

Center for Religious Tolerance

Religion as a Force for Peace

Annual Report 2010

Dear Friends.

As John Fitzgerald Kennedy once said: "Change is the law of life."

Recent events in Tunisia, Egypt and across the Middle East have thrown us into a world of uncertainty. No one knows for sure what will happen next, or how events may affect the possibilities for a just and sustainable peace in Israel and Palestine. We at CRT believe that our grassroots interfaith and empowerment activities are helping to lay the groundwork for a more peaceful future in the face of rapidly changing circumstances. We couldn't do it without your support, and we extend our deepest thanks.

During 2010, our activities expanded both at home and in Israel/Palestine. Women Reborn, the Arab women's empowerment program in northern Israel, is now providing direct services to over 250 women in three villages. Filmmaking, yoga and catering have been added to the curriculum; a municipal women's division



CRT Board Members: Robin, Howard, Bill, Andy, Anna, Judith

has been established; and an entire floor of a new community center has been designated for women's activities. Women Reborn has also brought Muslim, Jewish, Christian and Druze women together to work for women's rights and is contributing to the development of an interfaith women's movement across Israel.

Our youth program is flourishing, with a new internship program; two study circles on diversity and nonviolence in Sarasota High School, one for girls and one for boys; and events planned on several college campuses. CRT initiatives are also helping to address local issues in Tarpon Springs, Florida, and in Seattle, Washington.

Our international presence has grown rapidly. The number of visitors to our website has more than doubled in the past year, and we now have supporters in 21 countries - up from 14 in 2009.

One of CRT's strengths is our ability to respond quickly to emerging opportunities. Our plans for 2011 include a grant program designed to stimulate new grassroots efforts, build on successful programs, and capitalize on new developments on the ground. We will focus particularly on women and youth and on building networks across religious divisions and national boundaries. We will also redouble our efforts to provide timely news about the grassroots interfaith peace movement. In the words of Ashleigh Brilliant: "Nothing we can do can change the past, but everything we do changes the future."

In Peace, Andrea Blanch, Ph.D.

CRT MISSION

CRT promotes peace and social justice through spiritually based interfaith activities. Our work is guided by principles of fairness and compassion, grounded in an abiding belief in the unity of human consciousness, and nourished by faith.

CRT BOARD

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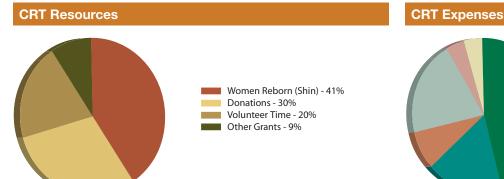
Better than a thousand hollow words is one word that brings peace.

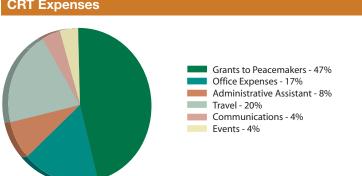
- Buddha (560-483 B.C.E.)

Financial Report

CRT Resources – CRT activities are conducted almost exclusively by volunteers and are funded with a combination of donations and grants. Estimated value of volunteer time in 2010 was \$20,850. Contributions from donors totaled \$31,091 and grants from the Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay Foundation and the Harry Kramer Memorial Fund totaled \$6,200. \$3,184 was carried forward from 2009. A grant of \$43,376 from the Clark Charitable Trust, administered through an Israeli nonprofit, funded the Women Reborn project. Total resources in 2010 (including volunteer labor and the Women Reborn grant): \$104,701. Total resources in 2010 available to cover expenses: \$40,475.

CRT Expenses – Expenses included direct grants to peacemakers in Israel and Palestine, office expenses, a part-time administrative assistant, travel, communications and events. Expenses were covered by donor contributions, grants, and carryforward from 2009. Total CRT expenses in 2010: \$40,475.





Thanks to the following individuals who gave freely of their resources, time and creativity

Aman Accessories Lynn M. Strauss & Alexander A. Albee Mary Jane Alexander Denise Alvarez Rene Andersen Jo Arora Gretchen Atkinson

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