New Grants, March 1996

ARISE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
Springfield, MA: $1,000.

Arise was founded in 1985 by women on welfare, organizing around issues of benefits and child support. Now a grassroots multiracial organization with about 100 members, Arise is planning a summit of low-income people's rights organizations from around the New England area, tentatively scheduled for October 1996. Our grant goes for translation and accessibility costs of the summit.

ASSOCIATION FOR UNION DEMOCRACY
Brooklyn, NY: $1,000.

This is the only national, non-profit organization devoted solely to advancing the principles and practices of internal democracy in the US labor movement. Our grant goes to reestablish the Minority Workers Rights Project, helping workers of color and immigrants to organize against discrimination on the job and from union officials.

If you are making up your will, we hope you will consider leaving a bequest to the Muste Institute to ensure the continuation of our work in the future. A suggested simple wording to use in making bequests is: "I bequeath dollars ($) or percent of my estate to the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute, Inc., a charitable, not-for-profit organization located at 339 Lafayette Street, New York, New York, 10012, to be used for its general purposes." To discuss other types of bequests, such as those directed toward a specific purpose, write or call Murray Rosenblith, the Institute's Executive Director.

CITIZENS' ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION
Albany, NY: $750.

This New York statewide grassroots environmental coalition, formed in 1983, includes more than 90 community and environmental groups and acts as the coordinating organization for the New York Labor & Environment Network (NYSLEN). Our grant goes for the Labor & Environment Project, a joint CEC-NYSLEN effort to educate the public about companies that receive government subsidies in New York State while violating environmental laws or worker safety and health standards.

FLORIDA COALITION FOR PEACE & JUSTICE
Gainesville, FL: $1,250.

Since 1982, the Florida Coalition has been attempting to build a diverse statewide peace and justice organization in a conservative, Republican-dominated state. Our grant goes for "Walk for the Earth: A Journey for Future Generations," a 725-mile walk to address environmental racism and related issues in Florida (see article, page 3).

FUTURE LEADERS NETWORK
Brooklyn, NY: $1,000.

Formed in 1987, this group seeks to support and encourage young people involved in progressive activism around the country through gatherings, retreats and a Summer Institute, bringing together young activists for skills training and networking. Our grant goes for scholarships for low-income participants at this year's Summer Institute.

LA RAZA CENTRO LEGAL
San Francisco, CA: $1,000.

Our grant goes for the San Francisco Restaurant Workers Project, organizing non-unionized low-income Latino and immigrant workers in San Francisco's restaurant industry. Specifically, our funding is for a "restaurant workers survival kit," to increase workers' awareness of their rights and how to protect them by documenting hours, wages and workplace incidents.

LAS AMERICAS REFUGEE ASYLUM PROJECT
El Paso, TX: $750.

Established in 1987, LARAP provides information and legal services to asylum-seekers at the US-Mexico border. Our grant goes toward hiring an outreach coordinator for the Justice for Women and Children Program, training immigrant and refugee women in leadership and self-advocacy skills that will assist them in organizing for their rights.

WESTCHESTER PEOPLE'S ACTION COALITION (WESPAC)
White Plains, NY: $500.

WESPAC is a grassroots action coalition addressing issues of peace and social justice. WESPAC has been working since the 1970s to organize public pressure to shut down the Indian Point nuclear power plants in Buchanan on the Hudson, just up the river from New York City. This grant is for producing and distributing new written materials to expand the Indian Point Quick Response Network, part of WESPAC's efforts to build a citizens' movement to close the plants.

The A.J. Muste Memorial Institute makes small grants to groups doing nonviolent organizing for social change. 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 latest roster of grants. Our next deadline for proposals is August 5, 1996.

Board of Directors
René Arlain
Karl Bissinger
Susan Kent Cakars
Linnea Capps
Peter Meyer Filardo
Christine Halvorson
Barbara Hirshkowitz, *Chair*
Wubnesh Hylton
Bernice Lanning
Elmer Maas
David McReynolds
Anna Maria Nieves
Mark O'Brien
Denise A. Rollé
Kenneth Sutton
Franklin Velázquez, Esq.
Lisa Vives
Gail Walker, *Vice Chair*
Dorie Wilsnack
Van Zwisohn, *Secretary-Treasurer*

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute
339 Lafayette Street, New York, NY 10012; (212) 533-4335

Executive Director
Murray Rosenblith
Administrative Assistant
Jane Guskin
Superintendent
Wellington Almanzar
Newsletter Designer
Judith Rew

Printed on Recycled Paper