

A.J. Muste Memorial Institute

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Dear Friend of the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute,

If you were a young person today, how would you get involved in social change? Every generation faces this question, but for some of us it was easier than others. I was a teenager in the 1960s and being an activist was an integral part of the youth culture of the times.

One of A.J. Muste's personal qualities was his ability to inspire young people to be activists. He spent most of the 1920s as director of Brookwood Labor College, training young workers to be trade union organizers.

Community and activist organizations constantly face the question of how to bring young people into the movement for peace and social justice. We frequently receive grant proposals for projects that involve training and organizing among young people around the important issues facing us today.

When we started the Muste Memorial Institute, one of our goals was to continue A.J. Muste's tradition of encouraging young women and men to be agitators for change. Our pamphlet program keeps important literature of nonviolent social change available for new generations to study. And your donations to the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute help us support projects to encourage youth activism. Here are some examples:

- ◆ Concerned Educators Allied for a Safe Environment (MA) received a grant to bring inner-city youth organizers to a national teachers' conference to discuss their work against violence in their communities (see *Muste Notes*, page 3);
- ◆ Chico Peace and Justice Center (CA) used our funding to initiate a peace education project in local elementary schools;
- ◆ Empty the Shelters (CA) provided stipends to young people organizing the homeless in several cities;
- ◆ Sojourners Neighborhood Center (DC) established a violence prevention and conflict resolution program with parents and children;
- ◆ University Conversion Project (MA) used a Muste grant to publish a guidebook to help student activists challenge the right's influence on campuses;
- ◆ Young and Old United Through Heritage (NM) started a program to teach Native American juvenile offenders nonviolent dispute resolution skills and how to peacefully confront racism;
- ◆ Students Organizing Students (NY) received a donor fund grant to support their growing national network of young women organizing for health care.

(over, please)

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