer lab

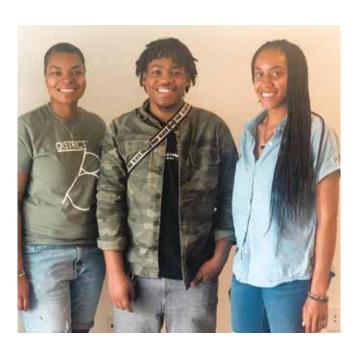


Konexio

Sponsor: **Joey Gutierrez**

A team of IT professionals, educators and community volunteers have collaborated to create paths to employment for refugees in Kenya. The program addresses 3 key problem areas: lack of skills, poor local economic conditions, and lack of access to jobs by providing job training, digital skills instruction and job market access.

Digital Inclusion program





Looma Education Corp NEW

Sponsor: David Sowerwine

Provides quality education in Nepal with Looma, an affordable, interactive A/V system that delivers curriculum-aligned content, teacher support, and educational resources offline, addressing the lack of educational infrastructure and support for parents and teachers

Project

Establish Looma Teacher Corps and teacher training

MORTAR

Sponsor: Ken Inadomi

Supports historically marginalized entrepreneurs in four Midwestern cities. Through its 15-week Entrepreneurship Academy, mentoring, and funding assistance, MORTAR aims to launch successful businesses that create jobs and circulate dollars locally, with a focus on entrepreneurs of color and women.

Digital Platform for online program



OneVillage Partners

Sponsor: Laurie Greeno

Addresses multidimensional poverty in Sierra Leone by investing in individuals and communities to enable them to solve their own challenges. Using the Nurturing Opportunities for Women Program, a picture-based education program and curriculum, illiterate or uneducated women learn basic financial principles.

Nurturing Opportunities for Women





Project Hope and Fairness

Sponsor: Don Maruska

Works with cocoa farmers across West Africa to build their capabilities and assume a more productive role in the vertically integrated cocoa bean processing and chocolate-making industry. Their multi-pronged approach leads to improved profits that flow directly back to village cooperatives.

Expansion and intl. market development

Resonate Workshops NEW

Sponsor: Ayla Schlosser and Martha Clark

Unlocks the leadership potential of women and girls in East Africa by integrating confidence-building workshops into existing vocational and educational programs, ensuring they have the selfconfidence, skills, and resources to realize their full potential.

Partnership expansion



S.O.U.L. Foundation

Sponsor: **Brad Smith and Ann McStay**

S.O.U.L. addresses poverty among rural women farmers in Uganda through education, empowerment, food security, and maternal health initiatives. Recently, S.O.U.L. has expanded to facilitate vocational training for youth, helping them develop skills and find meaningful employment.

Project **Teaching skills to new student cohort**





THRIVEGulu

Sponsor: Brad Smith and Ann McStay

THRIVE helps Northern Ugandans and South Sudanese refugees heal from war, gender-based violence, displacement, and extreme poverty. They focus on newlyestablished settlement zones with fewer NGO interventions, providing muchneeded support and resources.

Project **12-week financial literacy program**

Women Initiating Success Envisioned Inc.

Sponsor: Carla Williams and Mary Pruiett

Through GED classes, basic financial education, coaching in managing life with a job and paycheck, and access to job opportunities, WISE helps give formerly incarcerated women in California a chance at a stable, fulfilling life after release.

Project **Ignite Your Future Re-Entry Program**



Youth and Child Visionary Ministries NEW

Sponsor: Carrie Portis

Provides education and vocational training to vulnerable youth in the Kumi, Ngora, and Bukedea districts of Uganda, aiming to break the cycle of poverty by equipping them with essential skills for employment and entrepreneurship.

Project **Launch vocational training programs**



World Connect

Sponsor: Ellen Goldberg and JJ Ramberg

World Connect supports projects across the Global South where the lack of resources has made it difficult to overcome poverty. It's founding principle underscores the belief that local leaders are in the best position to understand community needs and identify projects that can positively impact the lives of the residents.

Project **Childhood education center**



Our donors are critical to the success of Project Redwood. Their support ensures that our grants will continue to improve the lives of thousands.

MEET OUR DONORS

With gifts from 134 donors including the 6 Vision Matching Fund contributors, the 2023 Project Redwood campaign raised our highest amount yet. The Vision Matching Fund was a significant reason for our overall success.

OUR **DONORS**

Project Redwood gratefully acknowledges the individual donors who made generous contributions in 2023. We extend a special thank you to our 2023 Vision Matching Fund Contributors, who are marked with an *asterisk.

PARTNER DONORS

\$150,000+

Miles White

\$100,000 - \$149,999

- * Stephanie Anderson
- * Phil Jonckheer
- * Tina and Hamid Moghadam
- * William Rothacker and Laura Christman
- * Gail Schulze
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Kristi and Larry Hernandez

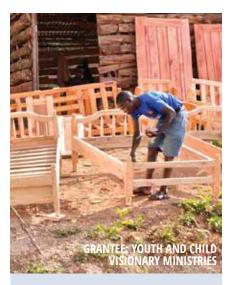
Stefan Holzhauer Laurie Hunter Rich Joseph

Takashi Matsumoto Mark Muenchow George Murphy Paul Perez Kate Price

Dan and Nat Pruiett Vijay Raghunathan

Rana Rekhi Leanne Scott David Sowerwine Caleb Stenholm Ernie Ting

Jorian Wilkins



HOW TO GIVE

Join other alumni of all GSB programs and classes as we work together to fight poverty and achieve the GSB goal to "Change lives. Change organizations. Change the world."

Learn more about how to donate at: ProjectRedwood.org/Donate



PROJECT REDWOOD | 2023-24 IMPACT REPORT 29



Project Redwood now engages more than 160 members from 40+ GSB classes spanning 50 years. Members manage Project Redwood, sponsor grant applicants, and contribute expertise and funds to support grantees throughout the life of the grant.

MEET THE **TEAM**

2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Beth Charlesworth
Mike Fitzgerald
Laura Fratt

Carol Head Bill Houston Ken Inadomi (*Co-Chair*) Eleanor Keare

Ray King

Claudia Lindsey
Gail Schulze
Brad Smith (*Co-Chair*)
Mike Watt (*Financial Officer*)
Jorian Wilkins

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Joan Agresta Rick Agresta Donna Allen Adriane Armstrong Corinne Augustine Gelila Bekele Steven Berg Mark Breimhorst leff Brown Jeff Buenrostro Caroline Caufield Beth Charlesworth Win Chesson Josephine Chien Clara Chow Martha Clark Dennis Crane **Craig Davis** Dick DeMarle Ray Diwan Kermit Eck Mike Fitzgerald David Fletcher Laura Fratt Rusty Gaillard

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|| Ramberg Kirk Renaud **Chad Roberts** Bart Rocca Ross Rosen Ayla Schlosser Gail Schulze Leanne Scott **Brad Smith** Kristi Smith-Hernandez Shelby Solomon **David Sowerwine Gerald Thomas** Tarik Ward Mike Watt Bill Westwood Jorian Wilkins Stacy Williams Carla Williams James Wong Sharon Wurtzel





www.projectredwood.org