



# **Common Good Presentation**

for the Jural Assembly Community Seminar

**We assert that we do not need a government, but rather a community of people who decide together what would be best for their community by their active, not tacit, consent, with the power to fund what they agree would be good. We call these communities Jural Assembly Communities made up of Wards, Villages, Towns, Cities...**

**We believe that the current course of human events**  
**amply demonstrates the necessity to dissolve the**  
**political bands that connect us to the debt and wage**  
**slavery of the elite banker controlled monetary system**  
**and government, and we believe that we must assume**  
**the equal power to create the conditions wherein we**  
**desire to live that the laws of Nature and of Nature's God**  
**entitle us. We declare that the causes that lead us to the**  
**separation are the recognition that debt and wage**  
**slavery are not the intention of our creator and that we**  
**all have a right to everything that we need to live so that**  
**we are at liberty to pursue our transcendent purpose,**  
**which is what leads to true happiness.**



The strategy for accomplishing this is to adopt the **Common Good Payment System** and **govern** ourselves using our common sense and sense of justice, common law with its petit and grand jury to deal with any harm that may arise, and active consent to assure that what we decide together would be good, and funded, is a result of the healthy human judgment that results from the active consent of all the people.

**Active Consent is formalized in Dynamic Governance** (aka Sociocracy). It is a well-conceived and supported system of consent-based decision-making in meetings and communities and a well-conceived and supported organizational structure that corresponds to our true nature as human beings.  
(About Dynamic Governance)



**The Common Good Payment System** allows us to create a funding mechanism based on issuing money for what we agree is good. It operates parallel to and is connected to the existing system so that building the new model does not challenge the powers that be, and it gives us the experience and reality of sovereignty that we are aiming for.



everything is in service



to everything else

**Common Good** is a community-created credit system that makes use of a local payment card that not only facilitates the exchange of goods and services within a community, but allows the community to issue money to fund the shared dreams of the community. Shall the community assure our basic needs, capitalize what our capacities warrant, implement parity, and fund worthwhile projects, such as renewable energy, small business development, food systems, social justice, wholesome education, the arts, etc...



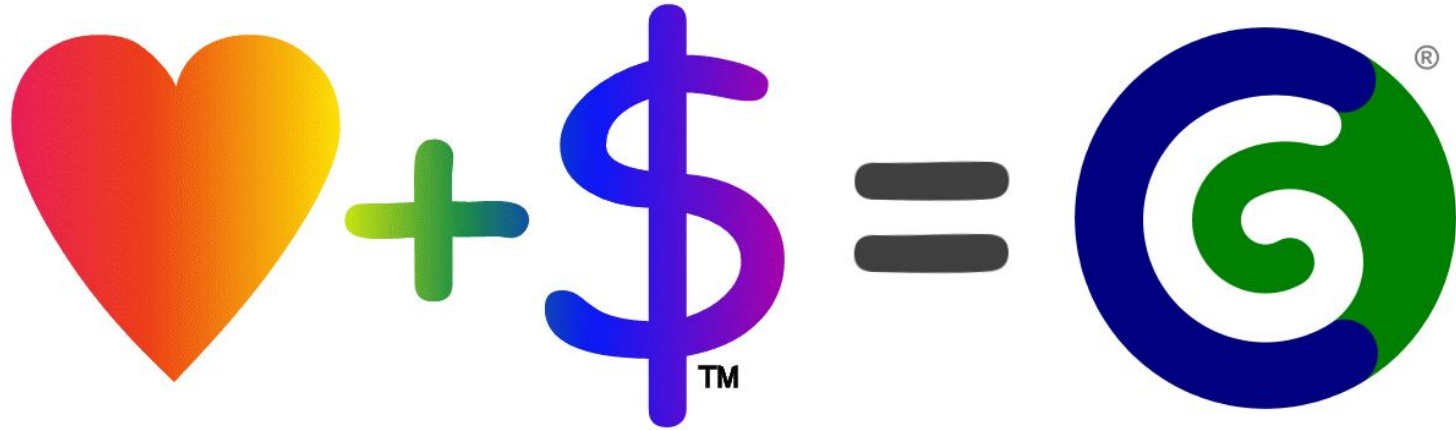
## **Our Jural Assembly Communities**

will need to have the administrative ability to manage the Common Good Software for our purpose. The software is open source and available for any Common Good Community in good standing to use, in order to do things the way their community desires to do them.

We are likely to change the name of the currency to Juno Moneta and not require an SSN to comply with know your customer rules.

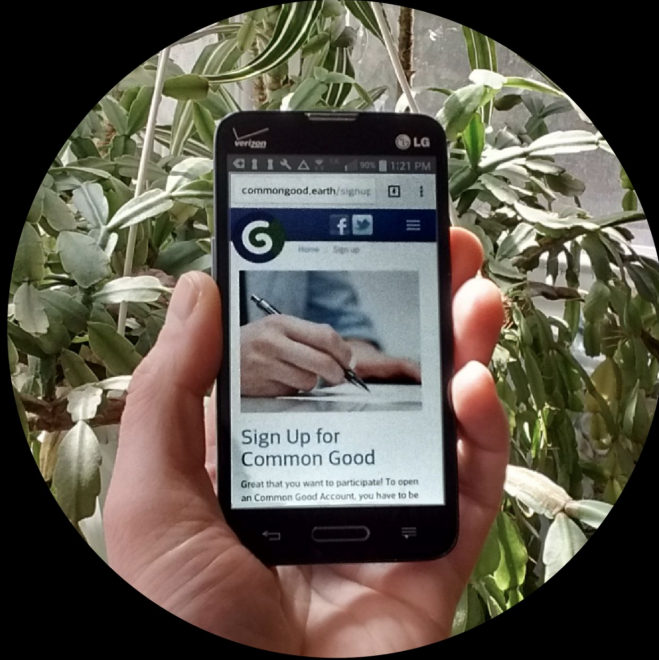
Each Jural Assembly Community can begin as a typical Common Good Community and then establish its own administration if that seems reasonable, or we can wait until we have sufficient funding to set up our own administration to facilitate the Jural Assembly Communities.

So how does Common Good work?



**The Common Good payment system gives communities control over the local economy, so we can meet people's basic needs, regenerate a healthy environment, and thrive together. Here's how it works:**





# CommonGood.earth

You open an account at CommonGood.earth, and sign an agreement (basically that you will use the system as designed).



**The agreement** that we make with one another is what makes us sovereign.

The agreement is an expression of our common values.

We could make the following agreements:

We could agree that in the Society to Benefit Everyone we desire to create, everything is a voluntary initiative as inspired.

We could agree that everyone is free to do what they are inspired to do as long as they do no harm.

We could agree to make public our commitment to our community in the form of a statement of intent and we could agree to pay attention in the meetings we agree to attend.

We could agree that everyone should receive an dividend income based on the productivity of the economy we create together. And we could grant each other the right to the capital our capacities warrant.

We could agree that we will issue money to implement the values we agree to.

And we could agree to manage the money supply so that it always represents reality and does not create reality.



You get a card in the mail, and you put some money on it from your bank account.



**Maria Mana**

NEWAAA

Common Good™

CommonGood . earth



The Community Fund,  
or dollar pool



\$100 worth of Replik (CG)

That money goes into the Jural Assembly Community Fund -- a bank account owned together by members in your area and you get that much CGon your card. We just doubled the money supply.



You use the CG to buy something at a participating business. The business uses a smartphone to scan your card or your phone, at no charge to either you or the business. Businesses like this because it saves them thousands on credit card fees, attracts customers, and provides an ever-growing set of features, requested by members, to support our local businesses and nonprofits, including an easy invoicing and collection system.

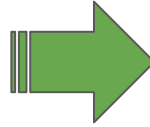




The business can then use the CG it got from you to pay its employees and suppliers.  
Those suppliers can pay their employees and suppliers.  
Then all those employees become customers again, and the money goes in circles.



The Community Fund Grows as the demand for CG grows



Meanwhile, the money you put in from your bank account is still there in the Community Fund. We also call the Community Fund the Dollar Pool and we need to manage it so that there is always enough so that members and businesses can transfer their CG back to their conventional bank account. There can get to be quite a lot of money in the Community Fund -- for example in Greenfield, MA in January of '21, there was over \$200k with over 400 members but only 160 active members shopping at 86 businesses. The potential is enormous.



When someone gets more CG than they can easily spend *within* the Common Good system, they can choose to exchange CG for dollars from the Community Fund. So the amount in the Community Fund goes up and down a little, as it's growing.



# How Do We Fund What We Desire?

The Common Good community can decide to *issue* CG for what the community agrees would be good (a new business or project) based on the solvency (more dollars are coming in than going out) of the Community Fund (dollar pool), as well as based on the viability and potential success of the proposed business or project.

Common Good members issue CG with the expectation that the CG issued will create value.

# What Criteria Can The Common Good Community Use To Issue CG?

**The Common Good Community is responsible for determining how much CG can be issued. As such, the Common Good Community shall ask such questions as:**

- How shall risk be assessed? What is the community's tolerance for risk? This is important if we don't require collateral.
- To the extent the community is reliable and committed, it will find good ways to think about risk.
- How shall we ensure the interests of the community?
- All members are responsible and need to know what they are consenting to. How do we ensure that?  
The community is there to offer support and help, with the objective of granting everyone the capital their capacities warrant.
- Is the endeavor or project a good idea? Are there people who desire to do it? Are they capable of doing it? Is it a good use of the resources, both the built and the natural resources?
- Will the endeavor or project be sufficiently profitable and worth the risk to the community?
- Will the community account for members' right to the capital their capacities warrant?
- Will the CG issued create new value? If yes, we invest. If not, then we grant.
- Will the new business or project bring in enough new members to keep the demand for CG ahead of the demand for dollars?
- How do we assess the health of our system? It is healthy if the demand for CG is ahead of the demand for dollars. If the demand for CG is lagging the demand for dollars, we need to be concerned and take action.

**If the Common Good community agrees that their criteria is met by, for example, answering the above questions, the Common Good community issues the appropriate amount of CG to fund the good idea.**



Let's get  
together! CG  
are circulating  
and the  
Community  
Fund is  
growing!  
What do we  
desire to  
accomplish?

## Community Statistics

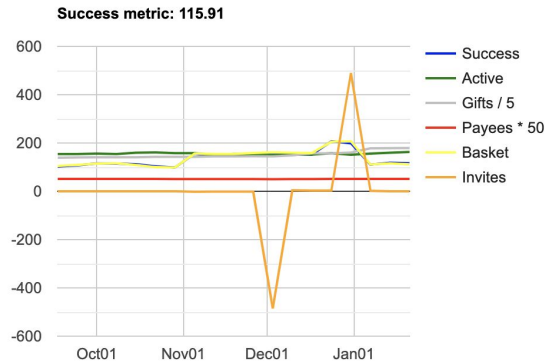
This page helps us keep an eye on our economy so we can manage it effectively together. Choose a chart. Hover over a graph for the numbers.

Greenfield

Weeks

### Success Metrics

[Download by Month](#)



[More information](#)

## Success Metrics

- Success**: Our overall success measure is a weighted combination of the factors listed here.
- Active**: An active account is one that has participated in a payment through Common Good in the past 60 days.
- Gifts**: Total donations to Common Good in the past 30 days, divided by 5.
- Payees**: Average number of different accounts paid by each active account in the past 30 days, multiplied by 50.
- Basket**: Average purchase size in the past 60 days.
- Invites**: Total number of invitations sent by members in the past 30 days.

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When we are deciding how to manage our community money, we have all the information we need to judge the health of our system and its potential.

# Community Statistics

This page helps us keep an eye on our economy so we can manage it effectively together. Choose a chart. Hover over a graph for the numbers.

Greenfield

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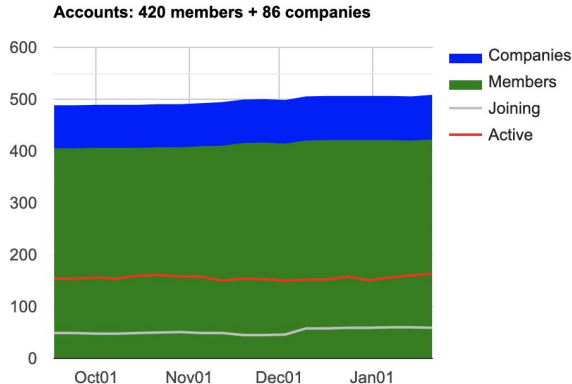
Weeks

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Growth

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[Download by Month](#)



[More information](#)

# Community Statistics

This page helps us keep an eye on our economy so we can manage it effectively together. Choose a chart. Hover over a graph for the numbers.

Greenfield

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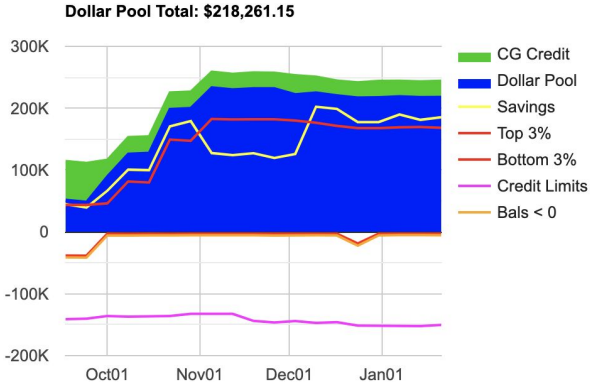
Weeks

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Dollar Pool

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[Download by Month](#)



[More information](#)

Growth and the Dollar Pool are two graphs that show us details of our success.

## Community Statistics

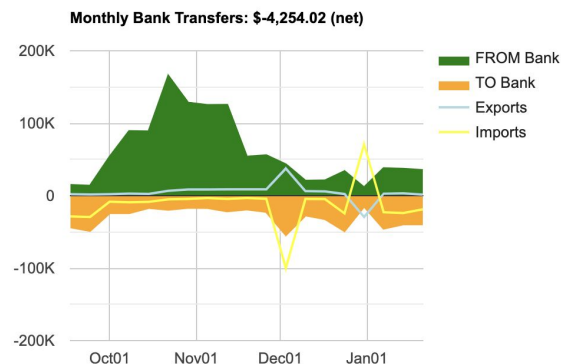
This page helps us keep an eye on our economy so we can manage it effectively together. Choose a chart. Hover over a graph for the numbers.

Greenfield

Weeks

**Bank Transfers**

[Download by Month](#)



[More information](#)

## Community Statistics

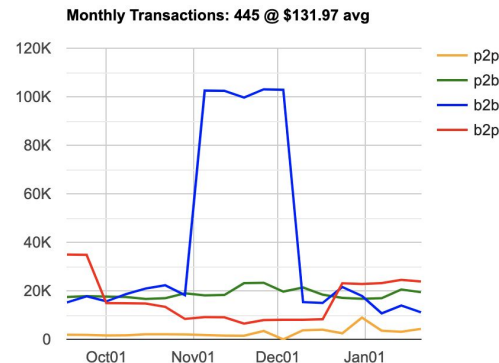
This page helps us keep an eye on our economy so we can manage it effectively together. Choose a chart. Hover over a graph for the numbers.

Greenfield

Weeks

**Transaction Volume**

[Download by Month](#)



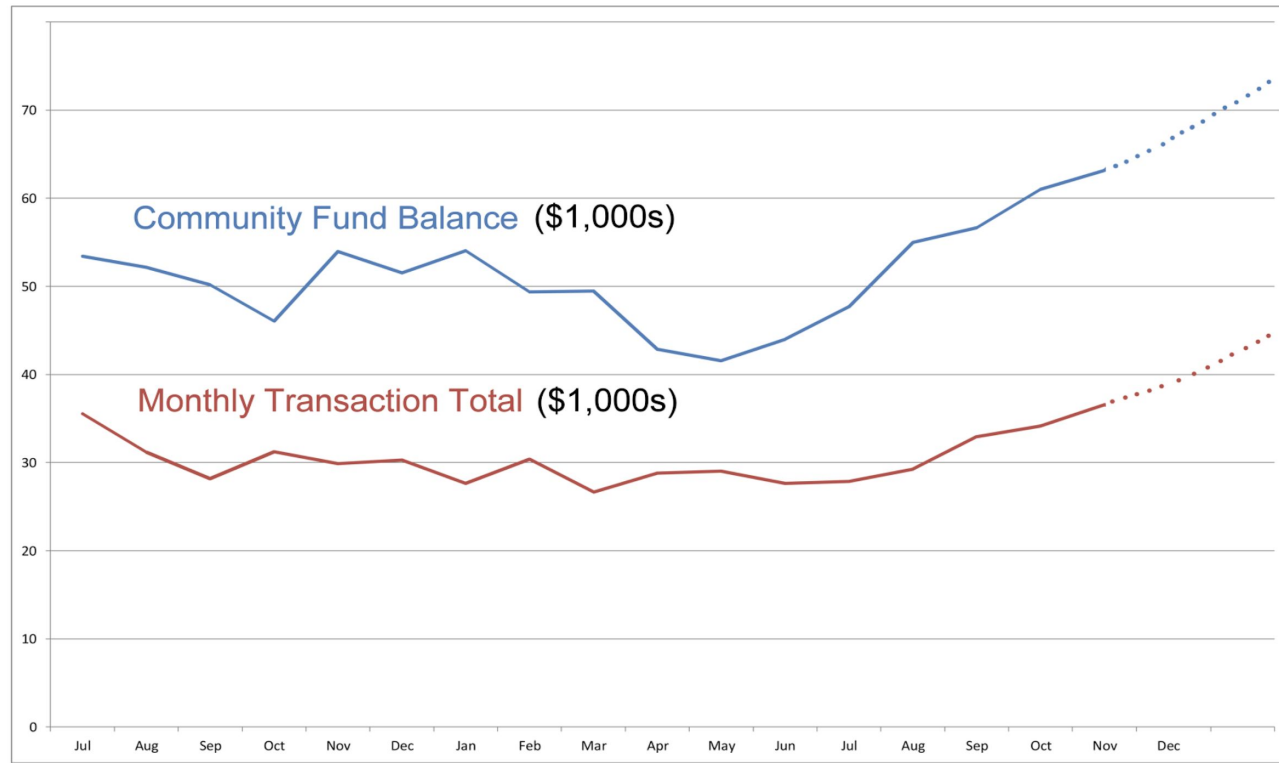
[More information](#)

Bank Transfers: Green shows the demand for CG greater than the demand for \$s.  
The Transaction Volume: is something we can easily influence by encouraging members to use their Common Good card more often and to help us recruit more businesses.





In 2017, the Greenfield Common Good Community put out a request for proposals to the members asking for suggestions about what to fund. They decided that it would be safe to issue 10,000 CG since it was very likely that even if the entire 10,000 CG were cashed out immediately, the Community Fund would likely grow due to all the new people who came onboard as a result of this first funding round. The following eight projects were selected after a week of ranked choice voting. [Equipment upgrades at the pay-what-you-can Stone Soup Café](#); [Rooftop Solar at Ashfield Lake House](#); [Community-shared solar through Co-op Power](#); [A town-owned edible permaculture garden](#); [Revitalization of the Shea Theater Performing Arts Center](#); [5 low-income farm shares through Just Roots](#); [Community art-making to benefit local nonprofits](#); and [a worker-owned Compost Cooperative, empowering former prison inmates](#).



You can see the dip in the Community Fund Balance in April May and that it more than recovered by August. This happened again the following year with a 20,000 CG issue for more great projects.



## Example of how the Common Good system works

Let's walk through the Common Good system based on \$100?

1. \$100 (dollars), or more accurately, bank credit, is exchanged for 100 Replik (CG). In other words, 1 Replik (CG) is equal to \$1 as a unit of value.
2. You can use these Replik (CG) to purchase goods and services from any business that has joined the Common Good Community.
3. Let's say you use 60 CG to purchase \$60 worth of groceries at your neighborhood co-op. That leaves you with 40 remaining Replik (CG), which you could spend elsewhere. If you so desired, you could exchange the remaining 40 CG back to dollars, or bank credit.
4. In the meantime, you have \$60 worth of groceries, and the Co-op has 60 Replik (CG), which it can use to purchase more inventory, pay employees, pay its overhead, etc., resulting in that 60 CG being circulated in the community, thus facilitating the exchange of goods and services.
5. Now what happened to the \$100 (dollars) that was originally exchanged for 100 Replik (CG)? It went into a community escrow account, a Common Good Community Fund, - the dollar pool - which reflects the amount of CG being used in the system.

The Common Good Community Fund is a reserve pool to facilitate members desiring to exchange their CG back to dollars, or bank credit. In the example, you could exchange your 40 Replik (CG), and the co-op could exchange its 60 CG back to dollars.

6. As more dollars flow into the Common Good system, and the Common Good Community Fund (community escrow account) becomes "solvent"; more dollars are flowing in than flowing back out, the community could decide together to *issue* CG to fund the new thing. The community would only have to be concerned about not issuing beyond the "solvency" of the Common Good Community Fund; whereby the demand for dollars does not exceed the demand for Replik (CG).

Based on experience, investing in the Common Good community adds new organizations accepting CG payments, resulting in Common Good members on average putting more money in their accounts, resulting in more CG circulating, and more dollars in the Common Good Community Fund. In a short amount of time, the Common Good Community Fund could be higher than it was. This is demonstrated on the How Much Can We Fund page <https://commongood.earth/communities/how-much-can-we-fund>.

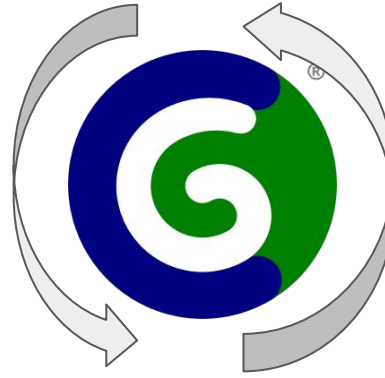
Every new thing that we fund by issuing CG could bring new people and businesses into the system who would be putting more dollars into the Common Good Community Fund than dollars coming out.

Everything depends on increasing the places that one can spend Replik (CG), so that it readily circulates in facilitating the exchange of goods and services, and it becomes largely unnecessary to cash out.

# In Sum

**In sum, the Common Good system through a sophisticated software accounting system facilitates the exchange of goods and services in a community and allows communities to decide together what would be good to fund.**

- No interest, no profiting banks, no transference of wealth to the few!**
- Instead, a community created and supported mutual credit system can benefit all members in the community by giving them agency to fund what they agree would be good.**
- When the community is issuing money, 'the primary tool of the sovereign', everyone in the community will want to be involved in deciding what to issue it for.**
- Indeed governance is money, and money is governance! Governance leads to issuing the money to create the cultural, social and economic conditions in which the people want to live.**



To review: Transfer money from your bank account to the Common Good System and get the same amount of CG which circulate in the community making everyone that much better off. The dollars are available for issuing CG for what we agree would be good.

# The Potential of the Common Good System

Let's say that we got a vibrant Jural Assembly Community going in a typical county in middle America. There would typically be about \$200 million changing hands every month, and we might be able to inspire about half of that to take place with the Common Good System. Therefore there would be around \$100 million in the Community Fund and 100 million in Replik (CG) circulating.

What would be possible every month in just one County? Just imagine.

Remember that everything that normally happens is still happening, and we have a huge amount in the Community Fund, which is proving itself to be “solvent” (more dollars coming in than going out) to back what we could issue for what our Jural Assembly Community agrees would be good.

What will you recommend that we invest in? I will propose we buy a bank!



10,000 dots represent \$10,000 worth of CG EVERY MONTH in one county. If a typical county has 100,000 residents with a \$100,000,000 surplus, that represents \$1,000 per person per month in the community dollar pool to back issuing CG to create the conditions wherein we desire to live. So 10,000 \$10,000 projects every month! (Note: If the demand for dollars exceeds the demand for CG, there could be a request to delay cashing out.)

# A Community Responsibility

Issuing Common Good or Replik and developing a Common Good or Jural Assembly community requires conscious and responsive members dedicated to making the Common Good system and the community a success.

Examples:

- Common Good members asking and addressing “What can I do to support the Common Good community?”
- Common Good members inviting more participation from individuals and businesses.
- The Common Good community responding to specific needs and opportunities to develop projects and build businesses and then patronizing those projects and businesses.
- Ask and answer: What do we agree we will do in the event of a cash flow crunch? Can we rely on enough of our members to trade more dollars for Common Good (CG) and/or make donations, grants, or pledges? Will we need a more formal agreement? What might that be? What would you be comfortable with?
- Issuing money is governance. How do you feel about being responsible for governing?

# Let's get to it!

Shall we put a sign-up sheet on the website and ask everyone to sign up and say something about how we should proceed?

Or should we:

- wait until the people who have the gold give it to us to back the Replik?
- wait until the Federal Reserve System is turned over to us by the new sovereign?
- wait for the quantum financial system that is totally opaque and makes the system sovereign instead of the people?

Instead, we could do **what we are capable of doing** that really would give us governance of the people, by the people, and for the people based on the ongoing active consent of We, the People!

[Sign Up For Repliks](#)

## Appendix Follows

Each subsequent slide shows a particular way of talking about money and/or the Common Good Payment System.



## Short and sweet:

### Common Good has the capacity to create an economic system:

- That is honest and transparent;
- Based on cooperation and collaboration (rather than competition);
- That serves to benefit the community (rather than bank shareholders);
- Based on money/credit, as an agreement, being issued, without any costs nor interest, by we, the people to facilitate the exchange of goods and services and to capitalize what we agree would be good;
- wherein what we agree is good could include:
  - receiving the money we need to live as our right to the equitable distribution of the wealth we all create together, and
  - our having a right to the capital our capacities warrant so that we may pursue our transcendent purpose and bring our service and contribution to expression.

We could create such an economic system through Common Good!



# Check out: [www.CommonGood.earth!](http://www.CommonGood.earth!)



Indicate your interest at [www.justabundance.org/](http://www.justabundance.org/) It is under the Book Tab

Invite others!

Co-create a Jural Assembly Community dedicated to the Common Good!

Here's how:

- Sign up on the [Common Good Community Sign Up Sheet](#) to participate as a producer (with an offering of products and services) and consumer.
- Sign up for Common Good (CG) in the form of Moneta (CG)! See [www.commongood.earth](http://www.commongood.earth). (Note: the unit of value - in this case the \$ - is called Juno and the means of exchange - in this case CG - is Moneta.
- Sell and buy products and services within your Common Good community using Moneta (CG).
- Because a Common Good community could issue money for what it agrees would be good through self-governance, the Jural Assembly could decide to issue Moneta CG to facilitate participation in the Jural Assembly Common Good community.
- Enroll other businesses to accept Moneta (CG), beginning with your local food coop, so there are more places to spend Moneta (CG).

# Money as an Agreement

Economics involves managing our resources to address our needs and desires. This encompasses **production, distribution, and consumption**. **Production** transforms nature's resources into goods and services. **Distribution** involves a series of exchanges that benefit both parties (the seller and the buyer) to the exchange. And we **consume** to meet our needs and desires. The aim of production is consumption.

Ideally, this is a cooperative and collaborative endeavor whereby we, the people, as integrated individuals within integrated communities, decide together what we need and desire and how to best manage our resources to address what we need and desire.

In order to establish and ensure “right relationship” between members within a community and amongst other communities, “money” as an agreement is used as a measure of value and medium of exchange between sellers and buyers to facilitate the exchange of goods and services.

This is based on an understanding that money is not valuable in itself. Money is a technology based on an agreement or law to make something that *measures* the value of goods and services being exchanged in our economy. By its nature, money is a means of exchange, a public utility, that serves the common good. Appropriating the public utility for private profit, as the banks do, is the epitome of corruption.

# The Problem

In our current economic system, banks, not the government, issue bank credit as the economy's accepted medium of exchange. Modern commerce is based on banks transferring their liability between bank accounts, all around the world. The fact that the banks' liabilities (bank credit) can be exchanged for **Federal Reserve Notes** gives the appearance of Government involvement. The treasury prints the notes for the Federal Reserve at cost and the Fed pockets the seigniorage which is the difference between the face value and the cost of printing.

**In our modern economy, cash is mostly used to avoid taxes and for illegal activities. If you carry cash in your pocket for everyday spending needs, you are the exception.**

Securitization is the pooling of various types of contractual debt and the selling of their related cash flows to third party investors as securities <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Securitization>.

This banking alchemy, once relegated to 'conspiracy theory,' was acknowledged by economists at the Bank of England (BOE) in March 2014 and confirmed by researchers at the Bundesbank (the German central bank) in April 2017. The BOE report, titled, "Money Creation in the Modern Economy," (<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/quarterly-bulletin/2014/money-creation-in-the-modern-economy.pdf>) said that many common assumptions about how banking works are simply wrong.

# Who Issues Our Money?

The US Constitution in Section 8 says, among other things, that Congress shall have power:

1. To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;
2. To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;
3. To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;
4. To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;
5. To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;



**The extraordinary privilege by banks to issue credit as the economy's accepted medium of exchange that can be spent in the marketplace is abused because every loan transaction by banks, which are privately owned and controlled, primarily serves to benefit bank shareholders rather than the people.**

**Instead of the common misperception of banks lending money representing real value to borrowers, banks issue credit through accounting entries created on the books of the bank based on the promissory notes of borrowers; promises by borrowers to make good on the credit issued, with money representing *real* value, *plus* interest, which banks receive and from which they profit. Further, banks capitalize on these promissory notes through securitization** (the pooling of various types of contractual debt and the selling of their related cash flows to third party investors as securities <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Securitization>).

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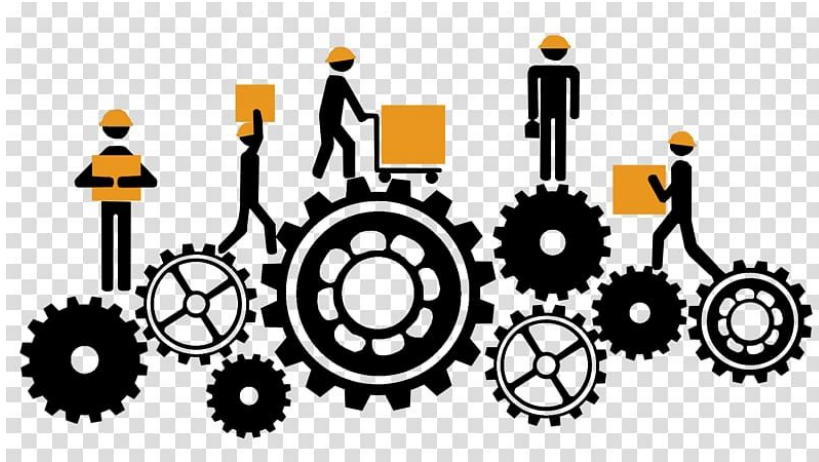
**In sum, while the issuance of credit by banks may allow us to purchase or invest in big ticket items like a home or education or business, banks unduly profit from issuing credit at interest, thereby transferring the wealth from the people who produce the real value in the economy to the owners of the banks. As such, we are subject to a debt-based, profit-motivated monetary system that requires continuous growth, results in economic inequality, and concentrates the wealth, rendering "we, the people" debt and wage slaves, and usurps the public prerogative of issuing the money for what we agree would be good. Appropriating the public utility for private profit, as the banks do, is the epitome of corruption.**



## Where is the surplus going?

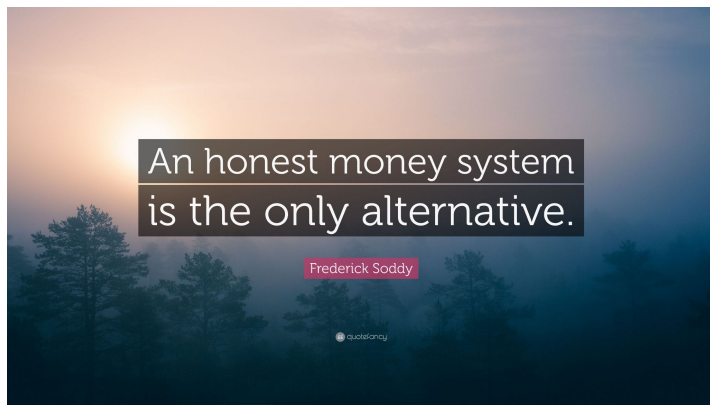
This is a very important question because if you knew that it was going to interest (usury), you would have to revise your world view about the legitimacy of banks lending money at interest. In fact, you would need to recognize that the banking system is the hidden sovereign. It is the hidden sovereign because all the money in circulation (97%) is issued by banks for what will be profitable to them not for what would benefit society.

The banking secret is an open secret, but a very well guarded secret. You think you are borrowing money from the bank, but you are not receiving existing money, as you would if you were borrowing from say, an insurance company. Bank credit is the liability of the bank (liabilities are what is owed). What we think of as our money in the bank is what the bank owes us and when we “borrow” from the bank, the bank issues the “loan” with an accounting entry as a deposit in our account, its liability, which is what it owes. Confusing but true, and an indication of the depth of the deception. This level of deception should make it clear that the Banking - Law Cartel have created this society and all its institutions to protect the banking secret.



**Another problematic aspect of our current economic system is that it compels us to work to generate money as the priority instead of to necessarily serve the needs of our community and society and thereby make a meaningful difference and fulfill our purpose.**

**The compulsion to generate money as the priority thwarts our human nature, which otherwise thrives when we are free to voluntarily pursue what inspires us, what is meaningful, and what truly contributes.**



## A new paradigm

- What if our monetary system is honest and transparent?
- What if *real* money, not debt money, creates equitable ways to distribute the wealth based on a meritocracy with a conscience?
- What if our economic system is based on cooperation and collaboration rather than competition?
- What if there is a monetary system that serves to benefit the community rather than bank shareholders?
- What if we understand that money as an agreement could be issued, without any costs nor interest, by *we, the people*, to facilitate the exchange of goods and services and to capitalize what we agree would be good?
- What if what we agree is good includes receiving the money we need to live as our right to the equitable distribution of the wealth we all create together?
- And what if we agree that we also have a right to the capital our capacities warrant so that we may pursue our purpose and bring our service and contribution to expression?

Money is a social technology that is issued by the sovereign to create the conditions wherein the people live. When we, the people, are the sovereign, we will issue money to create the conditions wherein we desire to live. Issuing money is governance. What do we desire?

## **Common Good has the capacity to create an economic system:**

- That is honest and transparent;
- Based on cooperation and collaboration (rather than competition);
- That serves to benefit the community (rather than bank shareholders);
- Based on money/credit, as an agreement, being issued, without any costs nor interest, by we, the people, to facilitate the exchange of goods and services and to capitalize what we agree would be good;
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  - our having a right to the capital our capacities warrant so that we may pursue our transcendent purpose and bring our service and contribution to expression.

**We could create such an economic system through Common Good!**

