2016 has been a year of transition and change at the Peace Resource Center. Last year, we celebrated the past 35 years of the PRC and the hard-won successes of our peace activists. This past July, we said good-bye to our executive director of five years as she moved into the next phase of her life and board members stepped up to fulfill crucial operations during the leadership search. The Peace Resource Center (PRC) is committed to being a consistent presence in our San Diego community, speaking out against violence in all its forms and providing local support for peaceful, just ways to solve interpersonal, community, and global problems and build a better sustainable world.

Looking back, after a national election of fear, racist rhetoric and war-mongering, we see the same challenges that have been always with us brought into stark relief. The strength of the peace and justice community in San Diego remains a constant as allies and groups came together to take on police militarization and brutality, the militarization of our schools and our borders, Islamophobia, undemocratic trade deals like the Trans Pacific Partnership, increased gentrification of our communities and the rising homelessness in the face of economic injustice, and US foreign policies that continue to employ military might and overturn democratic societies in our hemisphere as well as across the waters. The triumph of Mr. Trump in our national elections challenges us to reexamine our work here at the Center and the larger questions of US values, power and democracy. Together, we are up to that challenge!

We salute the tireless energy and work by peace and justice activists here in San Diego. We look to support the movements in ways that promote peaceful resolution over violent conflict. Peace with justice is a process - of struggle and affirmation and collaboration. At the PRC, we begin with a foundation of nonviolence and dialogue, providing resources that hold community engagement as essential. This year, we held Community Conversations about white privilege and race, co-sponsored an important city attorney candidate forum with Friends of the City Heights Library, convened a Fall Nonviolence Education Series, challenged the training of SWAT officers that profiles Muslim peoples, held vigils for victims of violence, participated in the anti-drone actions at Creech Air Force Base and in the School of the Americas Border Convergence, and co-sponsored Peace Week San Diego. The PRC continues to be a proud sponsor of the annual Peace Bazaar and Work-a-Thon with our friends at Project YANO.

Building on the 2015 Annual Meeting, we continue to review the vision, goals and work of the PRC. The website has been updated -with a new platform and a Community Calendar that welcomes your events too. Committee work focused on fundraising, membership support and benefits, and most importantly the search for new staff. The Board held two retreats and a September Membership Meet & Greet to choose the goals and work for 2017.

Some of the comments that resonated strongly:
- be an effective bridge, coordinating organizations working on related issues of peace & justice within the San Diego area
- Using art, education and camps, connect the youth to nature, helping them develop an understanding of human values
- The PRC should look more like communities of color, and work on decolonizing and demilitarizing our society
- Be a hub of social reform - a small village of collaborative enterprises, tiny shelters, social justice projects that reflect our vision of a peaceful world
- Active community engagement with like-minded groups in the San Diego area, as “a cross-section of younger/older cultures and ethnicities working to coordinate harmony, peace & prosperity, doing a multitude of outreach and networking”.

“There can be no peace without justice and respect for human rights.”

Irene Khan, former Secretary General of Amnesty International
While there is so much more to be done for peace, we are among the people who will do it – the members, families, and allies of the PRC! It takes concerted effort by all peaceable people working in partnership to achieve our shared goals. Thank you for being part of our peace community!

The search for new leadership at the PRC - a team approach?

Farewell, Mariah, but not good-bye.
We are deeply indebted to the hard work & leadership by Mariah during her 5 years at the helm of the PRC. Your passion for food justice and resistance to racism continue to inspire. We miss you and wish you much happiness & success on your life path.

With the departure of Mariah, Board members took on the tasks of the Executive Director. We are all deeply grateful to Board President Sara Haldeman-Scarr for her thoughtful leadership, Gary Lynne’s herculean Finance work, and Peta Lametti-Hinds, Craig Jones, Emily Landes, and Anne Barron who stepped up as interim staff. This team approach suggested another model to us for PRC operations, one that uses a cooperative economic framework – a team of people sharing leadership and work.

Request for Proposals to Coordinate Activities and Administration at the Peace Resource Center of San Diego
October 20, 2016

The Peace Resource Center of San Diego is accepting proposals from individuals or Cooperative Teams to carry out the goals, objectives and programming of the PRC membership and Board as we grow and evolve. Guided by our values of consensus and peace-building, the individual or team will work closely with the Board and members to provide the administrative and programming needs of this growing peace and social justice network.

Interested in being on the PRC team?
Send Your Proposal and Resume(s) to info@prcsd.org, Attn: Board President

OUR HOME: The Peace Campus, 3850 Westgate Pl., (619)263-9301, prcsd.org

The PRC operates inside the Friends Center building, which is a collaborative enduring visual statement to advancing peace, social justice, sustainability, and spiritual growth. The four partners of its construction and ongoing operation are the: First Church of the Brethren, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) US-Mexico Border Program, San Diego Friends Meeting (Quakers), and Peace Resource Center (PRC).

Good news! The solar installation project is now completed, and the Peace Campus began generating sunny electricity on October 22.

Please contact us! Leave us a voicemail message or drop by or email us. Drop-in hours: Mondays, 4-6pm. Email: info@prcsd.org.

OUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS: Teaching Peace
There are as many different ways to learn as there are people. We offer workshops, guest speakers, film nights, discussions, support for direct action, creating and distributing informative handouts, and provide free consultations.

2016 Programming Report by Emily Landes, Programming Coordinator
2016 has been a time of transitions and visioning for the Peace Resource Center. In designing programming, we want to stay responsive to the interests of our members and the issues that impact our community and nation. In the spring, we focused on
racial inequality and unpacking white privilege in Saturday Community Dialogues. This fall we designed our Fall Nonviolence Education Series to delve deeper into person power, resilient communities, and the trauma-informed approach to restorative justice. The Series began with the film “War on Trial” followed by three community workshops on nonviolence. Looking ahead, we will be co-hosting the 30th Annual Peace on Earth Holiday Bazaar, where the community can purchase products and gifts that serve the cause of peace and justice. It is also a great networking event for local non-profits! We are now planning for 2017- PRISMS in February, “Really Free Markets” in spring, youth camps in June- and look forward to working with you in the coming months. Please let us know the types of programming you want to see- we need your feedback. We are stronger together as we continue to explore and advocate for peace.”

Our Rowan Elementary School Peacemaking Partnership, begun under the leadership of Denise DeGeorge, continues. Teachers and staff voiced their appreciation of the lessons. Several students so enjoyed visiting the PRC, that some brought their parents to visit the Center! Rowan Peacemaking will resume in the spring of 2017. Volunteers welcome! Contact Emily at Emily@prcsd.org.

As a Resource Center, we monitor local issues and the changing needs of our communities so that we may provide relevant education. Board member Anne Barron is currently part of a group of peace educators convened by the Council on American-Islamic Relations to review San Diego Unified School District curricula on Islam and district anti-bullying policies. This came about after Muslim students spoke out about their experiences with bullying in the city schools. Over 220 community members came out to the July 26th SDUSD Board meeting to demand Safe Schools for Muslim Students in the face of these mounting problems.

Check out our on-site lending library, now at about 2000 books and 100 DVD videos. You can read this great parental resource by Denise DeGeorge, Introduction to Practicing Nonviolence with Children: A Resource for Families and Teachers under our Resources page. Or browse through our online catalog: LibraryThing.com/catalog/prcsd Our sincere thanks to members who have contributed books and films to our growing library.

**OUR COLLABORATIONS: Cultivating Peace Community**

The PRC supports various local, national, and international coalitions and collaborative networks by joining meetings, endorsing efforts, sharing action alerts, and mobilizing our membership. We build relationships, networking with other peace-oriented people, and continue to provide resources and serve in various assistance roles for community events and smaller grassroots groups. Our board members also work in other groups, connecting the links as the network grows.

**SDCPI**

The PRC co-founded the San Diego Coalition for Peace and Justice (SDCPI) in 2001 and continues to participate on the coordinating committee. The coalition is an important voice for uniting local people who are opposed to the drive to keep us in a state of perpetual war and maintaining US hegemony and domination in various ways around the world. PRC also provides SDCPJ with ongoing administrative support, meeting space, trains peacekeepers as needed, and serves as a point of contact.

**San Diego Peace Week**

The PRC joined with the Franciscan Peace Connection, Women Occupy San Diego, Veterans For Peace- San Diego, Pax Christi, Overpass Light Brigade and local peacemakers to sponsor a week of peace actions as part of Campaign Nonviolence Week of Actions. The community came out to vigils, workshops on nonviolence and sustainability, challenged the Miramar Airshow by bannering against endless war, and joined together in an inter-faith expression of diversity and solidarity at Aztec Park in La Mesa.
HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016…

Community Films & Conversations on Race: During the spring, we hosted Saturday conversations based on 3 films by filmmaker Shakti Butler. Part of the PRC’s exploration of white privilege, following on the 2015 Black Lives Matter forums, these dialogues enlightened participants on just how systemic racism operates daily in the lives of African-Americans, in ways that can be invisible to white people. The impact of racism on all our communities is examined with a clear lens, and challenges white allies to confront it in their daily lives. Interested in showing these films? The PRC is happy to loan them or any other to you.

Showing up at Creech and School of the Americas Watch: Our allies CodePink and Veterans For Peace coordinate direct actions against the drone command center at Creech Air Force Base in the spring. PRC Director Emerita Carol Jahnkow welcomed drone operators with a strong message. Anne Barron led a workshop on war tax resistance and was an angel in the DoubleTap play written by young people at the camp. We also co-sponsored the November 9th Report Back from SOAW in San Diego, Why We Watch the School of the Americas.

Earth Fair 2016: PRC BVS interns Denise & Ron offered alternative perspectives during the fair. We also had a war tax counseling booth that drew some intrigued visitors. This year as thousands visited the wildly popular Earth Fair, board member Stephanie Steiner invited people to rethink how we celebrate earth day as she opted out. This meditation on the Fair and the values of environmentalism can be read at mettacenter.org/blog/rethinking-how-we-celebrate-earth-day

Fall Nonviolence Education Series: PRC staff convened this series with our friends at Metta Center, Alternatives to Violence Project, Restorative Justice Mediation Program and Circles4Change. Stephanie Steiner illustrates message of the ‘Roadmap - “we all belong here” - everyone can find themselves and their passion within the roadmap, and realize that they are part of a bigger picture. Working together, we can create a powerful, nonviolent strategy for weaving our work together toward a safer and saner future.’

Standing Together For Peace

For the second year in a row, the PRC co-sponsored this long-standing inter-faith Call for Peace in City Heights with Church of the Brethren, Cherokee Elementary School, First United Methodist Church of San Diego. Participants were asked “How do you build peace in our communities?” A family displays their beautiful peace tree at the event.

Holiday Bazaar: Saturday December 10, 10:00am – 2pm. The PRC again co-sponsors this annual Holiday Bazaar at Mid-City Gym. Come join local peacemakers and serve up peaceful gifts for the 2016 seasonal celebrations. Good food, local artisans & crafts, and live entertainment. What better way to celebrate the holiday season than this wonderful event supporting our local small businesses?

KEEPING OUR PEACE WORK GOING…

Our income is primarily from YOU, the community, through membership dues and generous contributions. So please keep an eye out for the PRC’s year-end donations campaign. The PRC must increase revenues so we can increase our programming. Your continued partnership is vital to your Peace Resource Center.

We are also committed to improving service and programming. We exist to serve you, our members, and the greater good of the community. Your input and involvement is essential to the health of the PRC. Ideas and suggestions for the PRC are gratefully accepted – through phone, email or in-person visits. If you are interested in fundraising and/or donating, please contact us.
Volunteers: With limited staff, people who give their time to us are the backbone of our work and our lifeline. Assistance ranges from simple office tasks like stuffing envelopes to deeper commitments such as Board service. You could help update our resource library, help at info tables and events, participate on committees, and more. Please contact us about your interest!

Finance Report by Craig Jones

The PRC formally adopted a 2016 operating budget, with total annual expenses projected at $71,945. This low figure is due to several factors including the partnership of the Peace Campus organizations, the hiring of a BVS intern through the generous donation of the Church of the Brethren, dedicated staff, and low facility expenses. (We should see a further reduction in 2017 now that the campus solar power generator is up and running!) Staffing, personnel costs, comprise 68% of total budget expenses, including salaries and payroll taxes. General business operations, including insurance and board/staff education, required 10%; occupancy/utilities 10%; printing and postage 7%; and program expenses other than staff time 5%.

PRC staff continue to work above and beyond normal duties for the cause of promoting peace and justice. At the end of 2016 we expect actual expenses to be lower than budgeted, as we have very carefully watched our bottom line and the value of your dollars. The Work-A-Thon collaboration with Project YANO is a main fundraiser and community-supporter. Staff and volunteers did a great job at ACCESS in Linda Vista. And we anticipate some additional 2016 revenues from this “Souper Supper” and sales of peace materials at the Peace on Earth Holiday Bazaar on Dec 10th. A full financial report will be provided to members in January 2017

PRC Grant Work. On Tax Day 2016, the PRC was one of the 5 recipients honored by the Southern California Alternative Tax Fund for peace work. This $1000 grant supported our Saturday Community Films and Conversations on Race. Board members are always looking for those granting opportunities that will support the peace work we do. We are hopeful about the acceptance of our Resist application! Have a grant-writing talent? And a desire to volunteer? Our Finance Committee would love to work with you!

BRETHREN VOLUNTEER SERVICE (BVS)

BVS is most simply described as “a way for people to give their time and skills to help a world in need.” We at the PRC are grateful to the S.D. Church of the Brethren for its generous support of the BVS volunteer, Emily Landes (July 2016 – June 2017). Why Emily chose our San Diego family:

“While I have worked on various issues relating to nonviolence for years, I knew I wanted to work full-time for a peace organization to immerse myself in the challenges and joys of working for peace every day. I heard about the opening at the PRC and when I learned about the Peacemaking Partners program at Rowan, the PRISMS conversations, and the network of engaged members I knew where I wanted to work. Working as the Program Coordinator came as an unexpected challenge but I am grateful for this opportunity to learn and share my knowledge and experiences. I am excited to see what the new year brings for the PRC. Stay tuned and engaged, we have some big plans for 2017!”

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM: Meet the 2016 Board

The Peace Resource Center has two categories of board members: Members At-Large for two-year terms and Organization Representatives appointed by member organizations. Board members are officially confirmed by the PRC membership at the Annual Meeting.
Our 2016 Board of Directors

Farewell, Stephanie Steiner! (2015-2016): We fondly bid farewell to Stephanie as she pursues her peace studies after two years of service on the PRC Board. Director of Education at Metta Center for Nonviolence. Masters in Peace Education from University for Peace in Costa Rica. Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Niger 02-05. She was the lead convener of the Fall Nonviolence Education Series.


Anne Barron (2016-2017): Raised in a subversive military family, I've been many places, yet San Diego feels most like home. I'm an advocate for sustainability and living simply within nature, yet love the urban lifescape. A teacher and scientist, I thrive on learning about how we and our world "work". I work within and outside the political system - whatever helps to move our cultural norms away from dominance and violence to peaceful solutions in our schools, city, and ourselves.

James Bartoli (2016): Earliest forays into peace activism were during the NATO bombings of former Yugoslavia during the late 1990s, and the second Iraq War. As both a former participant/active member of the Education Committee of Occupy San Diego, and a perennial student of US and world history, he will bring a focus on participatory discussions and explorations of historical context.

Betsy Bekken (for La Jolla Friends): Growing up in a pacifist family deeply involved in social justice and racial equality, I developed a continuing passion for peace, social justice, sustainability, and simple living at an early age.

Sara Haldeman-Scarr (for Brethren): is the Pastor of the First Church of the Brethren in San Diego. She brings her passion for interfaith experience, building bridges, and standing together for peace to the board. Her energy and enthusiasm is a plus as we move into the PRC’s next 35 years.

Peta Hinds Lametti (2016-2017): A California transplant, lover of people, studied anthropology and public health, was a social worker, and now a student at City College. The peace 101 course and teacher spurred me to take more of an active step in pursuing peace. My long-term goals are to pursue a doctorate in naturopathic medicine and to spread peace wherever my journey takes me.

Craig Jones (2016-2017): Committed to building coalitions across movements toward common objectives of peace and justice; and improving outreach to those not effectively energized towards a better future. From his career history of city planning and senior management in nonprofit social services, he hopes to assist PRC in further achievements. Much needs to be done, and he encourages all of us to work with renewed energy together.

Allen McAfee (2015-2016): I'm indebted to and inspired by the many people who expanded my understanding of the power of nonviolence to bring about positive change for a more peaceful world. [Allen is on leave from the Board pursuing his passion for art in the UK.]