

At The CROSSROADS

volume 3 number 1 Fall 2007

CROSSROADS FUND ANNOUNCES NEW GRANTMAKING PROGRAM: YOUTH FUND FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Our newest endeavor at the Crossroads Fund is one that we know will produce an abundance of return on our collective investment for many years to come. Welcome to the Youth Fund for Social Change!

The Youth Fund for Social Change — aka Youth Fund — is a pooled fund that allows donors at all levels to support the work of emerging young activist projects in Chicago. We are able to launch the Youth Fund because of a generous seed gift of \$300,000 from the Girl's Best Friend Foundation in honor of their founder Cyndie McLachlan who died in 2005.

The seed money could not have come at a better time. In the last two years we have observed an increase in the number and variety of organizations engaged in youth activism. Groups of young people are using innovative strategies to address issues that affect them — and we are proud to be able to support their efforts to move the work forward.

In our 25 years of operation, Crossroads Fund has granted over \$4 million dollars to new, emerging and risk-taking groups and given additional support through technical assistance programs and convenings. A scan of our 25 years of funding shows that 16% of total grants were directed to youth-related issues and organizations. So although we are not entirely new to funding youth programs, we look forward to directing a dedicated pool of resources to fostering the ideas and leadership of young activists. The Youth Fund is another way to deepen our goal of supporting and nurturing indigenous leadership in communities all over the city.

Grants from the Youth Fund will be awarded on an annual basis. There will be an advisory committee for the Fund made up of young people and allies that will review proposals and make recommendations for funding. Youth grantees and the advisory committee will also play a role in suggesting technical assistance and resource development opportunities for young activists. Watch our website (www.crossroadsfund.org) for application details and timelines.

How can you support the Youth Fund? Make a gift to the Youth Fund today! If you are already a donor to Crossroads Fund, consider making an additional gift targeted to the Youth Fund. For more information, call us at 773-227-7676.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Check out our website: www.crossroadsfund.org and sign up for our bi-monthly e-newsletter.



MAGIC (Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization) Teen Talk Chicago, a talk show by teens for teens, develops youth leaders and stimulates social activism through media.



Top: Females United for Action, a project of Women and Girls Collective Action Network, works with youth on media justice issues and violence against women.



Fighting Youth Shouting Out for Humanity (FYSH), the Youth Program of the Korean American Resource and Cultural Center, works to fight racism and promote positive images of Korean and Asian Americans.

CROSSROADS FUND CONCLUDES A YEAR OF ACTIVITIES CELEBRATING OUR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

ABOUT CROSSROADS FUND

Crossroads Fund supports community organizations working on issues of social and economic justice in the Chicago area. A public foundation, Crossroads Fund pools the resources of individuals, foundations and businesses, building a broad base of support for grassroots organizations working for social change.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ali Abunimah*

Bill Barclay,
Co-Chair

Courtney Bell

Henry T. Chandler, Jr.

Demetris Giannoulis

Linda Harlan

Neena Hemmady

Barbara Kemmis

Lisa Yun Lee

Chirag Mehta

Tony Phillips

Lisa Marie Pickens,
Co-Chair

Barbara Ransby*

Ellen Schumer

Todd Simmer

K. Sujata,
Treasurer

Susana Vasquez*

Tom Wilson

Martha Wright

* on leave

STAFF

Judith Cooper-Baird,

Development and Administrative Assistant

Tricia Hendricks,
Development Officer

Jane Kimondo,
Program Officer

Jeanne Kracher,
Executive Director

Sheila O'Donnell,
Development Director

CONSULTANTS

Pankaj Bidani,
Administrative Consultant

Inhe Choi,
Special Projects Director

CROSSROADS FUND is a member of the Funding Exchange (FEX), a national network of locally-based community foundations committed to supporting grassroots groups that address critical issues in their regions. www.fex.org.



Our public exhibit at Roosevelt University this past June reviewed 25 years of social justice activism in Chicago through the lens of Crossroads Fund. Photo by Misty Winter.



(Row 1) Rene David Luna, (Row 2) Tuyet Le, Inhe Choi, Tom Wilson, and K. Sujata. Photo by Misty Winter.



Chirag Mehta (at podium) introduces the panel (L to R): Alejandra Ibañez, Jean Hardisty, Alysia Tate, and Dick Simpson. Photo by Misty Winter.

University to reconnect with others, enjoy food and refreshments graciously donated by Wishbone and Trader Joe's, and toast our accomplishments over the past 25 years.

Immediately following the reunion was a public panel discussion entitled *Chicago: The City that Works-For Whom?* This dialogue explored corruption in local politics and the importance of grassroots activism in response to corrupt systems and in building equitable communities. Featured panel speakers included Alejandra Ibañez, Executive Director of Pilsen Alliance, Dick Simpson, Professor of Political Science at UIC and former Chicago Alderman, and Alysia Tate, Editor and Publisher of the Chicago Reporter. Jean Hardisty, co-founder of Crossroads Fund and founder of Political Research Associates, moderated the discussion.

Throughout the month of June 2007, Crossroads Fund presented a number of special events to mark the culmination of a yearlong celebration of our 25th anniversary as a fund.

This milestone in our history was an opportunity to reflect on our work, that of our grantees and its context in the broader history of social justice activism in Chicago. Throughout June, we presented a public exhibit in the lobby of Roosevelt University's Loop campus building that highlighted the last 25 years of social justice movements in Chicago, through the lens of Crossroads Fund. The free exhibit featured a timeline of important events and dates as well as historical photos, posters and other materials from grantees and grassroots organizations. Our most recent Lisa Fittko Intern, Rachel Wallis, researched, compiled and installed the exhibit.

On Thursday, June 14, Crossroads Fund hosted a reunion for those individuals who have been closely connected to the organization during its history. Founders, former and current board members, former and current staff, and volunteers gathered at Roosevelt

PROFILE OF A CROSSROADS FUND VISIONARY: REMEMBERING FERD EGGAN

Ferd Eggan, a writer, activist, teacher, and tireless advocate for people with HIV/AIDS, died in Los Angeles on July 7, 2007 at age 60 after a six-month bout with liver cancer, complicated by HIV and hepatitis C infections. For the past 20 years, Eggan's leadership and his multifaceted strategic and organizing skills have had a significant impact on the fight against AIDS, particularly in Chicago and Los Angeles.

Ferd made an enormous contribution to myriad social and cultural justice movements in Chicago. As a founder of ACT-UP Chicago, Principal of Pedro Albizu Campos Alternative High School and as an artist and thinker, Ferd embodied the spirit that Crossroads Fund strives to support in our grantmaking efforts: he was committed to cross-issue organizing in the broadest terms, he worked tirelessly for racial justice and for queer liberation, and he put his resources to work to make our city — and our world — a better place.

FALL EVENTS AT CROSSROADS FUND

By the time this publication reaches your mailbox, you may have already been to a Crossroads Fund event — we hosted a *Mini-Golf Outing* on Thursday, September 20, and a *Trunk Sale for Social Change* on Saturday, September 29. Both events were a great opportunity to connect with friends of Crossroads Fund and support our work.

We are pleased to offer two FREE educational opportunities this fall — the third year of the popular *Beyond Death and Taxes: Planning for Your Future and the Future of our City*.

Financial Planning for You — and for Social Justice! occurred on October 11, 2007. **Chris Long**, of financial advisory firm **Long & Associates, LLC**

For more information, and if you would like to attend a workshop, please contact Sheila O'Donnell, Development Director, 773.227.7676 or e-mail sheila@crossroadsfund.org

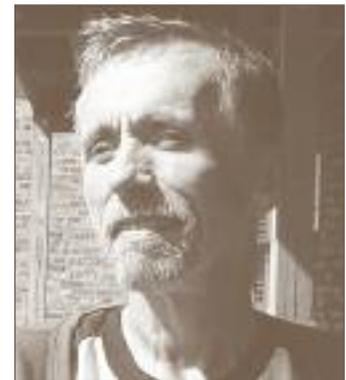
Ferd was active in many organizations and struggles that Crossroads Fund supported during the past 25 years: the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, ACT-UP/Chicago, alternative schools, anti-intervention in Central America, anti-racist campaigns, and the movements for queer and women's liberation.

On his passing, Ferd left a tremendous gift to Crossroads Fund that will extend his legacy of working for social justice. The bequest from his estate, which totals close to \$400,000, will be used to further our efforts to support social justice in the Chicago area, and go a long way towards strengthening our organizational stability and capacity.

We will miss Ferd a great deal. And we are honored that, as the recipient of a small part of his legacy, we have been entrusted to remember him through our work to move forward the social justice agenda to which he was so passionately committed.

gave an overview of how to thoughtfully manage your money in order to ensure that you are taking care of your obligations and planning for the long-term, AND having an impact on social justice issues.

There is still time to attend ***Estate Planning to Provide for What You Care About***. Attorney **Rosemary Mulryan** of local firm **Mulryan and York** will give an overview of why everyone should have a will and estate plan, and how to approach the task of making a plan. This workshop will focus on how thoughtful planning can ensure that you provide for the things that you care about — including family, loved ones, friends, and the causes that are important to you.



ABOUT FERD EGGAN

Ferd was a writer, an activist, a teacher, a Cranky PWA, and a tireless advocate for people with HIV/AIDS. A veteran of the "new left," civil rights, gay liberation, and student movements of the 1960s and early 1970s, a participant in the anti-interventionist and solidarity movements of the 1980s, a founder of ACT-UP in the late 1980s, and an AIDS activist for the last 20 years, Ferd was a life-long activist who drew connections and created bridges across multiple struggles. A brilliant thinker and rhetorician, Ferd's creative output included experimental films, audio CDs, and prolific writing—poetry, fiction, journalism, social policy analysis, film scripts, translation, music lyrics, texts in collaborative multimedia projects, criticism, and, most recently, experiments with prose forms and web publishing. Ferd's complete obituary can be found on our website, www.crossroadsfund.org/ferdeggan.htm

“PEOPLE HAVE FORGIVEN ME, AND MADE SPACE FOR ME TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE WORLD...THE SAME SHOULD BE OFFERED TO OTHER PEOPLE...”

—FERD EGGAN

BECOME A PARTNER IN CREATING SOCIAL CHANGE

When you give to Crossroads Fund, your gift is pooled with others and becomes a significant resource to foster social change in Chicago and beyond. Here are some ways you can give to Crossroads Fund:

- 👤 **ATTEND OUR ANNUAL BENEFIT** – and bring friends!
- 👤 **WRITE A CHECK** and return it in the enclosed remittance envelope. Find out if your employer matches contributions – that is an easy way to make your gift go much further.
- 👤 **BECOME A SUSTAINER** and have your contribution deducted from your credit card monthly or quarterly. As a sustainer, you can take pride in knowing that you are one of our most reliable sources of support.
- 👤 **CONTRIBUTE ONLINE** via our secure service. It's quick, convenient and safe – just log on to www.crossroadsfund.org

- 👤 **HONOR OR REMEMBER SOMEONE SPECIAL** with a gift in their name.
- 👤 **CO-HOST A HOUSE PARTY** and help us spread the word about the good work of Crossroads Fund to your colleagues, friends and family.
- 👤 **REMEMBER CROSSROADS FUND IN YOUR WILL, INSURANCE OR RETIREMENT PLAN** all three are easy ways to have a lasting impact for social justice.
- 👤 **OPEN A DONOR ADVISED FUND** and partner with us to have an impact on social justice issues.
- 👤 **ESTABLISH A CHARITABLE TRUST** to benefit Crossroads Fund, and reduce your tax burden.

For more information, please contact Sheila O'Donnell, Development Director, at 773.227.7676 or sheila@crossroadsfund.org.



THANK YOU CROSSROADS FUND VISIONARIES

These dedicated individuals have included Crossroads Fund in their will or estate plan, ensuring the long-term strength and stability of the fund and leaving a legacy of their values and vision.

Anonymous (2),
Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel,
Harry Chandler, Ferd Eggan,
Neena Hemmady, Barbara Kemmis

For more information, please contact Jeanne Kracher, Executive Director, at 773.227.7676 or jeanne@crossroadsfund.org

25 YEARS

SEEDING CHANGE. CULTIVATING LEADERS.
GROWING MOVEMENTS.

Crossroads Fund

SAVE THE DATE!
Crossroads Fund Annual Benefit
SEEDS OF CHANGE
Friday, February 29, 2008
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St.
Join us for good food, good fun and good friends.
special musical guests and performance, as we
celebrate all of our work for social justice!

www.crossroadsfund.org

3411 West Diversey Avenue, #20
Chicago, IL 60647-1245

change, not charity

CROSSROADS FUND

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CHICAGO, IL
PERMIT NO. 4070