

American
Friends
Service
Committee



ANNUAL REPORT 1991



1940: Civilian Public Service Smoke Jumpers Camp, Montana



Haiti

Photo: Pat Goudois



1920: Child feeding, Germany

Dear Friends:

This annual report comes to you as AFSC begins its 75th Anniversary celebration. From a World War I Quaker effort to provide humanitarian assistance to civilians whose lives were devastated by violence, AFSC has evolved into a complex organization addressing an array of the most pressing issues before the human family. The following report portrays highlights of our work during 1991.

AFSC programs during the past year illustrate common themes that have emerged over nearly eight decades of multifaceted Quaker witness to the dignity of all people.

☪ AFSC's role during the Gulf War expressed once again Friends' opposition to all war and support for those whose deepest convictions lead them to reject participation in killing.

☪ Our exposure of the calamitous impact of our nation's penitentiary system grew out of decades of AFSC concern that our society address root causes of crime and respect the humanity and rights of those who are convicted of offenses as well as of their victims.

☪ AFSC's assistance to Iraqis who suffered the violence of war, repression and punitive economic sanctions represents a nearly unbroken 75-year succession of Quaker service to war victims regardless of nationality and politics.



Mali irrigation project

Photo: J. Rinfret

☪ Our evolving development and training programs in Cambodia reflect AFSC's long history of moving quickly from emergency assistance to programs that assist in the rebuilding of people's lives and the development of more just societies.

These and many other programs cited in the pages that follow have drawn from AFSC's rich engagement with the movements and events that have shaped this century.

Our 1991 work for justice, peace and development was based in timeless religious faith and the commitment of our predecessors in Quaker Service. They have included Friends and a multitude of others who have joined in practical witness to their humane values. Their steadfast insistence that

those values provide a basis for positive action in time of war, conflict, depression and injustice provides this generation of AFSC workers with inspiration, models for action, and a vital web of human relationships and rapport around the world.

In the coming months, as our 75th Anniversary unfolds, I hope you will help us celebrate this shared experiment that is the American Friends Service Committee.

Sincerely,

Asia A. Bennett

Asia A. Bennett
Executive Secretary

"Where there is no justice, there can be no real peace, and the appearance of peace can be the quiet of the oppressed, the ignored, the disenfranchised, who, sooner or later, will make themselves heard. Those who love peace must seek justice. Because the AFSC has recognized this simple imperative, we have sought to stand with those who have spoken up against injustice, who have struggled to liberate themselves from oppression, to escape from poverty, to secure the rights and opportunities to which they are entitled."

Ken Martin, AFSC Associate Executive Secretary, in an address to the community of Logan, West Virginia, in 1991



Children's program, West Virginia

Photo: Brice Wallace, Wayne County (W.Va.) News



Housing Now March, Washington, D.C.

Photo: Terry Foss



Southern Africa Peace Tour, U.S.

Photo: Terry Foss

Working overseas toward an end to poverty, powerlessness and the

Since its founding in 1917, the American Friends Service Committee has upheld the principle of meeting human need without regard to politics, religion or nationality. In the aftermath of war or natural disaster, the Service Committee endeavors to give aid with care and sensitivity. Our projects incorporate the imagination, energy and resources of the people who are working to become economically independent and self-sufficient. AFSC's philosophy is to work toward an end to poverty, powerlessness and involuntary displacement, and thus an end to the need for outside assistance and support.



Dam project, Vietnam

Photo: Roger Rumpf



Gaza preschool center

Photo: Cat Essoyan

THE MIDDLE EAST

In 1991, building on more than 40 years of service in the **Middle East**, AFSC aided victims of the Persian Gulf War. The AFSC's Gulf Assistance Fund contributed emergency supplies. With a representative in Baghdad, AFSC provided critical spare parts for tractors and combines to Kurdish farmers in northern Iraq. Chlorine for water purification was sent to the south, and oral rehydration salts were purchased to counter diarrhea among children. In addition, money was given toward the purchase of sewage pumps in the southern area of Misan.

AFSC helped airlift medicines to Iraqi civilians who had

fled to Iran for safety; and joined Jordanian, church and international agencies to deliver food, medical supplies, and blankets to refugees fleeing into Jordan from Kuwait.

Quaker Middle East Representatives in Amman, Jordan, reported on the human consequences of the crisis, meeting with political leaders, diplomats, peace activists and others in the region and in Europe.

ASIA

After 25 years of AFSC work in **Vietnam**, AFSC signed a formal agreement opening an office in Hanoi.

need for outside support...

In Son La Province, 200 miles west of Hanoi, AFSC provided pipes, pumps and generators to build a water system for the Thuan Chau Clinic. An irrigation dam near Son La town was built with AFSC cement and steel, the labor of the townspeople, and cash from the district government. The dam irrigates 160 acres of rice paddies.

In Than Hoa Province, AFSC helped 13 community-based production co-ops and the Blind Association purchase new equipment for improved production and higher income.

In **Cambodia**, veterinary staff conducted training programs for teaching staff and graduate students of the veterinary school in Phnom Penh. AFSC arranged for a Cambodian veterinarian, now living in the United States, to return to Cambodia to give courses and on-site instruction in animal health care.

In May, AFSC sponsored a two-week traveling seminar in **Laos** for women from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam on the subject of women and development. The village women and women in positions of leadership in their respective countries gained new knowledge and understanding through visits to local project sites and by sharing their own experiences of family food production, labor-saving, and income-generating projects.



Agricultural program, Brazil Photo: Terry Foss

LATIN AMERICA

In **Brazil**, staff organized an exchange visit to Northeast Brazil of grassroots farmers and agricultural technicians from Central America. In meetings with their counterparts participants looked at creative ways to solve their common problems.

In Sao Paulo, a new staff manual enables poor women from the shantytown neighborhoods to become trained as community health agents.

Santiago, Chile, staff completed the second of a series of manuals reflecting 18 years of program experience in health and popular education.

AFRICA

In **Mali**, West Africa, the formerly nomadic Tamashek continued construction of wells, dikes, flood-gates and water lifts, and because of new planting techniques and good river floods; rice and vegetable production looked especially promising. But because of continued attacks by both government and rebel forces, and the death of 15 program participants in December, the program has had to be suspended temporarily.

Yields on garden produce were also substantially increased this year in **Guinea Bissau** where AFSC supports women's efforts to improve growing methods and food output. The new challenge is to expand their markets in the capital city and along the Senegalese frontier.



Harvesting rice, Mali Photo: Chua-oon/Rinfret

Addressing the causes of injustice and violence in our society...



Immigration Law Enforcement Monitoring Project, U.S.

Photo: Don Artletti, Los Angeles Times

The AFSC's challenge to injustice in this country began in the 1920s in work with striking miners and their families and with the unemployed as the Great Depression began. In the years since, AFSC has continued to address those causes of injustice and violence in our society—the poverty and imbalance of wealth, and the exclusion and denial of recognition and rights based on factors such as race, gender, class, religion, nationality, legal status and sexual orientation.

For more than 50 years, AFSC has supported the **struggle of Native Americans** for self-determination, control of resources and preservation of culture. In 1991:



Mexico-U.S. Border Program

Photo: Gary Massoni

AFSC and Philadelphia Friends contributed funds to the Mohawk Environmental Task Force in upstate New York. The money was used by the Mohawk Council to purchase garden seeds and 1,650 pounds of seed potatoes to support efforts for self-sufficiency.

The number of participants involved in fish farming in the Mohawk Indian community of Akwesasne increased in 1991, with families hoping to raise their incomes as well as have a source of non-contaminated fish.

On the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, staff continue work on issues crucial to the survival of the Sioux Nation. In 1991 they campaigned on the dangers of using the reservation as a dumpsite for municipal sludge and toxic wastes. Also staff helped organize over 40 family gardens and two collective plots. Drip-irrigation is now being used by the Oglala Truck Gardening Cooperative, and a new greenhouse provides a year-round growing season for fruits and vegetables.

In the late '40s, AFSC began work with **farm worker communities** to help them gain their legal, economic and human rights. In California, AFSC has responded to the needs of those who harvest the crops. When bitter weather struck California in December 1990, 15,000 farm workers lost jobs in

the citrus industry. Many ran out of food and lost their homes and cars. AFSC's Farm Labor Program broadcast information on their radio program about farm workers rights and the availability of public and private relief. It secured the public promise of the Border Patrol not to harass or monitor farm workers seeking assistance.

Immigrants and refugees with farm experience continue to learn about organic, chemical-free farming on AFSC's The Organic Produce (TOP) Farm near Stockton, California.

AFSC joined 60 other U.S. organizations in a call for a corporate standard of conduct in the maquiladora factories along the **Mexico-U.S. border** where pay is low and dangerous conditions exist for the workers, mainly women.

Work continued in Boston and in Oakland, California, to establish **housing** as a human right. In Oakland, AFSC joined the Oakland Union for the Homeless to demand use of abandoned government-owned housing. Staff initiated a Homeless Training Institute to help homeless people gain skills in community organizing, housing development, social service provision, fundraising and nonprofit management. The concrete foundation was laid for a 27-unit apartment building to house formerly homeless people.

In Stockton, California, a deteriorated housing complex, now in receivership, is home to 1,500 refugees. AFSC is helping Cambodian tenants organize a nonprofit corporation to buy the place and become their own landlord.

Since the late '40s, AFSC has worked steadily **with prisoners and on prisons, and to change the criminal justice system.** In 1991 AFSC released the report of the National Commission on Crime and Justice which was convened in 1990 by AFSC. The Commission was unique in that its membership was drawn entirely from communities of color in the United States. The Report, *A Call To Action*, challenges the criminal justice system, the public, and communities of color to make fundamental changes in this nation's responses to crime.

In Seattle AFSC created Lambert House, a center for **Gay and Lesbian young people**, and other youth groups, to meet for recreation and support. The AFSC book, *Bridges of Respect*, and its analysis of the effects of homophobia on young people, continues to be widely used and to meet the urgent need of people working with youth for information and ideas.

For the sixth year—in cooperation with the National Conference of Christians and Jews—AFSC held a **youth leadership workcamp**, "Anytown, Iowa." High school students from a variety of ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds in Iowa met for discussions and workshops designed to overcome prejudice and discrimination and to emphasize values of peace and justice.



Maine Indian Youth Program

Photo: Terry Fass

Upholding a vision of a just and peaceful world...

"We utterly deny all outward wars and strife, and fightings with outward weapons, for any end, or under any pretence whatsoever; this is our testimony to the whole world. . . ."

—Declaration of the Society of Friends to Charles II in 1660.

AFSC's response to the Gulf War reflected this historic Quaker concern for peace. AFSC condemned the 1990 invasion of Kuwait, supported the UN call for a global economic and military embargo of Iraq, and vigorously opposed military intervention. During the months of the crisis, staff provided analysis to influence public opinion and grassroots leadership to organize vigils and rallies across the country that called for a negotiated settlement, not massive killing. In St. Louis, San Francisco, Seattle and other cities, AFSC brought together Moslems, Jews and Christians to fast, pray and pilgrimage for peace in the Middle East.

Staff responded to hundreds of inquiries from resisters in the armed forces, provided counseling, and monitored the treatment of those who took a conscientious objection position and faced reprisals—many of whom were people of color. Staff sought to combat discrimination and bigotry against Arab-Americans as well as anti-Semitism that surfaced during the Gulf Crisis.



AFSC Board vigil for peace in the Gulf

Photo: Terry Foss



Youth Awareness Day, Baltimore

Photo: Terry Foss



Southern Africa Peace Tour, U.S.

Photo: Terry Foss

AFSC sponsored a consultation in Washington, D.C., in May on "The Politics of the Arms Race in the Middle East." Forty participants, including experts on the arms trade and the politics of the Middle East and leaders of national peace and justice groups, discussed how to link work against the arms trade with efforts to resolve conflicts in the region.

As a result of the bombing and the continuing economic embargo, Iraq suffered from acute shortages of food and medical supplies, a situation that threatened the lives of infants and old,

poor or ill people. AFSC used public forums and the media to call for an end to punitive economic sanctions against Iraq in order to end the immense suffering of the people.

In December, AFSC held a public forum in Philadelphia on the conflict in **Yugoslavia**. Speakers included an activist in the Slovenian democratic movement and a British national active in the Yugoslavian peace movement.

AFSC continued to support the aspirations of the majority in **South Africa**, and maintained its call for withdrawal of foreign interests until the current process of change has been secured.

AFSC's 1991 Africa Peace Tour visited 26 cities in Pennsylvania and Ohio. The 17 participants led discussions and teach-ins at 20 universities and colleges on the situation in southern Africa.

An overview of events in **Angola**, *The Southern Africa Mini-Guide on Angola*, was published. The booklet examines the quality of life in Angola, especially the needs of women and children.

Two AFSC staff co-edited a book entitled *The Sun Never Sets... Confronting the Network of Foreign U.S. Military Bases*. The book—now in its second printing—examines the global system of military bases that one reviewer says, "... has corrupted democratic values, economic and social well being, and environmental sustainability in every country the system touches."

Staff organized two public hearings by the Department of Energy in Denver on the future of **nuclear weapon production** at Rocky Flats. Fifty people testified at each hearing to call for the closure of the Rocky Flats plant and an end to nuclear weapons production.

A study tour to Jamaica, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico focused on the impact of the **"drug war"** and the drug trade on human rights and the economy in those countries.

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR OTHER FUNDS

These programs are made possible by the special partnership of AFSC's staff and advisors, sister organizations, the communities where the AFSC is at work, and the contributors large and small who fund AFSC's work. This Annual Report is a testimony of gratitude to all of them.

Contributions to AFSC are deductible for Federal income tax purposes.



West Bank East physical therapy program
Photo: Ulrika Persson

	Land, Buildings and Equipment Fund	Endowment Funds	Annuity and Life Income Funds ¹
Beginning Balances as of 10/01/90	\$2,975,008	\$3,321,481	\$19,005,002
Income provided by:			
Contributions & Bequests	21,691	514,024	1,631,724
Net Investment Income	(22,077)	4,754	1,151,917
Miscellaneous	0	0	4,318
Actuarial Liability Adjustment	0	0	(509,660)
Total Income	(386)	518,778	2,278,299
Expenses for:			
Total Programs Services	161,464	0	0
General Management	146,768	0	0
Fundraising	25,623	0	0
Total Expenses	333,855	0	0
Excess (Deficiency) of Income Over Expenses	(334,241)	518,778	2,278,299
Other Changes in Fund Balances			
Matured Annuity & Life Income Gifts	0	(78,654)	(455,672)
Property & Equipment Purchased	265,209	0	0
Total Other Changes	265,209	(78,654)	(455,672)
Ending Fund Balances as of 9/30/91	\$2,905,976	\$3,761,605	\$20,827,629

OPERATIONS FUNDS BALANCES

	Beginning Balances at 10/90	Net Changes	Ending Balances at 9/91
Restricted Funds²	\$ 2,693,192	\$ 525,106	\$ 3,218,298
Unrestricted Funds			
Unsold Real Estate and other Non-Marketable Assets	3,327,071	(558,278)	2,768,793
Donor-deferred Suggestion Fund ³	1,924,156	(69,399)	1,854,757
Designated Pension Fund	1,279,944	222,210	1,502,163
Operating Reserves ⁴	2,230,064	23,385	2,253,449
Funds Functioning as Endowments	1,740,832	7,650	1,748,482
Bequests Designated for Use in Future Years ⁵	16,561,904	55,353	16,617,257
Realized Capital Gains ⁶ and Other Funds	4,720,000	(279,601)	4,440,399
Total Unrestricted	\$31,783,972	\$ (598,672)	\$31,185,300

¹Certain irrevocable gifts which AFSC has received under trust subject to payment of income to one or more beneficiaries for life.

²Directed by donors for specific program use.

³Special funds created by donors who make suggestions to AFSC regarding grants from their individual fund to appropriate programs and/or other charitable organizations.

⁴AFSC national and regional offices maintain reserves to adjust short-run funding needs and provide for unexpected program opportunities.

⁵Bequest income fluctuates unpredictably. In order to balance this flow of funds, AFSC creates a pool of several years' bequests and allocates 50% of the pool each year for program work. This policy assures program stability and continuity from year to year.

⁶Beginning FY '89, the Committee instituted a policy regarding the use of realized capital gains. \$947,000 were used for 1991 budget purposes.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1991

	TOTALS	OPERATIONS FUNDS	
		UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED
Income was provided by:			
Contributions (including donated materials of \$299,935)	\$14,465,981	\$ 6,714,174	\$ 7,751,807
Bequests (including matured annuity/life income gifts and matured term endowment)	4,933,889	3,446,770	1,487,119
Total Public Support	19,399,870	10,160,944	9,238,926
Fees and Grants from Government Agencies	200,191	0	200,191
Other Income:			
Investment income net of related fees (including gains/losses on investment transactions)	3,596,995	3,329,286	267,709
Program Service Fees	2,100,067	2,100,067	0
Miscellaneous	263,594	14,006	249,588
Total Other Income	5,960,656	5,443,359	517,297
Total Income	25,560,717	15,604,303	9,956,414
Expenses for:			
Programs			
Overseas: promoting economic social justice, international understanding, human rights and the relief of human suffering (including donated materials of \$332,922)	7,656,664	1,807,344	5,849,320
Seeking peace, reconciliation and disarmament	4,319,028	2,838,782	1,480,246
In the U.S.A.: rooting out those causes of violence which lie in poverty, exclusion and the denial of rights	5,611,326	3,940,383	1,670,943
Special programs (including contributions of \$173,198 to other service agencies)	1,879,047	1,617,111	261,936
Total Programs	19,466,065	10,203,620	9,262,445
Supporting Services for Programs			
Administration, Personnel, Accounting, Information Services, etc.	3,682,729	3,513,866	168,863
Fundraising	2,220,280	2,220,280	0
Total Supporting Services for Programs	5,903,009	5,734,146	168,863
Property and Equipment	265,209	265,209	0
Total Expenses	25,634,283	16,202,975	9,431,308
Excess (deficiency) of Income over Expenses	\$ (73,566)	\$ (598,672)	\$ 525,106



Akwesasne fish farming project
Photo: Jan Phillips

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School supplies for Nicaragua

Photo: Terry Foss



Services for European refugees, 1940s



Workcamp with sharecroppers, Missouri, 1940s