

## **Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratory (MERL)** **MERL Philanthropy Committee**

### **COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT**

#### **Leave No Child Inside**

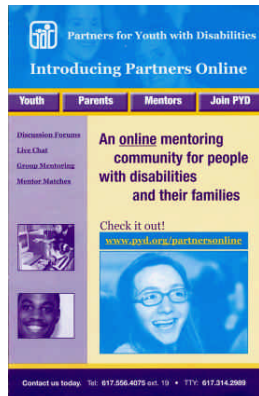
Since 1996, Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories has supported Outdoor Explorer's efforts to provide adventure education opportunities for youth with disabilities. MERL and its employees have contributed \$22,000 over the years; with Foundation matching grants factored in, the investment totals \$44,000.

MERL's partnership with OE was recognized with the 1996 Volunteer Project of the Year Award. Building on MERL's initiative, MEAF has made significant investments in other organizations that educate youth about the environment, enhance their employment skills, and provide opportunities for youth with and without disabilities to explore nature together. The Minnesota-based

**Wilderness Inquiry** received \$173,000 in MEAF to help Boy Scout and Girl Scout councils more fully include youth with disabilities in outdoor activities. This project in turn led to further collaboration with Scouting groups and a MEAF-funded \$250,000 joint initiative, called *Include All Girls*, between the **Girl Scouts of the USA** and **Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital**. The combined investment by MERL and MEAF in inclusive environmental activities has impacted the lives of thousands of young people, and enabled many of them to reach new heights.



#### **Act Locally to Grow Globally**



Soon after MEAF was established in 1991, a partnership was formed between the Foundation, Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories (MERL), and the Boston-based **Partners for Youth with Disabilities (PYD)**. PYD matches young people with disabilities with adult mentors who have similar disabilities so the youth have positive role models who understand their challenges. Over the years, MERL has been a steadfast supporter of PYD, contributing nearly \$50,000 (including MEAF matches). In addition to matching MERL's donations, MEAF has provided a number of National Grants to PYD -- becoming the organization's first national funder -- with the combined MERL/MEAF investment in PYD totaling \$450,000. With this support, PYD has become a national leader in promoting mentoring opportunities for youth with disabilities, launching its National Center for Mentoring Youth with Disabilities in 2006.

### **BACKGROUND**

The MERL Philanthropy Committee is a dedicated group of Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories, Inc. employees in Cambridge, MA. It is one of 11 Mitsubishi Electric company locations in the U.S. with a philanthropy committee that organizes fundraisers and volunteer activities to support charities in the local community.

#### **MERL Philanthropy at a glance**

Company:	Mitsubishi Electric Research Laboratories
Location:	Cambridge, MA
Established:	1995
Company Donations:	\$104,089
MEAF Matches:	\$111,044

**TOTAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT TO DATE:  
\$215,133 + 317 VOLUNTEER HOURS**



The Committee is supported by the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (MEAF), which matches donations raised and hours given by employee volunteers. MEAF's mission

is to help young people with disabilities maximize their potential and participation in society, and the MERL Committee supports this mission through its community-based efforts.

For more information visit: [www.MEAF.org](http://www.MEAF.org).