

2020

Quixote Center

Annual Report

Board of Directors

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Nancy Sulfridge (Chair)

Staff/Interns in 2020

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John Marchese (Director)
Tom Ricker

Volunteers

Mercy Coogan
Ericka Holland
Cheryl Nichols
Sari Pascoe

What can one say about 2020? The year face masks became a partisan issue and the Police's "Don't Stand So Close to Me" made it into everybody's playlist. The year of virtual conferences, remote schools and video confirmation hearings. The year our partners in Nicaragua navigated a pandemic and two hurricanes, and Haiti came to the brink of a new political crisis, one that will certainly carry into 2021. The year the U.S. president closed the border and summarily expelled over 200,000 people, including 8,000 children, with no due process. A difficult year, to be sure, but one that also revealed the tremendous resiliency of our communities.

So, while we will all no doubt be glad to put 2020 in the rearview mirror, looking back, we also see that much was accomplished, despite the limitations that COVID-19 placed on all of our lives. Though the Quixote Center staff went largely remote throughout the pandemic, we still met regularly and even increased our participation in coalition work. Through our work with partners, tens of thousands of trees were planted in Haiti, new housing construction was launched in Nicaragua, and new connections were made to help build the capacity of shelters in Mexico with which we work as part of the Franciscan Network on Migration.

This was also one of transitions. After many years at the Quixote Center, the Inclusive Lectionaries and Bible will move to a new home with our fellow travelers at FutureChurch. They will take over the publication for inclusive language resources and the copyright for these publications starting in January 2021. Because we work closely with FutureChurch through the Catholic Organizations for Renewal, we look forward to watching from nearby and celebrate as the inclusive publications enter this new phase of life.

There is no denying that we've struggled at times, but we have also been buoyed by the continued support of so many people who have walked with us on this journey of justice. We dedicate this report of our work to all you who joined with us in making impossible dreams possible.

Program Updates

The Quixote Center works within the United States to affect changes in policy that impact human rights. We also work directly with people in Nicaragua, Haiti and Mexico who are, in different ways, seeking to adopt new ways of doing things that better address the needs of the poor. Much of this work over the last year has been focused on understanding why people are forced to migrate, and to defend their ability to do so in the face of backlash politics at the border and in the interior of the United States.

InAlienable

A major part of our work this year has been related to immigration. Some highlights from the year:

We researched and reported on different aspects of immigration policy. Our Daily Dispatch was discontinued in March of 2020, but we continue to report weekly, and in a more focused way, on immigrant detention, challenges to asylum, and the need to halt removals, especially in the context of COVID-19.

We joined together with the #FreeThemAll Campaign: Since the opening days of the pandemic, we have worked to gain the release of people in immigrant detention as well as those incarcerated in prisons and jails around the country. This administration has been intransigent. Though immigrant detention is now at a 20-year low, it is not because of humanitarian releases, but rather due to the Trump administration's decision to shut the border while continuing to deport people.

We worked in coalition to **end deportations during COVID-19**. This has included work with the Latin America Working Group's Central America Migration and Foreign Policy subgroup, as well as the deportation subgroup of the Haiti Response Coalition.

We organized this year to raise awareness about the impact of a federal administrative order closing off avenues for people to seek asylum who are apprehended at the border. Using public health



authority, people apprehended at the border have been summarily expelled by Border Patrol – well over 200,000 people since March 19, 2020!

The Quixote Center serves as the fiscal sponsor for the **Franciscan Network on Migration**. The Network coordinates the work of shelters in Mexico and Central America that provide hospitality and support to migrants traveling through the region. Our primary focus within the Network is periodic reporting on the activities and needs of member shelters. For the coming year, we have already received funds to support capacity building at the shelters and to organize an education delegation during the fall of 2021 (pandemic conditions permitting!). Through our connection with these shelters we are also better able to document and report on the impact of U.S. immigration policy.



Friars prepare to serve food at the Comedor San Francisco in Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Mexico

Program Updates



New Homes in San Marcos, Nicaragua built as part of Homes of Hope

Quest for Peace: Institute of John XXIII/ Roncalli Association (Nicaragua)

This year we moved into a new phase of the housing program, Homes of Hope. Following a \$1.6 million campaign to capitalize housing construction, we are now working in collaboration with the Institute to support capacity building among cooperatives that are a part of the program. The primary goal is to lower costs by employing a “self-build” model through which cooperative members actually build houses under the supervision of a project coordinator. This lowers costs, while also offering training in construction skills that could benefit community members. This model builds on a long tradition of effective support for communities to take leadership roles in the process and be deeply invested in the work.

At the moment, we are also raising funds to support emergency response efforts after Nicaragua was hit with two category four hurricanes (Eta and Iota) in the space of 13 days. Currently, funds we receive are delivered to the Institute for the purchase of food and hygiene kits as part of a larger effort being coordinated by Nicaragua’s Red Cross. What the needs are for longer term reconstruction efforts are not clear yet.

Haiti Reborn: Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center.

We continue to deliver funding to the reforestation and education program in Gros Morne, Haiti.

Some program highlights include

- 40,000 saplings planted as part of an effort to adapt sustainable strategies to harvesting wood for charcoal production.
- Expansion of seed bank to serve 400 new families following special spring appeal.
- Expanded sweet potato weevil mitigation efforts.
- Mobile veterinary clinic still in operation, and a new baby for one of the Vet Techs!
- Continued training with community groups and farmers that incorporated COVID prevention information.

Our solidarity work has also involved partnership with the **Haiti Response Coalition**, which came together as a forum for collaboration among groups working in Haiti during COVID-19. Through the HRC we collaborate with organizations monitoring the human rights situation in Haiti as well as working on subgroups involved in halting deportations.



Members of agronomy team deliver trees in Perou, Haiti

Financial Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

Income and Expenses	
<i>Income</i>	
Contributions	\$192,856
Bequests	\$25,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,500
Publication Sales	\$1,837
Investment income	\$3,770
Royalty Income	\$2,893
Unrealized gains on investments	\$5,794
Total income	\$234,730
<i>Expenses</i>	
Program Services	\$329,808
Administration	\$138,994
Fundraising	\$55,299
Total expenses	\$524,101
Net Income (Loss)	(\$289,371)

Statement of Financial Position	
<i>Current Assets</i>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$155,198
Contributions receivable	\$8,175
Total Current Assets	\$163,373
<i>Property & Equipment - Net</i>	
	\$2,878
<i>Other Assets</i>	
	\$53,464
	\$
Total Assets	\$219,715
<i>Liabilities and Net Assets</i>	
Total Current Liabilities	\$105,386
Total Net Assets	\$114,329
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$219,175

Explanatory Note

On an accrual basis, expenses exceeded revenue by \$289,000 in the fiscal year ending Jun 30, 2020. But that is only part of the story. Based on an anticipated bequest of \$170,000 that had simply not yet been distributed, a receivable was booked as an asset in the prior year (2019), in accordance with the auditor's recommendation. In addition, Quixote Center's partners in Nicaragua had also requested a delay of a transfer for the Homes of Hope for 2019, an amount that came to \$135,000, which we transferred as soon as they were ready to receive it, in FY 2020. Nonprofits need to have cash to operate – and we did – but about \$305,000 spent in the 2020 year was a carryover from the prior year.

Legacy Corner

In 2020, we received a gift from the estate of Paula Echeverría. We gratefully acknowledge this gift and a commitment to justice so robust that it extends beyond her lifetime.

Gifts were made in loving memory of the following people this year:

Dr. Jack Bresette	Mike Hogan	Harold Nielsen	Kelly Walters
Bill Callahan	Paul & Alba Jameson	Eleanor O'Donnell	Charmian Washburn
Miguel D'Escoto	Jonah Levy	Peter J. Roman	Sylvia Wirth
Hermine Dahmen	Mario Lopez Ortiz	Adelina Sariñana	Israel Yost
Carol H. Davis	Dennis F. McCarthy	Peggy Walker	