



## Peace & Justice Center Highlights 2018-2019

- Held over 50 workshops from our Educational Program Catalog: 26 Racial Justice, 20 Fair Trade, and 10 Nonviolence.
- Launched two new programs: “Fair Trade 101: Racism and Global Trade” and “Black Beauty” (created by and for people from the African diaspora)
- 10 film screenings including:
  - You Can’t be Neutral on a Moving Train
  - 13th
  - The Way Home: Women Talk About Race
  - Undettered
- Worked with 18 schools, school districts, and colleges including Quarry Hill Preschool, St Michael’s College, Sterling College, and Rutland City School District.
- Partnered with over 15 community organizations including the Montpelier Senior Activities Center, the Lund Center, and the Green Mountain Club.
- Participated in or hosted events in 27 towns (including Middlebury, St Albans, Rutland, Waterbury, Montpelier, Norwich, and Craftsbury) and nine out of 13 Vermont counties
- Facilitated monthly gatherings of:
  - POC in VT Affinity Group
  - Toxic Whiteness Discussion Group
  - New Volunteer Orientations
  - Volunteer Educational/Social Gatherings
- Published 24 issues of our enews and sent each to over 4,000.
- Published four issues of the *Peace & Justice News* with a circulation of 1,200.

Held our Annual Events including:

- Reading Frederick Douglass for “Independence” Day (Burlington)
- Youth Activist Summit (Barre)
- World Fair Trade Day (Burlington)
- Social Justice Symposium (Rutland)
- Songs for Hope (to commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days)
- Ed Everts Social Justice Award Celebration honoring the work of Robin Lloyd and Loving Day Vermont
- Hosted a nonviolent activism workshop with George Lakey.
- Coffee and chocolate tastings in the store.
- Vended off site at multiple fairs and festivals.
- Supported Allied Groups including Vermonters for Justice in Palestine, Loving Day Vermont, Women’s March Vermont, and Save Our Skies.
- Co-led the formation of Community Voices for Immigrant Rights with Women’s March Vermont, a group made up of individuals and groups that has been having bi-weekly organizing meetings, hosting educational events and street protests, and supporting the campaigns of Migrant Justice.
- Two Prospective Facilitator Gatherings and one Facilitator Appreciation Dinner.
- Two Volunteer Appreciation Parties.
- Board, staff, advisory committee, and facilitators took part in the Pride Center’s Trans 101 workshop and a Nonviolent Conflict Deescalation training.



# 2019 Annual Report

October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

peace justice center

advocacy • education • action

Dear friends,

It has been a remarkable year at the Peace & Justice Center. We continued to focus much of our work on educational programs (on racial justice, nonviolence, and fair trade); supporting the work of other activists and groups around the state; supporting young people to become strong organizers and activists; being responsive to current events; and running our store.



It was another year of multiple protests. As news came out from the Mueller investigation and we partnered with Move On and local volunteers to host two protests related to that. We also continued to learn more about the horrifying conditions in the detention centers/concentration camps on the southern border. Out of the protests we held against ICE in July, we formed Community Voices for Immigrant Rights with Women's March Vermont and a number of individuals and other groups. We sent a bus to Washington, DC for the Women's March in January. Additionally, the PJC supported and participated



in several other demonstrations including Protest the F35s, Queer as in Abolish ICE, Go Home Scott Walker, Global Climate Strike, and Chittenden Regional Correction Facility Release the Records.

After Representative Kiah Morris left her position in Montpelier due to ongoing racial harassment, we worked with her to create an opportunity for people to learn from the situation. We created a pledge called Stand with Kiah/ Stand Against Racism. Taking the pledge included joining a book discussion. We hosted book discussions around the state.



Kiah Morris

We held our third annual Social Justice Symposium. This time we took it on the road to Rutland where we worked with a planning committee of local organizers and activists. It was great to continue to intentionally be present beyond Chittenden County and wonderful to have Kiah Morris as the keynote speaker.



60 Lake Street, 1C  
Burlington VT 05401

802.863.2345  
www.pjcv.org  
info@pjcv.org

## STAFF 2018-2019

**Wendy Coe**  
*Office Manager*

**Alex Rose**  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

**Amy Crosswhite**  
*Fair Trade Store & Program Manager*

**Rachel Siegel**  
*Executive Director*

**Kyle Silliman-Smith**  
*Program Director Oct-Mar*

**Kina Thorpe**  
*Program Manager*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018-2019

Bianca Bellot  
Beverly Little Thunder  
Song Nguyen  
Jennifer Pacholek - secretary  
Lam Phan - chair  
David Shiman  
Nathan Suter - treasurer  
Weiwei Wang

## PJC VISION & MISSION

**Vision:** To create a just and peaceful world.

**Mission:** We work on the interconnected issues of peace, human rights and economic, social, and racial justice through education, advocacy, training and nonviolent activism, community organizing, and collaboration since 1979.

Our store continues to operate as a program that offers people an ethical shopping option, educates the public on fair trade, supports artisans and vendors worldwide, and pulls people into our work beyond the store.

A group of 15 of us (staff, board, facilitators, and partners) visited the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. We created a report-back presentation from the trip and have shared it several times around the state. It was profound to immerse ourselves in the origin of our country and the current violence of mass incarceration – both of which depend on and fuel racism. It was a chance for great healing and tremendous growth.



World Fair Trade Day, May 2019.

Two of our staff members, Kina and Alex, were able to travel to DC for the



Anti F-35 press release, September 2019

Alliance for Nuclear Accountability DC Days. They stayed at the Code Pink House and spoke to congressional staffers about the need to abolish nuclear weapons. This work is especially pertinent in Vermont with the arrival of the F-35s which we have learned are part of the US Nuclear Arsenal.

We took a stand on two significant issues – one related to Palestinian solidarity and one related to transinclusion. We are steadfast in the commitments we made however they have cost us some relationships and funding. When the peace movement breaks into factions like this and becomes more siloed, fascism and white nationalism become harder to fight. They must be fought intersectionally to be fought effectively. We will continue to grapple with this reality and do our best to collaborate with people and groups even when we are not 100% aligned. This is critical. However, when people decide they won't work with us, we wonder how much we should work to repair relationships.

We are working hard to show our commitment to intersectionality, especially in how our program areas



(Racial Justice, Nonviolence, and Fair Trade) all commingle with Climate Justice. The work we do is part of the necessary work that has to happen to address the climate emergency.

We are also working hard to put Women of Color feminist principles into action and follow the lead of those most impacted by the issues we address. We need to continue to learn more about disability justice and decolonization in order to do our work with more authenticity and value.



De-escalation training, July, 2019

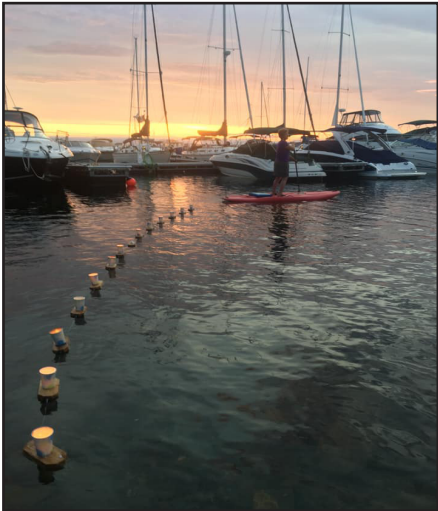
And perhaps the most significant thing we did this year was internal work leading up to and following a two-week staff retreat. We used this time to assess, breathe, clean up our physical space and electronic files, and plan. It was incredibly valuable time and we made a commitment to take a week each year, in January when we can more easily close the store, to retreat and regroup. Part of fighting capitalism is fighting the sense that we cannot take breaks. We must, if we are to sustain our work, take breaks.

Thank you for being part of what we do. Doing this work in community is the only way to do it.

Peace,



Rachel Siegel  
Executive Director



Hiroshima and Nagasaki candleboats  
August, 2019.

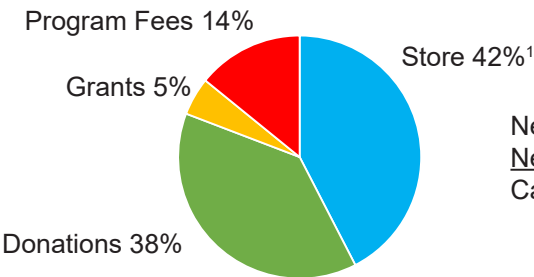
**Many Hands:**

884 members  
84 volunteers  
21 interns  
25 facilitators  
5717 volunteer hours  
130 suppliers in the store



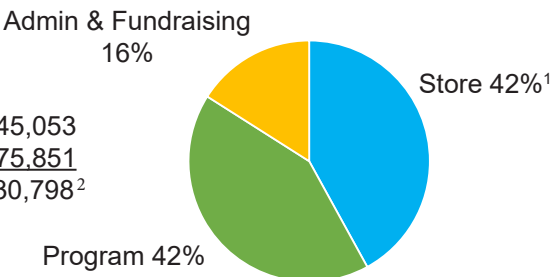
**Financial Statement: October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019**

**Revenues**



Net Revenue \$345,053  
Net Expense \$375.851  
Cash Balance - \$30,798²

**Expenses**



1. The Peace & Justice Store is one of the educational projects of the Peace & Justice Center.  
2. The previous fiscal year, we ended in the black.