

# LET IT GROW

revision international  
annual report

2010



re:vision  
INTERNATIONAL™





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## WORDS / TESTIMONIALS

“After the Revision trainings, however, I now know more, and I learn something new everyday. I am very happy because I can see the results of my work almost on a daily basis as the plants grow and produce vegetables and because I can teach the community how to eat better and to live a healthy life.” - Perla

“To be a Promotora is a great responsibility, and one I take very seriously. Initially, I was nervous because I had never done anything like this before. However, after Revision’s trainings and over time, my confidence grew. I like to be a Promotora because I know that I am helping other people to grow their own healthy food, so that they can live a better life.”- Antonia





## MISSION

The mission of Revision International is to **educate, inspire, connect and empower individuals and communities** to achieve transformational change through locally created, scalable models that lead to **global sustainability**.

## VISION

Revision International envisions a world of **self-sufficient, localized communities** that are part of an interdependent global system, where individuals act as stewards and live with respect towards their local environmental, economic, and social systems. The sum of these communities' efforts contributes to a **shift in societal values** and ultimately a world that lives within the ecological limits of the planet.

## 2010-2011 BOARD MEMBERS

### BOARD PRESIDENT

Joseph Teipel (Jan - August)  
Angela Schreffler (August - Current)

### Vice President

Angela Schreffler (Jan - August)  
Michele Hart (Nov - Current)

### Treasurer:

Kathryn Miles (September, 2008 - December 2010)  
Tina Oster (Dec. 2010 - Current)

### Secretary:

Jessica George (September, 2008 - December 2010)  
Susie Lewis (Dec. 2010 - Current)

### Board Members:

Don Leach (September 2008 - Current)  
Jon Reiling (January 2009 - Current)  
Lizzy Aldridge (Dec - Current)  
Marci Hladik (Dec - Current)  
Sarah Haslem (Dec - Current)

*The Board of Revision International is a volunteer Board that provides the oversight, direction, and governance of the organization. Board Members serve a two-year, volunteer term. Board members are term-limited to no more than three consecutive terms. Officers are elected to serve a one-year term.*

## LETTER FROM DIRECTOR



**Dear Friends and Supporters,**

In 2010, Revision International set out on a mission to build off of the incredible first year success of its flagship program, Re:farm Denver, by emphasizing deep growth in the communities it began its work in. This focus - as opposed to branching out quickly into other communities - aims to create deep, long-lasting impact; hence Revision's theme for the year "Taking Root."

Taking Root speaks to one of the philosophies of Revision - that transformational change can occur within and individual and within a community when a seed is planted and nurtured correctly. In fact, creating change is very similar to growing food. It requires patience, attention, the right conditions, and above all, love.

This year, Revision saw an incredible growth in the number of families participating in its backyard garden program. A total of 38 families began learning how to grow their own food, right in their own backyard, up from 7 families the year before. That's a 443% increase! This growth wasn't the result of a big marketing or advertising campaign; on the contrary, it occurred through the best means possible - participants talking to their neighbors and friends about the difference that this program has had on their life. Talk about Taking Root!

Most importantly, however, is not the numbers. It is the qualitative impact that this program has. And it is so much more than just growing food. The seeds that we plant have not only taken root, they have grown into a community-led movement that begins with the transformation of an individual and ripples out from there. When people plant a seed, they are also planting hope. When people weed their garden, they are also weeding their problems. When people harvest food, they are also harvesting self-worth. This is at the core of Revision International's mission and its model: that education, inspiration, connection, and empowerment will result in acts of transformation.

We are continually humbled by the success of our programs and the outpouring of financial support. This humility is grounded in relationships that we've created within the communities we help serve. Change truly has taken root.!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Kornacki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**ERIC KORNACKI**  
Director



## RE:FARM DENVER

Re:farm Denver is Revision's flagship program which develops sustainable, local food systems by means of community food projects, education, advocacy, and policy change.

### [ a community food system ]

Revision International works with communities in the West Denver corridor to develop and execute a model of community food production and distribution that increases access to healthy food while creating jobs, strengthening relationships, decreasing violence, and improving public health. Primarily working with the residents of Westwood, one of the regions most underserved communities, Revision International aims to create change for the 16,000 plus residents with no access to a full service grocery store. When asked about their primary barriers to eating healthy, 85% of respondents cited the two biggest barriers as cost of food and lack of access. This is one of the main factors that 78% of residents are overweight or obese. Revision's proactive and engaging community-based efforts are changing this paradigm, evidenced in the success stories on the pages that follow.



re:farm™  
DENVER  
LOCAL FOOD REFORM





## Backyard Gardens

In 2010, Revision helped 38 families, all living below poverty level, learn how to grow food organically in their backyards. Each income-qualified family makes a two-year commitment to tending their garden. In return, Revision International provides the tools, seeds and labor to install the gardens. Families learn the reward of hard work, and many are even able to share their produce with neighbors and family members. Revision also provides additional support such as cooking classes and food preservation workshops so that families learn how to cook the vegetables they are growing and preserve the excess harvest.

### Impact of Re:farm Denver:

- 100% report saving money on their groceries
- 100% report consuming more fruits and vegetables daily
- 100% report eating at home more frequently
- 100% report sharing their harvest with another family

## Community Food Production

In 2009 Revision partnered with LiveWell Westwood and Kepner Middle School to develop a small community urban farm. In 2010 we expanded it even further and reached even more people! Over 400 members of Westwood came to celebrate, work, play, and eat at the farm, which has become a safe and positive gathering place in the community. Additionally, through a grant from the National Fruit Tree Planting Federation, Revision planted 40 fruit trees this past summer, making this Denver's first urban fruit orchard!



## Food Distribution

Re:farm Harvest Share, Revision International's community supported agriculture program (CSA) launched in 2010, is helping create a food distribution model that allows residents to access locally-grown, organic, and fresh produce at an affordable price. Provided with the option of signing up for a weekly box of produce, residents received an average of 25 lbs of fresh food a week. Most of the produce is grown at the urban farm at Kepner, with the rest coming from Grant Family Farms, a local organic farm. Over 15 families participated in the first year, providing evidence that this model is an effective way to increase access to healthy food and support a healthier diet and lifestyle. In addition to the CSA program, Revision also held 16 produce markets at the community urban farm, and supported other neighborhood markets with produce.



In 2011, this community food project will expand to include 80 household gardens, a greenhouse, year-round food production at the urban farm, and distribution to local restaurants and schools. In addition, Revision will help source other products from local farms, such as eggs, meat, dairy, grain, and other staples, to include in a community-wide food co-operative.





### Training and Mentorship with At-Risk Youth

Public health data shows that low-income communities have higher risk factors that lead to violence, crime, poor health, high school dropout rates, teen pregnancies, and more. The presence of these risk factors creates a cycle that is difficult to break. These cycles are particularly dangerous for youth if they lack positive activities and environments.

Revision believes that the lack of access to healthy food creates an unsafe and unhealthy community. An unsafe community makes it more difficult to bring in healthy food as businesses choose not to invest there. For this reason, Revision began an urban agriculture internship program for at-risk teens in the community in 2009, to teach youth how to work hard, to give back to their community, and to get involved in a positive activity. In addition to learning the skills to provide food for themselves, they also gained self-confidence and tools to prevent violence in their lives.

This program was recognized by the district Councilman Paul Lopez, and in 2010 he pulled together a group of community organizations, including Revision, to apply for a national award to fund a pilot program using gardening as a means to healthy eating and violence prevention. Funded by the National Convergence Partnership, a collaboration of foundations and funders, Revision's project was selected as 1 of 6 pilot programs in the country! Revision successfully mentored 20 at-risk youth during a 36 hour course focused on gardening and healthy eating, food and social justice, and violence prevention strategies.





## OTHER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### ZERO-WASTE EDUCATION AND SUPPORT

Revision partnered with EcoCycle, a recycling company in Boulder, CO, to provide zero-waste event services at the Boulder Creek Festival and the Hometown Fair. These two events drew a combined 400,000 people over the course of two weekends, generating a lot of trash and waste! With Revision onsite to educate festival-goers on how to properly divert their waste into recycling and composting streams, over 40,000 pounds of trash were diverted from the landfill!

### SUSTAINABILITY DISCUSSION COURSES

In late 2010, Revision began offering discussion courses on sustainability, focused mostly on issues of food and agriculture. Using materials from the Northwest Earth Institute, this 6-8 week course provided participants a broadrange of reading material each week, complimented by discussion questions helping facilitate engaging group discussions with participants reflecting on personal experiences and learning from one another. Participants completed the course with a deeper, more profound understanding of sustainability issues, as well as practical ways to make individual and group changes.



**GRANTS**

**Colorado Department of Agriculture Specialty Crops**

In partnership with Slow Food Denver, Denver Urban Gardens, and LiveWell Westwood, Revision received a grant from the Colorado Department of Agriculture to increase the market for Colorado produce in low-income communities.

**Convergence Partnership**

Revision was selected by City Councilman Paul Lopez to apply to the Convergence Partnership which includes other community partners such as Denver Public Health, LiveWell Westwood, Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP), and Sisters of Color United for Education (SOCUE). The Convergence Partnership is a collaboration of funders that came together in 2006 to fund the Healthy Eating Active Living Convergence Partnership, with the goal of facilitating policy and environmental changes to reinvent healthy communities. Funders include The California Endowment, The Kresge Foundation, The W.K Kellogg Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Nemours, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**NOMINATIONS**

The work of Revision’s program Re:farm Denver was recognized in 2010 by the nomination of Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper to serve on his first Sustainable Food Policy Council! Many of Denver’s leading organizations and individuals working to usher in a sustainable, healthy food system are represented on this council and will be working for the next three years to make policy recommendations to City Council.

**RECOGNITION**

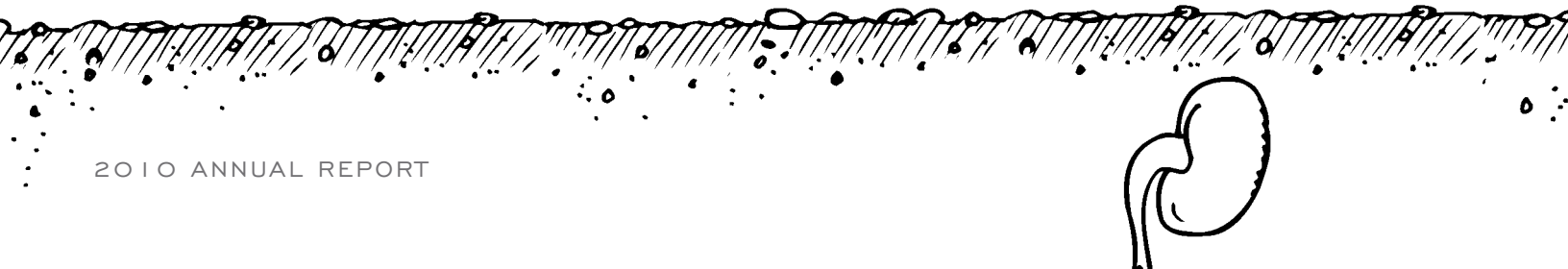
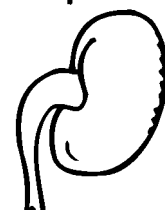
**Urban Gardens Germinate Seeds of Better Health, Denver Post, June 9, 2010.**

“Last year, Eric Kornacki’s Revision International planted seven gardens in southwest Denver yards. ‘It is about teaching people to grow food where they live,’ Kornacki said, ‘so they have access to healthy food.’ One price of admission was that each family that got a garden agreed to share its harvest with another family and to convince another household to get its hands dirty too. Those seven households kept the bargain: This spring, Kornacki, with funding from grants and private donors, will bring gardens to 40 backyards. ‘The model we’re setting up is the pay-it-forward model. We help you with your garden, and we’re asking you to become a teacher to the next family,’ he said.”

**Denver Post Video on Re:farm Denver, May, 2010. Video by Mahala Gaylord**

“For a lot of people that are having a hard time even putting food on the table, you can’t make the choice to buy organic, or to purchase food that is locally grown and therefore healthier. Working in this neighborhood, we are able to change that injustice without having to wait for these bigger systems to change. It’s going to take forever to get grocery stores into these neighborhoods so they’re not food deserts. But a garden is a weekend’s worth of work, and later that season you’re harvesting fresh fruits and vegetables.” —Eric Kornacki

“I save \$40 a week by having this garden. You can save money and you can learn about fruits and vegetables; it’s cheaper at your house, and it’s good for the family .... this program gives you everything for the garden. All I have to do is the work.” —IRMA GONZALEZ





### Spring Festival

Last April, Revision helped organize a spring festival for the Westwood Community at the Kepner Urban Farm. Over 300 members of the community came out for a day of music, and food celebrating the upcoming growing season. A special cultural tribute included an Aztec group's performance of a ceremonial dance and a prayer offering in the garden.

### Community Service Day with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rigoberta Menchu Tum

Revision was extremely blessed to work with partner organizations GRASP and Peace Jam to bring Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rigoberta Menchu Tum to the Kepner Urban Farm to lead a day of inspiration and service. In addition to offering a ceremonial blessing to the garden, she spoke to the community about each person's responsibility create a world of peace, harmony, and beauty. Her work in Guatemala was an inspiration to the members of the community, and she too was inspired by the work of the community!





**Summer Seafood Supper**

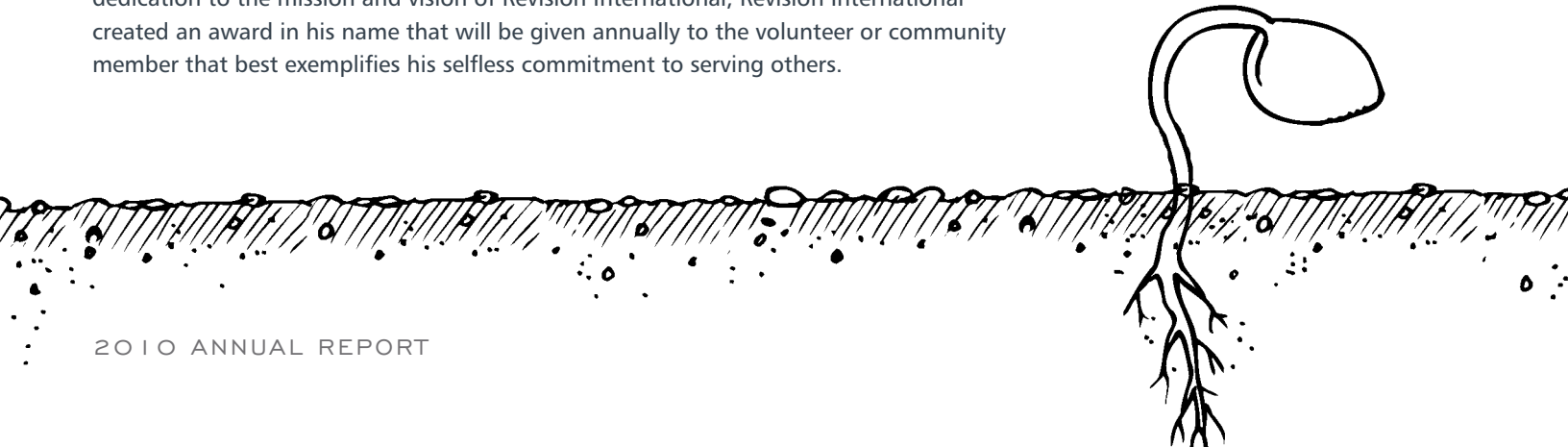
Last August, several of Denver’s best chefs got together to collaborate on a joint benefit for Revision International. Included in the group were Alex Sidel of Fruition Restaurant, Jeff Osaka of Twelve Restaurant, Justin Brunson of Masterpiece Delicatessen, and Scott Parker of Table 6. The dinner was held outdoors at Denver’s only urban winery, the Infinite Monkey Wine Theorem. The food and atmosphere provided an intimate setting for Revision to share the importance of it’s work!

**Taking Root - Revision International’s Third Annual Silent Auction for Sustainable Alternatives**

Revision’s 2010 fundraiser gala was another big success! This year’s theme, Taking Root, was inspired by the continued growth and success of the organization and its flagship program Re:farm Denver. The event was held at the green-entrepreneurial hub, the hip Green Spaces, which was the perfect setting for a night of grooves by DJ Motevation, live art by Ira Fail, and the hit of the night, live t-shirt printing by printmaking artist Tonia Bonnell. She commissioned local artists XXXX to design a print inspired by Revision. Tonia then carved each design and hand printed them on organic t-shirts using a custom wood block printing press. The auction featured donated goods and services from over 100 local business, representing some of Denver’s best green and sustainable companies and restaurants. The event raised over \$7,000 towards Revision’s mission!

**Joseph Teipel Distinguished Service Award**

Revision co-founder Joseph Teipel stepped down from his position as Board President in September to join the Peace Corps with his wife Ashley. In recognition for Joseph’s dedication to the mission and vision of Revision International, Revision International created an award in his name that will be given annually to the volunteer or community member that best exemplifies his selfless commitment to serving others.



**FOUNDATIONS & GRANT MAKERS**

Denver Office of Economic Development  
 - \$53,318 (2011 funding)  
 Convergence Partnership  
 - \$35,000 (2010 - 2011)  
 LiveWell Westwood - \$20,000  
 Aldridge Family Foundation - \$6,000  
 Anshutz Family Foundation - \$5,000  
 Community Resource Center - \$3,500 (in-kind)  
 Harris Family Foundation - \$500

**BUSINESSES - CASH**

Z Cuisine - \$550  
 Fruition Restaurant - \$250  
 Twelve Restaurant - \$250  
 Table 6 - \$250  
 Masterpiece Delicatessen - \$250

**BUSINESSES - IN-KIND****Materials and Supplies**

Tagawa Gardens  
 Botanical Interests  
 Dardano's Flowerland

**Services**

gaiacreative  
 Cohn Marketing  
 Sara Hebert  
 Jack Ziegler CPA

**SILENT AUCTION SPONSORS**

gaiacreative  
 New Belgium Brewing  
 Balistreri Vineyards  
 Catering Consciously  
 Cake Bubbles  
 Green Spaces  
 Minuteman Press  
 Red Delicious Press  
 Green Spaces

**SILENT AUCTION DONORS**

240 Union  
 Annette Coleman Art  
 Argus Fest  
 Artisan Center  
 Aymara Sustainability Project  
 Benton Hutson Art  
 Bonza Bodies Boot Camp  
 Buffalo Exchange  
 Cake Crumbs  
 Caroline Delano Fine Art  
 Castle Marne Bed & Breakfast  
 Caveau Wine Bar  
 Chase Heilman Art  
 Colorado Symphony Orchestra  
 Comedy Works  
 Cork Wine Shop  
 Deluxe Restaurant  
 Denver Art Museum  
 Denver B-Cycle  
 Denver Botanic Gardens  
 Denver Center for Performing Arts  
 Denver Zoo  
 DJ Johnny Beach  
 Dragonfly Eco Goods  
 Dry Dock Brewery  
 E Go Car Share  
 El Diablo Restaurant  
 Encore/Black Pearl  
 Fancy Tiger  
 Frame de Art  
 Fruition Restaurant  
 Generous Servings  
 Grant Family Farms  
 Green Consultants  
 Green Monkey Baby  
 Hornet Restaurant  
 Il Posto  
 Ira Fail Art  
 Jon Reiling personal training sessions  
 Jonsey's Eat Bar  
 Justin Art  
 Kaladi Brothers Coffee  
 Kaos Pizzeria  
 Karma Yoga  
 Kim Allen Art  
 Landmark Theatres  
 Lannie's Clock Tower Cabaret  
 Little Raven Vineyards  
 Lloyd & Maxwell Wine  
 Lovely Confections  
 Lucky Strike Lanes  
 MacSpa  
 Michael Bucher Art  
 Michele Hart Photography

Mile High Bikram Yoga  
 Mona Lucero  
 Olivea  
 Pajama Baking Co  
 Perpetual Clothing  
 Plastic Chappel  
 Qi Athletic Club  
 Queen Anne Bed and Breakfast  
 ReDirect Guide  
 Racines Restaurant  
 Rooster and Moon  
 Root Down  
 RTD  
 Salvagetti  
 Savory Spice Shop  
 Sherry Gillespie  
 SOL Lingerie  
 Spinelli's Market  
 Tables Restaurant  
 Tagawa Gardens  
 Talulah Jones  
 Tomte Crafts  
 The Empty Bottle  
 The House of Commons Tea Room  
 The Shoppe  
 The Squeaky Bean  
 Unity Boutique  
 Uptown Brothers Brewing  
 Vine Street Pub  
 Vintage Gal Creations  
 Velo Soul  
 WaterCourse Foods/Ciy 'O City  
 Wines off Wynkoop

**INDIVIDUAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS****\$1000+**

Angela Schreffler  
 Charlie & Kim McDaniel  
 Don Leach  
 Elizabeth Aldridge  
 Eric Kornacki  
 Mark & Krista Overly  
 Mike & Sheila Campbell  
 Nick Salisbury  
 Rip & Vicki Mobus

**\$500+**

Adam Revell  
 Dana Miller  
 Jessica George  
 Joseph & Ashley Teipel  
 Stan Kornacki & Jennifer Knight



**\$250+**

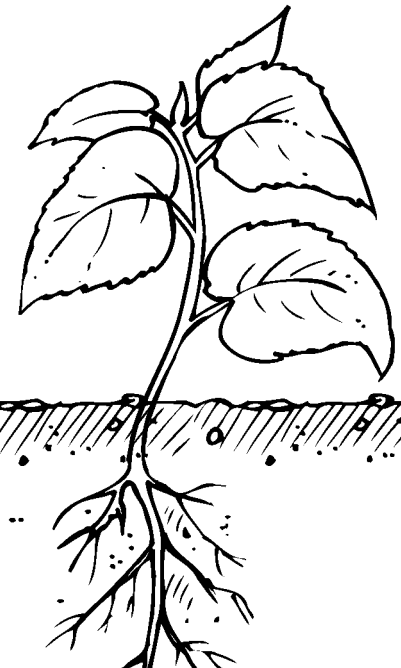
Barry & Lee Rosenberg  
Jon Reiling  
Julia Gordon  
Kathryn Miles  
Margaret DeKoven  
Michele Hart & Jason Page  
Roberta Oliver  
Russ & Anne George  
Travis & Moyra Stiles  
William Oliver

**\$100+**

Allison Gleichman  
Angela Yost  
Barbara Masoner  
Brad & Pam Vanderpool?  
Chris & Ruth Teipel  
Don George  
Elizabeth Cox  
Emily Evans  
Gaye and Mark Jenkins

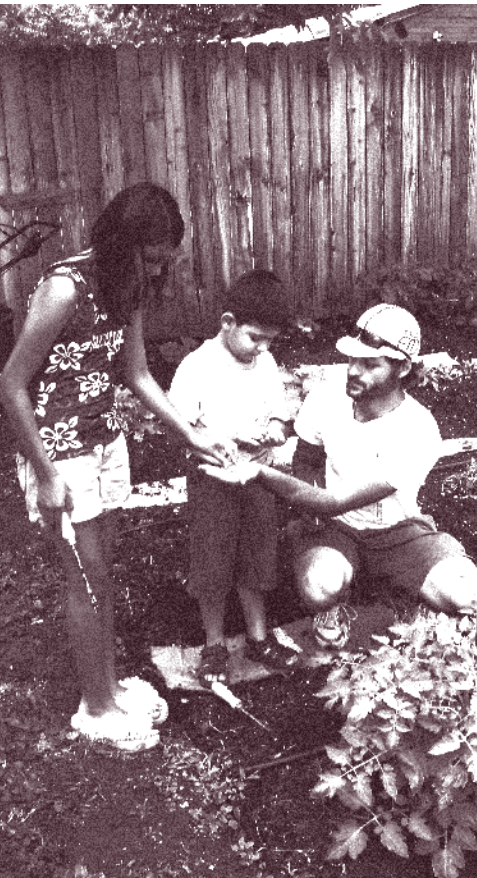
Kris McKee  
Greg Bundy  
Gloria Zamora & Bob Shea  
Jason Oliver  
Jennifer Younger  
Josh & Susanna Ncyz  
Kara & Josh Wiegand  
Karen Bensen  
Kathryn Mueller & Rex Logemann  
Kendra Sandoval  
Lauren Blair  
Linda Kropf  
Lindsay Herron  
Liz Norton  
Marc Gulley  
Marci Hladik  
Meredith McBurney  
Megan Lord  
Mike & Karen Diehl  
Mike George  
Dr. Richard Moreno  
Robert Bardwell

Robert & Molly Schneider  
Ryan & Sarah Brennan  
Stephen & Shelley Cohen  
Sylvester Houston  
Ted & Stephanie Harris  
Tonia Bonnell and Todd Fleming



# BALANCE SHEET

(as of December 31, 2010)



## ASSETS

<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash	\$10,647
Accounts Receivable	\$3,562
Other Current Assets	\$16,946
Total Current Assets	\$30,856
Fixed Assets	\$1,357
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$32,514</b>

## LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$4,604
Other Current Liabilities	\$4,104
Total Current Liabilities	\$8,708
<b>Equity</b>	
Net Assets Unrestricted	\$5,965
Net Income	\$17,839
Total Equity	\$23,805
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$32,514</b>

### Statement of Cash Flows

#### OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Net Income	\$21,311
<i>Adjustments to Adjust Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operations:</i>	
Grants Receivable	-\$3,562
Accounts Receivable	\$3,279
Donated Assets	-\$5,709
Prepaid Expense	-\$1,221
Fixed Assets: Depreciation	\$119
Accounts Payable	-\$584
Accrued Expense	7.29
Deferred Revenue	\$350
Payroll Tax Payable	\$18.24
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:	\$14,009

#### INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Fixed Assets: Technology	-\$1,476
Deposits	-\$300
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	-\$1,776
Net Cash Increase for Period	\$12,232
Cash at Beginning of Period	\$5,968
Cash at End of Period	\$18,201

## LETTER FROM PRESIDENT



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am proud of the things Revision International accomplished in 2010 and am excited to share those accomplishments with you! We increased the number of back-yard gardens in our food production program, formed new partnerships that helped us take on new programs, secured new funding to assist in our growth, and much more. Our success proves that hard work, determination, and passion go a long way in helping to create change!

I encourage you to read the testimonials from those who we helped produce back yard gardens. Learning how to produce your own food has such a positive impact on individuals, family, and a community. We continue to have a strong partnership with community groups, such as LiveWell Westwood, which certainly aids in our success.

I'm also pleased that we continue to grow our infrastructure as we grow our programs. We elected five new board members at the end of 2010, whom have greatly increased our capacity and contributed much-needed skills in finance, marketing, and fundraising.

As we move into 2011 and new programs, I think you will continue to be amazed at our growth. Happy reading!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Schreffler".

**ANGELA SCHREFFLER**  
Board President





re:vision  
INTERNATIONAL™

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