Resist Steering Committee Meeting, April 2013

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes

Recommended Citation
Resist, "Resist Steering Committee Meeting, April 2013" (2013). Resist Board Meeting Minutes. 370.
https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes/370
April 2013
Grant Decisions

Multi-Year Grants
Renewals

1. Fort Hood Support Network
P.O. Box 16174, Austin, TX 78761-6174
Alice Embree 512/459-4819 www.underthehoodcafe.org
$4,000
year two of multi-year funding to create a safe space for service-members, military families and veterans to discuss the hardships of military life, including command abuse, PTSD, sexual trauma, deployment, and GI rights.
Decision: Full

2. NARAL Pro-Choice Texas
P.O. Box 684602, Austin, TX 78768
Heather Busby 512/462-1661 www.prochoicetexas.org
$4,000
for year two of multi-year funding to ensure that women have the right to a full range of reproductive choices, including preventing unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children and choosing legal abortion.
Decision: Full

General Support Grants

Community Organizing/ Anti-Racism

3. Chainbreaker Collective
1515 5th Street, Santa Fe, NM 87505
Tomas Rivera 505/989-3858 www.chainbreaker.org
$4,000
to expand access to affordable transportation and support economically and ecologically sustainable communities for low-income people in Northern New Mexico.
Decision: Full
Comments:
Strong references. Have evolved substantially from early years. Many contacts and collaborations. Now use the Bicycle Resource Center as an outreach tool for the larger goals. Serve about 3,000 people annually and enables contact with youth and homeless people.

4. Kentucky Dream Coalition
900 Humboldt Place, Unit 304, Louisville, KY 40208
Maria Karen Lopez 859/494-5075
Defer
for a youth-led immigrant rights organization advocating for fair immigration policies through networking, community education and empowerment.
Decision: Defer/References

5. Muslim Consultative Network
239 Thompson Street, New York City, NY 10012
Ashleigh Zimmerman 347/585-0589 www.mcnny.org
$2,000
to work across the Muslim faith to build community, empower individuals and fight against institutional and individual-based abuses.
Decision: Partial
Comments:
Have potential to align with the left or become mainstream. Worth taking a chance. ED not of the Muslim community but has spent a great deal of time working on Middle East issues. Do more education than organizing at this time.
6. Pikes Peak Justice and Peace Commission  
332 West Bijou Street, #102, Colorado Springs, CO 80905-1347  
Steve Saint 719/632-6189  
www.ppjpc.org  
$1,000  
to educate and raise awareness around issues of environmental, social and economic justice.  
Decision: Partial  
Comments:  
Organizational capacity has gone up and down.

7. Santa Cruz County Community Coalition to Overcome Racism (SCCCOR)  
509 Broadway, #C, Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Randy Colon 831/425-4500  
www.overcomingracism.org  
$3,000  
to work towards ending systemic racism in Santa Cruz county.  
Decision: Partial  
Comments:  
Challenge when Santa Cruz County identifies itself as progressive and seen as a model for other cities. However, issues of institutional racism remain prevalent in law enforcement, education, social services and housing. References are strong.

8. Texans United for Families  
607 W. 14th Street, Austin, TX 78702  
Bob Libal 512/971-0487  
facebook.com/texansunitedforfamilies  
to end immigrant detention and to demand the recognition of human rights for all, regardless of immigration status.  
Decision: Full  
Comments:  
Good reference. Worked to successfully end family immigrant detention center at T. Don Hutto Residential Center. Currently working to close Polk County Detention Center where over 700 men are incarcerated.

9. Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice  
122 State Street, #405A, Madison, WI 53703  
Diane Farsetta 608/250-9240  
www.wnpj.org  
$3,000  
to work for peace and justice in Wisconsin.  
Decision: Partial  
Comments:  
Good reference. Slowly increasing diversity. Still primarily a white ally group. Provide on-going support to other RESIST grantees who are their members. Big new mining campaigns around the state.

Economic Justice

10. Family Farm Defenders  
P.O. Box 1772, Madison, WI 53701  
John Peck 608-260-0900  
www.familyfarmdefenders.org  
to reconstruct the contemporary food system upon the principles of respect, local empowerment, environmental sustainability and social justice.  
Decision: Full  
Comments:  
Very strong references. Connections made across issues.
11. Homeless Empowerment Project
to give voice to homeless and low-income people as a means of eliminating poverty and reducing stereotypes about low-income people.

Decision: No
Comments:
Staff is majority white. Not organizing. Vision of change is not clear. Diversity chart does not show low-income people.

12. Milk Not Jails $3,000
497 Quincy Street, Brooklyn, NY 11221 Lauren Melodia 917/719-6455 www.milknotjails.org
for a group making linkages between urban mass incarcerations and rural dairy farms in order to stand against the prison industrial complex.

Decision: Partial
Not clear what power analysis is. Weird, creative and exciting. Have strong allies as endorsers for the campaign. Use the milk cooperative as a vehicle to engage farmers in political work.

Environmental Justice

13. 350 Vermont $3,000
255 S. Champlain Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Maeve McBride 802/444-0350 www.350vt.org
to work with communities most affected by climate crisis for a just transition to renewable energy with a race, class and gender lens.

Decision: Partial
Comments:
Almost all white. Ally group to Migrant Justice. Analysis is great. Doing organizational anti-racist training. Are part of the 350 network which is primarily white with a race and class analysis.

14. Boston Climate Action Network
14 Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108 Loie Hayes 617/278-1885 www.bostoncan.org
to build a base of residents taking action to increase environmental sustainability.

Decision: No
Comments:
Not diverse. Language is divisive – “green ghetto.” Trying to bring climate action to communities of color.

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Rights

15. Gender Justice League $4,000
517 East Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98122 Danielle Askini 206/227-1164 www.genderjusticeleague.org
to empower trans* activists and allies to fight oppression based upon gender and sexuality in Washington State.

Decision: Full
Comments:
Good analysis and references. Pushing back against traditional lgbtq organizing.
16. Hispanic Black Gay Coalition
PO Box 120789, Boston, MA 02112    Corey Yarbrough 857/264-4464    www.hbge-boston.org
for a group focused on creating space for black and Latino LGBTQ in the larger movement for social justice and equality.

Decision: Full  Partial  No  Undecided  Defer
Comments:
Strong references. Get a lot of foundation grants.

Labor/Employment Rights

17. Midwest Center for Equality and Democracy
P.O. Box 5946, Kansas City, MO 64171    Gina Chiala 816/286-4372    www.mc-ed.org
to organize low-wage workers, confront racial divisions and build a strong multi-racial base of activists and leaders.

Decision: No
Comments:
References not particularly good. People new to organizing – mobilized out of local Occupy. No led or founded by the people most affected. Current campaign was not initiated by fast food workers. They say that the campaign will be led by a steering committee of fast food workers - but they have not identified those people at this time. They use a lot of "us" and "them" language when referring to their campaigns. Budget has $77,580 in expenses but does not indicate where revenue will come from.

Native American/Native Peoples’ Rights

18. Indian People’s Action
P.O. Box 113, Butte, MT 59703    Michaelynn Hawk 406/565-3475

to advance the racial and social equality of Native American people in urban areas and the border towns of the seven federally recognized tribes of Montana.

Decision: Full
Comments:
They are the local drivers of Idle No More. Organizing is effective and successful. Michaelynn wrote a strong article for ColorLines.

Peace/Anti-Militarism

19. Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities (Project YANO)
P.O. Box 230157, Encinitas, CA 92023    Rick Jahnkow 760/634-3604    www.projectyano.org
to engage in counter-recruitment campaigns highlighting non-military alternatives for job training, education and community service.

Decision: Full
Comments:
Board decision to award a multi-year grant instead of general support. Still doing strong work. Especially important given how far AFSC has cut back and that CCO/NISBCO is now closed.
Prisoners’ Rights

20. Campaign to End the Death Penalty - National Office
P.O. Box 25730, Chicago, IL 60625  Patricia Aties  773/955-4841  www.nodeathpenalty.org

to work towards abolition of the death penalty.

Decision:  No
Comments:  
Poor references. During the past two years 12 of the 16 local chapters closed. Mostly campaign around specific prisoners and their cases. Of five staff members - four are white. Do not track diversity of members or active volunteers. No diversity information for Board members or staff re: LGBTQ people or people with disabilities - "unknown." Budget is $39,000 and have $28,000 in the bank.

21. Human Rights Coalition  $3,000
4134 Lancaster Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104  Patricia Vickers  267/293-9169  www.hrcoalition.com
funding for an organization run predominantly by prisoners, former prisoners and their families who work to transform the prison system.

Decision:  Partial
Comments:  
Still doing good work.

Youth Organizing

22. Providence Student Union  $4,000
407 Smith Street #2, Providence, RI 02908  Aaron Regunberg  847/809-6039  www.providencestudentunion.org

to engage students in critical thinking skills and empowerment to effect change at their local schools and beyond.

Decision:  Full/Hell Yes!
Comments:  
Started as a winter initiative of Brown students. Long term Providence activists reamed them out for their Helly yes! approach. Long term founders then dropped out and they re-formed. "Take the Test" campaign looks really exciting; are employing some very creative ways to get local policy makers to listen up. Last application talked about expanding beyond Hope High School, have been able to do this.

23. Youth Organizing Institute  $4,000
331 West Main Street, #408, Durham, NC 27701  Bryan Perlmutter  704/770-6418  www.wakeyouth.wordpress.com

to build leadership and skills of young people to stop racism, school re-segregation, school to prison pipeline and make schools safe for LGBTQ youth.

Decision:  Full
Comments:  
Strong references and organizing. Situation in north Carolina is really tough these days.

Total Number of Grants:  21 general support grants; 2 multi-year grants; 0 TA grant; 0 emergency grants; 18 not on agenda
Total Amount Requested:  $92,000
Total Allocation for Cycle:  $49,000
Total Grants:  $49,000 general support grants; $12,000 multi-year grants; $0 TA grants; $0 emergency grants
Total Allocated:  $61,000
Total # of Grants Allocated:  15 general support grants; 3 multi-year grants; 0 TA grants; 0 emergency grants
Total # of Grants:  18

Deferred:  Kentucky Dream Coalition
Hell Yes! Grants:  Providence Student Union
1. Chicago Grassroots Curriculum Taskforce
4554 N. Broadway, #326, Chicago, IL 60640  Anton Miglietta 773/275-2428 www.grassrootscurriculum.org
to challenge and revolutionize the traditional models of classroom learning and the overwhelmingly Eurocentric canon of
irrelevant curriculum by building curricula based on local and relevant content from students' lives.
**Reason:** See themselves as a people's curriculum publisher and educational clearinghouse. No indication that they can
really get into the schools. No organizing. No detail in answers to #11.

2. Citizens Oversight Accountability Team
660 Winchester Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511  Merryl Eaton 203/777-6072 merryleaton@ccahelping.org
to challenge existing state funded job training programs to help workers obtain and sustain livable wage jobs.
**Reason:** Say they are reflective of New Haven's diversity, but chart says otherwise. No real budget. Not clear on
relationship between Christian Community Action. Advocacy, not really organizing.

3. Communities of Color Coalition (C3)
P.O. Box 472, Everett, WA 98206-0472  Kinuko Noborikawa 425/258-8828
www.facebook.com/pages/Communities-of-Color-Coalition-C3/394414279552
to work with community to advocate for social justice, cultural and religious respect, and human rights.
**Reason:** Not a sophisticated analysis of interaction with US policy. Mostly event planning. Unclear where ongoing
organizing happens.

4. Flanbwayan Haitian Literacy Project
208 Parkside Ave., 2nd Flr., Brooklyn, NY 11226  Darnell Benoit 718/774-3037 www.flanbwayan.org
to assist immigrant Haitian youth with English literacy skills, adapting to a new community and environment, and
developing leadership skills.
**Reason:** Not organizing

5. For Youth Inquiry (FYI): Performing Health Collective
226 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago, IL 60604  Alison Lehner 773/599-1063 www.foryouthinquiry.org
to engage youth in accessible conversations about sexual health and sexual violence through participatory theater.
**Reason:** Did not arise from the community. Alumni of Northwestern University School of Communications chose topic
to develop. Does not appear to have any ongoing contact with youth or organizing work. Work with the Illinois
Department of Health and Human Services. Seem to have more of a service focus. Put on performances but no clear
follow up. Collaborations are mostly with service providers, state health care departments, hospitals and the Arts and
Business Council of Chicago. No one under 21 active in leadership, volunteer or member role. Had a surplus of $14,441
in 2012.

6. Just Healing
2 Washington Square Village, New York, NY 10012  Maryse Mitchell-Brody 646/705-4415 www.justhealing.wordpress.com
for a network of radical health practitioners coming together annually at the Allied Media Conference to offer a healing
justice practice and network gathering space.
**Reason:** No examples of how work moves beyond the annual AMC. No actual organizing.

7. Learning for the Empowerment and Advancement of Palestinians
52 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10603  Maryam Zohny 917/297-0478 www.leap-program.org
to empower Palestinian refugee youth through an English language proficiency program.
**Reason:** All programs are based in Lebanon. Second part of work is awareness of issues pertaining to the Palestinian
Diaspora in refugee camps, but had very little information on this part of the work, and that is not the main focus. The
main focus is to help students learn English so that they may pass the national high school exam in Lebanon, get support
during the summer ,while in school, and during college.
8. Librarians and Archivists to Palestine
52 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10603      Melissa Merrone  718/363-7054  librarians2palestine.wordpress.com
For a delegation composed of librarians and archivist wanting to skill share and build relationships with their Palestinian counterparts.

**Reason:** Not organizing, not Resist. Funding is for a loose group of folks (specifically librarians and archivist) to travel to Palestine, meet their counterparts, skill share, and document the trip. They will share their experiences upon returning. Not connected to any broader vision.

9. Melange
420 Hayter Drive, Morristown, TN 37813      William Isom II  423/277-7162  www.handsoffapplachia.wordpress.com
for an emergency grant to participate in a six-day non-violent march on USB and it's support of mountaintop removal coal mining.

**Reason:** No information online on Melange. Not sure this is an emergency. Not clear from proposal that they are one of the key players or the rights folks to fund for this. No doubt an important issue, will call Margo Miller, who they listed as a reference, to ask about them.

10. No Boundaries Coalition
1221 N. Calvert, Baltimore, MD 21202      Rebecca Nagle  410/357-1085  www.noboundariescoalition.com
**Reason:** No real information on what they have actually accomplished or how they plan to work on the issues i.e. recreation and education they’ve identified. Lots of rhetoric and no substantial details on actual work. Very diverse.

11. Queer Oriented Rap/Rock Day School (QORDS)
1010 Demerius St., Durham, NC 27701      Meredith Hancock  503/680-0763  www.qordsinfo@tumblr.com
for a summer music camp for queer youth and youth with queer parents.

**Reason:** Important issue, but not organizing. A week long camp, list staff, but don't provide racial breakdown.

12. Reconstruction, Inc.
P.O. Box 7691, Philadelphia, PA 19101      William Goldsby  215/227-6977  www.reconstructioninc.org

**Reason:** It seems like the direction of the organization has changed-used to be organizing against unfair practices by the Pennsylvania Pardon Board, worked on life without the possibility of parole actions and initiatives and bringing the voices of ex-felons into the leadership of the organization. Now, it seems they are providing services to other groups, mainly by lending their 501 c 3 status. Programs seem to be a curriculum. No information on what direct actions they are participating in.

13. Resistencia Mexicana
1761 E 84th Avenue, Thornton, CO 80229      Alonzo Barron Ortiz  720/401-3448

**Reason:** All were members of Al Frente de Lucha - the fiscal conduit. A significant portion of the proposal is written about Al Frente. Application is long on jargon and short on specific work. Have a summer program for youth - but no real details on what will happen. Have connections with a number of sectarian groups in Denver - but unclear that these groups work well with others. References are all from people affiliated with the organization. Chinoak appears to be a donor direct grant. They are showing almost a $27,000 loss for the current year with no plan for raising funds. Had an $1,800 loss last year. Did not show carry over so have to make up almost $30,000. Note from fiscal sponsor says that they have a working partnership and only difference between the two organizations is location. Only real work referenced are educational forums. No clear organizing.

14. San Joaquin Pride Center
109 N Sutter Street, Stockton, CA 95202      Nicholas Hatten  209/466-7572  www.sanjoaquinpridecenter.weebly.com
for an LGBTQ community center serving people in conservative region of Stockton, California and San Joaquin County.

**Reason:** Proposal is the same one submitted almost a year ago. Most of work appears to be support groups and an artists series. Just starting to work on organizing a Gay/Straight Alliance in the schools. Get funding from Pacific Gas and Electric, Wells Fargo, Delta College, Entravision Communication and Nationwide Insurance. Answers to #11 have no detail. Collaborations are with service organizations or more mainstream LGBTQ groups. Board members all white. Volunteers are more diverse.
15. **Save our Somerville**
34 Spencer Ave., Somerville, MA 02144 Matthew McLaughlin 617/999-0924 www.saveoursomerville.org

to start up a community "fund" to help spread social capital to racially and economically divided neighborhoods

**Reason:** Main actions include cleaning up a park, soccer tournament, and stick-ball tournament. Main goal is to start up a fund. Their budget consists of mostly just asking RESIST for money.

16. **Southern Grassroots Economies Project**
2769 Church Street, East Point, GA 30344 Angela Brown 404/765-0991 www.sgeproject.org

to convene the second CoopEcon conference as a space for groups to come together and share resources around cooperative economics.

**Reason:** Funding is for a one time conference. The Conference was held last year, only funder is their fiscal sponsor "Fund for Democratic Communities, Inc." No information on follow-up after conference- seems to be a space for folks who in their own organizations are either already working on developing cooperatives or are interested in them.

17. **The RadioActive Dyke! Roadshow**
12150 W. Calle Seneca, Tucson, AZ 85743 Catherine Euler 928/899-2267

to dissolve the denial and isolation caused by nuclear industry propaganda by touring nuclear sites, networking with activists there and co-producing public education presentations on the damage caused by exposure to nuclear waste.

**Reason:** A media tour that includes: a meeting and performance; leafleting and street theater; a paid performance; and a live broadcast on FaceBook and YouTube. No ongoing organizing work in communities. Have 13 members - only 3 of whom will go on the road. No real strategy to recruit new members. Unclear where their connections are as they take the performances on the road. Not listed in collaborations section. Script for Roadshow not compelling.

18. **theMOVE**
P.O. Box 38115, Cambridge, MA 02238 Dave Madan 617/863-6488 www.getoutma.org

to inspire Boston's urban communities to build a healthier food system by mobilizing diverse youth and young adults to participate in reflective farm workdays.

**Reason:** Not organizing. Expect to double budget in 2013 without real plan for accomplishing it. Seeking traditional sources of funds.
Present: Robin (notes), Ravi, Yafreisy, Saif

Agenda:
- Friday Grantmaking Meeting
- Finance Transition
- Audit
- Charitable Registration
- Robin’s Transition
- Upcoming E-Blasts and Newsletters

1. Friday Grantmaking Meeting
Ten people are coming to the meeting: Jen, Cynthia, Miabi, Marc, Nisha, Greg, Saif, Ravi, Robin, Yafreisy.

Need to send reading group breakdown and put it on the Board website

Greg did not get his packet – need to re-check his address for mailing

Food: pizza, salad and root beer.

2. Finance Transition
Yafreisy spoke with Meredith about reviewing the drafts of the audit and 990. They have an agreement in place for her to do it.

Yafreisy and Ravi interviewed Charles Oscitti, and as part of the interview went over the task list that Meredith left. They felt he was qualified and competent. He took over from Meredith after she left Political Research Associates and so is familiar with her work style. References for him were all good. Yafreisy is ready to sign an agreement with him. He would like to meet with Meredith after he starts. Yafreisy is in the process of scheduling a day or two of training for Charles.

3. Audit
Linda has not finished her first draft yet. She is still working on it. The goal is still to have a copy to the Finance Committee by the second or third week of April.

4. Charitable Registration
Yafreisy has a call in to Meredith to discuss whether or not she will do the 2012 charitable registration for RESIST. She is also following up with the potential places for outsourcing the job.

Whoever will be doing the filing will need to be ready to jump on the May 15th deadline states, or ready to file for extensions.

5. Robin’s Transition

Payroll: Yafreisy will go in to the QuickBooks payroll module and set Saif up to approve payroll on a weekly basis by April 12th. QBs will send Saif an automated message with a link to click for approval once Yafreisy enters the payroll. Payroll has not been synced with QuickBooks for the last two weeks. Yafreisy will do it at some point soon.
Timesheets: Everyone will get Robin outstanding timesheets. She will compile them and send data to Kay. Ravi will take over and Robin will show him what needs to happen.

**BREs to Post Office:** After the Board meeting Robin will show Ravi how to fill out the forms and return BREs to the Post Office.

**Donation Site Name Change:** Ravi will become the contact person for: Easy Match, Network for Good, Just Give, Community Room, iGive etc.

**How To Guide:** Robin still hopes to have this done by the last week of April – if not sooner.

**Prospect Mailing Data Entry:** Akshay will do initial data entry of new donors.

**Eastern Bank:** Next week Saif and Robin will go to Eastern Bank to enable Saif to be a signer on the account and to get a debit card.

**Morgan Stanley:** Enabling resolution passed. Ravi is now authorized on the account. He will see about getting Jim authorized as well. Ravi will also print out the resolution along with the Board responses and put them in the Minute Book.

**Outstanding TIAA-CREF payment:** There is a payment due to the retirement account from February 2012. Yafreisy will take care of making sure the payment is made by next week. She will also take over as the plan manager for the retirement accounts.

**Wireless Password:** Saif will take the lead on making sure it is changed. He plans to do so after Robin’s last day.

**Tax issues with Melissa Carino:** RESIST got another letter from the IRS. Yafreisy consulted Meredith on how to handle it. This should resolve the issue as far as the letter goes.

**Robin’s Job Description:** Robin will try to make a pared down version available by Friday.

**Grant Issues:** Robin and Yafreisy will meet next week to talk about grant related issues

**Interim Staff Person:** Ravi spoke with Miabi and Greg. Miabi might be interested on a part-time basis. Greg will need to discuss with his wife whether this is a task he can take on. They should be getting back to Ravi by tomorrow. Needs to be a back up plan in place in the event that neither of them will be available. Ravi, Saif and Yafreisy will try to talk with colleagues and Board members for suggestions. Some possibilities include: Sarath Suong, Kohei Ishihara, Melissa Cariño. Yafreisy called Haymarket, North Star and Boston Women’s Fund to get a sense of salaries for entry level positions. New York: $52,000 – $60,000. Boston: $45,000 - $50,000. Suggestion to set interim position at equivalent of $50,000. Staff will meet next week on Tuesday for next steps.

6. **Upcoming E-Blasts and Newsletters**

**Upcoming Newsletter issues:** GLBTQ TIPS after marriage. How grantees think about their answers to question #11 on the application.

**E-Blasts:** Today to grantees about Robin leaving. Monday to donors and allies. Robin will edit the piece she wrote for the Newsletter to send out. She will also print a list of grantee e-mail addresses.