

# LEFT BEHIND

**In the first six months of 2011, the federal government removed more than 46,000 mothers and fathers of U.S.-citizen children from their homes.**



The stories are many and heart-breaking. A poultry worker in Missouri loses her son after Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) swoops in and raids her workplace. She goes to jail and her child is put up for adoption when the judge rules she has “abandoned” her son. A young father in North Carolina loses his three children when, after dropping them off at daycare, he is pulled over by the police for an unpaid traffic ticket. He is deported to Mexico, leaving his wife behind, unable to support the family.

At a Bronx Town Hall Meeting, PDF grantee **Families for Freedom, Inc.** described how member Julio Beltre saw Homeland Security take his father away in handcuffs. Beltre, his little sister and brothers are American citizens. Their father was deported to the Dominican Republic.

Child welfare and the legislative fever to deport undocumented workers have collided. “Shattered Families,” a 2011 report by the Applied Research Center (ARC) illustrates that crash. According to federal data released to ARC through a Freedom of Information Act request, a growing number and proportion of deportees are parents. In the first six months of 2011, the federal government removed more than 46,000 mothers and fathers of U.S.-citizen children from their homes. Among ARC’s key findings, they estimate that there are at least 5,100 children currently living in foster care who are prevented from uniting with their detained or deported parents. “If nothing changes,” they say, “15,000 more children may face a similar fate in the next five years.”

Further describing the impact or threat of deportation on families, PDF grantee **Coalición de Derechos Humanos** in Tucson, Ariz. says, “We have had reports of depression in children as young as elementary school.” These youth demonstrate in their schoolwork and outside activities the increased stress families experience when a loved one is deported. **Homies Unidos** of Los Angeles, Calif., worries that these children are more likely to engage in criminal behavior.

Citing The Urban Institute 2010 study, “Facing Our Future: Children in the Aftermath of Immigration Enforcement,” Homies notes that behavioral changes in older children who have had parents deported often include increasing aggressiveness, “particularly if the parents were arrested at the home, which in turn leads to increasing crime and law enforcement issues.” Homies’ program, *Libertad con Dignidad*, brings together families, individuals and leaders of the community to advocate for change on local and national levels at the intersection of criminal justice and immigration policies. Stopping children from joining gangs is a priority for Homies Unidos, also a PDF grantee, which means understanding the effect of deportations on families and communities.

In 2011, 31 states introduced legislation that in whole or in part would make failure to carry immigration documents a crime and give police broad power to detain anyone suspected of being in the country illegally. Five states—Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina and Utah—passed laws similar to Arizona’s S.B. 1070, the earliest and most punitive of the laws, adding new twists. For example, Alabama’s HB.56 also required schools to verify students’ immigration status. Missouri, Kansas, Mississippi, Tennessee and West Virginia have jumped on the

bandwagon, despite legal challenges filed in each state and implementation blocked partially or wholly by the courts.

Meanwhile, the Obama administration is deporting immigrants in record numbers. President Obama’s enforcement strategies have led to more than 1.1 million deportations since the beginning of his term, the highest number in six decades. The administration says their focus is on deporting convicted criminals. In August 2011, the Department of Homeland Security said they would, on a case-by-case basis, suspend deportation proceedings against people who posed no public safety threat. Just a month later, ICE enacted the largest enforcement and removal operation in its history, arresting more than 2,000 people in all 50 states. Most of those arrested were low-level offenders who had already served their time, according to [deportation.org](http://deportation.org).

Families for Freedom (FFF), a multi-ethnic defense network built by and for immigrants facing and fighting deportation, authored the Child Citizen Protection Act now wending its way through Congress. It aims to restore discretion to immigration judges to consider the best interests of a U.S. citizen child before deporting his or her parents. “The Child Citizen Protection Act is an opportunity for us to show that we truly value families and that the health, safety and well-being of our nation’s children are important to us,” states FFF. Locally, the group is putting together the campaign for the rights of children with the New Sanctuary movement—an interfaith, nationwide coalition of religious leaders providing spiritual and material support to families suffering under a broken immigration system.

There are about 300,000 deportation cases before the country’s immigration courts right now. Unsurprisingly, FFF tells PDF about their difficulty in retaining members because “more enforcement means that more of our members are being detained or deported.” If a recent review of immigration cases in Colorado by *The New York Times* holds true, about 16 percent of those cases are foreigners who pose no security risk, and thus would be allowed to remain in the U.S. But the administration is not offering any positive legal status to illegal immigrants permitted to stay. Lawyers say that many would be left in an indefinite limbo where they could not work or obtain driver’s licenses and will likely struggle to support their families.

Children, families and their communities are the losers. Given the fervor with which states are embracing deportation, the tepid response from the Obama administration and the pushback from PDF-supported grassroots organizations organizing undocumented immigrants, this is sure to be an important issue during this election year. ■



Courtesy of Families for Freedom

## Interested in learning more?

Join us for a

### Peace Talk

hosted by Executive Director, **Paul Haible** with community organizers from **Fuerza Laboral**

Thursday, May 31, 2012  
7 to 9 p.m.

PDF Center for Peace and Justice  
44 North Prospect Street  
Amherst, MA

Meet PDF staff and activists from PDF-funded organizations. Please reserve as space is limited: [kathys@peacefund.org](mailto:kathys@peacefund.org).

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A STAR DENOTES A NEW GRANTEE

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www.crpe-ej.org
- The Center for Young Women's Development, San Francisco CA  
www.cywd.org
- Changing Worlds, Chicago, IL  
www.changingworlds.org
- Chiapas Media Project, Chicago, IL  
www.promediosmexico.org
- Civic Council of Grassroots and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras, Ciudad de Intibucá-La Esperanza, Honduras
- Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, San Francisco, CA  
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www.commoncounsel.org
- Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice, Oakland, CA
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www.buylocalfood.com
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- Culture of Peace Alliance, Tucson, AZ  
www.cultureofpeacealliance.org
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www.datacenter.org
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www.doctorswithoutborders.org
- Dolores Street Community Services, San Francisco, CA  
www.dscs.org
- Eastern Navajo Uranium Workers, Prewitt, NM
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www.cswa.org
- Flying Eagle Woman Fund for Peace, Justice, and Sovereignty, New York, NY  
www.flyingeaglewomanfund.org
- Freedom Archives, San Francisco, CA  
www.freedomarchives.org
- Friends of Children, Inc., Florence, MA  
www.friends-of-children.org
- ★ Fuerza Laboral/Power of Workers, Central Falls, RI  
www.fuerza-laboral.org
- Gender JUST, Chicago, IL  
www.genderjust.org
- Girls Educational and Mentoring Services, New York, NY  
www.gems-girls.org
- Global Fund for Women, San Francisco, CA  
www.globalfundforwomen.org
- ★ Green Empowerment/Rainforest Renewable Light Network, Portland, OR  
www.greenempowerment.org
- Hampshire Regional Young Men's Christian Association, Northampton, MA  
www.hrymca.org
- Harambee House, Savannah, GA  
www.theharambeehouse.com
- ★ Hawaii Peace and Justice, Honolulu, HI  
www.hawaiipeaceandjustice.org
- ★ Helen Keller International, Inc., New York, NY  
www.hki.org
- Homies Unidos, Los Angeles, CA  
www.homiesunidos.org
- ★ Human Rights Watch Campaign, Washington, DC  
www.hrc.org
- Human Rights Watch, New York, NY  
www.hrw.org
- Imani Group, Aiken, SC  
www.theimani.org
- Indian Law Resource Center, Helena, MT
- International Indian Treaty Council, Inc., Palmer, AK  
www.treatycouncil.org
- International Rescue Committee, New York, NY  
www.rescue.org
- ★ International Women's Network Against Militarism, Barranquitas, PR  
www.genuinesecurity.org/projects/projects
- Japan Pacific Resource Network, Oakland, CA  
www.jprrn.org
- ★ KALW, San Francisco, CA  
www.kalw.org
- ★ Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending, Frankfort, KY  
www.kyresponsiblelending.files.wordpress.com
- La Mujer Obrera, El Paso, TX  
www.mujerobrera.org
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www.lrlc.org
- Leadership Excellence, Oakland, CA  
www.leadershipexcellence.org
- ★ Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, Jackson, MS  
www.mxgm.org
- ★ La Merced de Cristobal de la Serna/Los Comanches de la Serna, Ranchos de Taos, NM
- Middle East Children's Alliance, Berkeley, CA  
www.mecaforpeace.org
- Mujeres Unidas Activas, San Francisco, CA  
www.mujeresunidas.net
- National Day Laborer Organizing Network, Los Angeles, CA  
www.ndlon.org
- National Lawyers Guild San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, San Francisco, CA  
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http://washingtonpeacecenter.net/ag.peoplesmediacenter
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www.thestayproject.org
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www.uunorthampton.org/
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www.youthmediaproject.org

**W**ORKING CONDITIONS IN OVERSEAS PLANTS where Apple's iPhone is made have propelled U.S.-based students and labor unions to organize in an anti-sweatshop movement. They have called on Apple to require its suppliers in China to improve the environment for hundreds of thousands of workers who assemble Apple products at ridiculously low pay. Factory workers' wages amount to \$10 on an iPhone4, a product that might cost anywhere from \$299 to \$650 in the U.S. In a partial victory for the anti-sweatshop movement in February, Apple became the first electronics company to join the Fair Labor Association, a group set up in 1999 by companies, universities and nonprofit groups to monitor working conditions at garment makers in the less developed world.

# HOME-GROWN

Closer to home, in places like Flushing, N.Y. and Central Falls, R.I., PDF grantees are confronting devastating sweatshop conditions and labor abuse in their own communities. You don't need to go to the "third world" to find deplorable working conditions, low pay or "wage theft." A depressed economy and high unemployment is fertile ground for labor abuse and anti-union organizing.

Arizona's **Coalición de Derechos Humanos** holds a bi-weekly Abuse Clinic to raise awareness about dangerous legislation and what to do when confronted by law enforcement agencies. The clinic has received funding from PDF through its donor advised funds. The most common abuses Derechos Humanos sees are labor/wage issues and housing problems.



Fuerza Laboral sometimes has a member wear a rat costume, symbolizing a wage thief.

Rhode Island has the second highest unemployment rate in the U.S. (tied with California), leaving workers there particularly vulnerable. **Fuerza Laboral** of Central Falls, R.I. tells of members working for weeks and never getting paid and employers misclassifying workers to avoid payment of overtime and benefits. They explain, "Exploitation of workers takes many forms, but for our community it is often experienced as wage theft," or non-payment of proper wages. It is most common in temporary employment services, janitorial, landscaping, construction and manufacturing. "The depressed economy creates an atmosphere in which exploitation of workers increases," Fuerza states.

Since they began in 2006, Fuerza's Campaign to End Wage Theft has recovered nearly \$100,000 in unpaid wages for its members. They hold Wage Theft Clinics to educate members about direct action and to encourage unity. Fuerza is seeking legislation at the state and municipal levels that will penalize non-payment of wages and provide a clear definition of who qualifies as a "contractor." "This will close some significant loopholes," they say. Amarilis Rodriguez, a co-founder of Fuerza, adds, "For me there is no greater satisfaction when someone comes to our organization with a problem and leaves with all the tools to cope."

## peacedevelopments

# YOUR LEGACY FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

A simple bequest written into your will can help ensure the future of social justice grantmaking. Together, we can strengthen the social justice movement to create the new systems and institutions essential to building a peaceful, just, and equitable world.

You may leave your gift to the Peace Development Fund for general support, endowment, or a specific purpose that fits within PDF's mission, vision, and goals—to provide grants, training and other resources in partnership with communities, organizations, trainers and donors with whom we share a common vision for peace and social change.

For more information about leaving a bequest to PDF and specific wording, call 415-642-0900, or email [ray@peacefund.org](mailto:ray@peacefund.org).

► For more information about PDF grantmaking, go to the "Grants and Programs" page on our website: [peacedevelopmentfund.org](http://peacedevelopmentfund.org).



Courtesy Fuerza Laboral

## DEVELOPING PEACE

At Peace Development Fund, we know that “peace development” is a long process, one that we have been actively engaged upon since 1981. Over the years our mission has adjusted with the times. PDF has transformed itself from an organization focused on disarmament (PDF first intended: “To promote world peace and to sponsor, support, research and aid in the development and conduct of projects and programs to educate and inform the public on the principles of pacifism, disarmament, global demilitarization and the peaceful resolution of international conflict”) to a current focus on community organizing and building the sustainability of grassroots groups working for peace, human rights and social justice. This has been a natural evolution, as we found by the mid-80s that “an emphasis on community work is central and financially, the most efficient way to support peace efforts.”

Peace development through our criminal justice and environmental justice initiatives has consisted of helping communities determine who the affected parties of any conflict may be, who needs to be at the table, and who has what rights in preparing any agreements. We take the long view of developing peace, and believe in the potential of grassroots communities to resolve many of their own issues, with locally-based, clear and inclusive remedies. Everyone should be a winner, or disagreements continue to simmer beneath the surface of compromise.

We can't think of a better way to describe peace development than the words of our recent grantee, **Hawai'i Peace and Justice (HPJ)**. Like many organizations PDF funds, this is a new group, though its origins are with the American Friends Service Committee of Hawai'i. HPJ's mission is to create a more peaceful, just and pono (justice, peace and balance) Hawai'i through education, organizing and nonviolent action.

HPJ writes:

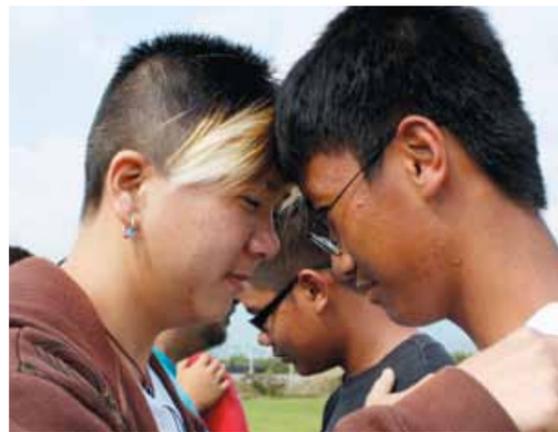
Our approach to social change is inspired by an ancient Native Hawaiian prophecy, *Pule Wanana a Kapihe*.

*E iho ana o luna* (All that is above shall come down.) We seek to diminish the power of oppressive systems and institutions through research, communications and collective action.

*E pi'i ana o lalo* (All that is below shall rise up.) We increase the power of oppressed constituencies through education, training, organizing and collective action.

*E hui ana na moku* (The islands shall be united.) We build solidarity across geography, culture, class, race, gender, sexuality, religion and act as a hub for issues and constituencies to connect.

*E kū ana ka paia* (The walls of the structure — people, society and foundation— shall stand.) We work to build a foundation of a better world and engage in nonviolent direct action to effect change.



### IN MEMORY OF

Trayvon Martin, Troy Davis,  
Emmett Till, Oscar Grant and  
racially profiled youth everywhere!  
Presente!

# SWEATSHOPS

Those who are undocumented workers are also at risk of labor abuse because, in many cases, they do not know that they have legal rights in the U.S. A Fuerza founder recounts, “For many of us our rights were completely unknown and employers took advantage of this opportunity.”

The newly formed **Flushing Workers Center** in New York is uniting workers from diverse races and trades to assert their rights in the workplace and challenge the sweatshop system in the U.S. They call Flushing the “unchallenged sweatshop zone,” referring to employers who threaten workers with blacklisting, deportation, physical violence and even death. Labor abuses such as tip stealing and employers who declare bankruptcy and disappear overnight, leaving workers unpaid and unemployed, are prevalent. In the nail care salons, a focus of their organizing, prolonged exposure to acrylic powders and chemical glues have led to serious illnesses.



Courtesy Flushing Workers Center

The Flushing Workers Center points to a lack of government and corporate accountability which enables and maintains the sweatshop system. Indeed, student workers at the Hershey chocolate factory found that to be the case last summer. The U.S. State Department's summer program for foreign students is the country's largest guest-worker program yet in August 2011, students began protesting dangerous working conditions and low pay at a job they described as an elaborate bait and switch.

The students in Hershey paid \$3,000 to \$6,000 for a U.S. working visa program, which recruiters had described as a cultural exchange. What the students encountered were endless hours packing and toting heavy boxes, risking injury for rock-bottom wages that were then deducted from room and board. Oversight is lax because the U.S. government relies on sponsors — which profit from the program — to manage it. Since the scandal in Hershey, the State Department has promised to tighten its standards for sponsors but there is still no accountability and the Labor Department has taken no leadership on the issue.

“Leadership cannot be developed devoid of concrete participation in organizing,” say Flushing Workers Center members. With a small grant from PDF, they are working on developing a permanent and secure meeting space and outreach for 5,000 workers in Flushing and nearby communities to launch local campaigns and statewide initiatives for systemic changes in the community, particularly in the car service, nail salon and restaurant industries. Like Derechos Humanos, they intend to develop a new Labor Rights Clinic.

In a depressed economy, workers are increasingly vulnerable, and PDF grantees have found traditional means of organizing a challenge for low-wage industries. Union organizing is more difficult than ever, although Governor Scott Walker's attempt in Wisconsin to destroy the collective bargaining power of public employees, reduce their wages and shrink their benefits may have backfired when Wisconsin voters presented more than enough signatures on a recall petition to force a new gubernatorial election.

Yet organizing remains the gold standard. As Rodriguez says, “We workers who live in this nation full of opportunity for all depend on the power to organize and because of this, we can help others do the same.” ■



Top and above:  
Courtesy Hawai'i Peace and Justice

## Remembering Kimo Campbell

Our dear Hawaiian friend, James “Kimo” Campbell, passed on into the spirit world on February 16, 2012.



Kimo joined the Peace Development Fund Board of Directors in 2007. He won a deep place in the hearts of all of us at PDF. Teresa Juarez, Board President, said, “We will really miss our brother Kimo. His work and compassion for people will go on forever. He was a true warrior in the movement for social justice. Our prayers are with his family.”

Kimo brought wisdom, his dry-as-a-bone humor and insightful analysis to every meeting. His humility may have been your first impression perhaps, but his wisdom, wit, aloha spirit, great good heart and generosity were his lasting ones.

Kimo became a good friend to all of us, and we were but a small circle benefitting from the generosity of his heart and his time. Kimo was perhaps one of the most important funders of indigenous and environmental organizing in his native Hawai'i, claiming no credit if he could get away with it. His Hawaiian spirit of generosity meant he also supported indigenous, environmental, human rights and other social justice issues throughout the country and internationally. We will most likely never know the true breadth of his philanthropy and his organizing, but one long time friend said, “Kimo gave from his heart, always, and I valued him most for his seal of approval. If he was okay with something, it was okay!”

*E iho ana o luna, Kimo. E pi'i ana o lalo. E hui ana na moku. E kū ana ka paia.* We work to build a better world and to effect lasting change.

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## Peace through Justice

# A FEW SUCCESSSES!

## Youth groups make changes in public schools

“We consider it a major accomplishment simply to have survived another year in this climate of economic crisis, budget cuts and the public’s general complacency in the face of increased militarism at home and abroad,” writes **BAY-Peace**, a small but resilient California group that supports and empowers young people to resist aggressive military recruiting and war.

For low-income youth of color and rural youth, the military is a ticket out of poverty, low-wage jobs and gang membership. BAY-Peace promotes alternatives to military (or sanctioned) violence and gang violence for urban youth feeling the economic pressures to enlist in a military career. “Both international and domestic militarism seem to thrive in this atmosphere of scarcity and insecurity,” they say.

A notable success is the passage of the Student Privacy and Equal Access Resolution, making the Oakland school district the first school district in the country to offer students the opportunity to opt out of having their personal information sold to the military by the Joint Advertising Market Research Studies (JAMRS) private military recruiting database.

JAMRS is a registry of 30 million Americans, ages 16 to 25, funded by the Department of Defense. It includes full name, date of birth, gender, address, city, state and zip code. Where available the database tracks the social security number, e-mail address, ethnicity, telephone number, high school name, graduation date, grade point average, education level, college intent (if documented), military interest (if documented), field of study, current college attending, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Test date and ASVAB Armed Forces Qualifying Test category score. “Very few students, parents or school personnel even know about JAMRS,” says BAY-Peace, “much less about the right to opt out of it.”

School districts in Berkeley, San Francisco, Chicago and elsewhere soon followed Oakland’s lead.

“It is much easier for the military to recruit when college tuitions are rising and financial aid and jobs are ever more dif-

ficult to find,” notes BAY-Peace. Likewise, violence and incarceration find fruitful territory. “This only makes our work more important . . . and more challenging.”

**Gender JUST**, based in Chicago, Ill. has met the challenge of increasing violence among youth with Restorative Justice in the public school system. They have been able to implement a grievance procedure that focuses on seeking out root causes of violence and solving problems in schools, as opposed to punishment.

Gender JUST is a member-led, multi-generational and multiracial grassroots organization of LGBTQA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and allied) young people, people of color, and grassroots youth developing leadership and building power through organizing. They played an instrumental role in expanding the Chicago Public School system’s anti-discrimination policy to include gender identity and expression. With funding from PDE, they were able to train Youth Organizing Fellows who played key leadership roles in their campaigns and continued the development of Gender JUST as an organization in difficult economic times.

BAY-Peace acknowledges that though they have had important successes, it has not been easy. “BAY-Peace has been extremely grateful to the individual donors who have continued to support us through thick and thin,” says Susan Quinlan, its coordinator. “We have also gotten great support from our Circle of Allies—representatives of sister organizations that come together on occasion to give us feedback and advice. Last year when we found ourselves facing an organizational crisis, it was our Circle of Allies that offered the critical resources, ideas and encouragement that kept us afloat through a difficult transition.”

“One of our greatest lessons,” agrees Gender JUST, “is in times of uncertainty, to look to our base for support and guidance. Through this principle, we have been able to come together as a community to stay strong and true to our values.” ■



Courtesy BAY-Peace and the Youth Action Team

### MISSION STATEMENT

THE PEACE DEVELOPMENT FUND works to build the capacity of community-based organizations through grants, training, and other resources as partners in the human rights and social justice movements. As a public foundation, we nourish, foster, and encourage the diverse, self-sustaining and economically viable communities that are essential to building a peaceful, just and equitable world.