Letter from the directors . . .

Dear Friends,

In June of 1980, the Center for Third World Organizing was a concept . . . a vision of an institution that would build ties among people of color in the domestic and international third world, as well as work in concert with white progressives in unions, church groups, academic settings and community organizations. In our initial concept paper, circulated in the fall of 1980, we wrote, "the notion of a domestic third world is an ideological assertion without a functional working definition forged by trust, understanding, and unity through collective struggle." Resolved to, in the words of Cabral, "Tell no lies and claim no easy victories," we began the work of the Center, launching a training and education program that has touched thousands of individuals in 23 states.

Encouraged by the Center's initial success, the staff and Board of CTWO have reaffirmed the organization's commitment to build a network of third world organizations that will work together on issues of common concern.

In reaffirming this commitment, we have appropriated the spirit and determination manifest in Hannibal's slogan . . . "We will either find a way or make one."

Yours in the Struggle,
Gary Delgado and Hulbert James for CTWO

CTWO Board of Directors

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INTER-RELIGIOUS TASK FORCE FOR SOCIAL ANALYSIS

CTWO Program

Overview

CTWO, established in the spring of 1980, focuses its efforts on working with third world organizers and organizations to develop local campaigns and mobilize resources through CTWO sponsored, scheduled training sessions and on-site consultation. The Center differs from existing training programs through its emphasis on the development of third world indigenous leaders, the linking of international and domestic issues, and a programmatic thrust which focuses on the development of a network of third world organizers.

The Center utilizes both trainers and trainees from existing organizations to build on issues and styles of organizing rooted in the historical experience of Black, Latino, Native American, Asian, and other third world people in this country.

Goals

In planning the Center's programs, four objectives were identified as guiding principles:

1. The development of an organizing/training entity which reflected the experience, expertise and world-views of activists and organizers from Black, Latino, Native American and Asian communities, which concentrated on both theoretical and practical skill development, and which strengthened the work of local organizations.
2. Raising the level of discussion within third world and non-third world organizations about the relevance of international affairs (U.S. intervention policy, immigration policy, South Africa divestment, etc.) to local campaigns.
3. The construction of a network of third world organizers (and, eventually, organizations) who would share information, work together on common issues, and increase the prominence of issues affecting third world people in the work of white progressives in community organizations, labor, and church support groups.
4. The initiation of a bridge between progressives in the academic community and activists and organizers in the third world community which would offer some intellectual analysis of different models of organizing and types of organizational dilemmas faced by organizers and activists working in predominantly third world communities.