

# Real Impact Report

#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We know that our shareholders invest with Praxis Mutual Funds for something different – something deeper that connects them with others who want to make an impact beyond contributing to their own well-being. In this report, our team shares the many ways your participation

with Praxis creates ripples of positive impact in communities around the world.

In a social climate that sows division and mistrust, Praxis is grateful to attract investors with a wide range of convictions so that together they can contribute to a better future. Whether motivated by traditional views that emphasize personal morality expressed through screening or engagement that addresses systemic social and environmental challenges, we believe you will find something that matches your interests.

We are proud to celebrate 30 years of serving you, our investors, as you align your faith, values and investments in a way that makes a difference.

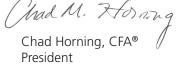
In this fourth edition of our annual impact report, we are proud to share

with you the scope and depth of the impact generated by our investments through the ImpactX framework. This is the lens we have developed to organize the seven impact activities we pursue to promote lasting change around the world. Some activities, like screening, are impactful to individuals because they can align their deeply held beliefs with their investments. Others pursue external impacts, like when Praxis allocates a portion of fund assets to community development investments that serve individuals, communities and sectors where investment is needed most.

At Praxis we are proud to celebrate 30 years of serving you, our investors, as you align your faith, values and investments in a way that makes a difference. I am grateful for our dedicated staff who have been essential to the success of our funds and who continue to strive to deepen our impact each year.

Thank you for joining Praxis so that together we can continue to make real impact.







## Contents

- 2 Impact highlights
- 3 From the president
- 4 UN SDG overview
- 5 ImpactX overview
- 6 Values + ESG screening
- 7 ESG integration
- 8 Proxy voting
- 10 Impact bonds
- 12 Company engagement
- 14 Advocacy and education
- 16 Community investing
- 18 Reflection

# Addressing global inequality, sustainability and peace

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a useful lens to view progress on some of the world's most pressing problems. The 17 goals enable key global actors, such as investors and governments, to track progress toward achievement by 2030.





































We are pleased to share a selection of ways our funds are promoting

Fund	SDG	🕏 YourStake	YourStake percentage
Praxis Impact Bond Fund	2 HUNGER	Access to Nutrition score: How well food and beverage companies provide access to nutritious products.	20% More
	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	<b>Product Safety Violations:</b> Penalties paid to the U.S. government or U.K. government for unsafe products.	89% Less
Growth Index Fund	14 BELOW WATER	Toxic Water Pollution: Amount (weighted by toxicity) of toxic water pollution from facilities in the U.S. and European Union.	63% Less
	15 UPE ON LAND	<b>Environmental Violations:</b> Penalties paid to the U.S. Government for harming the environment.	80% Less
Value Index Fund	7 ATTORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	Clean Energy Companies: Companies with the highest clean economy revenues, and pureplay clean energy companies.	12% More
	15 UFE ON LAND	<b>Deforestation Producers Exposure:</b> Agricultural commodity producers and traders linked to deforestation.	47% Less
Small Cap Index Fund	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN EMERCY	Fossil Fuel Industry Exposure: Companies operating in the fossil fuel industry, and utilities powered by fossil fuels.	21% Less
	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	<b>Diversity score:</b> How well a company creates a diverse and inclusive culture, according to employee reviews.	9% More
International Index Fund	13 CLIMATE ACTION	Single Use Plastics Companies: Companies that produce plastic.	44% Less
	16 PAGE, RUSTINE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	Bribery, Corruption, and Fraud Violations: Penalties paid to the U.S. government or U.K. government for bribery, corruption, and fraud.	38% Less

promoting the inclusion and

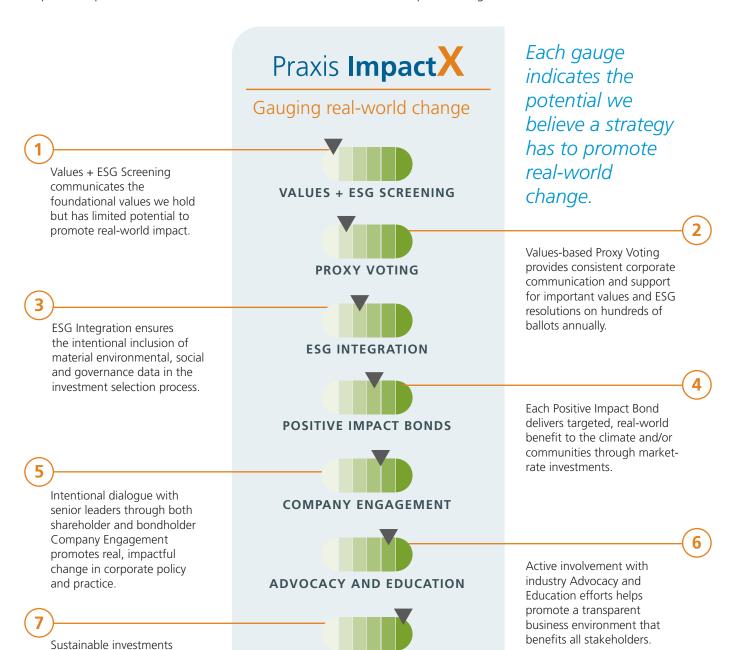
development of underserved communities through

Community Investing offer the most potential for real-world change where it is needed most.

# How do we understand real-world impact in investing?

There are many ways to seek impact, but they aren't created equal. At Praxis Mutual Funds, we utilize seven different impact strategies – which we call **ImpactX** – across our funds. Many investors are familiar with screening – but that's only the beginning of the story.

ImpactX helps investors understand the relative difference various impact strategies can make.



**COMMUNITY INVESTING** 



# Demonstrating values through investment choices

Praxis applies screens to our investments to reflect our principles. We exclude companies whose products or practices are most antithetical to our values, while also accepting that no company is perfect. Our screens help define what we stand for, and when we avoid companies that are less congruent with our beliefs, we make more room for companies better aligned with our values. In this section's chart, you can see how our screens currently impact our investment universe.



Our Values + ESG screening approach reflects our faith that God is at work in the real world. Being thoughtful with our restrictive screens allows us to invest in and work with promising companies while avoiding those whose activities run counter to our beliefs. The world is complex, and choices aren't easy, but we want to be faithful to our call.

Dale Snyder | Portfolio Manager

		Percent excluded of index market value			
		S&P 500 Growth Index	S&P 500 Value Index	S&P Small Cap	Morningstar Global ex-US TME
ESG Screens	Environment	1.1%	3.0%	3.3%	3.7%
	Social	0.2%	2.5%	1.4%	3.0%
	Governance	0.0%	1.1%	0.3%	0.9%
Value Screens	Adult entertainment	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
	Alcohol	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	2.4%
	Abortion	1.0%	3.4%	0.3%	2.9%
	Cannabis	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
	Firearms	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
	Gambling	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%
	Military weapons	2.1%	10.0%	1.8%	4.5%
	Nuclear power	0.1%	0.9%	0.0%	0.4%
	Predatory lending	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
	Tobacco	0.2%	0.9%	0.3%	0.6%
Total		5.0%	22.5%	8.3%	19.5%

As of Dec. 31, 2023



### 2023 YourStake data: Praxis Growth Index Fund

100% less tobacco producer exposure. Companies involved in the production of tobacco.

71% less industrial GHG emissions. Amount of greenhouse gas emissions from facilities in North America and European Union.

Sample comparison to their benchmarks.

# Embracing the good in shades of gray

Our screens typically exclude 8-20% of companies in our stock indices. We seek to avoid companies that don't fit our values, but we can't screen out every company with a minor involvement with an issue of concern.

Zero-tolerance exclusions would require restricting companies if just 0.1% of their revenues come from a business that isn't aligned with someone's values. But a company with 0.1% of tobacco revenue is not primarily in the business of producing tobacco. At Praxis, we focus on excluding companies that generate meaningful revenues from businesses that don't fit with our values.

An exhaustive exclusion list would also limit our ability to promote real-world change. Every company exists within shades of gray; none are perfect. We use corporate engagement and other impact strategies to promote real-world change through many of the "imperfect" companies we hold.

At Praxis, we take the responsibility to steward both our impact and our financial returns very seriously.



# Integrating ESG data strengthens impact choices

ESG data integration is imperative to our management of the Praxis Mutual Funds as we live out our stewardship investing core values. Environmental, social and governance data meshes well with our focus on care for Creation and communities. For the Praxis equity mutual funds, we use the data as part of the equity optimization process. Managers of the Praxis Impact Bond Fund integrate the information as part of the security research process.



We integrate ESG data into our investment process, and it strengthens our analysis of a company and its management. Going deeper than profit margins and leverage, ESG risks are real, and companies that ignore them are likely to deal with future issues that could have been mitigated.

Chris Woods | Fixed Income Investment Manager

## The value(s) of ESG Integration

With all the noise surrounding "ESG" today, it's easy to lose sight of the reasons so many asset owners and investment managers around the world have embraced environmental, social, and governance data. The reasons are actually more mundane – and important – than many people think.

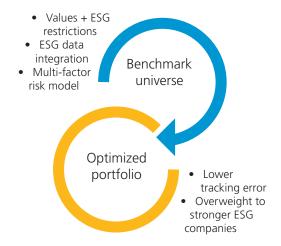
Attention to the material relevance of the environmental, social and governance practices of companies has existed for decades. As our world has gotten smaller and our global society more complex and interdependent, these issues have grown in importance – particularly to investors. The marketplace has responded, not with a common agenda, but with an increasingly organized and sophisticated approach to data on a wide range of corporate practices and their impact on people and the planet.

Each manager uses this data to add *value* by avoiding risks and identifying opportunities material to financial performance in their own way. Similarly, socially concerned investors use this data to better understand the *values* represented by the business involvement as well as the business practices of companies. In both cases, the integration of ESG risk and opportunity data serves to empower investment managers to make decisions aligned with their investment philosophy.

# ESG Integration for the Praxis equity index funds

The Praxis equity index funds use Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating data as part of the optimization process. The optimization process includes consideration of ESG scores when determining overweights and underweights in the funds.

The result is a tendency for the funds to overweight companies with stronger ESG aspects while keeping tracking error within an acceptable range.





## 2023 YourStake data: Praxis Impact Bond Fund

39% less wage and hour violations. Penalties paid to the U.S. government or U.K. government for exploiting wage laborers.

70% less air pollution in poor communities. Amount that minority communities are exposed to toxic air pollution from industrial facilities in the U.S., using Census and EPA data.



# Speaking to companies through our votes

Proxy voting is a fundamental privilege and responsibility of stock ownership. Praxis holds stock in more than 1,000 companies in our funds, and we annually vote on nearly 18,000 unique proposals that appear on corporate ballots.

Many are routine proposals necessary for regular corporate operations, such as voting for board members, while others offer us the opportunity to provide input on significant issues of environmental, social or governance concern. Each ballot may include a mix of company-sponsored and shareholder-sponsored proposals.



Proxy voting offers us the opportunity to express our values and concerns to all of the companies we own on a wide range of issues. While some may dismiss proxy voting as perfunctory, company management pays close attention to the will of shareholders and often enacts policy changes based on shareholder support.

Chris Meyer | Stewardship Investing Advocacy and Research Manager

# Say-on-pay proposals provide an opportunity for communication with companies

One way Praxis represents our values on the issue of income and wealth inequality is through our votes on executive compensation packages. Management Say-on-Pay proposals are an opportunity for investors to weigh in on the compensation awarded to companies' top executives. These proposals are required to appear on the ballot of most U.S. companies annually.

Voting against a Say-on-Pay proposal is a signal we can send to a company when we believe its top executive compensation policies are excessive, there is a misalignment between CEO pay and company performance, problematic pay practices, or poor communication with shareholders on compensation issues.

During the 2023 proxy season, Praxis voted on 1,172 Say-on-Pay proposals, voting in favor of 58% and against 42% of them. Praxis voted against the executive compensation packages at Amazon, Apple, and JPMorgan Chase in 2023, to name a few examples.

According to ISS, a leading provider of proxy voting services, in the past year median CEO pay levels in S&P 500 and Russell 3000 companies decreased for the first time since 2015. This may explain why fewer Say-on-Pay proposals failed in 2023. However, average support levels for these proposals extends a downward trend as investors, including Praxis, scrutinize CEO pay levels.

Praxis will continue to carefully analyze corporate pay packages and vote against those we believe are egregious. Our actions reflect our core values of exhibiting responsible management practices and demonstrating a concern for justice in a global society.

As of Dec. 31, 2023, the Praxis Growth Index Fund has invested 4.92% of its assets in Amazon and 14.22% in Apple; the Praxis Value Index fund has invested 0.07% in Apple and 2.85% in JPMorgan Chase; and the Praxis Impact Bond Fund has invested 0.35% of its assets in Apple and 0.56% in JPMorgan Chase. Fund holdings are subject to change. To obtain holdings as of the most previous quarter, visit praxismutualfunds.com.

2023 Praxis general proxy voting statistics

1,412 total meetings.

82%

votes with management recommendations.

17,976

total proposals voted.

18%

votes against management recommendations.



## 2023 Praxis support of key proposals

- Praxis voted unanimously in favor of proposals asking companies for reports on their climate policies and proposals asking them to set robust greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.
- Praxis unanimously supported proposals calling for audits of potentially discriminatory policies and proposals requesting actions to close the gender pay gap.
- Praxis backed proposals seeking transparency in corporate political contributions and lobbying expenditures 90% of the time.
- Praxis voted for **individual directors** 80% of the time.
- Praxis voted for **management say on pay** proposals 58% of the time.

## **Meetings by sector**



# Investors make change by filing company proposals

Members of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) filed over 450 proposals in 2023, ranging in subject from human rights and child labor to environmental stewardship and political lobbying. Seven proposals – also known as resolutions – received majority support, while many others received substantial support.

Praxis Mutual Funds has been an ICCR member for more than two decades and collaborates with other ICCR investors to engage companies on social and environmental risks resulting from corporate operations and policies.

Praxis co-filed three proposals in the past year, including one filed at Morgan Stanley on climate transition planning that was withdrawn for a commitment. Resolutions at McDonald's on antibiotics and Amazon on racial and gender pay gaps went to a vote and have led to discussions with the companies.

As of Dec. 31, 2023, the Praxis Growth Index Fund has invested 4.92% of its assets in Amazon and 0.40% in McDonald's; the Praxis Value Index Fund has invested 0.65% of its assets in McDonald's and 0.59% in Morgan Stanley; and the Praxis Impact Bond Fund has invested 0.48% of its assets in Morgan Stanley. Fund holdings are subject to change. To obtain holdings as of the most previous quarter, visit praxismutualfunds.com.



# The positive impact bond market tops \$820 billion globally in 2023

The Praxis Impact Bond Fund continues to add new and innovative positive impact bond investments to the fund. Positive impact bonds make a specific positive impact on Creation and/or communities both domestically and internationally. The fund invests in green, social and sustainability bonds and many non-labeled bonds that fit into those general categories. Our goal is impact, and we want to buy as many positive impact bonds as possible while still making investments that meet our yield and diversification criteria.

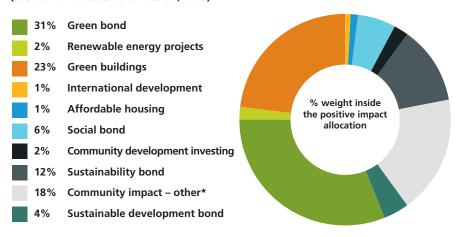


Total worldwide issuance of positive impact bonds was slightly lower in 2023 than 2022. Praxis continues to find innovative bonds such as a bank-issued social bond which supported 267 developments and 22,000 affordable housing units or a consumer company issuing a sustainability bond that will support a healthy planet and thriving people.

Benjamin Bailey, CFA® | Vice President of Investments, Senior Fixed Income Manager

# Praxis Impact Bond Fund's allocations to positive impact bonds

(36% of Fund assets as of Dec. 31, 2023)

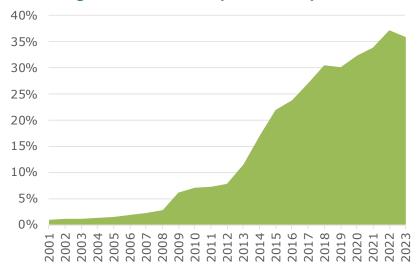


Positive impact bonds make a specific positive impact on Creation and/or communities, domestically or internationally. This chart shows the diversification among the different types of impacts that we make. We purchase many different types of bonds from agencies, corporates and securitized products, and we attempt to make different types of impact with a meaningful percentage of those purchases.

\*Community Impact – other includes CDFI, education, health, women investments, impact, and philanthropy bonds.

As of Dec. 31, 2023

## Percentage of the Fund in positive impact bonds



Positive impact bond purchases in the Fund began over two decades ago, and they have grown into a meaningful portion of the Fund over the last decade. We continue to find impactful bonds across multiple different sectors that add impact and diversification to the Fund.



## Fixed income alignment with the UN SDGs

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are another way for Praxis to view impacts that positive impact bonds have on the world. The table below shows the breakout among the different SDGs. The largest portion of holdings in the Praxis Impact Bond Fund is invested in projects that help accomplish UN SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy.

#### **Building the future**

\$204 million invested in:

- Energy efficiency.
- Sustainable infrastructure.
- Lower carbon emissions projects.

# 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION















#### **Ending poverty**

\$57 million invested in:

- Affordable housing.
- Help end hunger.
- Make education more accessible.









#### **Reducing inequality**

**\$40 million** invested in:

- Gender equity.
- Healthcare accessibility.







### **Supporting peaceful communities**

\$3 million invested in:

- Promoting peace and inclusive societies.
- Global partnerships.





# Supporting sustainable building through Federal Realty green bonds

Federal Realty is a real estate investment trust that focuses on delivering sustainable growth through investing in communities. In April 2023, they issued a \$350 million green bond that matures in 2028. This is the second green bond that Federal Realty has issued, and the Praxis Impact Bond Fund has been involved in both purchases.

The use of proceeds for Federal Realty's green bond potentially includes investments in acquisitions of buildings, building developments or redevelopments, renovations in existing buildings and tenant improvement projects. The projects must have received or are expected to receive a LEED Gold or Platinum certification (or similar standard).

As Federal Realty focuses on their mission to continue to create sustainable growth, they have developed five key objectives: advance decarbonization, strengthen resilience, connect communities, empower teams and govern responsibly.

The Praxis Impact Bond Fund invests in many bonds that finance impactful projects around the world.



# Accelerating positive corporate change

Company engagement means using the rights and privileges conferred by stock or bond ownership to promote corporate change. It can take many forms, such as writing letters or filing shareholder proposals, all the way up to dialogue with company management. At Praxis, we consider productive, direct dialogue with companies to be the pinnacle of company engagement. We are excited to share some of our highlights from the past year where engagement led to real, impactful change in corporate policy and practice.



As investors, we want the companies we hold to be profitable. But we also believe that they can do better, through their policies and performance, to help the world thrive. It's heartening to see companies listening more than ever to concerned shareholders – and making positive changes.

Chris Meyer | Stewardship Investing Advocacy and Research Manager



## **Prioritizing worker safety**

In April of 2013, the Rana Plaza building collapsed in Bangladesh, killing 1,138 workers and injuring over 2,500. It was an avoidable tragedy and exposed the human rights risks of outsourcing apparel manufacturing to factories with inadequate safeguards to protect workers.

In response, the Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh was signed on May 13, 2013, which is a legally binding agreement between global brands and unions to reform the sector and create safe factories.

Praxis joined other investors, working through ICCR, to press global companies to join the Accord. As a result of this collective action, more than 2 million workers in Bangladesh now work under safer conditions than they did a decade ago.



Praxis has been a member of ICCR since 1996.

## 2023 engagement highlights: Addressing Inequality

Dollar General	Worker health and safety	Engagement started with shareholders on fair and safe working conditions for employees.	3 OCCO MELTIN 8 ECCON MOST AND MELL SERIES CONSIDER CHOSTIN
ConocoPhillips	Indigenous rights	Continued expanding mutually beneficial relationships with the Indigenous communities where it operates.	8 BEENT WORK AND 10 NEQUESTS CHOOME SERVIN
Target	Human rights policy	Progress made on human rights through Target's 2022 Human Rights Impact Assessment and on-going monitoring and compliance practices.	8 SICON MINICAL SECTION SICON SICO
Delta Airlines	Human trafficking	Continued action to address human trafficking through employee training and policy action.	8 ECCHINOR AND THOSE STORE TO THE THACLASTICE NOTIFIED NO
Apple	Online child exploitation	Outreach with shareholders beginning after proposal filed.	3 AND WILL REPORT  16 PLACE ANTIER  INCIDENCE  INCIDENC
AT&T	Online child exploitation	New progress made on identifying and addressing online child exploitation through new technology and industry collaboration.	3 DOES WELL SING  AND WILL SING  THOSE ARTER  AND THOSE ARTER  SECURITION  SEC
Verizon	Online child exploitation	New progress made on identifying and addressing online child exploitation through new technology and industry collaboration.	3 OCCO MELTIN  3 AND WILL SERIE  16 MAD STRING NOTIFIEDS

## 2023 engagement highlights: Environmental Sustainability

American Electric Power	Climate change - utilities	On track to reach an 80% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions from 2005 levels by 2030.	7 CLIAN INSTALL AND 13 CLIANT ACTION 1
AES	Climate change - utilities	Generation portfolio carbon intensity in line with a below 2°C scenario.	7 AUTOMATICA TO THE TOTAL
Duke Energy	Climate change - utilities	Committed to carbon emissions reductions of 50% from 2020 levels by 2030.	7 AUGUANDEN 13 CAMPI  13 ACRES
NiSource	Climate change - utilities	On course for 60% or more electricity generation from renewable sources by 2030.	7 APPORABLE MO 13 CLAMPER  TO CLAMPERS  TO C
Southern Company	Climate change - utilities	Committed to carbon emissions reductions of 50% from 2020 levels by 2030.	7 STURNMENT AND 13 CLAMINT CLARINGTON 14 CLARINGTON 15
ConocoPhillips	Climate change - oil and gas	Made progress on Scope 3 emissions reductions.	7 ATTORNAL IND 13 CLIMIT ACTION 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10
Bank of America	Climate change - banks	Beginning dialogues with shareholders on climate transition financing.	9 NOGERIA NOVORTHAN 13 GAMEN 13 ACRES
Citigroup	Climate change - banks	Beginning dialogues with shareholders on climate transition financing.	9 NOTIFIC WOUNDS
Morgan Stanley	Climate change - banks	Beginning dialogues with shareholders on climate transition financing.	9 NOTH SHOULD 13 CAUST
McDonald's	Antibiotics	Established policies to reduce the use of antibiotics throughout its global beef and pork supply chains.	3 and mill eller  12 mayorani and modernina
BRF	Biodiversity	Engagement with shareholders on biodiversity, waste, and pollution risks and opportunities in its agricultural practices.	12 ISTOCRIL INCOME INCO



# Banking on the low carbon transition

Praxis Mutual Funds has joined with other investor partners to engage large banks on climate change and the low carbon transition. This new advocacy program is an extension of our continuing advocacy with power companies.

Praxis believes the natural environment is a finite resource and a gift from God. We pursue engagement on climate change as a faith-based response to our role as stewards of Creation. We are reaching out to banks to support and encourage them to enable the low carbon transition and finance the move toward sustainable energy.

Banks are connected to virtually every sector of our economy, and they wield significant influence. Banks can play a critical role in limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius – the predominant scientific benchmark for avoiding the most serious outcomes of climate change.

While there are many issues to speak with banks about, investors are starting with the following:

- Net zero carbon commitments and implications.
- Greening lending portfolios.
- Climate risks and opportunities in real estate.
- Renewable energy financing.

As these dialogues evolve, topics will expand and new issues will be added. To this point, Praxis has engaged Citigroup and Morgan Stanley, and we are also planning to engage Bank of America and JPMorgan Chase.

As of Dec. 31, 2023 the Praxis Value Index fund has invested 1.38% of its assets in Bank of America, 0.65% in Citigroup, 2.85% in JPMorgan Chase, and 0.59% in Morgan Stanley; and the Praxis Impact Bond Fund has invested 0.55% of its assets in Bank of America, 0.31% in Citigroup, 0.56% in JPMorgan Chase, and 0.48% in Morgan Stanley. Fund holdings are subject to change. To obtain holdings as of the most previous quarter, visit praxismutualfunds.com.



# Building the sustainable investing industry – together

Legislative and regulatory rules provide critical foundations for the work of responsible investors and the companies we invest in. Using our voice in these ways encourages policies that support positive investor returns and better outcomes for society and the planet we share.

We don't do this work alone – partners like US SIF: The Sustainable Investment Forum, Ceres, and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility help us understand these important issues and act in support of common-sense rules and regulation. Working in community underscores both the value and values in "Investing together, impacting the world."

We are excited to share some of our highlights from the past year where engagement led to real, impactful change in corporate policy and practice.



Our work does not happen in a vacuum. Our ability to manage our investments and the impact they have on the world is shaped by the rules and regulations of our industry. Greater access to information for both companies and investment managers leads to better financial, environmental and social outcomes for all stakeholders and the planet itself.

Mark Regier | Vice President of Stewardship Investing



### **Keeping ESG in perspective**

One of our seven ImpactX strategies is helping regulatory, industry, and other key decision makers understand how a transparent business environment benefits all stakeholders. Addressing the rising confusion around ESG (environmental, social, governance) data in investing has become an important priority.

ESG is not a philosophy or an agenda. ESG is risk-focused – constantly growing and changing – and designed to help investors of all perspectives understand the relevance and materiality of environmental, social, and governance issues on their portfolios.

The emergence of ESG data has helped Praxis, and institutional investors around the world, manage the rapidly evolving risks and opportunities of our investments in new ways. But exactly how this data is used and the values that are supported depends on the manager.

Faith-based investors should take an active role in educating leaders on both the potential and the limitations involved with ESG criteria. We take this responsibility seriously and believe this information not only supports our prudent investment processes but informs our desire to manage the impact our funds have on Creation and communities.



# 2023 engagement highlights:

## **Industry advocacy and education**

DOL ESG rule	U.S. House of Representatives	Participated in investor letter to Congress in support of the Department of Labor's ruling allowing ESG factors to be considered in ERISA plans and opposing actions that would take away investor choice.
Freedom to invest responsibly	U.S. Government	Joined investor statement where signatories reminded policymakers that they must be free to consider all material financial risks and opportunities to plan for the long-term and build a stronger, more resilient economy.
14a-8 Rule	SEC	Supported an investor lawsuit challenging the SEC's restrictive revisions to rule 14a-8, which governs the filing of shareholder resolutions, that were enacted in 2020.

## **Key partners**

Praxis works with leading national and global organizations to educate decision-makers on the importance of prudent, impact-oriented, values-driven investment practices.









# **Understanding the "Steps to Transformation"**

This year, Praxis Mutual Funds created a public, educational webinar on how shareholder advocacy can promote transformative corporate change.

We don't believe corporate engagement is about angry letters or "throwing your weight around." It's about putting our shoulder into solving some of the world's most challenging, most important problems. It isn't easy. It isn't quick. But it is good, hard, holy work.

In this webinar, Chris Meyer, Praxis Stewardship Investing Research and Advocacy Manager, joined Laura Berry, Praxis Trustee, in sharing stories and detailing the processes of corporate engagement.

If you missed our educational webinar and want to discover the many steps involved in creating real world change through shareholder advocacy, please visit our site:

praxismutualfunds.com/ transformation.



# Financing real impact in communities around the globe

At Praxis, we partner with various financial intermediaries that use innovative finance and collaborative approaches to achieve great impact. Over the last 20 years, we have been channeling approximately 1% of each mutual fund into deep-impact, concessionary investments that bring direct benefits to low income and underserved communities here in the U.S. and around the world.



When we care about community, we share in God's passion. There are many on the margins facing challenges when it comes to accessing healthcare, education, capital, agricultural and environmental stability, and so much more. I am delighted that through community investing, Praxis supports innovative finance tools that can successfully and positively impact these big world problems

Stella Tai | Stewardship Investing Impact and Analysis Manager

# **Growing cooperatives and health equity through impact investments**

Achieving the dream of sustaining a more just, equitable, and effective health care system is key to Obran Cooperative's mission. Through the acquisition of Physicians Choice Home Health, a home health care provider in Los Angeles, Obran Cooperative hopes to fundamentally improve health outcomes for its community. Obran Cooperative is a company that transitioned into worker-ownership with a goal of expanding its footprint in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. An added benefit of this was increased access to quality home health care across Southern California, especially in BIPOC communities.

Since caregivers are often part of the communities they work in, empowering these caregivers with ownership is actually placing ownership into the hands of the community. This informed participation in leadership decisions is fundamental to the underlying principles of the cooperative movement.

Cooperatives, or co-ops, are member-owned organizations and companies, meaning that the workers own the business, participate in its management, and benefit from its financial success. The use of non-dilutive capital, which does not take ownership away from employees, took place in the form of an equity investment. Once paid off, the worker-owners will retain full ownership of the business. Praxis supports the work of Obran Cooperative through its investments in Capital Impact Partners (CIP).

### **Total CDI investments**

~1%

of each fund invested in CDI.

Praxis holds

**\$22.6** million

as of December 2023.

Praxis purchased

\$55 million since 2000.

Praxis purchased

\$2.5 million

Capital Impact Partners in 2023.

Praxis purchased

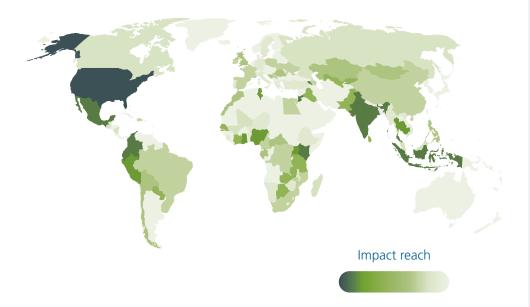
**\$2.1** million

Calvert Impact in 2023.



### Global impact of community investments

Our impact partners, Calvert Impact and Capital Impact Partners (CIP), channel investments to national and international markets that have been left out of traditional financing with the goal of bringing transformational change to the sectors and communities served.





Calvert Impact is a global nonprofit investment firm that helps investors and financial professionals invest in impact-oriented solutions that people and the planet need.



Founded in 1982, Capital Impact Partners is a leading nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that invests in underserved communities across the U.S.

# Praxis supports small businesses in the Middle East and North Africa

The SANAD Fund for MSME is an impact investment fund dedicated to supporting micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the Middle East region by providing muchneeded funding, which results in creating inclusive economic growth, jobs, and prosperity for borrowers.

SANAD, which means "support" in Arabic, has been operating since 2011 in the MSME sector that accounts for nearly two-thirds of GDP in the Middle East and North Africa. This sector is a cornerstone of Arab economies, accounting for over 90% of all businesses and almost three-quarters of employment in the region.

Since inception, SANAD has partnered with over 30 local financial institutions to funnel more than \$600 million to MSMEs throughout the MENA region to foster economic development and job creation, including youth employment, agriculture, affordable housing, and innovations in finance and financial technologies.

Bara'a al-Thawra (pictured above) is the founder of Tabeetna Organic Beauty Products. She established the business in 2013. As the business has grown, she has gotten funding from SANAD to purchase high quality ingredients, hire staff, and meet growing customer demand. Praxis supports the work of SANAD through its investments in Calvert Impact.



### Reflection

# Impact investing and faith: The journey starts with "why"

#### Stella Tai

Stewardship Investing Impact and Analysis Manager

The foundation of my work as an impact investing professional is my faith. It is the "why" that inspired and guided me on this path. I have that in common with tens of thousands of others around the globe who are working, both as individuals and organizations, for positive change. Here are some ways that "why" makes a profound difference.

#### "Why" drives the work

Consider Community Development Financial Institutions. CDFIs focus on providing fair financing to borrowers whom mainstream finance wouldn't traditionally reach. In this way, they use the tools of finance to help address poverty in underserved and underrepresented communities.

### "Why" drives investment selection

For many faith-based investors the goal isn't merely to generate financial returns but also to strive to make a real-world impact, motivated by a sense of responsibility to love one's neighbor as yourself.

#### "Why" puts the focus on community

To love our neighbors as ourselves, we need to know our neighbors. Community Development Investing (CDI) promotes organizations working collaboratively with local communities who know their unmet needs best, and together coming up with appropriate solutions that address challenges and respond to those often left on the margins.

#### "Why" enriches our personal journeys

Witnessing the transformative power of faith and investing is a profound experience. Visiting various impact sites, related to Praxis CDI investments, I've seen God's presence in how these community finance organizations are able to help communities flourish economically.

Working in the field of faith-driven impact investing is as rewarding as it is challenging. At the core of our mission is a sentiment that echoes Matthew 22:39, where Jesus teaches us to "love your neighbor as yourself." By marrying faith with action, we can contribute to a future where prosperity and opportunity are not limited to a select few but are accessible to all.

The S&P 500 Growth Index represents the growth companies (defined by sales growth, earnings change to price and momentum) of the S&P 500 Index, a universe of large capitalization companies in the U.S. equity market. Indexes are unmanaged and do not incur fees. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The MSCI ACWI (All Country World) ex US Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets, excluding the United States. The index consists of 44 country indices comprising 23 developed and 21 emerging market country indices.

Indexes are unmanaged, do not incur fees and cannot be invested in directly.

Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index is an index of widely held fixed-income securities often used as a proxy for the bond market. It is comprised of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. agency bonds, mortgage-backed bonds, and higher-grade corporate bonds.

Investing involves risk, including potential loss of principal.

The Fund's stewardship investing strategy could cause the fund to sell or avoid securities that may subsequently perform well, and the application of social screens may cause the fund to lag the performance of its index.

#### Important risk information

Equity securities (stocks) are more volatile and carry more risk than other forms of investments, including investments in high-grade fixed income securities. The net asset value per share of these funds will fluctuate as the value of the securities in the portfolio changes. Common stocks, and funds investing in common stocks, generally provide greater return potential when compared with other types of investments.

#### Praxis Value Index Fund

Value-based investments are subject to the risk that the broad market may not recognize their intrinsic value.

#### Praxis Growth Index Fund

Growth-based investments are subject to the risk that the broad market may overstate their intrinsic value.

#### Praxis International Index Fund

An investment in this Fund entails the special risks of international investing, including currency exchange fluctuation, government regulations, and the potential for political and economic instability. The Fund's share price is expected to be more volatile than that of a U.S.-only fund.

#### Praxis Impact Bond Fund

Bond funds will tend to experience smaller fluctuations in value than stock funds. However, investors in any bond fund should anticipate fluctuations in price, especially for longer-term issues and in environments of rising interest rates.

#### Praxis Small Cap Index Fund

This Fund is subject to small capitalization company risk. Small capitalization companies may not have the size, resources or other assets of large capitalization companies. These small capitalization companies may be more vulnerable to economic, market and competitive pressures than larger companies and therefore may respond differently to market events, and may be subject to greater market risks and fluctuations in value than larger companies. In addition, application of screens may cause the Fund to vary from the performance of its index and other small cap funds.

Fund holdings are subject to change and are not a recommendation to buy or sell any security.

Current and future holdings are subject to risk.

#### For the YourStake information

ESG (environment, social and governance) metrics may not provide a complete picture of the social impact as they are only as reliable as the amount of data available. They are based only on social impact, not financial performance. The metrics above have been compiled by YourStake, an independent third party. Praxis Mutual Funds has no direct or indirect affiliation to YourStake. Praxis pays a licensing fee to input data into YourStake's platform for benchmark comparisons.

For the Praxis Impact Bond Fund and YourStake information Information provided is as of Dec. 4, 2023, and may change over time based on market or other conditions. The metrics compare two selected portfolios, both chosen by Praxis: MIIIX, holdings as of Aug. 28, 2023, and Vanguard Total Bond Market Index ETF, holdings as of Aug. 28, 2023. MIIIX employs a broad-based intermediate term fixed income strategy. The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index is an index of widely held fixed-income securities often used as a proxy for the bond market. It is comprised of the U.S. Treasury and U.S.

agency bonds, mortgage-backed bonds and higher-grade corporate bonds. Indexes are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment. Vanguard Total Bond Market Index ETF, used as a comparison in the metrics above, is designed to mimic the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate index and provides data compatible with YourStake's platform. Vanguard Total Bond Market Index ETF is a passively managed fund. Its investment objectives, costs, liquidity, expenses, fluctuation of principal or return, and tax features differ from MIIIX. The displayed comparisons represent a dollar-weighted average based on the portfolio constituents with data coverage for each metric.

For the Praxis Growth Index Fund and YourStake information Information provided is as of Dec. 4, 2023, and may change over time based on market or other conditions. The metrics compare two selected portfolios, both chosen by Praxis: MMDEX, holdings as of Jan. 9, 2023, and Vanguard S&P 500 Growth Index fund, holdings as of July 31, 2023. MMDEX employs a broad-based large cap growth equity strategy. The S&P 500 Growth Index tracks the performance of stocks exhibiting the strongest growth characteristics using three factors: sales growth, the ratio of earnings change to price and momentum. Indexes are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment. Vanguard S&P 500 Growth Index fund, used as a comparison in the metrics above, is designed to mimic the S&P 500 Growth index and provides data compatible with YourStake's platform. Vanguard S&P 500 Growth Index fund is a passively managed fund. Its investment objectives, costs, liquidity, expenses, fluctuation of principal or return, and tax features differ from MMDEX. The displayed comparisons represent a dollar-weighted average based on the portfolio constituents with data coverage for each metric.

For the Praxis Value Index Fund and YourStake information Information provided is as of Dec. 4, 2023, and may change over time based on market or other conditions. The metrics compare two selected portfolios, both chosen by Praxis: MVIIX, holdings as of Aug. 28, 2023, and Vanguard S&P 500 Growth Index fund, holdings as of July 31, 2023. MVIIX employs a broad-based large cap value equity strategy. The S&P 500 Value Index is an index made up of the strongest value stocks on the S&P 500. Indexes are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment. Vanguard S&P 500 Value Index fund, used as a comparison in the metrics above, is designed to mimic the S&P 500 Value index and provides data compatible with YourStake's platform. Vanguard S&P 500 Value Index fund is a passively managed fund. Its investment objectives, costs, liquidity, expenses, fluctuation of principal or return, and tax features differ from MVIIX. The displayed comparisons represent a dollar-weighted average based on the portfolio constituents with data coverage for each metric.

For the Praxis Small Cap Index Fund and YourStake information Information provided is as of Dec. 4, 2023, and may change over time based on market or other conditions. The metrics compare two selected portfolios, both chosen by Praxis: MMSIX, holdings as of Aug. 28, 2023, and Vanguard S&P SmallCap 600 Index fund, holdings as of July 31, 2023. MMSIX employs a broad-based small cap blend equity strategy. The S&P SmallCap 600 is an index of small-cap stocks managed by Standard and Poor's. It tracks a broad range of small-sized companies that meet specific liquidity and stability requirements. Indexes are unmanaged and are not available or direct investment. Vanguard S&P SmallCap 600 Index fund, used as a comparison in the metrics above, is designed to mimic the S&P SmallCap 600 Index and provides data compatible with YourStake's platform. Vanguard S&P SmallCap 600 Index fund, its investment objectives, costs, liquidity, expenses, fluctuation of principal or return, and tax features differ from MMSIX. The displayed comparisons represent a dollar-weighted average based on the portfolio constituents with data coverage for each metric.

For the Praxis International Index Fund and YourStake information Information provided is as of Dec. 4, 2023, and may change over time based on market or other conditions. The metrics compare two selected portfolios, both chosen by Praxis: MPLIX, holdings as of Aug. 28, 2023, and Fidelity Global ex US Index fund, holdings as of June 27, 2023. MPLIX employs a broad-based international equity strategy. The MSCI ACWI ex USA Index captures large and mid-cap representation across 22 of 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries (excluding the U.S.) and 24 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. Indexes are unmanaged and are not available for direct investment. Fidelity Global ex US Index fund, used as a comparison in the metrics above, is designed to mimic the MSCI ACWI ex US Index and provides data compatible with YourStake's platform. Fidelity Global ex US Index fund is a passively managed fund. Its investment objectives, costs, liquidity, expenses, fluctuation of principal or return, and tax features differ from MPLIX. The displayed comparisons represent a dollar-weighted average based on the portfolio constituents with data coverage for each metric.

## **Products**

#### **Praxis Mutual Funds**

Praxis Impact Bond Fund
Praxis Growth Index Fund
Praxis Value Index Fund
Praxis Small Cap Index Fund
Praxis International Index Fund

### **Genesis Portfolios**

Genesis Growth Portfolio Genesis Balanced Portfolio Genesis Conservative Portfolio

### **Everence Money Market Account**

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Randy Beachy Senior Marketing Manager Praxis Mutual Funds is a leading faith-based, socially responsible family of mutual funds designed to help investors integrate their finances with their values. Praxis is the mutual fund family of Everence Financial®, a comprehensive faith-based financial services organization helping individuals, organizations and congregations. To learn more, visit praxismutualfunds.com and everence com.

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Consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before you invest. The fund's prospectus and summary prospectus contain this and other information. Call (800) 977-2947 or visit praxisinvests.com for a prospectus, which you should read carefully before you invest.

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