

NO BORDERS!

NO BOMBS!

NO

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This year we make these declarations amidst escalated U.S. bombings and heightened militarized aggression around the world; attacks on immigrant communities; continued blockades in Yemen causing the worst cholera outbreak and humanitarian crisis ever; increasingly extreme fires, floods, earthquakes, and storms; emboldened white supremacists and a rise in mass shootings in the U.S. All this, while we allocate more money for war than ever.

In this period of rejuvenated struggle across the nation, WRL is hard at work revitalizing an antiwar movement that is international, intersectional, and intergenerational. In November, the House of Representatives passed a \$700 billion national “defense” budget, larger than the military spending of China, Russia, and seven other countries combined. While local police forces invest in more protest-suppressing gear and the Air Force refurbishes 12 new fighter jets with nuclear warheads, the most basic needs of our communities - education, health care, jobs, sustainable living - aren't being met.

This past year we faced the daunting and unexpected challenge of organizing in the age of Trump. We found that the best way to nonviolently yet vigorously resist the policies of the Trump administration—each a unique horror—was to turn to our own communities as our first resource, build relationships with new and inspiring partners, honor and emulate visionary leaders like Mariame Kaba and Rasmeah Odeh, and strive to build an antiwar movement that can deliver justice and peace for us all.

Thank you for all you have done to support WRL in the past and will do to support our activities in the future. Onward towards a demilitarized world!

WRL CAMPAIGNS

No SWAT Zone Campaign

There are over 100 SWAT- that's special weapons and tactics- raids a day in the U.S. plus “warrior cop” tactical trainings that happen year-round, across the country. While the federal government's attacks on Sanctuary Cities have led to increased policing and police budgets, WRL has carried on our efforts to build no SWAT zones around the country. With No SWAT Zone coalitions escalating tactics against local police trainings and weapons expos from the Bay Area to Chicago, increasingly repressive policies from the Trump administration have only reinforced the urgent need to stop militarizing our police forces. With a focus on investing in the long-haul of our movement, we're excited to be building relationships with new partners in places like Pennsylvania and Florida. We look forward to continue organizing against weapons expos and tactical trainings that promote militarized mentalities and bring “warrior cops” into our communities.

No Cop Academy

After shutting down the city center for over an hour in the StopITOA (Illinois Tactical Officer's Association) campaign last October, Chicago's No SWAT Zone coalition is now taking on Mayor Rahm Emmanuel's proposal for a \$95 million state of the art training center for Chicago Police and first responders. Spearheaded by a WRL intern and national committee member, the No Cop Academy campaign builds on last year's Stop ITOA energy, with a coalition of 40 organizations pushing back against the proposal. With police budgets increasing nationally, WRL supported No Cop Academy's demand for resources to build communities, not break them with research to inform campaign strategy, national media coverage, and a petition hosted by The Nation. Using a variety of tactics to educate community members and build resistance to the academy, the coalition organized multiple train disruptions, art-builds and teach-ins, banner-drops, call-in days to Aldermen, harnessed celebrity power, petitions, press briefings, and, most importantly, prioritized youth leadership development. Led by the Black youth organizers in Assata's Daughters- a grassroots intergenerational collective of radical Black women working for collective liberation--this campaign fights for a redistribution of Chicago city funds, away from police infrastructure, and towards mental health clinics and public schools.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

Diaspora Delegation to Greece

In August, WRL brought a delegation of eight antiwar activists from the Syrian, Iraqi, Yemeni, Afghan, Iranian, and Pakistani diasporas together. The delegation travelled to Athens, Greece to work with refugees of war and conflict. With an aim to provide politicized service that not only helped to meet basic and immediate survival needs, but focused on supporting refugee-led organizing and activism, delegates set up weekly calls with doctors in Chicago, trained young people in documentary filmmaking, provided translation services for asylum rights workshops and legal advisory clinics, and interviewed conscientious objectors. Perhaps most excitingly, the delegation supported a city-wide action led by Afghans to demand the European Union recognize their status as war refugees and stop mass deportations.

Since the delegation's visit, work has begun to build a network between all past SWANAconnect, Iraqi Transnational Collective, Palestinian Youth Movement,

and WRL delegations. Along with developing more U.S.-based action steps, the network is channeling its energy toward resisting the conditions that force migration in the first place—from air wars to famine to oppressive governments. We look forward to continuing work focused on promoting strategies that forefront the power of people organizing for their liberation!

GUIDING LIGHTS

Mariame Kaba 2017 Peace Award

WRL was honored to award our 2017 Peace Award to Mariame Kaba, Black feminist, prison abolitionist, and freedom dreamer. Mariame is founder of Project NIA and takes a courageous and powerful stance to abolish the systems that criminalize survivors of violence, people of color, and youth. WRL honored Mariame for her 20 years of organizing in Chicago, of striving to dismantle the prison industrial complex, and of dreaming of a world where Black women and girls can be free.

Rasmea Odeh Grace Paley Lifetime Achievement Award

WRL awarded the Grace Paley Lifetime Achievement Award to Rasmea Odeh, Palestinian activist, organizer, and force of nature. We honored Rasmea for embodying the spirit of resistance and over five decades of resisting the Israeli occupation of Palestine despite imprisonment, torture, solitary confinement, and, most recently, deportation from the U.S. Rasmea is now living in Jordan after a decade of service and leadership uplifting and organizing Arab women and their families in Chicago.

Afrah Nasser Hope & War in Yemen: A Conversation

In November, as the brutal war in Yemen was grinding on into its 33rd month, and U.S.-facilitated Saudi bombings continued to drive the catastrophic humanitarian crisis, WRL was honored to host one of Yemen's guiding lights—award-winning independent journalist Afrah Nasser—for a discussion on hope and war in Yemen. Afrah joined us in conversation with journalist and writer Anjali Kamat and filmmaker Rooj Alwazir.

NETWORKS

War Resisters' International

As an affiliate of War Resisters' International, this past September WRL attended the WRI Council Meeting held in London. The conference occurred in the midst of two weeks of actions against the DSEI (Defense and Security Equipment International) expo, which is the largest arms fair in the world. Nonviolent civil disobedience actions took place to block entrances preventing trucks with weapons and supplies from getting into the expo. WRI Council meeting participants also convened a 'seminar' on various WRI activities, including campaigns against police militarization, at the blockade point. Following the Assembly there is ongoing resource sharing to resist international arms trade shows where local and international law enforcement are trained on the latest weaponry and tactics. The Council agreed to hold the 2019 International Assembly in Colombia.

War Tax Resistance

The average U.S. taxpayer has paid \$23,000 for war since September 11th!

Since Trump was elected, there has been a dramatic increase in queries and website visits from people seeking information about, and support for, war tax resistance. In response, the WRL national staff recently attended a training given by Sam Koplinka-Loehr, National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC) field organizer. Many WRL members participated in the 2017 Tax Day demonstrations around the country, and New York City WRL, WRL of Portland, and Chicago WRL all sponsored demonstrations.

Nonviolent Direct Action Training Network

WRL's nonviolence trainings and resources have been very much in demand this year. WRL staff organized Training for Nonviolent Action Trainers in New England and Dallas. Our nonviolence website was expanded to include new training curriculum and our Nonviolence 101 brochure was updated and redesigned. Requests for nonviolence trainers have come in from around the country, and staff has connected interested people to trainers wherever we can. WRL is networking with trainers from movements around the country to plan a gathering of trainers to strengthen and better coordinate our work.

RESOURCES

WRL's New Counter-Police Recruitment Pamphlet

After months of research and community inquiry—led by WRL intern Page May—we launched the "So You Wanna Be a Cop?" pamphlet and now-popular education workshop aimed at countering the myths used by police recruitment drives across the country. As police departments engage in a rebranding strategy by seeking to increase "diversity," they make no genuine efforts to introduce real measures for accountability, in spite of their increased budgets. Featuring a front cover by artist Molly Crabapple, this innovative pamphlet is helping WRL spark needed conversations with organizational partners in places like Los Angeles, Chicago, and Queens, NY. Employing our decades of work in counter-military recruitment this counter-police recruitment program marks a new direction for WRL as we aim to fight state repression at its means of production, and attempt to recruit young people of color into movements of liberation.

WRL's Pie Chart

For decades, the WRL Pie Chart has been researched and produced by war tax resistance task force members Ruth Benn and Ed Hedemann. Made available for the 2017 tax season, it analyzes the Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Budget. The Pie Chart was printed as a handout in English and Spanish, and mounted on our website. It is the single most reproduced piece of literature in WRL's history. Sold and downloaded by the tens of thousands each year, it remains a valuable resource for activists organizing specifically around WTR, along with general antiwar and antimilitarism work. WRL was excited to provide pie charts in Spanish to folks at this year's School of the Americas Watch gathering in November.

Organizing and Training Materials

WRL continues our strong tradition of producing and disseminating organizing and training resources: materials from our past and newly-created resources envisioning and helping to build a more just future. We're happy to continue partnering with our friends at the National Network Opposing Militarization

of Youth (NNOMY), JustSeeds, and Syracuse Cultural Workers on resource distribution. WRL has posters and calendars and lots of items—including buttons and pins, shirts, hats, and tote bags—to carry and wear to show our commitment to peace and justice. This year we also received a wonderful donation of hand-screened posters from the WASP artists' collective, that can now be found on our online store. Writing, designing, producing, and promoting these materials is a challenge in the digital age, but we use WRL's website, emails, social media platforms, and even postal mail to get the word out, the orders in, and the resources shipped out across the country!

NATIONAL OFFICE

Leadership Development

This year, staff at our national office in New York were joined by Freeman Interns Marisa Hughes and Dennise Hernandez, who focused on strengthening WRL's grassroots fundraising efforts by coordinating phonebanking campaigns through the spring and fall. During the summer, Chicago-based Bilezikian intern, Page May, focused on the development of WRL's new counter-police recruitment brochure and curriculum breaking down police-recruiter lies. As an intergenerational organization, WRL is grateful to have the resources to uphold our commitment to developing the leadership of young activists!

WRL on the Road

This year WRL staff, national committee, and members were out and about at community events, academic conferences, book launches, and a great many more peace and social justice occasions around the country. This past August national field organizer Ali Issa visited the Dream Defenders convening in Florida to share ideas about internationalism and police militarization. In September, Ali joined Dr. Negar Mottahedeh at UNC Greensboro to discuss popular resistance movements in Iraq and Iran, and in November joined AboutFace (fka IVAW) for a beyond militarism panel discussion. In October, WRL national organizer Tara Tabassi spoke about the abolition of war alongside National Committee member Ramah Kudaimi and Professor Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons at the Peace and Justice Studies Association conference in Birmingham. In November we were excited to support the launch of Anna Feigenbaum's *Tear Gas: From the Battlefields of WWI to the Streets of Today* at Verso Books in Brooklyn. And Joanne Sheehan of the New England Regional Office spoke at two events marking the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I, where she described the role of WRL's founders in opposing the war and the organization's subsequent formation in 1923.

Membership Building and Fundraising

As we carry on our work connecting international diasporas, opposing the allocation of resources to war, and campaigning against police militarization, WRL is growing its membership! As a grassroots organization that receives no funds from corporate sponsorships, governments, or foundation grants all of our work is made possible by the generosity of individual supporters like you. Thanks for all you do.

We urge you to participate in our online fundraising effort by making a contribution through the WRL website at www.warresisters.org. As a thank you, we'll send you a WRL vintage poster!

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017

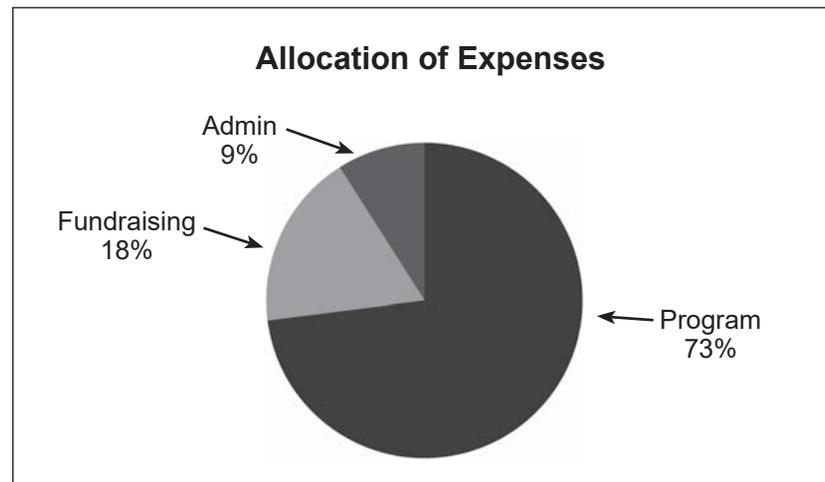
INCOME

Contributions / Grants	278,758
Bequests / Endowment	166,424
Literature / Calendar Sales	11,664
Program / Special Events	5,044
Misc / Other	10,236
TOTAL INCOME	472,126

EXPENSES

Ending Police Militarism National Campaign	154,425
Field Organizing / Movement Building	115,612
Promoting Nonviolent Social Change	62,040
Literature & Resources	15,203
Fundraising / Promotion	84,605
Administrative / Office	42,406
TOTAL EXPENSES	474,291

You may also obtain copies of our prior year 990, the annual filing with the IRS, from the New York State Charities Bureau at <http://www.charitiesnys.com>



OVER 90 YEARS OF SUSTAINED RESISTANCE!

For nearly a century, WRL has been able to accomplish all this work—and a lot more—with ongoing support from our members across the United States and beyond. To sustain and grow our education and organizing tomorrow and in the decades ahead, please contribute as generously as you are able. We particularly invite you to join as a monthly or quarterly sustainer today: warresisters.org/donate

GROW RESISTANCE!

DONATE

warresisters.org/donate

VOLUNTEER

warresisters.org/get-involved



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