

christian peacemaker teams

YEAR IN REVIEW

FYE 2013 • | November 2012 - 31 October 2013



CPTers Lukasz Firla (left) and Kathy Moorhead Thiessen (right) with Sabir (center), a Kurdish shepherd injured by shrapnel from Iranian shelling.

**building partnerships to transform
violence and oppression**

www.cpt.org

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS IN 2013



“...Write the vision. Make it clear on tablets so that anyone can read it quickly...”

— Habakkuk 2:2

Organization-wide, consultative processes often take longer than expected. The plan to develop a new articulation of CPT’s mission, vision, and values had an initial timeline of six months. It became a 3½-year endeavor! The process was worth it, building consensus and good energy throughout the organization and finally culminating in 2013 with the manifestation of these concepts in CPT’s new logo.

Graphic artist Nekeisha Alexis-Baker, who created the logo, describes how each element – the dove, the barbed wire, and even the font and typeface – exude a statement about who we are and are becoming as a faith-full organization committed to “building partnerships that transform violence and oppression.”

As the new Executive Director, I am thrilled and humbled to participate with CPT at this time of re-defining and re-launching ourselves. As I promote CPT in various countries and contexts,

I notice how people enthusiastically respond to CPT’s unique approach of nonviolent direct action undergirded by spiritual principles, social movement involvement, and undoing oppressions analysis.

Thank you for your participation in and support for this experiment that get us ever closer to being people who are able to embrace the diversity of the human family and seek to live justly and peaceably with all creation.

Sarah Thompson
Executive Director

MISSION: building partnerships to transform violence and oppression.

VISION: a world of communities that together embrace the diversity of the human family and live justly and peaceably with all creation

VALUES: christian peacemaker teams is committed to work and relationships that:

- honor and reflect the presence of faith and spirituality
- strengthen grassroots initiatives
- transform structures of domination and oppression
- embody creative nonviolence and liberating love

PEACEMAKER DELEGATIONS

In FYE 2013, 79 people participated in 12 CPT delegations (10-14 days). Delegations offer participants first-hand experience in supporting local partners' nonviolent struggles for human rights and serve as a primary mechanism for further involvement in CPT's peace-making ministry. Delegates serve an important advocacy role back home on behalf of communities resisting violence.



A few of CPT's May 2013 Palestine Delegates

ABORIGINAL JUSTICE

an ongoing presence since February 1999

CPT's Aboriginal Justice Team (AJT) supports Indigenous communities seeking justice and defending their lands against corporate and government exploitation. Based in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, AJT partners with First Nations communities to advocate for the basic and collective human rights of indigenous peoples; build relationships between settlers, indigenous peoples and the land; and become effective and visible allies to indigenous peoples. In 2013, CPT-AJT accepted an invitation from Elsipogtog First Nation to accompany their resistance to fracking on their traditional lands.

“Creator made us caretakers of Mother Earth. Our goal as the Collective Community of Concerned Members of Signigtog is to protect Mother Earth because we're killing her. She's already endured too much. We will lose our clean water if we sit back and allow what the shale gas companies are planning in Signigtog. What they are planning is unacceptable. We do not accept the unacceptable.”

— Kenneth Francis, Elsipogtog Elder and CPT Partner



CPTers Chris Sabas (left) and Stewart Vriesinga (center) in Elsipogtog (New Brunswick) with community leader and CPT partner Willi Nolan (right).

COLOMBIA

a continuous presence since February 2001



Angie Tatiana Borque Cadena

**“We want peace.
We want to be free.”**

— Angie Borque, age 9
Las Pavas, Colombia

**“...We have waited so long... Yet we
have withstood it all because we are
a community of great faith and hope.”**

— Farmers from Las Pavas, Colombia
in response to a government ruling
moving them one step closer
to gaining land titles

CPT-Colombia partners with peacemakers, human rights workers and communities throughout the Magdalena Medio region where civilians are caught in the crossfire between military/paramilitary forces and their guerrilla opponents. These armed groups target civilians who are politically active or who live on land coveted by powerful legal and illegal business interests. For example, multinational corporations use violence to displace peasant farmers from their land in order to produce palm oil to sell to the Global North.

Your advocacy efforts on behalf of subsistence farmers, indigenous communities,

women’s groups, artisan miners, displaced persons, and conscientious objectors who organize to overcome fear, assert their rights, and nonviolently resist assaults to their dignity and livelihoods, do make a difference.



**CPTer Phil Hart (left) with community leader Erik Yesid Payares (center)
and Harry Peña (right) from Guayabo.**

IRAQI KURDISTAN

a continuous presence since October 2002

“We have fought and resisted for generations against different powers and survived. But this time our struggle is against our own Kurdish government and the oil companies. If they persist, our world will be completely destroyed and we will have to leave forever.”



Kurdish farmer (right) tells CPT how Exxon Mobile's oil operations affect his family and his land.

– Farmer from Gullan Village, Ranya district

For five years, CPT Iraqi Kurdistan focused on accompanying farmers and shepherds threatened by Turkish and Iranian military operations and cross-border bombings. Since the March 2013 cease-fire and the beginning of a peace process and political negotiations between the guerilla fighters and the Turkish government following three decades of war, the mountain border regions have experienced a period of hopeful peace.

Rural communities now face new threats as international oil companies intensify their operations in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. In August 2013 CPT began to accompany subsistence farming communities in their struggle to resist displacement and destruction of their farm lands and environment.

In addition, team members conduct nonviolence workshops for schools and community groups. accompany civil society and women's rights activists working for a more just society, and advocate on behalf of political prisoners.



CPTers Mohammed Salah (left) and Annika Spalde (center) lead a nonviolence workshop in a Suleimani high school.

“There are so many creative ways of nonviolence. I had no idea.”

“I learned that I can get my rights in a peaceful way.”

“I want to learn more!”

– Comments from students participating in a CPT nonviolence workshops.

PALESTINE

a continuous presence since June 1995

CPT-Palestine supports Palestinian-led, grassroots, nonviolent resistance to the Israeli Occupation and the unjust structures that uphold it.

Based in the Old City of Hebron (al-Khalil in Arabic), team members accompany school children harassed by Israeli soldiers, monitor military checkpoints, and document abuses by Israeli soldiers and settlers. Team members also accompany communities threatened with forced eviction in firing zone 918 in the South Hebron Hills.



Israeli soldiers arrest frightened eight-year-old Palestinian school boy in Hebron.

In fye 2013, CPT-Palestine issued a report called “Occupied Childhoods” which documents the mistreatment of children in the Old City and H2 (occupied) neighborhoods of Hebron. Israeli soldiers arrested children as young as seven and eight years old in clear violation of international law. See the report at <http://goo.gl/t4apB>.

“We have to persist with our commitment to nonviolent resistance which means we’ll face all the Occupation policies through nonviolent actions and demonstrations [with] solidarity and support from Internationals and Israelis until the end of the [Israeli] Occupation.”

– Coordinator of the South Hebron Hills Popular Committee referring to 8 villages in “Firing Zone 918” that face demolition to make way for an Israeli military training ground.



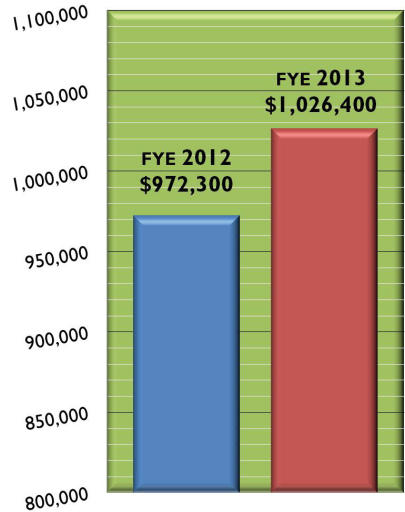
CPTers in Palestine monitor Israeli soldiers’ and settlers’ treatment of Palestinians during weekly “Settler Tours” through the Old City of Hebron.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

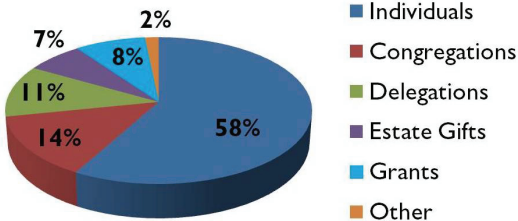
FYE 31 October 2013

Income	
Individuals	\$596,200
Congregations	\$140,900
Delegations	\$117,200
Estate Gifts	\$ 69,800
Grants	\$ 85,400
Other	\$ 16,900
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,026,400
Expenses	
Program	\$454,900
Peacemaker Corps	\$470,000
Administration	\$ 58,100
Other	\$ 39,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,022,100

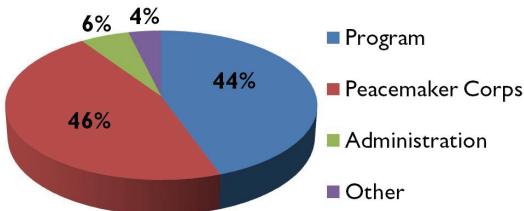
Previous Year Income Comparison



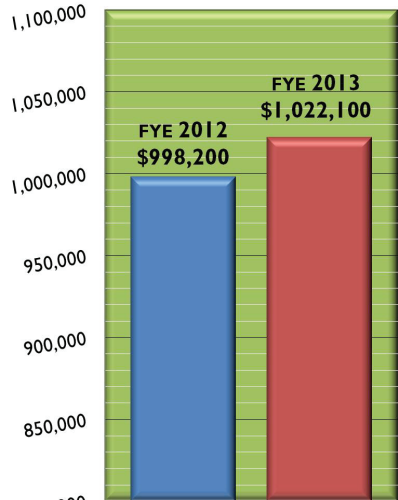
FYE 2013 Income Source by %



FYE 2013 Expenses Source by %



Previous Year Expense Comparison



Pray
with CPT.

Get weekly prayer
intentions through
Prayers for Peacemakers.
www.cpt.org/participate/subscribe

Your prayers, actions, and
donations help sustain our
peacemaking partnerships
in Palestine, Iraqi Kurdis-
tan, Colombia, Canada,
and around the
world.

Contributions	FYE 2013	FYE 2012
Individuals	3,784	3,196
Congregations & Groups	330	298
Delegations	330	300

PERSONNEL

CPT's Peacemaker Corps is made up of trained peacemakers committed to full-time, part-time, or Reserve service. In FYE 2013, 212 people, including ten interns, served in CPT. Corps members and interns come from or live in Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, seven

Canadian provinces, six Colombian departments, Czech Republic, Egypt, England, Germany, India, Iraqi Kurdistan, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Palestine, Philippines, Poland, Scotland, Sweden, Taiwan, Wales and 27 U.S. states plus Washington, DC.

STEERING COMMITTEE

CPT is sponsored by:

- Church of the Brethren/On Earth Peace (COB/OEP)
- Friends United Meeting (FUM)
- Mennonite Church Canada (MC-Canada)
- Mennonite Church USA (MC-USA)
- Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (BPFNA)
- Basilian General Council (BGC)
- Presbyterian Peace Fellowship (PPF).

The work of CPT is guided by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from sponsoring denominations and groups, CPT's Peacemaker Corps (PC) and Race Relations Council (RRC), and members at-large (AL).

Steering Committee Members serving in FYE 2013 were • Mariano Avila (Michigan), AL • Jason Boone, MC-USA • Tony Brown, MC-USA • Adriana Cabrera, RRC • Lukasz Firla, PC • Thomas Goodhart (New York), AL • Julián Gutiérrez, PC/RRC • Omar Harami (Jerusalem), AL • Rachel Long, COB • Rafael Lopera, BGC • Carol Mason, OEP • Brian Meritt, PPF • Eric Olfert, MC-Canada • Garland Robertson, PC • Chris Sabas, PC • Pierre Shantz, PC • Rachel Stacy, FUM • Inger Styrbjörn, PC • Wilson Tan (Singapore), AL • Brian Young, FUM.



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