



Urban Peace Movement.

In December 2012, President Barack Obama spoke to leaders of American Indian and Alaska Native communities at the 2012 White House Tribal Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. “I’m hopeful

because of young people like Nick Tilsen,” he said, “a Lakota Indian who lives on the Pine Ridge Reservation of South Dakota, which is one of the poorest parts of the country.” President Obama noted that more than half of Pine Ridge’s population is under 30 years old. “Many of those young people, like Nick, are giving all they have to turn things around.” Mr. Tilsen is Executive Director of the **Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation** in Porcupine, SD.

“A few years ago with the help of some grants and other members of his tribe,” President Obama continued, “Nick built a community center that uses spiritual and cultural teachings to help people stay off drugs and their parents live healthier lifestyles. It’s making a difference.”

What President Obama didn’t say, but Mr. Tilsen is quick to point out, is that one of the first grants came from PDF. “PDF was instrumental in helping us in our first project here at Thunder Valley, and in fact the community center that Obama mentioned was in part funded by PDF,” he says. PDF and the First Nations Development Institute were the initial funders. “We probably had quite a few grantees in that room at the White House,” adds PDF’s Executive Director Paul Haible.

What did a \$7,000 grant from PDF in 2006 for an organization whose budget was \$56,000 lead to? “Today he’s building something bigger,” explained President Obama, “a clean energy community that will provide affordable housing for folks who need it and help more Lakota small businesses get off the ground.”

“Day by day, family by family, community by community, Nick and his non-

profit have helped inspire a new beginning for Pine Ridge. Nick says, “We’ve decided as a community to take ownership of our own future,” President Obama related.

“See, that makes me hopeful,” he declared.

“Throughout Indian country you’ve got a generation ready to build on what generations before them have built. They’re out there stirring with hope and restless for change and ready to take ownership of their future.”

“This is why what we do at PDF is so important,” says Mr. Haible. “It can be tough to see, but it is our work and our grassroots grantmaking peers who help so much of the movement get started. And we have other money in the work of this *tiyospaye* (community/family) going back 30 years.”

PDF grants launch movements, enterprises and community development. The **Urban Peace Movement (UPM)**, which received a \$5,000 grant in 2010 and a \$1,000 grant in 2011 reported in 2012 that they won a landmark jobs agreement for the redevelopment of the former Oakland Army base. UPM works with 17-20 year-olds in Oakland who live in violent, unstable and/or abusive environments.

Youth from UPM’s Good Jobs Organizing Academy rallied, spoke at city council meetings and educated their peers about the jobs campaign. Their win is

projected to yield 5,000 jobs in Oakland over the life of the project. The agreement includes a 100 percent living wage for all the project’s jobs, 50 percent local hire for the long-term jobs that come as a result of the development, 100 percent local hire for new construction apprentices on the project, community oversight and a community jobs center.

As with other community

organizing grants that PDF makes, training youth to take on leadership positions is a priority. This means that the results of the grant may not be visible for years, as Mr. Haible noted, and that the youth themselves may go on to a number of organizations as they develop their skills.

Indeed, PDF Board President Teresa Juarez said that some of the youth who attended the **Teh Luh Lah Learning Center**, another PDF grantee in Chimayo, NM, went on to play key roles in Occupy Wall Street. The Center teaches youth and children the skills needed in everyday life, as well as spiritual practices. Its goal is to cross racial, cultural, gender, sexual orientation, physical challenges, class, language and geographical lines to foster true grassroots community building.

Another PDF grantee contributing to the Occupy movement, The Nonviolence Legacy Project of the **Culture of Peace Alliance** (Tucson, AZ), brought

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PDF GRANTS LAUNCH MOVEMENTS, ENTERPRISES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

spring PDF events

PeaceTalks
 Thursday, May 9 at 7 p.m.

Urban Organizers
 with activists from PDF-funded organizations
 PDF Center for Peace and Justice
 44 North Prospect Street, Amherst, MA

Wednesday, May 22 at 8 p.m.

A Night to Celebrate Social Justice
 with PDF grantees, allies and friends
 ACA Galleries
 529 West 20th Street, 5th floor
 New York, NY

For more information
 email peacedevfund@gmail.com
 or call 415-642-0900

PDF made technical assistance grants of up to \$2,500 each to 16 organizations from Springfield, MA to Fairbanks, AK in round two of the 2013 docket. PDF's community organizing grants, of which technical assistance is a focus for this year's grantmaking, are PDF's open door to any and all who wish to apply. Through this fund and donor advised funds PDF is able to make general support grants to community organizations working on issues of social justice, human rights and economic justice.

"Many of these community groups need help building capacity," said PDF Executive Director, Paul Haible. "They need support with board development, fund-raising, professional development or just replacing worn-out equipment, something which many foundations will not fund."

New Grants

A STAR DENOTES A FIRST-TIME GRANTEE

- ★ **The Alliance for Appalachia, Arnett, WV**
www.theallianceforappalachia.org
- ★ **BreakOUT!, New Orleans, LA**
www.youthbreakout.org
- California Coalition for Women Prisoners, San Francisco, CA**
www.womenprisoners.org
- ★ **CAPACES Leadership Institute, Woodburn, OR**
www.capacesleadership.org
- Dallas Peace Center, Dallas, TX**
www.dallaspeacecenter.org
- Freedom Archives, San Francisco, CA**
www.freedomarchives.org
- Gardening the Community, Springfield, MA**
www.gardeningthecommunity.blogspot.com/
- Gwich'in Steering Committee, Fairbanks, AK**
www.ourarcticrefuge.org/gwichin-steering-committee/
- ★ **NARAL Pro Choice South Dakota, Sioux Falls, SD**
www.prochoicesd.org
- ★ **North End Action Team, Middletown, CT**
www.neatmiddletown.org
- Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane, Spokane, WA**
www.pjals.org
- Positive Peace Warrior Network, Oakland, CA**
www.positivepeacewarriornetwork.com
- Tennessee Alliance for Progress, Nashville, TN**
www.taptn.org
- ★ **Transgender, Gender Variant, Intersex Justice Project, San Francisco, CA**
www.tgijp.org
- ★ **Women for Genuine Security, Oakland, CA**
www.genuinesecurity.org
- ★ **Workers' Dignity Project, Nashville, TN**
www.workersdignity.org

► For more information about PDF grantmaking, go to the "Grants and Programs" page on our website: peacedevelopmentfund.org.

From Worker Organizing to the US Border



Clinic organizer, Vincent Cao, Flushing Workers Center

Flushing Workers Center

Flushing, NY

"Our organization celebrated its second nail salon workers victory!" reported the **Flushing Workers Center** (FWC). The decision was significant not only as a monetary win for the workers but it recognized the workers' right to speak out against poor working conditions and to sue their employer when he retaliated. The win "also injected a lot of energy among our existing volunteers, demonstrating the need for a workers center like FWC, since the Belle World Beauty workers had initially approached a number of private lawyers for help but were turned away."

PDF's \$5,000 community organizing grant was earmarked for finding a permanent space in central Flushing for FWC's Labor Rights Clinic and to develop their outreach program. Saint George's Episcopal Church offered them free space in the heart of Flushing and the FWC were able to officially launch the clinic, with regular hours and committed volunteers to oversee the services. With funds from PDF, they were able to hire a part-time staff organizer and young restaurant worker, Vincent Cao. His primary role has been working closely with board members and volunteers to oversee the clinic.

Ying Zhu, one of the former Belle World Beauty workers, said, "I am happy because there was an organization and a campaign that supported me and my co-worker. I knew my boss was breaking the law but I was told there was nothing I could do when he fired me for complaining. Without the Workers Center, we would not have gotten the justice we deserve."

Direct Action Welfare Group

Charleston, WV

West Virginia is often called "America's Third World," states **Direct Action Welfare Group** (DAWG), the only US state entirely located within the Appalachian region. DAWG organizes people living in poverty to become leaders in their communities and to build an organization of low-income people who will provide a unified voice to effect change in West Virginia.

DAWG reported that they and the members of FACES on Medicaid were able to claim a victory when the Mountain Health Choices Program, a controversial and destructive health care program implemented by the state as part of the Federal Deficit Reduction Act, ended after years of struggle. The Mountain Health Choices Program had caused the vast majority of families to lose crucial health care services when it reduced benefits available to children and parents in Medicaid. "This was a big win for us and a big win for 250,000 poor Medicaid recipients that were impacted by the Mountain Health Choices Program, 79 percent of whom were children," they wrote.

PDF's \$5,000 grant supported their organizing around Medicaid as well as helping members attend the US Social Forum, where DAWG presented a workshop on rural organizing entitled *Climbing the Mountain: Rural Organizing in Appalachia*.

DataCenter

Oakland, CA

The **DataCenter** used PDF's \$2,100 grant to complete the first-ever national report of families of at-risk and incarcerated youth, *Families Unlocking Futures: Solutions to the Crisis in Juvenile Justice*. The report documents how discrimination, language, bureaucracy, court fees, fines and other barriers hurt children and separate families. Based on over 1,000 surveys with parents and family members of incarcerated youth and 24 focus groups nationwide, the report presents a body of data never captured or examined before.

Families Unlocking Futures identifies viable strategies to better support these families and demonstrates the need for families themselves to participate in a redesign of the juvenile justice system. The report generated international press and Attorney General Eric Holder appeared at a press conference vowing to make changes to the current juvenile justice system. DataCenter's lead partner on the project, Justice for Families, intends to utilize the report to press for federal policy change to create peer-to-peer support networks for families in schools and justice systems and real incentives to reduce juvenile detention and racial disparities.

► For a copy of the report, go to <http://bit.ly/P8zPBk>

Families for Freedom

New York, NY

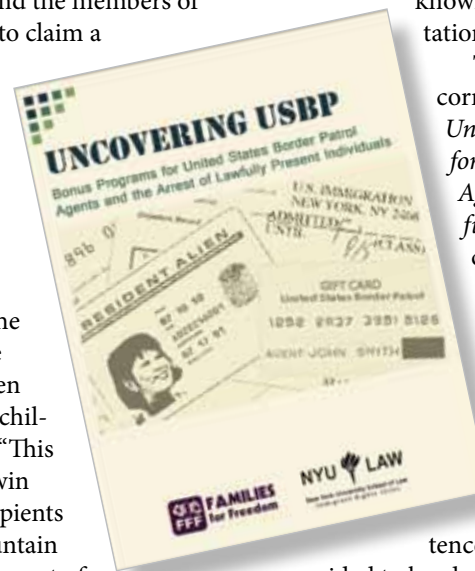
Families for Freedom (FFF) is a multi-ethnic defense network by and for immigrants facing and fighting deportation. PDF's \$5,000 grant was used to educate and build the leadership of their members and allies in anti-deportation organizing through Speakers' Bureau trainings, Know Your Rights workshops, a hotline, collective clinics and community forums.

"With each Speakers' Bureau graduating class, we are able to reach wider into New York's immigrant communities to arm these communities with the knowledge to help prevent the deportations of their loved ones," FFF wrote.

Their latest project is a report on corruption at the US Border Patrol: *Uncovering USBP: Bonus Programs for United States Border Patrol Agents and the Arrest of Lawfully Present Individuals*. It reveals crucial information about the incentives and consequences of USBP practices. Using detailed new data from the USBP New York station sectors in Rochester and Buffalo that were obtained through a Freedom of Information lawsuit, the report reveals the existence of various incentive programs

provided to border patrol agents in their quest to apprehend individuals of color, many of whom have legal status. The report also documents the broad array of persons with lawful status who suffer at the hands of USBP. ■

► For a copy of the report go to <http://bit.ly/X8qp9P>





SMALL GRANTS, BIG IMPACT

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Kingian nonviolence training to a number of encampment locations: Oakland, Tucson, Phoenix, Providence, New York and Atlanta. “Our challenge is to live up to what we are trying to create,” they say.

PDF is in the business of grantmaking and community building for the long haul, willing to fund newly emerging organizations and provide them with the assistance they need, whether it be cash, training or technical assistance. Nicole Lee, UPM’s executive director, says, “Urban Peace Movement is deeply grateful to have the support of the Peace Development Fund!”

“PDF’s grants help make it possible for us to empower youth to transform both the mindset and the systems that perpetuate violence in urban communities of color. PDF has supported UPM’s organizing efforts, has assisted us with curriculum development, and even helped us with office technology.”

With gifts from more than 400 donors annually providing funding for PDF grants, PDF endeavors to be a key “go-to” foundation on issues of peace, human rights, social justice and environmental protection, and develop and support the next generation of community leaders. “Let’s make sure our work here is worthy of their efforts,” concluded President Obama at the White House Tribal Nations Conference. “Let’s do everything we can to get things in the best shape possible for when they’re in charge.” ■

► Watch the video of President Obama speaking about Thunder Valley at <http://goo.gl/OEU9k>.

peacedevelopments

TIMELY AND TAX-WISE

PDF’s Donor Advised Funds program delivers more than 30 years of experience in grantmaking to donor activists who are interested in funding specific, progressive interests. PDF carries out the research, ensures the reporting, and manages the government’s requirements while you, with PDF staff advice, recommend groups for funding. PDF has a three-star rating from Charity Navigator and Forbes Magazine highlighted PDF in its article, “How to Find the Right Donor Advised Fund (and Why).”

PDF’s Donor Advised Funds program offers:

- Low annual minimum to establish
- Advice on funding progressive organizations
- Competitive fee structure (1% on new money to the fund and no transaction fees)
- No annual maintenance fees on balance
- Anonymity for donors
- A commitment to getting the funds out the door to the organizations that need it most

A Donor Advised Fund is simple to start at PDF, easy to understand, and gives you the information you need to recommend grants for social change. For more information on Donor Advised Funds, call Ray Santiago at 415-642-0900 or email ray@peacefund.org.



Esmeralda Brown and Iva Kaufman

PDF welcomed two new board members

this year, **Iva Kaufman** and **Esmeralda Brown**, both residents of New York City. PDF’s Board President, Teresa Juarez, lauded their contributions to the movement for peace and social justice: “We’ve been able to survive and ride a wave because of the commitment of people like Iva and Esmeralda.”

Iva Kaufman has built institutions and coalitions throughout her career in international development, non-profit management and philanthropic advising. She applies a holistic approach to resource development and social impact investing across the public, private and corporate sectors. Ms. Kaufman has expertise in managing wealth, grantmaking, fundraising, sponsorship and cause-related marketing. She was among the first to apply the tools of digital media production to build community through interactive media, arts and culture. Professionally, Ms. Kaufman works on short term consulting assignments, entrepreneurial start-ups and the enhancement of established ventures in the non-profit sector, business and philanthropy. Presently, she staffs the American Sustainable Business Council’s Working Group on Women and represents the *Guide to Impact Investing* by Julia Balandina.

Motivated by her personal sense of justice and desire to bring peace and stability to the Middle East, Ms. Kaufman founded the American Friends of Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salaam in 1981. It supports the first School for Peace and bilingual, bicultural community in Israel. This original effort is now one of many that address the divide. In 2008 she designed a multi-million dollar collaborative fund that provides grants, program-related investments and loans to organizations in the Israeli Arab sector.

Ms. Kaufman’s enthusiasm for boosting the dynamic between financial empowerment and effectiveness in philanthropy have led her to found several initiatives that support women, men, youth and multi-generational families at all economic levels to contribute to and engage more fully in the public interest. She staffed Women Managing Wealth at the Ms. Foundation for Women, established the Family Philanthropy Initiative of United Jewish Communities and is a member of Bolder Giving. She is a board member of the People’s Movement for Human Rights Learning and is chair of the board of the Circumpolar Conservation Union.

Esmeralda V. Brown spent more than three decades at the Women’s Division, General Board of Global Ministries for the United Methodist Church Section of Christian and Social Actions, working across the street from the United Nations. There, she researched and provided resource information on Latin America and the Caribbean to the Women’s Division, other ecumenical partners, the United Methodist Seminars on National and International Affairs, Indigenous organizations, Afro-descendant organizations, human rights groups and other organizations from the Global South, often offering them meeting or office space, and assisting them in access to the U.N. She also organized and sponsored numerous consultations and meetings in partnerships with community organizations, women’s groups, ecumenical partners, national and

international solidarity groups and coalitions, U.N. inter-agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Before retiring in 2011, Ms. Brown served as the Executive for United Nations Affairs and continued the representation of the Board of Global Ministries on the U.N.’s Economic and Social Council, representing their 11 million person constituency. She worked on many issues, including climate change and environmental justice, and she coordinated the Women’s Division Green Team.

Born in Panama, Ms. Brown worked with the Panamanian diaspora community assisting with problems of immigrant adjustment, employment, health and other problems that immigrant communities face upon arriving to the US. She is the founder of the Southern Caucus of NGOs for Sustainable Development and has served as its chairperson since its inception. In her professional and volunteer career, Ms. Brown has travelled throughout the Americas, Europe and Africa, gaining on-site knowledge of the struggles within communities (particularly those of women and children), receiving testimony of human rights violations and the pervasive racism against people of African descent and Indigenous peoples in the Americas.

Ms. Brown has been recognized and honored by many organizations for outstanding contributions to her people, including the Rigoberta Menchu Túm award by the Ecumenical Program for Inter-American Communication and Action for “Outstanding Contributions to the Struggle for Justice and Human Rights in Central America,” and the Ingrid Washinawatok El-Issa O’Peqtaw-Metaemoh Flying Eagle Woman Peace Justice and Sovereignty Award.

Ms. Brown said, “PDF is an organization that I always admired and one I always wanted to be more involved with. I am humbled to be part of it.” Ms. Kaufman added, “PDF has really been critical to movement building, capacity building and social change. It has made a fundamental difference in the social justice landscape in our country.” ■

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(labor donated)

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Peace through Justice

BUILDING & REBUILDING

Vacant, dilapidated buildings may harm your health and the health of your community. They can also be a catalyst and a driver for rebuilding communities.

The **Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (MXGM)**, which received \$5,000 in grants from PDF in the last year, employed an army of youth volunteers to collect 1,200 surveys to assess the health practices and needs of their community. They found that the excessive number of vacant lots and buildings in Jackson, MS deterred many residents from engaging in outdoor activities, limiting their ability to enjoy recreational spaces and exercise.

Now the youth are holding the city's feet to the fire. Jackson is required to monitor and maintain vacant buildings and lots in accordance with safety guidelines, but has failed to do so.

Says MXGM's Executive Director, Edget Betru, "By organizing Peoples' Assemblies where residents come together to discuss current local issues and formulate positions which they then challenge officials to address, we aim to increase the engagement of everyday folks in local governance, foster transparency and hold those in positions of power accountable in order to improve the health and well-being of all Jacksonians." Long-term, MXGM's goal is to get the city to turn over unused city-owned property to community groups for use as community gardens and farmers' markets.

In New York City, an extreme shortage of affordable housing is exacerbating homelessness for many vulnerable citizens. At the same time that homelessness has topped an unprecedented 50,000 people, there are hundreds of vacant buildings throughout the City.

Homeless advocates introduced a bill to track the number of vacant properties with the goal of increasing affordable housing. But when the City of New York refused to consider the bill, **Picture the Homeless (PTH)**, a PDF grantee in Bronx, NY, took on the challenge themselves. They organized and conducted an historic, first-ever citywide vacant property count in partnership with Hunter College. Three hundred volunteers from dozens of community organizations surveyed the city.



Their report, *Banking on Vacancy: Homelessness and Real Estate Speculation*, revealed that there is enough vacant space in New York City to house 200,000 people. The report is now leading efforts to expand the way New York City develops its communities through Community Land Trusts and Mutual Housing Associations. Ultimately, long-term affordable housing, regulated by the tenants that live in them, would enable a shift from a profit-based housing system to one based on people's needs.

"WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO GET ON THE UP CURVE."

DR. BRENDOLYN JENKINS

"Though the project consumed most of our resources and time, the payoff has been far more than we could have attained had the City agreed to pass the bill. In the long-run, this provided us with the momentum to expand and achieve our mission with far greater impact," PTH asserted.

PTH Board President Teresa Juarez thinks it is time to re-evaluate our country's infrastructure and rebuild it from within, emphasizing green jobs, living wages, affordable housing and community health. One of PTH's solutions to the infrastructure problem states: "Housing Creation is Jobs Creation." A jobs creation program that partners with construction trade unions to provide apprenticeships to unemployed people would help convert vacant properties in communities hit hardest by the recession and housing emergency. Every dollar invested in housing development generates an additional two dollars in economic activity according to a 2007 study by Econsult for The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities.

PTH is a grassroots organization, founded and led by homeless people, organizing for social justice around issues like housing, police violence and the shelter-industrial complex. "Our name is about challenging

images, stigma, media (mis) representation - as well as putting forward an alternative vision of community.

"We believe vacant property can create housing, parks, urban farms, commercial and cultural space, and jobs," PTH declares. Dr. Brendolyn Jenkins, Executive Director of **The Imani Group** in Aiken, SC, calls this approach "full service activism—education, empowerment and employment." A member of PDF's Building Action for Sustainable Environments (BASE Initiative), she notes that with a 24 percent unemployment rate in her community, her organization's plans are now focused on job training and community economic development, with an environmental justice focus.

"We need to find a way to impact a rapidly moving target and get on the up curve, connecting to green jobs and green infrastructure," Dr. Jenkins says. "We need to connect the dots and look at social and economic development, so we can be agents of change in our community." ■

► For a copy of PTH's report, *Banking on Vacancy*, go to <http://bit.ly/12IRN6F>

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.