2016-2017 Annual Report & Appeal for Support

We are the people we've been waiting for.
Dear Friends,

“Do not look outside yourself for the leader. The time for the lone wolf is over. Gather yourselves! All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for.”

These words, attributed to a Hopi Elder, have been resonating with us at the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center this past year. In a year of great change—for IPJC, for our country and for our world—we remain committed to our vision of a world in which all persons are respected and valued. In a political climate of increasing division and polarization, we remain committed to working together in community, both with our religious communities and with our many lay collaborators. In what Pope Francis has called an increasingly “throwaway culture,” we remain committed to recognizing the sacredness of all people and of the Earth we inhabit.

All of you who are part of the IPJC family are truly the people we’ve been waiting for. Looking within and among ourselves for leadership, we have...

- Come together by the hundreds to advocate in Olympia for people living in poverty,
- Organized women on the margins to identify justice issues that impact them and to create change in their own communities,
- Moved ExxonMobil and Philips 66 to respond to calls for climate justice and water rights for Indigenous peoples,
- And so much more!

We at IPJC are grateful every day for the opportunity to work with each of you to build a more just and peaceful world. We know that you, our collaborators and supporters, are truly the people we count on to keep our collective work going. In times of challenge, it can be tempting to allow ourselves to become overwhelmed, and to doubt the effect one person can have. But when we come together in community, we are unstoppable!

We invite you to continue your generous support of the work of IPJC in any way you can:

- Pray for this ministry of peace and justice,
- Make a donation of any size, or a regular pledge,
- Share your story of IPJC with your friends and colleagues, and
- Share with us your work for justice.

Many thanks to you for your ongoing support. May God continue to bless you and to inspire and guide all of our efforts to build a more just and peaceful world.

Patty Bowman  
Executive Director  
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Judy Byron, OP  
Program Director  
jbyron@ipjc.org
Becoming Peacemakers: A Gospel Response to Violence

Participants publicly affirm their call to be peacemakers and pledge to work for nonviolence and a just peace.

Marie Dennis, Co-President of Pax Christi International, presenting on the Spring 2016 Vatican Conference on shifting from Just War to Just Peace, inspired participants to explore new paths for personal, communal and structural peace-making.

IPJC provided the afternoon session on Contemplative Dialogue as a way to peace, and made available to participants the six-week Contemplative Dialogue Circle process for their parishes or community groups.

The day, attended by over 200 people, was co-sponsored by IPJC, Justfaith, Pax Christi, Maryknoll and the Missions Office of the Seattle Archdiocese.

Gratitude is the Memory of the Heart: Farewell to Linda Haydock, SNJM

In December we gathered to thank Linda for her vision and leadership of IPJC for the past 26 years. This ministry that began with 5 religious communities now includes 22, as well as thousands of lay collaborators. Our focus which began with the Northwest is now global and includes programs in 19 countries.

It is fitting that Linda received the 2017 Archbishop Raymond G. Hunthausen Award given “to one who has sought justice, loved kindly and humbly changed our world.”

IPJC Welcomes Patty Bowman

The New Year brought new leadership to IPJC. We welcomed Patty who has a law degree from Harvard and M.A. degrees in Theology and Pastoral Studies. As the Director of Outreach and Advocacy for St. James Cathedral she often collaborated with IPJC.

Courage & Compassion in the Midst of Fear

On February 19, the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which sent thousands of Japanese citizens to internment camps, we gathered at First United Methodist Church for an interfaith prayer service organized by IPJC, Kids 4 Peace, Maryknoll and the Missions Office. At the conclusion we walked in pilgrimage to the Seattle Center where over 1200 gathered for “Never Again: Japanese American WWII History and American Muslim Rights Today,” sponsored by Densho and WA-CAIR.
Motivated by the Washington State Bishops’ Pastoral on Poverty: Who is my Neighbor? The Face of Poverty in Washington State, IPJC collaborated with Catholic Community Services and the Washington State Catholic Conference to organize over 500 Catholics from across the State to meet with their legislators on issues impacting our neighbors in need. We had appointments with 126 of our legislators.

What Slaveholders Think

On April 23, IPJC hosted a conversation with Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick on his recently published book. Drawing on fifteen years of work in the antislavery movement, he examines the systematic oppression of men, women, and children in rural India and asks: How do contemporary slaveholders rationalize the subjugation of other human beings, and how do they respond when their power is threatened? Unpacking what slaveholders think about emancipation is critical for our work to end modern-day slavery.

IPJC Spring Benefit

We were made for these times!

It was wonderful to gather on May 4 with our IPJC community to celebrate our work for a world where all are valued and respected.

A New Solidarity with Creation Catholics Discerning & Acting on Laudato Si’ Two Years Later

On June 6, IPJC convened Catholic leaders in Western Washington to discern how we as Catholic parishes and organizations can inspire our communities to make a lasting commitment to care for our common home. After sharing our successes and challenges we discovered a great energy for collaboration on events to mark the Season of Creation, beginning with the World Day of Prayer for Creation on September 1, and concluding with the Feast of St. Francis on October 4.

Presentations

IPJC provided over 50 presentations, retreats and facilitation this year in universities, in Catholic, ecumenical and interfaith places of worship, at elementary and high schools, and with religious communities. The topics included:

- Advocacy
- Bishops’ Pastoral Letter, Who is My Neighbor: The Face of Poverty in Washington State
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Christian Hospitality
- Community Organizing
- Faithful Citizenship
- Human Trafficking
- Immigration
- Intersection of Immigration & Human Trafficking
- Laudato Si’
- Socially Responsible Investment
- We are the People
- We’ve Been Waiting for
On October 29, in response to the Community Dialogues held within the Latino community in 2015-2016, IPJC organized Healthy and Dignified Housing, an interactive workshop in Spanish for immigrant Latino families and leaders. In partnership with the King County Public Health Department and tenant rights counselors, the workshop addressed tenants' rights and responsibilities, healthy living conditions, and green cleaning.

On March 4, over 100 Latinas in the lower Yakima Valley region participated in Sowing & Harvesting Wellbeing, a forum in which immigrant farmworker women broke the silence about sexual harassment of agricultural workers. Women farmworkers face higher risks of workplace sexual harassment because they are low-income, non-English speaking, often undocumented and work in male-dominated environments.

IPJC collaborated with farmworker attorneys, therapists, government officials and advocates for sexual assault survivors to organize this Spanish-speaking forum to give immigrant farmworker women the skills to speak up and organize to prevent sexual harassment in the fields.

“"It was an honor to be part of Sembrando y Cosechando Bienestar. It left all of us inspired and energized to come home to our communities and continue organizing and networking with women, helping them find their voices and share their stories.”

–Celia, Walla Walla

IPJC staff serve on these boards and committees

- Catholic Climate Covenant Ambassador
- Global Solidarity Team, Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle
- Immigrant & Refugee Ministry Network
- Latinx Health Board
- Mercy Housing Northwest Board
- Multifaith Coalition to Address Human Trafficking through the Lens of Compassion
- Washington Immigrant & Solidarity Network
Human Right to Water: The Dakota Access Pipeline

Led by the Presbyterian Church, ICCR and NWCRI members moved Phillips 66—which has a significant investment in the DAPL project—to review and strengthen its Human Rights and Indigenous Rights Policies with a view to respecting the Human Right to Water of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.
Bellevue

Concerned that unhealthy lunches can affect both the physical and mental well-being of children, the St. Louise Parish Circle mothers wanted to ensure that healthy lunches are available in their children's schools. They conducted a survey among parents and elementary school kids and partnered with the Bellevue PTSA Council to bring this important issue to the Bellevue School District Board meeting. The women are already witnessing positive change, including strategies that will be piloted at an elementary school this year: increasing the lunch period by five minutes, implementing new technology to make the lunch line more efficient and ensuring that lunches comply with the USDA Nutrition Standards for School Meals.

Walla Walla

Quiet and soft spoken women quickly found their voices when they decided to take action to confront bullying in their community. The Circle was aware that bullying is a widespread issue because of the personal experiences of their children. Knowing the impact that parents can have on intervening in bullying, the Circle partnered with Garrison Middle School staff to hold a forum for Latino parents at St. Patrick Parish to raise awareness and give them the tools to handle bullying.

Kent

After experiencing firsthand the dangers of crossing a nearby street, a Circle of Latina mothers took action to increase pedestrian safety. They contacted the City of Kent Department of Public Works and invited a City Traffic Engineer to meet with their Circle to discuss the dangerous situation, the City’s crosswalk policies and the need to install a crosswalk in this neighborhood with several apartment complexes. The women’s hard work and advocacy paid off! The City of Kent agreed to complete a crosswalk evaluation by the end of this summer. In addition to a crosswalk, the women also recognized the need for them to provide pedestrian safety education and awareness for both children and recent immigrants.

Mattawa

The women of Our Lady of the Desert took action to reduce their town’s garbage and protect the environment. Circle participants attended a City Council Meeting to present their proposal to educate the community about recycling and to organize groups to clean up the city by collecting garbage, separating recycling and preventing it from going to the landfill. The City Council supported their plan and provided residents with materials as well as designated drop-off areas for garbage and recycling. The Circle also educated residents on the importance of recycling.

Justice for Women

Justice Circles were held in Bellevue • Clinton, IA • Issaquah • Kent • Mattawa SeaTac • Spokane • Tacoma • Vancouver • Walla Walla • Wenatchee

Justice for Women Leaders Attend World Meeting of Popular Movements

This first US regional meeting gathered over 700 social justice grassroots leaders for an “encounter” with Church leadership designed to recognize the structures that create indifference and exclusion; renew commitment as protagonists of change; and develop creative strategies.
Young Adult Justice Cafés

Justice Cafés create spaces where young adults can build community, act for justice and deepen spirituality.

Young Adult Justice Cafés

The conversation left us feeling blessed for all that we have and, at times, take for granted; we are anxious to find ways to help improve conditions and create justice for all!

– Lee Ah Nah, Good Shepherd Volunteer in Puente Alto, Chile

Young Adult Debate Watch Party

Young adults gathered at IPJC to watch the final 2017 Presidential debate, reflect on the call to faithful citizenship, and to learn and dialogue about city and state elections.

Young Adult Retreat

The Young Adult Retreat, “Rooted in Peace,” was sponsored by IPJC, St. Joseph Parish and Maryknoll.

Human Trafficking

For 10 years IPJC has been a regional and national leader on the issue of Human Trafficking. We partner with organizations across the country to multiply our efforts to end trafficking.

8 Church and Multi-Faith Conferences

Multifaith Coalition to Address Human Trafficking through the Lens of Compassion

Sponsored by the Pastoral Care Office of the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle, IPJC is a co-convener along with the Archdiocesan Missions Office.

- “In Our Backyard,” focusing on human trafficking survivors in the Northwest Detention Center
- “Living with Dignity & Freedom from Oppression: The Intersection of Human Trafficking and the Contemporary Immigration Crisis”

Trafficking Vigils Since 2008

- 59 Human Trafficking Vigil Toolkits
- 15 States
- 3 Canadian Provinces
- 108 Sunday Vigils in downtown Seattle

Just Video Contest

We received 31 videos from high schools on topics of Immigration, Environment and Human rights.

San Francisco’s Homelessness Crisis

Stuart Hall High School, San Francisco

View the winning videos at www.ipjc.org

Human Trafficking

We received 31 videos from high schools on topics of Immigration, Environment and Human rights.
Federal Advocacy

Legislative Action Center
The Action Alert Page on the IPJC website is used by thousands to bring their faith into the public square.

The 2016-2017 opportunities to act included:

- Strengthen Response to Child Sex Trafficking in the US Foster System
  Urging support for H.R. 469.
- US Policy Makers: Lead by Example on Refugee Resettlement
  Urging US to take leadership at two refugee summits.
- Protect Undocumented Youth from Deportation
  Urging support for the Bar Removal of Individuals who Dream and Grow our Economy (BRIDGE) Act.
- Uphold Affordable Health Care in the House
  Urging House to reject the American Health Care Act (AHCA) to repeal and replace Obamacare.
- Uphold Affordable Health Care in the Senate
  Urging Senate to reject the Better Care Reconciliation Act to repeal and replace Obamacare.
- Support the Reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act
  Urging House of Representatives to reauthorize the TVPRA.

Resources

Privilege & Periphery: Risking Transformation
A resource developed for Women Religious to examine the root causes of injustice and our complicity, particularly with respect to racism, and to work to effect systemic change.

Who is My Neighbor?
The Face of Poverty in Washington State
A Pastoral Letter from the Catholic Bishops of Washington State
IPJC collaborated on the 3-session study guide designed to enable faith communities to encounter people living in poverty and to explore ways to be in solidarity with them as we act and advocate for change.

Justice for Women Newsletter
A semiannual newsletter in Spanish and English that highlights women who are creating change in their communities.

Know Your Rights Wallet Cards
IPJC has distributed over 1,500 of these cards in Spanish and English.

Refugee Resource Packet
Opportunities for refugee support and resettlement in states of CA, ID, NV, OR, WA

A Matter of Spirit

16,800
AMOS distributed in print

16,300
AMOS downloads

1,642
AMOS podcast listeners

Fall Transforming Fear for the Common Good
Winter Creating a Just Peace
Spring Sustainable Earth for Future Generations
Summer We Are the People We’ve Been Waiting For

119,631
IPJC Resources downloaded from our website

161
Countries access our site
IPJC Donors: July 2016-June 2017

We are very grateful for all of you who have supported IPJC in the past fiscal year with your financial and in-kind contributions! If we have inadvertently left off your name, please let us know.

Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center
Founded in 1991

Vision
The Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center, living out of a shared Catholic faith tradition, recognizes and respects the dignity of all persons and all of creation.

Mission
The Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center acts for justice in the church and the world.

Sponsorship Information
Adrian Dominican Sisters
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Jesuits West
Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, U.S.-Ontario Province
Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
Tacoma Dominicans

Affiliate Communities
Benedictine Sisters of Cottonwood, Idaho
Benedictine Sisters of Lacey
Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel
Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose
Dominican Sisters of San Rafael
Sinsinawa Dominicans
Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sisters of St. Francis of Redwood City
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon
Sisters of the Presentation, San Francisco
Society of the Holy Child Jesus
Society of the Sacred Heart
Ursuline Sisters of the Western Province

Stewardship of Resources

Revenue
Donors / Grants / Interest $310,933
Sponsoring Communities & Groups $210,710
Total Revenue $521,643

Expenses
Programs $390,143
Capacity Building Fund $55,000
Capital & Technology $25,000
Administration $22,500
Total Expenses $492,643