

# A Message to Our Shareholders

We are pleased to send the following 4Q 2024 portfolio update for the **Cromwell Greenspring Mid Cap Fund** ("GRSPX" or the "Fund"). The report from the Fund's sub-advisor, **Corbyn Investment Management**, includes a discussion of the Fund's performance and highlights several individual portfolio holdings. We hope you find the update to be informative.

Please feel free to call Cromwell Funds' Shareholder Line at 855.625.7333 if you have any questions regarding the Fund or if you would like to purchase additional fund shares.

Thanks for your support of the Cromwell Greenspring Mid Cap Fund. We value the trust you have placed in us to manage a portion of your investment portfolio.

Brian C. Nelson

President, Cromwell Funds

#### **4Q24 SHAREHOLDER LETTER**

## **Cromwell Greenspring Mid Cap Fund**

Dear Fellow Shareholders:

We are pleased to report strong performance for the Cromwell Greenspring Mid Cap Fund in 2024, with a total return of 16.08%, outperforming the Russell Midcap Index, which posted a 15.34% gain.

Our commitment remains focused on providing shareholders with attractive long-term, risk-adjusted returns. Over the past three years, GRSPX's equity investments have generated an annualized total return of approximately 6.8%, exceeding the 3.8% annualized return of the Russell Midcap Index. This outperformance

### Average Annual Total Returns (%)1

(As of 12/31/24)

	QTD	YTD	1 YR	3 YR	5 YR	10 YR
GRSPX	1.95	16.08	16.08	5.88	9.33	7.51
Russell Midcap Index	0.62	15.34	15.34	3.79	9.92	9.63
Blended Benchmark <sup>2</sup>	-0.72	11.08	11.08	5.11	6.97	6.76

Expense Ratio: 1.16%

The performance data shown represents past performance. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. The investment return and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance information through the most recent month end please call 855.625.7333 or visit thecromwellfunds.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Fund reorganized into the Cromwell Greenspring Mid Cap Fund on 8/11/23. Prior to the close of business on 8/11/23, the Fund was managed as a mixed-asset fund investing in both equities and fixed income securities and had income as a secondary investment objective of obtaining income. From 12/31/20 to 8/11/23, the Fund held between 11% and 20% in fixed income securities; from 5/31/14 to 12/31/20, the Fund held between 22% and 48% in fixed income securities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prior to the reorganization, the Fund's benchmark consisted of a weighted average comprised of 60% Russell 3000 Value Index, 30% ICE BAML 1-3yr BB Cash Pay High Yield Index, and 10% ICE BAML 3-month T-Bill Index (rebalanced monthly).



was achieved while subjecting shareholders to less volatility, evidenced by a 17% lower standard deviation. These results reflect our disciplined approach to investing in well-capitalized businesses that produce significant free cash flow and are led by strong management teams capable of effectively deploying capital to create long-term shareholder value.

#### **KEY CONTRIBUTORS TO PERFORMANCE**

This year's gains were broad-based across the portfolio, driven primarily by individual stock-specific themes. The two largest contributors—EMCOR Group and Primo Brands—benefited from secular trends and company-specific catalysts, exemplifying core tenets of our investment philosophy.

EMCOR Group, a long-time holding in the Fund, is a leader in mechanical and electrical construction and building services. Its shares rose significantly during the year, fueled by earnings that exceeded investors' expectations, with strong project execution contributing to higher profit margins. Robust demand was spurred by the ongoing expansion of domestic data centers and high-tech manufacturing facilities. This extremely well-managed company has strategically positioned itself—through both acquisitions and organic initiatives—to serve an important role in the development of several high-growth sectors.

The share price of Primo Brands more than doubled during the year as investors embraced the merger of the company with its closest peer, Blue Triton. The combination created the industry's largest bottled water company, featuring well-known brands such as Poland Spring, Pure Life, and Mountain Valley, distributed through retail and bulk delivery/exchange channels. The merger presents management with significant opportunities to create additional shareholder value by streamlining operations and leveraging a unique, diversified national distribution network. We remain confident that the key factors behind both companies' strong historical performances will support growth well into the future.

# Top 10 Holdings

(As of 12/31/24)

HOLDINGS	% OF NET ASSETS
EMCOR Group, Inc.	8.6
Republic Services, Inc.	8.6
KBR, Inc.	7.8
MYR Group, Inc.	5.2
Primo Brands Corp.	4.7
Johnson Controls International PLC	4.2
W.R. Berkley Corp.	3.4
DuPont de Nemours, Inc.	2.9
Ziff Davis, Inc.	2.5
EOG Resources, Inc.	2.5
TOTAL %	50.4

Our investments in solar energy, including Nextracker Inc. and Shoals Technology Group, were the largest detractors from performance during 2024. Industry-wide challenges such as regulatory delays, permitting issues, higher interest rates, and policy uncertainties hurt the earnings of these companies and injected uncertainties about the future. Despite these near-term headwinds, we increased our holdings during the year, viewing the reduced valuations as attractive opportunities. Both companies are market leaders, producing critical components that improve the productivity of utility-scale solar projects. They are supported by strong balance sheets, high free cash flow generation, and large order backlogs. We remain confident in their long-term growth prospects, driven by rising electricity demand and utility initiatives aimed at reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

#### **PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY**

GRSPX's largest purchases during the year included initiating a position in Teleflex, Inc. and increasing our holdings in Zimmer Biomet Holdings, Inc.

Teleflex designs, develops, manufactures, and supplies single-use medical devices used by healthcare providers in diagnostic, therapeutic,



critical care, and surgical procedures. Its share price came under pressure during 2024 due to what we believe are temporary challenges. We took advantage of the price decline to purchase shares at a discount to their typical valuation. As the company addresses these challenges and growth begins to reaccelerate, we expect the share price to recover. Supported by a strong balance sheet and high free cash flow generation, Teleflex's experienced and highly regarded management team has multiple avenues to enhance shareholder value, including share repurchases and strategic acquisitions.

Zimmer Biomet is a leading orthopedic device company specializing in products used in knee, hip, and shoulder replacements. Following several years of operational challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe Zimmer is now well-positioned to deliver revenue and earnings growth. In August 2023, the Company named a new CEO, who assumed leadership after serving as Zimmer's Chief Operating Officer since 2021. New management has been steadfast in articulating its strategy, emphasizing new product development and proactive management of its current product portfolio. Recent financial results indicate that these initiatives appear to be gaining traction, with anticipated cost reductions and product innovations expected to drive future earnings and cash flow growth. Heading into 2025, we view Zimmer's valuation relative to earnings and free cash flow to be quite attractive. We also expect management to strategically allocate its free cash flow toward share repurchases and selective tuck-in acquisitions, further enhancing shareholder value.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

As we enter 2025, mid-cap stocks appear attractively valued, especially compared to large-cap valuations. At the end of 2024, the Russell Midcap Index traded at a price-to-forward twelve months earnings ratio nearly 20% lower

than the S&P 500—one of the largest valuation disparities in over 20 years! While the timing of a shift is uncertain, we expect this gap to narrow as mid-cap companies continue to deliver earnings growth. Additionally, investors may increasingly turn to mid-cap stocks for diversification as the S&P 500 has become highly concentrated, with its top seven companies accounting for over onethird of the weighting of the index.

Equity markets are likely to remain sensitive to economic growth, inflation trends and interest rate fluctuations. In recent months, market volatility has increased as investors reassess the pace of the Federal Reserve's easing cycle and consider the potential implications of the new administration's policy priorities. While mindful of myriad macroeconomic flashpoints, we remain focused on company-specific factors that we believe can deliver strong, risk-adjusted returns in diverse market conditions. Our emphasis on domestically oriented companies with strong management teams, solid balance sheets, and robust free cash flow generation gives us confidence that GRSPX's portfolio holdings are well situated to adapt, as needed, to political and monetary shifts. We will continue to use periods of market volatility to upgrade the portfolio, striving to maximize the potential for attractive long-term performance.

Respectfully,

Charles vK. Carlson, CFA

Portfolio Manager

Caldal

President, Corbyn Investment Management

Michael A. Goodman, CFA

Portfolio Manager

Senior Investment Analyst, Corbyn Investment Management



Investors should carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. For this and other information, please call 888.844.4110 for a prospectus. Read it carefully before investing or sending money.

Opinions expressed are subject to change, are not guaranteed and should not be considered recommendations to buy or sell any security. Fund holdings and/or sector allocations are subject to change at any time and are not recommendations to buy or sell any security. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

Certain information contained in this document constitute "forward-looking statements," which can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "anticipate," "project," "estimate," "forecast," "intend," "continue," "target," or "believe" or the negatives thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. Due to various risks and uncertainties, actual events or results or the actual performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated in such forward-looking statements.

Mutual fund investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Mid-capitalization companies may be subject to greater price volatility, significantly lower trading volumes, and cyclical, static or moderate growth prospects than equity securities of larger companies. The investment strategies, practices and risk analysis used may not produce the desired results.

The Russell Midcap Index measures the performance of the mid-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe, is a subset of the Russell 1000 Index, and includes approximately 800 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 3000 Value Index is composed of those companies among the largest 3000 US-incorporated equities by market capitalization that exhibit value characteristics such as lower price-to-book ratios and lower expected growth rates. This total return market index assumes that all cash distributions are reinvested, in addition to tracking the price movements. The ICE BAML 1-3 year BB Cash Pay High Yield Index, a subset of ICE BAML U.S. Cash Pay High Yield Index, consists of all securities rated BB- through BB+ by S&P with a remaining term to final maturity of 3 years or less. The ICE BAML U.S. 3-month T-Bill Index reflects the performance of purchasing a single T-Bill issue at the beginning of the month and holding it for a full month. Indices are unmanaged, are not available for investment and do not incur expenses. Free cash flow is the money left over after paying its operating expenses and capital expenditures. Price-to-earnings values a company's share price relative to its earnings per share. Standard deviation is a statistical measure of historical volatility.

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