NEW GRANTS, MARCH 1994

AMANAKA'A AMAZON NETWORK

New York, NY: $1,000.

This group works to support the social movements of the Brazilian Amazon region: indigenous peoples, rural unionists, rubber tappers and other communities. Our grant went toward travel expenses to bring two human rights and community activists from the Eastern Amazon to the United States for a speaking tour in conjunction with annual Amazon Week activities. Father Ricardo Rezende and Dona Raimunda Gomes are coming to the US to publicize the struggle of Brazil's indigenous people and landless peasants against the incursion and violent repression of cattle ranchers and land developers.

CDR ASSOCIATES

Boulder, CO: $3,000. (International Nonviolence Training Fund)

The Muste Institute's International Nonviolence Training Fund made this grant for a program in South Africa. Three people from the US went to train local trainers for a citizen marshalling/peacekeeping program for the elections in South Africa. The training program is being carried out in cooperation with the Institute for Multi-Party Democracy and several other South African non-governmental organizations. CDR Associates is a conflict resolution firm which has worked in over 15 countries. The US trainers taking part in this project are George Lakey, Peter Woodrow and Mary Margaret Golten.

CENTER FOR NEW CREATION

Arlington, VA: $500.

This interfaith peace and justice center was founded in 1979 to educate the community on critical social justice issues. Arlington is a community with a growing immigrant population and historic tensions between racial groups. Our grant supported a Listening Project on racism targeted toward teenagers. Listening Project interviewers are trained by the Rural Southern Voice for Peace (RSVP), which devised this model program in order to create dialogue between "opposing" groups in the community.

CITIZENS FOR SAFE WATER AROUND BADGER

Merrimac, WI: $1,000.

This grassroots citizens group works to educate the public about the environmental hazards posed by the Badger Army Ammunition Plant, to expedite cleanup of contamination caused by the plant, to help obtain clean water for local citizens, and to convert the plant to peaceful purposes. Our grant went toward a public education campaign promoting conversion of the plant to prairie land and retraining its employees for environmental cleanup.

CLARENCE FITCH YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Montclair, NJ: $1,000.

This group is producing "Rough Side of the Mountain," a documentary video on the life of Clarence Fitch, an African-American Vietnam Veteran, and anti-war and counter-recruitment activist who died of AIDS several years ago. Designed to educate, inspire and motivate, the video will use Clarence's life experiences to explore the many issues, challenges, opportunities and barriers that continue to face youth, especially young African-Americans. An accompanying study and viewers guide for classrooms will be used to provoke dialogue about these issues. Our grant went for post-production editing expenses.

"REGRET TO INFORM" VIDEO

Berkeley, CA: $1,000.

This documentary video project explores women's relationship to war by focusing on the Vietnam War through the eyes of the widows of the soldiers who died there—both Vietnamese and American. The producers hope this film will give force to women's voice for peace by addressing such questions as: How are women victimized by war? How do women collaborate in perpetuating war? And what can women do to prevent war? Our grant went for expenses of a sound technician to help finish production.

TELEMANITA

Morelos, Mexico: $500.

Telemanita Electronic Resource Center for Women in Mexico and Central America is a network that supports women's video production and distribution centers in Central America and helps women gain access to electronic resources including video, radio and electronic mail. Our grant sent a trainer to the existing centers of the Telemanita network in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, to teach the local women how to use electronic mail (e-mail) to facilitate communication between the centers.

The A.J. Muste Memorial Institute makes small grants to groups doing nonviolent organizing. If you know of such a group, please encourage them to apply to us for funding. Write the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012 or call us at (212) 533-4335 to receive a copy of our grant guidelines, and our 1993-94 roster of grants. Our next deadline for proposals is August 8, 1994.

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute

339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012; (212)533-4335

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