

Working Bikes Annual Report – January-December 2013



A Year in the Life of Working Bikes

2013 has been a year of great growth and change for Working Bikes. From our inception, Working Bikes has been dedicated to connecting those in need of a bike with some of the millions of bikes that are retired (thrown away, put in storage, or forgotten) across the United States annually. This year, we donated 5,834 bicycles to our international and domestic partners in 9 countries, including a record 681 here in Chicago. We also...

- *Opened a new volunteer workshop.* Brandon's Bike Shop was unveiled on August 31. The shop was built with funds from the Brandon Bernier Memorial Fund and the Peter J. McLaughlin and Jane Kitchel McLaughlin Family Fund. With this new shop, our volunteer and staff workspaces are now separate, giving both groups a space to work and learn in environments that fit their distinct needs. To help manage the shop, BK Elmore joined the staff as our new Volunteer Coordinator.
- *Launched bike education programs in Chicago.* In the summer and fall we ran our first three, 6-week bike education programs with students from Growing Power urban farms, clients of the Chicago Help Initiative, and students from local high school Instituto Health Sciences Career Academy.
- *Updated our computer inventory system* to more easily and accurately track the bikes in our warehouse.
- *Hired our first non-mechanic.* Communications & Development Coordinator Marie Akerman joined the team to assist our staff, partners, and supporters.

Big and small, these changes have set us up for another productive year of giving and learning—a place we would not be without your support. Thank you to the hundreds of you who gave up your old favorite bike, who stored bike donations for us at your shop or in your shed, who hosted a bike drive, who spent a Saturday fixing bikes at our warehouse, who told a friend about us, or contributed financially with a monetary donation or a purchase from our shop.

As we head towards our 15th Anniversary in 2014, we look forward to increasing our bike donations and introducing new community programs and events throughout the year. We look forward to making a difference in thousands of lives, and hope you will keep us in your lives as well by staying involved in our work.

Again, thank you very much for your support. Be sure to visit www.WorkingBikes.org to learn more about our work.

Have a wonderful new year!
The Working Bikes Crew



WHO WE ARE



Staff:

Marie Akerman –
Communications & Development
 Aaron Brown –
Senior Mechanic
 BK Elmore –
Program Instructor
 Paul Fitzgerald –
Mechanic & Manager
 Alan Lloyd –
Mechanic
 Omar Lopez –
Driver & Program Instructor
 Dan Tamburich –
Mechanic
 Arturo Valle –
Mechanic



Board:

Gabriela Arismendi
 Trevor Clarke
 Amelia Jaffe
 Phil Kaplan
 Jim Lindsey
 Amy Little
 Lee Ravenscroft
 Pete Travnicek
 Eric Wood



WHO DO WE GIVE TO?

Working Bikes donated bicycles, parts, and helmets to an array of people and organizations in 2013. We shipped over 5,000 bikes in 12 shipments throughout the year. We donated bikes to Chicagoans with the help of over 25 local organizations.

INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC SHIPMENT DATA

ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	# OF SHIPMENTS
Ability Bikes	Ghana	1
ANNV	Nicaragua	1
Bicycle Empowerment Network	South Africa	1
CESTA	El Salvador	2
Children of Abraham	Malawi	1
Lesotho Cycling Association	Lesotho	1
Plan B	New Orleans, USA	1
Village Bicycle Project	Sierra Leone	2
Village Bicycle Project	Ghana	2
	TOTAL	12

LOCAL DONATION DATA

ORGANIZATION	# OF BIKES RECEIVED
Better Boys Foundation	31
Blackstone Bikes	76
Bonaventure House	1
Chicago Help Initiative	60
Connections for the Homeless	6
DePriest School	15
Gary Comer Youth Center	50
Growing Power	70
Healthcare for Homeless Veterans	1
Heartland Alliance	2
Miscellaneous	48
North Side Supportive Housing Services	1
PADS	10
RefugeeOne	10
Single Room Housing Assistance Corp.	5
St. Leonards Ministries	6
The ARK of St. Sabina	105
Streetwise	2
Universidad Popular	1
West Town Bikes	80
Working Bikes Holiday Kids Bike Program	100
Youth Crossroads	1
TOTAL	681

WHERE DO OUR BIKES COME FROM?

We get bikes from our supporters across Chicago and the Midwest. Whether bikes come from the basements of busy spring cleaners or police districts clearing abandoned property, by way of our wonderful drop off locations or our amazing bike drive event hosts, we appreciate the support of the thousands of donors and partners who helped us achieve so much in 2013.

DATA SAMPLE OF DONATIONS

Sample Size = 4479 Bikes*

EVENTS	
Total events	65
Events missing bike count	10
Adjusted total events	55
Total bikes	1316
Adjusted average bikes/event	24

DROP OFF LOCATIONS	
Total drop off locations	53
Total active drop off locations	28
Total bikes	743
Average bikes/location	27

OUT OF STATE PICK UPS (non-events)	
Total pick ups	7
Total bikes	1269

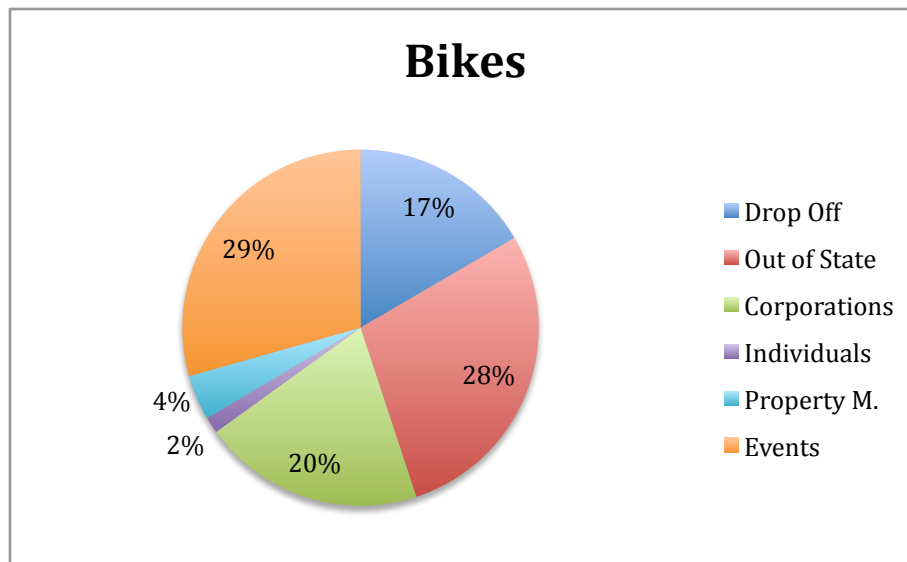
CORPORATIONS (schools, police, etc.)	
Total pick ups	36
Total bikes	902

INDIVIDUALS (homes/individual donors)	
Total pick ups	21
Total bikes	67

PROPERTY MANAGERS	
Total pick ups	17
Total bikes	182

*This sample was gathered through a new data gathering system, which we implemented around June 2013. With a year of troubleshooting under our belts, we will have more complete tallies in 2014.

SO WHERE DO OUR BIKES COME FROM AGAIN?



DO WE RECEIVE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS?

While the vast majority of donations we receive come in the form of bikes, we are given monetary donations as well. In 2013 we received \$42,903 in monetary donations. Of that, \$2,729 came from donors using the website Network for Good. Other major donations came from the Henriot Champagne Company's "Tour d'Henriot," the Jane McLaughlin Family Fund, Kluth Family Foundation, the Brandon Bernier Memorial Foundation, Rotary Club of Woodridge, Green America, and Evanston Bicycle Club.

THE WORKING BIKES SHOP

In 2013 the Working Bikes shop provided approximately 2,000 used bicycles to Chicagoans at below market prices. We also serviced bikes for over 1,000 Chicagoans through our repair shop. The purpose of the Working Bikes shop is to provide Chicagoans with affordable bikes and bike services, while generating the revenue we need for our donations and programming. As cycling rises in popularity and bike infrastructure improves throughout Chicago, our shop continues to be a popular place for cyclists on the city's southwest side—and one of the few resources for this ever-growing community.

LOOKING BACK...

on a year full of bike piles



Lake County Bike Club member Linda Heeter with bikes collected through a bike drive at her workplace, Valent Biosciences. *Photo courtesy of Phil Kaplan*



Volunteer David Grayson loads his truck with one load of the 150+ bikes collected at Sustain Jefferson Co. in Wisconsin. *Photo courtesy of Carly Evans*

Smaller photos of WB warehouse courtesy of Marie Akerman and Omar Lopez

on a year full of learning



Students of our first “instruct the instructor” class in spring of 2013, prepping future bike education program leaders. *Photo courtesy of Paul Fitzgerald*



Youth from Growing Power’s Altgeld Gardens, City Lights, and Iron Street farms learned about basic bike maintenance and explored the city on rides throughout July and August. *Photos (clockwise from top left) courtesy of Marie Akerman, Omar Lopez, Sujith Kumar, & Omar Lopez*





Attendees of an Understanding Adulthood workshop facilitated by the Chicago Freedom School escape the heat on the slightly-cooler shipping dock in late May. *Photo courtesy of Paul Fitzgerald*

Our IHSCA afterschool bike class on a long ride to Lake Shore this past fall. *Photo courtesy of Omar Lopez.*



on a year full of celebration



Working Bikes staff and volunteers enjoy the sun at our end of summer bbq at Chicago's 31st Street Beach. *Photo courtesy of Marie Akerman*



Kids give our "circus bikes" a try at Universidad Popular's Paz en mi Barrio Block Party, August 17. *Photos courtesy of Marie Akerman*



on a year full of new beginnings



Two local donation recipients with their brand new-old bikes. *Photos courtesy of Paul Fitzgerald and Ann De Cruz of Connections in Evanston*



Volunteer Yadid helps deliver kids bikes to Blackstone Bikes. *Photo courtesy of Omar Lopez*



Volunteers put the final touches on Brandon's Bike Shop in August. *Photo courtesy of Gauvain Bourgeteau*

on a year-full of giving



Paul delivers 180 bikes to Plan B Bike co-op in NOLA. *Below, photo courtesy of Paul Fitzgerald*



Volunteers pack up shipping containers earlier this year. *Top & middle left, photos courtesy of Marie Akerman*

B.E.N. unpacks a Working Bikes container in Cape Town in June. *Middle right, photo courtesy of B.E.N.*

A young helper unloads bikes at Blackstone Bikes. *Left, photo courtesy of Omar Lopez*

Looking back...
on a year full of Working Bikes



Thank you for all you did in 2013



Here's to 2014!



For more information on Working Bikes or anything in this report, email info@workingbikes.org

Photos courtesy of Marie Akerman (top & bottom) and Omar Lopez