



WESTERN
JUSTICE CENTER
FOUNDATION
ENGAGEMENT • EDUCATION • PEACE-BUILDING



ANNUAL REPORT 2008



G R O W I N G T O G E T H E R

INCREASING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
PEACEFUL CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND DISPLACING THE
POWER OF VIOLENCE IN OUR SOCIETY

ABOUT THE WESTERN JUSTICE CENTER FOUNDATION

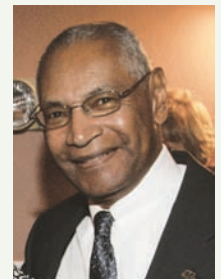


Founder, Hon. Dorothy W. Nelson speaks at the 2008 Peacebuilders Ball.

The Western Justice Center creates a safe space for systemic change that is built on a holistic model of peacebuilding.

Founded in 1985 by the Honorable Dorothy W. Nelson of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the Western Justice Center has enjoyed the support of a dedicated Board of Directors including members of both the federal and state courts, leaders in the legal profession, and engaged members of the community.

The Western Justice Center creates cultures of peace by engaging, educating and implementing innovative programs for youth, communities and courts. Our comprehensive programs are tailored to meet the needs of a diverse population, and built around three core program areas: peer-to-peer mediation; group dialogue facilitation; and age-specific and scenario-specific conflict resolution training. The Western Justice Center programs have reduced conflict in schools and decreased youth gang violence, fostered conflict resolution skills among parents and children, and eased police and community tensions.



Incoming Board Chair the Hon. Terry J. Hatter, Jr.



Artist Alexandra Nechita speaks to students about art as a way to build peace.



FROM THE PRESIDENT DIANE PAUL

2008 was an exciting and transformative year, with the Western Justice Center hosting its first annual fundraising event, the "Peacebuilders Ball." Over 250 guests joined us in celebrating two decades of work dedicated to the peaceful resolution of conflicts, focusing on children, communities and courts. I am honored to have had the chance to lead an extraordinary Board of Directors and staff in making this yet another outstanding year of innovation and collaboration with key community stakeholders. We continue to live and work toward our vision of displacing the power of violence in society. Thanks go to all of our individual and institutional partners whose generosity makes the work of the Western Justice Center possible.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANGELA E. OH

In 2008, the Western Justice Center presented programs that reached youth, parents, teachers, and other community-based organizations. Through trainings offered in schools for K-12 students, the Western Justice Center was able to introduce life-long problem-solving skills to students who were encouraged to become campus peace-builders. In addition to the school-based programs, the Western Justice Center led an initiative to reduce community violence through the Neighborhood Outreach Workers project – an innovative collaboration between the City of Pasadena, the Pasadena Police Department, and other community-based organizations. Finally, the annual Peer Mediation Invitational brought students from more than 30 school districts to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to learn and practice mediation and receive an introduction to the court system.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We live our mission every day through education, community engagement, and promotion of skills that help students and community members prevent and resolve conflicts peacefully. The following is an overview of the programs from 2008.

CHILDREN

- **Roosevelt Elementary School** – Whole school approach to teaching conflict resolution with teachers, parents and students
- **School Peacebuilders Program** – Trainings and implementation of peer mediation program in schools

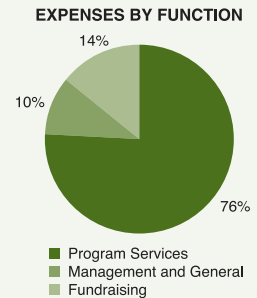
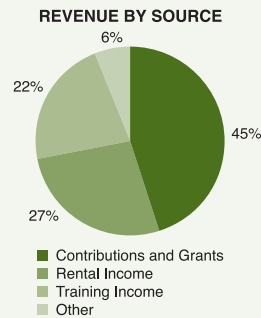
COMMUNITIES

- **Transforming Community & Police Relations Program** – Facilitation of mediations, training and dialogue in collaboration with the Pasadena Police Department
- **Neighborhood Outreach Workers (N.O.W.) Program** – Community violence prevention
- **Peacebuilding Brownbags and Townhalls** – Community Dialogues
- **Partnership for Families SPIRITT/CARIÑO Collaboration** – Specialized trainings for both service providers working with at-risk families with children ages 0-5 as well as the parents
- **Parenting Peacebuilding Project (3P)** – Conflict resolution training for parenting classes

COURTS

- **Peer Mediation Invitational** – Annual event for elementary, middle and high schools in conjunction with the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- **Camp Miller Juvenile Camp** – Trainings in conflict resolution

For more details on the programs please visit our website www.westernjustice.org



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The impact of the Peace Patrol has been positive and immediate

Roosevelt Elementary School

“Roosevelt School is grateful for our partnership with the Western Justice Center. We have had the unique opportunity to receive training in mediation skills for staff members, parents, and students. It is our belief that the adults in the school provide the modeling and leadership to make peaceful problem solving a part of the school culture. Parents see an impact in their personal and family life that they appreciate, and students who are members of a mediation team called the “Peace Patrol” have demonstrated growth in maturity and confidence in their ability to solve problems and provide leadership. The impact of the Peace Patrol has been positive and immediate. The partnership is viewed by all parties as a vehicle for building a school culture where challenges are approached in a positive, respectful manner.”

*Principal Kathee Bautista
Roosevelt Elementary School*



Principal Kathee Bautista and members of the Peace Patrol.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Peace is a gift that I have always enjoyed sharing with others



Peer Mediation Invitational

"There is always an alternative to violence and that is the message that I constantly portray to my peers."

"Being a peer mediator has enabled me to empower myself and others to resolve conflicts through showing the importance of both sides having an equal voice and representation, and a clear understanding of views taken from different perspectives."

Each year the Western Justice Center hosts the Peer Mediation Invitational for students to celebrate their experiences as peer mediators at their schools. In 2008, the Western Justice Center opened the event also to include schools that had no peer mediation program, but were interested in learning more about how to organize one at their school. Hearing what students are saying about Peer Mediation, it is clear that the lessons learned have deep and far-reaching impact:



"Peer mediation has benefited me in so many ways, it allowed me to realize that there are better ways to solving conflicts without violence...In situations where I would usually act out irrationally I was now calm and in better control of my emotions..."

"Peace is a gift that I have always enjoyed sharing with others and promoting not only to my peers in school, but to my community and my family."

**Quotes taken from essays by 12th grade PMI participants submitted for a 2008 scholarship from Bank of the West.*



The winners of the 2008 Bank of the West Peacebuilders Scholarship: Bryan Coy and Chanell Grismore with Hon. Dorothy W. Nelson and Najeeba Syeed-Miller.

The N.O.W. Program has saved me from going back to jail



Hector Escobedo proudly holds the certificate recognizing his participation and completion of Community Conflict Resolution and Mediation Training.

Neighborhood Outreach Workers (N.O.W.) Program

"I didn't have a job when I came to the N.O.W. Program. Now I am two months away from having a portfolio that will get me the job I've always wanted. The N.O.W. Program has saved me from going back to jail. I definitely would have gone back to selling drugs if N.O.W. hadn't provided me with the opportunity to put gas in my car and help feed me and my family while helping me get on my feet. I think I'm doing a good job. Right now I am finishing a counseling class that will be over in June. I wrote a paper on grief and loss and my teacher gave me really good feedback. I couldn't have taken this class without N.O.W. When I came here I was discouraged, but now I am confident that I can make a living applying the skills I have learned at the trainings here and the education made available through N.O.W. One day I would like to open my own non-profit that helps kids. The N.O.W. Program and Western Justice Center has really made a difference for me."

Hector Escobedo

N.O.W. Participant / Former Gang Member / Future Non-Profit Owner



2009 WESTERN JUSTICE CENTER FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ADVISORY BOARD AND STAFF

A visionary group of judges, lawyers and civic leaders created the Western Justice Center to improve the quality of justice and to promote the resolution of conflict through the creation, evaluation and dissemination of model peace-building programs. Today, the Board of Directors includes federal and state judges, attorneys and community leaders – all of whom contribute significantly to the development of the organization’s work with children, communities and courts.

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Community Leader



Judge Judith Chirlin, Judge Andrew Guilford, Justice Carlos Moreno and Judge Barry Russell at the 2008 Summer Associates Luncheon.



Back row: Abbie Genzink, Emily Linnemeier, Karen Gee, Nelson Pichardo
Front row: Wyndi Thompson, Najeeba Syeed-Miller, Janny Kum, Angela Oh

Staff:

- Angela E. Oh, Esq.**
Executive Director
- Nelson Pichardo, M.P.A.**
Director of Programs
- Ann-Marie Esau, M.S.W.**
Program Coordinator, N.O.W.
- Joe Evans**
Property Manager
- Karen Gee, Esq.**
Development & Program Coordinator
- Abbie Genzink**
Administrative Assistant
- Monya Kian, M.A.**
Program Coordinator
- Janny Kum**
Director of Operations
- Emily Linnemeier, M.S.**
Program Director
- Barbara Martin, Ph.D.**
Development Coordinator
- Erin Moore**
Program Coordinator



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2008

With Summarized Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2007

	2008	2007
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Contributions	\$ 432,460	\$ 438,022
Grants	261,756	124,000
Rental Income	407,357	346,547
Training Income	338,340	143,025
Dividend Income	7	145
Contributions in-kind	86,077	42,256
Net Assets Released from Program Restrictions	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	1,525,997	1,093,995
EXPENSES		
Program Services	1,041,758	851,261
Management and General	132,460	112,556
Fundraising	204,024	114,812
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,378,242	1,078,629
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	147,755	15,366
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	2,957,824	2,942,458
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$3,105,579	\$2,957,824

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2008

With Summarized Totals at December 31, 2007

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 221,457	\$ 71,281
Accounts Receivable	100,851	12,866
Pledges Receivable, Net	108,892	132,001
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	4,147	4,429
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	435,347	220,577
NONCURRENT ASSETS		
Property and Equipment, Net	3,143,807	3,263,483
TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS	3,143,807	3,263,483
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,579,154	\$3,484,060
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 20,078	\$ 30,832
Accrued Liabilities	18,765	19,562
Deferred Revenue	39,285	15,270
Security Deposits	29,359	31,124
Line of Credit	79,192	97,276
Capital Lease Payable (Current)	47,759	45,275
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	234,438	239,339
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		
Capital Lease Payable (Noncurrent)	239,137	286,897
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	2,862,183	2,876,012
Temporarily Restricted	243,396	81,812
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,105,579	2,957,824
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$3,579,154	\$3,484,060

Western Justice Center Foundation

55 South Grand Avenue

Pasadena, California 91105

Phone (626) 584-7494 • Fax (626) 568-8223

info@westernjustice.org • www.westernjustice.org

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