



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

Writing this letter last year, reflecting on 2015 at Working Bikes (WB), I said, “So many good things just seem to come our way.” In 2017, I can report that while good things continue to come our way, we are better at channeling our efforts than ever before and we have the results to show for it.

We had a record-breaking year, packing 15 containers resulting in 6,525 bikes donated internationally. Because of the tight partnerships we have formed over the past couple of years both with Bikes for Lesotho (B4L) and Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy (AKP), we have far more than numbers to show - we also have more inspirational photos and stories to tell. Tumi, the B4L bike mechanic shop operator in Lesotho has shared video of bringing the first bikes ever received by children in a mountain village. It is powerful to see the smiles on those children’s faces. Thank you Dave Gorman, the co-founder of B4L, for working with us closer than ever to raise funds, increase bike donations and get the word out about our work. It was amazing to see TV cameras from three news stations on our shipping dock when we loaded the B4L-bound container in October.

The three AKP bike projects—one each in Zambia, Botswana and Tanzania—received 2,557 bikes from WB. Those projects employ 14 women living in local villages. The bicycles provide needed transportation as well as a livelihood. AKP calls it a “new cycle of prosperity.” I love that. Camilla, an AKP staffer from Zambia, visited and spoke at WB, providing inspiration to our volunteers and feedback on the exact needs for bikes and parts for the Chipego bike shop in Nakatindi Village. We are very grateful to Keith Sproule, Executive Director of AKP, for nurturing our partnership. Keith also inspired us to step up our game for our 17th Anniversary Party fundraiser at Lagunitas Brewery. We had more people attend, doubled the amount of money raised over the previous year, and had more fun than ever. You should all join us for our 18th anniversary Bikestravaganza in the fall.

2016 also brought an exciting new international partner: Africycle. Jon Voss, Africycle Board Chair, visited us from Toronto in the autumn and gave a presentation on the bike shops Africycle developed in Malawi. We were able to send two shipping containers to Malawi and look forward to sending many more. Building relationships in our own community has become a heightened Working Bikes’ priority. We set a record with 1,796 bicycles fixed and given out locally, doubling the previous year’s output.

While I greatly appreciate the amazing work of all our volunteers, staff and board, I have to give special thanks to two of our board members. Our treasurer, Jim Lindsey, has guided us through selecting a new CPA firm and institutionalizing a more transparent, accurate, and robust accounting and budgeting system. We can better confirm that we are financially secure and sustainable to achieve our charitable mission. We owe a debt of gratitude to our founder, Lee Ravenscroft, for providing the platform for our success. He continues to do whatever it takes to get the job done. I also want to acknowledge Paul Fitzgerald, our General Manager, for being among the 30 fellows selected out of 150 applicants for the Civic Leadership Academy at the University of Chicago. We are proud of Paul and pleased we are able to support his 6-month venture in building leadership skills.

2016 also held difficult times for the Working Bikes family. Volunteer Shop Manager Maja Perez lost her partner, Blaine Klingenberg, in a collision over the summer. We still grieve for her loss. David Williams “PhDave,” a highly valued volunteer pictured in this report, was a victim of a hit and run while biking home from work the day before Thanksgiving and suffered extensive injuries. We look forward to Dave’s continued recovery and know he will be back soon to wrench again. While bicycles may be the vehicle that bring many of us together, it is the relationships and changes we make in people’s lives that energize us. I hope by better telling our story, we inspire you to donate a bike or lend a hand to keep Working Bikes working well.

Phil Kaplan, Board President

2016 IN NUMBERS • • • •



10,459 bikes collected from generous donors



6,525 bikes shipped in 15 containers to 7 different countries

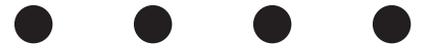


1,796 bikes provided to adults and children through Working Bikes' local donation programs



Volunteers in Brandon's Bike Shop logged in over 6,471 hours fixing local donation bikes. Others put in incalculable hours collecting bikes, conducting outreach, and prepping and loading bikes for international shipments.

INTERNATIONAL DONATIONS



Working Bikes shipped 15 containers, filled with a total of 6,525 bikes, to partners in El Salvador, Zambia, Botswana, Malawi, Tanzania, Lesotho, and Ghana. The containers leave Chicago on the rails, travel over water, and are taken from port to project by our international partners, who then fix the bikes and distribute them in their communities. The outgoing bikes cross international boundaries and are responsible for breaking transportation barriers, allowing access to employment, markets, education, and other resources.

COUNTRY	SHIPMENTS	INTERNATIONAL PARTNER
Botswana	2	Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy
El Salvador	4	Centro El Salvadoreño de Tecnologías Apropriadadas (CESTA, El Salvadoran Center for Appropriate Technology)
Ghana	1	Village Bicycle Project
Lesotho	2	Bikes for Lesotho
Malawi	2	Africycle
Tanzania	1	Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy
Zambia	3	Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy

CHIPEGO BIKE SHOP



CHIPEGO BIKE SHOP

One stand-out international partner in 2016 was Chipego Bike Shop located in the Nakatindi Village in Zambia, a shop five local women manage and operate as their livelihood. Bikes fixed in the shop are sold at affordable prices to residents. Chipego came into being thanks to a Working Bikes partnership with Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy.

Last year, our partnership was responsible for sending 1,289 bikes to Zambia and another 1,268 bikes to similarly established sister shops in Botswana and Tanzania. Chipego is a great example of what happens to the bikes we ship internationally. In Zambia, bikes not only provide accessible and sustainable transportation for people, they also create employment and economic opportunities for mechanics and bike shop staff.



Bikes for Lesotho works with Tumi's Bike Shop in Lesotho. Shop owner and competitive cyclist Tumi Taabe helps distribute the bikes to local youth, some of whom are orphaned, and helps educate them on the benefits of bike riding. Photo courtesy of Tumi Taabe.



We shipped 1,733 bikes to CESTA, who work to make El Salvador more environmentally sustainable. Bikes CESTA receives get refurbished through EcoBici, their youth training program where young people learn bike mechanics and gain valuable job skills. Photo courtesy of Trevor Clarke.

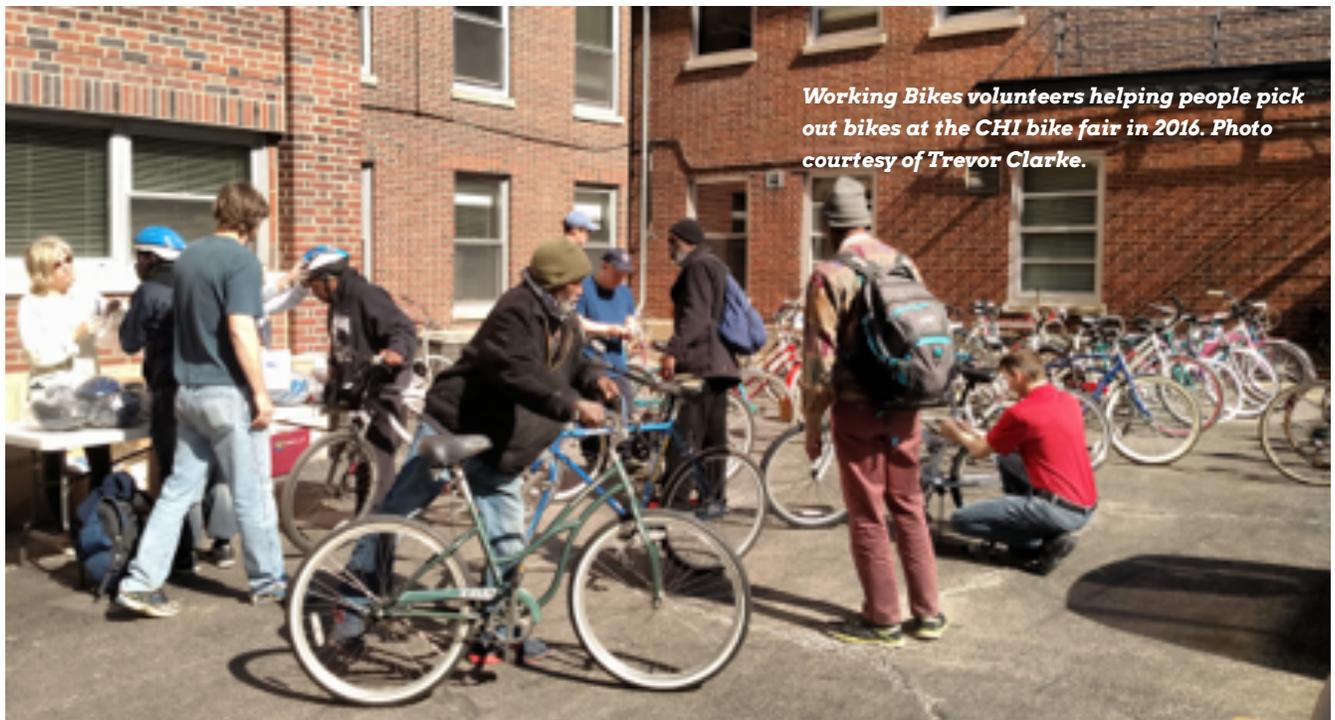


In Malawi, Africycle made a donation of bikes to the Chimwemwe Disabled group so social workers like Mrs. Ronard do not spend four hours walking each day to meet the 40 members she helps each week. Mrs. Ronard now only spends 1 hour traveling by bike. Photo courtesy of Africycle.

LOCAL DONATIONS



Working Bikes not only believes in making a global impact, but local impact as well. We work with our partner organizations to give bikes, locks, and helmets to deserving people in the Chicago region. In 2016, 1,796 adults and children received a bike through our Cycle of Power and Cycle of Peace programs.



Working Bikes volunteers helping people pick out bikes at the CHI bike fair in 2016. Photo courtesy of Trevor Clarke.

CYCLE OF POWER

Economic difficulties keep many local residents from accessing transportation. Cycle of Power's mission is to remove these barriers with bikes, giving people the ability and confidence to improve their quality of life. Through our partnerships with social service agencies, we provided over 350 bikes to people who were part of housing, veteran assistance, rehabilitative, and refugee resettlement programs.

Since 2005, we have hosted an annual bike fair with Chicago Help Initiative (CHI) on the near North Side. They supply meals and social services for people experiencing housing and economic barriers. Over the summer, 65 deserving individuals received bikes from Working Bikes. Cycle of Power recipients were able to overcome transportation concerns and became more economically empowered by saving money and getting to work easier.

CYCLE OF POWER



The Kabwe family fled Congo to Tanzania where they had been living in a large refugee camp. We worked with Catholic Charities to get the Kabwes bikes, which they use to get to work and their ESL classes. Photo courtesy of Jean Khut.

Ammar, who is originally from Iraq, happily took his bike for a spin in Chicago. Photo courtesy of Heartland Alliance.



George Wyer, a Cycle of Power recipient from the Faith Community of St. Sabina uses his bike as form of transportation in his neighborhood on Chicago's South Side. Photo courtesy of Paul Fitzgerald.

CYCLE OF PEACE



Cycling can have a positive impact on the lives of young people. We focus on giving them access to bikes through Cycle of Peace. Over 1,300 bikes were donated to Chicago youth in 2016. Many of the bikes went to local schools, community partners, and organizations like Bikes N' Roses and Blackstone Bicycle Works, who teach bike maintenance skills to local youth.

We had our most successful giveaway of the year in June. We donated 500 bikes to children in North Lawndale, a community located on Chicago's West Side. Working Bikes volunteers and staff were on hand to help children pick out the right-sized bike, adjust seat heights, and fit helmets. This was followed by a bike safety course where children tested out their bike-riding skills. The 500-bike giveaway would not have been possible without our partnership with the TAG Foundation, North Lawndale College Prep, the North Lawndale Community Restorative Justice Hub, and other local organizations.



A Chicago Bicycle Ambassador went over bike safety tips with children in North Lawndale during our 500-bike giveaway. Photo courtesy of Waymond Smith.



Working Bikes worked with Higgins Community Academy in West Pullman to surprise 100 students with bikes. Photo courtesy of Jean Khut.

CYCLE OF PEACE



A Chicago Police 10th District CAPS Explorer helped a young boy get his helmet fitted at our 500-bike giveaway in June. Photo courtesy of Jean Khut.



Heartland Alliance staff unloaded 100 kids bikes we donated in December, which went to kids living in a housing development down the street from Working Bikes' warehouse in Little Village. Photo courtesy of Andrew Bermudez.

• LIFECYCLE OF A BIKE •



BRING ON THE BIKE DONATIONS



FIXABLE

DONATION PROGRAMS

NOT FIXABLE

Help individuals and communities in need



Volunteers repair bikes for Donation in Chicago



Volunteers disassemble for parts

Sent to Partner Organizations in Africa & Latin America



\$\$\$

ALL SALES

Fund our donation programs



Used to repair fixable bikes



Staff repair the bikes

OR

Sorted into bins



Affordable & reliable bikes/parts purchased by Chicagoans at Bike Shop

OUR VOLUNTEERS



**World Chicago
volunteer group.
Photo courtesy of
Maja Perez.**

The success of Working Bikes falls squarely on the shoulders of our volunteers. They are the ones who prep bikes for international shipments, fix bikes for local donations, organize our warehouse, and represent us at events. We could not further our mission and vision without their generosity.

BRANDON'S BIKE SHOP

The epicenter of our volunteer program is Brandon's Bike Shop, our community workspace named in memory of dedicated volunteer Brandon Bernier. It has been a place where people honed their skills as bike mechanics and helped maintain the legacy and memory of Brandon.

Since the inception of Brandon's, our volunteer program has grown tremendously. In 2016, Working Bikes volunteers logged in 6,471 hours. We also received help from 42 volunteer groups--ranging from corporations, schools, and churches--who contributed their time to our cause.



Photo courtesy of Jean Khut.



"I think the goals of the organization are great. They're really wonderful people to be around. I'm a little older than the average person that comes. It's nice to be around young people. It's nice to be with people who know the city well."

***- David "PhDave" Williams,
longtime volunteer***

"What this place has that a lot of places don't have is the way people treat you and how nice everyone is. There's hundreds of other places you can do community service, but the amount of respect and kindness that people treat you here is [incomparable]."

***- Ricardo Esparza,
former ONE Summer Chicago intern***



***"I just love the idea of Working Bikes. I love the mission and the idea of fixing old bikes and not throwing them away." -
Susan Senturia,
volunteer***

OUR VOLUNTEERS



Volunteers at WTF!, our weekly Women Trans Femme night every Thursday from 5-9 p.m. Photo courtesy of Maja Perez.

WOMEN, TRANS, FEMME NIGHTS

This was also the first year of our weekly WTF! workshop, which is one of the few women, trans, femme nights in Chicago. Every Thursday, we offer a safe space for women and for those who identify as transgendered and gender non-conforming to learn how to fix bikes.

GROWTH IN NUMBERS

By adding additional volunteer workshops on Thursdays (WTF! Night) and Fridays in 2016, we were able to donate 1,796 bikes locally, which more than doubled the bikes we donated the previous year.

WHERE OUR BIKES COME FROM



SINCE 1999, Working Bikes donated over 65,000 bicycles by redistributing them in global and local communities. The bikes we receive come from various channels, such as individual donors, police departments, park districts, recycling events, [Eagle Scout bike drives](#), property management companies, universities, and our various [drop-off locations in the Chicago region](#).

While many of the bikes we collected were abandoned and would have been taken to the landfill or to the scrap dealer to be melted and stripped of its value, many people choose to donate their underutilized bikes that have been taking up space in their garage or basement. These bikes may not be doing their current owner much good, but we can put them to good use.

IN-SHOP DONATIONS	367	
CHICAGOLAND <u>DROP-OFF LOCATIONS</u> ...	2,998	
CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS	1,853	
PARKS, POLICE, SCHOOLS, ETC.		
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	984	
COMPANIES AND CONDO ASSOCIATIONS		
OUT OF STATE DONATIONS & DROP-OFF LOCATIONS	2,048	
IOWA, WISCONSIN, INDIANA, ETC.		
EVENTS	2,209	
RECYCLING EVENTS AND BIKE DRIVES		

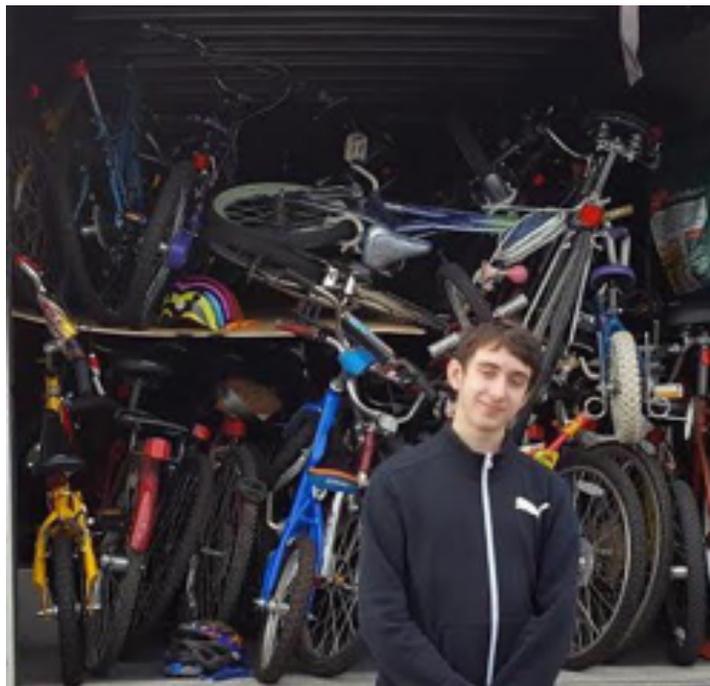
Created by Chelsea Chen



Sam is the co-owner of our drop-off location Green Bay Cycles in Winnetka. Dozens of bikes collected at the shop were part of an international shipment to Lesotho in November. Photo courtesy of Phil Kaplan.

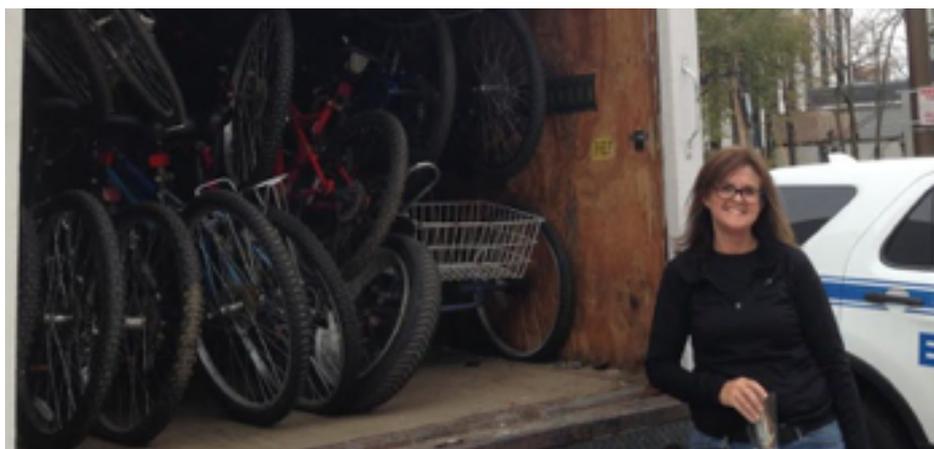


Since Working Bikes' early beginnings, Dick Atwell has collected bikes for us all the way from Nevada, Iowa. Photo courtesy of Ames Tribune.



For his Eagle Scout project, Tim Cotter held a bike drive on Chicago's North West Side and collected over 207 bikes for Working Bikes. Photo courtesy of Tim Cotter.

Working Bikes worked with Evanston Police Department property manager Susan Morgan to pickup 40 bikes in November. Photo courtesy of Phil Kaplan.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



BIKES AS A TOOL OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Photo courtesy of Trevor Clarke.

In May, Working Bikes was part of The Chicago Community Trust's On the Table, an annual city-wide event where Chicagoans connect and discuss ways to unite our city. Participants gathered on our loading dock and engaged in conversations about transportation access, social justice, and cycling.

Following the event, we submitted a short video proposal for our Cycle of Peace 500-Bike Giveaway for On the Table's Acting Up Awards Grant. We were one of 64 organizations awarded the \$1,000 grant in 2016. Thanks to The Chicago Community Trust and Goodcity Chicago, we were able to provide 500 children with bikes, locks, and helmets in North Lawndale.

EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH ONE SUMMER CHICAGO

This summer we had seven apprentices from Instituto del Progreso Latino through ONE Summer Chicago, a youth apprenticeship program. With the help of volunteer coordinator Andrew Bermudez, the apprentices learned basic bike mechanics, honed their customer service skills in our bike shop, and learned to navigate the city on two wheels. They also taught a bike safety workshop at the Frederick Douglass Library in North Lawndale. We are proud of the work Ricardo, Cauria, Josemanuel, Jesus, Ashley, Iytzy, and Zuleyma did with us over the summer. They all have bright futures ahead of them. We wish them all the best of luck in their endeavors!



Photo courtesy of Waymond Smith.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS



CYCLING FOR PEACE IN AUBURN-GRESHAM



Photo courtesy of Regina Murphy.

Over Labor Day weekend, we partnered with the Faith Community of Saint Sabina, Slow Roll Chicago, and Inner-City Muslim Action Network. At this block party-styled event, we unified our Cycle of Power and Cycle of Peace programs and donated over 100 bikes to adults and children living in Auburn-Gresham, a community located on Chicago's South Side. A bike ride and peace march followed the giveaway and was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities.

WORKING BIKES CELEBRATED 17 YEARS!



Photo courtesy of Steven E. Gross.

On October 25th, Working Bikes celebrated our 17th year anniversary with 200 of our family, friends, and supporters at Lagunitas Tap Room. We raised over \$15,000 due to the generosity of our donors and sponsors who provided items to our raffle and silent auction. All proceeds went towards our international and local donation programs. Working Bikes would also like to thank Jenner & Block LLP and Marcia Bogolub for being gold sponsors at this year's party.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR CHILDREN'S BIKES!



Photo courtesy of BK Elmore..

On December 17th, Working Bikes hosted Kids' Bikestravaganza!, our annual holiday sale of children's bikes. Our staff and volunteers helped children pick out bikes, which were priced at \$5 each. We aim to make bikes accessible to low-income families during the holiday season. Earlier that week, we donated 101 bikes to our community partner Heartland Alliance and another 101 bikes to Higgins Community Academy, a school located in Chicago's West Pullman neighborhood. An additional 148 bikes went to local churches and organizations. Thanks to Working Bikes' hardworking staff and volunteers, we were able to provide 400 bikes to children in Chicago over the holidays.

• COMMUNITY PARTNERS •

Working Bikes is fortunate to have community partners that do transformative work in housing, education, economic and community development, health, restorative justice, and youth development.

10th District CAPS • A Safe Haven Foundation • Apostolic Assembly •
• Active Transportation Alliance • Behavioral Health Consultants PC • Bikes N' Roses
• Blue Cross • Blackstone Bicycle Works • Broadway Youth Center •
• Black United Fun of Illinois • Catholic Charities • Chicago Help Initiative • Chicago
• Lakeshore Hospital • Chicagoland Prison Outreach •
• Cook County Health and Hospital Systems •
• Chicago Bicycle Ambassadors • Chicago Housing Authority • College Possible
• Casa de Adoración • Cornerstone Chicago • Chicago Women in Trades
• Deborah's Place • DePaul USA • Dearborn Homes • Divvy Bikes
• Edward Hines, Jr. Veterans Administration Hospital • Esperanza Health Center
Franciscan Outreach • Friends of The Red Warriors • Facing Forward to End Homelessness • Freedom
Square • Gears in Motion • Heartland Alliance
Harbor Light Center • Howard Brown Health Center
Higgins Elementary Community Academy • Housing Opportunities for Women
Haymarket Center • Illinois Department of Human Services • Inner Voice
Inspiration Corporation • Islamic Oasis • Inner-City Muslim Action Network
Jane Addams Resource Corporation • Jesse Brown VA Medical Center
Kidz Korna Youth Organization • Knights of Columbus • Lord's Lambs Ministry
Mile Square Health Center • Mercy Housing • North Lawndale Employment Network
North Side Housing and Supportive Services • National Veterans Golden Age Games
North Lawndale Community Restorative Justice Hub • North Lawndale College Prep
Prentice Place • Project YES • Pacific Garden Mission • Pioneer House
Prevail Health Solutions • Revolutions Bike Co-op
Roots, The Redwood Tree Organization • Renaissance Social Services • RefugeeOne
Saint Pius V Church • Students Run CHI • Sertoma Centre • Saint Gall Church
Sarah's Circle • Slow Roll Chicago • The Salvation Army
The Faith Community of Saint Sabina • The Night Ministry
Trilogy, Inc. Behavioral Healthcare • Thresholds • The TAG Foundation • The Recyclery
Ujamaa Community Land Trust • Volunteers of America
Veterans Assistance Commission • Windy City Rollers
• West Suburban Multi-Specialty Medical Services
• We Keep You Rollin' • Wheels for Winners • West Town Bikes

• DONORS AND SPONSORS •

Thanks to our donors and sponsors, Working Bikes raised a total of **\$72,856** in 2016. These monetary contributions, along with the many generous in-kind donations, will help us continue to expand and improve our international and local donation programs.

- 924 PetCoral • A Budget Towing, LLC • Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy • ABUS
- Andrew Bermudez • Active Transportation Alliance • Aliya N. Thomas • Amy Kaufman
Amy Little & Lee Ravenscroft • Andrea & Isaac Bempong • Andrew Griffin
Backstop Foundation • Baltimore Community Foundation • Bentwood Inn
Brigit Goebelbecker • Bicycle Club of Lake County • Cafe Jumping Bean
Catherine Keating • Cafe Mustache • Chicago Fund for Peace and Peaceful Communities
Chicago Diner • Chrome Industries • Christopher Burke Engineering
- Christopher Smit • Clif Bars • Charisma & Philip Ibarrola • Corinne Flemm
• Dan Hermann • Daniel J. Sobol • Daniel Cotter • Dave Moorman
- David & Jean Kostelansky • David Wilcoxon • David Gorman • Daniela Barata
- DBA Revolutions Bicycle Cooperative • Death's Door Spirits • Desmond & Ahern LTD
• Diana L. Stone • Doug Bacon • Diane Ripple • Dolly Tong • Edward O'Malley
• Elizabeth L. Lassar • Ellen Bogolub & Nick Friedman • Evanston Bicycle Club
- Eye Vybe Records • E. Taveirne • Emanuel Yarn • Eric Nusbaum • Esther Weissman
• Fabricon Foundation • Faith United Methodist Church of Orland Park
• First Congregation Church • Folks on Spokes • Frank Richardson
• Frances E. Streit Foundation Trust • Frank Masterman • Gabrielle Sigel
• Goose Island Beer Co. • Gail A. Baumgarner • George Peck • GoodCity NFP
• Gregory Hudson • Gail Artrip • Gregory & Michelle Rougeux • Gail Fisher
- Harry Richter • Holly Wirick • Ignatz Ristorante • Il Vicinato Ristorante • Ian Nalbach
- J&B Importers • James & Hollis Hill Lindsey • Jason Jenkins • Javier Diaz • Jeff Teppema
• Jenner & Block • John Kelly • John M. O'Donnell • Joseph & Carol Bernier
• J. Brian Horrigan • Janice D. Bergeron • Jefferson Coufal • Jennifer L. Sanchez
- John M. O'Donnell • John T. King • Judy Donofrio • Katherine McKelvey • Kenneth Gmoser
• Kerry K. Behr • Kiwanis Club of Oak Brook • Karilynne Martin • Kelly Loneman
• L. Stanley Chauvin, Jr. • Lagunitas Brewing Company
- Lakeside Congregation for Reform Judaism • Lance Workman • Lauren Hurt
• Lee W. Smith • Lois Strzyzewski • Ludlow Franklin • Marcia Bogolub
- Marilyn Seagreaves • Mary Gonzales & Louis Pindter • Mary Heintz • Mary S. Setnicar
• Maxwell Mishkin • Michael Naughton • Mike Ells • Matthew Richards
- Marianne Parkhill • Mutual Federal Bank • Marianne P. Sher • Marla Parker Green
• Nancy B. and Howard K. Cohen Charitable Fund • Nancy Gerrie
- Naperville Sunrise Foundation • Naples Council World Affair • Niche Realty, LLC
• Nickolas Roedel • Old Town School of Folk Music • Patagonia • Patricia Bernier
• Paula Williams and Dorothy Smith • Peter & Mimi Gregory • Peter Nassos
• Peter Travnicek • Phillip Eskilson • Paul Bechtner Foundation • Patricia Arroyo
- Patricia M. Carroll • Phil Kaplan • Paul & Maureen Kraskiewicz • Robert E. Nawrocki
- Robert Jespersion • Range Restaurant • REI • Riot Fest • Robert H. Helle • Rose Mallon
• Rotary Club of Lombard • Scottrade Inc. • Sharon C. Rusk
- Sinha Elegant Brazilian Cuisine • Stefania Lugli • Steven E. Gross • Suzanne Boyce
• Susan Busby • Susan Bandes & Stephen A. Siegel • Sabrina Gross • Susan Bax
• Susan Birk • Sonia Oyola • Thalia Hall • The Chicago Community Foundation
- The Corporate Relocation Council • The Empty Bottle • The Original Rainbow Cone
• The Pet Stop Mobile Clinic, LLC • The PrivateBank and Trust Co. • The StopAlong
- The Chicago Community Trust • TTX Company • Travis J. Cronkhite • Trinity Lutheran Church
• Tracey Jackman • Urban Prairie Waldorf School • V3 Companies of Illinois Ltd.
• WBEZ • West Town Bikes • Wheeling Wheelmen Bicycle Club

CLOSING MESSAGE



STAFF

Paul Fitzgerald, General Manager
Brian Vargas, Sales Floor Supervisor
Andrew Bermudez, Volunteer Coordinator
Aaron Brown, Production Manager
Dutch Coufal, Production Mechanic
John Clark, Production Mechanic
B.K. Elmore, Warehouse Manager
Dalia Garcia, Retail & Service Staff
Steve Irwin, Staff Accountant
Jean Khut, Communications Coordinator
Alan Lloyd, Production Mechanic
Cesar Meza, Retail & Service Manager
David Nasca, Production Mechanic
Maja Perez, Volunteer Shop Manager
Al Scorch, Production Mechanic
Patrick Tivnan, Production Mechanic
Michael Young, Production Mechanic

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Kaplan, President
Amy Little, Vice President
Jim Lindsey, Treasurer
Trevor Clarke, Secretary
Alderman Brian Hopkins
Regina Murphy
Lee Ravenscroft
Pete Travnicek
Eric Wood

FRIENDS, MEMBERS, AND CO-CONSPIRATORS,

Sometimes the bikes astound me.

What an incredible resource. What an incredible responsibility! In 2016, we collected more than 10,000 bikes and utilized them all to their best and highest potential through our communities, through our networks, and through our mission. The bikes came from neighbors, from condo buildings, from recycling events, from other bike shops, from police departments and sometimes they came from Rich Carriel, our longest running drop-off volunteer who celebrated his 87th birthday in 2016.

The volunteers astound me, too.

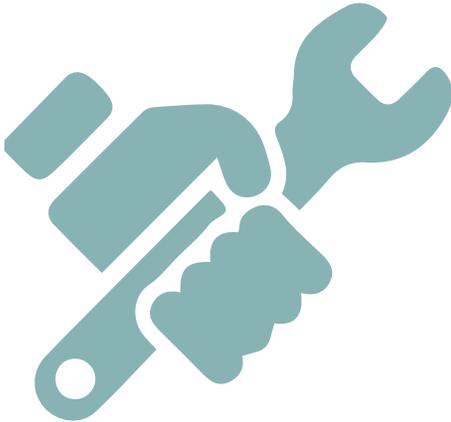
We have ramped up our local donations this year and our volunteers were with us building capacity and knowledge every step of the way. Some volunteers come on their day off, some come directly from school, some volunteers come to earn bicycle parts, and some come to learn how to maintain a bicycle. Without our volunteers, Working Bikes couldn't pursue our vision, our dream of a world in which unused and unwanted bicycles are used in our own backyard and around the globe as tools of empowerment.

Looking ahead, I see an even stronger community forming around and through Working Bikes. In fact, the relationships are what I most look forward to. Who would have guessed that bicycles could build ties between health organizations, restorative justice advocates, philanthropists who work in the travel industry, peacemakers, the Veteran's Administration, Central American environmentalists and so many more?

As our communities increasingly look to each other for strength and resources in the coming days, and the coming year, I look forward to reinforcing old connections, forming new bonds, and helping others to move forward, one pedal stroke at a time. I look forward to working towards transportation equity on the South and West sides of Chicago, as well as in rural Zambia and Lesotho. I look forward to further transforming a bike shop into a laboratory where each one teaches one, where we expand our abilities to better serve each other's needs, and where the difference between a 26 x 1 3/8" tire and a "S-Type" 26 x 1 3/8 x 1 1/4" tire can be illuminated. Whatever your preferred cycle—peace, power, prosperity... Peugeot—whatever your preferred contribution—volunteer time, unwanted bicycles, supportive funds... reupholstering expertise—we hope you'll join us in 2017 to keep Working Bikes rolling onward.

Peace & bike grease,
Paul Fitzgerald, General Manager

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



DONATE TIME We continue to expand our programs through the efforts of our dedicated volunteers and supporters. Volunteers work in our community workshop repairing bikes for our local donation programs and preparing bikes for our international shipments. We also welcome volunteer groups from schools, organizations, and businesses to help in our shop and warehouse. For more information, please contact volunteer@workingbikes.org.

DONATE BIKES Donating a bike or hosting a bike drive is a fantastic way to contribute. Working Bikes is able to do the work we do because of the generosity of individual donors, recycle event organizers, and our donation [drop-off locations](#).

DONATE MONEY Each bike costs an average of \$5 to collect. International shipments cost between \$3,500 to \$10,000. Around a dozen amazing and committed folks on Working Bikes' staff help us accomplish our mission. We accomplish a tremendous amount using our resources as efficiently as possible, but your support will enable us to further our impact.



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