

# THE NATHAN CUMMINGS FOUNDATION



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

**Cover Photo:**

"Main Street Meltdown" October 29, 2008, temporary monument by Ligorano/Reese on the 78th anniversary of the stock market crash that caused the Great Depression. Part of BrushFire, a public art project by Provisions Library, funded in part by the CrossCurrents Foundation.

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## Message from the Chair

Barack Obama's victory in the 2008 presidential election - resounding as it was breathtaking - made it possible for the vast majority of Americans to exhale as they contemplated the next chapter in the American story. The renewal of hope that accompanied his electoral victory - and his work so far - has given many around the world reason to believe that Americans just might change course and devote the opening decades of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century to making the kind of structural change many grantees of the Nathan Cummings Foundation have championed for years, if not decades. So it's within the vortex of these momentous events that I am pleased to present this annual report, which provides a synopsis of NCF's aspirations and accomplishments during calendar year 2008.

On behalf of the Nathan Cummings Foundation Board, I would like to thank the Foundation's President, Lance Lindblom, for his energy, fortitude and resilience during a year that was tumultuous and inspiring. I would also like to convey our deep gratitude to NCF's staff for using its intellectual capital to advance the Foundation's commitment - and the unwavering commitment of the extended Cummings family - to economic, ecological and social justice, here at home and overseas.

By December, it was abundantly clear that many NCF grantees would exchange their long-time roles as activists, experts, public intellectuals and social entrepreneurs for positions inside the Beltway in the fields of health care, the environment, Jewish life and values, and in other arenas essential to the promise and construction of a fair and just society. Many of NCF's grantees saw their ideas woven into the new administration's thinking and aspirations. For example, Environment Program grantees, including the Apollo Alliance, Green for All, The Breakthrough Institute and the Blue/Green Alliance, saw their proposals for creating green jobs and a green economy embraced by a broad range of stakeholders at the state and federal levels. *Time Magazine's* "Heroes of the Environment 2008" included six NCF grantees: Van Jones, Green for All; Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger, Breakthrough Institute; and Gidon Bromberg, Nader Al Khateeb and Munqeth Mehyar, Friends of the Earth Middle East.

Of course, all of these developments on the fronts of electoral democracy and civic engagement transpired as credit markets seized up and the U.S. economy cratered. Securitizing subprime mortgages and other questionable practices on Wall Street caused the financial sector and, in time, the broader U.S. economy to contract and throw millions of Americans out of work. Wall Street's recklessness and allegiance to *laissez les bon temps rouler*, not to mention Washington's abdication of its regulatory responsibilities, gave us the Great Recession, the most severe economic downturn the nation has been forced to endure since the Great Depression.

Inside NCF, 2008 was full of significant developments. NCF reviewed, tweaked and settled on new grantmaking guidelines for the Foundation's four core programs - Arts & Culture, Health, Jewish Life & Values and Environment. These new guidelines will leave the Foundation well positioned to pursue its programmatic goals as we continue to identify grantees with cutting-edge approaches to address ecological, economic and social injustice.

During the year, the NCF Board, with advice from NCF associates from the third and fourth generations, crafted and enacted the Sundance Compact to guide the Foundation in the selection of future trustees and associates as the number of family members eligible to serve on NCF's Board exceeds the openings on the Board. For NCF, the adoption of the Sundance Compact was tantamount to the signing of the Magna Carta and the Declaration of Independence. This watershed development is proof of the extended Cummings family's commitment to the Foundation and the goals of social, economic and ecological justice.

The Sundance Compact is also true to the spirit of NCF's forebearer, Nathan Cummings, who famously said, "Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must be first overcome." The Sundance Compact represents a new state of equilibrium, one that eludes some family foundations. I should also note that during 2008, we – the Board – welcomed Jason Cummings as a first-time associate.

The 2008 annual report is a concise overview of NCF's grantmaking and its shareholder activities as well as a collage of the extraordinary work of NCF grantees. Every one of them is dedicated 24/7/365 to turning the pursuit of justice from an aspiration into a reality for all.

And, as always, through thick and thin, we must remember that *tikkun olam* is within our reach, never beyond it.

All the Best,

Ernest Tollerson

# **President's Report 2008**

2008 was a year of rapid change, producing significant challenges and unparalleled opportunities for those with innovative ideas and creative approaches to issues like health care reform, the economy and climate change. The pathbreaking work of the Foundation's grantees on these, and other issues, helped to shape many of the themes that emerged as part of the historic 2008 Presidential election. And as the new Administration prepared to take office, an impressive number of the Foundation's grantees were tapped for crucial positions in the Obama Administration.

In the midst of this turbulence, we were able to finalize successfully new guidelines intended to better focus the Foundation's work and continue its strategic effectiveness going forward. The changes finalized in 2008 will build on the gains, accomplishments and impacts of the previous 7 years and will be effective as of January 1, 2009. Despite the severe downturn in the markets in the later half of 2008, the Nathan Cummings Foundation was able to continue to implement its funding strategies, assuring that the Foundation and its grantees would continue to be well positioned to seize opportunities to effect positive social change going forward.

## **Arts and Culture**

During 2008, the Foundation's Arts and Culture Program continued to play a vital leadership role in the growing field of Art and Social Justice, helping to formalize the Arts and Social Justice Working Group while providing critical funding to help grow the field.

The Arts and Culture Program also continued its support of convenings and training programs in 2008, providing valuable opportunities for the Program's grantees to learn from others in their respective fields and develop beneficial relationships with influential thought leaders. Many of the Arts and Culture Program's media grantees also developed innovative strategies for networking. As the importance of social networking sites continues to grow, we believe this work will be vital in stimulating discussions among progressive creators around the world.

## **Environment**

In the context of the increasingly important national debate over the economy, energy and climate change, the Environment Program's grantees were particularly successful in 2008 in helping to define and articulate a shared vision of a more prosperous, secure and environmentally vibrant future. In fact, themes developed by NCF and its grantees played prominently in the 2008 Presidential election. More generally, NCF's premise – evident in much of the Environment Program's innovative funding – that the interrelated challenges of economic prosperity, national security and climate change can be successfully addressed through large-scale public investment in a clean energy economy was bolstered by President-elect Obama's enthusiastic embrace of these ideas.

In addition to gaining prominence on the national stage, many of the Environment Program's grantees were effective in helping to shape state and local policy. For instance, Environment

Program grantee the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and its Green Collar Jobs Campaign was instrumental in California's \$20 million investment in a new "Green Corps" to train young people for jobs in the emerging green economy.

### **Contemplative Practice**

2008 was a transition year for the Foundation's Contemplative Practice Program. Each of the grants made through the Contemplative Practice Program in 2008 sought in some way to develop approaches to help leaders and activists in various fields of interest to the Foundation think about and approach issues in creative new ways.

### **Health**

The Health Program was able to successfully capitalize on the growing public demand for health reform as increasingly large portions of American society recognized the need for change. The Health Program continued funding to add vital communications capacity and structure to the field of health reform advocacy and helped both to identify and propose solutions to barriers to reform. Many of the Program's longtime grantees are extremely well poised to influence the national debate around health care reform going forward. At the state-level, the Health Program continued its funding of efforts to expand state-level coverage, work that has generated crucial lessons about the opportunities and challenges confronting this work.

Of note among the many successes generated through the work of the Health Program's grantees in 2008 is Community Catalyst's Prescription Access Litigation Project's (PAL) achievement a \$350 million settlement in a class action lawsuit challenging pharmaceutical industry practices. With a total of 32 class actions under its belt, over \$1 billion in settlements and the adoption by others in the field of many of the practices advocated by PAL, NCF's relatively modest investment continues to have great impact.

### **Jewish Life and Values**

The Foundation's Jewish Life and Values (JLV) Program continued its field-defining work in 2008 with the publication of an important piece of research, *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community*. *Visioning Justice* not only explored ways to more effectively engage Jews in issues of social and economic justice, it also offered up suggestions as to key strategic funding opportunities, serving as a guide for both the Foundation and the field. On the heels of the report's publication, JLV helped to launch several key pilots in an effort to create a more robust Jewish social justice movement.

The Jewish Life and Values Program also successfully continued its efforts to amplify progressive religious voices in 2008. Many of the Program's funding strategies, including grants made to support progress on peace in the Middle East as well as a number of grants made to support congregation-based community organizing, were especially well aligned with approaches supported by the incoming Administration in the US.

### **Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice**

Complex issues like healthcare reform and the promotion of peace in the Middle East are often best addressed through collaboration and integrated, multi-dimensional approaches. Over the last 7 years, Interprogram has promoted collaborative approaches among the Foundation's core

programs by using its funds to facilitate multi-program grants. In 2008, Interprogram collaborated with the Foundation's other programs on a total of 82 grants. As well as being guided by Interprogram's primary focus on institutional accountability, many Interprogram grants continued to be dedicated to two important initiatives: the Gulf Coast rebuilding effort and domestic efforts to assist with the Mideast Peace Process.

2008 marked the final year that Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice operated under that name. Beginning in 2009, Interprogram will be renamed Collaborative Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice. Collaborative Initiatives, or CI, will continue to foster collaboration between NCF's core program areas while focusing in large part on facilitating NCF's programmatic responses to the unique opportunities created by the current economic and political context.

### **Shareholder Activities**

The 2008 proxy season saw the Foundation continue to increase its filing of shareholder resolutions in terms of both absolute numbers – 13 resolutions were filed – and areas of focus. The Foundation was able to maintain its focus on climate change while expanding its work to include filings related to executive compensation and health care reform, all issues high on the national agenda as 2008 drew to a close.

While investor support for all of the Foundation's resolutions remained high, the Foundation experienced particularly noteworthy success in beginning to move the homebuilding industry towards a more thoughtful approach to climate change and energy efficient building in 2008. In the wake of shareholder filings asking for the establishment of GHG emission reduction goals, both Centex Corporation and KB Home committed to energy efficiency increases in new homes they build beginning in 2009. These commitments will help to avoid the emission of thousands of tons of greenhouse gasses each year.

### **Conclusion**

These impressive accomplishments would not have been possible without the exceptional efforts of the Foundation's Board and Associates, staff and many partners. I thank them for their dedication, innovative approaches and willingness to take risks. Next year will mark the first full year of the Foundation's operation under the revised guidelines finalized this year. We hope that these new guidelines will help to facilitate future partnerships and further strengthen our efforts to foster positive social change.

Lance E. Lindblom  
President and CEO



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# **Arts and Culture Program 2008**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Nathan Cummings Foundation's Art and Social Justice work is acknowledged and frequently referenced by funders who have come to believe that art and culture can have a transformative impact on communities. This year the field of Art and Social Justice was formalized thanks to the work of our grantees as well as the collective work of arts funders seeking to educate themselves about Art and Social Justice work and create opportunities for collaborations. The Arts and Social Justice Working Group, a cohort of funders, consultants and practitioners, formalized its structure in an effort to effectively grow the field of funders committed to supporting this work. The Working Group held its first Grantmakers in the Arts Preconference in October of 2008. The first day was spent in the small town of Sautee Nocoutchee, Georgia with Rural Funders, which has been fully committed to the goals of the Working Group. The second day was spent at the Martin Luther King Center in Atlanta. Maya Wiley, founder and director of the Center for Social Inclusion, and Lori Villarosa, Executive Director of the Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity (PRE), introduced the group to tools designed to help funders combat institutional and structural racism. At a special three-hour planning session during the conference, Melinda Weekes of the Interaction Institute for Social Change facilitated the development of an organizational plan and structure for the sustained efforts of the Working Group.

During 2008, many of our grantees collaborated with one another and identified leaders of like-minded institutions to work with. Our support of convenings and art and social justice training programs also provided opportunities for our grantees and others to learn about innovative work in other communities while developing working relationships with the principals of leadership organizations. Additionally, our media grantees are developing innovative strategies for social networking. They are linked with progressive creators throughout the globe who offer workshops in public spaces, plan complimentary exhibitions and/or performances in their home communities and vet ideas with their colleagues on-line.

Several studies are under way that will provide the field with additional data about the impact of our work. With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Animating Democracy has launched the Arts & Civic Engagement Impact Initiative to advance understanding of and to help make the case for the social efficacy of arts-based civic engagement work. Syracuse University's Community Cultural Development Curriculum in Higher Education project will examine the pedagogy underlying the field of community cultural development in universities. The International Museum of Women has commissioned its second study, which will demonstrate the impact of online organizing and the Center for Democracy will convene a cohort of our grantees so that we can evaluate the effectiveness of our work thus far and plot a direction for the future as we implement our new guidelines.

## **GOAL**

**To support artistic practices, programs and policies that encourage cross-cultural and multidisciplinary collaborations, and give voice to the issues and experiences of underrepresented communities, in order to build a stronger society.**

## **OBJECTIVE I**

*Supporting arts and cultural organizations that partner with community groups that engage in responsive processes; collective problem-solving; and cross-cultural initiatives; in order to educate the public about social justice issues and shared community concerns that have national or multi-state impact.*

### **Strategy 1**

*To identify, support and document key projects that involve cultural institutions working collaboratively with multigenerational, multiethnic, multidisciplinary and/or broad geographic communities in response to economic and social justice issues articulated by those communities.*

### **Exhibitions and Interpretation**

Our grantees have supported the works of historians who are committed to teaching us lessons about the past that illuminate the present and future, as well as the works of artists who elucidate the world we live in and encourage us to envision new possibilities. The **Brooklyn USA Athletic Association Inc. Jackie Robinson Center for Physical Culture's (PAG)** exhibition, *Cultural Continuum: From African Art to African American Quilts* demonstrates the symbolic language of Africans and its use by contemporary quilt makers. This was the first of three exhibitions that were shown at the Foundation in 2008. **Provisions Learning Project/ Provisions Library** is devoted to displaying artwork and literature that addresses social issues of social change. In 2008 they presented three exhibitions. *BrushFire* showcased the works of contemporary artists whose public projects addressed a range of issues; *BalkanArts* was based on interviews with artists concerned with issues in Eastern Europe; and *SignalFire* is a web log that provides the public with access to the library's catalogue.

The **International Museum of Women's** on-line exhibition, *Women, Money, Poverty, and Wealth*, (with Interprogram) demonstrated the range of ways in which women are agents of change as workers, entrepreneurs, businesswomen, philanthropists, consumers, artisans and craftmakers and caretakers in both compensated and uncompensated settings. The **International Coalition of Historic Sites of Conscience** (with Interprogram) activated American historic sites and museums as new centers for dialogue and engagement on social justice issues. These places included sites of immigration, Japanese-American detainment and American Indian Boarding/residential schools.

The **Philadelphia Mural Arts Advocates' (PAG)** exhibition, *Transcendence* demonstrated the power of the community mural making process and examined how finished murals have transformed communities and their residents. **New York University's Tisch School of the Arts' (PAG)** exhibition, *1968: Then and Now* was a reminder of the period of political and social unrest that shaped our nation and indeed the world forty years ago; and the **New York Foundation for the Arts (PAG)** effort, *The Soldier Billboard Project*, a series of billboards

bearing the faces of soldiers who have served in Iraq, reminded us that many of the issues that were significant in 1968 have reemerged as concerns today.

The **National Performance Network's** participatory art work, *Paydirt*, addressed the high lead content in the soil in New Orleans by reinventing a scientific process for soil recovery; and *Fundred* generated dollar bills that are being designed by supportive children. This custom designed money will be delivered to Congress in an armored truck and legislators will be asked to exchange children's currency for an equal amount of appropriated currency to clean up New Orleans.

### **Documentary Projects**

The **American Poetry Museum** (APM) is one of several oral history/documentation projects. APM is documenting Hip Hop as a cultural movement and is specifically identifying poetry and raps that speak to issues of social and economic justice. The **Association of Joint Labor/Management Educational Programs (PAG)** has developed a web-based model for adult learners that is based on the *Kindred Voices: Workers Writers Program*, a project that serves hospital workers, caregivers, steel workers and other low-wage workers. **Appalshop, Inc.'s (PAG) Thousand Kites** project involves transforming the stories of prisoners, prison workers and their families into a play that explores basic human and civil rights.

The **Young People's Project** (with Interprogram) is a national program that takes teens and young adults to the relocation sites of victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Participants collect stories, document living conditions, connect families and bear witness to the plight of the displaced. In this, the third year of the project, they have built coalitions with host organizations throughout the country that provide services to individuals who have still not been able to return to New Orleans and other parts of the Mississippi Delta. The **Hartley Film Foundation, Inc.** developed and distributed outreach strategies for *the New Muslim Cool*, a documentary that explores American Muslim culture and its connection to hip hop as well as African American and Latino cultural and social justice movements. Additionally, **Kovno Communications, Inc.'s (PAG) The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers, (with Interprogram) recounted the story of whistle blower Daniel Ellsberg, who smuggled a top-secret Pentagon study to the New York Times in 1971. This led to the Watergate scandal and the resignation of President Richard Nixon.**

### **Training in Arts and Social Justice Practice**

The **New York Foundation for the Arts, Inc.'s Active Citizen Project** (with Interprogram) uses the arts to help underrepresented individuals shape their views around the social challenges that they face. Participants create digital video, audio messages, graphic images and short documentaries to communicate their visions of a different world. **Terra Moto, Inc.'s Arts and Equity Initiative** is a partnership between the city government of Portland, ME, its school system and community leaders and is designed to incorporate the arts and creativity into their policymaking and practice. As an immigration relocation site, the City is dealing with issues around race, ethnicity, religion and language. Artists are working with City employees to address unhealed traumas, entrenched inequalities and institutional discrimination. The **League of Young Voters** enacted the *Citizen Engagement Laboratory*, a project that has supported citizen journalism by assisting individuals who produce 3-7 minute videos about pressing social

issues. They facilitate online distribution of these videos as well as discussions and calls to action. The **Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in California**'s project *Books Not Bars-Arts and Culture Project* (with Interprogram) uses spoken word performances, writing programs and media literacy to teach young people about their civic rights and responsibilities.

The **Global Action Project** (GAP) in New York City and **Scribe Video Center** in Philadelphia work to increase community based organizations' capacity to use media as a powerful, persuasive educational, advocacy and cultural tool. They also cultivate youth media makers as leaders who can work with non-profit groups to produce aesthetically sophisticated, high-impact media for social justice campaigns. Since 1932, the **Highlander Research & Education Center** has been at the forefront of social justice, organizing in the South and nationally, and playing a vital role in the labor, civil rights, environmental justice and global justice movements. The *Zilphia Horton Project* uses art and culture to address structural racism, poverty, changing demographics and environmental degradation in southern communities. In a similar manner, the *Cornerstone Institute Summer Residency* trains participants in community-based theater practice around issues such as immigration, reproductive rights, religious freedom and the loss of jobs.

The **University of Massachusetts Foundation, Inc. (PAG)** is the new home of *Kindred Voices*, a web based writing workshop that evolved from the work of the Association of Joint Labor/Management Educational Programs. *Kindred Voices* is a program for steel, healthcare, telecommunications, transportation, government and university workers who have written plays, short stories and books that reveal what life is like for low wage laborers in the United States. The program has been launched at twelve sites and the curriculum and the teacher-training program have been assessed. The writings have been edited and published and plans have been developed for program replication.

Since 2001, we have supported six universities that piloted degree-granting programs in art and community building. Each of the programs is unique and focuses on a different core curriculum. Notwithstanding their differences, this cohort meets annually and shares pedagogy and practices with one another and with other universities developing similar programs. The **Maryland Institute** acted as co-host and planning coordinator for the third annual conference of these universities and is hosting an online juried journal. **California College of the Arts** is restructuring its program following the departures of its founding director and the college's president.

**Columbia College** has recognized that a significant number of leaders of arts institutions will be retiring over the course of the next decade. Its *Next Generation Arts Leadership Project* is producing artists who have organizational management skills as well as community building experience. The **Foundation of California State University Monterey Bay's** *Acts of Reclamation: Artists and Communities in Partnership* program directs its students to focus on reclaiming multicultural narratives and diverse community histories and support the preservation of cross-cultural knowledge. **Xavier University** (with Interprogram) is located in New Orleans and has benefited from its relationships with other universities in this cohort. Xavier is transitioning its Department of Community Arts Partnerships into an Art Management Program. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita left a void of arts leaders and managers in the community. As the

City rebuilds, Xavier students are working throughout the City to help stabilize existing institutions and build new ones.

**The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Junior University's Institute for Diversity in the Arts Program** involves artists, students and the local community in creating performances and visual art that examines the intersections between race, diversity and social action. In this program artists serve as guest faculty.

### **Sustainable Design**

The synergy between the arts and environment communities is often most evident in the field of sustainable design. Students are learning about civic engagement as they use design charettes to imagine what it means to live in sustainable communities. The **Smithsonian Institution/Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum's City of Neighborhoods** is a design based education and advocacy program for young people who work with educators, designers and civic leaders who use design to leverage positive community change. The **Cloud Institute for Sustainable Education's** work addresses sustainable design through civic engagement by launching sustainable design models in schools committed to systems learning in ten different cities (with Environment). The students of **Sweat Equity Enterprises, Inc. (SEE)** won a number of important design awards in 2008. One student designed an affordable car for Nissan called Pure. SEE offers young people pre-professional project-based learning opportunities in design, technology and entrepreneurship.

In 2008, **The National Building Museum's (PAG)** exhibition, *Green Community* (with Interprogram and Environment) highlighted a range of communities from small neighborhoods to major cities, illustrating in each case how the community has committed to the stewardship of its unique cultural and natural resources.

### **Performing Arts**

The **Hip-Hop Theater Festival** continued its efforts to develop new audiences for the theater by presenting socially relevant plays created by poets and writers who appreciate the political and social potential for Hip Hop art forms. **Cornerstone Theater Company, Inc.** developed work under the auspices of its Justice Cycle. The *Environmental Justice Project* is a play that explores how laws shape and disrupt communities.

### **Support for Individual Artists**

We have consistently reached out to intermediary organizations that have the ability to reach constituents who might not normally be on our radar screen. The **Seventh Generation Fund's Arts and Cultural Expression Program** is an effort that promotes traditional, contemporary and media art forms that express creativity, enhance tribal identity and cultural diversity, strengthen inter-generational cultural transmission and recover tribal languages. The Fund identifies and supports projects that address cultural and social justice concerns. **The Tides Center/All-Ages Movement Project** consists of a network of 127 youth music organizations that provide critical cultural space for teens and young adults between the ages of 14 and 25 by providing technical assistance for members, promoting the growth of independent music and art, building relationships, raising visibility, sharing knowledge and identifying resources in order to foster social and cultural change.

### **Recovery of the Cultural Economy in the Mississippi Delta Post Katrina**

The Arts and Culture Program is committed to helping to restore the arts community in New Orleans, one of the most culturally rich and uniquely original cities in this country. **The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation, Inc.** (with Interprogram) was founded to support individual artists, arts organizations and small businesses that support the arts and unincorporated arts practitioners such as the Mardi Gras Indians who are seeking to rebuild the cultural economy post-Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. During the coming year they are working on health care issues, as well as increased employment opportunities for artists. **Efforts of Grace/The Ashe Cultural Arts Center** (with Interprogram) has become a leadership institution in the cultural community in New Orleans. It hosts planning meetings, supports the work of individual artists and is a key player in implementing the plan to rebuild the City's cultural economy. The **National Performance Network**, (NPN) (with Interprogram) is a service organization located in New Orleans that supports and convenes performing artists both regionally and nationally. NPN also convenes artists monthly and tracks the progress of rebuilding initiatives.

### **Strategy 3**

*To develop and support a communications strategy that includes the publication and dissemination of research that substantiates the importance of the arts in influencing social change and the dissemination of information about collaborative projects that lead to effective public education as well as social and political action.*

We continue to support documentary films that provide a context for contemporary social issues; websites that make progressive and investigative features available to national and international audiences; and print and non-print media projects that have the ability to reach broad and diverse audiences. **Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility's** project, *The New Village Press*, creates practical and inspiring books that document exemplary art and community building projects as well as methodologies and practices. The Press published the following new works: *Outside the Frame: Teaching Art as Social Engagement*; *Asphalt to Ecosystems: Design Ideas for Ecological Schoolyard Transformation* and *The Teaching Artist Toolbox*. The **East Bay Center for the Performing Arts (PAG)** documented the work of young artists/activists on its website, *timeofchange.org*, and **LTSC/Downtown Community Media Center** (with Interprogram) is completing its work on *Arts of Activism: The Cultural Legacy of the Early Asian American Movement*. LTSC is documenting and preserving the cultural legacy of the early Asian American artists/activists.

**Art 21, Inc.** has introduced a national and international audience to path-breaking artists from diverse geographic, ethnic, cultural and artistic backgrounds. The broadcasts and the outreach serve an international community of educators who use the DVDs, the website and curriculum to teach audiences across the globe. **Art in the Public Interest** manages the *Community Arts Network (CAN)* web site. CAN promotes the growth and stability of the community arts field by providing opportunities for information exchange, research and critical dialogue about the field. With NCF support, CAN is identifying a new home for its archive and online activity.



The **Pacific News Service's** *Youth Outlook (YO!)* began as a writing program for homeless and incarcerated youth that offered adults a unique perspective on the lives of poor youths. Today *YO!* is a multi-media enterprise that includes a network television show, an interactive website with streamed videos and select hardcopy publications. *YO!* examines the criminalization of youth, the quality of education, safe communities and other issues facing teens and young adults. **Radio Bilingue** is grooming the next generation of writers and journalists. *New Generation* is a training program for volunteer radio programmers and producers who come from Radio Bilingue's listening audience. Participants are primarily from the agricultural centers of California. The *New Generation* project is training a new cohort of on-air broadcasters and producers from multi-generational under-served communities.

Each year, we also support a modest number of film projects. We give priority to films that raise timely issues and ones where the filmmakers have brokered partnerships with social justice groups and others who can use these films as tools for change. The **San Francisco Film Society's** *Traces of the Trade* follows one family as it explores its relationship to the trans-Atlantic slave trade. The filmmakers are working with educators to rewrite the history of the role of Northerners in the slave trade and they will seek acknowledgement and apologies from organized religious groups that sanctioned and benefited from the trade in human beings. **The Center for Independent Documentary's (PAG)** film *Divide and Conquer* (with Interprogram) explores negative campaigning and its impact on American Politics by tracing the career of Lee Atwater. This film was shown at both the Republican and Democratic conventions. It was recently acquired by Frontline and is being shown at universities and by voting rights groups across the country. **The Educational Broadcasting Corporation (PAG)** film *Critical Condition* (with Interprogram and Health) examines the fiscal and emotional challenges that the uninsured face. **Southern Methodist University's** documentary film *Race to Execution/Juror Number Six* explores the effects of race on America's death penalty system. The film will be used by law schools, advocacy organizations and juvenile justice support groups.

We support **Grantmakers in the Arts (Affinity)** through membership. We also support the annual meeting. Grantmakers in the Arts has provided the Arts and Culture Program and its colleagues who work at the crossroads of art and social justice with a forum for promoting our work and an opportunity to convene and build coalitions. The 2008 meeting, *The New American City (PAG)*, which was held in Atlanta, examined the legacy of civil rights while considering both our progress and challenges over time.

#### **Strategy 4**

*To convene artists and arts administrators to foster information exchange, coalition building, the development of collective strategies as well as to provide direct support.*

The **University of Massachusetts Foundation/New World Theater (PAG)** hosted *Intersection V: Creative UpRisings(s)*, a national conference examining new directions in performing arts, cultural organizing, new work practices by artists of color and new arts-based discourses in education. The **League of Young Voters Education Fund** instituted its hip hop-based civic training program and curriculum. The **Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)/Arab American National Museum** developed the exhibition, *Orientalism*, which presents a framework for understanding how the Middle East has been framed within

American culture. It also produced *DIWAN*, a conference that took place while the exhibition was on view. The theme of **UBW/Urban Bush Women's** 2008 and 2009 Summer Institutes is *Community Building for Change*. Participants will deepen their understanding of community art-making for change by focusing on collaboration, leadership and creativity.

### **National Service Organizations**

The arts and culture community is strengthened by the many service organizations that convene and educate constituents about current practices, innovative thinking and challenges to the field. Our grantees empower groups that are committed to art and social change and artists engaged in community building by: featuring leaders in the field as conference presenters; showcasing exemplary work; and collaborating with leaders from other sectors.

**Alternate Roots, Inc.** (with Interprogram) convenes and supports artists doing community based work in rural and urban Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. The **Theatre Communications Group (TCG)** will focus in the coming year on the role that theater plays in communities. They pose and attempt to answer the following questions: How many of our community members view theater as important? How do theaters and artists share the power of their work in communities, our country and around the world? What steps must be taken in order to leverage the power of theater in visionary and vital ways?

### **OBJECTIVE II**

*To defend against adverse public, private and corporate policies, art censorship and other challenges to the wellbeing of the non-profit cultural community.*

#### **Strategy 1**

*To defend against and support policy organizations that facilitate discussion between policymakers and grassroots practitioners and develop policy that is informed by research as well as evolving practices within the impacted communities.*

The **Center for Civic Participation (PAG)** (with Interprogram) works to increase the sustainability of arts and culture work that furthers participatory democracy and social justice. The Center has been convening artists, cultural organizers, activists, educators and policy makers across generations. They publish and share the minutes of their gatherings. The **Future of Music Coalition, Inc.** employs three strategies that are aimed towards improving quality of life issues for musicians. *The Artist Research Council* creates and publishes original research. The Council consists of platinum selling musicians who care about the plight of the field. *HINT* provides technical assistance to musicians seeking information on available health coverage (with the Health Program); and the *Artists Activist Camp* provides progressive minded musicians with media training as well as historical and social contexts so that they can move issues effectively and act as agents of change (with Interprogram). The **Urban Institute** is updating an earlier study as it investigates *The State of Investing in Creativity*, an exploration that seeks to cultivate advocates for artists outside of the arts sector and cultivate opportunities for artists in hybrid markets/careers.

**Pratt Institute's Center for Arts and Community Change** has developed a national network devoted to creating sustainable communities in just, equitable and livable cities. The Center will document community development models that include the arts, build this sector of the field and broker relationships between cultural and community development practitioners. The **Administrators of the Tulane Education Fund/Tulane University** has partnered with Xavier University as they work with communities in New Orleans on cultural policy, which includes an analysis of public policy as it relates to cultural planning and community development efforts.

The **Backbone Campaign/Progressive Government Institute's Procession for the Future** (with Interprogram) begins with a parade of iconic high production-value art, which includes giant puppets, inflatables, music and banners. The art is accompanied by clear messaging from knowledgeable speakers that demonstrate the interconnected web of policy issues. The **Proteus Fund, Inc.'s Media Democracy Fund** is a collaborative that supports research and community education efforts associated with the media and information technology landscape.

### **Strategy 3**

*To support communications strategies, including convenings, research, the development of web pages as well as hard copy publications that foster access, encourage the exchange of ideas and educate the field about the state of the arts and the implications of policy decisions for the arts community.*

The **Free Press (PAG)** has become one of the leaders of the media reform movement in the United States. The *Free Press 2008 National Conference for Media Reform* was the largest gathering of media rights reformers in the country, bringing together over 3,500 activists, media creators, academics and policymakers. The **Center for Civic Participation (PAG)** has been convening and collecting information concerning challenges to the field for two years. In November of 2008, the Center convened Nathan Cummings Foundation Art and Social Justice grantees representing grassroots organizations. The agenda was organized around our new guideline strategies: the art, the practice, communications and policy. A key area of discussion was assessing the impact of the art.

The **National Alliance of Media Arts Centers, Inc.** (with Interprogram) has initiated *Platforms for Participation*, a project that uses communication technologies to increase civic engagement and democratic participation in geographically and socio-economically diverse communities. Similarly, the **Center for Rural Strategies** (with Interprogram) has created a *Daily Yonder* that creates and disseminates a range of cultural and civic information to communities that are experiencing the loss of local newspapers and radio programming due to media consolidation. The **Educational Broadcasting Corporation's**, series *Now*, with David Brancaccio and Maria Hinojosa, will continue to produce investigative segments that cross all of our program areas. (with Environment and Contemplative Practice, Health, Jewish Life and Values and Interprogram).

### **NEXT STEPS**

In 2007, the Grantmakers in the Arts meeting was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The number of Native American funders present was larger than ever before and constituents from the heartlands also participated in greater numbers. More than sixty people attended each of the

Art and Social Justice sessions and they contributed to our thinking about how to organize and grow the Art and Social Justice Working Group.

In 2008, Grantmakers in the Arts met in Atlanta and explored the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement. We merged with Rural Arts Funders for one day and discussed structural racism on the second. Within the context of its planning, the Arts and Social Justice Funders Working Group has articulated a number of priorities. They include: mapping the field of Arts and Social Justice funder and grantee activity; building coalitions with funders working in other program areas; documenting exceptional examples of art and social justice projects; and identifying studies and research that can inform our work. Going forward, we envision greater opportunities for collaborating with our colleagues to realize these goals.

Our media grantees continue to innovate and be leaders in the field. During the coming year, we will explore using new media to grow the citizen journalism movement, further develop the scope of on-line exhibitions and build a variety of social networks for artists/activists and their supporters. We will also be examining new portals and platforms for disseminating information.

# ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM 2008

## INTRODUCTION

NCF grantees helped to define the nation's political discourse in this critical transition year by developing and articulating a broadly shared vision of a common future that is at once more prosperous, secure, healthy and environmentally vibrant. The 2008 Presidential election campaign was replete with promises of investment in the transition to a clean energy economy, in energy security and in green job creation, themes developed by NCF grantees over the preceding six years. By November, President-Elect Obama was declaring that investment in an alternative energy economy would be one of his top three priorities.

By that point, it was apparent that the global environmental crisis was to be joined by a global economic crisis that would create both barriers to and opportunities for the new President's agenda. Again, NCF grantees were well positioned to offer fresh approaches and to advance integrated solutions to the highly complex ecological and economic problems that confront us. We ended the year hopeful that by integrating economic stimulus, energy independence and ecological sustainability into a coherent and cohesive set of public policies, NCF grantees might be able to help overcome ingrained habits of mind that continued to insist that market forces alone will solve two of the largest market failures in history—global warming and the global financial meltdown.

During 2008, the Nathan Cummings Foundation made grants to the following organizations working to bring together the twin goals of social justice and ecological sustainability, to seize the opportunities and avoid the pitfalls of this historic moment. It was the final year of grantmaking under the Environment Program Guidelines, setting the stage for a new set of guidelines and a new program name – Ecological Innovation – made effective on January 1, 2009.

## GOAL

**The goal of the Environment Program is to facilitate environmental justice and environmentally sustainable communities by supporting the accountability of corporations, governments, and other institutions for their environmental practices.**

## OBJECTIVE I

*To facilitate the accountability of corporations, governments, and other institutions for their environmental practices.*

### Strategy 1

*To facilitate the development of public policies and other approaches by which corporations, governments and other institutions take responsibility for the real environmental costs and risks of their activities.*

Five grants were made in partnership with the Interprogram to renew support for organizations advancing this strategy from the local to the global level. The *Global Warming Litigation Project*, a collaboration of the **Civil Society Institute** (CSI) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), facilitates the power of State Attorneys General and some of the best legal talent from the tobacco litigation to bring lawsuits against the largest US emitters of greenhouse gas pollution. **Ceres, Inc.**, and the *Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)*, an initiative of the **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.**, work with many of the world's largest institutional investors to ensure that global corporations understand - and begin to manage - their carbon emissions. "*Winning Chemical Safety and Hometown Security in New Jersey*," a project of the **Work Environment Council of New Jersey, Inc. (WEC)** works to speed the transition to safer, healthier bio-based alternatives to many of the hazardous chemicals now processed in and transported through communities around the country.

Also in collaboration with Interprogram, first-time grants were made to advance an integrated set of solutions to global warming, economic opportunity, social equity and national security. *Energy Opportunity*, a new project at the **Center for American Progress**, emphasizes the need for public investment in the transition to a low-carbon economy, creating the blueprint for a "green" economic stimulus plan. The *Democracy Collaborative*, a project of the **University of Maryland Foundation**, brings together reputable scholars to develop public capital investment strategies to maximize ecological, social and economic sustainability and equity. The *Demos Center on Balanced Regulation*, a project of **Demos: A Network for Ideas and Action, Ltd.** is a national center for research, analysis, and advocacy on effective public regulation. The *Sustainable Endowments Institute - College Sustainability Report Card*, a project of **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.**, is designed to motivate universities to prioritize and communicate commitments to both campus and endowment environmental sustainability. And the *Carbon Neutral Alliance*, a project of the **Center for Resource Solutions** was funded to help foundations and non-profits calculate and manage their carbon emissions.

Another set of grants was made along with the Health and Interprograms to support the development of integrated approaches to the question of institutional accountability. *The Breakthrough Institute's "Paradigm Building,"* a project of **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.**, makes the case for an investment-centered approach to climate change aimed at making clean energy cheap, creating jobs and reducing oil dependency. The *Center for State Innovation (CSI)*, a project of **The University of Wisconsin, Madison**, provides state government officials with access to the tools necessary to develop high-quality, innovative and sustainable policies to improve health, the environment, economic development, public safety and transportation. The *Tax Policy Center (TPC) Opportunity Fund*, a joint venture of the **Urban Institute** and the Brookings Institution, is designed to provide "intellectual venture capital" to support research and other activities the Center will undertake during the critical period when Congress and the new President decide how to respond to the expiration of the Bush tax cuts and promises made during the 2008 presidential campaign regarding health and climate change.

The Environment, Health and Interprograms renewed support for the **Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy** (LAANE), and the **Front Range Economic Strategy Center** (FRESC). Both

groups are committed to shifting the logic of economic development decision-making so that quality jobs, affordable housing, clean air and water and access to health care become part of the purposes of development. The three programs also renewed funding for the *Illinois High Performance Manufacturing Initiative*, a joint effort of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association (IMA), the Illinois AFL-CIO and the **Center for Labor and Community Research**, which focuses on achieving long-term and sustainable benefits for manufacturers, workers and the broader community. Finally, the three programs made a grant to **Transparent Democracy** for its *Shareholder Education Program* to help shareholders who want to align their ownership in companies with their values make better-informed decisions about proxy voting.

## **Strategy 2**

*To broaden public constituencies that will encourage corporations and other institutions to internalize the true environmental costs of their activities, by connecting environmentalists to public health, labor, religious, minority, economic development, science, business, youth, academic, social justice and other groups.*

Environment Program grants were made to groups addressing global warming with a focus on expanding opportunity in the emerging clean-energy economy for low-income people, people of color and other vulnerable communities. NCF supported the launch of *Green for All* (a project of the **Natural Capital Institute**) a new national initiative led by the Ella Baker Center's Van Jones. A separate grant was made to fund *Green for All's "Dream Reborn Conference."* The **Rockefeller Family Fund's ISky** was given funding to bring young people together with environmentalists, environmental justice advocates and business people to advocate for solutions to the climate crisis. And the **National Wildlife Federation** was given a grant for its *Fair Climate Solutions Campaign* to place job creation and the transition to a clean energy economy at the heart of NWF's global warming work.

The Environment Program teamed with Interprogram to renew a set of grants to build broad-based constituencies to advance the transition to a clean energy economy. **The Tides Center** was funded for the *Apollo Project* to allow Apollo to continue playing a leading role in the green economy arena. The **Public Health Institute, Inc.**, was given two grants: one to support the *Blue Green Alliance* of the Sierra Club and the United Steelworkers of America (which is focusing on educating a five-million member grassroots constituency in 11 states about the economic opportunities created by clean energy and green chemistry); and the second to fund Blue/Green's *Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference*, the largest gathering to date of labor, business, environment and environmental justice organizations focused on the transition to a clean energy economy. Grants were made to support *Keeping the New Energy Promise*, a project of the **University of Wisconsin, Madison**, and the *Green Economy Policy and Public Awareness Project*, at the **Environmental Law & Policy Center of the Midwest**, which work independently and in concert to accelerate the development of green economies in cities including Chicago, Milwaukee and Cleveland where ecological sustainability has become the centerpiece of plans for future economic growth.

The Environment, Health and Interprograms renewed funding for the **Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project** (WORCEP), which is bringing a wide and diverse group of people together in the Rocky Mountain West to effect environmental and social change.

These three programs also made a grant to support the *Breakthrough Institute*, a project of **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors**, to explore the economic, social and political drivers of anti-immigrant attitudes that impede progress on a variety of important issues including climate change and access to health care. Finally, grants were made to renew NCF's membership in the **Environmental Grantmakers Association** and the **Consultative Group on Biodiversity**, which support foundations in their efforts to advance the well being of people and the health of the global environment.

## **OBJECTIVE II**

*To facilitate environmental justice by ensuring that communities, especially those vulnerable due to low-to-moderate socioeconomic status, race, or ethnicity, are protected from environmental degradation.*

### **Strategy 1**

*To facilitate efforts which promote the environmental accountability of corporations, governments, and other institutions in communities, especially those vulnerable due to low-to-moderate-socioeconomic status, race, or ethnicity.*

Several of the grant recommendations listed elsewhere in this overview, including those to the New Jersey Work Environment Council, Green for All and Sustainable South Bronx, fit this goal and strategy. However, the emphasis of the groups as they grow stronger focuses more centrally on building broad-based coalitions to advance a vision of an ecologically sustainable and just economy than on questions of protection and vulnerability. These groups are more interested in presenting forward-thinking solutions than in reacting to specific examples of environmental degradation. These groups have been listed under the other strategies to make the point that the work of environmental justice is evolving. The new guidelines are intended to capture these encouraging changes.

The Environment and Interprograms renewed funding for the **Ella Baker Center For Human Rights in California** for *The Green Collar Jobs Campaign* (formerly called "Reclaim the Future") to lay the groundwork for the regional expansion of the clean energy career training and green economic stimulation project launched in Oakland with NCF support. The Environment, Health and Interprograms also renewed funding to the **Environmental Health Coalition** and the **Center on Policy Initiatives** to advance a positive, solution-oriented approach to environmental justice and economic development in San Diego. Following the lead of the Health Program, a renewal grant was made to the **Institute For Sustainable Communities** for the *Gulf Coast Community Renewal Project* to support an environmentally sound and just re-building program founded on strong and accountable local governments.

Two separate grants were made in partnership with the Health and Interprograms to support the **Liberty Hill Foundation** as it continues to build a more effective social and environmental justice infrastructure in Los Angeles. The first renewed NCF support for the *Environmental Justice Technical Assistance Program* to help build the capacity of environment and environmental justice organizations advising the City on making Los Angeles "the cleanest and greenest big city in America." The second supports a project, *Toward a Culture of Civic Philanthropy*, to develop a more effective civic culture that brings together philanthropy,



academia, non-profit organizations, business and local government to pursue environmental and social justice policy reform.

The Environment and Interprograms renewed support for the **Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council (YRITWC)**, for the development of the safe, clean and affordable energy sources that will be key to the Yukon watershed's regeneration. The two programs made two separate grants to support the launch of the *Green Hub* (a project of the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**), a cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional round table of leaders working towards the ecological transformation of the economy with a focus on the greening of cities.

Three grants were made in partnership with the Jewish Life and Interprograms. The first renewed NCF support for *Women and the Environment: Agents of Change in Israel*, an initiative of **The New Israel Fund**. The Environment Program contribution is intended to bolster support for The Green Environment Fund (GEF) component of the larger grant. GEF is working to build a values-based environmental movement in Israel, foster a sustainable environment and safeguard the public health of all Israeli citizens. Funding was also provided to support *Envisioning a Political Agenda for 21st Century Israel*, a project of the **American Friends of the Heschel Center Inc.** The project will assemble a cohort of thinkers and researchers of varied religious, cultural and political backgrounds to frame a new political agenda focused on the integration of ecological sustainability, national security and social justice. The third grant in this set was made to **Hazon, Inc.** which works in the US and Israel to position issues of sustainability as critical to our collective future and central to Jewish life.

## **Strategy 2**

*To increase public access to information and decision-making about environmental policies.*

Support was provided to **Sustainable South Bronx (SSBx)**, a "next generation" environmental justice organization that designs and implements integrated strategies for economic development and ecological sustainability. A grant was made to **Yale University** to support the promotion of ideas, analysis and proposals in Dean Gus Speth's book, *The Bridge at the Edge of the World: Capitalism, the Environment, and the Crossing from Crisis to Sustainability*, which seeks to define a new and broader agenda for American environmentalism, one that deals with the underlying political and economic forces that drive ecological deterioration.

A renewal grant was made by all core programs to support *NOW on PBS*, a project of the **Educational Broadcasting Corporation**, to cover issues central to NCF's mission that are ignored or badly handled by much of the rest of the media, from global warming to the healthcare debate, from government censorship to the increasing gap between rich and poor. Together with Interprogram, the Environment Program made a grant to support the **WGBH Educational Foundation** for *FRONTLINE's "Heat,"* a two-hour television documentary that took an in-depth look at the roles of powerful American institutions in the world's climate crisis.

The Environment, Health and Interprograms renewed funding for the **Government Accountability Project (GAP)**, which provides legal representation to corporate and government whistleblowers, including several who have been profiled by grantees *NOW* and *Frontline*. The three programs also supported **Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy**

**Education** for its California statewide *Tax and Fiscal Policies Project*, designed to build the case for public investment in an environmentally sustainable and socially just future.

Two renewal grants were made in partnership with the Health Program; the first to **Working Partnerships USA** for the sophisticated work it does to educate a diverse constituency about public policies that benefit the environment and working people; and the second to the **Partnership for Working Families** which works with affiliates in 18 cities on community benefit agreements (CBAs) and policies that hold corporations and governments accountable for providing public and environmental benefits for public investments.

The Environment Program made two grants with the Arts and Culture Program: the first to the **Cloud Institute for Sustainability Education** for its *SoL Education Partnership*, a curriculum focused on whole systems thinking and the need for people to become adept at understanding a world of growing interdependence and multiple perspectives; and the second to support *Green Community*, an exhibition of the **National Building Museum** that will address sustainable planning and development, including how we plan, design and construct the world between our buildings.

## **NEXT STEPS**

According to an international consensus of experts, the climate crisis cannot be solved without governments in the developed world playing a major role as regulators, investors and creators of markets. This reality runs up hard against the continued strength of an ideology that insists that government is never the solution, that regulation is invariably counter-productive, and that government spending is anathema to economic growth. The ideology has become so pervasive in the US that decision-makers from both the left and right, as well as environmental and philanthropic leaders, are loathe to fully embrace the kinds of approaches the experts are recommending.

NCF and its grantees will play an important part in challenging the ideological position by producing solid research, advancing innovative solutions, and engaging our colleagues in conversations about new and more comprehensive approaches to the problems. The economic downturn will make this dialog more difficult to start, but, given the urgency of our situation, we will push hard to construct a case that can be heard and engaged.

We never know what lies just around the corner, opportunity, crisis, or both, but this historic moment feels especially uncertain. We may see a continued adherence to political and economic orthodoxies, and a rise in nationalism and xenophobia. Or we may see the nation seize this moment of upheaval as an opportunity to create an economy that works for far more people and for the environment. NCF will be convening grantees in the near term to plan for the tumultuous months ahead, with the goal of laying out long-term thinking and strategies. We will work especially closely with grantees who have the capacity to add to the development of a public policy framework that integrates the best thinking about ecological regeneration, improved health outcomes, institutional accountability, global development, prosperity and social justice.

# CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE 2008

## INTRODUCTION

The search for innovative solutions – to global warming, the economy, health care and the Middle East – gets more urgent with the growing sense that we lack the capacity to deal meaningfully with the problems we face. If Einstein was right, that “no problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it,” then the path to innovative solutions will be the path through to different levels of consciousness. That may mean something as simple as seeing things from a fresh perspective, or as profound as having a deep spiritual experience.

Four grants were made in this transition year, as NCF phased out the old Contemplative Practice guidelines and prepared for the new.

## GOAL

**To promote the development and dissemination of contemplative practice programs – from all traditions – which address the Foundation’s core values: concern for the poor, disadvantaged and underserved; empowerment of communities in need; respect for diversity; and promotion of understanding across cultures.**

## OBJECTIVE I

*To cultivate the development and teaching of contemplative practices linked to engagement with areas of concern to the Foundation.*

A grant was made to the **Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s CoLab** and the Presencing Institute which are developing a set of projects with NCF grantees including Earth Justice and the Green Hub that bring together contemplative and non-contemplative practices to advance goals of ecological sustainability and economic justice. CoLab is applying “social technologies” designed to help leaders listen to, learn from and work with each other as they tackle complex challenges. This work utilizes Theory U, a set of contemplative practices in development at MIT for the past ten years, to create highly effective teams of problem solvers representing diverse backgrounds and interests.

## OBJECTIVE II

*To enable the teachers, practitioners and organizations devoted to contemplative practice to make their work available as a resource for non-profit organizations devoted to social, economic and environmental justice.*

A grant was made to the **Vallecitos Mountain Refuge**, to support the *Twelfth Annual Meditation Retreat for Activists of Color*, designed to offer support and a practical introduction to meditation for activists. Vallecitos has introduced scores of activists to practices linked to engagement with areas of concern to the Foundation. Many of those activists say that their Vallecitos experience was life changing, and that they've avoided burnout and become better leaders as a result.

Support was provided to *Social Justice Leadership* (SJL), an initiative of the **Jewish Funds for Justice, Inc.** SJL employs a variety of contemplative practices in its innovative leadership training to activists and organizers of color with a goal of fostering deeper alliances and a renewed and more effective movement for social justice and ecological sustainability.

Finally, a grant was made to renew support for **Peace on the Street Inc.**, an organization created to empower inner-city residents with the clarity associated with contemplative practice. The aim is to provide tools for disadvantaged members of the community to have the opportunity to develop fresh insights that allow them to more effectively organize to improve their social, economic and political situation.

### **NEXT STEPS**

As economic crisis shakes our faith in worn-out orthodoxies, our reaction is to cling to what we know, even knowing that it no longer works and in fact brought us to the point of crisis in the first place. This paradox proves Einstein's point, and the need to move to a new level of consciousness, to challenge old ways of thought and action becomes more acute. NCF's new guidelines for Contemplative Practice will push us beyond what's comfortable, with their emphasis on practices that lead to innovation, creativity and effective collaboration. The next period will inevitably be oriented around experimentation, taking risks and learning what works and what doesn't. We will begin by listening, through a series of interviews with creative thinkers and doers, and allow that process to inform our next steps.

# Health Program 2008

## INTRODUCTION

2008 was a pivotal year. In the run up to the presidential election, health care remained one of the top domestic policy concerns as escalating costs forced increasing numbers of employers to reduce their contributions toward worker health insurance premiums, switch to plans with high co-payments and deductibles or drop health benefits altogether. Controversy over President Bush's repeated vetoes of funding for the popular State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) brought renewed attention to government's role in maintaining the social safety net, particularly as the economic outlook darkened. And Federal economists projected that health care spending would grow to account for almost one fifth of our economy in the next ten years. The pressures for significant reform grew stronger than any time since the early 1990's; indeed, President Obama was elected in part on a promise to fix a health care system that fails to serve an increasing number of Americans.

We also began to see a backlash against efforts to starve government of the resources necessary to oversee the private sector and protect public health. Public outrage and fear in the aftermath of the poisoned pet food, tainted Heparin and other scandals resulted in serious efforts to give federal agencies the power and resources to more effectively guarantee food and drug safety in a globalized economy. A new urgency around global warming and other environmental health issues also signaled a potentially important shift in the way we deal with the trade-offs between economic development and our long-term health.

It is impossible to say where all this activity will lead, although we know that events in 2008 shaped the terms of the debate for the foreseeable future. Growing economic pressures both created demand for reform and made the necessary elements of that reform seemingly much more difficult to secure. One thing is certain, however: the Health program's 2008 grantees have played and will continue to play an important role in advocating for creative, just and sustainable approaches to the formidable challenges before us.

## GOAL

**The goal of the health program is to improve people's health and well-being, especially those who confront barriers due to low-to moderate-socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, or gender; recognizing the link between physical health and the economic, social, environmental, psychological, and spiritual factors that affect individuals, families and communities.**

## OBJECTIVE I

*To assure access to quality health care, goods and services, especially for those who confront barriers due to low-to moderate-socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity or gender.*

## Strategy 1

*To support efforts that reduce corporate, governmental and other institutional practices that create barriers to quality health care, goods and services, especially those confronted by people as a result of their low-to moderate-socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity or gender.*

In 2008, the Health program together with Interprogram supported a series of grantees that helped to shape the national debate on health care as it played out during the campaign season and beyond. The **Center on Budget and Policy Priorities** was funded to provide the technical expertise, research and media advocacy necessary to assure informed citizen participation in important debates on federal and state policies affecting access to health care. The **New America Foundation's** *New Health Dialogue*, a project with deep ties to policymakers of both parties and of differing political perspectives, received support to create a dialogue among stakeholders with conflicting visions for health care in order to identify common ground and begin to forge the agreements that will be necessary in order to move forward. The **USAction Education Fund** received a grant that helped it develop the infrastructure for Health Care for America Now! – a broad coalition of netroots, grassroots, labor, consumer, provider and other organizations working to implement unifying messages and initiatives to shape the public debate about health care reform. The *Women and Health Reform Project* of the **National Women's Law Center**, a partner in HCAN!, got a grant to work with that coalition and others to ensure that women's health needs will be met in any reform plan. And the Health program also awarded a grant to the **Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York** for the re-launch of the *Columbia Journalism Review's* critically praised Campaign Desk, an on-line rapid response critique of presidential campaign coverage that was first established to monitor and respond to the press coverage of the 2004 elections. NCF support went to a specialized analysis of the coverage of healthcare issues in the 2008 campaign through a new Campaign Desk feature – "Second Opinion" – which challenged political spin, provided context and clarity on the healthcare debate and inspired journalists to question incomplete, unsubstantiated and inaccurate assertions and assumptions about U.S. healthcare in their reporting.

As part of its focus on the effect of inflated health care costs on access, the Health program, along with Interprogram, renewed a grant to the *Prescription Access Litigation Project* (PAL) of **Community Catalyst**. PAL built a coalition of 130 organizations in 36 states, representing a combined membership of more than 16 million people, that bring and/or participate in class action lawsuits challenging a broad array of drug company practices that keep prescription costs high. At the same time, PAL provides information, training and technical assistance to coalition members and engages in education and outreach activities to create public demand for policy reforms that will reshape industry pricing and marketing behavior. Also receiving support was the **National Health Law Program**, for the *Health Activist Court Watch Project* and the *Sunshine and Accountability Project*. The *Court Watch Project* provides critical legal and technical support to advocates working on issues affecting Medicaid and other health programs for low-income people, while the new *Sunshine and Accountability Project* improves government and corporate accountability in health care spending by working with state-based partners to expose waste and profiteering by private insurers and other health care contractors supported by taxpayer funds. As part of this strategy, the Health and Interprograms also renewed a grant to the *Stem Cell Oversight and Accountability Project* of **The Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights (FTCR)**. This grantee has done extraordinary work to ensure that

California's groundbreaking multi-billion dollar stem cell research program will serve as a national model of good governance and accountability. FTCR also advocates for public ownership of medical advances resulting from public funding and convinced the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to limit the scope of three core stem cell patents held by a Wisconsin foundation that has been accused of stifling U.S. research in the field. In 2008, the project turned its attention to new stem cell programs in other states as well as related issues on the federal level.

The **Herndon Alliance**, for which NCF was an initial funder, continued to contribute important communications capacity and structure to the field of health reform advocacy. The Health and Interprograms renewed their support to this grantee, which had increased its membership to some 100 groups, including some of the most influential and important actors in the field. The Alliance's framing and communications work has been influential and widely used and has gone far toward generating consistency in messaging among reform advocates and their allies. As importantly, the values research underlying that work identified some significant barriers to reform (e.g., strong voter concern about small business impacts, worries about immigration) and provided important insight into ways to overcome them.

In fact, based in part on this cutting edge research, in 2008 the Health Program supported two new projects. The first, *Small Business for Affordable Healthcare*, is a project of **Demos: A Network For Ideas And Action, Ltd.**, to build a small business voice nationally in support of comprehensive healthcare reform. Polling and surveys of small businesses have shown that small business owners are far more open to health reform principles than the reflexive opposition of traditional small business organizations like the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) would suggest. Indeed, NFIB and its allies have opposed virtually all major reform efforts despite the fact that more than 27 million small business employees are uninsured, including millions of freelancers and sole proprietors who are shut out of the employer-based healthcare system altogether. Unfortunately, these business groups have symbolic impact far beyond what their numbers would suggest; the Herndon Alliance's research revealed that public support for reform plummets if voters believe that the proposal will harm small businesses (oddly, voters were even more sensitive to this issue than small business owners themselves). The second project which received funding from the Health, Environment and Interprograms, was **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.**'s the *Breakthrough Institute: Overcoming Xenophobia*, which conducts social values research into the drivers of xenophobic and anti-immigrant attitudes that are impeding progress in the U.S. on a variety of important domestic policy priorities, including health care reform.

Projects that serve as a bridge between work on national issues and work in the states are a critical part of the advocacy landscape. They ensure that the national work is informed by on-the-ground experience while unifying and coordinating state-based work across the country. For this reason, the Health Program, together with Interprogram, renewed a grant to *Health Care for Health Care Workers*, a project of the **Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute, Inc.** that works in states to build multi-stakeholder alliances and design policies to provide health coverage to health workers as an incremental step in broader national health and long-term care reform agendas. Also receiving support was a new project, *Creating a Rural Constituency for Health Care Reform*, at the **Center for Rural Affairs**. The project broadens and deepens rural

engagement in the public health reform discussion in Montana, Iowa, North Dakota and Wisconsin and educates state and federal policymakers about rural health priorities to ensure that the needs of rural areas will be met in any national reform plan.

As part of this strategy, the Health, Jewish Life and Values and Interprograms together made a grant to the **Pacific Institute for Community Organizations** – a national congregation-based network comprised of 1,000 member institutions representing one million families in 150 cities and 17 states. In 2008, PICO opened a national office in Washington D.C., and was a leader in bringing the faith community’s voice to the debate over children’s health insurance while working at the state and local levels to build public support for expanding health coverage to uninsured and underinsured children and adults. Indeed, in recognition of the emergence of the faith community as a key constituency on health care, the Health and Interprograms, following the lead of JLV, also provided funding for the *American Values Survey*, a project of **Faith in Public Life, Inc.**, which sheds light on the connections between religion, values and political behavior. The Health Program and JLV also made a Presidential Authority Grant to the **Universal Health Care Action Network** to engage faith leaders in the effort to ensure health care for all through its project, *Faithful Reform in Health Care*.

Many of the state-level coverage expansion efforts supported by Health Program grantees over the past few years have generated important lessons about the opportunities – and real challenges – of this work. In 2008, the Health Program provided support to groups working in Massachusetts (**Health Care for All, Inc.** and **Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Sponsoring Committee, Inc.**), Maine (**Consumers for Affordable Health Care Foundation**), Vermont (**Vermont Public Interest Research and Education Fund** and **Campaign for Health Care Security Education Fund**), Rhode Island (**Ocean State Action Fund**), New York (**Community Service Society of New York**), Maryland (**Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative Education Fund, Inc.**), Florida (**Florida Community Health Action Network, Inc.**), Illinois (**Campaign for Better Healthcare Fund**), Wisconsin (**Citizen Action of Wisconsin Education Fund, Inc.**), Ohio (**Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio**) and Louisiana (**Community Catalyst, Inc.**). To help these and other state advocates be more effective, the Health and Interprograms also made a general support grant to **Community Catalyst**, which provides technical assistance to state-based consumer health advocacy groups across the country in the form of individualized organizational development support, policy analysis, consulting on strategy and convening stakeholders.

To support our grantees’ outreach efforts, the Health, Arts and Interprograms made a 2008 Presidential Authority Grant to the **Educational Broadcasting Corporation** for *Critical Condition*, a documentary film shown on PBS, in venues around the country and on the web, on the medical, emotional and financial impact of battling illness without health insurance.

Following the lead of the Arts and Culture Program, the Health and Interprograms made two grants. The first was to the **Future of Music Coalition, Inc.** to continue to provide health insurance information to at-risk musicians. The second was to the **Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation** to operate the *Louisiana Cultural Economy Healthcare Initiative*, which provides access to healthcare through partnerships with Federally Qualified Health Centers and



other providers and works with national partners to make discount healthcare plans available to local cultural workers.

The Health Program also supported the **Native American Community Board's** *Indigenous Women's Health Justice Program* to mobilize a national coalition of Native, women's, health and civil liberties organizations to improve access to high quality reproductive health care in Indian Health Services facilities for low income, reservation-based and/or rural Native American women.

Finally, the Health Program awarded grants to two affinity groups – **Grantmakers in Health** and the **Neighborhood Funders Group** – to facilitate alliances and engage with potential partners.

## **OBJECTIVE II**

*To assure that people, especially those that are vulnerable due to low-to moderate-socioeconomic status, race, or ethnicity, can grow-up, live and work in a healthy environment and have access to products and food that have not been contaminated in ways that could undermine health.*

### **Strategy 1**

*To support efforts that address corporate and other institutional practices that have a negative impact on the physical health of workers, especially low-income workers.*

Health grantees approach worker health and safety issues by building strategic alliances and coalitions that cut across interest areas. One good example of this strategy is the *Illinois High Performance Manufacturing Initiative* of the **Center for Labor & Community Research**, which received a 2008 renewal grant from the Health, Environment and Interprograms. The Initiative is designed to create and strengthen partnerships between the Illinois Manufacturers Association, state labor and environmental groups to develop “high-road” economic strategies that will establish sustainable improvements in benefits and working conditions for manufacturing and other workers while simultaneously benefiting employers and the broader community. The Health, Environment and Interprograms also gave renewed support to the **Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project**, a project based in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain states that represents over 10,000 farmers, ranchers, conservationists and business people. The project has built a grassroots base of citizens directly involved in working for stewardship and conservation of land, water and natural resources in order to develop a sustainable system that balances economic growth with community and worker health.

The **Pesticide Action Network North America Regional Center's** *Californians for Pesticide Reform - Pesticide Drift Campaign* was awarded a small Presidential Authority Grant to support its 2008 conference, "Reclaiming Our Healthy Future." This project has formed a statewide initiative aimed at protecting the health of farm workers, fence-line communities and the general public by eliminating significant sources of airborne pesticides that contribute to air pollution associated with acute and chronic health problems.

## **Strategy 2**

*To support efforts to prevent and to reduce corporate and other institutional practices that have a negative impact on health because they degrade the environment of communities, especially low-income communities and communities of color, or contaminate products and food in ways that could be injurious to health.*

NCF grantees have led an important national movement to change the rules governing local land use and economic development planning decisions to require consideration of community needs like healthy environments, access to health care and good jobs with living wages and health benefits. In 2008, together with the Environment and Interprograms, the Health program made a series of grants to a group of organizations that founded, participate in and support this movement. The **Partnership for Working Families (PWF)** is a national network of partner organizations in 18 cities across the country that works with national and regional labor, health, environmental, faith and community organizing groups to improve access to fair wages, good health care and a clean and healthy environment. A central strategy of PWF is to secure community benefit agreements (CBAs) and policies that hold corporations and governments accountable for providing benefits to the public in exchange for public investments. The **Center on Policy Initiatives, Working Partnerships USA** and the **Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy**, all are California-based founding partners of PWF that use research, organizing and a strong communications approach to promote policies that will create healthier, environmentally sustainable and more economically just communities. Also receiving support was the **Front Range Economic Strategy Center**, which works with labor, community and environmental allies in the Denver metropolitan area to hold governments and corporations accountable for responsible community-centered development and the protection of health and welfare for low-income workers and their families.

In 2008, the Health program also supported projects that expose corporate or government activities (or inactivity) that create a risk to public health and safety. The Health program, along with the Environment and Interprograms awarded a grant to the **Government Accountability Project Inc. (GAP)**, which provides legal representation to corporate and government whistleblowers exposing a broad variety of worrisome public safety and ethics violations, including government food scientists, organic farmers, meat packers, FDA researchers, drug company employees and nuclear plant workers. As part of this strategy, the Health Program also joined the Arts and Culture, Environment, Jewish Life and Values and Interprograms to provide support for the **Educational Broadcasting Corporation's** *NOW* program, one of the only television programs where Americans can see the type of in-depth stories on health, the environment, faith and arts and culture – including stories featuring GAP whistleblowers – that are often overlooked by other media outlets.

The Health Program, along with the Environment and Interprograms, made a 2008 grant to the *Tax and Fiscal Policies Project* of **Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE)**. SCOPE has built a progressive state-wide alliance of key health, environmental and labor groups representing strategic geographic regions of California, which is working to design and implement a tax and fiscal policy reform agenda that will result in a more just, sustainable and healthier future. Complementing this strategy, the Health, Environment and Interprograms also supported the *Tax Policy Center Opportunity Fund*, a joint venture of the **Urban Institute** and the Brookings Institution. A continuing focus of the Center is on the significant link

between federal tax policies and the well-being of low- and middle-income families and children, particularly with respect to issues like health coverage, home ownership and the environment.

The Health Program, in partnership with the Environment and Interprograms, made two grants intended to increase capacity in states and local communities to plan for and generate a healthier, more sustainable future. The first was a grant to the *Center for State Innovation*, a project of the **University of Wisconsin, Madison**. CSI provides state government officials across the country with expert technical assistance and support as well as access to the tools necessary to develop high-quality, innovative and sustainable policies to improve health, the environment, economic development, public safety and transportation. The second grant, to **Institute for Sustainable Communities'** *Gulf Coast Community Renewal Project*, focused on developing local leadership in the Gulf Coast region to advance a sustainable agenda for economic development and recovery that will support community environmental health. Building on its initial work with elected officials and community leaders in Moss Point, Mississippi – one of the poorest Katrina-affected cities on the Mississippi coast – the project applies the lessons learned in Moss Point to support a network of other communities in the region.

Following the lead of the Environment Program, Health and Interprograms also made a renewal grant to two projects in California that empower low-income communities of color to advocate for a healthier environment. The first supported **Liberty Hill Foundation's** *Environmental Justice Technical Assistance Program*, which improves the capacity of environmental justice organizations to push for innovative policy solutions to environmental health disparities. The second provided renewed general support for the **Environmental Health Coalition**, a leading environmental justice organization working in at-risk neighborhoods in San Diego to advance a positive community-driven vision of environmental justice and export that vision to the state level.

Also following the lead of the Environment Program, the Health Program provided support for *The Breakthrough Institute: Paradigm Building*, a project of **Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.** The project works on the development of a new social contract that addresses economic insecurity and inequality, key factors driving health disparities among Americans.

Finally, following the lead of Interprogram, the Health and Environment Programs made a grant to the *Shareholder Education Program* of **TransparentDemocracy** to educate shareholders about decisions they can make to align their shareholder proxy votes with their values on a wide range of economic, social and environmental issues.

## **NEXT STEPS**

In the coming months, we will continue to monitor activities around health reform, which is becoming increasingly dynamic. Stakeholders are continuing to pour resources into the issue, forming an array of alliances and national initiatives to advance their interests as public debates around healthcare intensify. At the same time, the states continue to experiment with expansion possibilities in the face of efforts by the outgoing Administration to block them using regulatory maneuvers. We will continue to work with our grantees to operate within this challenging and promising environment, being supportive but flexible enough to respond to events. We also will

work with grantees to explain the new guidelines, identify new grantees and conclude relationships with those that no longer fit our strategic focus.

# Jewish Life and Values 2008

## INTRODUCTION

*And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation: seed-bearing plants, fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: seed-bearing plants of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that this was good.*

*Genesis 1:11-12*

This year produced some of the first fruits to grow from *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community (Visioning Justice)*. *Visioning Justice* was research conducted for the Foundation and the field by Shifra Bronznick to determine how to engage Jews, Jewish communities, Jewish institutions and Jewish resources both more efficiently and more effectively in issues of social and economic justice. In addition to furthering the strategic thinking of the field and facilitating collaborations among organizations, *Visioning Justice* also identified some key strategies to support and critical pilots to launch – all in an effort to build a more robust Jewish social justice movement.

## GOAL

**To extend the presence and influence of the values of tolerance, social justice (*tzedek*), loving kindness (*chesed*), mutual respect and ethical behavior within the Jewish world both to enhance Jewish life and to assist in the promotion of a more just society.**

## OBJECTIVE I

***To promote a leadership and organizational culture within key Jewish institutions that reflects these values.***

## Strategies 1 & 2

*To promote social change by supporting cohorts of activists and leaders from key organizations and to continue the work of cultivating leaders whose work and values reflect those core principles that the Foundation holds dear.*

Among *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community's* most pointed recommendations was the need to further develop leadership. Based on this finding – together with three *Selah* pilots, a strategic visioning process, several organizational negotiations and a redesigned curriculum – we gave a two-year grant (together with Interprogram) to **Jewish Funds for Justice, Inc.** for the *Selah Leadership Program (Selah)*. This collaboration between the Jewish Funds for Justice and the Nathan Cummings Foundation, in partnership with the Rockwood Leadership Program, is a strategic intervention aimed to strengthen the Jewish social justice movement through targeted leadership development and alliance building. Among several significant changes, the new program is inter-generational and designed to better equip leaders to bring the training back to their organizations. Assuming *Selah* continues to develop into a powerful agent for change, we envision this as a five-year initiative.

Also growing out of the *Visioning Justice* findings, we supported with Presidential Authority Grants (PAGs) the **Interaction Institute** for the *Jewish Social Justice Thought Leader's Initiative* and **FJC** for *Workforce Pilot*. The *Thought Leader's Initiative* was the first step in responding to an identified need to create a Jewish social justice table, a context through which individuals and groups can come together to collaborate and strategically build the field. The *Thought Leader's Initiative* convened established and emerging leaders working in the area of Jewish social justice and adjacent sectors to analyze the current state of the field and to test out a particular model of table building. Taking up a related strategic challenge, the *Workforce Pilot* seeks to lay the groundwork to develop a robust talent pipeline that can serve the field of Jewish social justice. *Visioning Justice* identified the need for a coordinated approach for workforce recruitment, leadership training and professional development in order to build field-wide capacity; this pilot seeks to conduct the next level of work to determine how to most effectively engage, train and support the talent needed to sustain and lead this growing field.

Together with Interprogram we also gave a grant to the **Jewish Organizing Initiative (JOI)**, a one-year fellowship for young Jewish adults in community organizing, leadership training and Jewish living. With a new director, completed strategic plan, honed mission and more robust board, JOI is poised to grow thoughtfully. We also joined Environment and Interprograms in a grant to another initiative seeking to cultivate new and visionary leadership. Our support of **American Friends of the Heschel Center, Inc.** for *Envisioning a Political Agenda for 21st Century Israel* is enabling the assembly of a small cohort of thinkers of varied religious, cultural and political backgrounds to frame a new agenda for Israel focused on the integration of ecological sustainability, national security and social justice. Finally, we renewed our membership in the **Jewish Funders Network (JFN)**; JFN continues to create networks of philanthropists who are assuming leadership in the Jewish community.

## **OBJECTIVE II**

*To promote a Jewish spirituality and practice that reflects these values.*

### **Strategy 2**

*To support community organizations that are developing spirituality and influencing religious thought and communal culture.*

We gave a two-year general support grant to the **Institute for Jewish Spirituality (IJS)** to strengthen their impact on Jewish life through conducting programs in the broader community, creating a think tank, supporting IJS's participants, and engaging in a strategic planning process. IJS has rightfully gained a strong reputation among mainstream clergy and congregations, conducts itself with great integrity and thoughtfulness and is building a sustainable infrastructure. They are perfectly poised now to engage in a strategic planning process and determine what ultimate scope, scale and impact they are seeking. This process will enable the organization to make critical decisions about its future growth and how best to respond to the increasing opportunities with which they are presented.

## **OBJECTIVE III**

*To promote these values by strengthening the capacity of Jews and the Jewish community to engage with major issues of social and economic justice and stewardship of the earth.*

## Strategy 1

*To build a constituency for Jewish social justice work through supporting programs which provide experiential service learning opportunities infused with Jewish learning.*

We gave an exit PAG to **Foundation for Jewish Campus Life** for *Tzedek Hillel* to engage Jewish college students in community service and activism. We also gave a two-year exit grant to **Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center, Inc.** for *Adamah: the Jewish Environmental Fellowship*. Both *Tzedek Hillel* and *Adamah* are Jewish service programs NCF helped to seed and has supported as they developed into powerful and effective models. We have been in ongoing conversation with both initiatives about how to further diversify their funding sources as they continue to grow.

As the *Visioning Justice* research highlights, the recent momentum around Jewish service is bringing “all hands on deck, from the mainstream to the innovators, from the most politically active to the most spiritually inclined, nationwide and across the generations.” There are also an increasing number of mainstream mega-funders very interested in this work primarily as a vehicle to strengthen Jewish identity. Needless to say, their desire for fast growth – together with their appreciation of service primarily as an instrument for Jewish identity – poses both opportunities and challenges. As longtime funders and experts in this burgeoning field, NCF is in a unique position to work to ensure that as “service goes to scale” it remains grounded in the very core values and qualities that make it such a powerful agent of change in the first place. It is in this context that we joined two very large foundations and gave a PAG to the **Tulsa Jewish Community Council Jewish Federation of Tulsa** for *Jewish Service Planning Process* to conduct the research and planning necessary to assess the field, develop field building scenarios and determine a plan to responsibly scale the number of university-age Jewish students participating in authentic Jewish service.

Subsequently we awarded a second PAG to the **Tulsa Jewish Community Council Jewish Federation of Tulsa** for the *Jewish Service Planning Process*. Through this grant the consulting firm, *BTW: informing change*, conducted further research – building upon the just completed landscape review and recommended keystones for building capacity in the field – and developed a blueprint for a platform for Jewish Service. Through this process it was determined most strategic to repurpose the existing **Jewish Coalition for Service, Inc. (JCS)** to serve as the base of the platform rather than create an entirely new organization. As founding funders of the JCS, we gave a PAG to the JCS to help sustain the organization through this transition. With the blueprint finished; the board and staff of the JCS successfully repurposed towards a much bolder vision for the field; and, with several significant sources of funding secured to launch this new endeavor, we gave a second grant to the JCS. This grant supported the organization to become a robust platform for Jewish Service, responsible for developing the burgeoning field, making Jewish Service central to the fabric of American Jewish Life and ensuring that it has positive impacts on both the participants and the communities in which they serve. Our presence at the table continues to be critical as we advocate that capacity be built for the field as a whole; serious attention be paid to the communities served; quality be maintained and standards put in place; existing practitioners be consulted in the development of the field; and the underlying values that make Jewish Service transformative and part of the deeper work of social justice be maintained.

Finally, one of the critical directives of the blueprint is that the platform be developed in such a way as to amplify the field of Jewish Service and not in the process take direct funding away from organizations. In this context, we gave a renewal grant to **PANIM** to support *The Jewish Civics Initiative*, a yearlong service-learning experience for Jewish teenagers.

## **Strategy 2**

*To support and provide capacity building assistance to Jewish social justice organizations that mobilize and organize Jews in communities throughout the country around issues of social, economic and environmental justice.*

Through a PAG made along with the Environment and Interprograms, we supported the **Jewish Funders Network (JFN)** for the *Conference 2008 Carbon Neutrality*. In addition to making the 2008 JFN Conference carbon neutral, this project also set the groundwork for future JFN conferences to be carbon-neutral and raised awareness about the importance of carbon neutrality among a powerful and well-connected network of philanthropists.

Together with Interprogram, we gave a two-year grant to another Jewish mainstay institution doing cutting edge work – the **Union for Reform Judaism** for *Just Congregations, (JC)*. In just two years, *JC* has taken the Reform movement by storm as it engages and trains synagogue members in congregation-based community organizing (CBCO) and grows exponentially the number of synagogues successfully organizing for social and economic justice in partnership with communities of other faiths. Having brokered this new initiative as part of a multi-pronged approach to advancing CBCO, we are eager to see *JC* continue to build on its momentum while grounding its work in local communities in an intensive process with real outcomes.

As part of our work to develop the field of Jewish social justice, we awarded three PAGs to continue to leverage NCF's research *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community*. We awarded a grant to **FJC** for *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community: Transition* to effectively disseminate the report and stimulate discussion – through a series of convenings – among Jewish social justice practitioners, the mainstream Jewish community and the secular social justice sector. We also gave a PAG to the **Auburn Theological Seminary (Auburn)** for the *Communications Campaign for Visioning Justice*. Through this grant Auburn provided media training, developed an effective media strategy and identified high-priority media outlets. While leveraging the impact of the *Visioning Justice* report, this grant simultaneously helped Auburn develop its in-house capacity to provide concrete media support to progressive religious groups.

One of the central findings of *Visioning Justice* is the need to develop and support a diverse ecosystem in the field of Jewish social justice. Accordingly, we gave a PAG to **Keshet Inc.** for the *Righteous Indignation Project*, the newest Jewish social justice kid on the block. Building on the momentum of a successful national book tour for their recently published anthology and a conference for young Jewish activists, *Righteous Indignation* identified some lacunae in the field. This grant supported their efforts to mobilize Jews to be a nonpartisan voice for social justice and environmental responsibility in the 2008 elections.

Also in an effort to maintain and build the Jewish social justice eco-system, we gave PAGs, together with Interprogram, to the **Jewish Council For Public Affairs (JCPA)** for the



*Confronting Poverty Campaign* and to the **Progressive Jewish Alliance (PJA)** for *PJA Transition*. We also gave a general support grant to the **Jewish Council on Urban Affairs**. All three organizations are grounding their work locally while seeking to have a national impact. PJA is a critical part of the Jewish social justice ecosystem, and its emergence from its current transition in a position of strength has bearing not only on the future of social justice in California, but on the field as a whole. JCPA, drawing on its affiliations with 125 Jewish Community Relations Councils, is working to put confronting poverty back on the top of the communal agenda by galvanizing communities and agencies to engage in combating poverty, city by city. As the work to build a national Jewish social justice movement takes off and as we support new national initiatives, continued support for a few key local groups becomes all the more important.

Our grants to **Keshet Inc.** and **Hazon, Inc.** are in keeping with another finding of the *Visioning Justice* research. Namely, people are coming into the expanding movement of Jewish social justice through a wide variety of entry points. Both Keshet and Hazon challenge the Jewish community to engage in important issues of inclusion, sustainability and justice through innovative programs. It is worth noting that Keshet was asked to collaboratively promote and distribute its film *Hineini* with *Encounter* and *Trembling Before God* as part of Sandi DuBowski's *Films that Change the World* project. These are all films about risk takers that the Foundation has supported, and the connections between these young activist filmmakers have been fostered in no small part by two other NCF supported initiatives – *Joshua Venture* and *Selah*. Meanwhile, Hazon's visionary Founder and Director, Nigel Savage, serves as a strong bridge between environmental work going on in the US and in Israel and between traditional, business-as-usual protectionist environmentalism and a values-based, post-*Death-of-Environmentalism* outlook.

Finally, Environment and Interprograms joined us in a grant to the **New Israel Fund (NIF)** for *Women and the Environment: Agents of Change in Israel*. We continue to support projects through our partnerships with NIF, the Dafna Fund, and the Green Environment Fund. As we enter the fourth year of this funding strategy, the most noteworthy new developments are the projects we launched based on the field-building research. In an effort to further develop the field of Orthodox women (as identified particularly among poor, Mizrahi, and ultra-Orthodox women as well as those living in the periphery), a fund has been established to offer small grants to seed new initiatives. In contrast to the Orthodox community, where there is a relatively developed organizational infrastructure, the Palestinian-Israeli women's sector lacks many of the mechanisms for successful collaboration, networking, peer learning and coordination. Together with Shatil, we developed a field-building initiative that launched with a retreat for leaders in the field. (See the appendix for a complete report of 2008 Israel grantmaking.)

### **Strategy 3**

*To promote Jewish involvement in interfaith efforts to address issues of social justice through partnership with Interprogram.*

We joined the Environment, Arts and Culture, Health, and Interprograms in a grant for **Educational Broadcasting Corporation** for *NOW* on PBS. *NOW*, a hard-hitting investigative journalism news program, continued to include stories about faith and politics amidst its coverage of health, arts, environment, corporate governance and the 2008 election. We also joined the

Health and Interprograms in a grant to **Pacific Institute for Community Organizations (PICO)** to support the *Health Policy Action Project* and a PAG to **Universal Health Care Action Network** for *Faithful Reform in Health Care*. These two projects are noteworthy in their all too rare engagement of communities of faith in the current phase of health reform.

#### **OBJECTIVE IV**

*To promote communication, understanding and partnerships between Jews and peoples of other faith traditions through programs that focus on shared values and common goals.*

##### **Strategy 1**

*To promote interfaith coalitions around issues of social and economic justice, which include people of all faiths and backgrounds.*

Together with the Health and Interprograms, we gave a PAG to **Faith in Public Life, Inc. (FPL)** for the *American Values Survey*. The timing of the study's release was intended to add greater nuance to the role of religion and values in the discourse leading up to the election. With Interprogram, we also gave a general support grant to FPL to advance their core work of strengthening the effectiveness, collaboration and reach of progressive religious groups by providing movement building and communications resources to diverse faith leaders and organizations pursuing justice and the common good. FPL works closely with several of our grantees and is a central player in the national movement to amplify a progressive religious voice in America.

One of the places where Objective III and Objective IV weave most tightly together is in congregation-based community organizing (CBCO). Complementing our support for the **Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston (JCRC)** and a half a dozen other Jewish CBCO initiatives, we joined the Health Program in a grant to the **Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO)**. The Boston JCRC and GBIO are prime movers in Massachusetts's health care reform, which is being carefully monitored for national implications. Also on the CBCO front, we gave an affinity grant to **Interfaith Funders, Inc.** a network of faith-based and secular grantmakers working to advance CBCO work to strengthen democracy and justice.

Finally, we gave a grant to the **Interfaith Youth Service Core (IFYC)**, for *Practitioners' Network*, a project that aims to develop a network through which to grow and deepen the interfaith youth movement. NCF support has been critical during IFYC's early years, and the organization has been a bridge between the Foundation's work to advance Jewish service and our efforts to advance multi-faith activism.

##### **Strategy 2**

*To promote the peace process in Israel.*

We joined Interprogram to support **FJC** with a PAG for *Economic Cooperation Foundation (ECF)* as they prepared for future negotiations with Syria. ECF utilized its various contacts with Israeli ex-officials, international experts and other relevant players in order to examine policy options regarding Israeli positions towards an Israeli-Syrian peace agreement. The project included in-depth preparation of the geographical dimensions of a possible peace as well as

policy papers on possible arrangements to be implemented in the event of a peace agreement. To the degree that anybody is able to move this agenda, ECF – through their combination of expertise, a proven track record and inside channels – is uniquely positioned to advance the discourse of peace.

We also renewed our membership to the *Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues (Task Force)*, a project of the **American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.** The *Task Force* has taken important steps to focus the attention of the American Jewish community on Jewish-Arab civic equality in Israel. This is a unique opportunity for the work and strategies of the Nathan Cummings Foundation and a few of our peer organizations to reach entirely new audiences of American Jews and, in turn, organizations – both in America and Israel – that influence Israel's policies and realities.

We continue our multi-pronged approach to promote the peace process in Israel, with projects ranging from high-level policy to campus activism and from grassroots advocacy to a more nuanced portrayal of Israel through art. Interprogram joined us in several grants that build alliances in the United States to advance the peace process. In addition to general support for the **Israel Policy Forum** to provide reasonable, sustainable and forward-thinking solutions to a two-state resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we gave a grant to **Americans for Peace Now, Inc.** We also gave a grant to the **Center for American Progress** for the recently launched *Middle East Progress – Bulletin and Convenings*. All three of these projects employ sophisticated strategies to shape the conversation on managing – and resolving – the Arab-Israeli conflict and engage influential American audiences to advance peace.

Interprogram also joined us in a grant to the **PeaceWorks Network Foundation** for *OneVoice Campus Education Program*, an effort to bring consensus-building programs and moderate, positive dialogue around the Middle East conflict to American college campuses. In addition, this year a first-time PAG was awarded to the **Union of Progressive Zionists (UPZ)**, a national network of campus activists that advocates and educates for a resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. UPZ seeks to reshape how Israel is discussed among college-aged North American Jews by providing a variety of educational resources, training a new generation of young Jewish activists who support a progressive Israel, offering support to students alienated by current polarizing conversations and creating an active voice on campus for a two state solution.

Finally, together with Interprogram and the Arts, we gave a PAG to the **American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.** for *Israel: Portrait of a Work in Progress*, a project that seeks to explore Israel as both a place and a metaphor. This grant joins a cluster of JLV grants that aim to provide resources and fora in which American Jews can debate and engage with and learn about Israel in ways that are substantive, complex and constructive.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Jewish Life and Values Program will develop a communications strategy around the roll out of *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community* to focus attention on the key findings and the potential to grow the field of Jewish social justice. Based on *Visioning Justice*, we will also continue to rigorously explore the best way to convene a Jewish social justice table and to identify additional pilots that are ripe for launching.

Given the current economic crisis, we anticipate that our grantees will face challenging times in the months ahead. Yet their work is needed now more than ever, and their endeavors are part of what will ultimately create a more just and solid world. As the ground beneath us continues to shift unsteadily, it is all the more important that we be guided by our core values and strategic vision for the field of Jewish social justice. As recommended by the *Visioning Justice and the American Jewish Community* research, we will cultivate this ecosystem, rooting the work in strong organizations and expanding it through influential networks.

## APPENDIX

### WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT: AGENTS OF CHANGE IN ISRAEL GRANTS – 2008



#### NCF/NIF Women's Initiative Grants

##### Goal

To harness the energies of women as agents of change to advance the rights and improve the status of disempowered populations – including women – to create a more just and vibrant Israeli society.

##### Strategies

Support and cultivate initiatives in the Orthodox Jewish and Palestinian-Israeli sectors – both cultures deeply rooted in tradition in which women are making meaningful change – that empower and mobilize women for effective social change through:

1. Leadership: Enhance the leadership capacities of women and develop effective contexts through which they can lead;
2. Advocacy: Protect and extend the rights of women; and
3. Collaborations and Cross-Sector Initiatives: Cultivate and advance efforts that cross populations and bring together unlikely partners to address common concerns, share knowledge and expertise and engage in coordinated strategies.

##### Criteria/Preferences

We also seek to support organizations, projects, or initiatives that:

- address the role of men in achieving these goals;
- effectively engage younger generations;
- work across generational lines; and
- seek to educate the public, change community understanding and galvanize the media.
- 

##### Adva Center

###### *Women's Budget Forum*

This project provides a gender-based analysis of the state budget and shares the impacts of the budget on women. This analysis examines the effects on women in general and on specific populations, such as Orthodox and Palestinian-Israeli women. In 2008, the Forum had a significant impact on highlighting issues having an adverse effect on women, particularly those who do not work outside the home.

## **Economic Empowerment for Women**

### *General Support*

Economic Empowerment for Women (EEW) works to reduce the social and economic gaps in Israel through economic empowerment of low-income women. The diverse participants in their economic empowerment courses reflect the various disenfranchised sectors of Israeli society: Palestinian-Israelis, Ultra Orthodox, Mizrahi and immigrant women. EEW has developed a successful model promoting economic empowerment for women as a means of breaking the cycle of poverty that includes a variety of business training courses, a loan fund, mentoring and technical assistance and consulting. In 2007-08, EEW ran ten half-year trainings, each followed by an additional six months of group support. 89% of the women who participated have opened their own businesses.

## **Kolech: Religious Women's Forum**

### *General Support*

The main goal of Kolech is to improve the status of religious women in their respective communities by promoting fundamental reforms. Kolech aspires to do so through a consensual process of change from within the Orthodox community. Kolech is the only apolitical, nationwide organization dedicated to the advancement of women within the framework of Jewish Law (*Halacha*), and within the Orthodox community. Kolech supports settings in which women are able to conduct richer spiritual lives; advocates revising the halakhic status of women by emphasizing their standing in the rabbinical courts; supports egalitarian educational frameworks; and works to increase the number of women political leaders in the religious community. Kolech has been particularly active in creating study units on gender equality within Orthodox Judaism for the Ministry of Education and establishing and successfully running mentoring program for young leaders. Following Kolech's participation in the Pradler Institute's training program on fundraising for NGOs, the Kolech staff has significantly increased their fundraising activities.

## **Ma'an: The Forum of Bedouin Women's Organizations**

### *General Support*

Ma'an was established to enable Bedouin women's organizations in the Negev to combine forces as they address sensitive issues related to Bedouin society and women's status. The Forum has made significant progress in recent years through the establishment of the Bedouin Women's Rights Center in 2007, which provides counseling on personal status issues. The Male-Female Roundtables, which were held in 2007-08, constituted the first formal framework for discussing the status of women in Bedouin society that included both men and women.

## **Ne'emani Torah V'Avodah**

### *General Support*

Ne'emani Torah V'Avodah (NTVA) is the leading progressive Orthodox organization. In recent years, they have expanded the scope of their activities to address the marginalization of women, the shortcomings of the state religious courts vis-à-vis life cycle ceremonies and the growing conservatism in the state religious educational system. NTVA is at the forefront of several cutting edge initiatives to

address these issues, which are of great concern among the liberal Orthodox population. In 2007-08, NTVA was particularly active in establishing projects to launch an alternative religious court system and to bolster the liberal outlook in the State religious schools.

### **Realistic Religious Zionism**

#### *Exit Grant*

Realistic Religious Zionism was founded to disseminate progressive thinking in the Orthodox sector. When the organization became an NIF grantee it played an important role as a moderate voice within Orthodoxy.

### **Sot el Amel: Laborer's Voice**

#### *Women's Initiative*

Founded by residents of Nazareth, Sot el-Amel is a grassroots initiative that has grown into a regional organization that works for to increase employment and address the economic needs of the Palestinian-Israeli population in the North. The organization provides legal consultation and has filed several suits protecting the rights of women. Project support enabled Sot el Amel to increase and strengthen the leadership of Palestinian-Israeli women in its ranks, and today, four women serve on the Executive Committee. Funding also supported the establishment of the first Women's Initiative within the organization's programming. The Women's Initiative prepared special programming around International Women's Day and sponsored Grassroots Women's Leadership Training, which in 2008 enabled women with little experience in the public sphere to gain the tools needed to advocate for their rights.

### **Sidre**

#### *Women's Community Center and General Support*

Sidre aims to improve the status of Bedouin women in the Negev both on a personal and socio-economic level. The organization has served as a catalyst for the creation of women's centers that serve as the loci for a range of empowerment programs for women. General support funds the operation and programming at the centers including lectures, reading and writing courses, promoting micro-businesses for women and health education. Funding also supported a group of graduates of the organization's women's empowerment program to establish a women's center in the Qasir Sir Community Center that runs literacy and continuing education programs for women. These projects also provide significant advancement for the local women who have taken on leadership positions in running the Center. In 2007-08, the women began initiating direct contact with the male community leaders on administrative issues pertaining to the women's center rather than communicating through a messenger. Such direct communication marks a significant step forward.

### **Sviva Tomechet: Supportive Environment**

#### *General Support*

Sviva Tomechet was founded in January 2003 by a group of successful businesswomen from the FSU and veteran Israeli women who wanted to contribute some of their knowledge and experience to women from disadvantaged populations grappling with the difficulties of managing small businesses.

This grant supported core activities of the organization including support groups and networking opportunities for Orthodox and Haredi women and establishing connections between Jewish and Palestinian-Israeli women with similar needs, interests and goals. In 2007-08, a multicultural model was developed with the goal of training women from different ethnic and economic backgrounds to become self-sufficient.

### **Women Against Violence (WAV)**

#### *General Support*

The *Women's Leadership Project* was established to promote civil equality for Palestinian women in Israel, give them representation in decision-making forums in the public and political arenas, and promote issues relating to their status within these forums. The project has been active in three realms: advocacy, development of female leadership, and the involvement of male allies by collaborating with men's groups. It is worth noting that in 2007, Aida Touma-Suliman, director of WAV, became the first female member of the Higher Education Monitoring Committee.

WAV established the *Women and Employment Project* to address the disproportionately low employment rate among Palestinian-Israeli women, particularly those holding university degrees. The project aims to reduce or eliminate the barriers that have impeded Palestinian-Israeli women's ability to penetrate the job market. Based on research conducted in collaboration with Sikkuy, in 2008 WAV began a support and training group for female Palestinian-Israeli professionals interested in entering the work force.

### **Working Group for Equality in Personal Status Issues**

#### *General Support*

The Working Group is a coalition including the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, Kayan, the Israel Women's Network, Women Against Violence and the Al-Tufula Center – Nazareth that works to promote the rights of Palestinian-Israeli women by securing enforcement of current law (e.g. giving Palestinian-Israeli women rights equal to Jews to take divorce-alimony-custody issues to family rather than religious courts); improving women's treatment in religious courts; advocating for raised budgets to add court services for women; strengthening legislation (e.g. raising legal age of marriage from 17 to 18 to match majority status and allow Palestinian-Israeli girls to finish high school); and building general public awareness of Arab women's issues through lectures, workshops, publications and media outreach. One of the coalition's outstanding accomplishments of the past three years is the establishment of the Haifa Courtroom Station, which provides materials on women's legal rights and legal options and guides women through legal procedures. In 2008, a second courtroom station was established in Nazareth based on the Haifa model.

### **Yud Bet B'Heshvan (12<sup>th</sup> of Heshvan)**

#### *General Support*

This organization was established in 2006 by a group of National Religious parents in Rehovot who have been involved for the past 15 years in the creation of several local liberal educational institutions. Their main goal is to develop educational frameworks (formal and informal) within the National Religious sector that promote a liberal, democratic and modern worldview. They have succeeded in



establishing a liberal yeshiva high school for boys in Rehovot, which received official recognition from the Ministry of Education. In November 2007, they opened a *midrasha* associated with the Pelech High School network of liberal Orthodox high schools for girls in Kiryat Ekron. 12<sup>th</sup> of Heshvan has also provided intensive guidance and consulting to a group of parents in Zichron Ya'akov who opened a local Pelech School at the start of the 2008-09 school year.

### ***Field Building Initiatives Emerging from NCF Research***

#### **Seed Fund for Orthodox Women's Groups**

An initial round of seed grants were awarded to a select and diverse group of new initiatives in the field from a pool of over 130 applicants. Priority was given to projects with the following characteristics: initiatives that engage ultra-orthodox and Sephardic women as well as those living in the periphery; initiatives of new entities/women that had not yet been active in this field; initiatives that strengthen the goals of the NCF/NIF Women's Initiatives, such as the establishment of liberal educational frameworks and the promotion of Orthodox feminism; new projects; the capacity to set measures for success and to evaluate them; and projects for which a grant from this fund would be financially significant.

#### **SHATIL – Forum of Palestinian Women Activists**

SHATIL worked to recruit members to this new Forum from representatives of Palestinian-Israeli women's organizations throughout the country with the aim to promote joint learning and action in addressing the challenges facing Palestinian-Israeli women. The Forum is meeting an identified need for leaders and activists of Palestinian women organizations to convene in a non-threatening environment in order to enhance long term cooperation and efforts to effect policy changes. This forum will serve as a space for collective learning from lived experience, for formulating joint strategic frameworks for action and for developing cooperation.



## **The Dafna Fund**

### **Guidelines**

The Dafna Fund -- formerly known as the Dafna Izraeli Fund -- (DIF) complements the work of the NCF/NIF Women's Initiative as it seeks to develop feminist leadership by supporting new initiatives in three fields: academia, business and public participation. Projects of The Dafna Fund seek to:

- mainstream feminist philosophy and practices;
- foster innovation; and
- create working partnerships between feminist and social change organizations and academic institutions.

All projects include serious inter-organizational partnerships between feminist and mainstream institutions and focus on mentoring, networking and diversity as key to developing feminist leadership.

### **Center for Enhancement of Women's Leadership**

*Joint Project of Kolech: the Religious Women's Forum and the Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center for the Advancement of Women's Status at the Law Faculty of Bar-Ilan University*

This project seeks to develop a unique model for mentoring Orthodox grassroots activists by prominent leaders and scholars from the Orthodox women's movement. The project has paved the way for women from the periphery to enter the gates of academia and join the ranks of Orthodox-feminist activists in Israel. The project furthermore developed a comprehensive manual on the concept of women's mentoring in general, and in the context of the Orthodox women's community in particular, an important step towards the future development and duplication of the model. This academic approach has been instrumental in crystallizing the model and creating a new window of opportunity for increasing the rate of participation of religious women in the program and giving legitimacy to women's leadership in the religious sphere. Originally, Kolech partnered with the Rackman Center at Bar Ilan University to increase the accessibility of the academic world to the women activists and to better involve women leaders from academia. After more than two years of partnership, the project is now undergoing reorganization. Kolech is currently negotiating with a number of prominent Orthodox organizations and in the process is defining the nature of the desired partnership, the monetary and organizational resources to be invested in the program and the division of roles between the partners. The leadership of the Dafna Fund is a full partner in this new direction of thinking and is encouraging Kolech to move to the next stage of partnership building.

### **Legal Leaders Training Program**

*Project in Partnership with Itach: Lawyers for Social Justice & Haifa University*

Through the Legal Leaders Training Program, Itach – in partnership with the Haifa University Law Faculty – has succeeded in creating a cutting-edge model of an academy-community partnership. In bringing together grassroots activists from underserved communities and students from the university, the project has reached a new level of maturity and sustainability. Itach's model incorporates networking, diversity and mentoring. The intensive and direct encounter between the students and the local activists provided the space for mutual learning and for networking among people of various social backgrounds, ethnic groups and age cohorts. Following semester-long training programs, the

students and local activists work in small groups to implement their own social change projects and receive mentoring from the project's staff. In 2008, several groups in the third cohort chose to strengthen their community base and structure by joining existing projects. The projects address pressing social issues amongst women in traditional societies and in marginalized communities, such as: higher education among Druze women, family honor killings, rehabilitation for women from the former Soviet Union who worked in prostitution, the rights of divorced Arab women victims of violence and the rights of women living with physical disabilities. The model succeeded in creating a cadre of grassroots women leaders, and concurrently, instilled in the law faculty of the University of Haifa new values and ways of thinking.

### **Working Together to Create a Feminist Economy**

*Joint Project of Sister (Achoti) and Comme Il Faut*

During the past two years, this project developed a unique model for employment and business that focuses on cooperation among women from diverse professional, cultural, social, and economic backgrounds, such as Ethiopian women who produce handicrafts and textiles at the Rikmah Center in Kiryat Gat; women from the Achoti movement; and businesswomen from the Comme Il Faut fashion company. This cooperation aims to enhance the business and professional abilities of the Ethiopian women in handicrafts, fashion and marketing and to facilitate personal and group networking among women of different backgrounds. Since its inception in 2006, project staff has worked to document the process and conceptualize the project's model. Business consultants, law students and faculty staff from the Tel Aviv University Law Faculty clinic on economic empowerment and media artists from Pharhesia Group, a firm that specializes in documenting social campaigns, are all actively involved in this process. A publication of interviews with participants, a showcase of the women's work and a written history of the collaboration is forthcoming. Over time, it is hoped that this publication will serve as a basis for replicating the model. Finally, it is worth noting that over the past few years, the project has developed in some unexpected additional directions, including the involvement of Bedouin women from the Negev and Palestinian women from the al-Azarya village near Jerusalem. In 2007-08, the networking, connections and cooperation led to the birth of a new project: the first fair-trade store to sell the products of the women's organizations funded by the Miami Federation. This development is an example of the type of synergy and the leveraging effect of knowledge and resources that the Dafna Fund is striving to promote.



## **The Green Environment Fund (GEF)**

The Green Environment Fund (GEF) seeks to build a values-based environmental movement in Israel, foster a sustainable environment and safeguard the public health of all Israeli citizens. GEF promotes environmental justice, with an emphasis on the health of vulnerable populations, safeguarding water and air quality and effective partnerships especially between Jews and Arabs.

### **Goal I**

To prevent environmental degradation and to preserve dwindling natural resources, within the context of wider social issues, such as health, public participation, welfare and quality of life.

Objective 1: To thwart encroachment on open spaces

Objective 2: To protect and rehabilitate Israel's water resources

Objective 3: To preserve and protect air quality

### **Goal II**

To promote a strong and professional environmental movement that acts on behalf of and together with all of Israel's citizens, including the most vulnerable ones.

Objective 1: To support nongovernmental organizations that, on the one hand strive towards excellence in implementing high-quality, effective programs and, on the other hand, coordinate and cooperate with one another and with the public to form a strong environmental movement

Objective 2: To raise public awareness and strengthen public education about the impact of environmental degradation, particularly on public health, social justice and quality of life, so that the public can become actively involved in planning and decision-making

### **Strategies**

GEF builds the capacity of the environmental movement by providing financial assistance, technical assistance and professional guidance and oversight to grassroots and other organizations.

GEF promotes the development of a highly diversified environmental movement by supporting a wide range of grantees – from well-established, nationwide organizations to small, start-up organizations.

GEF encourages coalition-building and joint campaigns to enhance the effectiveness of individual organizations and the environmental movement as a whole.

GEF strives to include environmental justice as an element of every project and activity it supports.

GEF boosts public awareness and activism by supporting organizations that work in formal and informal educational settings.

### **Arab Center for Alternative Planning (ACAP)**

#### *Planning Tools for Restoration of Environment in Arab Township*

ACAP seeks to protect the environmental planning rights of Palestinian-Israeli communities and to this end has established an Environmental Justice and Sustainability Division. This division will function as a watchdog on decisions that affect the environment in Palestinian-Israeli townships and aims to raise community awareness.

### **Arab Center for Alternative Planning (ACAP)**

#### *Sha'ab*

ACAP seeks to change the poor environmental situation in the village of Sha'ab in the Galilee and its surroundings, by encouraging active social and educational involvement of the community. Established by residents and university graduates, this project locates the potential force for change within the local community itself. Recent successes include the establishment of an inter-municipal water and sewage consortium and the formation of core groups engaged in communal environmental action in three local Arab villages. These groups, in turn, are increasing community involvement on issues of environment, education and the status of women.

### **Citizens for the Environment**

#### *Sustainable Industry in the Galilee*

Citizens for the Environment works with businesses to identify the environmental hazards that accompany the surge in industry in the Galilee in order to promote practices that minimize their environmental impact and ensure sustainability.

### **Coalition for Public Health**

#### *Reducing Industrial Pollution in Haifa Bay Project*

This influential NGO works towards reducing industrial pollution in the Haifa Bay Area. It began its activity solely focused on the reduction of air pollution in the Haifa Bay area but now addresses all industrial impact on the environment, including soil, water, odor and noise. As the Coalition grows stronger in its demands to reduce industrial pollution, the industries have begun increasing their pressure on decision makers, the media and the public in an attempt to block or postpone the Coalition's work.

### **EcoPeace / Friends of the Earth Middle East**

#### *General Support*

EcoPeace / Friends of the Earth Middle East educate and campaign against the World Bank's proposed construction of a "Red Sea Canal," a plan that lacks adequate research. Through its publicity, EcoPeace is generating the political will to thoroughly research all of the options to determine the best way to preserve the Dead Sea.

## **E-Kolnoa**

### *General Support*

E-Kolnoa continues to produce the successful 'E-Cinema' environmental film festivals around Israel, which showcase programs, documentaries and films that illustrate contemporary environmental issues. This festival enables interaction between activists, thinkers and producers, thus leading to further collaboration and developments in the field.

## **Eretz Carmel**

### *Compost Hakerem*

Eretz Carmel seeks to create and disseminate a model of sustainability focused on recycling organic waste that is appropriate for very large populations and multiple communities. The project aims to significantly reduce the amount of waste generated by the Israeli population by turning it into commercially useful compost and involving citizens in recycling efforts.

## **Green Course**

### *General Support*

Through advocacy, education and empowerment of young leadership, Green Course effects fundamental change in public policy towards the environment. Green Course aims to develop a sense of collective responsibility and builds active citizen involvement to bring about vital and profound change.

## **Green Environment Fund**

### *Environmental Entrepreneurship*

GEF seeks to develop additional strategies for the promotion and consolidation of environmental change, which in turn will also strengthen civil society. In addition to supporting organizations, GEF has found the strategy of engaging individual leaders particularly successful. GEF provides specific funding for environmental entrepreneurs, based on the belief that combined support to civil society through NGO's and individuals will further advance environmental action and will generate opportunities for innovative ideas and approaches for change.

## **Green Network**

### *General Support*

Green Network works to enable Israel's leading environmental education organizations to maintain the infrastructure essentials of ongoing management and staff training, continued program development and basic administration — all of which make it possible to sustain innovation and growth, to reach a wider circle of schools and communities and to expand its influence on environmental education policy. In particular, the organization will continue to pursue additional opportunities for inroads within the Palestinian-Israeli education sector as well as regional and national programs.

### **Haredim Lasviva**

#### *Social Responsibility for the Environment*

This initiative aims to introduce and integrate environmental consciousness and action into the Haredi community. Through education, planning and raising public awareness, the project seeks to galvanize Haredi communities to take responsibility for their environment.

### ***Hatikva El Amal/ The Hope Environmental Community Involvement Project***

#### *General Support*

*Hatikva El Amal* is an active example of a successful shift from a grassroots organization to a community based association that plays a major role in local social change within the village, the region, and on a national level. The local community, which only a few years ago ignored any need for treating environmental risks, has become both involved and committed to bringing about change. The establishment of an environmental coalition of thirteen local organizations in the Galilee (both Jewish and Palestinian Israelis) reflects the organization's three-tiered approach of combining education, environmental awareness and community action. As part of its efforts this organization has also started engaging both the Hebrew and Arabic media.

### **The Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership**

#### *General Support*

The Heschel Center develops and promotes an alternative vision of progress in Israel, that of a sustainable society. This vision recognizes that true economic prosperity is rooted in social equity and ecological health.

### **The Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership**

#### *Maof Leadership Seminar*

The Heschel Center organizes an annual three-day seminar for the leaders of NGOs in the social-environmental movement in Israel thereby providing a platform for studying, exchanging ideas, defining focal points and developing a joint agenda. The seminar also equips participants with practical strategies as to how to implement their envisioned collaboration.

### **Israel Bicycle Association (IBA)**

#### *Israel Bicycle Forum*

IBA promotes cycling as a major means of transportation within towns and cities with the aim to reduce social disparities and improve quality of life, the environment, public health and road safety. IBA is in the process of initiating a Support and Consultation Center for Bicycling Infrastructure, which will address the present shortage of integrative professional know-how on issues related to cycling infrastructure.

## **The Israel Energy Forum**

### *General Support*

The Israel Energy Forum has created a framework for, and has initiated public discussion on, the future of Israel's energy supply and resources. The forum presses policy makers in Israel to push forward practical and sustainable solutions for Israel's energy needs. Through creating a roundtable to discuss these issues, the project aims to develop a new approach based on energy conservation principles and increase use of renewable resources.

## **Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED)**

### *Blueprint for Change Project*

Israel Union for Environmental Defense seeks to advance a national response to climate change. Through *Blueprint for Change*, IUED works to help Israel reap socio-economic benefits, access new technologies and advance policy innovations as part of a timely national response to climate change.

## **Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED)**

### *Clean Air Now*

By employing innovative legislative measures and legal interventions, the Israel Union for Environmental Defense seeks to compel government and other entities to reduce health-threatening air pollution in Israel.

## **Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED)**

### *Environment & Community*

IUED provides pro bono legal, planning and technical guidance to communities seeking solutions to environmental hardships. IUED has the capacity to field its own multidisciplinary team including attorneys, urban planner, hydrologist, atmospheric chemist, solid waste specialist and community outreach coordinator.

## **Israel Union for Environmental Defense (IUED)**

### *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Measures*

This project aims to map and identify specific GHG Reduction Measures currently implemented worldwide to analyze their political and economic feasibility and potential applicability to the Israeli context.

## **Israeli Sustainable Investment Forum (SIF)**

### *General Support*

Israeli Sustainable Investment Forum promotes and educates about sustainable and responsible financial services, and works to establish a professional framework that will facilitate the integration of environmental and social aspects in the culture of the financial sector. One of SIF's first initiatives was to establish the Israel branch of The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). Most corporations in Israel have



neither begun to monitor their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions nor developed a climate change strategy. The CDP's main objective is to push the companies to monitor and manage their GHG emissions.

### **The Karev Program for Educational Involvement**

#### *General Support*

The Karev Program for Educational Involvement aims to create a multi-faceted educational initiative that uses Lod's historical and archaeological significance as a way to enrich children's education by teaching them about the environment, enhancing the community (for both children and adults), and providing opportunities for cross cultural interaction among Lod's diverse residents.

### **Life & Environment**

#### *Green Globe 2008*

Life & Environment annually awards the "Green Globe" for excellence in environmental action and public health to environmental groups and activists thereby publicizing to a broad spectrum the activity of the environmental movement in Israel.

### **Life & Environment**

#### *Strategic Thinking for the Next Decade*

Life & Environment is in the process of a strategic planning in order to adapt to the changing reality of the environmental movement and of Israel.

### **LINK to the Environment**

#### *Bringing Life Back to the Habis River*

LINK to the Environment promotes renewed commitment to the preservation of the Habis River by the residents of the Hurbesh village (on its banks), by publicizing the costs of environmental damage and creating a Palestinian-Jewish coalition for protection.

### **SHATIL**

#### *Environmental Justice*

SHATIL promotes environmental activism in Israel by providing critical capacity-building services to local and national organizations. SHATIL consults to environmental groups and trains them in the skills required to operate effectively, oppose local environmental hazards, increase public awareness of environmental issues and empower the public to play an active role in building a healthy environment.

### **Sheli Fund**

#### *Grants for Grassroots Organizations*

This fund assists small grassroots environmental organizations by providing an early infusion of funding as they begin to mobilize. With two grant cycles a year, the Sheli Fund provides 15-20 grants of up to 15,000 NIS (\$3,500) each cycle.

### **Shomera Lesviva Tova**

#### *General Support*

Shomera Lesviva Tova works to create opportunities for leading rabbinical figures in Israel to learn about the environment and urges them to issue a response on modern environmental topics such as recycling, consumption and consumerism, global warming, green belts, conservation vs. development and protection of endangered species in order to raise consciousness and environmental activity within the Orthodox community.

### **The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

#### *Be'er Sheva Green Center*

Be'er Sheva Green Center coordinates the collaboration and programs of active local environmental groups and individuals in Be'er Sheva and the surrounding area and raises awareness for environmental issues among all age and ethnic groups.

### **The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

#### *Derech Haifa Coalition*

Derech Haifa Coalition participates in the city of Haifa's planning processes and brings a unique understanding of decision-making that integrates political, social, economic and environment needs. In addition to studying plans, Derech Haifa develops and disseminates sustainable planning position papers to decision makers for the ultimate goal of informing municipal master plans. SPNI's and Derech Haifa's active involvement in the planning process provides an opportunity to make a long-term impact on the preservation of nature and landscape, the coastline, wadis and open spaces in the city.

### **The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

#### *Modi'in – Nature Close to Home Project*

Modi'in – Nature Close to Home Project promotes environmental consciousness among the residents of Modi'in through formal and informal environmental education and camps. This project continues its campaign to advocate for the zoning of Titora Hill to become a nature and archeology park.

### **The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

#### *Sustainable Jerusalem Coalition*

Sustainable Jerusalem Coalition promotes sustainable environmental practices in Jerusalem through public education via production and distribution of films and publications, and a broad range of activities within sectors such as transportation, urban planning, and open spaces. The Coalition has won several major victories in preventing developments that would have significant detrimental results to the people, economy and land of Jerusalem.

**The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

*Tel Aviv Center for Environment Action*

Tel Aviv Center for Environment Action leads and coordinates the environmental movement in Tel Aviv–Jaffa and encourages walking within the city as a viable transportation option. Tel Aviv’s branch of SPNI reframes environmental issues for a broader urban context and has a recent history of successful community organizing.

**The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI)**

*Transportation Project*

The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel promotes the implementation of a sustainable transportation policy on a national, local and regional level that follows an intelligent planning process and values open spaces and quality of life. This initiative aims to reduce use of private vehicles, promote creation of an alternative transportation infrastructure and minimize negative environmental effects.

**Transport Today and Tomorrow**

*Sustainable Transportation Contest*

Transport Today and Tomorrow encourages sustainable transport initiatives at the local level by using the municipalities' election year to set sustainable transport as a central issue for local policy.

**Zalul**

*General Support*

Zalul aims to prevent further spillage of sewage and other toxic waters into the Lachish river and works to contain current contaminants so that the river can return to a state where rehabilitation is possible. With past experience and success in environmental campaigns, Zalul intends to implement lessons learned in order to increase the project's impact.



## **NCF Opportunity Fund**

The mission of the NCF Opportunity Fund is to support and build capacity for cross-sector initiatives and coalitions that address broad issues in Israeli society in particularly far-reaching and innovative ways, responsive to history. The NCF Opportunity Fund aims to affect systemic change in ways that are reflective of immediate and changing realities on the ground.

### **Agenda – Israel’s Strategic Communications Center**

#### *General Support*

Agenda works for social and conceptual change in the Israeli media. Agenda aims to impact the way social change issues are presented in the media and to help organizations working for social change promote their goals more effectively. Agenda’s three-tiered strategy includes: 1) engaging in direct media outreach with Israel’s various media outlets to reframe the discourse on social justice issues; 2) providing strategic tools, training opportunities, and consultation services to improve the media capacity of NGOs; and 3) serving as a key informational center via comprehensive targeted monitoring of the different media outlets and research. This past year, Agenda experienced quantifiable growth and impact. They worked with an unprecedented number of social change organizations (including many environmental and women’s NGOs, several of whom are NCF grantees), made major headway with mainstream media outlets and began in a relatively short time to see some results from their spotlight issue: Reframing the Images of Israeli-Arabs in the Media. By working from all ends – with Arab social change organizations, Arab leaders in multiple fields whom Agenda helped train for media appearances and mainstream media outlets with which Agenda has raised consciousness, trained and made connections to Arab leadership – Agenda has begun to see real change. Obviously, there is still a long way to go, but it is unusual for an organization’s thoughtful strategy and high quality work to so quickly produce tangible results. Just of note: this year was the final year under the leadership of the founding director; Agenda has hired a promising new Executive Director.

### **Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Academy – Community Partnership for Social Change**

#### *Training Students to Become Leaders for Social Change*

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Academy – Community Partnership for Social Change offers seminars for student activists, runs a graduate program for student leaders committed to social change and holds an annual conference of faculty members, student activists and NGOs. The goal of the Academy-Community Partnership for Social Change is to provide students with open and inspiring settings within which to conceptualize pressing social issues in terms of human rights and social justice, offer knowledge and tools to advance social change and enable opportunities for the creation of networks and associations among engaged students and organizations. The program also aims to strengthen social change and human rights organizations through long-term engagement of students. The program is a collaboration between social change organizations and experienced student activists in order to best meet the needs of the engaged students. All programs integrate theoretical knowledge, knowledge from the field and practical tools for change and combine facilitation from experienced student activists, representatives of social change organizations and faculty members. This year’s program was very successful both in terms of whom it reached and the learning and skill building it

provided. The seminars successfully balanced outside expertise with student empowerment and peer learning. They also not only brought many students and faculty members into the work of social change, but in so doing, enabled an all too rare crossing of boundaries: Palestinian/Jewish; rich/poor; sabras/new immigrants; center/periphery; academia/NGO sector; service/advocacy; theory/practice. This new model proves quite effective in developing the next generations of social change leaders while strengthening the current sector.

## **Ir Amim**

### *Advocating for More Equitable and Sustainable Policy*

Ir Amim has expanded the reach of its policy advocacy activities so that Jerusalem becomes, in the short run, more equitable and livable for both nations that share it. In the long run, Ir Amim seeks to influence Israeli policy such that it enables both peoples to reach an agreement about the future of Jerusalem, rather than creating irreversible facts on the ground which preclude future reconciliation. The major methods of this project involve building Ir Amim's 2-way channels of communication with those administrative and political bodies making and implementing Israeli policy in East Jerusalem. These include national and local government, quasi-governmental authorities and other key stakeholders. Despite the challenging political climate (including a political system in turmoil because of investigations into PM Olmert's suspected involvement in corruption), Ir Amim did manage in 2008 to: build new relationships (with local and district planners, municipal leaders and the State Comptroller's Office); issue policy papers (one on the Palestinian education system in East Jerusalem and one on post-Annapolis good faith negotiations); and affect some policies on the ground (i.e. freedom of movement on new roads). They also continue to monitor and advocate for many issues yet to be resolved (i.e. construction around the Mughrabi Gate) and are a dogged and consistent presence around issues critical to the future of Jerusalem.



# Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice 2008

## INTRODUCTION

2008 marked the seventh year of the Nathan Cummings Foundation's Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice. Interprogram operates in partnership with the Foundation's 4 core program areas to augment their potential impact through collaboration. The Interprogram guidelines have provided a mechanism for strengthening the intersections between all the Foundation's program areas, making possible multi-disciplinary approaches to address challenges in a coherent, strategic and integrated way.

In 2008, Interprogram participated in a total of 98 grants: 82 programmatic grants and 16 affinity and membership grants. Of the 82 programmatic grants, 53 grants were made with Interprogram in conjunction with one other program area; 25 grants were made with Interprogram in conjunction with 2 other program areas; and 1 grant was made with Interprogram in conjunction with all 4 programs. Additionally, Interprogram took the lead on 3 projects.

Interprogram supported 16 affinity and organizational membership grants. Six of these organizations have the potential to address relevant issues at the national level such as foundation payout requirements, excise tax, the estate tax, nonprofit governance and accountability. These include: the **Center for Lobbying in the Public Interest**, the **Council on Foundations, Inc.**, the **Foundation Center**, the **Foundation for the Global Compact, Independent Sector**, and the **National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy**. The Foundation also participates in regional forums, conferences and events sponsored by the **New York Regional Association of Grantmakers, Inc.** and the **Nonprofit Coordinating Committee of New York, Inc.** Eight of the affinity grants—**Asian American-Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy**, **Association of Black Foundation Executives, Inc.**, **Disability Funders Network**, **Hispanics in Philanthropy**, **Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility**, **Native Americans in Philanthropy**, **Neighborhood Funders Group** (in partnership with the Health Program) and the **Social Venture Network**—were made to organizations whose cohorts address issues relevant to specific communities or fields of interest within the nonprofit world.

As mentioned earlier, Interprogram took the lead on 3 projects. The first was the **New York Regional Association of Grantmakers' Diversity in Philanthropy Project**, which focused on increasing diversity and inclusiveness in all aspects of the New York-area philanthropic sector. NYRAG accomplished this through research that mapped diversity practices within the philanthropic sector, by creating an advisory board that assessed needs and challenges towards increasing greater diversity within the sector and by creating a strategic response initiative for the New York region.

Secondly, Interprogram supported the **Urban Institute** (along with the Environment Program and the Health Program) with a grant for the *Tax Policy Center Opportunity Fund* which worked to make the tax policy and the tax system in the U.S. simpler, fairer and more conducive to economic growth, and improved the tax policymaking process by explaining how the current policies and proposals affect low-and middle-income families and children, particularly with respect to issues like health coverage, home ownership and the environment.

Lastly, in collaboration with Environment and Health, a grant was made to **TransparentDemocracy** for its *Shareholder Education Project* that worked to educate and inform shareholders about decisions they can make to align their shareholder proxy votes with their values.

### **ACHIEVING INTERPROGRAM’S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

All Interprogram’s grantmaking, as stipulated in the Foundation’s guidelines, must be in support of organizations that are working to make corporations, governments or other institutions more accountable for the effects their actions have on the environment and people and their health, wellbeing, culture and communities. Listed below are the 2008 Interprogram grantees in a table that divides them under its three main funding rubrics: **Accountability of Corporations and Other Institutions**, **Government Accountability**, and organizations that worked on issues of both **Corporate and Government Accountability**. Also included is a section, which lists Interprogram’s continuing support to help address, in an integrated way, the social, economic, environmental justice, environmental sustainability, health and development issues of the Gulf Coast rebuilding effort, as well as our grants made in support of domestic efforts to assist with the Mideast Peace Process.

#### **Accountability of Corporations and Other Institutions**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>American Friends of the Heschel Center, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment</b></li> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Envisioning a Political Agenda for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Israel</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a small cohort of thinkers and researchers from varied backgrounds to frame a new political agenda focused on the integration of ecological sustainability, national security and justice.</li> </ul>
<b>Ceres, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment</b></li> </ul>	<i>Investor Strategy on Climate Change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To make climate change risk a priority for corporate management and boards of directors through direct engagement and shareholder activism.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Catalyst, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health</b></li> </ul>	<i>Prescription Access Litigation Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To decrease the inflated prices paid in the U.S. for prescription drugs.</li> </ul>
<b>Faith in Public Life Inc. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> <li>• <b>Health</b></li> </ul>	<i>American Values Survey</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a technically sophisticated survey on religion and public life.</li> </ul>

**Accountability of Corporations and Other Institutions**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Faith in Public Life Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen the effectiveness, collaboration and reach of progressive religious groups by providing movement building and communications resources to diverse faith leaders and organizations pursuing justice and the common good.</li> </ul>
<b>The Interfaith Youth Core</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Practitioners' Network</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To connect individuals deeply engaged in interfaith work.</li> </ul>
<b>Jewish Council for Public Affairs (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Confronting Poverty Campaign</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To engage the Jewish community in deep, sustained and coordinated anti-poverty service, activism and advocacy.</li> </ul>
<b>Jewish Funds for Justice, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life &amp; Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Selah Leadership Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide leadership training and opportunities for social networking and collaboration in order to build a more powerful and effective Jewish social justice movement.</li> </ul>
<b>Jewish Funders Network (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life &amp; Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Conference 2008 Carbon Neutrality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To publicly offset the carbon footprint of the conference through the purchase of Verified Emission Reductions.</li> </ul>
<b>Jewish Organizing Initiative, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a one-year fellowship program for Jewish young adults in community organizing, leadership training and Jewish community.</li> </ul>
<b>Keshet Inc. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jewish Life and Values</b></li> </ul>	<i>Righteous Indignation Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that aims to mobilize progressive Jews to be a nonpartisan voice for social justice and environmental responsibility in the 2008 elections.</li> </ul>
<b>LTSC Community Development Corporation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>Downtown Community Media Center</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project to document and preserve the cultural legacy of the early Asian/American artists/activists, while giving consideration to the role and function of the arts as a platform for protest and a tool for social change.</li> </ul>



**Accountability of Corporations and Other Institutions**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Neighborhood Funders Group</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen the capacity of philanthropy to understand and support community-based efforts to organize and improve the economic and social well-being of low-income communities.</li> </ul>
<b>New Israel Fund</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life and Values</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Women and the Environment: Agents of Change in Israel</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For an initiative to create a more vibrant, just and peaceful Israel through supporting women as agents of change, developing an environmental movement and seizing opportunity to create cross-sector social change.</li> </ul>
<b>Progressive Jewish Alliance (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life and Values</li> </ul>	<i>PJA Transition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support the transition phase of this organization as it engages in a professional search for a talented new Executive Director.</li> </ul>
<b>TransparentDemocracy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Shareholder Education Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To educate and inform shareholders about decisions they can make to align their shareholder proxy votes with their values.</li> </ul>
<b>Union for Reform Judaism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life &amp; Values</li> </ul>	<i>Just Congregations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that engages and trains Reform Jewish synagogue members in Congregation-Based Community Organizing.</li> </ul>

**Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Backbone Campaign</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts and Culture</li> </ul>	<i>The Procession for the Future</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In support of a traveling parade depicting progressive aspirations for our nation.</li> </ul>
<b>Center on Budget and Policy Priorities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Strengthening Health Insurance Coverage</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide the technical expertise, research and media advocacy necessary to assure informed citizen participation in important debates on federal and state policies affecting access to health care.</li> </ul>
<b>Center for Civic Participation (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Arts and Democracy Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For efforts to increase the sustainability of arts and culture work that furthers participatory democracy and social justice.</li> </ul>

**Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Center for Rural Affairs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health</b></li> </ul>	<i>Creating a Rural Constituency for Health Care Reform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support their work to broaden and deepen rural engagement in the public policy debate over ensuring access to high quality, affordable health care for all.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Catalyst, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Health</b></li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen systems of state-based advocacy that can develop and support reform efforts to expand access to high quality health care.</li> </ul>
<b>Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in California</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>Books Not Bars – Arts and Culture Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a program that seeks to reduce and reform the California youth prison system and raise public awareness through multimedia arts and cultural events.</li> </ul>
<b>Free Press (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts and Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>2008 National Conference for Media Reform</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support the largest gathering of media reformers in the United States.</li> </ul>
<b>International Coalition of Historic Site Museums of Conscience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts and Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>Sites of Conscience: U.S. Initiatives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To activate American historic sites and museums as new centers for dialogue and engagement on social issues.</li> </ul>
<b>International Museum of Women</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts and Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>Women, Money, Poverty, and Wealth</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support an on-line exhibition that illuminates the range of ways in which women are agents of change as workers, entrepreneurs, businesswomen, philanthropists, consumers, artisans, craftmakers and caretakers in compensated and uncompensated settings.</li> </ul>
<b>Kovno Communications (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the development and production of this non-fiction feature film about a man who inspired Americans of all walks of life to forever question the previously unchallenged pronouncements of its leaders.</li> </ul>
<b>National Alliance of Media Arts Centers, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arts &amp; Culture</b></li> </ul>	<i>Platforms for Participation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that uses communication technologies to increase civic engagement and democratic participation in geographically and socio-economically diverse communities.</li> </ul>

**Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>National Building Museum (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts and Culture</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Green Community</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support an exhibition that will highlight a range of communities and show how each has committed to the stewardship of its unique cultural and natural resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Breakthrough Institute: Overcoming Xenophobia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To explore the psychological drivers of xenophobic and anti-immigrant attitudes that impede progress in the U.S. on a variety of important domestic policy priorities including health care reform and global warming.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Tax and Fiscal Policies Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For their efforts to assemble a progressive statewide alliance of organizations with the capacity to research, develop and implement a tax and fiscal policy reform agenda.</li> </ul>
<b>University of Wisconsin, Madison</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Center for State Innovation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide evidence-based policy support and assistance to state government executives.</li> </ul>

**Corporate and Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Alternate Roots, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In support of this arts organization that works to address the common causes of oppression in rural and marginalized communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Center for American Progress</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Energy Opportunity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build and articulate the rationale necessary to create a low carbon economy.</li> </ul>
<b>Center for Labor and Community Research</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Illinois High Performance Manufacturing Initiative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project designed to create strong partnerships between government, labor, business, community and environmental organizations working towards sustainable development.</li> </ul>
<b>Center for Rural Strategies, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Daily Yonder</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support an online rural information system that is building a national voice for rural community engagement and cultural empowerment.</li> </ul>

## Corporate and Government Accountability

<b>Organization/ Collaborators</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Interprogram Relevance</b>
<b>Center on Policy Initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support its work to transform San Diego into a healthy community with full family health care, quality jobs and a cleaner environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Demos: A Network for Ideas and Action, Ltd. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Demos Center on Balanced Regulation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that aims to create a national center for research, analysis and advocacy on effective public regulation.</li> </ul>
<b>Educational Broadcasting Corporation (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Arts and Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Critical Condition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a documentary film on the medical, emotional and financial impact of battling illness without health insurance.</li> </ul>
<b>Educational Broadcasting Corporation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Jewish Life &amp; Values</li> </ul>	<i>Now on PBS</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support this investigative news program whose focus of reporting in 2008 will be on key topics such as corporate governance, health care, the environment and the 2008 election.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Law &amp; Policy Center of the Midwest</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Green Economy Policy and Public Awareness Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To accelerate the development of green economies in the Chicago region and other selected Midwest cities.</li> </ul>
<b>Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Stem Cell Oversight and Accountability Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To promote government and corporate accountability in publicly funded medical and other research.</li> </ul>
<b>Front Range Economic Strategy Center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For its work to hold government and corporations in the Denver metropolitan area accountable for responsible community-centered development and the protection of health and welfare for low-income workers and their families.</li> </ul>
<b>Future of Music Coalition, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Artist Research Council, HINT, Artist Activism Camp</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For projects that will increase artists' participation in the cultural, political and health issues that impact their livelihoods.</li> </ul>
<b>Global Philanthropy Partnership</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Massive Energy Retrofit and Jobs Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the creation of a large-scale program to retrofit buildings to make them more energy efficient while creating good, high-wage jobs in Chicago.</li> </ul>

## Corporate and Government Accountability

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Government Accountability Project, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help corporate or federal government whistleblowers expose corporate wrongdoing or undue influence on drug and food safety, environmental and other public health concerns.</li> </ul>
<b>Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Sponsoring Committee, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Jewish Life and Values</li> </ul>	<i>Massachusetts Health Care Reform Implementation Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that the implementation of the newly-enacted health reform law in Massachusetts serves the needs of low and moderate income residents of the state.</li> </ul>
<b>Health Care for All, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Health Reform Implementation: A Model for Follow-Up Success</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that consumer-oriented principles will continue to guide implementation of health reform in Massachusetts.</li> </ul>
<b>Herndon Alliance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a national coalition of 100 minority, faith, advocacy, business, labor and provider organizations that are working on the state and national levels to ensure guaranteed, affordable healthcare for all.</li> </ul>
<b>Liberty Hill Foundation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Environmental Justice Technical Assistance Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help build the capacity of environmental justice organizations allowing them to push for innovative policy solutions to the environmental health disparities caused by industrialization and globalization.</li> </ul>
<b>Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help achieve healthier communities and families by reducing air pollution, increasing access to healthy foods and health services in low-income communities and increasing health benefits for workers in low wage industries.</li> </ul>
<b>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Contemplative Practice</li> </ul>	<i>MIT CoLab Green Hub</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a cross-disciplinary/ institutional round table of leaders working towards the ecological transformation of the economy with a focus on the greening of cities.</li> </ul>

## Corporate and Government Accountability

<b>Organization/ Collaborators</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Interprogram Relevance</b>
<b>National Women’s Law Center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Women and Health Reform Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen the voice of women in national policy debates over ensuring access to high quality and affordable health care for all, and to secure the most equitable and sustainable sources of financing necessary to accomplish that goal.</li> </ul>
<b>New America Foundation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>New Health Dialogue</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To advance the national discussion about how best to achieve comprehensive health reform that will provide high quality and affordable care in an efficient, sustainable system.</li> </ul>
<b>New York Foundation For the Arts, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>The Active Citizen Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support broad-based public activism that uses art and new media as tools for social change.</li> </ul>
<b>Pacific Institute for Community Organizations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Health Policy Action Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To advocate for the uninsured and the underinsured across the country.</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership for Working Families</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a partnership that works with affiliates in 18 cities to advance access to fair wages, health care and a clean and healthy environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Health Institute Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Blue Green Alliance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support collaboration between the largest U.S. manufacturing union and the largest membership-based environment group for a sustainable economy in which environmental progress and job creation go hand in hand.</li> </ul>
<b>Rockefeller Family Fund, Inc. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>ISky Education Fund</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To communicate a positive vision and to encourage the enactment of a coherent set of national policies that rise to the scale of the global warming challenge.</li> </ul>
<b>Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>Breakthrough Institute: Paradigm Building</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a project that will broaden and deepen policy shifts on energy and climate, public health, national security and the social contract.</li> </ul>

**Corporate and Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Carbon Disclosure Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that uses the power of capital markets - combined with the fiduciary duty of corporations to their shareholders - to pressure corporations to take responsibility for the environmental costs and risks of their activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Sustainable Endowments Institute-College Sustainability Report Card</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To motivate universities to prioritize and communicate commitment to both campus and endowment environment sustainability.</li> </ul>
<b>Tides Center</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Apollo Alliance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support their work to catalyze a green industrial revolution that will make the United States strategically, economically and environmentally stronger and more secure.</li> </ul>
<b>University of Wisconsin, Madison</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Center on Wisconsin Strategy: Keeping the New Energy Promise</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project that will work to realize the climate, jobs and equity promise of a new energy economy.</li> </ul>
<b>Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To improve the quality of life in the Rocky Mountain and Plains States by advancing clean and renewable energy that promotes rural economies while stopping the development of non-renewable energy that leads to global warming.</li> </ul>
<b>WGBH Educational Foundation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>FRONTLINE's "Heat"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To illuminate the gap between what scientists say is required to combat climate change and what the world's most powerful institutions are willing to do.</li> </ul>
<b>Work Environment Council of New Jersey, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Winning Chemical Safety and Hometown Security in New Jersey</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop and implement new model policies to prevent toxic catastrophes and to build a more powerful labor, environmental and community coalition to win victories on a wider range of difficult issues, from climate, to trade, to environmental justice.</li> </ul>

**Corporate and Government Accountability**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Working Partnerships USA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help increase access to affordable, quality healthcare and create new, replicable models for making economic development accountable to community needs for good jobs, affordable housing, effective transportation systems and an accessible health care provider network.</li> </ul>
<b>Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conduct the clean-up of the watershed for current and future generations and to address global warming and energy issues with the goal of statewide and national replication.</li> </ul>

**Gulf Coast/Katrina-Related Grants**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Administrators of the Tulane Education Fund</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>The Living Cultures Project: Sustaining Arts, Culture and Heritage</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For their efforts to maximize the benefits of the rich cultural heritage of New Orleans.</li> </ul>
<b>Efforts of Grace, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support this community-based cultural art center that produces and presents cultural and creative programs that support community development in Central City and Metro New Orleans.</li> </ul>
<b>Institute for Sustainable Communities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>	<i>Gulf Coast Community Renewal Project</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help achieve positive, long-term changes in Moss Point, Mississippi, a severely impacted community.</li> </ul>
<b>The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> <li>• Health</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For their efforts to aid in the recovery of the artists, cultural organizations and businesses that make up Louisiana’s cultural industry.</li> </ul>
<b>National Performance Network, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support a group of diverse cultural organizers, including artists, working to create meaningful partnerships and support a cohesive arts and cultural community in New Orleans.</li> </ul>



**Gulf Coast/Katrina-Related Grants**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>Xavier University of Louisiana</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Community Arts Management Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To incorporate and document examples of arts applied as an agent of social change, develop protocols for using creative approaches to bridge differences and provide students with the tools that will enable them to become effective leaders in the creative workforce.</li> </ul>
<b>Young People’s Project, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Finding Our Folk</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a project to document and share the stories of Katrina survivors and connect these stories with narratives of individuals in marginalized communities across the country.</li> </ul>

**Domestic Support of the Israeli Peace Process**

<b><u>Organization/ Collaborators</u></b>	<b><u>Project Name</u></b>	<b><u>Interprogram Relevance</u></b>
<b>The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life and Values</li> <li>• Arts &amp; Culture</li> </ul>	<i>Israel: Portrait of a Work in Progress</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For a photography project that seeks to explore Israel as both a place and a metaphor and to provoke conversation regarding its complexities.</li> </ul>
<b>Americans for Peace Now, Inc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life &amp; Values</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help educate the American Jewish community and general public about the strategic and economic benefits of peace between Israel and her neighbors.</li> </ul>
<b>Center for American Progress (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life &amp; Values</li> </ul>	<i>Middle East Progress</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop and highlight practical approaches and voices to manage – and resolve – the Arab-Israeli conflict.</li> </ul>
<b>Israel Policy Forum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jewish Life and Values</li> </ul>	<i>General Support</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide reasonable, sustainable, and forward-thinking solutions to a two-state resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to policymakers and the American Jewish community.</li> </ul>

**Domestic Support of the Israeli Peace Process**

<b>Organization/ Collaborators</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Interprogram Relevance</b>
<b>PeaceWorks Network Foundation (PAG)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jewish Life &amp; Values</b></li></ul>	<i>One Voice Campus Education Program</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To bring consensus-building programs and moderate, positive dialogue around the Middle East conflict to American college campuses.</li></ul>

**NEXT STEPS**

Beginning in 2009, the Nathan Cummings Foundation will launch new guidelines for its core programs. Interprogram will be re-named Collaborative Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice. Collaborative Initiatives will encourage strong coordination between NCF’s programs. It will do so by supporting multi-program efforts that foster socially just and sustainable communities through institutional accountability and alliance building.

In 2009 Collaborative Initiatives will also focus especially on facilitating NCF programmatic responses to the strategic opportunities that are created by the current economic and political context (i.e.: a “green” stimulus package, domestic support for the Middle East peace process, new governmental health care programs, new governmental arts programs and so on); and NCF proxy efforts and shareholder activities that align with the objectives of our program areas.

# Shareholder Activities 2008

## INTRODUCTION

*“There is no such thing as an innocent purchaser of stocks...He may be innocent in fact, but socially he cannot be held innocent. He accepts the benefits of a system. It is his business and his obligation to see that those who represent him carry out a policy which is consistent with the public welfare.”*

*Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis*

The Foundation’s shareholder activities work seeks to use the Foundation’s status as an institutional investor to enhance long-term shareholder value while furthering both overarching and program-specific objectives such as accountability, transparency, access to healthcare and the protection of the environment.

The Foundation’s shareholder activities have increased substantially in terms of both scope and impact since the design and implementation of the Foundation’s new Shareholder Activities Guidelines in 2002. Over the last seven years we have been able to:

- File more than 50 shareholder resolutions with approximately 30 different companies. In 2008, the Foundation filed or co-filed 13 shareholder resolutions, more than 6 times the number filed by NCF in 2003.
- Actively cast votes on management and shareholder proposed resolutions covering governance, environmental and social issues on thousands of proxies. Contrast this with the Foundation’s approach between 1997 and 2002, when the Foundation abstained from voting on almost every issue not related to the election of directors or the ratification of auditors.
- Cultivate a powerful network of relationships with other institutional investors in order to leverage our impact. Collaborative efforts in which the Foundation is involved include: the Carbon Disclosure Project (\$57 trillion), the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (\$14 trillion), the Investor Network on Climate Risk (\$7 trillion), and the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (\$110 billion).<sup>1</sup>
- Establish the Foundation as a leader in the area of responsible investing and shareholder activism in the foundation world and among institutional investors in general. Recent coverage of our work has appeared in publications including the *LA Times* and the *Financial Times* and on CNNMoney.com and Bloomberg.com.

This report describes in more detail shareholder activities undertaken by the Foundation during 2008, including collaborative efforts, shareholder resolutions and engagements with corporations and proxy voting.

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<sup>1</sup> Approximate assets under management of members as of November 2008.

## Highlights of the 2008 Shareholder Season

During the 2008 proxy season, the Nathan Cummings Foundation was able to continue to build upon its past successes while expanding into new focus areas. 2008 was a year of significant accomplishments for the Foundation's shareholder activities work. Once again, the Foundation's resolutions gained consistently high levels of investor support and sparked interest from both the press and a broad array of organizations wishing to learn more about NCF's approach to active ownership.

In 2008, the Foundation was able to:

- Build upon and improve its record of success in obtaining the support of the country's two most influential proxy voting advisory services. This was accomplished despite the move from "reporting asks" to "action asks" when it came to the climate change resolutions filed by NCF this year. In fact, RiskMetrics (formerly Institutional Shareholder Services) supported 100% of NCF resolutions proceeding to a vote in 2008.
- Successfully construct all of its shareholder proposals to withstand corporate requests for no-action relief from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). This achievement was especially noteworthy in a year in which proposal omissions saw a dramatic year-on-year increase. According to RiskMetrics, 69% of corporate challenges through the end of March 2008 resulted in the SEC actually granting no-action relief to the company.<sup>2</sup>
- Realize increases in voting support for each resolution it re-filed while gaining significant support for first-time filings.
- Achieve votes of 30% support or more on climate change resolutions filed at Kroger (39.6%), Ultra Petroleum (36.6%) and Standard Pacific (33.7%). The average level of investor support for climate change resolutions in 2008 was only 23.5%.
- Use our shareholder resolutions to help push companies to take concrete action on climate change. For instance, in the wake of shareholder filings asking for the establishment of GHG emission reduction goals, both Centex Corporation and KB Home committed to energy efficiency increases in new homes they build beginning in 2009.
- Work with a coalition of 21 other large institutional investors to petition the Securities & Exchange Commission to issue an interpretive release clarifying registrants' current legal obligations to disclose material information concerning climate change in their periodic filings with the SEC.
- Score within the top 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of all United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment signatories on both Principle 2 (proxy voting - policy and implementation) and Principle 5 (working together to enhance effectiveness) despite our relatively small asset

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<sup>2</sup> Due to the fact that the resolution-filing season begins in the fall of the preceding year, by the end of March, most no-action requests for the 2008 season had been filed by companies and decided upon by the SEC.

size. The Foundation continues to work with Bâtirente, a Canadian asset owner, and the PRI secretariat on a small funds implementation project to help other small funds to better implement the Principles.

## **Collaborations with Other Asset Owners**

### Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

The Carbon Disclosure Project has amassed over 385 institutional investor signatories with approximately \$57 trillion US in assets under management. The CDP, which aims to provide investors with information on the significant risks and opportunities associated with climate change, has assembled the largest registry of corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data in the world.

Since its inception in 2000, the Carbon Disclosure Project has expanded from a single yearly report with an exclusive focus on the FT 500 to include numerous reports covering companies in the FTSE 350, the S&P 500 and the Japan 150, as well as publicly traded companies in Australia, New Zealand and Asia ex-Japan. Meanwhile, the response rate of companies in the FT 500 has increased from 52% in 2002 to 77% in 2008. The response rate among S&P 500 companies now stands at 64%, a 17% increase in just two years.

The most recent round of CDP reports was launched at Merrill Lynch's New York headquarters on September 22, 2008. The Foundation's President & CEO attended the launch on behalf of the Foundation, which is not only a signatory to the CDP, but also one of the collaboration's major funders.

### Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)

ICCR is a recognized leader in the corporate social responsibility movement and has a 37-year track record of pressing corporations to be more environmentally and socially responsible. ICCR's core membership is comprised of religious organizations, with pension and labor funds and socially responsible investment firms playing a key role as Associate Members.

NCF joined ICCR in 2002 and continues to serve as a key partner in ICCR's shareholder work. ICCR undertook an extensive review of its work in 2008. As a part of this review, NCF's Director of Shareholder Activities was invited to serve on ICCR's Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee to help determine the course of the organization's future efforts. As a result of the 2008 review, the organization's activities were re-organized into three cross-cutting working groups: People, Policy and Place.<sup>3</sup> NCF is active in each of these groups to various degrees.

Through ICCR's People group, the Foundation worked on shareholder resolutions asking corporations to adopt principles for healthcare reform and assisted with efforts to garner support for these resolutions from the various proxy voting advisory services. NCF's primary involvement with the work of the Place group is through the filing of numerous climate change

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<sup>3</sup> Topics falling into the People group include health, human rights and labor rights. The Place group seeks to address the environmental crises caused by corporate pollution and the unsustainable use of the Earth's resources. The Policy group seeks to promote positive policy change throughout the business world.

proposals (see below for more information) while its main work with the Policy group has focused on executive compensation.

#### Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR)

INCR is a network of institutional investors with assets under management of roughly \$7 trillion. Investors associated with INCR work to promote a better understanding of the financial risks and opportunities associated with climate change. The Nathan Cummings Foundation has been actively involved with the work of INCR since its inception in 2003.<sup>4</sup> The Foundation served as a co-convenor of both the 2005 and 2008 Investor Summits on Climate Risk and signed onto both the 2005 and 2008 versions of the Climate Risk Action Plan.

This year, the Nathan Cummings Foundation has taken a number of actions in an effort to fulfill its commitment to the Climate Risk Action Plan. Examples include joining with other investors to call on the SEC to expand climate reporting requirements to include oil sands operations, acting with a broad coalition of investors to push the SEC to require corporations to disclose material risks relating to climate change and, of course, filing shareholder proposals calling on corporations to reduce their GHG emissions. In fact, in 2008, NCF-led filings accounted for more than 10% of climate change resolutions filed by organizations associated with the INCR and ICCR. NCF also contributed to the record levels of support for climate change resolutions in 2008 through its efforts to persuade the major proxy voting advisory firms to support climate change resolutions.

#### United Nations Principles For Responsible Investment (PRI)

The PRI is a global institutional investor initiative in partnership with the UN Global Compact and the UN Environment Program's Finance Initiative. The PRI grew out of a view that environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues can affect the performance of investment portfolios and that investors wishing to fulfill their fiduciary (or equivalent) duty need to give appropriate consideration to these issues. The PRI provides a framework for doing so. The Principles themselves are voluntary and aspirational, providing a menu of possible actions for incorporating ESG issues into investment decision-making and ownership practices.

As a founding member of the PRI, The Nathan Cummings Foundation was among the first investors to sign onto the Principles for Responsible Investment at their public launch in April 2006. Assets under management represented by PRI signatories have grown from slightly over \$4 trillion in 2006 to just over \$14 trillion as of June 2008 as the number of signatories climbed to 381.

NCF was instrumental in the formation of the PRI, serving on the Investor Group that helped to design the principles, and continues to play an active role in the PRI today. NCF's Director of Shareholder Activities served as the Co-Chair of the PRI Small Funds Initiative in 2008 and, at the request of PRI secretariat, undertook a study of small fund implementation of the Principles for presentation at the PRI's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual PRI in Person meetings. Also at the request of the PRI

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<sup>4</sup> INCR initially arose out of a high-level gathering held at Pocantico in January 2003. The Foundation's President & CEO represented NCF at this gathering of state and city treasurers, foundation presidents, corporate governance experts, labor leaders and corporate attorneys assembled to discuss the connection between climate change and long-term shareholder value.

secretariat, the Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities authored a blog posting exploring the Foundation's experience with PRI implementation and advising other small fund signatories on creative ways to implement the Principles. The Foundation also participated in a number of investor campaigns coordinated through the PRI's web-based clearinghouse during 2008.

### **Speaking Engagements & Shareholder-Focused Publications**

NCF's President & CEO and the Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities are frequently asked to speak at conferences or participate in conference calls or webinars focusing on proxy voting, shareholder activism and responsible investment. Speaking engagements undertaken in 2008 include:

- Financial Research Associates Faith-Based Investors' Forum (February 28, 2008). NCF's President & CEO spoke about the benefits of shareholder advocacy and proxy voting.
- Ceres Conference 2008 (April 30, 2008). NCF's President & CEO moderated a panel discussion focusing on recent developments in shareowner activism.
- Public Private Wealth Forum (May 5, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities participated in a panel focusing on investor strategies to address climate change.
- Socially Responsible Investing: Prudent or "IM"? (May 7, 2008). NCF's President & CEO spoke about the social and ethical considerations of using a "voice" strategy entailing proxy voting and resolution filing.
- United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, PRI in Person (June 17, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities presented findings from a study of small fund implementation of the Principles for Responsible Investment.
- United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, PRI in Person (June 18, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities participated in a panel session exploring regional and global investor collaborations on climate risk.
- Environmental Grant Makers Association, Moving Assets Webinar (September 15, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities gave an overview of NCF's approach to responsible investment and argued for increased foundation involvement in proxy voting and resolution filing.
- Sustainable Investing 2008: People. Planet. Profit. (September 23, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities participated in a panel entitled *Moving Beyond Screening: Shareholder Advocacy and other Next Generation Strategies*.
- Investor Network on Climate Risk breakfast session at the Council of Institutional Investors (October 6, 2008). The Foundation's Director of Shareholder Activities spoke about NCF's shareholder resolutions focusing on climate change in the homebuilding and retail sectors.
- The *New New Economy: Investing with a Climate Change Lens During Challenging Times* (November 20, 2008). NCF's President & CEO participated in a panel session on shareholder activism and proxy voting entitled *Voting Clean and Green*.

In addition, the Foundation's work was also covered by a number of publications and symposiums focusing on responsible investment in 2008. These include:

- *Managing the Risks and Opportunities of Climate Change: A Practical Toolkit for Investors* Ceres and the Investor Network on Climate Risk (April 2008)
- *Partnerships for Sustainability: Examining the Evidence, A Symposium* The National Academy of Sciences (June 2008)
- *Green Investment Strategy Report*

New York Community Trust  
 Katherine Pease & Associates (July 2008)

- *Mobilizing Assets, Multiplying Impact: Fully Leveraging Philanthropic Capital for Environmental Change*  
 By Joshua Humphreys, Harvard University and the Center for Social Philanthropy  
 EGA Journal (Fall 2008)
- *Putting Responsible Investment into Practice: A Toolkit for Pension Funds, Foundations and Endowments*  
 The Shareholder Association for Research and Education (SHARE) (November 2008)

### Shareholder Resolutions

The Nathan Cummings Foundation filed 13 shareholder resolutions in 2008. The details of each filing are outlined in the table below.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Filers</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
Apple	Say on Pay	AFSCME, NCF	The resolution received the support of 50.7% of shares voted.
Centex	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	NCF	The resolution received the support of 26% of shares voted. Centex announced plans to implement its Energy Advantage Program in all new homes it builds in 2009. The Program is expected to reduce emissions by thousands of tons over the lifetimes of the homes. Centex also released a sustainability report and provided information to the Carbon Disclosure Project.
ConocoPhillips	Political Contributions	NCF, Teamsters	The resolution received the support of 28.2% of shares voted.
Costco	Toxics	Boston Common Asset Management, NCF, others	The resolution was withdrawn when the company agreed to report back to filers on progress relating to general sustainability efforts, with a particular focus on the reduction of PVC use.
Exxon Mobil	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	Tri-Cri, NCF, SEIU	The resolution received the support of 30.9% of shares voted.
KB Home	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	NCF, Catholic Healthcare West	The resolution was withdrawn. The company released its first sustainability report in 2008. The report included a description of how the company plans to address emissions from the end-use of its products and used the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol to begin tracking emissions.



Kroger	Climate Change	NCF	The resolution received the support of 39.6% of shares voted.
Pulte Homes	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	NCF, Domini	The resolution received the support of 22.9% of shares voted.
The Ryland Group	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	NCF	The resolution received the support of 25.4% of shares voted.
Standard Pacific	Climate Change – Emission Reductions	NCF, United Methodist Church	The resolution received the support of 33.7% of shares voted.
Ultra Petroleum	Climate Change	NCF	The resolution received the support of 36.6% of shares voted.
Valero Energy	Political Contributions	NCF	The resolution received the support of 38.7% of shares voted.
Wal-Mart	Say on Pay	Amalgamated Bank, NCF	The resolution received the support of 17% of shares voted.

## NEXT STEPS

Going forward, the Foundation will continue its focus on climate change as both an environmental issue and a source of possible significant investment risk. NCF will also look to expand its shareholder work on executive compensation issues. Plans for the 2009 season include serving as the primary filer of two proposals, at Wells Fargo and UnitedHealth Group, asking for investors to be given a “say on pay”. The Foundation’s shareholder activities work will also focus once again on health care reform, an issue with critical implications for the competitiveness of American corporations as well as a major focus of the new Administration. Finally, NCF will look to expand its role as an advocate for active ownership strategies – including voting proxies and filing shareholder resolutions – among the broader foundation community.