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Resist Board Meeting, Sept. 11, 1994

Resist

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RESIST BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 1994
KEN HALE'S HOUSE


Emergency Grants given out since the last meeting: $200 to the International Indian Treaty Council (SF, CA) towards the expenses of a tour for Indian Peoples in the US on the U.N. Study on Treaties and Agreements by Indigenous Peoples; and $200 to the Fight the Right Project (Cambridge, MA) towards the expenses of mailings for a series of Fight the Right training seminars, since their parent organization (NGTLF) is in severe financial crisis.

Elections of officers for the Board: Louis Kampf remains President, Kate Cloud remains Vice President, and Nancy Wechsler's Title has been changed to Secretary/Treasurer (Chief Fiscal Officer).

GRANTS: We gave out a total of $17,735 to 19 groups. All groups that we funded were funded at the level requested. That leaves us with $4707 left over from previous board meetings to be used at upcoming meetings, if necessary. (We've now given out approximately $107,000 in grants, and still have two board meetings left before the end of the year!)

Gary Graham Justice Coalition (Houston, TX) This had been postponed from the previous meeting, and is still postponed due to the fact that this group has not yet sent a draft of the brochure/mailings that they requested funding for.

1. Appalachian Peace and Justice Network (Athens, OH) YES to a grant of $800 toward the expenses of their 14th annual Appalachian Ohio Peace Prize contest for area youth. Discussion: good group, but not wild about what money is going for. Mention to this group what Cape Cod Group (FOR) do with their essay contest. They do a similar project but they do it through the schools. Maybe suggest they get in touch with them.

2. Northwest Veterans for Peace (Portland, OR) YES to a grant of $600 toward the expenses of mailing their newsletter, Collateral Damage, on Persian Gulf Syndrome. Discussion: Sounds like good group.

3. Houston Committee for Youth and Nonmilitary Opportunities (Bellaire, TX) YES to a grant of $1000 for the design, printing, display and outreach costs of distributing their literature on nonmilitary opportunities for public high school students. We previously funded them.

4. Alternatives to the Military (Lincoln, NE) YES to a grant of $1000 for the research, design and production of a brochure about alternatives to the military for job training and college funding. Previously funded. Question raised as to whether or not any of these groups were connected up nationally. People thought not, except through the use of CCCO literature.

5. Priority Youth (Bristol, VT) NO GRANT. They had requested $500 for the expenses of workshops to empower disenfranchised youth to become legislative advocates and peer leaders. Discussion: They don't seem to know what they are doing. Seems pretty liberal. No left wing orientation at all. Decision: NO. Work wasn't developed enough to know if it would work. It wasn't clear from your proposal that the political content of your work is consistent with Resist priorities. If you feel your political priorities are consistent with ours, please feel free to come back to us in the future when your work is
6. Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (Cambridge, MA) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of their celebration and coordination of Gay and Lesbian History Month in New England public schools. Pam supported efforts. Says it fills niche.

7. Network for Battered Lesbians (Boston, MA) YES to a grant of $1000 for the printing and postage expenses of their bilingual newsletter, The Network News/Noticias de la Red. Previously funded. Good that the newsletter is bilingual.

8. Ground Zero (Colorado Springs, CO) YES to a grant of $1000 for the production, printing, mailing of a brochure, flyers and posters to help defeat Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2 in the upcoming elections. Questions raised about budget—how realistic is it? General office expense is written down as $24,000. What does that include? Budget too vague. Need a better breakdown and explanation of what money will be spent on. Other funders will need this as well. Let them know we think they are doing important work, but in the future they should be clearer about their budget.

9. International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (San Francisco, CA) NO GRANT. They had requested $1000 toward the printing and postage expenses of a special issue of their newsletter, Action Alert, on lesbians. Discussion: Big budget. Very little of their work is in the US. People learned a lot from the publication. People liked them a lot, but felt budget was very large. People liked project, but we didn't understand why they couldn't fund this out of general operating expenses. Let them know that if they think they can convince us that the money can't come out of general operating expenses, and that the project can't happen without our funds, please reapply.

10. Massachusetts Lifers Organization (Norfolk, MA) YES to a grant of $952 for the expenses of the production and distribution of their MLO Digest and newsletter. Work very important. We should put something in our newsletter about how horrible the crime bill is. This group has been previously funded.

11. The Prisoner's Advocate Newsletter (San Antonio, TX) NO GRANT. They had requested $808.88 for printing and mailing costs of this newsletter for 6 months. Discussion: Hard to read, type very small. People didn't understand or like their answer to question 10, gays and lesbians. They say they don't "condone" nor "support" lesbian and gay rights. Did they mean they didn't "condemn" or "support" or what? Either way it is not a very good position. No position on abortion. Discussion of whether this publication met an unmet need? None of their references had heard of them. Let them know that board members had a concern about their position on gay/lesbian rights. We favor a more supportive position. Your position appeared to be neutral, our policy is to support gay/lesbian liberation. If you apply again, we would like clarification on this matter.

12. U.S. Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu (Madison, WI) YES to a grant of $750 for the expenses of a nonviolent sit-in campaign at U.S. diplomatic posts (Boston, Philadelphia, LA, Houston, Atlanta) to engage Israeli officials in talking about the Vanunu case. We funded them previously. How effective will this strategy be? We hope and assume your goal is to reach the broader public, not just talk to the Israeli officials.

13. Women Express, Inc. (Boston, MA) NO GRANT. They had requested $1000 toward the expenses of their volunteer program. Discussion: Large budget. Main focus seems to fund women and girls better jobs—liberal. Someone said it was more than that—see their answer to question #4. Decision: They can get money from other sources, even though what they are doing is progressive. It has grown more successful than the amount of money we can give would help. This grant is for Volunteer program. Volunteers are learning skills more developed.
to "succeed in life." Volunteers are teens. Suggest they come back to us for a progressive/organizing project that they couldn’t get funding for from the foundations they generally get funding from. Tell them we are impressed with their work.

14. Re-Visioning New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of an IBM computer and laser printer. Very little discussion.

15. Worcester Area Rainbow Coalition and Clergy and Laity Concerned (Worcester, MA) POSTPONED. They had requested $1000 toward the expenses of copying and mailing their newsletter, "The Rainbow Express." Seems like small group doing a lot of work. Possibly too spread out. They use newsletter to involve people in various activities. Had trouble getting a reference. Postponed to try again. Suggestions were to try Michael True at the English Department of Assumption College (or AFSC); Cynthia Enloe, Bob Vitalis (both at Clark). Other possibilities: Dan Kasselbrenner (Lawyers Guild Immigration Project) and Thomas St Louis (CAAS) are listed as speakers. They might know something. Ask references: How active is this group? Are they too spread out— not really focussed on anything? Is Rainbow and CALC same group or two separate groups. Did they merge?

16. National Association of Black and White Men Together (Washington, DC) NO GRANT. They had requested $1000 toward the expenses of mailings, copying, and staff salary for a new monthly newsletter. Question raised whether they were funded by the Funding Exchange or not-- they said they had been, but Funding Exchange said they didn’t have a record of it. Is this worth funding -- a one page newsletter to let chapters know what national is doing? Decision: NO. The project for which you applied was not clear to us as to politics and educational purposes. We would need to see a copy of the newsletter, or come back to us with another project.

17. Free Speech Movement Reunion Committee (Berkeley, CA) NO GRANT. They had requested $1000 toward the expenses of mailings for the 30th anniversary reunion of the Berkeley Free Speech Movement. Reference is good, one of the references they gave. How in touch with movement is she now? We feel it is good they are having a reunion, but not sure it will serve much political purpose. Complaints about how they filled out question #10. Tell them that if a political organizing project comes out of this, let us know.

18. New York Transfer News Collective (NY, NY) NO GRANT. They had requested $800 toward the expenses of offering computer training workshops to New York grassroots and activist organizations. Good reference. We don’t understand what you are providing that other people aren’t already providing? The board thought this duplicated other efforts.

19. Rural Justice Project (Cottage Grove, OR) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of a computer and printer. Very little discussion.

20. Guerilla TV Productions, Inc. (Detroit, MI) POSTPONED. They had requested $1000 toward the purchase of a video camera for their Zamani Sasa Project. Not very large group. Black nationalists. Can we see something they’ve produced? What about turn over in group? Ask them to please send 1 or 2 examples of what they are doing. Tell them this is our usual procedure.

21. United Campus Ministry (Athens, OH) NO GRANT. They had requested $1000 for the printing, mailing, copying and advertising of a brochure on racial discrimination in the Athens Community geared to the business community. People didn’t like brochure. Possible they could get funds from more mainstream organizations. This approach has been widely used in business community, but it is not what we fund.
22. Witness for Peace-MidAtlantic (Newtown, PA) POSTPONED. They had requested $1000 toward the expenses of the salary of their regional coordinator for two months, mainly to arrange for the speaking tour of a Nicaraguan woman. They didn’t give specific information on who the speaker will be, what their politics are. We need to know more about speaker, given disarray of Nicaraguan politics. Postponed for more information on speaker.

23. Guatemala Partners (Washington, DC) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of an educational package on Guatemala/US grassroots partnerships. Large budget, but most of it is for direct aid. Abortion rights has never come up. Surprised they are not more diverse, given they are in DC. Question raised about whether the educational package will be helpful in involving groups here get involved in Guatemala. Yes, but money can’t be used for direct aid.

24. PeaceWorks (Morristown, NJ) YES to a grant of $900 for expenses of a 4 month educational and outreach campaign on Nicaragua, Mexico, Haiti, and El Salvador. Very little discussion.

25. DC CISPES (Washington, DC) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of their workathon to promote solidarity between the US and El Salvador.

26. The Labor Page (Jamaica Plain, MA) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of their Nov./Dec. issue of The Labor Page newspaper on welfare, unemployment, and substandard wages.

27. Women Against Military Madness (Minneapolis MN) NO GRANT. They had requested $900 for the expenses of xeroxing mailings to high schools, college libraries, and the Minnesota community about the nuclear hazards associated with the new Prairie Island nuclear waste storage facility. We didn’t see how specific project would function as an organizing project beyond promoting this particular book.

28. Oregon Human Rights Coalition (Portland, OR) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of a three-day conference entitled "Women Taking Charge of the Welfare Reform Debate."

29. Center for Popular Economics (Amherst, MA) YES to a grant of $1000 toward the expenses of graphics for their updated version of A Field Guide to the U.S. Economy.

30. Committee for Health Rights in Central America (SF, CA) YES to a grant of $775 for the expenses of their educational outreach to follow their 11th annual North America-Nicaragua Colloquium on Health, including printing and postage costs for the Task Force Report. They have been doing this work for a long time. If you want to use some of this grant for a typewriter, that would be okay with us.

31. Health Education AIDS Liaison of N.H. (Amherst, NH) NO GRANT. They had requested $800 toward the expenses of a copy machine. While we think it is important to explore alternatives to the mainstream analysis of the AIDS epidemic, we believe that there was some serious misinformation included in the information you sent us.

32. Living with AIDS Theatre Project (Boston, MA) NO GRANT. They had requested $800 toward the expenses of their youth outreach theater project on the subject of HIV. Great project, not Resist priority. They should be able to get other funding. They got some money from the Mayor’s safe neighborhoods money. We felt they could get mainstream money.

33. Hawaii Breast Cancer Action (Honolulu, HI) YES to a grant of $958 toward the expenses
of their education forums on breast cancer and environmental toxins. Low budget, need travel money to bring speakers. Good thing—organizing around environmental contamination of HT. Let them know we don’t normally fund travel— if you come back to us in the future please do not re-apply for travel expenses.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: October 23rd, Paul Lauter’s, New York City. Louis and Pam said they could attend, Tess, Wayne and Ken were maybe’s.

Finances:

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<th>Fund</th>
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LOANS: Wechsler brought up the fact that when we loan a group $1000 we ask them, if they can, to return it with $50 interest (more or less). Given the current interest rates, she thought this was pretty high, especially for a 6 month loan. We agreed to change the suggested fee to $25 or 5% annually. This information should go in cover letter when a group gets a grant.

Prison Legal News: Paul Wright wrote us a letter in response to our rejecting his grant application. No action was taken. Board members read the letter.

Mediation Process: Brief discussion.

Tatiana’s Proposal: Brief discussion. Question raised as to whether we need to spend more money now to maintain the quality of the newsletter, or improve it, or make it more useful. Decisions made while staff was still present: From Tatiana’s shortened version of the proposal we accepted #2, with a signal to try to keep amount within $1000, but can go up to $1200. #2 reads: Increase rate of pay for writers and photographers in order to support more in-depth coverage of issues as well as to be responsive to increasing costs. I propose a standard rate of $35 per photo (up from $25) and $75 per article (up from $50) and continue policy of asking writers/photographers to donate their work. In addition, I propose a yearly budget for these expenses of $1200 and authority to pay more for some articles which require more work, less for others.

Other parts of proposal will be discussed by board, without staff present, or in mediation. It was brought up that if Tatiana was given a leave of absence it would be important for her to be willing to come to mediation if it was still going on. Tatiana said she would be willing.
The following are all of the references for the Sept. 11, 1994 board meeting.

1) Appalachian Peace and Justice Network (Athens, OH) - Requests $800 toward the expenses of their 14th annual Appalachian Ohio Peace Prize contest for area youth.

Michael Hawk of AFSC/Dayton highly recommends this group for funding. He has most recently been a keynote speaker for their last conference. He says this group is "a wonderful organization." He likes their planning meetings, which he says are multi-racial and notes that this is a difficult thing to accomplish in their area, which is mainly white. He says that the planning meetings also include youth, which he says is also unique for their area. Besides the conference, Hawk has been to several of their events and likes their work very much.

Reference from Sept. 1993: I called Jana Schroeder of AFSC/Dayton, who referred me to another staff person who works with these groups. Michael Hawk said the group is "really good, but extremely understaffed and sometimes try to take on a little more that they can do. What they do, though, is very good.... under funded... really committed people... recently had a conference, which was really good on racial diversity. The organization itself is predominantly white, hetero, but has good diversity along economic lines. Athens, OH has a large Appalachian population. The group deals with a large geographic area, as much outside of Ohio as inside... do a lot of anti-racism and cultural heritage work, which is important. They have done training for peacekeepers at KKK rallies and have had counter rallies, among the best I've ever seen." Positive reference.

2) Northwest Veterans for Peace (Portland, OR) - Requests $600 toward the expenses of mailing their newsletter, Collateral Damage, on Persian Gulf Syndrome.

Bridgette Sarabi of the Mackenzie River Gathering Fund/Portland highly recommends this group for funding. The MRGF has funded them for their antimilitarism speaker's bureau, and she says that the group has been very successful in getting into high schools and talking about peace and antimilitarism. She says that they have also had a coffee shop for activists and organizers to meet and work together, which she says was a great place. Additionally, they work on a shoe string budget. Sarabi thinks that their newsletter is a good one and says that they are one of the first groups in that part of the U.S. to bring up and talk about the health effects of the Persian Gulf War.

3) Houston Committee for Youth and Nonmilitary Opportunities (Bellaire, TX) - Requests $1,000 for the design, printing, display, and outreach costs of distributing their literature on nonmilitary opportunities for public high school students.

Debra Mulcahey of the Houston Peace Network knows about this group and also knows the director, Bob Henschen, personally. She says that he has been a peace activist there for many years and is highly regarded in the Houston peace community. He also works with a student group there called Students for Social Responsibility. The Houston Peace Network has funded this group several times in past years. Mulcahey says that this group works with and has the support of other peace groups in the area. They have been doing this particular project in high schools for several years now - she sees it as an ongoing project.

Reference from Sept. 1993: Jude Filler knew of the contact person who is a teacher in a Houston high school and a leader with Houston Non Violent Action for the last few years. She suggested that I call Alvaro Luna of the
National Movement of La Raza in Houston. He said the La Raza has done work with this group and thinks it is "a very good group with very clear objectives... providing an alternative vehicle to the military for high school students... I think highly of them... very needed in Houston area... diverse group: Blacks, Chicanos, Latinos... impressed with work and structure... Highly recommended.

I called Alvaro Luna of La Raza again for this. He agreed with his last reference and said that recently the group has had very good outreach programs to high school students. Houston is a very conservative area and the group has "had a long struggle to finally open up the doors to schools to alternatives." Alvaro said the group's work is "very impressive."

4) Alternatives to the Military (Lincoln, NE) - Requests $1,000 for the research, design and production of a brochure about alternatives to the military for job training and college funding.

John Taylor agreed with his last reference for this group. He says that he would "absolutely" fund this group again, as they are an important pacifist group that goes into schools and teaches students about "the horrors of war." Reference from Sept. 1992: We've funded this group in the past. Louis K. knows of the contact person. I received a very positive reference last time from John Taylor of NE CLU and the Coalition of Gays and Lesbians. He thought they did "absolutely effective work... There's a heavy military presence in the area... important to fund this group because otherwise there is no alternative presence in the schools... Group is very good on gay & lesbian issues... Please fund this work!"

This time I talked with Bobby Kirstead of the Nebraskans for Peace. She said this is a small group around for a while. The contact person is excellent. Older membership working to draw younger people into the group. Good politics, serious, well intentioned people. They meet on a monthly basis and have done projects like placing alternatives literature at high schools, current project for junior high school students - art/writing contest on peace issues. They also do leafletting when military recruiters visit high schools. Bobby recommends funding.

5) Priority Youth (Bristol, VT) - Requests $500 for the expenses of workshops to empower disenfranchised youth to become legislative advocates and peer leaders.

Will Miller of the Green Mountain Fund for Popular Struggle highly recommended this group for funding. He said that they are a youth group that was organized last year, and that the Green Mountain Fund gave them a grant last fall. Miller thinks that they are some of the only people doing effective youth organizing in the state (along with Outwrite Vermont). In general, he says that they do very good work.

6) Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (Cambridge, MA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of their celebration and coordination of Gay and Lesbian History Month in New England public schools.

Margaret Cerullo of Radical America supports this group and recommends them for RESIST funding. She knows this group through being a speaker at one of their events. She thinks that they do very good work in bringing together gay, lesbian and straight high school teachers and students in the state. This project is an important one because it disrupts the typical high school history curriculum by teaching students about gay and lesbian history. The idea is that then students (gay and straight) can go back to school and initiate discussions about why gay and lesbian history is not a part of their curriculum, and what this means. Highly recommended.

7) Network for Battered Lesbians (Boston, MA) - Requests $1,000 for the printing and postage expenses of their bilingual newsletter, The Network News/Noticias de la Red.

Reference from June 1993: Renae Scott said that she'd worked with this Network and helped them set up. She said that they've come a long way in a short period of time. Renae said she'd learned a lot from working with them
and feels they’d do what they say about the conference. They went from a
volunteer operation to paid staff and office in less than two years. Have a
newsletter, hotline, support groups and work with other violence against women
groups to bring up their issue.

8) Ground Zero (Colorado Springs, CO) - Requests $1,000 for the production,
printing, mailing of a brochure, flyers and posters to help defeat Colorado’s
anti-gay Amendment 2 in the upcoming elections.
Sue Hyde of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force supports this group and
recommends them for funding. She says that she likes their work, and that
this group "is solid," or they will be around for awhile. She thinks that
their membership could be more broad, but she also thinks that the group is
currently working on this. She sees a great need for this kind of group out
in Colorado Springs.

9) International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (San Francisco, CA)
- Requests $1,000 toward the printing and postage expenses of a special issue
of their newsletter, Action Alert, on lesbians.
Linda Lucero no longer works at Vanguard, but Kelly Brown of Vanguard agreed
with Lucero's last reference. Brown knows that Vanguard has funded this group
several times, and she recommends them for funding, though she does not know
their work in great detail.
Reference from October 1993: Last time I called Linda Lucero of Vanguard Fund
in San Francisco. She said that this group does both international and US
work, but Vanguard feels that the US work needs to be developed. They're
"real successful" but don't get a lot of funding. "One of the lead groups in
getting Amnesty International to recognize gays and lesbians as possible
political prisoners.... A lot of people in exile in San Francisco are working
with the group, mostly on other countries, such as Peru and Mexico, but also
do work locally... very energetic... good local media... The group has been
working with the city in a gay and lesbian component in the main public
library." Recommended.

For this proposal - Linda agrees with her last reference and added that
she "really likes this group... producing Action Alerts and newsletters... I've
learned a lot from them about the oppression of gays and lesbians in other
countries... they've done a lot of work recently on the Far East and women sex
workers who are HIV+ and abused, murdered... No one else is doing this type of
work." She again recommends funding them.

10) Massachusetts Lifers Organization (Norfolk, MA) - Requests $952 for the
expenses of the production and distribution of their MLO Digest and
newsletter.
John Treet of AFSC has also been on this group's external board for the past
one and a half years and recommends this group for funding. He says that the
MLO Digest is important because there is no longer a prison press in the
state, and so the MLO Digest serves the purpose of keeping lifers and long
term prisoners in touch with one another. Treet says that this project is
important because prison policy is to keep political movements from happening
by transferring prisoners. In response, the Digest serves to keep lifers and
long termers involved in a collective movement.
Reference from June 1993: For their last request, Larry Goldsmith suggested I
talk with Chris Dodson who had served on their board. She said that their
work "has been wonderful... legitim work... recognized by the Department of
Corrections as being a stabilizing force... not considered to be a
controversial group... have a focus on community service projects... also co­
sponsor poetry readings... organized around political education of families
and larger prisoner constituency... don't reach beyond this... They feel the
climate is not productive for going out to the general public... They're not
funded by the system... For fund raising, they collect dues, do mailings and
funds go to things like the Carole Matei Fund... a good place for younger guys
coming into the system to get some assistance for directions in which to go...
Group provides opportunities for them and can assimilate younger minority
lifers... Good people... important influence... doing good things."
For this request, I talked with Larry G’s contact, Fran Roznowski, who knows of the group through her work with Latino prisoners at Norfolk. She said that “a lot of what they do is the education of prisoners on their rights... a lot of this group have strong legal backgrounds... also do counseling on the long-term realities of lifers... there are restrictions on organizing in prisons... this group does a Legislative Awareness Day once a year in the prison which brings several hundred people together (prisoners’ rights advocates, legislators and prisoners) to talk with one another... have speakers... an important forum, unique in Massachusetts... very successful... definitely a political part of their work.”

11) The Prisoner’s Advocate Newsletter (San Antonio, TX) - Requests $808.88 for printing and mailings costs of this newsletter for 6 months.

Maura Taub of the Coalition for Prisoner’s Rights (a Resist grant recipient) was listed by this group as a reference, but she did not know about this group. She gave me the name of Tracey Kimball also of the CPR, but she also did not know anything about this group and does not receive their newsletter. She seemed to think that it might be a one-man organization. She also said that in general, the CPR supports any effort by prison groups since this kind of organizing work is so difficult to do.

12) U.S. Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu (Madison, WI) - Requests $750 for the expenses of a nonviolent sit-in campaign at U.S. diplomatic posts (Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Houston, and Atlanta) to engage Israeli officials in talking about the Vanunu case.

Bonnie Urfer of Nukewatch knows Sam Day and the Campaign very well and recommends them for funding. She says that although the Campaign is focused on Vanunu, their larger goal is to dispel the secret of nuclear weapons in Israel. The group has been around for at least 2 1/2 years and Urfer says that they do a lot of actions, educating, and public speaking around the U.S. on this issue, and that it has become a national campaign.

Reference from Sept. 1993: I’ve been having a problem with this one. The groups and/or foundations that I would have expected to know about this (Washington Peace Center, WI Community Fund, Crossroads Fund) knew little. As of 9/7/93, the Washington Peace Center hadn’t been contacted about a demo at the Israeli Embassy. They thought the DC Catholic Worker was involved. WSC just heard of this; said the contact person is well thought of and a good organizer, but didn’t know much about the group. Crossroads said the group had applied but they won’t be considered because it’s a national campaign, the board didn’t see this as a priority, and they had no sense of how many people were involved. I called Synapses in Chicago. All they knew was that the group leafleted at the Chicago Tribune and that people involved are Catholic Worker. Synapses is not involved in this. I then called Sr. Jean Hughes of the Eighth Day Center for Peace & Justice. She did know of this in Chicago. She said that one of the group’s problems is that they’re trying to do this nationally. She said "they’re using the Catholic Workers as a vehicle to organize. The organizers met with people during the summer and have had a couple of forums and meetings since then." She said "they’re people of integrity and will do what they say." She feels that this is an important issue, combining human rights issues with issues of democracy. She didn’t have any sense of how many people or how large a demo in Chicago might be.

13) Women Express, Inc. (Boston, MA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of their volunteer program.

Tiara Sidbury of Hyams Foundation (their reference) did not know about the volunteer program specifically, but she did give this group a positive reference based on her work with them on an annual fund raiser. She thinks that this group’s work is important to providing teenage girls with a vehicle through which they can both express themselves and listen to each other. She is impressed with their publication, Teen Voices, and thinks that this is a unique effort among urban teenage girls. She will continue to support their work by helping them with their fund raisers.
14) Re-Visioning New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of an IBM computer and a laser printer. Garland Harris of CARD (Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping – RESIST funded this group) recommends funding this group. She says that the people involved all have strong reputations there in New Mexico, and most of them have been around for a long time and have been involved with PACE, or the New Mexico Progressive Alliance for Community Empowerment. Re-Visioning New Mexico has received grant money mainly for their economic work, but Harris says that they have a broader focus on community organizing around a variety of issues. Additionally, one member of CARD took a training session on community organizing offered by this group and was very impressed with it.

15) Worcester Area Rainbow Coalition and Clergy and Laity Concerned (Worcester, MA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of copying and mailing their newsletter, "The Rainbow Express." Centro Las Americas, their reference - no one knew of this group. Mario Davillo of AFSC/CA - had not heard of this group. Claire Schaeffer-Duffy of Catholic Worker House (their reference) - knows that this group has been around for several years and has been active on the Haiti issue and also in helping and empowering minorities in the Worcester area, especially with voter registration. She likes their newsletter and recommends them for funding.

16) National Association of Black and White Men Together (Washington, DC) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of mailings, copying, and staff salary for a new monthly newsletter. For this reference, no one at the NGLTF knew about this group. Judy Hatcher of the Funding Exchange had heard of the work of different chapters of this group, but had no record of ever funding them, even though this group says that they were funded by the Funding Exchange in 1992 on their application form.

17) Free Speech Movement Reunion Committee (Berkeley, CA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of mailings for the 30th anniversary reunion of the Berkeley Free Speech Movement. Ann Ginger from Meikeljohn Civil Liberties Library (their reference) highly recommends this group for funding. She thinks that the Free Speech Movement has been a strong group ever since 1964 and thinks that their reunions are very important, including this one. She thinks that this group is responsible, that they have already begun work on the reunion, and that they "have a sense of humor" about their work.

18) New York Transfer News Collective (New York, NY) - Requests $800 toward the expenses of offering computer training workshops to New York grassroots and activist organizations. David Wilson of Nicaragua Solidarity Network recommends this group for funding. Toby Mailman of Barricada (their reference) highly recommends this group for funding. She says that they are politically progressive, and that the service they provide is "excellent." They provide an alternative source of news and their sources are very broad. She has attended some of their training workshops and says that they are well-run and well-organized, and that the teachers make sure that people understand what they’re doing.

19) Rural Justice Project (Cottage Grove, OR) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of a computer and printer. Linda Reymers of McKenzie River Gathering Foundation thinks that this group is "great" and highly recommends them for funding. MRG has given this group seed money. Reymers thinks that this group is a dramatic exception to how communities usually react to racist incidents, in that these people formed an ongoing, anti-hate organization rather than disbanding after an initial protest. She says that this group acts as a model for other similar groups and helps other groups out with technical assistance, etc. She says that their work is very strategic, especially for a rural area. She knows that they also work in coalition with other peace and social justice groups.
20) Guerilla TV Productions, Inc. (Detroit, MI) - Requests $1,000 toward the purchase of a video camera for their Zamani Sasa project. Katherine Savoy of MIHRC called around and could not find out anything about this group. Rev. Wendall Anthony of Detroit NAACP (their reference) knew of this group through his church. He says that they are a legitimate group, and that they do videotaping and television work there in Detroit. I could not reach this group’s other four references listed to get any greater detail about their work.

21) United Campus Ministry (Athens, OH) - Requests $1,000 for the printing, mailing, copying and advertising of a brochure on racial discrimination in the Athens Community geared to the business community. Peg Winkler of the Appalachian Peoples Action Coalition recommends this group very highly. She says that they have been around for 25 to 30 years and have worked on many different progressive issues. For instance, this group has worked to end gay and lesbian job discrimination in the Athens community. They have initiated a battered women’s shelter, a local food bank, a local alternative school, and a peace and justice network. UCM members have additionally confronted Klan rallies and initiated a pregnancy counseling program that the university eventually took over. Now UCM is working on ending job discrimination in the community against people of color, mostly against the students of color and international students who attend Ohio University, but also the county’s small number of native Americans and African Americans. She says that the Athens community is primarily white, and that the community discriminates against people of color in jobs, housing — everything.

22) Witness for Peace - MidAtlantic (Newtown, PA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of the salary of their regional coordinator for two months, mainly to arrange for the speaking tour of a Nicaraguan woman. Judy Kading of Midwest Witness for Peace (a Resist grant recipient) has known Andrew Mills for several years, and says that he has worked for a long time with the national Witness for Peace before taking over this new regional office. She highly recommends this group for funding. Kading thinks that Mills has worked on social justice issues and on El Salvador for many years, and that he is plugged into both the national Witness for Peace as well as all the regional offices. He coordinates the computer and communications work between all the regional offices of WFP. Even though this office is new, she knows that they are already working on a speaking tour for the fall.

23) Guatemala Partners (Washington, DC) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of an educational package on Guatemala/U.S. grassroots partnerships. Michael Willis of NISGUA highly recommends this group for funding. He says that their education program is new, and that's what they need the funds for. Steve Coats of U.S./Guatemala Labor Education Project also recommends this group for funding. He has worked with this group for the past four years. Concerning their high budget, Coats says that a lot of their money goes to Guatemala and that they do a lot of fundraising for Guatemala. They are one of only 2 or 3 groups that he knows of that are able to raise a large sum of money for work in Guatemala. (See also the letter in with the additional materials about their budget).

24) PeaceWorks (Morristown, NJ) - Requests $900 for expenses of 4 month educational and outreach campaign on Nicaragua, Mexico, Haiti, and El Salvador. Chuck Kaufman of Nicaragua Network says that he would "definitely" fund this group. They have been active for 7 years at least, he says, probably longer. In addition to their work with the Nicaragua Network, this group also serves 6 or more sister city projects (with technical assistance, etc.). He says they do "excellent work," and that this group is "in for the long haul." Kaufman says that Jim Burchell and PeaceWorks, though maybe under a different name,
have coordinated the whole state's (New Jersey's) work on Nicaragua since the early 1980's. He also thinks that they put out a good newsletter.

Reference from 1992: I talked with Sharon Lean of the Central American Human Rights Network in NYC. She said that the group "does a lot of organizing in central Jersey and also material aid to Nicaragua campaigns... do great work.... famous for getting material aid donated and getting the stuff to Nicaragua efficiently and cheaply... good at organizing on a grass roots level... good connections in Jersey and in Nicaragua... good large mailing list..." She'd heard that the group is expanding its focus beyond Central America, they did Gulf War organizing. She recommends funding the group.

25) DC CISPES (Washington, DC) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of their workathon to promote solidarity between the U.S. and El Salvador.

Will Winter of the Washington Peace Center recommends this group for funding. He says that even though the entire solidarity movement has had its ups and downs in recent years, that DC CISPES continues to do good work on El Salvador. Recently they have expanded to work on other Carribean issues, including work on Haiti. Most recently, he heard Jeff Woodside speak about Cuba. He says that this group has a very good core group of activists.

Reference from May, 1992: I talked with Phyliss at the Washington Peace Center. She thinks that this is a good group, well organized. This group is diligent in organizing and publicity so she feels they will be able to draw a good crowd. She also mentioned that they were a big help in the DC Middle East War Coalition. Hank Rosemont checked with contacts and also had personal contact with them by phone. He said that he strongly supports the group; they continue to do good work. He had a fund raising call from the group and was impressed at the answers and info they gave to his questions. Since we funded them in the past for the film showing, Hank feels that we should give them a grant for this follow-up tour. He gives the group an "A+.

26) The Labor Page (Jamaica Plain, MA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of their Nov./Dec. issue of The Labor Page newspaper on welfare, unemployment, and substandard wages.

Donna Southwell of the Massachusetts Human Services Coalition (their reference) thinks that this group does "great work." She knows that they are now working on a newspaper issue on unemployed and low income people. She attended the planning meeting for this issue and says that they had input from a lot of different people there. In general, she thinks that getting a labor group to deal with welfare reform is great, unique, and very useful. Highly recommended.

27) Women Against Military Madness (Minneapolis, MN) - Requests $900 for the expenses of xeroxing mailings to high schools, college libraries, and the Minnesota community about the nuclear hazards associated with the new Prairie Island nuclear waste storage facility.

Steve Newcom of Headwaters Fund recommended this group for funding. He thinks that they do good work, and says that Headwaters Fund has funded them several times in the past. Most recently, however, Newcom says that Headwaters did not fund their last request (last year) based on the fact that their membership was not diverse. The concern was that WAMM is mainly an organization of white, middle class women organizing against militarism. Last year, people at Headwaters thought that WAMM should be more internally diverse and include people of color, even though they do work with communities of color. Since then, however, Newcom says that Headwaters has revised this position somewhat, and has decided not to impose a diversity criteria on groups that don't claim diversity.

28) Oregon Human Rights Coalition (Portland, OR) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of a three-day conference entitled "Women Taking Charge of the Welfare Reform Debate."

Donna Redwing is no longer with the Lesbian Community project. Alice Ito of A Territory Resource recommended this group for funding, with some hesitation.
ATR gave them a small grant for technical assistance earlier this year. Ito says that ATR has funded them more substantially in the past, but that this group has had some real ups and downs, so they have not always been funded. Now, Ito says, it appears that this group is on an upswing, with this conference they're sponsoring.

Reference from Dec. 1992: I talked with Donna Redwing of the Lesbian Community Project. She knows of them; they work in the coalition of progressive groups in the area; group works on the issues which concern low income people. Donna said that they're "really unique, in that these are poor and working class speaking for themselves, very powerful." Recommended.

29) Center for Popular Economics (Amherst, MA) - Requests $1,000 toward the expenses of graphics for their updated version of A Field Guide to the U.S. Economy.

Randy Divinski of Dollars and Sense recommends this group for funding. D & S has worked with this group for many years, and several members of D & S are very impressed with the conferences sponsored by CPE. D & S ran an article in their newsletter about how good the Center's conferences are. Most recently, D & S worked with CPE just 3 or 4 weeks ago on a conference that Divinski thought was "very successful." He also thinks that the Field Guide that they publish is very good and useful.

Reference from March, 1992: For the last request from them I talked with Renae Scott. She knew of their work. Haymarket had funded their Summer Institutes in the past. Their Summer Institutes have brought together a really diverse group of people from around the US. They provide a forum for radical economic/political analysis. Diverse participation in institutes & forums. She felt that it is hard for them to raise funds for their work.

At this time I talked with Patricia Horn of Dollars & Sense. She said that they do an excellent job on economics (she took their classes, as well as Debbie Dover and Anthony Parker of D & S.) Trainings are quite good with good economists as teachers. The classes are quite helpful to activists in their own work. She feels that many more people could benefit from this knowledge. She said that they really try to bring in more people of color, as well as people of different classes, and also have some scholarships available. Patricia highly recommends funding them.

30) Committee for Health Rights in Central America (San Francisco, CA) - Requests $775 for the expenses of their educational outreach to follow their 11th annual North America-Nicaragua Colloquium on Health, including printing and postage costs for their Task Force Report.

Linda Lucero has left the Vanguard Foundation, but Kelly Brown of Vanguard recommended this group for funding. She says that Vanguard had just recently given this group an emergency grant to support the speaking tour on Mexico and the Zapatistas before the election. She thinks that they had a good project and that they are a very significant group there in San Francisco. She also says that they deal with issues broader than just health, as shown by this recent speaking tour.

Reference from Sept. 1993: For their 1991 request, I first talked with Linda Lucero of Vanguard Foundation in S.F. She said that this is a really good group. They weren't funded in the last Vanguard cycle only because it was felt that other groups on the agenda had fewer resources than CHRICA. Linda feels that this is a very effective and consistent group. Effective in connecting Central American issues with local work. She gave an example of how they have work brigades doing projects in different neighborhoods in the Bay area. I then talked with Rene Valle. He also said this group does very good work. They have a "very rehab orientation and work with doctors and professional organizations." They have a committee on El Salvador to provide material aid. He knows some of the people involved. Rene said that CHIRCA is very active in the Bay area and is one of the most active chapters in the U.S. I called Linda for this request and she said that they're still doing good work, have kept their movement going, have a lot of visibility. Linda still does recommend funding.
31) Health Education AIDS Liaison of N.H. (Amherst, NH) - Requests $800 toward the expenses of a copy machine. Resist's two New Hampshire references have not heard of this group, Arnie Alpert of AFSC/NH and Tom Wall of the Nashua Peace Center. Also could not reach their affiliate group, New Hampshire Health Activists.

32) Living with AIDS Theater Project (Boston, MA) - Requests $800 toward the expenses of their youth outreach theater project on the subject of HIV. Leah Camhi of the Boston Living Group (their reference) thinks that this group is "fabulous." She says they do terrific work in the schools, organizing and educating kids about AIDS. She thinks that kids are tired of being lectured about AIDS, and so this group gives them a way to participate in the discussion. Also, she says lately this group is looking to diversify by doing plays in Spanish, having deaf audiences, etc. She highly recommends them for funding.

33) Hawaii Breast Cancer Action (Honolulu, Hawaii) - Requests $958 toward the expenses of their educational forums on breast cancer and environmental toxins. Rick Rothschiller of the People's Fund highly recommended this group for funding. The People's Fund gave them an emergency grant this year and a larger grant in the fall of 1993. He says that they are one of the only groups who has sent in a detailed report about their activities. He also says that they have two key, very good organizers who really know how to organize people - how to link issues, do a thorough analysis, and reach out to different groups of people. This group is particularly good at linking women's issues with health, the environment, and corporate responsibility. He thinks that these educational forums would be a valuable effort.

For peace and justice,

Nancy Palmer, Resist staff