



WESTERN
JUSTICE CENTER
FOUNDATION
ENGAGEMENT • EDUCATION • PEACE-BUILDING



ANNUAL REPORT
2009

PROMOTING
THE PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION OF
CONFLICTS.
TRANSFORMING
OUR SOCIETY.



[**conflict: an opportunity.**]



Hon. Terry J. Hatter

**FROM THE HONORABLE
TERRY J. HATTER JR.
BOARD CHAIRMAN**

Twenty-four years ago, my friend and colleague, the Honorable Dorothy W. Nelson, founded the Western Justice Center Foundation (WJCF) in order to promote alternative dispute resolution. Today, the WJCF brings conflict resolution programs and practices to children, the community, and the courts. We reach hundreds of people – youth and adults – by following our basic approach of tailoring programs to meet the specific needs of the partners we engage. The work of the WJCF has evolved and grown along with the fields of conflict resolution and alternative dispute resolution. We have a small but dedicated staff that, together with our outstanding board, provides our ever-widening community with extraordinary results. At the Western Justice Center Foundation, we believe that conflicts can afford opportunities for learning and growth, and we thank you for your continued support and interest in reducing violence and building peace.



Hon. Dorothy W. Nelson



con•flict:

Tension or struggle between oneself, between people, or a group of people as a result of perceived differences and unmet needs.

[**conflict resolution: an innovative approach.**]



**FROM ROBERT SACKS, ESQ.
BOARD PRESIDENT**

*On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Western Justice Center Foundation, I wish to express our appreciation for the support you have given over the past year. The WJCF is committed to developing novel and effective programs for teaching and implementing peaceful conflict resolution skills. Through the efforts of our dedicated staff and with the guidance of our board members, the WJCF continues to develop new programs and enhance its reputation as a leader in creative approaches to conflict resolution. **During the past year, WJCF programs took place in schools, in community-based organizations, and at our own historic campus.** Perhaps the highlight of the year was the success of our annual Peer Mediation Invitational, WJCF's signature mediation program held at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, which this year achieved record participation from elementary, middle and high school students from around Los Angeles County. This year also marked our Second Annual Peacebuilders Ball, where we celebrated the leadership and vision of the organization's founder, Ninth Circuit Judge Dorothy W. Nelson, and also honored Dawn Anna, the mother of a student lost in the Columbine High School tragedy and a committed supporter of violence prevention programs. Our efforts would not be possible without you. Again, thank you for supporting the Western Justice Center Foundation in the past, and we look forward to your continued support in the future.*



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 2009.

SCHOOLS

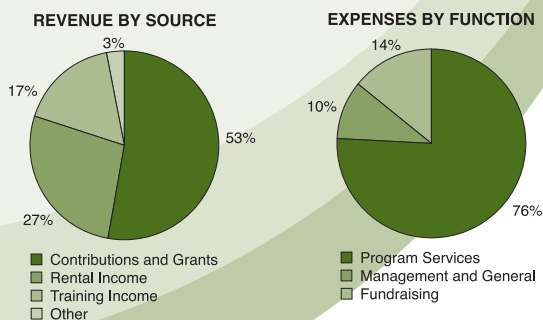
- **School Peacebuilders Program** – Trainings and implementation of conflict resolution programs in schools
- **T3 Training** – Training in conflict resolution education for middle and high school teachers
- **Peer Mediation Invitational** – Annual event for elementary, middle and high schools in conjunction with the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- **Summer 4 Peace** – Week-long conflict resolution training for middle and high school youth

DIALOGUES

- **Transforming Community & Police Relations Program** – Convening of mediations and facilitation of trainings, with the Pasadena Police Department
- **Deliberative Dialogues** – Community Dialogues on various themes

TRAININGS

- **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
- **Neighborhood Outreach Workers (N.O.W.) Program** – Community violence prevention
- **Camp Miller Juvenile Camp** – Trainings in conflict resolution techniques for incarcerated youth



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

[**conflict resolution: a long-term approach.**]



**FROM ANGELA E. OH, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

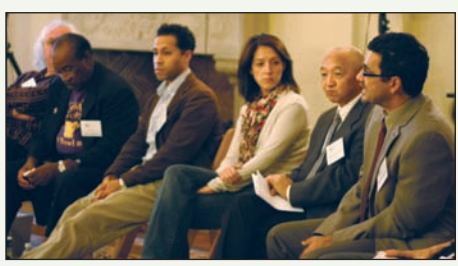
The Western Justice Center Foundation delivers programs and products that promote peaceful resolution of conflicts. Our range of programs has included developing and implementing conflict resolution curricula for K-12 classrooms, building a mediation program and dialogue series to improve police-community relations, and creating summer academies that help youth and teachers promote peer mediation as a tool to reduce violence on their campuses. Without your support, the Western Justice Center Foundation could not invest in the long-term efforts of teaching, building resilient relationships in our community, and demonstrating the connection between education and peace. On behalf of the WJCF staff, thank you for continuing to support our vision and the work we do each day.



DIALOGUES

“What does it take to build peace in a community?”

The Western Justice Center Foundation (WJCF) engaged representatives from courts, law enforcement, social justice advocacy organizations, faith leaders, youth, and the community for a series of structured conversations to explore what it takes to build peace. Through four dialogues focusing on Interfaith Relations, Women, Youth, and Community-Police relations, WJCF provided a safe space for unique and at times competing views on peacebuilding to exchange ideas, opinions, and solutions.



“We all have a role, and we should be able to help.”

“This dialogue session gave me some information I can work around to settle issues in the neighborhood.”

“I think it is necessary to come together, discuss an issue, and together be able to come up with solutions.”

“I can help spread peace and help our community become a better place... it gave me more ideas for spreading peace.”

“It is a positive way to get different point of views out.”

“A safe environment was created for youth and adults to listen to each other.”



fa•cil•i•ta•tion:

The process of guiding a conversation towards an end goal while maintaining a safe and neutral environment for all participants to exchange ideas.

Dialogues and Trainings

The WJCF’s holistic approach to peace-building involves developing program models that provide conflict resolution education to all parts of a community. From children in school to campus safety officers, from faith communities to workplaces – it is vital to have the tools to positively transform day-to-day tensions before they escalate. In 2009, WJCF staff developed several new conflict resolution education programs for debut in 2010 that focus on resolving conflicts at the workplace, in our schools, and in neighborhoods. In 2010 we hope to adapt these programs to even wider audiences, comprehensively advancing non-violent and collaborative methods for dispute resolution.





me•di•a•tion:

A process facilitated by an impartial party who seeks to understand the issues and the needs of disputing parties, and assists both parties in the formulation of an agreement that is mutually beneficial. Mediations are confidential and voluntary, and the agreement may be binding or non-binding.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



peer mediators on their school campuses, while others came to learn peer mediation skills for the first time.

6th Annual Peer Mediation Invitational

The Western Justice Center Foundation (WJCF) and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Pasadena worked together to bring together students from all over Los Angeles County for our 6th annual Peer Mediation Invitational. Many of the students had already served as

Opening ceremonies took place in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Pasadena, where the students had the opportunity to hear from Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard and Judge Dorothy W. Nelson.



Students performed mock mediations and received constructive feedback from volunteer coaches. Attorneys, judges, professional mediators, and community members all shared their expertise, and students were eager to sharpen their mediation skills and collaborative problem solving ability.

Following their mediation role playing middle and high school students listened to guest speakers from Neighborhood Outreach Workers, and elementary school students engaged in art projects creating a visual representation of peaceful conflict resolution.



- 150 students, teachers, and volunteers
- 21 elementary schools
- 18 middle and high schools

“Just like the sun being the center of the solar system, peace should be at the center of all that we do and who we are.”

“Peace was here and always will be”

What did you like the best?

“I loved the two representatives of your N.O.W program they were incredible and majorly inspirational. Please tell them I said congratulations and keep it up.”

“Practicing my mediation skills. I felt that I got so much better in just those couple of minutes.”

“What I liked best is that as students we were able to work with professional mediators and other mediators from different schools.”

“Very very good and more schools should give more students!”





peace build•ing:

A series of efforts to collaborate with stakeholders in a conflict to promote reconciliation, new infrastructures that prevent the reoccurrence of the same conflicts, and new systems to promote cohesion among stakeholders.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Peer Mediation

“Peer Mediation is a great opportunity for students to learn life-long skills as well as providing a needed service that allows students to resolve conflicts”

– Mr. Irad Orduña, 7-8th grade teacher

Teachers and administrators at Blair International Baccalaureate Magnet School in collaboration with WJCF staff began a conflict resolution education program over the summer and fall of 2009. WJCF staff developed conflict resolution curricula for use during the students’ weekly advisory period and provided peer mediation training to a group of student leaders. Developed by WJCF, the program is designed to continue conflict resolution education for Blair students from 6-12th grade. This approach allows WJCF to build upon their skills and provide additional training so that by the end



of the program high school peer mediators will be able to lead their peers in proactive discussions about important issues on campus, resolve individual and larger conflicts, and provide strong voices for building peace and resolving conflict in their community.

“Mediation is a way for students to help others. It helps us learn things that could essentially help us in the future.” – 7th grade student

“Going through mediation was a great opportunity for my peers and [me]. I am very glad I could experience this process!” – 7th grade student

“Peer mediation is a great thing, it builds better communities and people also.” – 7th grade student

Work It Out at Work: Transforming Conflicts into Opportunities

In January 2010, WJCF staff held a conflict resolution education training designed in 2009 to provide conflict resolution skills for use in the workplace. Participants learned prevention methods, which included strategies for building strong partnerships, creating conflict management protocols, becoming skilled negotiators, and enhancing cross-cultural competency. WJCF staff created a curriculum that included an 80-page workbook for participants as a resource. WJCF has already received more demand for this training.

“The training and materials were excellent.”

“Good mix of presentations, role plays, question @ answer sessions, use of outside experts and practitioners.”

“There were so many experts available to answer questions and give real world examples, and the resources provided were really great.”





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Summer 4 Peace

In the summer of 2009, WJCF presented **Summer 4 Peace**, a five day interactive training in conflict resolution. With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the WJCF created a curriculum, concept handouts, original scenarios, and other teaching materials that were piloted among middle and high school students from the Pasadena area. Students learned about conflict resolution techniques and processes, such as negotiation, mediation, and restorative justice. In addition, youth had the chance to build relationships and share experiences with one another as students who champion alternatives to violence. When faced with divisions or conflicts among peers, often there is little or no time to think about using such events as opportunities for learning and growth. **The Summer 4 Peace** training gave students a chance to prepare and to learn valuable life skills.

When we asked students what they learned during the training it became clear that a “hands on” approach had provided them with resources that they could use in their schools and in their communities.



What did you like the most?

“I liked the scenarios when we practiced and saw the different perspective of every person.”

“How this can help us in conflicts”

“How everything I learned was helpful”

“When the teachers allowed the students to role play and experience future situations we may encounter and learn how to resolve or work with the situation”

“I enjoyed the group activities, especially the ones that involved the entire class.”

vi•o•lence:

Anything that prevents someone from reaching their full potential and keeps them from meeting their needs.





PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

con•flict res•o•lu•tion:

The field that studies conflict, its root causes, and develops methods and models to help prevent, manage, resolve, and transform conflict as efficiently, peacefully and positively as possible where the needs of all parties are met, while negative outcomes such as violence are minimized.

PUSD Security Officer Dialogues & Trainings

Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) security officers, who participated in a WJCF-facilitated conflict resolution training on October 28, 2009, expressed that they would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate and strategize on ways to improve their work environment, performance and security at their respective schools. The WJCF offered on February 5, 2010, a facilitated dialogue paired with training in basic conflict resolution techniques to help them make Pasadena schools safer.



School security is a major factor in dropout rates. In dialogues, which WJCF facilitated, PUSD students identified violence and racial tensions along with the need for more security, as some of the major problems in their schools. From October 2009-February 2010, WJCF has been involved in training PUSD security officers in conflict resolution and dialogues to help improve security and student safety on campus. There was overwhelmingly positive feedback from school security officers who took part in the training.

“The resulting training was truly one of the best I have attended in my 20+ years attending trainings and professional development I have since spoken to three of my compatriots in Pasadena Unified, and they too share my views!”

“I would love to take more of this training. It really made me think about other ways to talk to the kids.”

“I think this training would be of value every year for campus security.”

“I learned how to help [students] resolve their own problems.”

“... they adapted on the fly to implement our concerns to make the gathering more productive.”



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

A visionary group of judges, lawyers and civic leaders created the Western Justice Center Foundation 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 who contribute significantly to the development of the organization’s work with children, communities and courts.

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Western Justice Center Foundation staff enjoy the second annual Peacebuilders Ball.

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Development Coordinator

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Deputy Director on Strategic
Initiatives and Organizational
Innovation

Lark Crable-Thomas
Consultant on Community
Youth Peacebuilders





STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended December 31, 2009
With Summarized Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2008

	2009	2008
REVENUE AND SUPPORT		
Contributions	\$ 352,598	\$ 432,460
Grants	312,820	261,756
Rental Income	340,263	407,357
Training Income	210,243	338,340
Dividend Income	-	7
Contributions In-Kind	40,019	86,077
Net Assets Released from Program Restrictions	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	1,255,943	1,525,997
EXPENSES		
Program Services	919,466	1,041,758
Management and General	116,273	132,460
Fundraising	169,678	204,024
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,205,417	1,378,242
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	50,526	147,755
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	3,105,579	2,957,824
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$3,156,105	\$3,105,579

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2009
With Summarized Totals at December 31, 2008

	2009	2008
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 248,544	\$ 221,457
Accounts Receivable	62,053	100,851
Pledges Receivable, Net	107,495	108,892
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	3,962	4,147
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	422,054	435,347
NONCURRENT ASSETS		
Property and Equipment, Net	3,126,908	3,143,807
TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS	3,126,908	3,143,807
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,548,962	\$3,579,154
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 19,136	\$ 20,078
Accrued Liabilities	20,772	18,765
Deferred Revenue	35,640	39,285
Security Deposits	23,055	29,359
Line of Credit	55,117	79,192
Capital Lease Payable (Current)	50,378	47,759
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	204,098	234,438
NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		
Capital Lease Payable (Noncurrent)	188,759	239,137
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	2,922,768	2,862,183
Temporarily Restricted	233,337	243,396
TOTAL NET ASSETS	3,156,105	3,105,579
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$3,548,962	\$3,579,154



WESTERN
JUSTICE CENTER
FOUNDATION

ENGAGEMENT • EDUCATION • PEACE-BUILDING

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