Peace & Justice Center Annual Report



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Introduction

Since 1981, the Peace & Justice Center (PJC) has been a Vermont leader in mobilizing action, tackling the interconnected issues of human rights and economic, social, and environmental justice.

Our political, social, and economic institutions were built on principles that favored some (male, white, typically abled, straight, cis-gendered, wealthy, powerful) at the expense of others (women and gender non-conforming people, people of color, differently abled, LGBTQI, the 99%, and the nonviolent). These dynamics are embedded in our culture's DNA. The PJC is committed to raising awareness of injustice, redressing the harms of generational oppression, and equipping people with tools to lead viable social change movements that include and empower all people and, ultimately, create a peaceful and just world.

There are two main aspects to our organization: Education & Workshops and Community Engagement. Both departments had an incredibly successful year in their own right.

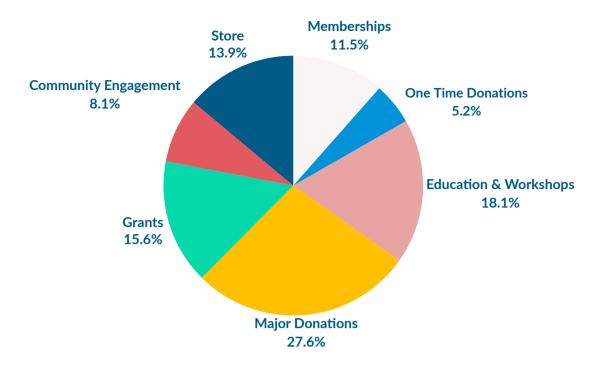
The Education and Workshops Department held many private workshops with organizations and worked hard to provide a few public programs. They onboarded several new facilitators and continued working with their invaluable experienced ones.

The Community Engagement Department held many events and welcomed new Allied Groups, including the Winooski Parents & Students Project and Burlington Free Meals. We also opened our new community library and are excited for the many opportunities that await us in the future.

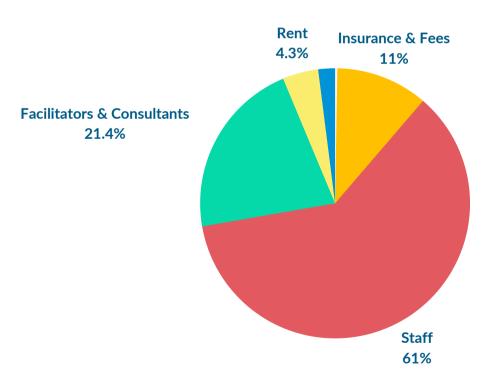


Budget Overview

Total Income: \$162,621.91

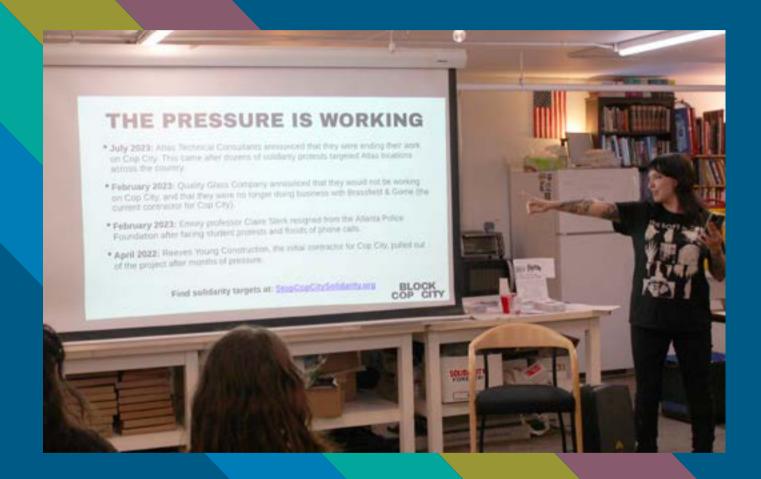


Total Expenses: \$160,698.00

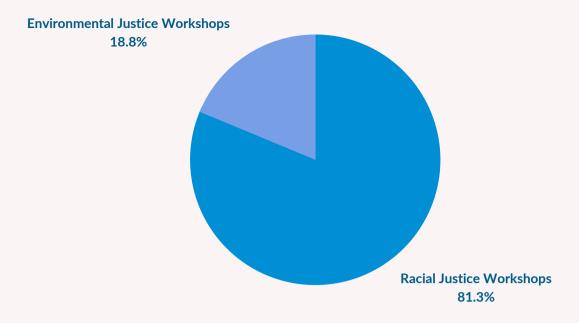


- Number of First Time Donors: 135
- Number of Recurring Donors: 131
- Number of Recaptured Donors: 61

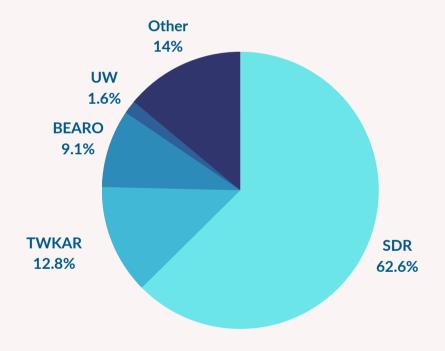
Education & Workshops



Workshop Total: 16



Total Workshop Attendance: 347



- SDR: Seeing and Disrupting Racism
- BEARO: Building Empathy and Addressing Racial Oppression
- UW: Unpacking Whiteness
- TWKAR: Talking with Kids About Racism

Department Averages for 2022-2023 Fiscal Year



Average Price of Workshop: \$1,260.18



Average Number of Participants Per Workshop: 26

Total Income 10/22-10/23: \$26,815.00

Total Workshop Participants: 347

Participant Quotes,

"Hearing where my white colleagues are at and what they're thinking
about race and racism, which informs my decisionmaking more
accurately and safely as a POGM. It was amazing to not have to be the
one doing that work for free and to know that facilitators who have
chosen to engage in that work are being paid for it." ~ Our Talking with
Kids About Racism workshop with educators in Chittenden County

• "I appreciated the focus of the workshop through a specific lens rather than 'trying to solve everything' and acknowledging that we would leave with more questions than we started with. I also appreciated the role play scenarios even though performing in front of a group is challenging. Again, the framework of discomfort as a necessary feeling helped navigate those challenges." ~ Our Talking with Kids About Racism workshop with educators in Chittenden County

• "All of it, honestly. It really hit for me and provided me with important tools to help myself and all the different people around me." ~ Out Talking with Kids About Racism Workshop in Chittenden County

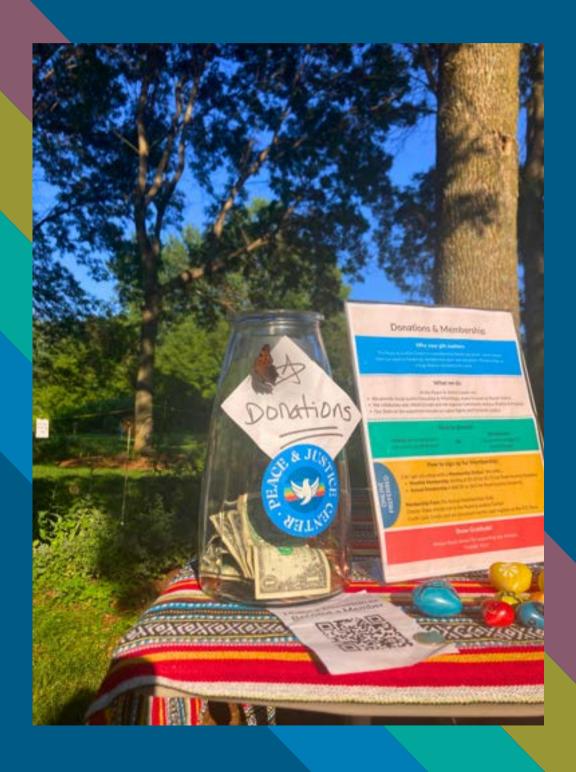
PJC 2023

Programs & Workshops

- 1. Burlington, Spectrum,Pathways, ProjectHarmony, NOFA VT
- 2. Shelburne, Champlain Valley Waldorf School
- 3. South Hero, Land Trust
- 4. Richmond, OurCommunity Cares Camp
- 5. Waterbury, Utility
 Services
- 6. East Montperlier,Orchard Valley WaldorSchool
- 7. Hardwick, Town
 Government
- 8. Burke, Northeast Regional Hospital
- 9. Manchester, Northshire Day School
- 10. North Bennington, LakeParan Recreation Camp



Peace & Justice Store



Store Net Totals

Total Net Sales

\$20,679.47

We want to acknowledge the pain that many people are feeling due to the closing of our retail store space. We understand that this was a loss to many in the community who took great value in having a place to find activist materials and fair trade goods. Although we could no longer sustain the store space, we are grateful for all of our store customers and volunteers who contributed to its operation for so long. We are ever more committed to upholding the values of social justice and equity that the store embodied, and we welcome one and all to come to our Library and Center and learn more about what the Peace & Justice Center is doing now - Kason Hudman, Director of **Operations**

Local, Fair Trade, and Consignment **Products Sold**















Community Engagement







Allied Group Funds Growth

Throughout the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, we raised a total of \$229,799.35 for our Allied Groups

10/01/23 Allied Group Balances

Brooklyn Strong	376.77
Burlington Free Meals	70.00
Clemmons Family Farm	1865.87
Ethnic Diversity Book	3957.50
Extinction Rebellion VT	444.77
Hope Beneath the Tree	0.00
InterAmerica CASA Expenses	0.00
Loving Day Vermont	16,659.80
Marigold House	2477.17
Milton Inclusion & Diversity In	653.19

10/01/23 Allied Group Balances

1362.00
0.00
1498.26
29,623.24
2,222.68
134.62
275.25
4751.50
2580.65
4,290.24
1328.71
11,225.08
0.00

New Allied Groups

The PJC was thrilled to welcome three new Allied Groups this year. Our Allied Group program offers fiscal sponsorship to grassroots activist groups, allowing them to receive tax-deductible donations and grant funding.

We also offer a number of other services to our groups, including access to our meeting space and volunteer database and marketing assistance.



Winooski Parents & Students Project

The Winooski Parents & Students project offers support and community building exercises to new American families in Winooski and the Champlain Valley area.



Burlington Free Meals

Burlington Free Meals project, working with leftover food from restaurants and donated food, offers free meals to those most in need in our community



Homosteading 101

Homosteading 101 is an educational program for trans people and other LGBT folx to learn homesteading skills like carpentry, plumbing, gardening, and other things that are adaptable to rural Vermont life

New Space



The Peace & Justice Center successfully moved to 239 S.

Union Street this year! We had an Open House in February and we've already started inviting and booking groups to meet in our meeting room. We have a wonderful library, including free zines that people can take whenever they'd like. We also share a space with the amazing 350 Vermont. We are proud of the work we put into our new space, and we invite everyone to come check it out!



New Education & Workshop Facilitators



Kalé Camara, Support Facilitaotr (They/Them)

Kalé (they/them) is a budding educator, artist, and organizer. They sit at the intersection of being queer, Black, mixed race, and neurodivergent among other identities. They have been facilitating meetings, workshops, and events since 2018 around the topics of visioning, immigrant justice, and racial justice. Growing up in a predominantly white community in the suburbs of D.C. to a Danish American mom and a Guinean father Kalé never received any support in their racial identity formation. In the years since then, they've been working to learn the histories of genocide and oppression in the U.S. and to situate themselves within that context.

Kalé is new to the PJC but has already done incredible work for us: support facilitated three programs, co-developed curriculum alongside other facilitators, and brought a dynamic and hopeful perspective to the group. We are so excited to continue to work with such a strong facilitator.



Angela Santos, (She/Her),
Support Facilitaotrs

Angela Santos is a longtime Burlintonian living with my husband and teenage daughter in the ONE. She has a background in human services and martial arts, and is currently employed at Champlain Housing Trust as support staff in the Elmwood Pod Community. She volunteers at Combat Fitness MMA as a boxing coach for underserved youth in my community. Her philosophy for all her work is to "Advocate for those who can't advocate for themselves"

She has been facilitating with the PJC for almost one year and has been a critical part of our work. Along with her warmth and welcoming demeanor, Angela brings an incredibly unique and empathetic perspective to the workshops. She sets the tone for all the workshops she is a part of, holding space for people to speak while also encouraging the group to listen, believe, and be curious. We are so lucky to have her on our team and can't wait to do more work together.

Community Events and Special Projects



Art Hop with Revolutionary Press

This summer, we joined Revolutionary Press and FreeHer VT at Art Hop in Burlington to help educate the public about the possibility of a life without prisons. We helped people make and distribute prints focusing on prison abolition. It was such a joy to connect with other community leaders and promote progress on this issue in a creative and fun way.



NOFA Symposium

This past February, the Peace & Justice Center was invited to table at the Northeast Organic Farmer's Association symposium at UVM. It was such a wonderful opportunity to meet with organic farmer's from throughout the state of Vermont and introduce ways that racial and environmental justice intersect with farming issues. The Peace & Justice Center also led a workshop for the attendees that same day.



Scooper's United Rally

Along with the AFL-CIO and other union leaders, the Peace & Justice Center supported the work of the Scooper's United union in unionizing the historic downtown Ben & Jerry's location in Burlington. We showed up to rally in solidarity with Bernie Sanders and other civic leaders and we are so proud they ended with a successful union election. We will always show up for workers!



FreeHer Vermont Rally in Montpelier

In coalition with many other Vermont organizations, the Peace & Justice Center rallied in Montpelier to ensure that no new women's prison is built in Vermont and instead argued that the legislature should utilize that money for social services and social justice. Vermont has the money to build alternative systems of restorative justice and definitively end the cycle of incarceration and punishment.



PJC Joined the Decrimanalize VT Coalition

In a coalition with many other VT organizations, the PJC joined the Decriminalize VT movement to help change the drug policy of this state and help those struggling with Substance Abuse Disorder. We are proud of the work this coalition has done so far, and we are so excited to see what we can do next year!

Conclusion



Conclusion and Acnowledgements

The PJC is proud to present the results of our hard work in this annual report. We could not have had such success without our integral staff members, past and present. We also recognize the contributions of our members and the PJC community, who are absolutely vital to our organization. You make all of this work possible, and we here at the PJC are eternally grateful.

Our organization went through major changes, including the relocation of our office, and we are so grateful for the support we are proud of the work we did and also grateful to so many of you.

The PJC looks forward to our new programs and efforts to bring about community engagement. We are excited for what the next year will bring and are confident we will be able to achieve many more great things as an organization.

In Solidarity,
The Peace & Justice Center Staff



The Peace & Justice Center Annual Report 2022-2023
was compiled by:
Bella Fearn, and Kason Hudman