

WitnessforPeace

Years ended December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2008
Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS	2008	2007
Current Assets	\$205,944	\$198,799
Property and Equipment: Land, Building, and Equipment less Depreciation	\$14,561	\$15,288
Total Assets	\$221,005	\$214,587
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities and Note Payable	\$271,137	\$205,182
Net Assets	(\$50,132)	\$9,405
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$221,005	\$214,587

WitnessforPeace

Years ended December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2008
Statement of Activities

REVENUES	2008	2007
Fundraising Appeals	\$317,265	\$314,426
Contributions and Bequests	\$105,129	\$78,758
Delegation Fees	\$368,500	\$390,919
Grants	\$69,755	\$45,000
Publications	\$716	\$628
Investment Income	\$870	\$3,003
TOTAL REVENUES	\$873,780	\$874,859
EXPENSES		
Program Expenses: Grassroots and International Program	\$728,729	\$683,958
Management and Administrative	\$53,216	\$126,351
Fundraising	\$151,372	\$134,711
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$933,317	\$945,020
Changes in net assets	(\$59,537)	(\$70,161)
Net assets at beginning of year	\$9,405	\$79,566
Net assets at the end of year	(\$50,132)	\$9,405

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Roxanne Hanson*	Communications Director

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* Currently Serving

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WitnessforPeace

Overview of Program Activities 2009 Annual Report 2008



Witness for Peace is a politically independent, grassroots organization. We are people committed to nonviolence and led by faith and conscience. Our mission is to support peace, justice and sustainable economies in the Americas by changing U.S. policies and corporate practices which contribute to poverty and oppression in Latin America and the Caribbean. We stand with people who seek justice.

A GROWING MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE IN THE AMERICAS

No one expected 2009 to be easy. The global economic crisis hit many Latin American countries already struggling under staggering poverty. Drug war violence, fueled by U.S. military aid, expanded throughout the hemisphere. The U.S. response to a shocking military *coup d'etat* in Honduras ended

the hope that there would be real support for democracy in the Americas.

In the US, many nonprofit organizations are facing drastically reduced budgets, at a time when their services are needed most. Despite the dire situation, Witness for

Peace was ready to respond to the many calls from our partners to stand with them against policies that cause poverty and oppression. Whether accompanying activists receiving death threats in Colombia or Honduras, or walking with parents in Mexico or Nicaragua who have lost children to the dangerous migrant journeys, we were there to continue our vital role supporting marginalized communities.

But we didn't do it alone. Hundreds of WFP delegates opened their hearts and their minds to understand the daily challenges of people they met in Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, or Venezuela. They returned to the US to join thousands of WFP activists ready to mobilize to help improve the lives of the people they met.

Witness for Peace also brought the voices of our Latin American partners to hundreds of communities across the U.S. Through new videos, dynamic speaker tours, creative protest rallies, media outreach and well-researched documentation, U.S. policymakers over 200,000 citizens heard the first-hand accounts of those whose lives are affected by the decisions made in Washington. An unprecedented 25,000 concerned citizens, sent emails and faxes or called their members of Congress to call for real change in U.S. policy toward Latin America.

Our movement is growing. We are inspired by our community of partners and activists to continue the long struggle for peace, justice and sustainable economies in the Americas. It is a struggle we must win.



Transforming People.

Transformative Travel to Latin America in 2009

Over our 26-year history, Witness for Peace has transformed the lives of more than 13,000 delegates who have traveled to Latin America. In 2009:

- WFP led a total of **497 delegates to Latin America: 168 delegates to Mexico, 157 to Nicaragua, 86 to Colombia,** 79 to Venezuela/Bolivia and other countries.
- In response to a rise in immigration raids and **anti-immigration ordinances in North Carolina**, a group of 20 local leaders traveled on a WFP delegation to Oaxaca, Mexico—the former home of many newly-arrived immigrants in their area. The group included a congressional aide, the directors of several North Carolina organizations, and labor and faith leaders. A popular short film was developed based on this delegation.
- **Mexico** and **Nicaragua** delegations brought U.S. citizens face-to-face with the stark realities facing families who are forced to contemplate the dangerous journey to seek work in the U.S., in part due to U.S. trade policy in the region.
- After the military *coup d'etat*, a ten-member Witness for Peace delegation traveled to **Honduras** to document reported human rights abuses by the de facto Honduran government and support Hondurans struggling for democracy.
- Delegations to **Colombia** examined the impact of U.S. military aid and training, aerial fumigations, the proposed U.S. Colombia Free Trade Agreement. They stood in solidarity with indigenous, Afro-Colombian and other marginalized groups facing poverty and human rights violations.
- Delegations to **Venezuela** and **Bolivia** provided U.S. citizens with an opportunity to move beyond hostile rhetoric, see these countries for themselves, and learn about U.S. intervention.
- In consultation with Marazul Charters, Inc., a licensed travel service provider, Witness for Peace supported two very successful research trips to **Cuba** in 2009. We have scheduled five more for 2010. This historic opportunity again opens up travel to Cuba, paving the way for fully normalized relations.



Transforming Policy.

2009 Grassroots Action in the U.S.

WFP's 20,000-strong grassroots network promotes positive policies toward our Latin American neighbors. Highlights of our education and policy work in 2009 include:

- Approximately 25,000 people of faith commemorated the **Days of Prayer and Action for Colombia**, sending over 21,000 postcards to President Obama. Congregations and university groups made more than 18,000 paper dolls displayed in 8 cities to represent the large internally-displaced population in Colombia.
- Despite significant pressure from business interests, WFP and our partners have been able to **stall NAFTA-styled free trade agreements** across the hemisphere. Congress has been unable to pass the Panama and Colombia agreements.
- Witness for Peace produced a **ground breaking documentary and report on the drug war in Colombia— *Shoveling Water*** — featured by such groups as Earthjustice and the Organic Consumers Association. The video launched during the WFP-sponsored Washington visit of three Colombians impacted by failed drug policy and spurred 30,000 letters to President Obama calling for an end to destructive aerial fumigation in Colombia.
- WFP answered **Hondurans' calls for international support to restore their democracy** after a June coup. WFP mobilized over 1,000 calls and emails to the White House, State Department and U.S. Congress, successfully pressuring the Obama Administration to cancel over \$60 million in mostly military aid. WFP staff in Honduras provided crucial reporting on human rights violations.
- Twelve organizations joined Witness for Peace to mark **International Trade Action Day** in October with over 35 local events across the country and a new **NAFTA at 15** publication calling for a new international trade model.
- WFP produced a compelling video highlighting the heartbreaking story of **Martha Giraldo whose father was murdered by the U.S.-backed Colombian military**. When Martha's uncle—a witness to the murder—was shot in the head, WFP began providing Martha protective accompaniment to ensure her safety.
- Six **Latin American speakers** toured the United States, directly reaching an estimated 9,000 people, dozens of media outlets and policymakers with their true stories of the impact of free trade, immigration and military aid.
- Witness for Peace members have sent over 24,000 letters to **policymakers in Washington** calling for reforms in U.S. policy toward Latin America that support peace, justice and sustainable economies in the Americas.
- WFP reached new audiences with over 100 **media** hits, including opinion pieces published in the Providence Journal and a prominent piece on immigration and trade featured in the 270,000-circulation Oregonian.

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Hagedorn Foundation
Fair Share Foundation
Open Society Institute
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Unitarian Universalist Association
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Peace Circle Donors 2008 (\$250 and above)

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*We make every effort to include all who belong in the Peace Circle in this report. If we have an oversight, please let us know. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

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Centre College	Portland University
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Equal Exchange	The College of New Jersey
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