

CROSSROADS FUND

Change, not charity

MEMBER OF THE FUNDING EXCHANGE

www.crossroadsfund.org

Spring 2002



A series of PSAs supported by the Critical Response Fund offer important messages to a wide audience.

Crossroads Launches Critical Response Fund

Don't Let Hate Divide Us." It's an important message at any time, but it has a particular urgency right now. It's a message that Crossroads grantee **VIDEO MACHETE** is spreading these days throughout Chicago with **COALITION OF ASIAN, AFRICAN, EUROPEAN, AND LATINO IMMIGRANTS OF ILLINOIS (CAELII)**, **SOUTHWEST YOUTH COLLABORATIVE**, and **CHINESE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION**. These groups have formed a citywide coalition to produce and distribute a series of public service announcements (PSAs) in multiple languages.

One PSA provides a hotline number, 1-800-552-6843, established by the U.S. commission on Civil

Rights for reports of hate crimes against persons of Arab, Muslim, and South Asian descent following September 11th. Another has **CAELII'S** hotline number, 1-866-745-0200, for questions about citizenship and immigrants' rights.

March marks their release to local tv stations and schools. In the meantime, they have been accepted for distribution on Free Speech TV and have been shown in a number of local and national screenings and forums. **VIDEO MACHETE** collective member tammy ko Robinson states, "already, organizations from California to Massachusetts have been calling requesting copies. Ideally, though, we're hoping to

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About Crossroads

Crossroads Fund is a public foundation that raises money to support organizations working throughout the metropolitan Chicago area on issues of social and economic justice. Since awarding its first grants in 1981, Crossroads Fund has distributed over \$3 million to over 400 organizations. We have supported a wide range of groups working on immigrant, civil, and human rights; community organizing; women's liberation; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights; international solidarity; culture, arts and media linked to activism; and more. Through our Seed Fund, groups with previous fiscal year expenses under \$150,000 are eligible for grants up to \$10,000. Our new Growth Fund also offers resources for progressive projects and collaborative efforts growing beyond this budgetary limit—the first Growth Fund grant will be awarded on May 17th at our 20th Anniversary benefit.

For twenty years, Crossroads Fund has been an important link between donors and activists with a shared commitment to a more just society. To ensure that our grants have the greatest impact, our Board of Directors consists of donors and activists who work on the very issues that Crossroads supports.

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Visit the Funding Exchange and sister funds at
www.fex.org

Board & Staff News

Steven Feuerstein, Outgoing Board President



In February 2002, I will be leaving the Board of Directors of the Crossroads Fund after eight years as a board member, culminating in a year as Board President. Crossroads started the year with ambitious plans for growth, and while 2001 was a challenging year for all progressives and progressive funds in the United States, we have pushed forward with some significant accomplishments. I know that I am leaving the Board with a Fund that is even stronger than twelve months ago. The estab-

lishment of the Critical Response Fund following September 11th showed the Fund to be both resilient and responsive. Jeanne Kracher has established herself as an effective leader for both the Fund and the progressive philanthropic community. I plan to remain heavily involved in the Crossroads Fund, and I am very optimistic about the impact we will make in the coming years.

Lawrence Benito, Incoming Board President

This is an exciting time at the Crossroads Fund as we reflect on our first twenty years and craft our grantmaking with a look toward future opportunities. It is truly an honor to serve as a member of a



foundation committed to social and economic justice. The leadership of Steven Feuerstein and Jeanne Kracher through our strategic planning process has paid great dividends as we begin the work ahead. In the next year, we will continue to work with other foundations around issues of social change, implement our development plans to reach new donors and expand our network, and develop the infrastructure needed to sustain our efforts over the next twenty years.

From the Executive Director

DANIELLE HORN



Peter and Lucy Ascoli

Lucy and Peter Ascoli, co-founders, former board members, and long-time supporters of the Crossroads Fund, recently proposed a challenge that we enthusiastically accepted.

If Crossroads Fund can raise \$20,000 throughout this 2002 calendar year from new donors, lapsed donors, and current donors who increase their annual giving, the Ascolis will make a contribution of \$10,000 for a two-to-one match.

“Crossroads is a tremendous organization,” stated Peter Ascoli. “There is nothing like it in the city—it’s a great resource, and we want to strengthen it. Lucy and I hope this will provide a spark, for new donors to contribute because their gift will be leveraged, and for old donors

to renew and increase their support.”

Board President Lawrence Benito adds, “Lucy and Peter are particularly interested in our continuing to grow the individual donor base. It’s a great incentive for us to focus especially on new donors.”

Challenges are a great way to get us all involved in the excitement of fundraising and building community support. Thanks to Lucy and Peter for presenting us with this opportunity. And don’t forget...now is the time for new donors to make a contribution, lapsed donors to come back into the fold, and faithful donors to increase your gifts. Lucy and Peter are waiting to match your dollars.

—Jeanne Kracher

UPCOMING EVENTS

Crossroads Celebrates its 20th Anniversary

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SOCIAL CHANGE FUNDING FRIDAY, MAY 17TH, 2002

It's time for change! We used to have our annual benefit in the fall, and it used to be called Dancin' with the Grass, but this year we're doing things a little differently. One thing won't change: it will happen again at the HotHouse, one of the hottest venues in the city for music and culture, and a Crossroads grantee. But this year we have a few special reasons to celebrate:

IT'S OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY! We've been making grants to groups organizing for progressive change across issues and communities in and around Chicago since 1981, and we're bringing together as many supporters and grantees as possible to celebrate this history.

WE'RE LAUNCHING OUR NEW GROWTH FUND WITH A \$20,000 AWARD to one social change organization (to be announced at the benefit) that maintains its roots in communities while growing and expanding its reach throughout Chicago and beyond.

RON SABLE ACTIVISM AWARD WINNERS WILL RECEIVE AND

GIVE CASH AWARDS. Each year we honor the memory of community activist and Crossroads board member Ron Sable by recognizing activist organizations and donors. This year, the donor recipient will give a \$1,000 award to the Crossroads grantee of her/his choice; the organization recipient will also receive a \$1,000 award.

The band this year is **YOKO NOGE AND THE JAZZ ME BLUES BAND**, popular for their versatile mix of swing, jazz and blues. Yoko performs with six Chicago legends featuring John Watson on vocals and the great Sonny Seals on tenor sax. Charles Sudo of jazzreview.com states, "Yoko Noge and her veteran Jazz Me Blues Band lay down the most danceable rhythms in the city... Noge is an adept bandleader, knowing when to let her sidemen shine... she switches from English to Japanese when the mood suits her, conveying the blues equally well." For more information, visit their website at www.jazzmebluesmusic.com, or come over to the HotHouse on Monday nights to hear them live.

We are also fortunate to have **KOMPAH SETH** as Honorary Chairperson for this celebration. Executive Director of the Cambodian Association of Illinois, Kompah is widely recognized for his human rights

activism and efforts to bring the Cambodian genocide and struggles of Cambodian Americans into the public eye. Recent awards include the 2001 Thomas Jefferson Award, the Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis Award, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Award for Outstanding Community Leadership.

This event raises dollars vital for grassroots groups working to change the face of politics in Chicago and beyond. Through generous support and sponsorship by individuals, organizations, and businesses, Crossroads Fund is able to provide resources for some of the most creative and innovative work in the region.

For more information, to purchase tickets, or to sponsor the event, please call us at 773.227.7676.

WISH LIST:

Got tickets? Artwork? Connections at restaurants, hotels, salons, retailers or other venues maybe willing to give a little? We are looking for silent auction items to help make this event a great success

Crossroads in National April 29th–May 1st Conference

Crossroads is seizing a great opportunity to influence how the field of philanthropy thinks about social justice issues and to push certain items onto the funding radar screen. From April 29th to May 1st, the Council on Foundations will hold its annual conference. It brings together more philanthropy professionals than any other gathering worldwide, and this year it's in Chicago.

Crossroads played a key role in designing two of the conference's twelve site sessions—programs in which funders from across the country go to local organizations to learn about different ways to address a range of issues. Here's what we're helping to put on the map:

Stronger Than The Sum of the Parts: Building Diverse Communities

This session focuses on building strategic alliances among diverse immigrant groups working across the Chicago area. Among the presenting groups is **PINTIG CULTURAL GROUP**, a Crossroads grantee.

Safety For All: Addressing Anti-Gay Violence in the Schools

Presented by **CESO (COALITION FOR EDUCATION ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION)**, a Crossroads grantee, this session focuses on education, policy, and advocacy to stem the tide of violence against gay youth in schools.

Benefit Concert

SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH

For you music fans out there:

Jeff Tweedy (of Wilco), Edward Burch and LeRoy Bach (also of Wilco), Tallulah, Mansion, and M. Fix will all play at Martyrs, 3855 N. Lincoln, on Saturday, April 6th. The show is **RESIST RECKLESS RASCALS**, a benefit for Crossroads Fund and the Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS). Emcee is Tim Tuten, often spotted at the Hideout at 1354 W. Wabansia. Doors open at 8:00. Tickets will sell out fast—the minimum ticket price is \$15, but remember, this is a fundraiser, so additional contributions to Crossroads Fund are encouraged. For more information and to purchase tickets, call 773.227.7676, or visit our website at www.crossroadsfund.org.

2001 Seed Fund Grants

In February 2002, Crossroads Fund awarded \$90,000 to 19 new, emerging, and/or small organizations working in the Chicago area toward social, economic and political justice.

AFFINITY COMMUNITY SERVICES is a multi-faceted community organization run by and for lesbians and bisexual women of African descent, that links the importance of wellness and empowerment to issues of gender, sexual orientation, race and culture.

\$5,000 773.324.0377 affinity95.org

DANIELLE HORN



Affinity member speaks out at a meeting.

AGUIJON THEATER COMPANY of Chicago addresses social issues affecting Latinos through bilingual and Spanish-language theater, with the goal of "stinging" the public's social consciousness through art.

\$3,000 773.637.5899 aguijontheatre.org

BEYONDMEDIA EDUCATION is a Chicago based women's organization dedicated to creating media for progressive organizing. Beyondmedia works with women's and girls' grassroots organizations in Chicago to facilitate media education and access.

\$7,000 773.973.2280 beyondmedia.org

CENTRO DE DERECHOS HUMANOS "SIMON BOLIVAR" is a group of immigrants in Elgin and neighboring communities organizing around human rights violations involv-

ing local police and the workplace. The center is also involved in statewide campaigns on amnesty and drivers licenses for undocumented immigrants.

\$3,000 847.888.3215

CITIZENS ALERT is an interracial, interfaith organization with a goal of organizing Chicago area residents to work together for progressive change in law enforcement.

\$5,000 312.663.5392

COLOMBIA "VIVE" is a new organization started by recent Colombian political exiles to provide referrals, support and safe space to newly arrived Colombian immigrants, while organizing a Colombian voice currently missing in the debate around US foreign policy in Colombia.

\$3,000 773.743.0930

ECOVIDA is an environmental organization that uses a range of popular education trainings and programs to link Latino culture and ancestral environmental stewardship with urban ecological problems and solutions.

\$3,000 312.492.9137

ILLINOIS COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY is a coalition of activist, legal, and religious organizations working to educate the public and organize affected communities to end the use of the death penalty in Illinois. Interim goals include ending use of the death penalty on the mentally challenged and preventing expansion of current death penalty laws.

\$7,000 312.849.2279 icadp.org

IMAGINE ENGLEWOOD IF...! is an emerging organization working to build a stronger and more empowered community in Englewood. Objectives include facilitating communication, collaboration and connectedness among community stakeholders and residents.

\$3,000 773.471.1668 englewoodfutures.org

JANE ADDAMS SENIOR CAUCUS is a multi-issue, community-based organization of older adults that identifies areas of concern and develops strategies for improving the quality of seniors' lives. Current campaigns include maintaining existing and building new affordable housing for low income seniors and increasing access to quality home health care.

\$10,000 773.404.6429

KOREAN AMERICAN RESOURCE & CULTURAL CENTER works to build youth activism and leadership within the Korean American community, while addressing issues faced by many in the community such as identity, racism, social isolation, economic hardships, and language barriers.

\$6,000 773.506.9158 krccweb.org

LATINO UNION OF CHICAGO educates and organizes low-income and immigrant day laborers to demand decent pay, benefits and fair treatment. The union also advocates for public policy changes to stop exploitative treatment of day laborers.

\$5,000 773.523.7350

ORGANIZACION DE DERECHOS HUMANOS "LIBERTAD Y SOLIDARIDAD" is a new group of Latino immigrants in suburban Melrose Park organizing around human and civil rights violations, involving local police and the workplace. They are also involved in statewide campaigns on amnesty and drivers licenses for undocumented immigrants.

\$3,000 708.975.1990

PARTNERSHIP FOR A SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CREDIT UNION is seeking to establish a community controlled

Korean American Resource & Cultural Center preserves and promotes Korean cultural heritage through poongmulnori, traditional Korean drumming.



DANIELLE HORN

and operated financial cooperative that will provide low cost financial services and credit to low income Southside residents. The group seeks to reverse the flow of capital on Chicago's Southside and to foster the community's economic development.

\$7,000 **312.347.8390**

PARTNERSHIP TO END HOMELESSNESS is a coalition of housing and social service agencies working collectively to change city policies and implement a city-wide strategic plan to end homelessness.

\$5,000 **312.566.9255**

PINTIG CULTURAL GROUP uses theater to create opportunities for social and political awareness and cultural activism. Pintig addresses and critiques issues such as immigration, racism, colonization, gender, homophobia, and cultural identity through performances and workshops.

\$5,000 **773.293.2787 pintig.org**

TAMMS COMMITTEE is a group of families and supporters of prisoners at the SuperMax Prison in Tamms, Illinois. They are working to raise public consciousness about the inhumane conditions within the prison, while advocating for change within the system. **\$3,000** **773.769.1411**

WOMEN OF FAITH FOR PRISON JUSTICE is a network of women that collects data, disseminates information and addresses state legislation concerning the largely unmet needs of women incarcerated in Illinois and of their children. **\$4,000** **773.468.2667**

YOUNG WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PROJECT uses a peer based model to work with and empower girls and young women who are currently or have been involved in trading sex for money or survival. The group also works to educate communities, offering a systemic analysis of the conditions that lead to prostitution, and employing direct action organizing for solutions. **\$3,000** **773.274.8684 youarepriceless.org**



DANIELLE HOY

Members of Jane Addams Senior Caucus gather outside Renzi Plaza in Lakeview, where they recently won a campaign to save 150 units of affordable housing.

Additional Grants (July 2001 to February 2002)

DONOR ADVISED GRANTS

New World Resource Center	\$3,900
Black Radical Congress	\$500
Southwest Youth Collaborative	\$1,000
Arab American Action Network	\$500
Nicaragua Solidarity Committee	\$5,000
Gush Shalom	\$5,970
Total	\$16,870

CRITICAL RESPONSE GRANTS

Arab American Action Network	\$10,000
Video Machete/CAAELII	\$6,590
Not In My Name	\$3,750
First Defense Legal Aid	\$5,000
Incite! Chicago Chapter	\$5,000

American Friends Service Committee	\$5,000
IMAN	\$3,000
Total	\$38,340

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Asian Health Coalition of Illinois	\$1,000
HotHouse/CIPEX	\$1,000
CABN	\$1,000
Transgenesis Social Services	\$2,500
Chicago Workers Center	\$3,000
Total	\$8,500

EMERGENCY GRANTS

Nobel Neighbors	\$500
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Critical Response Fund

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collaborate further and secure funding for working on a study guide that can utilize the PSAs in schools and community centers.”

Resources for this project so far come from the Critical Response Fund, launched here at the Crossroads Fund within the weeks following September 11th. During that time, conversations with grantees indicated a heightened fear and uncertainty about safety and suspension of civil rights, particularly among immigrants and other communities of color.

To date, Crossroads Fund has raised \$68,500 from local foundations and some individuals for the CRF; Crossroads is also contributing \$10,000 to this fund. Foundation supporters include the Wieboldt Foundation, Joyce Foundation, Polk Bros. Foundation, Woods Fund of Chicago, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, New Visions Foundation, and the Field Foundation of Illinois. The CRF has also attracted media attention in *Crain's Chicago Business*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Streetwise*.

Seven grants totaling close to \$40,000 have been made so far to groups whose work involves combating racism and hate crimes; monitoring, defending, and educating on civil liberties; and deepening the public's awareness and understanding of the many complex issues confronting different communities in the post-September 11th world. Here's what some are doing.

ARAB AMERICAN ACTION NETWORK (AAAN) received the first CRF grant (\$10,000) to spearhead a campaign

for tolerance and safety in local schools and communities. AAAN is pushing forward with this campaign in the face of unbelievable challenges in recent months. In December, AAAN offices were gutted by arson. AAAN is currently operating out of the Southwest Youth Collaborative, a neighboring organization.

In a recent interview with *Crain's Chicago Business*, AAAN acting director Hatem Abudayyeh noted, “with our community feeling almost under siege, it is gratifying that groups like Crossroads are willing to help us with our work.”

NOT IN MY NAME received \$3,750 for a conference in November to educate and deepen the public's understanding of the Middle East. Groups involved in the conference have since formed a “Just Peace Coalition” working together on a number of projects, including efforts to bring Hanan Ashrawi, Robert Fisk, and others here to Chicago this spring.

FIRST DEFENSE LEGAL AID (FDLA) is using a \$5,000 CRF grant to conduct a “know your rights” outreach and education project in Arab American and Muslim communities in Chicago. This includes educating on peoples' legal rights and responsibilities when stopped by the police; updating and translating “know your rights” materials; and recruiting and training community leaders, high school students, and others on how to convey necessary preventive information.

INCITE! CHICAGO CHAPTER will use a \$5,000 CRF grant to support the second national Color of Violence Conference to be held in Chicago this March 15-17.



AAAN continues programs in a temporary space while their offices, gutted by arson in December, undergo reconstruction.

This year's conference will have a focus on militarism and U.S. foreign policies as it impacts violence against women of color domestically and internationally. A primary goal is to encourage the current domestic violence movement to make connections between interpersonal violence and state violence, both in the current war and in communities of color in this country.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC) is using a \$5,000 CRF grant to convene the Peace Response Coalition, an emergency coalition of over 20 community-based groups organizing together in support of establishing global peace by means alternative to war. Sponsor organizations are training volunteers to facilitate small group sessions on a range of related issues including media critique, civil liberties, the global economy, nonviolent alternatives to bombing, and more.

IMAN will use a \$3,000 CRF grant to work with Arab, Latino and African American Muslim youth on documenting and reporting hate crimes, understanding and evaluating media reports, and other “know your rights” work. They also speak at various area high schools about Islamic faith, history of Islam in the U.S., and its relationship with women's and human rights issues.



*Reverend Seiichi 'Mike' Yasutake,
1920-2001*

Remembering “A Giant in the Struggle for Justice:”

Reverend Seiichi 'Mike' Yasutake

Crossroads Fund mourns the loss in January of our friend and ally, Reverend Mike Yasutake. Lifelong advocate for peace with justice, outspoken opponent of the death penalty, and vital voice in support of political prisoners, Yasutake is remembered by many in Chicago and beyond as a “giant in the struggle for justice.” Mike was director of the **CHICAGO INTERFAITH PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE PROJECT**, a Crossroads grantee.

In Review

Crossroads Supporters Meet With Israeli Peace Activists Uri and Rachel Avnery

In October, Crossroads Fund was honored to sponsor a private breakfast meeting with **URI AND RACHEL AVNERI** for donors and others interested in learning more about the peace movement in Israel and prospects for a just peace. The Avnerys were in Chicago for a brief visit as part of a U.S. tour to raise funds for **GUSH SHALOM** (Peace Bloc), one of the most active and visible peace organizations in Israel. This breakfast raised over \$5,000 for Gush Shalom—one of the most successful events of the tour. Many thanks to **LUCY AND PETER ASCOLI** for hosting this event at the East Bank Athletic Club.



Uri Avnery

Crossroads Hosts Weekend of Post-911 Events for Activists and Donors

In early December, Crossroads Fund hosted a weekend of events with renowned Arab American civil rights attorney **ABDEEN JABARA** as well as Chicago-based activists, entitled *Understanding "Operation Enduring Freedom:" How did this happen? Where do we go from here?* Exploring these questions, Jabara presented historical events contributing to the current U.S. role in the Middle East, as well as implications for civil liberties particularly for people of color.



Abdeen Jabara

New Donors

Many thanks to our newest donors who have given either to general or donor advised funds, or to both!

Craig and Marion Baab	Doug Hostetter	Ligy Pullappally
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Caroline Girgis	Lona Livingston	Catherine Woolner
Jeff Gold	Scott McIntyre	Angel Ysaguirre
Kay and John Golden	Myrtis Meyer and Marty Cohen	2 new anonymous donors
Lawrence Hamilton and Ann Hicks	Joey Mogul	<i>Includes gifts from 10/1/01 to 2/1/02.</i>
Diane Horwitz	New Visions Foundation	<i>Please feel free to contact us with corrections!</i>
	Susan Obuchowski	
	Adam Pincus	

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CROSSROADS FUND NEWSLETTER

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Howard Landau, 1902–2001

Leaving a Legacy

Howard Landau, long-time supporter of Crossroads Fund, made a lasting gift by leaving a bequest to Crossroads Fund this year. Throughout his life, Landau's contributions to philanthropy made an important impact in local communities and beyond. He was a co-founder of the Community Ventures program of the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (JCUA) to help create affordable housing in Chicago, founding member of

the Illinois chapter of the ACLU, and president of the Young Men's Jewish Council. His daughter, Kay Berkson, was a founding board member of the Crossroads Fund.

It is a tremendous gift and a great honor to receive this bequest from Howard Landau.

If you are interested in information on how to make a bequest to Crossroads Fund, please contact us at 773.227.7676.

CROSSROADS FUND

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APRIL 6, 2002
Resist Reckless Rascals:
Concert Benefit
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MAY 17, 2002
20th Anniversary Celebration
HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo

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