

2017

Quixote Center

Annual Report



Quixote Center

A gathering of people
who work and pray
with laughter
to reach for stars
that seem too distant
to be touched,
or too dim
to be worth
the effort.

We try to be friends
with people in need,
and to celebrate life
with people
who believe that
the struggle
to be like Jesus
in building a world
more justly loving
is worth the gift of
our lives.

Come dream with us...

For those of us acting in pursuit of justice, it has been a very busy year. It would be hard to pretend that we enjoyed 2017 in an unqualified sense. We at the Quixote Center have been baffled by many proclamations we have heard from public figures, disgusted by tales of abuse and harassment, and disturbed by the overt white supremacy witnessed around the country.

Nevertheless, we have also been inspired by those who speak truth to power, inspired by women and men willing to confront those who wronged them. We have been called to express our solidarity with and support of all the oppressed.

At the Quixote Center, this has been a year of transition. Executive Director Andrew Hochhalter left the Center in February. John Marchese joined the team as our new director in May. Jocelyn Trainer took up the reins of international program coordination as a Loretto Volunteer over the summer. Toward the end of 2017 we hired two new program staff Jessica DeCou and Tom Ricker, who began early 2018.

You, too, are part of the Center and, like us, you dare to dream impossible dreams. The work we do together makes a difference in the lives of many people; it is also transformative for us who continue to dream of a world more justly loving and work to make it real!

We are planning a homecoming for those members of the Quixote family who can make it on April 13-14, 2018. These two days will offer time to gather, to celebrate our past, and to reconnect with old friends, colleagues, and fellow travelers. We will remember those who have passed on and honor our collective legacy of building a world more justly loving, while looking to forge new alliances and relationships. Whether you joined the Quixote Center for a day, a month, or 40 years, as staff, volunteer, or donor, we want you there.

As we begin a new season of life here at the Quixote Center, we continue to be inspired by all of you who journey with us! Read on to find out more about our current work.

In solidarity

The Quixote Center Staff and Board of Directors

Program Updates



Haiti Reborn

After wrapping up the internal aid project, called *Yielding Change*, in the wake of the 2016 Hurricane Matthew, our attention returned to the immediate needs of our friends in Gros-Morne. With your support, they are transforming the world around them. The Jean Marie Vincent Formation Center continues to manage the tree nursery and reforestation projects. New projects include agricultural training and assistance, and community poultry and livestock programs. The reforestation project is stabilizing the ecology of Tet Mon and mitigating the effects of storms. Other agricultural programs are increasing families' food supply and ability to earn cash income.

We were heartened to see our partners, and most of the island nation, relatively unharmed in a terrible hurricane season last year. Nevertheless, there has been a continued issue with cholera brought to the island by the UN mission after the 2010 earthquake. We rejoined our friends at the Haiti Advocacy Working Group to urge policies more favorable to Haiti. Our strongest emphasis, in this regard, is to advocate for policies supporting the right of Haitians living in the United States to remain and seek permanent residency.



Quest for Peace

Our delegation to Nicaragua on November 7-13 brought together three of our staff – Dolly, John, and Mfon – with three members of the Quixote community. We got to know some of the agroecology projects of FEDICAMP up close and personal in a rural community in the Segovias. The trip allowed us an opportunity to see firsthand the fruits of the Homes of Hope initiative. Quest supporters have raised over \$1.4 million toward our goal of \$2 million to finance the construction of new housing. We traveled to construction sites and finished housing in León, Sébaco, and Managua and spoke to the families living in those homes. We were also able to visit additional project sites of our long-time partner the Institute of John XXIII.

At the same time, our opposition to the NICA (Nicaraguan Investment Conditionality) Act continues. The NICA Act would require the Trump administration to block loans and development assistance from international organizations to Nicaragua. Although this legislation has already passed the House and has bipartisan support in the Senate, we believe it will fail in achieving its stated goals of improving democracy and reducing corruption in Nicaragua. It is likely to cause a humanitarian crisis and possibly a new wave of economic migration by shutting off international funding essential for health, education, and infrastructure programs. Quest for Peace has long been opposed to U.S. intervention in sovereign foreign nations with elected governments. We will continue our efforts to provide information on this important legislative issue.

Temporary Protected Status

Since 1990, the United States has offered Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to people from countries devastated by war or natural disasters. The Trump administration is currently refusing to extend this protection for the largest groups of recipients: Salvadorans and Haitians. The implications of this action are devastating for the individuals and the countries involved. After an initial blog post in June, we launched a full series on the topic beginning in September. We are mindful that this issue remains unresolved, but we believe that a robust TPS program grounded in justice would offer a path to residency and citizenship for its participants.

Program Updates

Catholics Speak Out

CSO wrapped up the Bibles to Bishops program in the first quarter of 2017. This year we begin a process of creating new editions of our inclusive language publications, incorporating editorial corrections and updating translations in places. We have begun to organize a team of loving readers to carry out this work. Would you care to join us?

We prepared a prayer and action resource on Inclusive Citizenship as well. The body of Christ is about radical inclusion and so we advocate for a world in which native peoples, migrants, trans persons, prisoners, and so many others who are excluded from full participation in the social and political realms around them, will be welcomed. The resources are available on our website for use in community events.

The Quixote Center remains active in the coalitions Catholic Organizations for Renewal and with our friends at Call to Action (CTA). At the CTA Eastern Region Conference this fall, we showcased our inclusive language publications, remaining an active voice for women's ordination and fundamental equality for all within the church.

Criminal Justice

Over the last year we have entered into a period of research and reflection on the next steps for the Center's work toward a new justice system. We continue to assist people who are incarcerated, as well as their families, through distribution of the *Capital Defense Handbook*. We have been reaching out to connect with various organizations through conferences, special events, and one-on-one phone calls. We were inspired to be in a packed room on Capitol Hill to discuss criminal justice reform as part of the Congressional Black Caucus' Annual Legislative conference. In addition, we have written engaging blog posts on topics such as the "taking a knee" protests undertaken to shed light on police brutality, and the provision of military surplus armaments to local police.

Friends

Though the Quixote Center has never been a relief organization, sometimes when a friend is in need, immediate help is the thing to do. We sent support for public universities to our neighbors in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico this year to help them rebuild after the brutal Hurricanes Irma and Maria. We also sent aid to Houston to support organizing efforts after Hurricane Harvey.

We celebrated life in a variety of ways last year, but parties were certainly part of that story. In July, we had an event in Hyattsville, Maryland where the new faces at the Quixote Center – John and Mfon – got to meet faithful friends of Quixote. In September, the team took the show on the road for a party in Philadelphia, hosted by Quixote Center's Vice-Chair Noelle Hanrahan of Prison Radio. She and all the other members of the Quixote board were in attendance, as was Loretto Volunteer Jocelyn Trainer and the rest of the team. We closed out the year with a Christmas party at the Center, where former staff such as Maureen Fiedler of Interfaith Voices and Jeannine Gramick of New Ways Ministry joined us to celebrate another year of working for justice.

Quixote Center Reunion

All former and current staff, volunteers, interns, donors, supporters, friends and family are invited to join us on **Friday, April 13** to celebrate the Quixote Center community. We will gather at the Marriott in College Park for an evening of reflection and music. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and other Quixote Center alumni have been invited to share their stories.

On **Saturday, April 14** former staff will come together for a day of conversation and relationship building as we look to the future of the Center.

Regular updates will be posted on our (new!) website as we get closer to the event. We look forward to seeing you all. Contact Dolly Pomerleau or Jocelyn Trainer at 301-699-0042 if you are interested in attending. Or email, quixotecenter76@gmail.com.

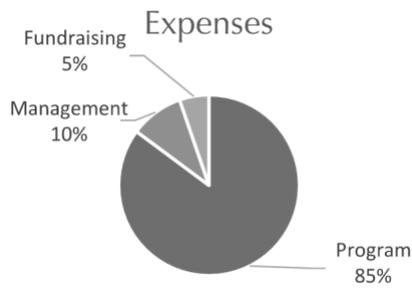


Financial Report July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Balance Sheet	
Assets	
Cash/Equivalents	\$142,241
Investments	37,265
Pledges Receivable	135,699
Other Assets	1,998
Accumulated Depreciation	1,902
Deposits	2,500
Total Assets	\$321,605
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	\$47,503
Accrued Vacation	1,611
Restricted Funds	52,112
Unrestricted Funds	220,379
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$321,605

Revenue	
Donations/Grants	\$567,663
Realized Gain(loss) on investments	10,960
Publication / Product Sales	5,725
Interest	785
Other	226
Total Revenue	\$585,359

Expenses	
Program	\$687,838
Management	77,021
Fundraising	42,781
Total Expenses	\$807,640
Expenses by Program	
Catholics Speak Out	\$30,887
Criminal Justice	1,186
Haiti Reborn	83,131
Quest for Peace	572,634
Total Program Expenses	\$687,838



Other Ways to Make a Financial Impact

Bequests

When you include the Center in your will, your work for justice lives on. You can designate a specific sum of money, or an asset, such as stock, or a percentage of your estate to the Quixote Center.

Gifts of Stock

Gifts of stock augment the generous donations the Center receives. You may deduct the total current value of the stock as a charitable donation, and you avoid the capital gains tax.

RMD

You may donate a portion or all of your Required Minimum Distribution directly from your IRA to the Quixote Center if you are 71 or older.

Monthly Giving

We invite you to become a monthly giver! This growing group of supporters helps ensure that the Quixote Center has a steady source of funding needed to keep tilting at windmills.

You may designate your gift to one or more programs of the Center, or it may be unrestricted to benefit the entire Center. If you or your attorney have any questions, please contact John Marchese at 301-699-0042.

People at the Quixote Center

Quixote Center Staff

Mfon Edet
 Roz Fischer
 Andrew Hochhalter
 Tee Kendall
 John Marchese
 Dolly Pomerleau
 Jocelyn Trainer

Board of Directors

Frank DeBernardo
 Noelle Hanrahan
 Frank O'Donnell, SM
 Dolly Pomerleau
 Nancy Sulfridge

Volunteers / Interns

Carol Binstock
 Mercy Coogan
 Ericka Holland
 Armando Flores-Martinez
 Jack Lewis
 Kathleen Blank Riether