

TNN (The National Network)

Albuquerque Self-Sustaining

On January 1, 2005, IDR/PC's role as incubator of regional anti-racism community organizing sites was realized when the Anti-Racism Training Center of the Southwest (ARTI-SW), located at the University of New Mexico Law School's Institute of Public Law, became fully self-sustaining. While ARTI-SW has conducted anti-racism training and community organizing in four areas—community economic development, health and health care, the legal system and education, its primary focus since its beginning has been in two areas: economic development with emphasis on predatory lending practices and racism as the root cause of disparities in health care for people of color. Having since its inception in 2001 been supported by matching operating budget grants from IDR/PC totaling \$300,000, ARTI-SW has reached full financial sustainability, is maintaining an intensely active year-round program and is flourishing. Congratulations to ARTI-SW.

New Site in Santa Barbara

Since the fall of 2004 California's Central Coast (Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties) has become IDR/PC's newest TNN site. Developed in conjunction with the National Conference of Community and Justice (NCCJ-Central Coast Region), CCCR-ARTI(s) is underway as a cluster of several initiatives aimed at building an inclusive community and dismantling racism in the tri-county area. The CCCR institutes are initially targeting two areas: inequities in educational institutions and structural racism in the philanthropic sector. Offering this spring a monthly series of one-day trainings with educators, this program area will culminate with a weeklong residential institute training in July. In April the first in a series of weekend workshops for funders, public benefit and government agency leaders will commence, illuminating the impact of institutional racism on their work and developing the tools, knowledge and support necessary to address racism and policy change in the range of areas reflected in their work.

Broward County, Florida Transitions

For more than a year the primary focus of the FAIR (*Fighting Against Institutional Racism*) Institute of South Florida has been the disparate and differential treatment of youth of color in the tri-county (Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach) South Florida criminal justice system. With the recent departure of its initial director for similar work in the Miami area, FAIR, in conjunction with its sponsor, the Urban League of Broward County, has determined to redirect its focus to remedying disparities in the educational system of Broward County. Since CCCR-ARTI(s) also focuses on systemic educational reform, partnership possibilities between the two sites are being realized.

Convenings / Assists

Partnership for Excellence Conference

On February 15, 2005, IDR/PC's Shirley Strong gave the keynote address for Santa Barbara County's annual conference of foundations and nonprofit organizations.



The conference theme was "Creating and Strengthening Community Connections." Shirley emphasized the need to address racism head-on as a central, beginning task in community building efforts and shared the lessons learned from nearly fifteen years of anti-racism community building work.

Marguerite Casey Foundation Learning Cluster

IDR/PC is one of eight Marguerite Casey Foundation (MCF) grantees participating in a learning cluster for self-directed study, evaluation and reflection. The learning cluster is meeting over an eighteen-month period with the goal of generating new connections and a better understanding of the role of reflective practice in social change efforts. The Cluster has met twice in California and the third and final meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois in June 2005. An unanticipated benefit from learning cluster participation is a comprehensive organizational profile of each grantee organization compiled by a team of MCF-engaged consultants. That profile may be used by each organization like IDR/PC to help tell its story.

Maguires' Iowa Week

In 2004 IDR Senior Fellow John Maguire and his wife Billie, a longtime children's advocate, were appointed national Visiting Fellows by the Princeton-based Woodrow Wilson Foundation,



agreeing to spend a week on a liberal arts college campus for each of the next three years. In January the Maguires were guests of Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, each participating in at least a dozen classes during the week, engaging activist townspeople and each providing a major speech. John Maguire's was on *The Pertinence of Martin Luther King's Vision for Today* and Billie Maguire assayed the national scene in *Who's Watching the Children?*

IDR Endowed

The JL Foundation of Southern California has awarded IDR, headquartered at Claremont Graduate University, an endowment gift totaling \$1,035,000. Founded in 1998 and becoming a joint venture with Oakland-based Project Change in 2001, IDR/PC strives to combat injustice and institutional racism through a variety of training centers, convenings, special activities and projects, presentations, technology and new program initiatives.

This gift was one of several to honor the contributions of the five non-family charter members of the Foundation's board of directors, of which Maguire is one. These gifts were made to the institutions with which these five have been most closely identified and will help support the work of IDR in perpetuity.

Emergence of a New Initiative

Beloved Communities: Growing our Souls

IDR/PC in collaboration with Tools for Change convened a group of 25 spirit-based activists September 30-October 4, 2004 with the Fetzer Institute serving as host in Kalamazoo, MI, for an exploration of *Towards a Beloved Community*. The goal of the gathering was to discover whether there might be a shared understanding of "Beloved Community" and, if so, perhaps to create a mechanism for moving forward work under this banner. A several-person



Johnson

steering committee was established to collaborate on this initiative, currently composed of Grace Lee Boggs, Sharon Howell, Nelson Johnson, John D. Maguire, Kathy Sanchez and Shirley Strong. This steering committee has held two meetings and several conference calls since then and is proceeding toward a design for action and the establishment of a larger advisory committee.



Boggs

In response to a "commissioning" grant from the Mott Foundation, IDR/PC convened at Haley Farm, TN March 3-6, 2005, a weekend consultation of 28 participants with varying involvements in anti-racist community organizing work around the theme *The State and Future of Anti-Racist Community Building Work*. Without being an intended outcome in the direction of the weekend's conversations, the theme of Beloved Community emerged early in the discussions and became a central topic of exploration. The gathering culminated with the informal recommendations of the participants who work in this domain—fusing spirituality with racial and social justice activism—that IDR/PC should move forward with a formal initiative perhaps, under the title: *Beloved Communities: Growing our Souls*. Since all but one of the steering committee members were present, a brief meeting there suggested that the enormously useful counsel and encouragement of the Haley meeting should guide forthcoming planning as we move toward a concrete, intentionally designed initiative.



A Joint Anti-Racism Venture

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