

Religious Orders Partnership/Partnership for Global Justice Annual Report, 2004-2005

The Partnership for Global Justice/Religious Orders Partnership (ROP) celebrated our second full year as an independent organization. During this year we attained our 501C3 (not for profit corporation) and continued to clarify our vision.

The Religious Orders Partnership continues to be engaged in addressing global justice. We partner with other groups who are committed to systemic change. We participate in committees and activities at the United Nations. And, we offer education programs inviting our members to become engaged in the efforts toward a just world order.

United Nations

The Religious Orders partnership is a member of the NGO (non-governmental organization) Working Group on Iraq which reports from our contacts in Iraq to UN officials and Security Council members. We participate in the NGO Committee on HIV/AIDS which focuses on the increasing pandemic especially in Africa and Asia. We are an active voice in the NGO Committee on Financing for Development (FfD) which gives voice to the Global South particularly regarding the issues of debt and trade. We continue to network with our NGO colleagues as well as with the many members of religious orders present at the United Nations.

Programs

Our programs, *UN Orientation Days* and the *Global Economics Workshops* are a great success. To date, we have had 260 participants from the U.S., Canada, Philippines, Kenya, India and Ireland. The orientation program offers an overview of the UN system, gives focus on eight issues in which NGOs are engaged such as trafficking of women and girls, and provides a theoretical grounding for the issues developed at the UN. *The Global Economics Workshop* offers a basic overview of the current market economy, as well as developing a vocabulary for sustainable economics.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting held in Chicago, April 28-30, 2005, entitled, *Reconciliation: Becoming Peacemaking Communities for Transformation*, offered an opportunity to deepen our understanding of our presence as religious in our world. Barbara Fiand spoke about the need to send positive energy and find inner peace as we experience conflict. The Christian Peacemaker Teams offered us concrete ways in which we can face those who act aggressively. Michael Crosby challenged us as religious to consider our call to be prophets in our troubled world.

Finances

We continue to be blessed by the generous support of our members. Our financial report indicates that we have consistent and stable partners. Our programs serve to provide a substantial source of income for us as does our Alternative Investments. The income generated supports the operating budget.

Volunteer Support

Our office is served by three special volunteers, Janet McLaughlin, SC, Mark Meyer and Janetta McAlevey, OP. Janet, a Sister of Charity of Convent Station, continues to keep our membership logs and communication with our members up to date. Janetta, an Amityville Dominican, manages our finances and handles program registrations. Mark Meyer, a Dominican Volunteer, worked with us for eight months and is currently studying law at Cooley Law School. We are grateful to Janet, Mark and Janetta for their contributions to Religious Orders Partnership. They are invaluable to our ministry.

Our Vision for the Future

Programs

We will continue to offer the UN Orientation Days in the months of January, May, June and September. The Global Economics Workshops will be held during the months of June and October. Registration for this workshop can be found on our website at www.religiousorderspartnership.org. It is our hope to pilot a Sustainable Development Workshop as well as several workshops on global issues that could be implemented outside of the New York area and would serve our members on site.

Communication

ROP plans to develop ways to communicate to our members. We have begun a monthly alert which goes to our partners as well as to those who have participated in our programs. We will also begin a quarterly E-news letter that would provide information about our activities and practical ways in which members can participate in issues that concern us.

United Nations NGO Representation

Our office will continue to serve on UN/NGO committees which foster our commitment to our Platform for Action. Through continued consultation with our members, especially with those for whom ROP serves as the sole connection to the United Nations, we want to learn to understand and appropriately represent our networks in regions throughout the world and the issues that are of greatest concern. These issues were reviewed during our annual meeting and were further developed during our recent board of directors meeting. It is our hope that a clear focus and communication will assist in our ability to serve the needs of the membership.

Annual Meeting

New York will be the site of the Annual Meeting, *Water: Thirsting for Justice* will be held April 27-29, 2006 at Holy Family Church, 315 East 47th in Midtown Manhattan. We have invited the Nobel Peace Prize Honoree, Wangari Matthai, to be our keynote speaker. We plan a morning at the United Nations and an instructional cruise up the Hudson River with Suzanne Golas, CSJP., Executive Director of *Waterspirit*.

Financial Support

We recognize the need to develop a solid financial grounding. Our Board of Directors is committed to increasing membership and to finding grants that support our programs. We would like to increase the number of Alternative Investors from eight to fifteen. These low interest loans provide a resource for our operating expenses at little cost to the investors.

As ROP continues to grow and understand our role as a voice in the global conversation, it is our hope to serve our partners with a clear and honest voice committed to calling for justice on behalf of the most vulnerable people of our world.

Lucianne Siers, OP
Director
Religious Orders Partnership

Religious Orders Partnership/Partnership for Global Justice

Summary for fiscal year: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Assets

Partner Organizations	35,000.00
Program Grants	7,000.00
Program income	
Orientation	6,935.02
Global Economics	4,610.00
Annual Mtg	14,685.00
Stipends, honoraria	1,320.69
Sale of Books and other materials	3,440.80.
Investment interest	4,140.06
Donations	15,900.00
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Total Unrestricted Assets	93,030.08

Expenditures:

Stipends (for one sister ft/intern ft)	45,590.58
Supplies	1,315.12
Telephone	713.91
Postage	1,257.26
Office equipment	2,250.05
Website	139.00
Rent and utilities	9,129.59
Printing	4,117.26
Books and materials	2,974.33
-Wholesale purchase of earthfl/coffee	
Meetings/memberships	
-Board mtgs.	3,178.70
-conferences, meetings	2,892.58
Travel	3,049.73
Program expenses	
Annual Mtg	14,061.50
Orientation	2,207.63
Global Economics	2,196.70
Insurance, Bank fees, etc.	2,086.23
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Total Expenditures	97,160.17
Operating Deficit	(4,154.60)

Restricted Funds (Alternative Investments/Loans) \$132,500

Please design at three boxes:

**Religious Orders Partnership
Board of Directors**

Justine Church, MMS
Medical Mission Sisters

Marie Elena Dio, SC
Sisters of Charity, Halifax

Julie Driscoll, SCN
Sisters of Charity, Nazareth, KY

Mary Ellen Gondeck, SSJ
Sisters of St. Joseph, Nazareth, MI

Genevieve McArthur, CSM
Congregation of Saint Martha

Kathleen McCabe, OSF
Sisters of St. Francis, Philadelphia

JoAn Mark, ASC
Adorers of the Precious Blood

Melanie Persche, OLVM
Victory Knoll Sisters

Veritas Picardi, OP
Sisters of St. Dominic, Caldwell

Ruthmary Powers, HM
Sisters of the Humility of Mary

Linda Scheckelhoff, OSF
Sisters of St. Francis. Tiffin, OH

Joan Slobig, SP
Sisters of Providence

Mary Terence Wasinger, OP
Sisters of St. Dominic, Great Bend

Caroljean Willie, SC
Sisters of Charity, Cincinnati

Marge Wissmann, OSF
Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, IN

Box Two:

Please join us for our Annual Meeting
April 27-29, 2006, New York City, Holy Family Church
Water: Thirsting for Justice

We have invited Wangari Matthai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Winner
There will be a morning at the United Nations
And we will have an instructional cruise up the Hudson River with Suzanne Golas, CSJP
of WaterSpirit

Box Three

We are grateful to our Alternative Investors:

Sisters of the Humility of Mary

Bernardine Franciscans

Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

Springfield Dominicans

Blauvelt Dominicans

Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Oldenburg Franciscans

Ancilla Domini Sisters