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Resist Newsletter, Feb-Mar 2000

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A Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority

February/March 2000

1999 RESIST Grants Retrospective
Donors and Activists Creating Social Change

PAM CHAMBERLAIN

Time was, when it all got to be too much, I used to throw on a carefully chosen political T-shirt, scribble out a few placards and head to the nearest protest with a few of my friends to let off some steam. As children of the '60s living in Boston, we had our pick of local, or even national, demonstrations that welcomed extra voices or a few clenched fists for the price of a subway token. I remember hearing about these movement activities by reading flyers on telephone poles or by picking up a call at my answering-machine-less, single-line telephone. In retrospect, it all seems so quaint and low-tech.

For some accustomed to more visible evidence of movement work, life in the home stretch of the '90s might have felt a little barren. Where are the rallies of yesteryear? Of course I am weary of all the "whither the left?" articles, but don't they have a point? And while I'm on the subject, what ever happened to the women's music movement? OK, don't get me started.

While the methods of organizing may have changed for those with access to e-mail and listservs, it still takes the equivalent of pounding the pavement, licking the envelopes and staffing the phone banks to build progressive movements for authentic social change in this country. Before I lose myself in misplaced nostalgia for the good old bad days, let it be noted that there is plenty of work to do, and many of our grantees are up to their ears doing it in creative, hip and effective ways.

Giving Peace a Grant

This issue of the newsletter is RESIST's annual review of grants. As a Board member, I enjoy the privilege of peeking into the workings of groups across the country, learning about the range of activism this year, and every year. In this issue we try to give you a sampler of that experience for 1999. Many RESIST pledges and donors who are often actively engaged in direct activism—and that is most of you—have said that a glimpse at the Grantee List is a rejuvenating tonic, a brain massage, a shot in the arm. Thanks to all the organizations that sent us cards, photos, stories. We wish we had room to print them all.

RESIST was founded by those who sought to awaken the conscience of the US public to the growth of militarism as
1999 RESIST Grants Retrospective

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evidenced in the war in Vietnam. This legacy of challenging the abuse of power remains central to the mission of our foundation.

1999 was a year that suffered more than its share of warfare, and the tragic images of global refugees in the Balkans, the Middle East and Africa remain with us. This year RESIST funded 10 anti-militarist groups, several of which are trying to draw the connections between the continuing arms race, fundamentalist and nationalist movements, US foreign policy and the loss of the social safety net.

Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (Gainesville, FL) received funding to organize a campaign against the militarization of space and to oppose deployment of “Star Wars” weapons systems. Recognizing the need to connect global (and outer-space!) issues with what happens in your back yard, RESIST funded Peace Action New Mexico (Santa Fe, NM) for general support to focus primarily on disarmament and ending nuclear weapons production at facilities in New Mexico, as well as highlighting other social justice issues.

US sanctions against the Iraqi people provoked organizing across the country. RESIST funded three such groups, including the NH Peace Action Education Fund’s (Concord, NH) campaign to oppose the bombing and sanctions in Iraq.

RESIST continues to support groups doing Central American solidarity work that helps people in the United States understand more clearly the impact of North American policy on our Central and South American neighbors. We funded the Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America (CITCA) (Raleigh, NC) to purchase computer equipment for its faith-based movement which seeks to bring diverse people together to work toward changing US economic and military policies that contribute to poverty and oppression in Latin America and the Caribbean.

It’s the Economy . . .

Over the past several years, the number of grants given to groups working primarily on economic and labor issues has climbed dramatically. Many link their organizing to other issues, like the environment and human rights, but make economic justice the center of their work. And it’s no 

which received $2,000 grants.

The Campus Democracy Collective (Fayetteville, AR) http://comp.uark.edu/~cdemcol/ is working to force the University of Arkansas to adopt a business code of conduct that requires contractors to disclose the working conditions of employees and subcontractors in order to create a sweatshop free campus.

Acting Globe-Ally

RESIST supported 13 groups working on environmental issues in 1999, located in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, the Ozarks, the Midwest and New England. In a time when the word “environmentalist” is co-opted by conservatives who tout “wise use” policies (such as clear-cut logging and strip mining of public lands), these organizations not only hold strong to the vision of sustainable communities but made links between “green” issues and the challenge of rectifying social inequalities.

Cove/Mallard Coalition (Moscow, ID) received funding for a summer campaign to halt the timber sales and monitor environmental law violations in the Cove/Mal-

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lark and Otter-Wing areas of Idaho. After
concentrated and effective coalition build-
ing, Cove/Mallard pressured the Forest Ser-
tice to abort six proposed timber sales and
prevent additional roads from being built
in timber preserve areas.

Organizing across issues, the Environ-
mental Justice Action Group (Portland, OR) used their grant from RESIST to ad-
dress environmental and public health haz-
ards faced by low-income residents of
Portland’s multi-racial North/Northeast
community.

Missouri Heartwood (Columbia, MO)
heartwood@mail.coin.missouri.edu re-
duced funding for a landowner education
project of the “No Ozarks for Pulp Ever
Campaign” which opposes the use of chip
mills in Missouri. Several Citizens Action
Network chapters will use their grants to
make the connections between the nuclear
fuel cycle, unsafe transportation of nuclear
waste, and US energy and arms policies.

Youth Organizing

Our original support for draft resisters
has morphed over 30 years into a broader
interest in the need to encourage youth
organizing. As usual, this is one of the most
exciting aspects of being the voyeur/board
member: here are some clues hinting at
what the movement work will look like in
the future.

Three groups in California received fund-
ing: the School of Unity and Liberation (Oak-
land, CA) soulschool@hotmail.com has a
three-year grant to develop multicultural
leadership, organize training programs for
youth, and fight for affirmative action in
California. The Summer Activist Training
Project (Los Angeles, CA) was able to of-
er social and economic justice internships
in which Asian Pacific Islander youth learn
grassroots organizing tactics. And the
Third Eye Movement (San Francisco, CA)
humanarts@ellabakercenter.org supports a
youth-led organization that organizes, mo-
bilizes and empowers young people to
struggle against police brutality.

This is not just a California phenom-
emon, though. Witness the Ya Ne Dah Ah
School (Chickaloon, AK) which received a
general support grant for a school which
works with Native youth on self-determi-
nation, sovereignty, subsistence rights, en-
vironmental protection and tribal govern-
ment issues. Or the Youth Leadership Sup-
port Network (Takoma Park, MD) which runs
the Young Organizers Seminar on Leader-
ship and Coalition Building bringing together
young leaders and veteran organizers.

Ceiling Justice and Prison Organizing

The prison industry continues to ex-
and along with the economy, an irony not
lost on a dozen RESIST grantees this year.
We are proud to support the work of sev-
eral established groups, such as the Prison
and Jail Project (Americus, GA), which
received a multi-year grant to challenge the
corrupt and racist criminal justice system
in southwest Georgia.

RESIST also supported several organi-
izations working to oppose the death pen-
alty, including the Campaign to End the
Death Penalty-National Office (Chicago,
IL) www.nodeathpenalty.org, which seeks
to educate about the class- and race-bi-
ased nature of the criminal justice system.
For many organizations, RESIST funds
general operating expenses rather than lim-
iting ourselves to small, discrete cam-
paigns. This group is one of several that
benefits from this policy, the result of your
generous giving.

RESIST also funds local efforts, like
American Friends Service Committee-
Criminal Justice Program (Ann Arbor, MI)
afscpenny@aol.com who are trying to elimi-
nate the surcharge imposed on all prisoner
phone calls—which creates a $16 million
windfall for the Michigan Department of
Corrections.

Other Grants and Trends

Our healthcare organizing grants this
year reflected the strange twist of fate that
sometimes affects movement organizing.
RESIST supported several organizations
trying to save health care for particular
groups, like seniors and women. For ex-
ample, the Champaign County Health
Care Consumers (Champaign, IL)
www.prairienet.org/ehcch mounted a cam-
paign to save the Medicare 100 Program
which provides essential services to over
2,500 low income seniors in Champaign
County.

But no HIV/AIDS organizing applica-
tions were received in 1999. We’re not sure
exactly why that is. Perhaps this trend in-
dicates that those activists who are watch-
support for AIDS service organizations
diminish are regrouping to focus their or-
ganizing on the need for healthcare for all.
RESIST also continued to fund a vari-
ety of groups actively working to support
a woman’s right to control her reproduc-
In Honor Of

Julia Bacharach & Dan Cory
Levi Samuel Cohen
Harvey Epstein
Carolyn Hoffman
Debbie Katz
Charlie MacMartin &
Alison Cannon
Ken Megill
Sam Pilato & Keiko Nakagawa
Fred Pincus & Natalie Suholoff
Cheryl Smith
Helen Spiegel
Nancy Wechsler

In Memory Of

Marlene Amormick
Bernice Augenbrown
Elliot Said Bing-Canar
Mitch Goodman
Audrey Gorman
Theodore H. Harley
Leslie D'Corah Holmes
Clara and Sam Horowitz
Mike (James) Kempton
Godfrey Kilkenney
Jane Polley
Ellie Schnitzer
Lily Stone
Rudolph von Abele
Maxwell N. Weisman
William Noel Whisner

Each year, many RESIST supporters honor their
friends, colleagues, family and mentors by making a contribution
in their name. As is our custom, Resist acknowledges those
individuals so honored in the lists below.
1999 RESIST Grantees By Category

RESIST prioritizes funding for activist groups that see their work connected to the broad struggle for social change. The list below places groups with similar emphases under a "category" listing which does not show the interconnectedness of issues and organizing strategies.

Africa/Asia/International

Emperor's College of Oriental Medicine-Student Council (Los Angeles, CA) $300* for a teach-in on the Balkan War.
Pintig Cultural Group (Chicago, IL) $2,000 for The American Dream, two one-act plays about the Vietnam War and the Filipino migration of the 1960s.

Central America, Latin America and the Caribbean

Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America (CITCA) (Raleigh, NC) $2,000 to purchase computer equipment for faith-based movement bringing diverse people together to work toward changing US economic and military policies.
Chiapas-Albany Solidarity Alliance (CASA) (Albany, NY) $750 for the Safety Net, an e-mail list service and phone tree communication system activated when human rights observers are detained or threatened in Central America.
Colombia Human Rights Committee (Washington, DC) $2,000 to purchase computer equipment to help promote human rights, peace and social justice in Colombia.
Committee on US/Latin American Relations (CUSLAR) (Ithaca, NY) $2,000 to update computer system for organization which looks at US military and economic policies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Planned Giving to RESIST

For more than 32 years, RESIST has relied on the support of donors to maintain our grant giving program to grassroots groups. There are many ways to extend that support, including:
1. Make a tax-deductible contribution.
2. Join the pledge program (see page 12).
3. Donate stocks or other securities.
4. Include a bequest to RESIST in your will or life insurance policy.
5. Designate RESIST as a beneficiary of an IRA or pension plan.

For more information about these and other options, contact RESIST: 617/623-5110; resistinc@igc.org.

enguang, CA USA (Salem, OR) $2,000 for statewide coalition defending immigrant rights and building immigrant leadership.
Citizens for Police Review (CPR) (Knoxville, TN) $2,000 for general support for group which seeks to hold police accountable for misconduct.
Community Change (Boston, MA) $1,000 to develop a fund-raising strategy for organization focusing on issues of systemic and institutional racism.
Cooperative Action Program of Southern McDowell County (Panther, WV) $1,000 for the Citizens on Democracy Education Project which trains local residents to become community leaders and to challenge the political positions of elected officials.
Flathead Reservation Human Rights Coalition (Ronan, MT) $2,000 for staff to support organization which works to improve race relations on the Flathead Indian Reservation, which has a predominately non-Indian population.
Human Dignity Coalition (Bend, OR) $1,000 for a membership drive for coalition addressing issues of racism, sexism and homophobia.
Jews for Racial & Economic Justice (JFREJ) (New York, NY) $2,000 for general support, including the Community Theater Project which brings together Black and Jewish youth to create political theater about equal education.
Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (Louisville, KY) $1,800 to publish the Kentucky Alliance NEWS which is an organizing tool to bring together racially diverse communities to take specific and visible actions against racist policies and practices.
Maine Rural Network (Standish, ME) $2,000 for organizing around social justice issues in rural communities.
Mobilization for Survival-Boston (Cambridge, MA) $2,000 to staff the anti-sanction group Campaign for the Iraqi People.
Network for Immigrant Justice (Eugene, OR) $2,000 for the Campaign for the Iraqi People.

** Indicates Emergency Grant

* Indicates Multi-Year Award

residents of low-income neighborhoods.

Pueblo por la Paz (Tucson, AZ) $2,000 to expand printing and distribution of the Zapatista Bulletin, which focuses on support for the Zapatistas in Chiapas and strengthens cross-border ties with local indigenous communities.
Tonantzin: The Boston Committee to Support the Native Peoples of Mexico (Somerville, MA) $1,850 to publicize educational events and to support advocacy work related to US military aid to Mexico and human rights abuses in Chiapas.

Community Organizing/Anti-Racism

Arise for Social Justice (Springfield, MA) $2,000 for the Voter Turn-Out Project which seeks to build a critical voice for
The continued success of the program is due in part to the generous funding support from RESIST.

—Immigrant Workers Resource Center

Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission (Colorado Springs, CO) $1,500 for the First Strike Theatre production Class Act which examines the widening economic gap between the rich and “everyone else.”

Environmental

Alaska Action Center (Anchorage, AK) $2,000 for organization linking local environmental issues with broader human rights campaigns.

Alaska Women’s Environmental Network (Anchorage, AK) $1,250 to create networking opportunities and training programs to promote women’s leadership in Alaskan conservation efforts.

Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project (Fossil, OR) $2,000 to support the outreach and organizing efforts of groups which seeks to end corporate dominance over ecosystems and communities.

Cascadia Wilderness Project (Eugene, OR) $1,000 for the Outreach Program which sponsors interpretive hikes, training and educational forums regarding unsustainable forest “management” practices in the Cascade Mountains.

Citizens Awareness Network (Shelburne Falls, MA) $2,000** for environmental organization which focuses on nuclear fuel cycle issues ranging from reactor operations to the siting of waste dumps.

Citizens Awareness Network- Connecticut Chapter (Syracuse, NY) $2,000 to build an organization involved in anti-nuclear activism in Central New York.

Citizens Awareness Network- CNY Chapter (Merrimac, WI) $2,000 for the Caravan of Conscience Tour highlighting the overland shipments of radioactive waste from Connecticut Yankee Nuclear Power Plant to Barnwell, South Carolina.

Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger Power Plant to Barnwell, South Carolina.

Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger (Merrimac, WI) $2,000** general support for organization working to clean up toxic waste at Badger Army Ammunition Plant and create healthy sustainable re-use plans.

Cove/Mallard Coalition (Moscow, ID) $1,500 for a summer campaign to halt

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the timber sales and monitor environmental law violations in the Cove/Mal­lard and Otter-Wing areas of Idaho.

Environmental Justice Action Group (Portland, OR) $2,000 to address environmental and public health hazards faced by low-income residents of Portland’s multi-racial North/Northeast community.

Gateway Green Alliance (St. Louis, MO) $2,000 for the Biotechnology Alert Project which seeks to expose the use of genetic engineering as it worsens social inequality by threatening human health and ecological balance.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender

Lambda Community Center (Fort Collins, CO) $2,000 to educate and empower lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities in northern Colorado and southern Wyoming.

The LAMBDA Group (Baton Rouge, LA) $1,000 for The Lavender Left, an organizing initiative building coalitions with other progressive organizations in order to resist attacks by the religious right in the Baton Rouge area.

Network for Battered Lesbians and Bisexual Women (Boston, MA) $2,000 for The Network News/Noticias de la Red—a bilingual newsletter that is part of a campaign to end domestic violence in lesbian/bisexual women’s communities.

Health/AIDS/Disability

Champaign County Health Care Consumers (Champaign, IL) $2,000 to support the campaign to save the Medicare 100 Program which provides essential services to over 2,500 low-income seniors in Champaign County.

Coalition for Positive Sexuality (Chicago, IL) $2,000 for organization addressing teen sexuality through direct action and public education projects.

Coalition of Montanans Concerned with Disabilities (Missoula, MT) $2,000 for disability rights organization which works together with other progressive organizations to fight for the rights of marginalized groups.

Disability Rights Action Coalition for Housing (DRACH) (Topeka, KS) $1,800 for the Health Care for All campaign designed to bring together community members into a strong, informed force to make quality, affordable health care available to everyone.

Mothers from Hell (Eugene, OR) $2,000 for The Brimstone Bulletin and a development disabilities awareness curriculum which seek to counter the abuse and harassment children with disabilities encounter in schools.

NARAL-PA Foundation (Philadelphia, PA) $2,000 for computer equipment to support the All Women’s Health Campaign, the

Teen Health Advocacy Project and the Campaign for Contraceptive Coverage.

Labor

9 to 5 Colorado (Denver, CO) $2,000 for a workplace anti-discrimination outreach and education project designed to help low-wage women understand their rights and empower them to take action. (Salzman Memorial Fund Grant)

Boston Tradeswomen’s Network (Boston, MA) $2,000 to develop strategies to increase leadership opportunities for women in the construction trades.

Central Vermonter’s A Living Wage (Barre, VT) $1,000 for a Workers’ Rights Board and Hotline to support and expand the rights of working people through media access, demonstrations, and public campaigns.

Hard Hat News (New York, NY) $2,000 for bi-monthly newsletter to provide a critical voice for construction workers by exposing racial and gender discrimination in hiring; attack corruption and racketeering; and support democratic unions.

Mississippi Workers Center for Human Rights (Greenville, MS) $2,000 to implement a series of workers’ rights training sessions throughout Mississippi.

Nicaragua Solidarity Committee (Chicago, IL) $2,000 for an outreach program to educate and involve students and suburban communities in anti-sweatshop campaigns.

Peace Through Interamerican Community Action (PICA) (Bangor, ME) $2,000 for organization engaged in labor rights, continued on page seven
continued from page six

solidarity, and anti-sweatshop organizing
Santa Monicans Allied for Responsible Tourism (SMART) (Santa Monica, CA) $2,000 for a poster campaign that will convey issues of unfair labor practices by hotel management in union organizing campaigns.
Support Team International for Textileras (STITCH) (Chicago, IL) $2,000 for network of US women engaged in cross-border labor organizing and support for women workers in Central America.
Sweatshop Watch (Oakland, CA) $2,000 for the Sweatshop Accountability Campaign which seeks to force retailers and manufacturers to ensure that garment workers are paid fairly and work under decent conditions.
Women's Institute for Leadership Development (WILD) (Boston, MA) $2,000** for organization addressing sexism and other issues of oppression within the labor movement and building democratic unions.

Media/Culture
Arkansas Broadcasting Foundation (Little Rock, AR) $2,000 to train members of the Arkansas Welfare Reform Education and Policy Project in the use of the electronic media in order to convey their message more effectively.
Dyke TV (New York, NY) $1,000 to create affordable video training program for lesbian political activist community.
Northwest Alliance for Alternative Media and Education (Portland, OR) $2,000 for the Portland Alliance which publishes a monthly calendar of events and stimulates social activism.
Pickaxe Productions (Eugene, OR) $1,900 to purchase video equipment to augment multi-media production studio used by local activist groups.
Somerville Community News (Somerville, MA) $1,800 for community newspaper which reports on labor struggles, housing issues, efforts to fight discrimination and other issues typically ignored by for-profit local media outlets.
Syracuse Alternative Media Network (Syracuse, NY) $2,000 to distribute the video If I Had a Hammer: Pete Seeger and the American Quest for Justice, an historical overview of the struggles for increased democracy and social justice, to activist groups.

Supporters from the US Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu, an Israeli anti-nuclear whistle-blower, demonstrate at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, DC. Photo by Monica McAghon

Theater of the Oppressed Laboratory (New York, NY) $2,000 to build physical capacity, provide training workshops and print a brochure for radical participatory theater rooted in the popular education movement.
Tucson Arts Brigade (Tucson, AZ) $1,000 to print community newsletter Awaken which informs members about the progress of community arts programs and projects.

Middle East
Education for Peace in Iraq Center (EPIC) (Washington, DC) $2,000 for the Iraq Media Project which provides activists with information not available through the mainstream press and develops a network of press contacts.
Fellowship of Reconciliation-Houston (Houston, TX) $2,000 for a Spanish translation of The Iraq Notebook which seeks to correct misinformation in the mainstream media about the effects of the economic sanctions and US/UN policies on Iraq.

NH Peace Action Education Fund (Concord, NH) $2,000 for a campaign to oppose the bombing and sanctions in Iraq.
US Campaign to Free Mordechai Vanunu (Madison, WI) $2,000 to challenge the proliferation of nuclear weapons within the US and its allies, and to secure the release of Mordechai Vanunu, imprisoned for blowing the whistle on Israel's undeclared nuclear weapons arsenal.

Native American
HONOR- Honor Our Neighbors Origins and Rights (Washington, DC) $2,000** to change federal, state and local policies regarding American Indian/Alaskan Native human and cultural rights.
Lakota Nation Hunkpapa Red Robe Women's Society (Minneapolis, MN) $2,000 for the 25th anniversary of the International Indian Treaty Council Conference which seeks to broaden official participation of Indigenous Peoples in the UN and focuses on the issues of treaty rights and violations.

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Peace/Anti-Militarism
Brandywine Peace Community (Swarthmore, PA) $2,000 for an eight-month campaign, Resist Lockheed Martin: The Place of War Making Today, which focuses attention on weapons manufacturers.
Citizen Soldier (New York, NY) $2,000 to reduce the influence of militarism on American society.
Fellowship of Reconciliation-Cape Cod (Harwich MA) $1,000 for computer equipment for organization working on a range of peace and justice issues.
Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space (Gainesville, FL) $2,000 to organize a campaign against the militarization of space and to oppose deployment of "Star Wars" weapons systems.
Midwest Institute for Social Transformation (MIST) (Minneapolis, MN) $2,000 for a conference entitled Committing to Peace: Generation to Generation which seeks to unite students and nonviolence activists to organize against the culture of violence.
Peace Action - Maine (Portland, ME) for a staff person to recruit new members by making connections between the increasing cost of militarism and the corresponding reduction in funds for human needs.
Peace Action New Mexico (Santa Fe, NM) $2,000 for group which focuses on disarmament and ending nuclear weapons production at facilities in New Mexico.
Peace, Justice, Environment Network- Dela-ware Valley (Philadelphia, PA) $1,000 for Tax Day Demonstration to inform area taxpayers that a disproportionate amount of payments are used for the Pentagon and corporate welfare programs.
Southwest Alliance to Resist Militarization (SWARM) (Tucson, AZ) $2,000 to support the campaign Stop Joint Task Force 6, which utilizes military and National Guard personnel to "fight the war on drugs" within the United States.
Veterans for Peace (Washington, DC) $2,000 to publish the VFP Journal which is an outreach and education tool about the costs of war and nonviolent methods to achieve world peace.

Prisoners
American Friends Service Committee-Criminal Justice Program (Ann Arbor, MI) $1,100 for a campaign to eliminate the surcharge imposed on all prisoner phone calls, which creates a $16 million windfall for the Michigan Department of Corrections.
Campagne to End the Death Penalty- National Office (Chicago, IL) $2,000 for group which seeks to end the death penalty and educate others about class and race bias in the criminal justice system.
Chicago Interfaith Prisoners of Conscience (Evanston, IL) $1,120 to publish a newsletter primarily written by prisoners focusing on conditions in "supermax" and local prisons in metropolitan Chicago, Northern Illinois and Northern Indiana.
Coalition for Prisoners’ Rights (Santa Fe, NM) $2,000** for organization which supports prisoners, family members and others to challenge the social and economic injustice inherent in the criminal justice system.
Criminal Justice Consortium (Oakland, CA) $2,000 to build the Southern California base of statewide group that works to change criminal justice policy-making in order to reduce the over-reliance on in-carceration. (Riegel Tribute Grant)
Families to Amend California’s Three Strikes (Los Angeles, CA) $1,500 for the Prison Correspondence Project which educates and empowers prisoners serving life sentences for relatively minor offenses under the Three Strikes law.
Leonard Peltier Defense Committee (Lawrence, KS) $500 for Leonard Peltier Freedom Month, a series of cultural, educational and lobbying events.
Prison and Jail Project (Americus, GA) $2,000** for organization which challenges the corrupt and racist criminal justice system in southwest Georgia.
Prison Legal News (Seattle, WA) $2,000 for general support for prisoner-produced magazine.
Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center (Boulder, CO) $2,000 for the Prison Moratorium Campaign to reverse prison expansion, develop alternative sentencing programs, and reallocate resources to addressing the root causes of crime.
Texas CURE (Austin, TX) $1,000 for computer equipment to conduct informational campaigns regarding the current environment in Texas jails and prisons.
Western Prison Project (Portland, OR) $2,000 for regional newsletter on prison activism and issues in response to the explosive growth of the local prison industrial complex.

Women
Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund (Cambridge MA) $2,000 for a campaign to eradicate economic barriers to abortion access and to change the public debate around abortion services.
Immigrant Workers Resource Center (Boston, MA) $2,000 for the Women’s Leadership Training program which focuses on the empowerment of immigrant women through training in workplace health and safety issues.
NARAL- Missouri (St. Louis, MO) $2,000 for a project to document and then educate mainstream anti-bias groups and the media about the connection between...
$2,000 for youth-led organization which organizes, mobilizes and empowers young people to struggle against police brutality.

Ya Ne Dah Ah School (Chickaloon, AK) $2,000 to support work with Native youth on self-determination, sovereignty, subsistence rights, environmental protection and tribal government issues.

Youth Leadership Support Network (Takoma Park, MD) $2,000 for the Young Organizers’ Seminar on Leadership and Coalition Building which brings together young leaders and veteran organizers.

Grants: $212,570.00
Loans: $3,500.00
Donor-Directed: $4,132.50

*NOTE: These divisions do not accurately portray the inter-connectedness of many issues. Generally speaking, grants are organized according to the project or campaign rather than the sponsoring group itself. For example, an environmental project sponsored by a labor group would be listed as “Environment” rather than “Labor.”

Geographic Grant Distribution in 1999

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<th>Region</th>
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</tr>
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tive health and choices; organizations demanding equal rights and dignity for persons with disabilities; and radical and alternative media exposing the truth and providing the kind of information not covered in the mainstream.

Special Grants and Tributes

In 1999, RESIST was pleased to award two grants from the Freda Friedman Salzman Memorial Fund, which "is dedicated to the purpose of supporting organized resistance to the institutions and practices that rob people of their dignity as full human beings... (giving) a high priority to the efforts of Native American peoples to resist cultural as well as actual genocide." The first went to 9 to 5 Colorado (Denver, CO) for a workplace anti-discrimination outreach and education project designed to help low-wage women understand their rights and empower them to take action. Another Salzman grant was awarded to Sisters In Action for Power (Portland, OR), a group that works to build women's and girls' leadership on social justice issues.

Last year RESIST also had the privilege of starting a new fund to honor the life's work and legacy of Leslie D'Corra Holmes. This fund supports activities and organizations that embody the characteristics, values, and principles that reflect the spirit-filled mission of Leslie D'Corra Holmes, including: empowerment for communities and individuals; self-determination through education and community organizing; harmonization of diverse communities of interest; actualization and recognition of individual potential; courage of conviction; and pride in culture, community and self. The first grant from the Holmes Memorial Fund was awarded to CAUSA (Salem, OR), a statewide coalition defending immigrant rights and building immigrant leadership.

RESIST annually awards one grant in tribute to Mike Riegel, a supporter of prisoners' rights, gay and lesbian liberation and the radical movement for social justice, who died of complications due to AIDS in 1992. The Criminal Justice Consortium (Oakland, CA) received a Riegel Tribute grant to build the Southern California base of a statewide group that works to change criminal justice policy-making in order to reduce the over-reliance on incarceration.

At a rally for increased school funding, members of Urban Retrievers rewrote the "12 Days of Christmas" to include these gifts from the governor: five budget cuts, four broken bathrooms, three schools a-rotting, two books per classroom, and a stadium for Jeffrey Lurie (owner of the Philadelphia Eagles). Photo courtesy of Urban Retrievers

Read all About it!

If this isn't enough to make you feel good about and inspire your contributions, please note that 1999 was our year of the Provocative Newsletter. We covered genetic engineering, art and cultural work, privatization of welfare and prisons, Appalachian organizing, weapons trade, education reform, queer politics, sectarian politics and a scathing review of US foreign policy. All this in such a little rag! Much of the content comes from our grantees and the organizing they undertake. In truth, it is as much a representation of what is happening as is our grantees list.

Finally, here is some news from the home front. This is our second year awarding more than $220,000 in grants and loans. Through your support we have grown into much more of a big deal than we ever imagined. We have a tradition now (going on two years!) of supporting multi-year grants (5 this year, 5 more planned for 2000), also credited to strong, consistent, wonderful donor support. The trend continues of giving more grants to rural areas, economic and labor justice groups, and folks working on peace/anti-militarism. As a RESIST pledge, I know that my donation gets distributed to those groups that reflect our mission to support progressive social change among organizations that seek to highlight the linkages among our issues.

A Few House Notes

The Board of RESIST experienced a few changes this year. Most notably, the Board decided to reconfigure ourselves into a Board of Advisors — folks who still love and support RESIST but cannot make the six grant-making meetings each year—and a Board of Directors. This gives a new title to already-existing involvement.

During this transition time, RESIST added two members: Jim Campen, who is a political economist and long-time supporter. Jim jumped right in, joined the finance committee, and has already participated in two grant rounds and a retreat. Former Board member Kate Cloud resumed her involvement after a 10-year absence. Welcome back, Kate.

Speaking of welcoming, staff person Robin Carton and her partner Meredith Smith became moms this year, adopting a baby girl from China. Anna has thrown us all into paroxysms of delight, and the office has a new joy and lightness about it.

From where I sit, it feels silly to sum up how we fund social change at the turn of the millennium, especially since it is year 4698 by the Chinese calendar. A more useful lens might be to view RESIST as a part of progressive funding itself; the very fact you gave us money helped in direct, immediate ways in 1999 to support 123 groups all over the US. The remarkable part is that, thanks to your contributions, RESIST continues to grow, more than 32 years from our financially modest, but politically feisty, start. It's a model we hope gets replicated many times over.

Pam Chamberlain is a member of the RESIST board and a RESIST pledge.
Funding Resources

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that you can decide if your proposal will meet their decision-making criteria and they want you to follow the specific directions they provide for submissions. Applications which do not follow their guidelines may be rejected without review. It is in your organization’s best interest to apply only for projects which are clearly within the funder’s scope of interest. If you are not sure that your proposal meets the funding criteria, be sure to contact the grant-making department and ask for clarification.

When writing proposals, remember that it is easier to receive grants for a specific project than general support money.

There are several important points to keep in mind when writing a grant proposal. Be as clear and concise as possible about the need for the project and how it will fill a gap in the area. Explain how the goals of the project are reasonable and achievable. Demonstrate that the organization has the skill and ability to carry out the planned activities. Indicate how the group will evaluate its work and what criteria it will use in planning to go forward based on the analysis. It is also a good idea to discuss how the group will work in coalition with other activist organizations and individuals to accomplish the goals of the project.

Whatever your fundraising approach, we wish you success in your efforts and in your work.

Funding Directories

Foundation Grants for Individuals (1999)
$65 from The Foundation Center, 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003-3076; (800) 424-9836; www.fdncenter.org.


Grants for Film, Media & Communications, new editions annually, $75 from the Foundation Center, 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003; (800) 424-9836, (includes radio, audio-visual and journalism funders); www.fdncenter.org.


Organizational Development Resources:
Alliance for Nonprofit Management, 1899 L Street NW, #600, Washington, DC 20036; www.annn.org.
Compasspoint Nonprofit Services/Nonprofit Genii, 706 Mission Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94103; (415) 541-9000; www.genie.org.
Center for Community Change, 1000 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007; (202) 342-0519.
Grantsmanship Center, 1125 West Sixth Street, Fifth Floor, PO Box 17220, Los Angeles, CA 90017; (213) 482-9860.
Resourceful Women, Presidio Building, 1016, PO Box 29423, San Francisco, CA 94129-0423; (415) 561-6520.

Fundraising Resources

We strongly urge grassroots groups to build their own donor base and to emphasize raising funds principally from their own constituency. Realistically, very few mainstream foundations will fund left political organizing. In fact, research shows that only 12% of all charitable dollars come from foundations; the bulk of charitable giving comes from individuals. In other words, the people in an organization’s area are more likely to support their project than a large foundation.

There are many ways to build a donor base and raise funds. The following books and journals are a good place to start:

1) Chardon Press

A number of well respected resources are published by Chardon Press, 3781 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94611. (888)458-8588; www.chardonpress.com. A few of these works include:

Fundraising for Social Change by Kim Klein ($25). This book talks about asking for money, personal solicitation, researching prospects for large gifts, direct mail fundraising, fundraising by telephone, special events and more. It concentrates on aspects of raising funds other than writing proposals to foundations.

Grassroots Grants by Andy Robinson ($25). This book complements Fundraising for Social Change and focuses on proposal writing and foundation grantseeking for social justice projects.

The Grassroots Fundraising Journal ($32/year) edited by Kim Klein. This is a useful periodical which is published six times per year and includes timely articles on a range of fundraising topics.

2) Other resources include:

Grantsmanship Center Magazine, PO Box 17220, Los Angeles, CA 90017; (213) 482-9860. www.tgci.com. Published four times per year. No cost to non-profit organizations.


The Grassroots Fundraising Series, Part I and II, by Kim Klein, video distribution by Headwaters Fund, 122 West Franklin, Suite 518, Minneapolis, MN, 55404 (612) 879-0602 (1% of an organization’s budget, minimum $25)

How to Write Successful Fundraising Letters, by Mel Warwick. ($39.95) Strathmoor Press, 2550 Ninth Street, Suite 103, Berkeley, CA 94710-2516; (800) 388-3348.


Some Stamps of Approval

In 1999, donors and pledges returned business reply envelopes with stamps, amounting to a savings of nearly $1,000 for RESIST. By using stamps, RESIST supporters funded the equivalent of more than three emergency grants.

Thank you.
Join the Resist Pledge Program

We'd like you to consider becoming a Resist Pledge. Pledges account for over 30% of our income.

By becoming a pledge, you help guarantee Resist a fixed and dependable source of income on which we can build our grant-making program. In return, we will send you a monthly pledge letter and reminder along with your newsletter. We will keep you up-to-date on the groups we have funded and the other work being done at Resist.

So take the plunge and become a Resist Pledge! We count on you, and the groups we fund count on us.

Donations to Resist are tax-deductible.

Resist • 259 Elm Street • Suite 201 • Somerville • MA • 02144

Yes! I'll become a RESIST Pledge.

I'll send you my pledge of $____ every month/quarter/six months (circle one).

[ ] Enclosed is an initial pledge contribution of $____.

[ ] I can't join the pledge program now, but here's a contribution of $____ to support your work.

Name __________________________
Address __________________________
City/State/Zip __________________________
Phone __________________________

FUNDING RESOURCES

Frequently RESIST's grantees and groups who do not meet Resist's fund-seeking guidelines ask for assistance to find other sources of support. A few common concerns that groups raise include: where to find information on progressive foundations; what are some basic steps to follow when researching and applying for grants; and how to make contact with grantmakers. The information below highlights a small portion of the resources available and may serve as a starting point for groups as they pursue their own unique search for funding.

Finding Information
The first step in the grantseeking process is to make a list of the names and addresses of foundations that might support the project in question.

The most comprehensive listing of grants and grantmakers is provided by the Foundation Center Network affiliated libraries around the United States. Each library contains The Foundation Directory Part 1 & 2, The Foundation 1000, and The Foundation Grants Index, which allow grantseekers to research information regarding specific foundations which range in perspective from progressive to conservative. The Foundation Center Network also provides many other specialized funding directories which cover particular fields of interest, geographic locations and types of support. To find the closest location, call the Foundation Center at (800) 424-9836 or visit their web site at www.fdncenter.org.

The local public library can also be a good source of information. A reference librarian can help find books on researching foundations or may be able to order them from regional libraries.

Identifying Prospective Funders
Successful grantwriting requires research. It is far more efficient and beneficial to send a few well-researched requests that satisfy the funder's guidelines than to send out materials randomly.

Research might include these steps:
1) Develop a broad list of prospective funders based on their fields of interest, geographic restrictions and grant size. These funders may include: public charities, private or community foundations, corporate giving programs, and/or individual donors.
2) Refine your list so that it only includes grantmakers whose requirements match your request or organization. Pay attention to the type of grants the funder has previously given in the past. This will help you decide if your project or organization is appropriate for the grant. Note that the indices of foundation directories can help narrow the list by highlighting the funders' interest areas (e.g. women/girls, peace, labor, community organizing), geographical or target populations.

3) Verify information found in directories with the funders in question, since information can often be incomplete or outdated.

Contacting the Grantmaker
Personal contact, such as a site visit or phone call, can help create a favorable impression. However, we suggest you check first to see if a foundation encourages such contacts. Often grantmakers will be willing to answer questions about their applications or review process. In addition, they can provide useful information for writing the proposal, such as their annual report, other publications and a list of recent grantees. These conversations and documents will help you to assess the type of projects the funder is interested in, how much they tend to give and the chances of your group being funded.

Before sending any of your materials, you should contact someone in the grantmaking department. Generally, applicants must complete a specific form, although some funders require an initial letter of inquiry prior to accepting an application. Remember, foundations receive a large number of inquiries, and unsolicited materials are frequently unwanted.

Writing Your Proposal
Writing a successful grant proposal is hard work. There are no easy answers or shortcuts. In the course of developing your proposal, you are forced to step away from the frequently compelling and time-consuming aspects of your work. As a result, you have the chance to re-examine how and why you do your work. When a proposal is based on this analysis, it can serve as both a fundraising tool and a workplan for the future.

When filling out an application, you should closely follow the guidelines and procedures suggested by the grantmaker. Funders have written these documents so