

**GIFTS**  
*of Service*  
*to the World*

1999 Parliament of the World's Religions  
Cape Town, South Africa  
1 - 8 December



*Gifts*  
OF SERVICE  
TO THE *World*



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*Today there is a broad and deep movement toward openness, goodwill, and warm-hearted and loving engagement among religious and spiritual communities around the world.*

*Sustained encounters between people of different religious, spiritual, and cultural traditions have created heightened momentum toward actualizing our many visions of a better world, as well as stronger possibilities for establishing ethical common ground.*

*New awareness and shared ethical principles opens the way into a new era of creative engagement—where we find and implement new modes of outreach, cooperation, and constructive common action, not only among the world's religions but among all of the world's guiding institutions.*





# FFERING GIFTS OF SERVICE TO THE WORLD

The Parliament of the World's Religions is committed to providing inspiration and direction for those wishing to offer gifts of service to the world. To give such a gift is an expression of the fundamental spiritual inclination towards generosity, caring, hospitality, compassion, and good will. The extent to which goodness has existed in the world has often been directly related to the giving of such gifts and the spirit in which they are given. In spite of the progress made through ambitious endeavors and noble institutions, the fate of the world continues to rest on such gifts—and now, more than ever.

The Parliament's invitation to offer gifts of service comes in the midst of worldwide attention to the crossing of the threshold into a new century and, for many, a new millennium. The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions—in partnership with the Millennium Institute of Arlington, Virginia—has seized this unique opportunity to inspire individuals, organizations, groups, and religious and spiritual communities to offer strategic gifts, which are projects that will make long-term differences within the planetary community.

For the past two years, the Council has worked to encourage the offering of such gifts and to collect descriptions of some of them for publication in this volume, *The 1999 Parliament Book of Gifts*. This collection of exemplary gifts/projects will be shared at the 1999 Parliament, and will provide inspiration to Parliament participants and others to ask what they can do in their own communities, regions, and lands, to make a difference.

We believe that many new gifts/projects will be created at, and after the 1999 Parliament, and we encourage all interested parties to register such Gifts of Service at the 1999 Parliament or after the event, by contacting the Council. CPWR pledges to work in close cooperation with the Millennium Institute and other organizations to nurture a responsive network for the exchange of ideas, information, contacts, and

support for individuals, groups, and communities choosing to offer their projects as Gifts of Service to the World. In addition, the Council pledges to track the progress of all Gifts of Service and to report on them periodically to Parliament supporters and within the next three years. The Council will endeavor to publish a revised and expanded Parliament Book of Gifts, incorporating new gifts/projects created at and after the 1999 event. As we approach the 2004 Parliament, therefore, the Gifts of Service project will continue to grow. New seeds will be planted; new ideas will emerge; new commitments will be fostered; and a new day will indeed be dawning.

## Note

Those interested in proposing a project for inclusion in the Gifts of Service to the World program should complete the Gift Description Worksheet included in this book. Please read the Criteria listed below before completing the Worksheet.

## Aims

Gifts proposed for CPWR's Gifts of Service to the World program should give expression to one or more of the following aims and should be consistent with each.

- To embody the highest human aspirations for meaning and purpose in life
- To alleviate suffering
- To assist in the pursuit of justice, peace, and the humane treatment of all human beings
- To nurture harmony with the Earth
- To foster respect and mutuality between diverse peoples, cultures, and religions

# BASIC CRITERIA

- Gifts in Service to the World should be consistent with CPWR's commitment to interreligious convergence:

Very few religious and spiritual communities can reach consensus with one another on an extensive religious, moral, ethical, or social agenda. This is true not only of relations between diverse traditions, but nearly as often of relations among various constituent groups within a particular tradition.

However, there are points of convergence—of shared interest, common purpose, or common cause—that can provide a basis for dialogue and cooperation. Points of convergence do not presume agreement on other matters of belief or practice.

- The Council cannot consider Gift projects or programs which in themselves take polemical positions with regard to internal issues of contention or dispute within a given participating tradition. (This policy does not imply any position on the part of the Council with respect to such issues.)
- A Gift which approaches a polemical situation within a given tradition by bringing opposing parties together in order to encourage mutual understanding, etc. might well be acceptable.
- Gifts should be offered in a spirit of respect for one's own tradition and for the traditions of others.
- All gifts must be non-violent in character, although the Council acknowledges that many individuals and groups continue to struggle with the question of violence in service to justice.
- All Gifts should be non-proselytizing and non-sectarian. (That is, Gifts should not be designed to further only the self-interest of the gifting organization. The Council of course acknowledges the right of each religious and spiritual tradition to proselytize and pursue legitimate self-interest.)
- CPWR can only consider Gift proposals from individuals, groups, organizations, and communities that share the Council's commitment to interreligious dialogue, understanding, respect, and cooperation.
- Gifts should be inspired by the mission, themes, and occasion of the Parliament of the World's Religions.



# WAYS OF GIVING

Gifts of Service to the World tend to fall under one or more of the following Headings. (When filling out the Gift Description Worksheet, mark the single heading that most closely corresponds to the proposed Gift.)

## **Building Bridges of Understanding and Cooperation**

Gifts that reach across the gulfs which often result from our diversities; Gifts that promote encounter, dialogue, and shared action among diverse religions, ethnic groups, genders, cultures, and life styles

## **Celebrating Life and its Possibilities**

Gifts of celebration, art, music, dance; Gifts that create events which suggest and shape the richness of possibility.

## **Fostering Creative Engagement**

Gifts that promote the cooperative, visionary, and creative engagement of religion and spirituality with other guiding institutions, including: business/commerce, government, education, and media; Gifts that promote institutional and systemic reform and healing

## **Meeting Essential Needs**

Gifts that are designed to address issues relating to the basic needs of living beings: survival, food, shelter, education, etc.

## **Nurturing Transformative Community**

Gifts that involve communities that build, enrich, and transform humanity and the planet

## **Offering Sacred Practice**

Gifts that involve religious or spiritual practice, ritual, liturgy, prayer, meditation, etc., and whose primary focus is outreach, healing, and transformation of a larger whole

## **Pursuing Universal Human Rights**

Gifts that express concern for civil, political, social, and economic rights of all human beings

# GIFT DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET (GDW)

**GIFT PRESENTED BY**       **INDIVIDUAL**       **ORGANIZATION**

**CONTACT NAME / TITLE**

Your name and title.

**ORGANIZATION**  
(If applicable)

Name of organization.

**ADDRESS**

Your current mailing address. Include all appropriate postal codes.

**PHONE(S)**

(Int'l code area code, number)

Daytime and evening phone numbers.

**FAX**

Fax number and special instructions, if any.

**E-MAIL**

Your e-mail address, if any.

**WEBSITE**

Your website address, if any.

**GIFT / PROJECT TITLE**

How your Gift / Project should be listed in the Parliament Book of Gifts.

**GIFT / PROJECT FOCUS**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Essential Needs                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Offering Sacred Practice               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pursuing Universal Human Rights                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurturing Transformative Communities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fostering Creative Engagement                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Celebrating Life and its Possibilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Bridges of Understanding and Cooperation |   |

**DESCRIPTION**

A 25-50 word description of your Gift / Project.

**GIFT / PROJECT TIME-FRAME**

- A.** Please indicate whether Gift / Project has a specific, limited time-frame or is a continuing effort with an indefinite time-frame.
- LIMITED TIME-FRAME       INDEFINITE / CONTINUING
- B.** Please indicate current status of Gift / Project and (if appropriate) give beginning and completion dates.
- |  |                        |                      |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> UNDERWAY      | <b>BEGINNING DATE</b>  | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETED     | <b>COMPLETION DATE</b> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOT YET BEGUN |                        |                      |

**REMARKS**

Please provide any additional information which you believe may be useful to Parliament organizers.

# GIFT DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET (GDW)

**GIFT PRESENTED BY**       **INDIVIDUAL**       **ORGANIZATION**

**CONTACT  
NAME / TITLE**

**ORGANIZATION**  
(If applicable)

**ADDRESS**

**PHONE(S)**  
(Int'l code  
area code, number)

(Office):  
(Home):  
Other (mobile):

**FAX**

(Office):  
(Home):  
Special instructions:

**E-MAIL**

**WEBSITE**

**GIFT /  
PROJECT  
TITLE**

**GIFT /  
PROJECT  
FOCUS**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Essential Needs                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Offering Sacred Practice               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pursuing Universal Human Rights                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Nurturing Transformative Communities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fostering Creative Engagement                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Celebrating Life and its Possibilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Bridges of Understanding and Cooperation |   |

**DESCRIPTION**

**GIFT /  
PROJECT  
TIME-FRAME**

**A.** Gift / Project time-frame:     **LIMITED TIME-FRAME**     **INDEFINITE / CONTINUING**

**B.** Gift / Project current status:

- UNDERWAY**  
 **COMPLETED**  
 **NOT YET BEGUN**

**BEGINNING DATE**

**COMPLETION DATE**

**REMARKS**



The Veterans Restoration Project

*Cao Dai Giao Hai Ngoai*



**B**UILDING  
BRIDGES  
OF UNDERSTANDING  
& COOPERATION





### **One City, Many Cultures**

One City, Many Cultures is a series of articles and public celebrations organized by the Cape Times daily newspaper in Cape Town, South Africa. This project seeks to bring together, in gatherings and through articles, the wide diversity of Cape Town. The articles provide important background information from the perspective of the various traditions and cultures themselves, allowing Capetonians to get to know their neighbors.

**Cape Times**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Love and Care for Creation: Amor y Cuidado de la Creacion**

On September 1, 1998, the Anglican, Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran, Mormon and Presbyterian churches and the Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu, Sufi-Islam and Sikh communities in Mexico signed a pact called "Love and Care for Creation" promising to participate with their time and human resources to: train people in their communities to be specialists in environmental matters; educate their religious communities to their responsibilities unto creation as part of their faith; initiate ecological projects in their religious communities which put into practice the new environmental programs of the Mexican Interfaith Council.

**Mexican Interfaith Council**  
**MEXICO**

### **International Peace Council**

The Peace Council is an organization built around a core membership of 16 of the world's religious and spiritual leaders. It is a response to the many appeals at the 1993 Parliament of the World's Religions for effective, active, interfaith collaboration on the critical issues of the world. The mission of the Peace Council is to demonstrate that peace is possible, and that effective interreligious collaboration to make peace also is possible. In a world where religion too often is used to justify division, hatred, and violence – and very seldom used to relieve these problems – the Peace Councilors offer an alternative: the example of religious leaders working effectively together to relieve suffering and make the world whole.

**International Committee for the Peace Council**  
**USA**

### **Interfaith Youth Corps**

Interfaith Youth Corps (IFYC) is planning a program that offers young people a supportive space in which to explore questions about religion, the future, and intercultural understanding. At its heart, the IFYC is an opportunity for young people to make a difference, and in the process, to be forever changed themselves. Through long-term service in a community that welcomes their contribution, the program presents an occasion for participants to express their spiritual ideals through service, build deeper relationships among people of diverse traditions and religions, and develop into compassionate global leaders with profound interfaith experience.

**Interfaith Global Youth Service Project**  
**UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Promotion of Mahatma Gandhi's Life and Work: Spreading the Ethics of Non-violence**

GandhiServe, a non-profit initiative, aims to spread the ethics of non-violence by disseminating information about and "popularizing" Mahatma Gandhi's life and works. The organization provides: services in the areas of media consultancy; research and travel; profound and rare materials on Mahatma Gandhi, e.g. exhibitions, films, audio visual shows, publications; support for quality media productions on Mahatma Gandhi through the annual Gandhi Media Award; support of the application of Gandhian thoughts through its Support Scheme; an Information Service about the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi.

All proceeds are exclusively used for the further promotion of Gandhi's life and works. GandhiServe hopes to help alleviate conflicts and inspire others through making available information and resources on Gandhi's life and philosophy.

**GANDHISERVE**  
**GERMANY**

**Dhammayietra Center for Peace**

The Dhammayietra Center was established to help build acceptance of peace in Cambodia after three decades of war, isolation and great internal turmoil. As a Buddhist institution working with other temples, monks, and the general public, the Center attempts to continually reinforce the message of non-violence and peace.

**Dhammayietra Center for  
Peace and Non-violence  
CAMBODIA**

**International Workcamps**

International workcamps give individuals the opportunity to live and work with an international group of volunteers for 2 to 4 weeks. Volunteers undertake valuable community service and gain insight into the culture and traditions of other participants. The international workcamp movement promotes greater international understanding and peace.

**Quaker Peace Center  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**ISKCON University**

ISKCON University of Bhagavata Culture will be a center for learning about the deeper meaning of life and living. The main focus of the University will be the cultivation of human values and the exploration of religious truths. The institution will have various departments, including: the College of Sankirtana, a College of Brahamacaries and monastic life, a Department of Language, a Department of Theobiology, an Advanced Studies in Mantra and Spiritual Technology, a School of Interreligious Studies, a School of Srimad Bhagavatam and Vedanta, a School of Health and Natural living, a College of Ayurveda and Naturopathy (Alternative Medicine), a College of Art and Culture, the Ranganiketan College of Performing Arts, and a School of Martial Arts. This project is taking place at Imphal, Manipur, in north-east India, and will provide a new model for education – one that integrates spiritual values. Through emphasizing the importance of human values such as self-knowledge, charity, and truthfulness, the University hopes to inspire effective and innovative solutions to problems such as drug addiction and crime.

**Iskcon University of Bhagavata Culture  
INDIA**

**The Grail Gift of Service for the  
New Millennium**

Religious searching, intercultural understanding, and fostering a culture of generosity and commitment to justice will be the core of the programs at the new Grail Center in Kleinmond, Western Cape. Included will be retreats and special programs for women and children with AIDS.

**The Grail  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**The Word Foundation /  
The Spirit Channel Ltd.**

The Word Foundation is a new not-for-profit Internet based website for Religion and Spirituality. Its mission is to serve as an authoritative international resource for individuals and organizations seeking information in connection with Religion and Spirituality. Accordingly, the Word Foundation will develop formal relationships with key religious and spiritual organizations to include web broadcast rights, multi-media broadcast rights, and print publication rights for all forms of Religious and Spiritual content will range from Religious and Spiritual services, ceremonies, celebrations, and festivals, to Religious and Spiritual educational and cultural activities. The Word Foundation will also develop a world-wide directory of temples, shrines, mosques, churches and other religious and spiritually-oriented organizations, related social outreach and community services, and appropriate spiritual publications and broadcasts. The Word Foundation will also develop a program of off-line events and educational activities.

**The Word Foundation  
USA**

**Bophelo Health Game and  
Other Terminal Disease Games**

More than 60,000 pupils in the townships are involved in schools and clubs playing board games that promote the renunciation of violence and the promise to promote peace and interracial relationships. The games also create awareness of AIDS and other terminal diseases.

**Dr. Ashley Totana — Mashego  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Family Foundation Lay Counselors Project**

The Family Foundation is a division of FAMSA that provides training in basic counseling to people in the poorest communities. This training allows participants to be registered as auxiliary social workers with National Social Workers Association. Participants also receive numerical and literacy training so they can keep accurate statistics and documentation. These trainees provide an essential first-time intervention service, and are recognized as leaders in their community, and their work in Khayelitsha, Guguletu, Cross Roads.

**FAMSA Western Cape (Family & Marriage Society of the Western Cape)**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Encounter World Religions Center**

The Center fosters knowledge, appreciation, and respect for religious diversity. It opens channels of dialogue among followers of different religious paths by offering to schools, churches, and other organizations varied educational, confessional, experiential, and practical interreligious dialogue opportunities at no cost or for cost recovery only.

**Encounter World Religious Center**  
**CANADA**

**Weaving a Barrier Against Violence**

This project offers a holistic approach to the prevention of violence among youth (ages 8-17 years), featuring community-inspired and managed programs in health, education, music and arts, recreation, and employable skills training. The Community Baking Trust bakes and distributes bread to disadvantaged communities and finances violence prevention programs.

**Amy Biehl Foundation Trust**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Reconciliation Through Drama**

This unique reconciliation through drama process was pioneered by the African Community Theatre Services (ACTS). It was founded in 1983 in an effort to offset the effects of apartheid. The project brings together a group that is as representative as possible in terms of language, color, gender and creed, with the purpose of empowering them to discover their self worth, explore their commonalities, and gain an appreciation of their differences.

**African Community Theatre Service**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Museum Ambassador Program**

The Museum Ambassador Program is a youth development program based at the Museum of District Six that trains young people to teach other young people about their collective heritage. The program builds self-esteem, critical thinking, and co-operative learning as well as friendships and understanding across racial and economic differences. It is developed for young people by young people in a non-threatening environment.

**District Six Museum**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Nature Gallery for Environmental Awareness**

The Nature Gallery has been built at the Sivananda International Cultural Center in Sivnandnagar, KwaZulu Natal. It is equipped with educational awareness charts that teach viewers to protect this degenerating planet and all creatures living on it.

**Divine Life Society of South Africa**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Race: an Open and Shut Case**

A small, double-sided book, *Race: an Open and Shut Case*, explores through the stories of the Open and Shut families, the question, "How many races are there?" The book works to unveil a fundamental paradox about racial divisions: we are either countless multitudes of races or we are one race.

Through a simple, memorable fable, this book exposes this inherent paradox and renders the question of race irrelevant.

Copies of the book will be given to participants at the Parliament so that they may take it back to their communities to use in a variety of ways and settings, as a tool to help young people begin understanding this subject, and help older people reassess their presumptions and conditioning about race.

**Ms. Anya Cordell**  
**USA**

### **Abraham Esau Memorial Trust — an Act of Reconciliation**

The Abraham Esau Trust was established to recognize an important contribution to reconciliation in South Africa. During the Anglo-Boer War, a colored Blacksmith – Abraham Esau – led a resistance group against the invasion of Calvinia by the white Afrikaners. This group fought against the Afrikaners to preserve the small measure of dignity afforded by British rule. His heroic acts of intelligence gathering and consultations with British officials made Abraham Esau a mythical figure among the people of Calvinia. The Abraham Esau Trust was registered on the 6th of June 1992 to rebuild the Abraham Esau Memorial Chapel and to preserve the act of reconciliation for the people of Calvinia, a town in the North-Western Cape.

**Abraham Esau Memorial Trust**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Domestic Violence Awareness Program**

This six week program addresses gender, conflict resolution, self esteem, and feelings that influence violence in intimate relationships. Life skills training is incorporated with gender awareness in an attempt to stop the intergenerational cycle of domestic violence. The Program targets children at school (ages 10-13), and has been successfully presented in most of the poor areas on the Cape Flats.

**FAMSA Western Cape (Family & Marriage Society of the Western Cape)**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Interfaith Dialogue Through the Visual Arts**

The Inter-Faith Arts Council (IFAC) invites peoples of all faiths to participate in co-creating a "book of reflections" that represent various spiritual traditions through written material, visual arts, and recorded audio. The Council hopes to work with others to co-create, through grass-roots effort, a book of meditations. This book will include: poems, verse, scripture, short folk tales, art, music, and other material that conveys the principles of Faith, Love and Hope, and human interrelatedness. IFAC will compile the multimedia arts and make them available in a book and audiotape format. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the book and audiotape will go to support the work of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions in planning the 2004 Parliament event.

**HMT of the Transfiguration**  
**USA**

### **Service in Sisterhood to Establish Respect (S.I.S.T.E.R.)**

Pilgrim United Church will establish a "sister" relationship with another church in the U.S. or abroad. Choosing a congregation with a different race, culture and/or socio-economic background will foster greater inter-community understanding. Eventually, Pilgrim United hopes to establish a relationship of shared ministry through cultural exchange, pulpit exchange, and mutual support of mission projects.

**Pilgrim United Church of Christ**  
**USA**



**Ukuthula Peace Challenge Poster, Poem and Story Project**

An initiative of the KwaZulu Natal (KZN) Peace Challenge, this project seeks to involve young people throughout KZN in creating pictures, poems, and stories based on their experiences of violence or their visions of peace. Selections will be collected in a book entitled KZN Visions of Peace. Next year, there will be workshops for marginalized and disadvantaged youth and an exhibition. All the pictures and articles will be bound into booklets, along with a history of KZN's story of violence and peace. These booklets will be sent to key leaders in our country and throughout the world, and in particular, to countries of conflict such as Rwanda and Kosovo as a sign of our support and prayers for peace.

**CKNJ Human Rights Forum and the World Conference on Religion and Peace  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Project: S.H.A.L.O.M.  
(Students Holding Hands Across Lines of Multiculturalism)**

Israeli and American students – dedicated to tackling problems of intolerance that exist between cultures, religions, and races – share concerns, problems, and ideas over the Internet. Together, they have developed and will implement solutions that make a difference.

**Elm Place School  
USA**

**72 Hours Project**

Sponsored by the United Religions Initiative ([www.united-religions.org](http://www.united-religions.org)), the 72 Hours Project is inviting people of faith to mobilize their communities for prayer, reconciliation, and community service during the Millennium weekend (Friday, 12/31/99 through Sunday, 1/2/2000). Peace-building projects are underway on six continents, and major religious leaders have pledged their participation.

**United Religions Initiative  
USA**

**Promotion of the Global Ethic, Voluntary Simplicity and Awakened Way**

The Missouri Zen Center will practice and promote the *Global Ethic* and voluntary simplicity by: distributing the *Global Ethic Declaration* pamphlets; networking through our web-site; offering lectures, workshops, and classes; establishing and extending our community for these goals; sharing our practice with and nurturing other communities.

**Missouri Zen Center  
USA**

**Pole to Pole 2000**

A global journey, by a team of young people representing 6 continents, brings focus to the challenge of the next millennium: living in greater harmony with each other and the environment. In each region, participants learn about local solutions, lend a hand, and encourage communities to join their mission through inspired "gifts of action."

**Pole to Pole 2000  
CANADA**

**Pilgrimage: a Way to Interreligious Understanding**

Pilgrimage, as a way of increasing interreligious understanding, can be done in one's village, town, city – on a state, national or international level. The Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington has held eight different, day-long and half-day interfaith pilgrimages. Participation has ranged from 15-80 persons and usually hovers around 40-50. Many of the pilgrimages involved visiting diverse religious congregations. One visit was to three sacred gardens; another was chanting in Hindu and Christian traditions. Each interfaith pilgrimage is preceded by a lecture-discussion to familiarize participants with the tradition(s) involved.

**Interfaith Conference of Metro Washington  
USA**

**Multifaith Resources**

Multifaith Resources, a resource center for interreligious understanding, provides practical interfaith resources, education, and assistance to individuals and communities in North America and other parts of the world.

**Multifaith Resources**  
USA

**The Interfaith Family Meditation Project: Reconciliation in the Midst of Family Dissolution**

The DePaul University College of Law Center for Church/State Studies developed the Interfaith Family Mediation Project to help courts and interfaith families find solutions for the children's faith development following divorce, while seeking to maintain the integrity of each former spouses' faith, in a non-adversarial setting. Interfaith families facing divorce may work with the Center's mediators and volunteer religious leaders to seek mutually satisfactory agreement. The goal of the Interfaith Family Mediation Project is for both spouses to find a solution and offer their agreement to the courts for final judicial resolution of this critical issue.

**DePaul University, College of Law**  
USA

**The Birth of the United Religions**

The United Religions Initiative offers the gift of the United Religions, a decentralized organization to be born in June 2000. The United Religions will provide a permanent forum where people of diverse faith and spiritual traditions can gather in mutual respect, and engage in cooperative action to foster peace and ensure the flourishing of all life.

**United Religions Initiative**  
USA

**Heartspeak and Heartlisten**

The Alliance for Spiritual Community hosts monthly workshops entitled Heartspeak and Heartlisten, which teach participants to speak and listen from the heart. Started seven years ago, these meetings equip participants with the conversational tools necessary for engaging others in a meaningful and effective way. Speaking from the heart is an opening of the sacred; it is a release of love and takes courage. It allows one to fully express his or her true self. Listening from the heart allows for silence, a reflection, and creates sacred space. Heartspeak and Heartlisten enable people to communicate with others with greater empathy, understanding, and intimacy – thus opening doors to a greater potential for harmony and creative engagement.

**Alliance for Spiritual Community**  
USA

**University Programs for Building Bridges in Pakistan**

The Da'wah Academy of the International Islamic University, Islamabad, offers a package of programs and projects for the development of human resources and for building bridges between members of the world community. Programs include: Jihad Against Hatred; Women and Human Rights; Fight Against Deadly Disease; Fight Against Violence and Terrorism; and Islam and Other Religions.

**Da'wah Academy**  
PAKISTAN

**Children's World Peace Museum — Jerusalem**

Children's World Peace Museum is a permanent, first-of-its-kind facility, located in Jerusalem. It will provide a safe, neutral place for Israeli and Palestinian pre-school and school-age children to learn how to deal with violence and conflict through engaging interactive non-partisan exhibits. A piece of land has been purchased in the Mount-Of-Olives area and ground-breaking will begin as soon as adequate funds are raised.

**Taylor Institute**  
USA

## **Partners in Dialogue: a Venture in Interfaith Understanding**

Administered by the Department of Religious Studies at the University of South Carolina, this project seeks to link academic inquiry in the comparative study of the world's religions with ventures in interfaith understanding between religious groups in the community. Partners in Dialogue includes participants from the Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, Bahá'í, Sikh, and Native American communities.

In addition to annual interfaith conferences, potluck suppers and dialogue meetings have proven to be very popular. Individuals bring prepared dishes characteristic of their tradition or culture. The opportunity to share a meal inevitably opens up conversation about the dietary habits of each group, providing a reminder that knowing about eating habits is one of the most effective ways to learn about a group. The evening typically includes a panel discussion and group conversation on the announced topic. Examples of topics include: Signs and Symbols of Light in Our Respective Traditions; Views of the Afterlife; Religious Values and Politics, and; The Place of Interfaith Relations Within the Programmatic Emphases of My Faith Community.

Partners in Dialogue has also sponsored worship open-house experiences, when a special invitation is extended by one faith community to the others to attend an important event at their place of worship.

The faith communities involved in Partners joined together in Witness for Reconciliation, an effort to heal the racial divisions in the State caused by the flying of the Confederate flag atop the State House. More recently, Partners has become involved with the South Carolina Department of Corrections and other groups to provide an interfaith support program for the families of prison inmates who are terminally ill.

**Partners in Dialogue**  
**USA**

## **E Pluribus Unum Project — Out of Many, One**

The *E Pluribus Unum* Project (EPU) began as an opportunity for students from around the nation to explore how their religious values interact with public policy and civic engagement. Each summer, the project convenes 60 recent high school graduates – 20 Catholic, 20 Jewish, and 20 Protestant students – in Washington, DC for three weeks to explore how their religious traditions deal with questions of social justice and the common good.

The workshops included:

**Spiritual Arts Workshops:** Spiritual Arts workshops in dance, creative writing, voice, art and drama provide a setting for individual expression. Worship, in both particular traditions and of an ecumenical nature, challenges students to connect with their own spirituality.

**Volunteer Service:** Service learning opportunities provide ways for students to actively pursue social justice. Students are exposed to local efforts that address community needs, and they also gain familiarity with Washington-based initiatives that aim at finding global solutions to problems concerning human rights, poverty and the environment.

**Community Life:** Students, faculty, and administrators learn how to create a community centered on agreed-upon norms. A governance council, representing all sectors of the community, faces the challenge of reconciling individual and communal interests. In daily covenant groups, eight diverse students and a mentor forge intimate friendships, spend time integrating strands of the EPU experience, and apply valuable lessons to their own lives.

**Academic Track:** Three faith-alike classes for Catholic, Jewish, and Protestant students explore, using sacred writings and histories, how religious traditions have dealt with human rights, poverty, and the environment. In interfaith forums, students hear from religious and policy leaders in the three issue areas. They then engage in innovative simulations and discussions, which broaden their understanding of the issues.

**E Pluribus Unum Project**  
**USA**

## **Interfaith Community Relations in India**

In spite of peaceful co-existence among Hindus, Muslims, and Christians in India, there have been instances of cultural and religious disagreement that have caused violent conflicts to spread. This project works towards reconciliation through developing an inter-community compact addressing a range of issues: communally-biased readings of history (especially the Medieval period); cow protection; religious processions; mosques/temples at Ayodhya, Kashi and Mathura; conversions from Hinduism to Islam; community-based religious law versus other laws; usage of Urdu language and script; and discrimination against religious groups. This community relations project is based on the assumption that, in addition to strengthening the institutions of law for settling disputes, there is also a need for communities to come to an honorable and equitable understanding on these issues. Agreements will be recorded in the form of a compact that shows respect for each other's religious beliefs and values.

**Minorities Council of India**  
**INDIA**

## **International Peace Force**

Peaceworkers is working to develop a multi-ethnic, multi-spiritual, standing international peace force. This group would be trained in nonviolent strategies and deployed, at the invitation of local nonviolent movements, to help resolve conflicts in order to help prevent or stop violence. The international peace force would include thousands of volunteers from all of the world's religions who would be available for nonviolent peacemaking, peace-building and peace-keeping. Peaceworker's hope is to develop a model of peacemaking on a larger scale which can be replicated by others around the world.

**Peaceworkers**  
**USA**

## **Creating a Meeting Place for World Religions**

Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation offers classes, writing, and dialogue opportunities for gaining insight into other religions and spiritual practices. In this way, it can become a 'clearing house' for information about world religions and a respectful meeting ground for dialogue.

**Paint Creek Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
**USA**

## **Peace Building Project**

The Peace Building Project creates bridges of understanding among religions throughout South Korea. This is a project devised and executed by the Ven. Dr. Jinwol's United Religions Initiative of Korea. Meetings are held at Buddhist temples, Christian churches, schools, and other venues, and consist of forums, workshops, seminars, and informal talks centering around interreligious encounter and understanding. The meetings are publicized and open to all interested persons, no matter what religious tradition they follow. The goal of the project is to have different cultures and religions learn and share with one another. United Religions Initiative of Korea carries out the initiatives of URI's other branches, while also acting and responding to local issues. One example is how the Order working towards the reunification of Korea, and contributing to the spiritual education of young people.

**Korean Chogye Order**  
**SOUTH KOREA**

## **Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group**

The seven-year-old Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group is comprised of 30 women and men. After 85 meetings, strangers are becoming friends, and "enemies" are becoming partners. With face-to-face relationship building, this group initiates concrete projects to help people and invigorate the public peace process here and overseas.

**Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue**  
**USA**

### **Building Bridges from the Heart**

CoreLight, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to humanitarian service and to fostering world peace through developing inner peace. Inspired by South Africa's commitment to truth, reconciliation and forgiveness, CoreLight's vision is to build bridges between South Africa and the U.S. The project hopes to create a center for humanitarian services; teaching or exchange programs; and opportunities for bringing people together in spiritual communion.

**CoreLight**  
**USA**

### **Women Working for Solidarity**

Immaculate Heart College Center's M.A. program in Feminist Spirituality offers the project Women Working In Solidarity, an interreligious project by women to counter violence. Inspired as a response to the Los Angeles riots of 1992, and created by a multiracial team, this project has brought together women from diverse religious, cultural, and economic backgrounds to provide inter-religious and cross-cultural training in the method of faith-based social analysis. The project's primary goals are to:

promote cross-cultural understanding and healing by enabling women participants to be in dialogue across lines of religion, race, class, and educational achievement; help women explore both liberating and oppressive experiences in their respective religious traditions and spiritualities; train women in the skills of faith-based social analysis so as to understand the roots of injustice in church and society, particularly the interconnected roots of violence against women; empower women to claim their own spirituality and cultures as a source of action for change, and; work together on strategies to improve their lives and the lives of their children, families and communities.

**Immaculate Heart College Center**  
**USA**

### **Practical Advice and Documentary Material for the Establishment of Three Faith Forum Groups**

The aims of the interreligious organization the Three Faiths Forum is to encourage friendship, goodwill, and understanding between people of the three Abrahamic monotheistic faiths. Three Faiths Forum also promotes support, for and public recognition of, the importance of groups where people of the Muslim, Christian, and Jewish faiths meet and share common interests and experiences.

**The Three Faiths Forum**  
**UNITED KINGDOM**

### **MultiFaithNet**

MultiFaithNet is a self-access internet resource for the study of world religions. It provides edited, sign-posted and regularly updated global electronic resources from the vast and growing amount of material on the internet relating to religious traditions, religious communities and interfaith dialogue. It is designed for those with information, community liaison and equal opportunities responsibilities in the public, private and voluntary sectors, as well as those engaged in the study of religion.

**Religious Research and Resource Center**  
**UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Play for Peace**

Play for Peace is a non-profit organization which brings children from conflicting cultures together through cooperative play to promote positive relationships among people who have a history of inter-cultural tension. Play for Peace educators partner with organizations across the globe and train teenage facilitators from conflicting cultures to act as ambassadors for peace as they work with younger children from their respective cultures. Play for Peace structures noncompetitive games and activities that require groups to work together as a team to accomplish a set goal, with the primary focus on developing ways to work together to help advance peace within their communities. The project first started in Chicago, and is now being conducted in five areas around the world; Middle East, North America, Balkans, South Africa and Central America.

**Play for Peace**  
**USA**



## **The World Movement for Non-violence**

The World Movement for Non-violence was founded in 1998 to raise awareness of the critical importance of practicing non-violence in today's world. Its goal is to prevent violence in every form by promoting the use of nonviolent means for resolving conflict, and to show how non-violence is applicable to events and situations in everyday life, among all sectors of society. The World Movement for Non-violence commemorates the period from January 30 to April 4 as The Season for Non-violence, a time when cities around the world develop educational and cultural programs that promote the principle of non-violence. In addition to programs, workshops, retreats, conferences and task forces for youth and adults, the World Movement for Non-violence will develop curriculum for many grade levels and models for the formation of youth peace teams in communities around the world. This movement has forged partnerships and alliances with individuals and organizations world wide in the belief that a united effort will strengthen the commitment towards a more peaceful world.

**Interfaith Center of New York**  
**USA**

## **Friends Peace Team Project: African Great Lakes Initiative**

The Friends (Quaker) Peace Team Project is working in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi to support Quaker peace work in the region. The Team has conducted trauma healing, Alternatives to Violence and non-violence training workshops, and plans to rebuild a church in Burundi that was destroyed in inter-ethnic violence.

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**  
**USA**

## **Commitment to Interfaith Cooperation**

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, in a *Statement of Conscience* approved in June 1999, commits itself to promoting interfaith cooperation. When mutual respect exists, understanding is encouraged, and dialogue is nurtured among people of different faiths and philosophical traditions, our shared struggle for justice is both informed and inspired.

**Unitarian Universalist Association  
of Congregations**  
**USA**

## **Koinonia Southern Africa**

Started in 1982, by bringing together families from different cultures (whites and blacks) to share a meal with one another in a society torn apart by the Apartheid (separation) political policy, Koinonia contributed in a significant way towards a peaceful transformation of an oppressive regime to a democratically elected government.

Koinonia Southern Africa came into existence when Dr. Nico Smith started his ministry in Mamelodi, a Black township in the vicinity of Pretoria. At that stage it was still forbidden by law for Whites to enter into Black townships. Dr. Smith decided to exercise civil disobedience by taking White couples into the township to have meals with Black families.

Koinonia soon spread to many cities of the country and eventually brought thousands of people together. Eating together has a magnificent effect on the attitudes of people towards one another. At the dining table they can look into each other's eyes and communicate as equals. Eating together is, in essence, sharing one's life with another. Without eating, there is no existence and without eating together, there is no co-existence.

**Dr. Nico J. Smith**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Festival of Faiths**

The Festival of Faiths, started four years ago, is an expression of its mission to share – with Kentuckians, Americans and ultimately our entire world – the vision of bringing together our vast faith traditions in an open and hospitable environment. This unique week-long faith oasis provides a venue for greater understanding and tolerance.

**Cathedral Heritage Foundation  
USA**

### **Spirituality and Different Religious Traditions**

This education program – planned on an annual basis by Auburn Seminary, the Temple of Understanding, and the Psychotherapy and Spirituality Institute – explores how spiritual quests remain fundamental to human beings and their quality of life on the planet. The program investigates how spiritual and meditative practices can foster physical and mental health and wholeness, and it introduces spiritual and meditative practices from seven different traditions (Jainism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Christianity, and Native American). Programs run all day Saturday and take place in the setting of a particular tradition. Team leaders from that tradition orient participants to its beliefs, spirituality and meditative practices, and printed materials are sent to participants in advance.

**Temple of Understanding  
USA**

### **Towards a Global Ethic: Reworked for the Children and the Youth of the World**

Since 1994, Ministries Outreach has presented 15 all-day workshops for adults on Spirituality, using *Towards a Global Ethic* and other materials from *A Source Book For the World's Community of Religions*. From the workshops, Ministries Outreach will construct *Toward a Global Ethic for Children and Youth*, based on stories from various cultures of the world. These tales will be centered around the Four Irrevocable Directives of *Towards a Global Ethic*.

**Ministries Outreach  
USA**

### **Dhammayada Training and Mass Ordination**

This program is a prototype training course to round out undergraduate students' (age 20-35) academic knowledge with spiritual and ethical practice. Such a taste of ordained life for students instills a respect for morality which stays with them even when returning to their regular lives in society. The Dhammayada Training Project created the opportunity to teach ethics and meditation by relating it to real life situations and contexts. The hands-on experience of students in Thailand and abroad has become particularly widespread as the result of the Dhammayada Training and Mass Ordination Program. In 1999, the program enters its twenty-seventh year.

**Foreign Affairs Department, Thailand  
THAILAND**

### **Youth Program for Culture of Peace and Meditation**

The General Assembly of the United Nations has proclaimed the year 2000 as the "International Year for the Culture of Peace," and the period 2001-2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World." In response to the proclamation, the Dhammakaya Foundation has initiated a "Youth Program for a Culture of Peace and Meditation" for youth around the world. The Foundation will make grants available for the first batch of 90 male and female youth around the world to give them a chance to participate in this program designed to exchange different understandings from different cultures. Successful candidates are entitled to view beautiful sites of Thailand, to learn about Thai culture and history, as well as learning how to meditate by our experts. Eventually, these students will join the candle lighting ceremony on Maga Puja Day, on February 19, 2000. Successful candidates who are between 17-25 years old must be able to afford a round-trip air ticket to Thailand, but the Foundation supports expenses, including accommodation, meals, and transportation.

**Foreign Affairs Department, Thailand  
THAILAND**

### **Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP)**

The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) is a world-wide association of volunteer groups offering experiential workshops in conflict resolution, responses to violence, and personal growth. It was started by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in 1975 in response to a request from prison inmates for non-violence training. While prisons remain a major focus of AVP work, the training is also used in schools and community institutions, such as businesses, churches, schools, homeless shelters, youth organizations, etc. The AVP program hosts workshops that nurture skills essential to a culture of non-violence: affirmation (self-esteem, trust); communication (listening and self-expression); cooperation; conflict resolution. While AVP was founded by Quakers on the basis of their belief in an inborn power for peace in everyone, it is an independent organization that draws its participants and trainers from all religions, races and walks of life. AVP chapters are found in 40 states of the USA and 20 countries worldwide.

**Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**  
USA

### **World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation**

The World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation is establishing the first interfaith holy day dedicated to building peace, justice, and equality among all the religions of the world. Through public testimony, repentance and forgiveness, the World Sabbath will reveal the ethnic and economic roots of religious persecution and war, and will call on all people to recognize that true religious faith calls us to reconciliation, peace, and love. The event will be celebrated for the first time at Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on Saturday evening, January 22, 2000. Artists, poets, musicians and dancers will commemorate the event along with religious, spiritual, secular and political leaders. Several interfaith leaders have asked to organize World Sabbath celebrations in their own states in 2001, with the hope that this will eventually become an official holiday celebrated by people all around the world.

**The World Sabbath of Religious Reconciliation**  
USA

### **The Veterans Restoration Project**

The Veterans Vietnam Restoration Project (VVRP), a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO), does humanitarian work in Vietnam. It provides American Vietnam War Veterans opportunities to return to Vietnam to do humanitarian aid projects. It has arranged for one hundred Americans to complete thirteen projects to date. Seeing Vietnam begin to show signs of rebirth and learning that the Vietnamese people have forgiven the US soldiers helps the veterans to forgive themselves and to repair their war-torn self esteem.

**Cao Dai Giao Hai Ngoai**  
USA

### **Meditation Workshop — Cosmic Link**

Together with the Multifaith Association of South Australia, Ms. Singh works to foster understanding among different religious communities. The Association consists of elected representatives of nine faiths who work together (in meetings, hosting symposia, undertaking projects) to forge respect and acceptance among the religions. As a teacher, she offers counseling and meditation workshops (using multi-chanting with light and sound vibrations) for psychic and personal development, relation and self-realization, personal and family counseling, and for experiencing the infinite wisdom of eternity.

**Multi-Faith Association of South Australia**  
AUSTRALIA

### **Gift for Peace and Justice**

Each of the fifteen members of the Peace Commission of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington has committed to bestow the following gifts: to attend a Peace and Justice Meeting or conference; to write a letter to a Peace and Justice Organizations, offering their ministry (talent); and to send a check for \$100 to a Peace and Justice Organization (treasures).

**Episcopal Diocese of Washington, DC**  
USA

### **Peace in Our Lives**

Many who pray for peace cannot resolve disagreements in their own families, churches, and communities. Coaching and Mediation Services offers heartfelt services and transformative tools that can help individuals, religious organizations, communities, and nations to value differences and resolve conflicts peacefully. The Gifts of Service offered are:

facilitation of specific disputes, decision-making, and problem-solving gatherings; and workshops that teach peace-making and communication skills based on the model of Nonviolent (or Compassionate) Communication developed by Dr. Marshall Rosenberg, founder and Education Director of the Center for Nonviolent Communication.

**Coaching and Meditation Services**  
**USA**

### **Community Development Studies**

The Faculty in the Department of Practical Theology at the University of Stellenbosch allows students to study the social phenomenon of Community Development, and to engage in community development projects themselves. The principles of people-centered participatory development are applied, and the participating learning and action method is utilized in the approach.

**University of Stellenbosch**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Bringing about Peace and Reconciliation in The New South Africa**

Mr. Bloch ran the Psychological Integration Programme (P.I.P.) at the grassroots level, which helped bring about changed behaviours and attitudes, and peace and reconciliation, in the newly integrated South Africa National Defence Force, composed of previously violently opposed forces of the Apartheid Government and the Liberation armies.

**Emissary Community**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Third Party Mediation**

Henry Martyn Institute teaches Third Party Mediation as technical tool for reducing conflicts in communities. By training people at the grass-root levels, this gift aims to create friendly neighborhoods of interfaith living.

**Henry Martyn Institute**  
**INDIA**

### **The Children's Peace Pavilion Pledge School Program**

The Children's Peace Pavilion Pledge School Program is an extension of the Children's Peace Pavilion museum exhibits, and provides opportunities for elementary schools to integrate the successful elements of the four concepts of peace into their curricula.

The four concepts of peace are:

Peace for Me: Helps children to discover the wonder and beauty within themselves, where peace begins.

Peace for Us: Explores daily relationships, stressing cooperation, communication, and conflict resolution.

Peace for Everyone: Encourages children to examine the possibilities for peace within groups, including cultural appreciation and diversity.

Peace for the Planet: Addresses planetary stewardship, care and appreciation.

This pilot year, ten elementary schools have agreed to join the Pavilion to work to develop and implement peace activities in their schools. The Pledge School program is designed to promote learning and respect by providing area schools with resources that further the development of peaceable schools, neighborhoods, and communities. Pledge schools receive field trips, teacher in-service training, school-based peace activities, and coordinated service learning activities, and pledge school participation for the pilot year is free of charge. The program will be evaluated and refined during the first year with the intention of creating a model that can be replicated in other schools in other communities around the world over the next five years.

**The Children's Peace Pavilion**  
**USA**

## **Mending the World**

The United Church of Canada has recently created a document – an evaluation of church priorities and initiatives – entitled *Mending the World*. The report introduces the concept of ‘whole world ecumenism,’ and links this larger ecumenism between faiths with the more traditional church-to-church ecumenical relationships. The United Church, in this document, declares that its first priority should be the healing of creation through the joining together of people of all faiths in the search for justice, wholeness and love.

**The United Church of Canada**  
**CANADA**

## **Global Outreach**

Global Outreach (GO) believes in the power of the individual as a source of hope in our global community. It places volunteers on international community-based projects, which foster cross-cultural understanding, social awareness, and volunteerism in participants. Projects also help participants to overcome international differences through interaction and education. GO sent 10 volunteers to Guatemala in 1996 to work along side local volunteers to build a community center in the village of Monte Grande. Villagers use the community center for elections, as a health clinic when a doctor visits, for church functions, and various other functions. GO also worked with Island Ventures on the island of Mactan in the Philippines, and contributed support to several scholarship programs benefiting several young teenagers. In Guangzhou, GO has begun a dialogue with Chinese Christians who have begun to host volunteers there.

**Global Outreach**  
**USA**

## **Hispanic / Non-Hispanic Cross-Cultural Bridges**

Su Casa works as a cross-cultural bridge between our country’s Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations, with emphasis on mutual respect, information exchange, education, and recreation. Su Casa offers English classes and Spanish classes to all interested persons, and it translates documents for churches, health offices, and businesses. Su Casa also offers cultural diversity training to local industry, and serves as a place that the Hispanic population trusts to help with language, customs, and regulations. In a town of 30,000, 785 Hispanic people have used the services of Su Casa in the past three months.

**Su Casa – Columbus**  
**USA**

## **Bearing Faithful Witness**

A document, produced by The United Church of Canada, highlights ways in which the Church reflects certain anti-Semitic vestiges in its preaching, liturgy and practice. *Bearing Faithful Witness* aims to steer the Church towards a more faithful and respectful relationship with Judaism. A related statement (to be considered by the Church’s governing body next year) describes how more respectful Jewish-Christian relationships can illuminate relationships of respect with other world faiths.

**The United Church of Canada**  
**CANADA**

## **Empowering Youth in the Apartheid Era**

Ms. Patience Tyalimpi opened her tiny home in Zola Soweto to youth, and worked with groups of up to 70 young people at a time. These young people came to learn, and to discuss what it takes to be a responsible young adult working non-violently to eliminate apartheid, and what it takes to build one’s sense of self. She maintained the spontaneous gatherings in spite of continuous army harassment (teargas in her home, etc.). In over 20 years of this work, hundreds of young people have been blessed to enjoy a different outlook on life born of the sense of self esteem and responsibility nurtured by Patience.

**Leth’ukuhanya Health Institute**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **64 Ways for 64 Days Guide to Practice Nonviolence**

The 64 Ways calendar was developed as an educational tool to introduce people to the values, principles and simple practice of non-violence as a way of life. It facilitates a daily practice by offering 64 basic things that anyone can do effortlessly. The first third of the calendar focuses on practicing non-violence within ourselves, the middle third guides readers in daily interactions with each other, and the last part illustrates how to become caring and contributing members of a diverse community. The calendar also contains inspirational quotes from dynamic leaders such as Gandhi, Dr. King, Black Elk, Maya Angelou, Cesar Chavez, Marianne Williamson, Thich Nhat Hanh and Eleanor Roosevelt. It demonstrates that non-violence is an intrinsic element of diverse cultures, ethnicities, religions and all walks of life. By implementing these daily practices, people can dramatically change their lives, and in so doing, change their entire community. A Season for Non-violence-LA has so far distributed 5,000 posters and has translated the guides into Spanish.

**A Season for Nonviolence-LA**  
**USA**

## **Global Mediation & Reconciliation Consultation Services Project**

The Global Mediation and Reconciliation Consultation Services Project (GMRS) was launched at the Hague Appeal for Peace in their Transforming Violent Conflict Strand. This project was also presented on the panel, "Building an Effective World Security System: Enhancing the Capacity of the United Nations to Prevent and Resolve Armed Conflict." Timed to commemorate the UN Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non Violence for the World's Children, the GMRS has a specialty in interreligious conflict transformation; and it provides innovative approaches to diplomacy from both professional and NGO practitioners to strengthen the UN's response to violent conflict. GMRS offers contemporary consultation and training services in reconciliation leadership to address the world's 21st century challenges — bringing closure and peaceful settlement to conflict situations.

**Center for Strategic Change and Global Leadership**  
**USA**

## **Kashi Center for Advanced Spiritual Studies: Interfaith Retreat and Conference Center**

The Kashi Center for Advanced Spiritual Studies Interfaith Retreat & Conference Center is a multi-dimensional center dedicated to the spiritual enrichment of humanity. Guided by the work of Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati and the Kashi Ashram, our vision is to provide a sacred gathering ground for all traditions. The Center embraces diversity, bridges cultures and values, initiates dialogue, and contributes global perspectives for the future. The Kashi Center is committed to enriching the lives of individuals who seek to deepen their awareness, stimulate their intellect, challenge themselves, transform their lives, and renew their spiritual path. The Center provides programs that integrate eastern and western perspectives and practices. The Kashi Center for Advanced Spiritual Studies Project 2000 will sponsor regional conferences that initiate interfaith dialogue and cooperation, promote religious freedom, and foster world peace. Our vision is to celebrate and embrace our diversity and commonality, and to establish a regional interfaith organization and support the continued mission of the Parliament and other interfaith organizations.

**Kashi Foundation**  
**USA**

## **Interfaith Pilgrimage of the Middle Passage: a Gift from the Ancestors**

A year-long pilgrimage of interfaith and multi-racial participants retraced the Triangular Slave Route from the U.S. to West Africa. This walking prayerful journey was created to nourish seeds of genuine consciousness, where the ravages of racism and oppression no longer plague our minds and the human spirit is liberated to grow in greater truth.

**Interfaith Pilgrimage of the Middle Passage**  
**USA**

### **A Low-Cost Institute of English for Adults**

The Inter-Cultural Research Center aims to promote English as a second language for Sri Lankans order to enable them to communicate with people of different communities both within and outside the country. To effectively achieve this goal, it strives to develop tools and techniques that could give adult Sri Lankans a proficiency in the use of the language in as short a time-span as possible, and (taking into account the low-income situation of the majority) at as low a cost as possible. In response to Sri Lanka's present economic uncertainty, ethnic conflict, and regression in educational standards, Dr. Fernando (the head of the Department of Western Classical Culture, Kelaniya University for nearly twenty years) created this Center in 1984 as an Institute of English for adults. Classes were conducted at first for a student-body of about 25 in a car-garage renovated for the purpose. Now a two-story building provides room for a daily attendance of around 600, with participants who range from twenty to sixty years old.

**Inter-Cultural Research Center  
SRI LANKA**

### **A Facilitator's Guide for Multi-Religious Education**

This facilitator's guide teaches readers how to incorporate multi-religious content into the foundational phase of schooling in Life Orientation programs.

**UNISA  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **72 Hour Peace Building Event: World Peace 2000**

Multi-faith Association will hold a 72-hour event including: a New Years Eve (Dec. 31st 1999) meditation and prayer vigil, a dawn vigil on Jan 1, 2000, a World Cafe (forum for intercultural dialogue), Performances for Peace (integration of dance, music and art evoking the spirit of peace), and children's activities. The event will culminate in the re-dedication of a Peace Pole with a gathering of religious, spiritual and community leaders.

**Multi Faith Association  
AUSTRALIA**

### **The Clean Slate Campaign**

The Clean Slate Campaign is an invitation for everyone to take at least one practical step to wipe our slates clean, so that we as individuals and communities can enter the new millennium with a fresh start. The Campaign aims to encourage people of all faiths to take some individual action or decision which will put right a past wrong. It encourages each one of us to make some tangible contribution to our collective future by admitting to, or apologizing for, some mistake that we have done – whether big or small. By helping clean our own slate, each of us can together make the world a better place.

It is all too easy to weighed down by the baggage we carry from the past – a backlog of matters undealt with in the home or at work. Deeper things such as hurts, resentments, fears, guilt, and prejudices can be excess baggage as well. Not everything can be put behind us, nor should everything be forgotten, but much could be forgiven and also much could be left behind in the Old Millennium instead of being carried into the next.

The Clean Slate Campaign is inviting everyone to sign the 'Clean Slate Promise' which says: "I promise to take at least one practical step towards wiping my slate clean."

**The Clean Slate Campaign  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Interfaith Women's Journey**

The Henry Martyn Institute, together with the Interfaith Office of the United Church of Canada, paired four Indian women of Muslim, Hindu, Christian and Tribal traditions with four Canadian women of parallel traditions. With the above sponsorship, these eight women have explored a women's agenda for interfaith work while travelling through India and Canada. This experience has created a greater awareness of women's relationships to and understanding of modern interfaith initiatives.

**The United Church of Canada  
CANADA**

## **Supporting an Evolving Global Ethic for a Peaceful 21st Century**

The Boston Research Center (BRC) is an international peace institute with a mission to foster dialogue among scholars and activists on common values across cultures and religions – seeking in this way to support an evolving global ethic for a peaceful twenty-first century. Human rights, non-violence, ecological harmony, and economic justice are focal points of the Center's work. This year and next, the BRC's programs and publications are focusing on Cultures of Peace to support the UN International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000. A three-part conference series, "From War Culture to Cultures of Peace: Challenges for Civil Society" was held this spring along with parallel Peace Camps for children ages 5-12. Presentations from the series (on family life, education, economic justice, and religions and peace) can be read on the Center's website at: [www.brc21.org](http://www.brc21.org).

A book to be published by the BRC in November 1999, *Buddhist Peacework: Creating a Culture of Peace*, is a collection of essays by Buddhist leaders from around the world, representing a wide range of Buddhist traditions, who describe, in practical terms, how Buddhist teachings and social actions are contributing to a culture of peace. The Center hopes this publication will serve as a model for leaders of other religions traditions to reflect and conduct further dialogues on their own faiths' practical contributions to peace. Other recent BRC books are serving to stimulate dialogue on the role of religions in creating a peaceful world. 'Subverting Hatred: The Challenge of Non-violence in Religious Traditions' presents articles by scholars from eight major religions on the roots of non-violence within their traditions. The three-volume Earth Charter Studies kit is a resource for teaching the grassroots, interfaith, global effort to develop a Charter to guide humanity's relations with Earth.

**Boston Research Center for the 21st Century  
USA**

## **Victory Over Violence**

Victory Over Violence is a project of the SGI-USA Youth Peace Committee (YPC) to raise awareness about violence, its cause, and possible solutions. SGI-USA held 1,700 meetings in August 1999, resulting in 10,000 individuals signing a non-violence pledge. A traveling exhibit was created, along with a workbook and video, to facilitate discussion and inspire ideas about how to become non-violent. The program is being expanded to local governments, civic organizations and other religious organizations, and the YPC seeks to create a global network of youth who can speak with one voice toward resolving problems that threaten human lives.

**Soka Gakkai International —  
USA**

## **Establish a World-Wide Network for Interfaith Dialogue**

The World Summit of Religion and Conservation (WCSRC) in the year 2001 will celebrate the 2600th Janma Kalyanak, the birth anniversary of Lord Mahavira, and the building of Centers for Interfaith Dialogues in India, the USA, South Africa and throughout the world.

The WCSRC hopes to take initiative for the establishment of a Regional Parliament for the World's Religions comprising SARCC countries, commencing sometime towards the end of the year 2001. Vanasthali in New Delhi will be established as a model environmental project. Such projects may be established in many cities in India and abroad particularly in SARCC countries.

The WSRC proposes to establish distress relief work, such as orphanages, leprosy treatments, and sight saving initiatives. It will also undertake to establish new initiatives for the benefit of the aged and elderly that will assist them with options for public service, spiritual studies and enjoyment, cultural and other leisure occupations. It will also try to establish one to one relationships between elderly persons (those above 75 years old) and young persons.

**Institute of Jainology  
UNITED KINGDOM**



### **Community Wide Dialogue on Racism, Race Relations and Racial Healing**

Community Wide Dialogue (CWD) helps the Central New York community build trust and increase understanding necessary for finding common ground, developing relationships across racial divides, and working together toward action. The heart of CWD process is the dialogue circle which consists of 12 to 15 people from different genders, races, religions, ages, and socio-economic backgrounds. The Circle meets for six consecutive weeks for two-hour sessions lead by two racially diverse facilitators and a discussion guide that structures the dialogue. The program provides a safe and effective process for participants to talk about and work on issues of racism and race relationships with people from different racial, ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, and ideological backgrounds.

**InterReligious Council of Central New York  
USA**

### **Coexistence Initiative of the State of the World Forum**

Founded in 1996, the Coexistence and Community Building Initiative (CCB) seeks to catalyze a global awareness of, and commitment to, creating a world safe for difference.

To achieve this mission, CCB has identified four objectives: Creation of a worldwide network of coexistence workers; development of a comprehensive resource center of best practice, models, organizations and other information on coexistence; committed to accuracy and impartiality; promotion of a global macro-awareness to impact the highest political offices; and, act as a catalyst and a driver behind joint projects spawned by CCB's linking of individuals to ensure that these project are taken to fruition.

**The Co-Existence and Community Building Initiative (CCB)  
USA**

### **The Peace People**

The Peace People was founded by Mrs. Mairead Corrigan-Maguire in 1976, as a protest movement against the on-going violence in Northern Ireland. The organization is committed to building a just and peaceful society through nonviolent means – a society based on respect for each individual, and has at its core the highest standard of human and civil rights. The Peace People organization works to create dialogue on the type of future we want for ourselves and our children. With its long experience of peace-building and many contacts throughout the world, Peace People is able to bring new ideas to the old problems of Northern Ireland through public meetings, campaigns, information resources and informal education, which are all used to promote creative nonviolent visions for the future.

**Community of the Peace People  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Common World for Understanding**

This project by Interfaith International aims to bring more understanding to self and others, and build bridges based on common values between people of different faiths. Every three months, open sessions are organized to discuss common values unifying human beings, and looks to find ways and means to eliminate misunderstandings. Religious leaders, scholars, and social leaders are invited to speak on a panel attended by the general public, especially university and school students as audience.

**World Ahlul Ul-Bayt Islamic League  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Interfaith Calendar**

A calendar containing many of the world's religions' sacred times is offered to community members in Richfield, Minnesota as a gesture promoting understanding and respect. The calendar also includes information about religious traditions and practices.

**Mall Area Religious Council  
USA**

### **Education for Global Citizenship**

The Exhibits organized by Soka Gakkai International (SGI) address critical issues of the world or celebrate possibilities of humanity. These exhibits include:

Nuclear Arms: Threat to Our World as part of the World Disarmament Campaign, was viewed by 1.2 million people in 16 countries.

"Toward a Century of Humanity: An Overview of Human Rights in Today's World" was viewed by 200,000 people in 20 countries.

"The Courage to Remember" Holocaust exhibit in cooperation with the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, was viewed by one million in 40 Japanese cities.

"World Boys and Girls Art Exhibition" presents 400 paintings from 160 countries.

"Treasuring the Future: Children's Rights and Realities" was viewed in 15 US cities and will be exhibited at the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions.

"The Amazon: Its Environment and Development" was presented at the 1992 Earth Summit and toured five South American countries.

"The Children of Teresin Artwork from some of the 15,000 children imprisoned near Prague during WWII, only 100 of whom survived; exhibited in Melbourne, Australia.

**Soka Gakkai International**  
**JAPAN**

### **We, The Peoples Initiative**

We, The Peoples Initiative (WPI) is a cooperative movement to unite the strengths of existing organizations and projects in building Cultures of Peace with and for the young people of this and future generations. WPI organizes the International Day of Peace, also known as Hear the Children Day. This Day serves as a collective marking of our progress along our diverse paths of peace-building. To date, there are almost 250 participating organizations and individuals who are establishing successful models of peace and intercultural co-operation.

**We, The Peoples Initiative**  
**USA**

### **International Association of Muslims for Interreligious Relations**

After two years of preparation, a new organization will be launched on the occasion of the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions. Initiated by Muslim scholars, leaders, and activists, the International Association of Muslims for Interreligious Relations will work for peace and justice on Earth in cooperation with all likeminded people from other faith communities. This is a demand of their own faith that Muslims should be concerned with the peace and justice in the human world as a whole. The Muslim people, with the help of other faiths, will develop a model on a global level for mutual understanding. The organization will be a common platform for mutual consultation of Muslims who are involved in Interreligious work and working against corruption of human kind and exploitation of the earth resources. A conference will be organized to review the association's work, and seminars will be organized to educate Muslim people on how to work with non-Muslims toward the common goal.

**International Association of Muslims for Interreligious Relations**  
**USA**

### **Tjodhilde's Church — Commitment to Build Bridges**

Greenland's Gift of Service to the World is a sanctuary, and a commitment to build bridges of peace and understanding between nations and cultures. In the year 1000 A.D., a viking named Leif Ericsson brought Christianity with him to Greenland on a sea-voyage which, accidentally, led to the first European discovery of the New World. In Greenland, Leif's mother was converted to the new faith and built a small chapel, thus providing the first footprint of Christianity in the Western Hemisphere. A historically correct replica of that church will be dedicated in the year 2000, and will serve as a meeting place for Christians of all denominations – indeed, for all people of all religions – as a center for understanding and good will.

**Gardar Foundation**  
**DENMARK**

### **Tolerance 2000 — a Booklet on Overcoming Hate**

Tolerance 2000 is a 104-page booklet made available on the internet (at [www.tolerance2000.org](http://www.tolerance2000.org)) in a downloadable (PDF) format so that anyone, anywhere, can download it, photocopy it, staple it together and use it. It is a practical, reader-friendly booklet about overcoming religious bigotry and hatred, based on thousands of calls to a religious tolerance hotline in the United States. The booklet is offered for use to anyone and everyone as a tool to promote communication and mutual respect, and it is filled with ideas on how to overcome deep belief differences. The only request is that whoever downloads and uses the booklet give feedback (by e-mail or snail mail) of the results they have achieved with it. This booklet is our gift to the world. Hearing about families reconciled, relationships salvaged and greater respect for everyone's right to freedom of conscience, is an abundant return.

**Foundation for Religious Freedom  
USA**

### **Living Values**

Produced by Brahma Kumaris, and endorsed by the Theosophical Society in South Africa, Living Values is an educational initiative designed to provide guiding principals and tools for the development of the whole person. This program recognizes that the individual is comprised of physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual dimensions. Its aims are the following: to help individuals think about and reflect on different values and the practical implications of expressing them in relation to themselves and others; to deepen understanding, motivation and responsibility with regard to making personal and social choices; to inspire individuals to choose their own personal, social, moral and spiritual values; and to encourage educators and care givers to look at education as providing students with a philosophy of living, thereby facilitating their overall development and choices so that they may integrate themselves into the community with respect, confidence and purpose.

**Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University /  
The Theosophical Society in South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Towards the Establishment of an Inter-Faith Clergy Professional Organization**

To optimally serve the holistic needs of religious communities in urban North America, CCH strives towards the establishment of a legitimate Clergy Professional Association for the strengthening of the clergy roles of diverse historic faiths – Buddhism, ethnic-minority Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Sikhism in particular. CCH's goal is to assist in the development of proper training programs, accreditation, rigorous ordination and community requirements, the provision of adequate clergy compensation (e.g. stipend, fringe benefits, job security, protection of Clergy career, and continuing education) and the maintenance of high-professional status and dignity for the sacred office of ministry. CCH clergy care for and support one another in prayer, friendship, and devotions.

**Clergy for Compassion and Harmony (CCH)  
CANADA**

### **Peace Day**

Celebrated in Chicago since 1978, Peace Day was created to let everyone be part of the peace-making process. Included is One Minute of Silence for World Peace followed by the "Wish for Peace" observance during which wishes, thoughts or prayers for peace are sent to each country of the world.

**The Peace School  
USA**

### **Sikh Welfare Foundation of North America**

Sikh Welfare Foundation of North America offers several programs to the general public to increase their understanding of Sikhism. The foundation offers free classes on Sikhism and Punjabi at Mount San Antonio college where anyone can attend to learn about the Sikh religion, language and culture. Also, persons from the foundation speak at various religion classes at local universities. In 1995 and 1999, Sikh Renaissance Conferences were organized and people in the area were invited to attend as well as Sikh youth from all over the United States.

**Sikh Welfare Foundation of North America  
USA**

**On Sacred Ground: Programming Interfaith Dialogue for Television**

*On Sacred Ground* has been an ongoing public-access TV program for the last six and a half years. Its overall purpose is to publicly present discussions on spiritual, social, economic, and political topics from an interfaith, spiritual perspective. Most shows contained a panel comprised of a Rabbi, Roman Catholic Priest, a fundamental Christian, someone with an Eastern tradition, and another guest whose ideals or spiritual orientation differs from the other panelists. It is the goal of this program not only to provide thoughtful and thought provoking discussions but also to demonstrate how people with firm convictions can disagree – often profoundly – and remain civil.

**Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan  
USA**

**Strengthening the Teaching of World Religions in Schools**

The Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan D.C. (IFC) brings together the Bahá'í, Islamic, Hindu, Jewish, Latter Day Saints, Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Sikh faith communities to increase understanding and to work collaboratively for social and economic justice. The IFC is therefore in a terrific position to provide excellent speakers on diverse faiths for classrooms, and to arrange field trips to visit the sanctuaries of many religions. The IFC works with teachers in public, private, religious, and congregational schools at the high school level.

**Interfaith Conference of Metro Washington  
USA**

**Buddhist Alliance for Social Engagement (BASE)**

BASE is a program of social action and Buddhist practice that creates core spiritual communities of activists. It dedicates itself to providing services and organizational resources for the transformation of suffering. An initial commitment of six months includes retreat, group practice and process. Social change often extends into an open-ended group of close spiritual friends. This is a model for Buddhists and for people in other traditions.

**Buddhist Peace Fellowship  
USA**

**Interfaith Peace Gathering — Commemorating Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

Every August, the New York Buddhist Church organizes an Interfaith Peace Gathering to commemorate the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. The gatherings start with a moment of silence to pray for the victims of atomic bombing, followed by Buddhist Sutra chanting, Sacred scriptures, meditation and prayers are offered by various religious leaders followed by messages and lectures for world peace. Half a century after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the fear of atomic war still exists, and this gathering reminds us that we should never stop longing for the demolition of atomic weapons and for world peace.

**Buddhist Churches of America  
USA**

**The 64 Days Calendar of Community Events**

A Season for Non-violence-LA has outreached to over 300 groups and organizations in Southern California who are succeeding in generating positive change through nonviolent principles and activities. During the first 64 Days campaign, SNV-LA inspired and coordinated the presentation of 174 events which focused on the philosophy, principles and applied practice of non-violence which were attended by over 35,000 people from all walks of life and all ages. Through the dedicated work of many volunteers who provided liaison services to all of the different organizations, SNV-LA edited and published a calendar of community events which was widely distributed. As a result, new partnerships were formed and continue to develop and deepen. Many were deeply touched to find out about all the positive things that are taking place in the city on a daily basis, giving them a sense of hope and encouraging them to network beyond the confines of their community. The most profound impact happened in schools where new curricula were created and promising young leadership was developed.

**A Season for Non-violence-LA  
USA**

### **Quest of Divinity Circle for Women**

"Quest of Divinity" – a year long, bi-weekly, grass-roots worship for women of all religions – attempts to reconstruct devalued self-images in women through emphasizing divine attributes within them. The workshop cultivates an ethic of living, working, and "serving" which advocates creating sacred space and experiencing the divine in everyday life. The workshop addresses: "living the divine" in the practical, everyday things we do; changing the notion of service to others to become analogous to worshipping God; practicing spiritual communion by honoring the divine within us; creating sacred space at work and in our family settings; empowering ourselves to be creative women who have the power to make a difference in whatever way we choose, honoring and respecting each other's choices; creating a work ethic that reflects God's purpose for our lives; and practicing excellence in all we do.

**University of California at Riverside  
USA**

### **Teaching of the Global Ethic to Zarathusthi Youth**

The project will endeavor to teach Zarathusthi youth worldwide the *Global Ethic* as subscribed to by the 1993 Assembly of Spiritual and Religious Leaders of the Parliament of the World's Religions, including such topics as: comparative religion, civics, parenting, interreligious dialogue, conflict resolution, and appreciative inquiry. It will endeavor to seek guidance from other faith traditions in the preparation of teaching materials, while encouraging them to develop their own programs.

**Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of  
North America  
USA**

### **Agenda for Reconciliation**

The Moral Re-Armament project seeks to create an environment where individuals can find liberation from hatred, greed and indifference, and works to support individuals and groups involved in peace-making to cooperate with others with similar objectives

**Moral Re-Armament  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **The Re-Imagining Community**

The Re-Imagining Community – a global, ecumenical community of acceptance – works to create an environment where exploration, discussion, study and practice of the Christian faith can be undertaken freely and responsibly. The community seeks justice, honors creation, and calls the church into solidarity with all people of God. Re-Imagining publishes a magazine four times a year and operates a monthly website to keep people in touch with events across the country.

Re-Imagining also plans, hosts, and produces a gathering for people every two years on the theme of re-imagining.

**The Re-Imagining Community  
USA**

### **Creating a Tour of Violence Project in Your Community**

In a riveting thirteen-stop itinerary, a bus takes adults on a tour of violence in their own neighborhoods to see first hand the violent influences to which their children are subjected. Many children have learned to hate by the time they reach the age of five. Participants of the tour discuss what the root causes of violence are that keep children at risk, and most importantly, what adults can do to change this situation. Also, libraries with anti-violence resource centers have established community centers throughout the city or town in which the bus tours are running, allowing citizens access to the materials and resources that will help them address the issues and problems of violence. These resource centers include books, journals, curricula, films and videos, other teaching materials, and the handouts that are available on the bus tour.

**No More Violence  
USA**

### **Vishva Niketan**

The Vishva Niketan was established to create peace and harmony between people regardless of their ethnic and religious backgrounds. Vishva Niketan has been facilitating peace through providing a center and meeting place for the following: to facilitate conflicts between individuals and groups; to train peace workers of different nationalities; to serve as a library for people to study theologians, philosophers, and activists from all over the world; to organize lectures, discussions, seminars, conferences and workshops on matters connected with the propagation of peace; and, finally, to print, publish, and distribute books, papers, pamphlets and other literature on subjects connected with peace.

**Vishva Niketan  
SRI LANKA**

### **William R. Laws Peacemaking Lectures**

Memorial gifts, in the name of Dr. William R. Laws Jr., bring national-caliber peacemakers to Columbus, Indiana — a community of 50,000 persons — to teach and challenge people on current issues and methods of peacemaking. Lectures have been attended by hundreds.

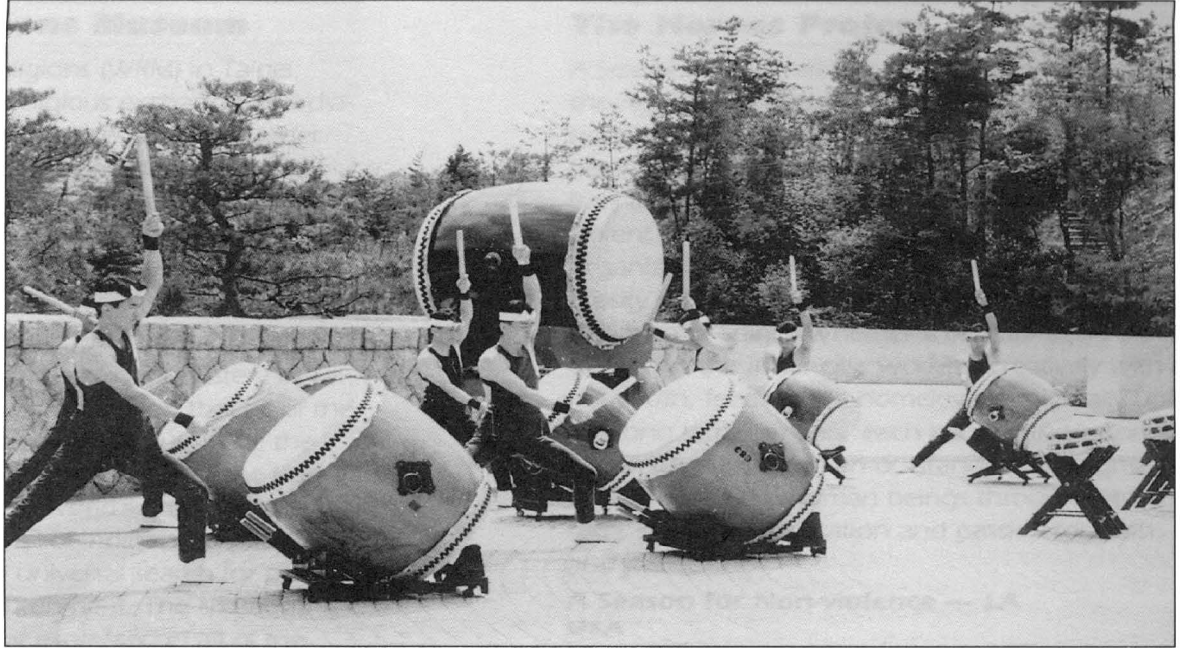
**First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, Indiana  
USA**

### **Human Rights for All Creation and Artists Toward a Global Ethic Potluck, Project Manuals**

Project Manuals, Human Rights for All Creation and Artists Toward a Global Ethic Potluck are available as free downloads on the internet at [www.spiralingmusic.com](http://www.spiralingmusic.com). Both are educational multi-media curricula with documentation of projects developed in the San Francisco Bay area since 1986. Our aim is to provide tools to inspire other artists, musicians, dancers, and teachers around the world to incorporate concepts from the documents, Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948 and Toward a Global Ethic: An Initial Declaration 1993, into education. Bringing the concepts to life through increased cultural expression is our goal. All projects are "replicable" around the world with use of published materials.

**Spiraling Music/Artists Toward a Global Ethic  
USA**





Sharing Spiritual Tradition from Japan

*Shinji Shumei-kai Taiko Ensemble*

# CELEBRATING LIFE & ITS POSSIBILITIES





## **The World Religions Museum**

The Museum of World Religions (WRM) in Taipei, Taiwan, a center for interreligious exchange and dialogue, is devoted to promoting respect and understanding for the world's diverse religious and spiritual traditions. Exhibiting religious art from around the world, the Museum allows visitors to experience the power and beauty of religion – while educating them as well.

The WRM is an initiative of Dharma Master Hsin Tao, the Founder of Ling-chiu mountain monastery in Taiwan, and is built on Master Tao's vision that all of the world religions share core spiritual values. Like the branches of the Bodhi Tree, the symbol of the Buddha's compassion, all of the world's great faiths as well as the "primal religions" of indigenous peoples are branches of the same universal search for purpose, meaning and enlightenment. The Museum will be a shrine to the spirit expressed in all of the World Religions and a sanctuary honoring the varied faiths and interconnected branches of the global community. In addition to exhibiting an extensive collection of religious art from around the world, the Museum will make use of the latest in museum and multi-media technology to give every visitor an unforgettable encounter with the power of human religions.

The Museum will challenge the visitors to learn more about their own faith as well as the faiths of others. To be true to our own cherished traditions, the Museum posits that visitors need to better understand other belief systems that challenge and complement their own. The Museum will invite all visitors to widen their horizons, and reach out with their hearts and minds to embrace other members of the global community as partners and friends.

**Museum of World Religions – Taipei  
TAIWAN, R.O.C.**

## **Children's Peace Education Project**

Children's Peace Education Project uses theater, dance and storytelling to teach young adults and children peaceful conflict resolution and the essential elements of nonviolent social change. The central features of this methodology are role-plays and body/mind integration.

**Pathways To Peace  
USA**

## **The Heroes Project**

A Season for Non-violence – LA, in collaboration with the Agape International Center of Truth, has publicly honored heroes of non-violence in many communities – ordinary people who are living extraordinary lives and are making a difference through their non-violent choices and actions. These individuals and/or organizations were acknowledged for their "Generosity of Heart and Soul, Brightness of Mind, and Brilliance of Spirit." Whether it be cultivating a peace garden in the inner city, working creatively with at-risk youth, feeding the homeless or spiritually uplifting long term inmates, each person and/or organization demonstrated an outstanding willingness to serve their fellow human beings through their vision, faith, courage, dedication and passion for truth and justice.

**A Season for Non-violence — LA  
USA**

## **Art of Living Festival**

The Art of Living Festival, held annually at the University of Cape Town, brings together over 6,000 people from diverse spiritual paths and philosophies. It encompasses: unity and diversity; the celebration of life; the care of the earth, body, mind and soul; and a full program of presentations, workshops, displays, multicultural music and dance, and the creative and healing arts.

**The Wellstead Association  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **Living Treasure of North American Heritage Awards**

The Living Treasure of North America Heritage awards will be presented annually (or semi-annually) to honor individuals working to preserve the heritage of indigenous North American people and those working to protect the land. The award celebrations will raise awareness of the value of Earth-centered traditions and activities. At the first award celebration, Prairyerth UU Fellowship honored two Native American Elders in a day long conference and presentation drawing some 100 participants.

**Prairyerth Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
USA**

### **District Six Heritage**

The Center for Ubuntu in the Republic of South Africa upholds that every person in the nation has a story to tell. To that end, the Center is working to present the story of the past for historical purposes, and to use this knowledge to create a positive future which is informed by past mistakes and struggles. The Center will draw out the poison from South Africa's memories of Apartheid, while celebrating the good things – like the indomitable spirit. In this, the Center hopes to contribute to the healing of South Africa's memory using District Six as a dramatic example. Just as every South African has a story to tell, so do the country's faith communities, particularly their role in the nation's struggle against apartheid.

**Center for Ubuntu  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Sharing Spiritual Tradition from Japan**

The Shumei Taiko Ensemble, one of the leading Taiko drumming troops in the world, inspires audiences with the beauty and precise articulation of the world's oldest musical traditions. Founded in 1982 as part of Shinji Shumeikai (a spiritual organization whose mission includes fostering an appreciation of the arts), the Ensemble has come to occupy an eminent place in the world of Japanese performing arts. Acclaimed in its mastery of traditional Taiko techniques, the group has infused vibrant, thoroughly modern approaches into an art steeped in tradition. In this way, the ensemble brings Japanese spiritual arts to a broader audience. The Shumei Taiko Ensemble has performed in a variety of venues, including numerous schools, in order to foster inter-cultural appreciation and to build bridges between peoples. The ensemble will perform during the Parliament in several townships and other communities in the Cape Town area.

**Shinji Shumeikai/Shumei Taiko Ensemble  
JAPAN**

### **Hearts, Hands, and Voices: an Interfaith Festival Celebrating the Sacred**

The Hearts, Hands and Voices Festival celebrates religious and spiritual diversity. The event takes place in a beautiful mountain park setting and includes a wide variety of inspirational live music, sacred dance and poetry. It also includes faith community and non-profit educational exhibits, interfaith dialogue, meditation and prayer tents, teens and children's activities, hands on art projects, and more.

**Common Spirit  
USA**

### **Peace Necklaces**

We Are One and the Seed Foundation has given the Parliament of the World's Religions 1,000 Peace Necklaces to distribute to youth and religious leaders. The We Are One Necklace for Peace initiative honors the movement for peace around the world, and has ten of the many diverse faith traditions of the world represented on the necklace. In the center is the Heart of Peace, which symbolizes the bringing together of all of the religions and people of the world. This necklace design was blessed by the Dalai Lama.

**We Are One  
USA**

### **African Art and Cultural Festival**

The African Art and Cultural Festival is organized in nine African countries for churches, other religious groups, Africans and others wanting language and cultural exchanges. The Festival focuses on providing information about HIV, Human Rights, the Democratic campaign, crime, and xenophobia, through art and culture.

**Mr. F. Feleke  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Walk Through Time**

The Foundation for Global Community is a non-profit, educational organization that works to discover, live, and communicate what is needed to build a world that functions for the benefit of all life. In order to demonstrate humanity's connection to all life, the Foundation has developed an exhibit and a book entitled *The Walk Through Time*. The exhibit is a 90-panel, one-mile experience of life evolving on our planet, and it presents the 5 billion year story in pictures and words to connect participants to their ancient biological origins. Since the human appears only in the last panel, viewers get a sense of their minute place among all species. Through partaking in this experience, people will get a sense for the interdependency and intimate connections mankind has with all life. As a result, they will hopefully rethink their relationship with all life and make decisions that benefit all creatures.

**Foundation for Global Community  
USA**

### **Mina Nawe Drama Group**

Mina Nawe Drama Group performs a number of productions that focus on the story of South Africa, and they encourage the audience to take responsibility for changing the future of the country. The group works alongside the Institute for Healing of Memories, which played a crucial role in the beginning of the workshops. Their performances portray a history of conflict and peace in South Africa through drama and music. Their goal is for the audience to connect with their South African heritage.

**Center for Ubuntu  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **KIDSIDEAA!**

KIDSIDEAA! will be designed as a safe, fun, nurturing and educational internet site for children and young people to share questions, comments, and concerns, as well as artwork, stories, and personal experiences about their religious traditions and interfaith dialogue. KIDSIDEAA! is committed to teaching our children that we are all part of God's family.

**Interfaith Dialogue Education & Action  
USA**

### **Celebrating Culture with Dance and Storytelling**

This project inspires people to look within themselves for creativity by teaching them to dance ecstatically to music of different cultures and to explore the ancient art of storytelling. The project urges people to share their culture and learn about the culture of others while having fun. Mr. Banda hopes to share with children and adults his passion for dance and storytelling. He desires to help bring peace to communities and to foster spiritual healing, and a love for God and His creation, through helping people engage in whole-body dancing and storytelling themselves.

**Pathways To Peace  
USA**

### **Seder Umoth Ha 'Olam at the United Nations: an Interfaith Convocation for Peace**

The Interfaith Convocation for Peace is working to become an inspirational model and safe environment to experience wholeness of spirit among a diversity of voices. People of all faiths and cultural traditions, old and young, rich and poor alike, are invited to articulate peace in their own genuine words, sounds, and images. These artistic and spiritual expressions will be integrated into a dramatic whole at the participatory event, Seder Umoth Ha'Olam.

**Garden of Peace International  
USA**

### **One Earth, One World, One Heart**

The Franciscan Federation offers a spiral bound book of resources dedicated to assisting communities and individuals in working towards a sustainable world. This book consists of materials from: The Earth Summit and the UN; Franciscan readings; general readings; networking; audio-visuals; and prayers. All information focuses on providing building blocks for sustainable transformation.

**Franciscan Federation  
USA**





Building an Elementary School  
for the Underprivileged Children of  
Dundold, India

*State University of New York, Oneonta*

# FOSTERING CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT



## **International Earth Charter Campaign**

The Earth Charter is a concise and inspiring declaration of global interdependence and universal responsibility with a special emphasis on sustainable living and sustainable development. The Charter affirms that we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny, and it upholds that everyone shares responsibility for the present and future well-being of humanity and the greater community of life. The Earth Charter is an urgent call for a major transformation in our ways of relating to the larger living world and one another. The document recognizes the interdependence of humanity's environmental, economic, social, moral, and spiritual goals.

The Charter provides individuals, families, civil society, business, and government with a much needed integrated ethical vision for building a free, just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful world. The Earth Charter Initiative is part of the global ethics movement. It reflects the emerging global consensus on common goals and shared values, and it seeks to give expression to principles of enduring significance that are valid for people of all cultures, religions, races, and nations. For over a decade, hundreds of groups throughout the world have endeavored to create an Earth Charter. Today an Earth Charter Commission and the Earth Council in Costa Rica oversee the International Earth Charter Campaign, with over forty-five national Earth Charter committees at work in the different regions of the world. The principles of the Earth Charter draw upon international law, science, philosophy, religion, and the major United Nations summit meetings of the last decade as well as the International Earth Charter conversation on global ethics. The Charter will be circulated worldwide as a people's treaty in an effort to promote education, commitment, and implementation of Earth Charter values. The document will be submitted to the United Nations General Assembly for its endorsement in the year 2002, which is the tenth anniversary of the UN Rio Earth Summit.

**Earth Charter International Drafting Committee**  
**USA**

## **Stand Up and Stand Together Against Corruption**

Transparency International of the Republic of South Africa is part of an international network against corruption. The aim of the organization is to mobilize and empower different role players to contribute to a broad-ranging strategy for integrity against corruption in the public sector, the private sector, and all organizations of civil society.

**Transparency International – South Africa**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **Thanksgiving World Assembly**

In November 1997, the United Nations General Assembly declared the year 2000 an International Year of Thanksgiving. The Center For World Thanksgiving initiated this request, working closely with the nation of Argentina and the ECOSOC nations. In March 1999, as a first global response to this year of Thanksgiving, people of many religions and cultures gathered in Dallas, Texas for the Thanksgiving World Assembly. Thirty-three nations from five continents were represented in discussions on the healing and uniting spirit of Thanksgiving within and amongst religions, and brought forth a common understanding of future visions of the world for a new century and a new millennium. The Center dedicates its final summary and study of the gathering, and particularly the delegate's *Call for Action*, as a Gift of Service to the World.

**Thanks-Giving Square Foundation**  
**USA**

## **Integrity For Nonviolence: Walk our Talk**

Integrity For Nonviolence holds workshops to develop strategies and interventions that create non-violent zones within the workplace, within organizations, and within our communities. Integrity For Nonviolence is a values-centered process dedicated to the elimination of violence through putting nonviolent values into practice.

**Integrity For Nonviolence**  
**USA**



### **National Integrity Strategy of South Africa**

The National Integrity Strategy (NIS) was originally developed in the context of the South African government's fight against corruption, but has now come to include all sectors of society. This national initiative has as its focus the moral reconstruction of South African society through integrity building. Much effort has already been made to develop codes of conduct, strategies to control corruption, and educational programs. South Africa's democratic culture remains challenged to creatively engage in institutional reform and good governance for the purpose of a better life for all.

**Public Service Commission  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Aspects of the Constitution of India — Aurobindonian Perspectives**

A National Seminar was held to focus on giving a spiritual perspective on the Indian Constitution based on the socio-political thought of Sri Aurobindo. The central theme was that of giving India a polity reflecting her soul. Spirituality was defined as awakening to an inner reality beyond the limitations of mind, life and body. The proceedings of this seminar have been widely distributed throughout India.

**Sri Aurobindo Research Foundation  
INDIA**

### **Child Safety and Injury Protection**

CAPFSA will promote optimal health and development for all children in South Africa. CAPFSA aims to reduce intentional and unintentional injuries of all severity through research, education, environmental change and recommendations for legislation. We work in co-operation with government, industry, non-governmental and community-based organizations, community groups and individuals.

**Child Accident Prevention Foundation for Southern Africa (CAPFSA)  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Healing Religious Wounds: the Listening Project**

The Listening Project takes an appreciative inquiry into the lived wisdom and guidance of the world's religious and spiritual traditions. It is a "research action" in the sense that the outcome of the work will provide the clay for a series of other Healing Religious Wounds projects to promote and make useful what we learn when we listen. The Project hopes to interview people who are particularly admired for their clarity and insight within their own faith families. Instead of focusing on victimization, the project seeks to map the journey away from violation to discern and appreciate the learned, living, spiritually-sourced process of healing, reconciliation and wholeness.

The Project hopes to conduct at least seventy-five interviews using a team of interviewers trained at the Interfaith Center. A longer protocol covering interviewer training will be used for interviews beyond the Bay Area. Highlights of interviews and particularly important stories will be documented, and the results will be published in different forms. The results will also be used to guide the planning team in putting together a charette (gathering) that will bring together at least 100 individuals with special interests and gifts regarding conflict transformation, community building and spirituality.

The Listening Project has been gestating for three years and will incorporate a wide variety of ethnic traditions and faith families.

**Interfaith Center at the Presidio  
USA**

### **The Tuan Yusef Learning Center**

The Center is a community project which subscribes to principles of non-sectarian social and spiritual transformation and human development. The Center seeks to serve as a base for people with aspirations for self-improvement and to offer education in a holistic manner. The educational program covers practical skills-building, environmental awareness programs, literacy, and employment opportunities. The center strives to assist human upliftment, regardless of race, religion, sex, age, color, or creed.

**Muslim Women's Federation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **In the Footsteps of the Magi**

In the fall of the year 2000, a camel caravan will leave the one-time site of the Winter Palace of the Magi in the ancient Parthian Empire to reenact the famous journey to Bethlehem of 2000 years ago. This journey will spearhead a major philanthropic effort called "Remembering The Innocents" aimed at aiding children of all faiths and nationalities across the whole Middle East. The caravan of international pilgrims will travel for 99 days – each day dedicated to one of the "Ninety-nine Beautiful Names of God" in Islam – reaching Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. Caravan hosts will be representatives of two indigenous organizations: The Holy Land Trust, a humanitarian organization of Anglican, Catholic, and Orthodox Christians, chaired by Reverend Doctor Naim Ateek, and The Middle East Council of Churches, a group of ecumenical, ecclesiastical leaders representing all the church families in the Holy Land, whose General Secretary is Reverend Doctor Riad Jarjour.

When the international caravan reaches each waystation on their journey, the local community of Christians will gather to host them. These modern-day Magi will present gifts to their hosts; these gifts will later be followed by continuing aid for the local community. The culminating gift at Bethlehem is hoped to be the construction of a planetarium near Manger Square, where the Biblical story of the Star of the Magi and their journey would be shown daily throughout the year. A museum of first century life and other educational attractions are part of the planned complex. Beyond adding further depth and meaning to the experience of travelers who come to view the traditional site of Jesus' birth, it is hoped that longer times spent in Bethlehem by visitors will bring increased economic benefit to the local population.

The Holy Land Trust and Middle East Council of Churches plan to initiate an inclusive program of continuing aid to children suffering from the tragic effects of modern political conflicts in the Middle East. The title of this outreach program – "Remembering The Innocents" – memorializes the male babies of Bethlehem slain by Herod's soldiers after the departure of the Magi.

**Holyland Trust and Middle East Council of Churches**  
USA

### **JOLT: Justice Organizers, Leadership and Treasures**

JOLT, established in 1994, is a coalition of 20 Roman Catholic religious communities in California, which meets quarterly to educate its members on collaborative actions related to economic justice related to corporate investments. Members' actions include filing corporate shareholder resolutions to challenge perceived unjust corporate business practices, and collaborating on alternative investments intended to promote human dignity and bring about community and social transformation.

**Katalysis Partnership and Dominican Sisters**  
USA

### **The Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice for the 21st Century**

The Hague Agenda is a citizens' agenda produced at The Hague Appeal for Peace Conference (11-15, May 1999) to ensure a 21st century without war. The Agenda consists of 50 steps with 12 international campaigns and seeks to mobilize citizens, governments and international organizations in realizing its goals.

**Franciscans International**  
USA

### **Human Business Partnership: the Global Council for Business, Ethics, and Spiritual Values**

The Human Business Partnership links together the world's business leaders with spiritual and civic leaders to continue an ethical renewal of corporate structures and practices so that humanity and business can flourish together. Initiatives include: facilitating dialogue among business, civic, and spiritual leaders; improving the interchange of information among businesses and other organizations; and creating and integrating standards for ethical performance.

**International Council of Christians and Jews**  
UNITED KINGDOM

## **Community Foundations of Canada, Our Millennium**

Our Millennium is a nationwide initiative of Canada's community foundations that encourages Canadians to celebrate the millennium by coming together to do something special in their communities – something that lasts. It is an opportunity to get together with neighbors, friends, family or co-workers, to find an idea, a gift or a project that will make the community a better, stronger, more vibrant place. A gift project can be one of time, labor, commitment or money. Projects can be big and ambitious or small and simple.

A Catalogue of Possibilities has all the information people need to participate in Our Millennium. It is filled with over 100 gift ideas, as well as many examples of community initiatives and projects across the country. Gift ideas are divided into categories: Youth and Children, Heritage, Learning, Environment, Connections, Arts and Culture, Safety, Care and Support, and Recreation.

Sample *Our Millennium* Gifts or Projects include: creating an artistic mural that tells a community's history; building the Trans-Canada Trail – the longest trail of its kind; developing a volunteer community taxi service or a shopping brigade for those who need help; contributing to an endowment fund; setting up a mentoring program or becoming a volunteer grandparent; and restoring an historic building.

Canadians are invited to register their millennium gifts so they can be part of the record of how Canada marked the passage into the new millennium. Participants can register a gift nationally on the website at [www.ourmillennium.ca](http://www.ourmillennium.ca) or by contacting a local Our Millennium organizer.

**Our Millennium**  
**CANADA**

## **Youth Development Project**

This project serves youth living in areas with high rates of crime and gangsterism. The Community in Schools Program provides support services to prevent children from dropping out. The Community Youth-Based Centers provide services for youths who have dropped out of school and are unemployed.

**Mr. Jasper Walsh**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **A Partnership in Faith-based African-American Community**

Since 1982, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church has operated fourteen programs that address the basic needs of community residents. The larger, more successful programs include a Hunger Task Force and Clothing Mission, "Women, Infants and Children (WIC)", and a Tele-A-Friend Latch Key Program. Other successful programs include the Hartford Satellite Meals Catering, Hartford Senior Center, and the Kafo Academy (young manhood training). The partnerships have also created a Kentake Academy (young womanhood training) and the Hartford Start Agency (preschool program). In November 1998, through the partnership created between Hartford Memorial Baptist Church and Kmart Corporation, a retail outlet opened in the City of Detroit, an example of faith-based, social, economic development has been created. This partnership between business and an African-American faith community serves as a national model of creative engagement.

**Hartford Agape House**  
**USA**

## **TRANSIT: Today, Religion, Art, Nature, Science & Industry, Interfaith Together**

Developed at the Black Sea Conference (sponsored by the Ecumenical Patriarch, Bartholomew), the TRANSIT project seeks to raise consciousness about the bio-social impacts associated with Black Sea resource management. The project links religious leaders, young artists, scientists, conservationists, non-governmental organizations, academics, health professionals and micro-enterprise practitioners to create works of art that serve as catalysts for galvanizing positive action by communities, both around the Black Sea and worldwide. The works convey the importance of saving the Black Sea as a resource for future generations.

**The National Arts Club**  
**USA**

### **The Rodale Institute — Shinji Shumeikai Partnership: Regenerative Agriculture**

The global partnership of The Rodale Institute and Shinji Shumeikai works with people worldwide to create a regenerative food system that renews environmental and human health. Growing food in this way incorporates nature's intrinsic regenerative tendencies into garden and farm systems. Over generations, this gives the greatest chance of providing food quantity and quality while sustaining environmental health. By practicing natural and regenerative agriculture, this partnership begins to think about how we relate to nature and how we can act as a part of nature. Eventually, agriculture becomes transcendental, and because of this truth, regenerative agriculture has great potential to change our attitude towards nature for the better.

**Rodale Institute Experimental Farm /  
Shinji Shumeikai  
USA**

### **REEP: The Religious Education and Environmental Program**

REEP – the Religious Education and Environment Program – works with teachers and educators from all faiths in order to equip them with techniques for teaching environmental education. REEP is founded on the conviction that concern for nature is essential to religion, and that religious awareness has a vital contribution to make to the natural world. Through tailor-made teacher-training events delivered by experienced facilitators from all the main faiths, REEP enables teachers to return to their classrooms with information, materials, and classroom activities to help pupils explore the world around them. The workshops encourage students to explore the relevance of traditional religious teachings, develop their own beliefs and values concerning the environment, and find ways to take practical action based upon their beliefs and values.

**REEP: The Religious Education and  
Environmental Program  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Churches' Center for Land and People**

The Churches' Center for Land and People (CCLP) is an ecumenical organization open to people of all faiths. CCLP questions the corporate-controlled world food systems and fosters support of creative alternatives by providing a place for farmers, churches, governments, educational institutions, and grassroots cooperatives and coalitions to consider positive actions related to the sustainability of land, people, and communities. In addition to ongoing study groups in Earth Stewardship and in Ethics, CCLP organizes Rural Life Gatherings and Pastoral Implications Conferences.

**Churches' Center for Land and People  
USA**

### **Creating a State-Wide Model for Nonviolent Education in Rhode Island**

The new Center for Nonviolence and Peace at the University of Rhode Island in the United States commits itself to initiating a movement to make education in conflict resolution and reconciliation available to all segments of the state of Rhode Island. Geographically compact (1000 sq. miles) with an ethnically diverse population of one million, Rhode Island can become a forerunner in building what Martin Luther King Jr. envisaged as a "beloved community." The Center for Nonviolence and Peace has begun working with school districts, educators, police, civic officials, and business, religious and civic organizations statewide, and will support other centers worldwide as part of a global network working for nonviolent social change and the spiritual elevation of humanity.

**Center for the Nonviolence and Peace Studies  
USA**

**Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life**

Every year since 1994, the Woman's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) honors at least 30 outstanding women and women's groups around the world who exhibit exceptional creativity and courage in improving the quality of life in rural communities and advancing development and peace. In 1999, 34 prize winners were selected from an overwhelming number of nominees. The Prize awards each recipient with US \$500. To learn more about the 145 awards given since 1994, please visit our web site: [www.woman.ch](http://www.woman.ch).

**Women's World Summit Foundation  
SWITZERLAND**

**Actions for Peace — Peace Games**

Peace Games, the largest sports tournament ever organized in the world, is taking place in the city of Rio de Janeiro, and is reconciling two long-time enemies: adolescents and the police. Forty thousand youth, mostly from low-income neighborhoods, organized into 2,509 teams, are playing soccer, volleyball and basketball under the guidance of the city's Police Force. The tournament uses sports as a means to bring youth together in a climate of teamwork and positive competitiveness in order to overcome their aggressiveness and distrust of the police. One team is comprised solely of youth offenders, the other is comprised of native Brazilian Indians, with the police acting as referees and organizers of the matches. Restoring confidence in the police and learning to respect "the rules of the game" are essential steps in educating responsible citizens for the future. The Peace Games are coordinated by Viva Rio and sponsored by the Rio de Janeiro State Secretariat for Sports and UNESCO.

In the year 2000, another tournament will be held in addition to an international mini-Olympic competition, bringing together teams from cities throughout the world where violent conflicts have erupted. Brazilian youth from the city's shanty-towns will be playing alongside adolescents from Harlem in New York, USA, Sarajevo in Yugoslavia, Medellín in Colombia, and El Salvador in San Salvador, among other cities.

**Viva Rio  
BRAZIL**

**Encouraging Creative Engagement**

The St. Petersburg School of Religion and Philosophy (SRPH) was established in the early 1990s to offer educational opportunities for both Russian and foreign students in the field of liberal arts, particularly those which were not addressed by the Soviet system. SRPH encourages students to explore how personal experience affects, and is affected by, academic studies. Curricula also encourages experimenting with theoretical and systematical theologies for knowing God and nurturing the links between experience and spirituality. The School also encourages practical activities of students and teachers which include helping the Russian Orthodox Church in the area of interfaith dialogue, hosting conferences and seminars on the most urgent themes of faith and Russian spiritual culture, and academic and popular lectures on different religious aspects of life for a wide audience of St. Petersburg citizens.

**St. Petersburg School of Religion and Philosophy  
RUSSIA**

**Action for Peace — Education and Human Rights Training for the Police**

Currently 650 police officers from twenty battalions in Rio de Janeiro are enrolled in the Telesala 2000 Educational Training Program which enables adults to complete their secondary level education. Part of the curriculum includes basic human rights training on issues ranging from racism to religious tolerance and women's rights. For the first time in the history of the city, the police force is debating these issues with the participation of civilian coordinators from Viva Rio. In addition to special courses for the police force, 5,000 other students are completing their basic-level education through the program in over 300 community centers throughout Rio de Janeiro.

**Viva Rio  
BRAZIL**

### **My Own Business Entrepreneurial Training Course**

My Own Business Inc. is a fully packaged program which helps individuals go into business for themselves and succeed. The course has been tested and refined since 1993. It is a series of 10 sessions that will be available via the internet in early 2000 for anyone who wants to succeed in starting their own business. Because it is non-profit, all one will need to do is log on to [www.myownbusiness.org](http://www.myownbusiness.org). The course is suggested to be taken over a period of 5 weeks at 2 sessions per week.

**My Own Business Inc.**  
USA

### **Sufism and Psychology Forum**

The Sufism and Psychology Forum (SPF) is a continuing dialogue between people of the mind and soul who have established numerous Healing Centers in the United States. The Healing Centers provide individual and group counseling and psychotherapy, integrating traditional Sufi healing practices with Western Psychology. In an effort to promote a broadening of perspectives within the field of psychology, SPF members will launch an extensive and ongoing research project dedicated to defining the psychological benefits of meditative practices in relation to a wide variety of healing models. Portions of these research projects will be published online and in the SPF newsletters.

**International Association of Sufism**  
USA

### **White House Conference on Philanthropy: Gifts to the Future**

On October 22, 1999, the White House hosted a conference attended by philanthropic experts, youth, program leaders, donors and innovators representing a wide range of racial, ethnic, economic and religious backgrounds. The Gifts to the Future highlight the American tradition of giving, discuss the diverse and changing face of philanthropy, and explore how we can sustain and expand this tradition for future generations.

**White House Millennium Council**  
USA

### **State of the World Forum**

The State of the World Forum has gathered an extraordinary community representing over 100 nations and nearly 4,000 exceptional individuals ranging from leaders to poets, from scientists to youth. Its goal is to help create a more compassionate, just, non-violent and environmentally sustainable world order. The Forum has spawned several initiatives such as The Whole Child, Coexistence and Community Building, Emerging Leaders, and the Nobel Peace Laureate Commission. At the 1999 Parliament the Nuclear Weapon Elimination Initiative will be presenting a statement for endorsement, commitment and action.

**State of the World Forum /  
For Nuclear Elimination Initiative**  
USA

### **The Education as Transformation Project**

The Education as Transformation Project explores the impact of religious diversity and the role of spirituality in the educational programs of colleges and universities. Currently in contact with over 400 institutions of higher education throughout the United States, the Project is preparing to consult with institutions in other parts of the world.

**Education as Transformation Project**  
USA

### **Perpetual Faith Resource and Internet Protection**

Inspired by the Council's Call to Our Guiding Institutions, Exotrope, Inc., offers their gift of the BAIR filtering system, which allows internet users to filter out types of material which may be offensive to them. In recognition of the 1999 Parliament, Exotrope will also provide free Web page hosting services, in perpetuity, to each delegate at the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions. The BAIR system is now widely recognized as the world's most advanced and effective pornography-blocking software solution from Exotrope, Inc. The company has also created Inter-FaithNet SM, database of the best religious resources available on the Web.

**Exotrope, Inc.**  
USA

**Turning Homelessness Around:  
Lessons Emerging from the  
Successful Strategies of the Bay  
Area Regional Initiative (BARI)**

This collaborative effort pilots successful strategies for addressing homelessness. They involve cross-agency, cross-jurisdictional and/or cross-system collaborations, resulting in the development of a more integrated, effective response to homelessness. This project provides an overview of these strategies and serves as a manual for others looking for models of success to replicate in their own communities.

**HomeBase / The Center for Common Concern  
USA**

**ICARE Guide to Chicagoland Charities and Non-Profit Organizations**

Published in the fall of each year with a circulation of 40,000, the ICARE Guide is a resource directory for Chicago-area charities and non-profit organizations. The guide has increased the overall visibility and involvement of many of Chicagoland's neediest institutions by providing information to interested persons about giving and volunteering opportunities in the area.

**ICARE  
USA**

**Celebrating Religious Diversity  
within Municipalities**

The City of Edmonton in Canada wishes to share its program as a model of how religious diversity can be incorporated into the daily political administrative operation of a city. The City of Edmonton recognizes the existence and importance of spirituality through a program that fosters respect and mutuality between diverse peoples, cultures, and religions. Specifically, the City opens council meetings with prayers by leaders of various local faith communities, encourages religious exhibits and activities at City Hall, and provides a full time Chaplain.

**City of Edmonton  
CANADA**

**Environmental and Social  
Upliftment Television Channel  
and Radio Station**

In a bid to use powerful media to change the understanding and attitude of the world, the Green Party of South Africa proposes to start environmental and social upliftment programs on television and radio. The party will enlist the cooperation of other producers to start a land television channel, and then a satellite channel featuring environmental soap operas, motivational films, and documentaries to change the way people perceive each other and other species on this planet. The aim is to expedite the end of battery farming, animal experimentation, and human and animal abuse.

**Green Party of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Gobind Sadan**

Gobind Sadan is a place of pilgrimage for all people. It is a farm-based spiritual community with locations in India and US, combining hard work and meditation under the blessings and guidance of Baba Virsa Singh Ji. When Baba Virsa Singh Ji and his sevadars began work at Gobind Sadan in 1968, the land was arid, gutted with ravines, thorny, treeless, and uninhabited. Now it is a peace paradise of orderly, irrigated fields of vegetables and forage crops, trees, and sacred places with a community kitchen and living quarters. The staff and volunteers live simply, creating a surplus far beyond their own needs which is used to provide services to the hard working or disabled poor and to celebrate the holy days of all religions.

**Gobind Sadan, VLG Gadaipur  
INDIA**

### **Sakhaisizwe Trust**

Established in 1998, with support from religious groups across denominations and faiths, The Sakhaisizwe Trust's mission is to alleviate poverty and unemployment through SMME (small and medium sized enterprises) training and development. The Trust, as a black economic empowerment vehicle, has established an investment company, Zimunathi Investments, to manage its assets and engage corporate South Africa to leverage the stakeholder purchasing and distribution base of the Trust in doing empowerment deals which ensures real, broad based and grassroots empowerment to many thousands of deprived people. The Trust has embarked on an international roadshow to solicit investment and donor funds from essential bodies, corporate chairman funds, multinationals and wealthy individuals, with a target for 1999 of \$100m. These funds are primarily invested in South African companies, with a view to maximize wealth and/or dividends for the Trust, which in turn are invested in proven poverty and SMME initiatives, driven by reputable NGO's. To date the Trust and its stakeholders have been instrumental in the training and empowerment of more than 125,000 entrepreneurs, with micro-loans to more than 50,000

**Sakhaisizwe Trust**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Aligning Models for Personal and Organizational Transformation**

Leadership & Learning Solutions is dedicated to assisting organizations to reach their utmost potential for service through aligning the individual and collective visions of its members. Through creative encounter sessions, strategic planning, skill-building and dialogue, Leadership & Learning Solutions combines innovative organizational development strategies with the ageless principles of reflection, visioning, and discernment to revitalize personal and organizational growth.

**Leadership & Learning Solutions, LLC**  
**USA**

### **Building an Elementary School for the Underprivileged Children of India**

Beginning January 1, 2000, college students from SUNY, New York will help to build an eight-room structure for underprivileged children in Dundold, India. Money for the project is raised through charitable donations.

**State University of New York, Oneonta**  
**USA**







Habitat for Humanity International, Inc.

*Photo by: Robert Baker*

# M E E T I N G E S S E N T I A L N E E D S



### **Hope for Children**

The project goal is to improve the living conditions of underprivileged children all over the world by means of education. Hope for Children calls on every Dutch citizen to donate at least one thousandth part of his or her yearly income. By doing so, in the year of 1999, the community can transform the symbolic turning point of entering the new millennium into a real turning point. Worldwide, there are 125 million children who do not benefit from any kind of education whatsoever. Teaching these children to read and write will provide them with a key to the world. The implementation of this initiative will be in the hands of the largest and most renowned relief organization and supervised by Hope for Children fund. While the project originates in Netherlands, the organizers hope that it will become an international effort.

**Hope for Children Fund**  
**NETHERLANDS**

### **Sufi Women Organization**

The Sufi Women Organization (SWO) – a humanitarian, non-political, non-sectarian organization – has undertaken a variety of gifts of service. In its ongoing effort to help women and children in Indonesia, the SWO allocates donations from various SWO Chapters and delivers much-needed supplies to Jakarta, Padanglang, Tanjung, Priok, Aceh, and neighboring areas. The goal is to collect enough money to provide food, supplies, and clothing to student activity groups and the elderly. Reports of the project will be published online and in the SWO newsletters. In addition to their work in Indonesia, the SWO also hosts and organizes an annual Interfaith Women's Conference. All SWO efforts are celebrated and solidified through SWO luncheons every six weeks, where outstanding women speakers share their spiritual journey with a large audience.

**International Association of Sufism**  
**USA**

### **Islamic Medical Association Clinics**

1,500 Muslim health-care professionals in over 25 branches of primary health care clinics throughout South Africa service the underprivileged in rural areas. These medical professionals also assist the public through publishing, hosting public symposia, and addressing ethical issues. IMAC also provides health education and research, local and international relief work, an AIDS program, vaccinations for pilgrims, radio talks, Halaal food and prayer facilities in hospitals, and facilitates Muslim post mortems.

**Islamic Medical Association of South Africa**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Habitat for Humanity International**

Habitat for Humanity International is a non-profit Christian organization that attempts to solve the problem of inadequate shelter by forming partnerships between people in need and those with the willingness and resources to help. It is not a give away program – Habitat homeowners invest hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" in the planning and construction of their homes and then accept full responsibility for the cost through a no-interest mortgage. The payments go into a local "Fund for Humanity" which generates more houses for future homeowners. Because there is no profit or interest involved, owning a simple, decent home can become a reality for many families previously trapped in poverty housing. In Northern Ireland the Habitat's affiliate pairs Protestants and Christians in Belfast to break down the barriers and rebuild communities. The 11 houses built in Catholic West Belfast and 12 in loyalist Glencairn are the product of both groups working side by side to end to both religious apartheid and housing woes. Habitat is at work in over 60 countries around the globe and has built houses sheltering over 400,000 people.

**Habitat for Humanity International**  
**USA**

**Sir Syed University of Science, Technology and Management**

The Trust for Promotion of Higher Education proposes to set up a University of Science, Technology, and Management in order to assist those less fortunate. The University will instruct students in science and technology, and will enable them to “get on their feet” and participate more fully in mainstream society. The University is still in its planning stages but hopes to fulfill three aims:

to have a strong research base and teaching program, which meets international standards, in various fields of engineering sciences, medical sciences and management; to train and educate students who might not otherwise have access to higher education, and to examine and award degrees to them at the undergraduate, Masters and Ph.D. levels, and; to work for the promotion of science and technology and contribute to the growth of scientific culture among Indian Muslims. The project will be instituted in three phases and, at its full strength, the university will house 380 members in various departments of studies.

**Trust for Promotion of Higher Education  
INDIA**

**Sarvodaya Shramadana**

The Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement works to “awaken” rural communities to their highest potential. The program encourages individuals to share labor, time and energy in fulfilling community needs. Sarvodaya Shramadana functions through a number of initiatives such as establishing “Community Kitchens,” encouraging village leadership, and mobilizing “Shramadana Societies” that help to manage and organize village affairs. Sarvodaya agencies – such as Economic Enterprise Development, Legal Aid, Income Generation, Pre-School and Child Care Services – also provide necessary resources for growing rural communities. This movement has spread into 11,000 villages.

**Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement  
SRI LANKA**

**Interfaith Alliance for the Care of Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission**

The Interfaith Alliance of the Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission/Science of Spirituality offers numerous volunteer service projects: langar (free kitchen), free medical services, free meditation seminars and interfaith conferences.

**Science of Spirituality  
USA**

**Bel Porto School — Education for Children with Disabilities**

Children with disabilities have the right to develop to their full potential. The majority of such children are deprived of this opportunity. The Bel Porto School is committed to developing children through providing skilled, loving care and specialized education.

**Bel Porto School  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Boulder Change**

Boulder Change is a voucher program which allows community members to make donations to those in need without having to worry about the money going towards buying drugs or alcohol. The vouchers can be used at grocery stores, laundromats, gas stations, buses, etc., but are not valid for alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.

**Boulder Change  
USA**

**Community Table**

Community Table (CT) serves dinner three nights per week in Boulder, Colorado, USA. The clientele is a mix of low-income and homeless people. CT strives to provide food that the less fortunate might not otherwise be able to have: organic produce and hot, quality meals from local restaurants. This project is an on-going service that truly is fostering a community spirit by going beyond the format of a traditional soup kitchen.

**Community Tables  
USA**

### **Leth'ukukhanya Health Institute**

An NGO established in 1995, the Leth'ukukhanya Health Institute is staffed by volunteers to train community health workers. These young people are trained and empowered to improve the health status of communities through the schools by lecturing and advising on topics such as: sex and sexuality education, the prevention of teenage pregnancy, the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and AIDS, and the prevention of child abuse.

**Leth'ukukhanya Health Institute**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Project Himalaya: Travel for Education and Reconciliation**

Volunteer individuals and groups (especially youth) interested in learning about the third-world areas of the Himalayas, the needs of its people, animals and environment, undertake various projects in order to meet essential needs and learn more about regional cultures. The program invites volunteers to work on a range of projects, including: community education; health care, hygiene and first aid; infrastructure construction and set-up (such as solar power and other village facilities); environmental and conservation projects (e.g. reforestation and land/water care); veterinary and animal welfare facilities including emergency care and clinic support; assistance for refugees, children and families in cities, villages and remote regions through education; and income-generation initiatives; management and coordination assistance on projects for street children and other homeless people; and diverse cultural projects for the preservation of ancient ways of life. Most of the projects are focused in the larger Himalayan region in northern India and Nepal. However, projects are undertaken in other regions where it is possible to facilitate needs in some way, and a network for information on external projects of other like-minded organizations is being developed. The Project also incorporates volunteer work into adventure travel itineraries through pre-departure kits, cultural/language classes, and specific project orientation.

**The Tara Project Australia**  
**AUSTRALIA**

### **Resettling & Reintegrating Children and Youth Living on the Street**

The aim of Streets Community Development is to find long-term solutions to the problems and needs of children and youth living on the streets, and to work toward getting them off the streets by engaging their families and communities of origin. The Streets Community Development project provides basic survival essentials and helps to build trusting relationships while youth are still on the streets. The project coordinators contact the relatives of homeless youth to try and resettle them back home. The project also works with other organizations to provide services to families and children to aid successful integration back into society after the children have returned to families.

**Streets Community Development**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Global Hospital and Research Center**

The Brahma Kumaris helped to establish the Global Hospital and Research Center at Mount Abu in 1991. Founders of the institution envisioned a hospital combining the best in Western modern medicine and Eastern alternate therapies, with spiritual practitioners staffing clinics and wards. The project aims to create an environment in which inner healing supplements physical treatment. In addition to creating a positive intramural environment, the Hospital also brings essential medical care and social services to needy villagers through its Village Outreach Program.

**Brahma Kumaris Educational Society, Mt Abu**  
**INDIA**

### **Abused Children**

Under the auspices of the San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council in California, USA, forty Protestant, Jewish, Mormon and Hindu congregations are paired with municipal social workers to provide basic resources for abused children.

**San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council**  
**USA**

**Ananda Marga Urban Farming Project**

This project aims to teach and coordinate community efforts to grow vegetables using deep trench farming methods. The first step in this process is to motivate people to fertilize barren, under-utilized space in their backyards, and to grow vegetables and herbs for their own use. Later, as the project evolves, we hope to have maximum utilization of larger plots of land in townships that are presently under-utilized, and to expand the farming project.

**Ananda Marga Urban Farming Project  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Kashi Ashram and the River Fund of NY, Street Relief and the Movable Feast**

The River Fund New York, a hands-on service organization, provides physical, emotional and spiritual support to the hungry, the homeless, children and adults living with HIV/AIDS, and those facing life threatening illnesses and severe physical and mental challenges. It supports and affirms all people with equal regard, whatever their age, gender, creed, ethnic origin or sexual orientation. Direct Service programs such as The Movable Feast and Street Relief provide food and clothing to the hungry and homeless in the New York City area. Its Recreational Therapy Programs support individuals living in Residential Care Facilities. The River Fund upholds the dignity of the individual, and strives to enhance the lives of those it serves as well as those who serve – creating a model of compassion. The River Fund New York plans to establish a permanent Center to expand on the work of the Kashi Foundation.

**River Fund New York  
USA**

**Liturgical Vestments & Arts Studio**

The Mariannahill Convent provides embroidery and sewing of liturgical vestments for those who need them. This project creates skilled jobs, and offers sewing training on the job. The convent also hosts an arts studio containing many valuable pieces.

**Mariannahill Convent  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Cape Flats Development Association**

The Cape Flats Development Association (CAFDA) provides services include the following: empowerment projects, capacity building projects, community intervention, community affairs, creating places of safety, sewing projects, food garden projects, ironing projects, foster care management programs, youth development centers, life-skills programs, employment skills programs, arts programs, physical recreation programs, resource centers, dance classes, and a creche.

**CAFDA  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**AMSAI Primary School — Orange Farm, Johannesburg**

AMSAI Primary School, established in 1990, grew out of the need to respond to the appalling conditions under which black children were living as a result of apartheid. Although it started by providing classrooms for 450 students, it has grown to 1,300 students and 26 full-time teachers and educators. The school is also being used as an adult-education center after school hours. Currently, there are about 103 adult learners and 7 facilitators involved in this program. An ecological experimental station has been set up in the vicinity of the school so that students can become involved with planting trees, vegetables and other shrubs. With the completion of the remaining school building, AMSAI hopes to provide more services to the community.

**Ananda Marag  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Hospice Care**

St. Luke's Hospice cares for patients with incurable diseases in the context of their total family situation using an interdisciplinary approach involving doctor, nurse, social worker, spiritual counselor, and trained volunteers.

**St. Luke's Hospice  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Children's Health Needs Assessment**

This three phase project, based in a multi-religious community (Christian and Muslim), identifies the health needs of "Under Six Children" in marginalized communities. The Assessment also empowers the "Principals" who look after these children in unregistered crèches to be able to provide a balanced diet and a stimulating environment for the personal development of these children while acting as child health care workers for them.

**Health Development Institute  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Bridging Program**

The German-speaking Catholic Community of the Cape offers a Life Skills and Computer Training Program for disadvantaged people and first-time job seekers.

**German-speaking Catholic Community of the Cape Peninsula  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Community Kitchen**

Each month a group of women and their children prepare and serve balanced meals to over 100 "street people" at a near-North Chicago church. In addition, participants take time to develop "one on one" relationships and friendships with participants of the program.

**Park Ridge Community Church  
USA**

### **Health and Welfare Services**

Shawco offers services in the fields of health, welfare and education in under-serviced areas through the empowerment of its student volunteers, staff and community partners.

**Shawco  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Sanctuary for the Homeless**

In 1918 the President of the Arya Yuvuk Sabha, Mr. D G Satyadeva, witnessed a soul stirring scene — an Indian beggar who had slept in a toilet in Victoria Street because he was homeless was beaten by a White policeman. The president was shocked, and he walked away with tears running down his cheeks. When he related the incident to the Arya Yuvuk Sabha members, the atmosphere was charged with empathy.

The ninth principle of the Arya Samaj reads: "No person must be content in promoting one's good only but must find one's good in promoting the good of all". Following this principle, the members agreed that they must build a home for the homeless. After tireless efforts to raise funds by staging dramas, a property was purchased, and on May 1, 1921, Worker's Day, three beggars were picked up from the streets of Durban and the ABH was opened to provide care and sanctuary to the Homeless.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Caring for the Mentally Handicapped**

During the Year of the Handicapped, a special ward was improvised to care for the mentally handicapped with provisions for their specific needs.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Home and Facilities for the Physically Handicapped**

By 1982, in its new Chatsworth location (after being uprooted from Cato Manor by the Group Areas Act), the Aryan Benevolent Home Council provided facilities for the physically handicapped to live separately from the frail and aged, and to have their various physical needs cared for, including physical and occupational therapy.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



### **Clayton Gardens Home for the Aged**

In 1965 the Aryan Benevolent Home Council was in desperate need of accommodations after being forced out of Cato Manor, and from the Salvation Army Building, to make way for animals. Fortunately, the ABHC was able to purchase the Clayton Gardens Home for the Aged from the Durban City Council. About one-third of the area was utilized for the elderly in need of full social care and the rest was available to senior citizens to live on their own in two room flats with other services provided.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Bhai Rambharos Home for Children**

In 1996, during its 75th Anniversary of South African history, the ABH Children's Home was designated the Bhai Rambharos Home for Children. At present 108 children are being cared for in seven large cottages with all of the facilities for full development. This love of service has grown to meet the needs of children coming from many different backgrounds and situations.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **The Westsun Home for the Aged**

The Westsun Home for the Aged was built in response to elderly people who were not frail, physically handicapped or mentally ill, but needed assistance because of circumstances arising from their socio-economic as well as other factors. In order to care for them, The Westsun Hotel in Chatsworth was purchased in 1986, renovated, and named Westsun Home for the Aged.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Hospital Services**

Mariannahill Convent provides a large hospital serving the surrounding area in South Africa. The hospital also provides a low-cost clinic for minor infirmities, as well as training and education about diseases which encourages people to live healthier lives.

**Mariannahill Convent**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Deepankar Kenya Inter-College, India**

The Indian Buddhist Association of the USA has helped to create an all-women's college in rural India. Located in the Gaon Uhar Pradesh of India, the school is dedicated to advancing self-esteem and empowering rural women through secondary education. The program has been on-going for the past three years.

**Indian Buddhist Association of USA**  
**USA**

### **The Glencoe Home for the Aged and Disabled**

The Glencoe Home for the Aged and Disabled came into being in 1990 through the purchase and renovation of a hotel. The hotel conversion provided facilities for the care of the Aged and Disabled persons. Later, a part of the center was converted to suit the needs of the frail.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **CAFDA Child Abuse Program**

CAFDA's Child Abuse Program includes a Child Abuse Survivors Group which aims to break the cycle of child abuse and address the emotional trauma experienced by survivors of abuse.

**Cape Flats Development Association**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **St. Anne's Homes**

St. Anne's Homes provides shelter, care, rehabilitation and empowerment services to pregnant, destitute and abused women with young children. St. Anne's has two short-term shelters for 27 families, a Second Stage House for mothers who have been rehabilitated and have found employment but cannot afford rent, and a day care facility.

**St. Anne's Homes**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Upgrading of the Sivananda Technical Institute, Mahlabatini**

Under apartheid, the African people were denied sufficient educational facilities. In 1974, with the belief that education holds the key to the upliftment of the disadvantaged communities of South Africa, the Divine Life Society started African Education projects. These projects quickly gained nationwide support from the Indian community, and the Society has now completed 73 educational initiatives. The first project, the Sivananda H. P. School in Mahlabatini, near Ulundi, KwaZulu Natal was completed in 1976, and there is a current project to upgrade this school to a Technical Institute, with the addition of 10 classrooms to accommodate the growing student body.

**Divine Life Society of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Manufacture of Clothing for Destitute Children**

Members of the Divine Life Society in Pietermaritzburg have volunteered to sew garments for destitute children in an informal settlement near our extensive Sivanamda Cultural Center at La Mercy. The garments are made from fabric remnants obtained from local factories at no cost.

**Divine Life Society of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Workshop & Training Center for Physically Handicapped**

The Workshop and Training Center for the Physically Handicapped opened in 1992 with a donation from Amitabh Bachchan, through the offices of Mr. Ananth Singh of Video Vision. The Center helps adults and seniors earn an income while remaining a part of the community.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **St. Vincent's Children's Home**

St. Vincent's Children's Home provides a home (shelter, clothing, and food) for more than 100 less-fortunate children, giving them the peace to help them form a good life, as well as social uplift and education.

**Mariannahill Convent  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **School Feeding Initiative**

Since 1974, the Divine Life Society has run a school feeding program through its numerous branches in KZN and in Johannesburg. Volunteers prepare sandwiches daily during the school term for needy school children in the vicinity of their branch. About 3800 children receive sandwiches every day. In addition, the Tongaat branch of the Society prepares hampers for destitute families each month. An additional 500 hampers are distributed monthly to informal residents near the S. I. C. C. at La Mercy.

**Divine Life Society of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **ATICC**

The Aids Training Information Counseling Center (ATICC) offers training in the field of HIV/AIDS/STD/TB, and teaches counseling skills to health care and community workers involved in this field. ATICC provides pre- and post- test counseling as well as ongoing counseling to HIV Positive persons and their families.

**Aids Training Information Counseling Center  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Parent Education and Support**

The Parent Center aims to provide the support, understanding and information every parent needs. The Center offers counseling and training in all aspects of parenting in order to promote the emotional health of all children.

**The Parent Center  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Job Creation Projects for the Disabled**

Employment projects for disabled persons include the manufacture of cottage furniture, African woven mats, and other crafts, which results in job creation, income generation and skills development.

**South African National Epilepsy League  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **CAFDA Food Garden Project**

The Cape Flats Development Association's Food Gardening Project empowers unemployed people through skills training, and upholds the goal of participants becoming self-reliant and economically independent.

**Cape Flats Development Association**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **The Umzinto Hospital for the Community**

The need arose for a home for the aged and disabled on the south Coast of Natal. The Umzinto Home was redesigned to serve the elderly and disabled on the premises of a former hospital facility.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Jabulani Self-Help Center**

Mariannahill Convent promotes self help for the poorest of the poor. The Convent's projects include skills and trades development (sewing, carpentry, gardening, etc), with an emphasis on feelings of self confidence and self worth. Mariannahill Convent is a small community of people working for improvement.

**Mariannahill Convent**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **The Street Children Rehabilitation Dollar-A-Day Program**

The Art of Living Foundation sponsors the "Dollar-A-Day" Program for children in poorer regions surrounding Bangalore, India. Proceeds go to housing, feeding, clothing and providing education for school-aged children. Founded in 1981, and accredited as a charitable non-profit institution, Ved Vignam Mahavidyapeeth provides many essential educational and medical services. The only school of its kind in the area, the Institute has grown to house and serve boys and girls from 22 surrounding villages.

**The Art of Living Foundation**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Kashi River School**

The River School is a private non-sectarian educational institution serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. The River School weaves spirituality, service and awareness along with a consciousness of non-bigotry and non-violence with a quality education in an inspirational, creative, thought-provoking environment. Its guiding principle is that every child can succeed and therefore tailors its curriculum to the individual student. Service is also an integral part of the school's curriculum; each student takes part in community service, serving at care centers for people with AIDS and other life challenging illnesses, the elderly, and indigent. The River School (in conjunction with The River Fund of Florida) will initiate a pilot project to provide housing and education for children whose parents are terminally ill or who have died from AIDS.

**Kashi Foundation / River School**  
**USA**

### **Ananda Kutir Ashrama Mobile Clinic**

This mobile clinic and dispensary is in the process of being established to provide Homeopathic, Ayurvedic and remedial Yoga Therapy to persons in underprivileged areas on a voluntary basis. Nutrition will be provided as well, and the clinic will focus on assisting T.B. and HIV/AIDS patients.

**Ananda Kutir Ashrama**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **PNR Society for Rehabilitation in India**

The Society for Relief and Rehabilitation of the Disabled (PNR), based in India, has been changing the lives of thousands who have lost arms and legs by providing them with prosthetic limbs for a nominal fee. This organization is now starting to bring trainees from around the world to teach them how to help survivors of polio, land mines, etc. in their own country.

**PNR Society for Relief and Rehabilitation of the Disabled**  
**INDIA**

### **Holistic Healing Approaches for Oppressed Communities**

In Harlem, New York, the Riverside Church Health and Wellness Ministry offers holistic approaches in healing memories through meditation, sharing stories, and training in self-healing through energy-healing methods. They also provide holistic medical care by a nurse practitioner. Activities include: Healing of Memories with Father Michael Lapsley of Cape Town; Wellness Renewal Day for the employees of the Victims' Service Agency of New York; Forum on Strategies for Survival, Resistance and Empowerment among Oppressed Communities from Belfast to Cape Town to New York and beyond; Our Communities' Right to Holistic Care – a program focusing on Harlem and Northern Manhattan, with guest presenter Dr. James Gordon of the Center for Mind-Body Medicine at Georgetown University. Dr. Gordon has been using holistic approaches with refugees from Macedonia and has traveled globally as part of his concern to provide effective healing approaches to those who are most at risk, or in situations of oppression and violence.

**Riverside Church Wellness Center  
USA**

### **The River House**

Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati founded the River Fund in 1990 to serve people with HIV, AIDS and other life challenging illnesses. Finding that many terminal people had no place to go, The River House, an 8-bed residence for the terminally ill, was founded to meet the needs of these people so that they could live and die with dignity. The River Fund will construct and operate a 40-bed Adult Congregate Living Facility, which will be a model for spiritual care-giving for the new millennium. The River Fund will expand its Florida volunteer programs dedicated to serving and educating people in care facilities, hospitals, and schools.

**River Fund International / Kashi Foundation  
USA**

### **Zanokhanya**

The Zanokhanyo course is a first stepping stone to help women out of the misery of poverty, by giving them the skills to find and keep work in private homes, restaurants, hotels, offices, or supermarkets. Zanokhanyo's vision is to see women of disadvantaged communities grow in self-esteem and confidence so that they are enabled to improve their own quality of life and that of their families.

**Catholic Welfare and Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Giving of Self to Promote Peace, Charity and Justice**

Fraternite Notre Dame runs soup kitchens, food pantries, Meals on Wheels, and clothing/ furniture distribution programs. It also provides care for street children, orphans, the elderly or lonely, prisoners, and those afflicted with AIDS, leprosy and other diseases. In addition, the Fraternite performs missions to countries in crisis, such as Yugoslavia, Rumania, Rwanda, and recently, Albania and Kosovo.

**Fraternite Notre Dame  
USA**

### **The Big Issue**

The Big Issue Cape Town is a job creation program aimed at providing employment and social support to homeless and long-term unemployed people in and around the city. Vendors of the Big Issue newspaper earn a 60% commission from each sale.

**Street People  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **The J. N. Bechar Home in Lenasia and Lotus Home for Children**

The J. N. Bechar Home in Lenasia was started in 1992 with a spontaneous gift from J. N. Bechar. Children in a Children's Home in Durban were transferred to the J.N. Bechar Home for children in Transvaal. As the premises became too small to meet the growing need, a generous family in Johannesburg donated bigger premises in Lenasia and the Lotus Home was named in 1999.

**Aryan Benevolent Home Council  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Discovery of Ways to Manifest Unity**

Beginning with "Living Room Dialogues," Christian laypersons and clergy sought to understand their diverse traditions and appreciate different expressions of faith. They discovered that some social action and far-reaching ministries/programs could be accomplished together. Participants now work to resolve issues concerning low-income populations and cooperatively provide emergency assistance to families facing hunger, eviction, utility disconnections, and other issues.

**Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County Churches**  
USA

### **Reach Out Saint Rose!**

Students, faculty, staff and administration at Saint Rose College donate time on Saturday mornings to work for various community service organizations – both religious and non-denominational. Participants meet the needs of social service agencies either through direct service or "behind-the-scenes" work, completing tasks that help with the overall operation of the agencies.

**College of Saint Rose**  
USA

### **The Gift of Sight**

Since 1978, SEVA has worked with its partners to treat cataracts and restore sight to over one million people in India, Nepal, Tibet, Cambodia and Malawi. Through reaching out to potential donors, SEVA funds and helps to establish cataract operations and cataract eye-camps for needy communities. Gifts range from \$30 (the cost of a cataract operation in Nepal to restore sight to one individual) to \$15,000 (the cost of a 15-day eye camp in remote regions of Tibet, restoring sight to hundreds).

**SEVA Foundation**  
USA

### **Global Polio Immunization**

Polio Plus is Rotary International's program to eradicate polio by Rotary's 100th anniversary in 2005. It has contributed over \$340 million towards the protection of over 1 billion children. Rotarians provide vaccines and mobilize communities in 120 countries.

**Rotary International**  
USA

### **Chiropractic: Healing the World by Reconnecting the Spiritual and the Physical**

Chiropractors Restoring Energy Worldwide (CREW) travels all over the world giving chiropractic adjustments in order to enhance patients physical and spiritual well-being. Most recently, CREW visited Panama where, over four 6-day missions, 750,000 received the gift of chiropractic adjustment. CREW understands chiropractic practice as a means to reconnect man-the-spiritual, with man-the-physical.

Proper adjustments allow the Spirit to express maximally through each individual. In this sense, it is potentially beneficial and meaningful to everyone regardless of their particular religious beliefs. By adjusting the spine, chiropractors can release a person's mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual interference so that he or she can realize their true, God-given genetic potential.

**C.R.E.W.**  
USA

### **Reproductive Health Care and Sexuality Education**

The PPASA is a national, not-for-profit organization providing integrated reproductive health information and services in all nine provinces of South Africa. It has been involved in improving access and choice in family planning throughout its sixty-year history and seeks to transform reproductive health care and sexuality education in under-served communities.

**The Planned Parenthood Organization of South Africa**  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### **Underprivileged Communities: Education and Development**

The Divine Life Society of South Africa is committed to improving the existing educational system in South Africa. At the moment they are involved in upgrading the Sivananda Technical Institute at Mahlabatini in KwaZulu Natal by adding ten new classrooms, and the Sivananda Technical College at Kwa Mashu in Durban, where they are adding eight new classrooms. Their other projects include providing sewing machines for self-help initiatives at schools, manufacturing garments for destitute children, feeding school children, providing school furniture, and building an environmental education exhibition at the Nature Gallery at the Sivananda International Cultural Center at La Mercy in KwaZulu Natal.

**Divine Life Society of South Africa**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **World Bank and the Global Hospital Eye Care Project**

The World Bank and the Global Hospital and Research Center in Mt. Abu, India have teamed up to provide ophthalmology services to villages in Rajasthan. Eye Camps administer cataract surgeries and preliminary screening tests to all who attend. Field workers also visit more remote villages in order to screen residents for cataracts and, if necessary, transport them to the hospital.

**Brahma Kumaris Educational Society, Mt. Abu**  
**INDIA**

### **Outreach Project on Behalf of the Homeless**

In January of 2000, students will spend one week of their vacation providing meals for the homeless, through volunteering for the organization, So Others Might Eat. Students from various faith traditions will participate and engage in dialogue with one another throughout the week.

**College of Saint Rose**  
**USA**

### **Day of Planetary Service to Mankind**

On December 18, 1999, the Heartfelt Foundation will be holding service projects in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, Australia, Europe, and Africa as a gift in honor of the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions. The Foundation will seek out and find the sick, the homeless, the hungry, the forgotten, the lonely, the orphaned, and those that are suffering in any way, and loving Heartfelt volunteers will provide relief and comfort. Depending on the need discovered, some areas will host a Christmas party for orphaned or homeless children, other areas will bring gifts and visit with those living in homes for the aged or infirm, others will provide food or clothing for hungry or destitute individuals and families. It is the Foundation's intention that the people who serve and the people who are served both will experience the goodness that exists in the world through the sharing of human kindness and brotherhood. On Dec 19, 1998, the Heartfelt Foundation held a similar global service project which was quite successful, and included representation from the United States, Australia, South America, Europe and Africa. There were more than 1,000 volunteers marshaled around the world on that day, and more than 5,000 people served.

**Heartfelt Foundation**  
**USA**

### **Food for Life**

Our Guru, Swami Prabhupad, the founder of ISKCON, decided that within a ten kilometer radius of any ISKCON center there should be a hunger-free zone. Throughout Africa (and globally) Iskcon feeds hundreds of thousands of impoverished people with a daily hot meal (Prasad) for their physical and spiritual uplift.

**ISKCON**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Homeward Bound and Home Plate Community Ventures**

Homelessness is the largest public health issue in the United States. Homeward Bound of Marin serves homeless men, women, and children in six different programs in Marin County, California. We provide housing and support services that enable people to move home for good! Homeward Bound engages individuals and families in a dynamic, compassionate process of ending their homelessness by opening doors to safety, dignity, hope, and independence. HomePlate Community Ventures, a component of Homeward Bound, are social enterprises designed to provide training and employment opportunities for homeless people and to bring another source of revenue to provide homeless services. Currently, Home Plate runs a catering business, "Grateful Table Catering," which offers high quality production of fine foods and ambience for the discerning public. Homeward Bound is also branching out into a mobile kitchen venture called "Rolling Scones" and developing an organic garden for sale at Farmers' Markets.

**Homeward Bound of Marin  
USA**

### **Developing an AIDS Helpline**

Life Line began 35 years ago as a Crisis helpline in a Methodist Church in Sydney, Australia. In 1991 the toll free AIDS Helpline was developed as a Government / NGO initiative to meet the needs of the community for information and counseling. Today Life Line in South Africa fields 20,000 calls a month in 6 languages.

**Life Line Southern Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Providing Lunchtime Meals**

Parents and children of Am Yisrael's Religious School make bag lunches (approximately 150) once every month and deliver them to the House of Daniel Shelter in Chicago. Congregants also donate clothing and other items to the shelter.

**Am Yisrael Conservative Congregation  
USA**

### **Carpenter's Shop**

The Carpenter's Shop is a unique day care center involved in the rehabilitation of destitute street people in Cape Town who are jobless, homeless and considered by many to be a public nuisance. The objective of the Shop is to enable these needy people to re-establish themselves as useful members of society. Rehabilitation services offered at the Shop include practical skills and crafts training with the objective of future placement in commerce or industry, a day time off-street refuge for those who cannot work, and counseling by a professional social worker.

**Carpenter's Shop  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Project Return**

Project Return's mission is to reduce crime and violence by breaking the cycles of crime and violence in today's society. The program includes job-skills training and placement, life skills training, GED preparatory classes, computer literacy training, and an addictions program – all enhanced by a community-building environment. Project Return offers a practical, realistic, forward-thinking approach that stresses the rebuilding of lives and the reclaiming of human resources.

**Tulane University, Medical Center  
USA**

### **Development of Self-Sustaining HIV/AIDS Prevention Ministries**

AIDS Pastoral Care Network, in collaboration with local clergy and the Red Cross, organizes prevention education presentations on HIV/AIDS. Speakers educate congregations and help identify congregants to participate in Red Cross HIV Peer Education training. Once trained, volunteers work with clergy and APCN staff to create strategies for the development of HIV prevention ministries in their communities.

**AIDS Pastoral Care Network  
USA**

**Service to Humanity Through Travel**

Airline Ambassadors International (AAI) sponsors 1 - 5 humanitarian missions per month, and would like to dedicate these missions as a Gift of Service in recognition of the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions. In 1998, AAI delivered \$4 million worth of aid to countries including Cambodia, Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Haiti. Missions range from transporting supplies to war refugees in Albania to establishing medical clinics in rural villages in Nepal.

AAI is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to helping children in need at home and abroad. AAI relies on members to: hand deliver humanitarian aid to children in more than 20 countries; involve youth in programs to provide assistance and build cross-cultural friendships; escort orphans to new homes and children to hospitals for medical care; and participate in special events that increase international cooperation. Since its founding in December 1996, AAI has delivered over \$4 million in humanitarian aid, involved over 60,000 children in our programs, escorted 500 children in need, and participated in over 50 special events. For every dollar donated, AAI has been able to arrange for the donation and delivery of over \$100 worth of aid. The qualities that make the organization unique are its ability to establish long-term relationships between people in different countries and to deliver aid at extremely low cost. AAI recognizes that many would like to make a personal difference helping children around the world, but simply don't know how to get involved. Airline Ambassadors offers a way to match people's unique interests and talents with world need and bring compassion into action. AAI welcomes everyone to join as Ambassadors of Goodwill to help children in need.

**Airline Ambassadors International  
USA**

**The BRC Rainbow Fund**

The BRC Rainbow Fund strives to increase the quality and meaning of life for needy individuals and to uplift rural communities by providing improved health and educational facilities and raises funds, nationally and internationally, for this purpose.

**Buddhist Institute of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Women in Need Growing Stronger (W.I.N.G.S.)**

Park Ridge Community Church women's "circles" help sustain WINGS, an organization that houses, supports and trains for eventual independent life, women who are escaping from abusive relationships and marriages. Volunteers extend support through offering gifts, counseling, and serving on committees.

**Park Ridge Community Church  
USA**

**Taking Action for Humanity**

Abolition 2000 collected 13 million signatures in Japan, Italy, the United Kingdom and New Zealand during 1998, calling on governments to eliminate nuclear weapons on a fixed timetable. Soka Gakkai International, the organizers of Abolition 2000, is also involved in refugee relief, through fundraising in Japan of more than US\$7 million to support the work of the UNHCR in Nepal, Ethiopia, Somalia, and the former Yugoslavia. SGI has also fundraised in the United Kingdom for UNHCR and War Child, and in Malaysia to benefit orphanages and clinics. They have also collected 300,000 radios, and donated them through the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to inform the public about the first-ever democratic elections in that country. SGI has also donated funds for construction of an elementary school in Chew Teal village in Cambodia and Biijie in southwestern China. In addition, they have donated medical equipment and relief supplies to Nepal, Peru, Argentina, Bolivia, Iran and China, and books to nearly 1,000 schools in Japan and universities world-wide. SGI has also donated 10,000 books to African schools.

**Soka Gakkai International  
JAPAN**

**Building on Faith Week**

Habitat for Humanity affiliates partner with the faith community to build homes with people in need. The week of September 11-17, 2000, Building on Faith Week, will see 10,000 homes started, finished or worked on as a worldwide expression of God's love.

**Habitat for Humanity International  
USA**



**Kashi Los Angeles:  
Under the Bridges and  
on the Streets Project**

The West Coast arm of the Kashi Foundation sponsors several ongoing projects. First, they sponsor G. I. V. E. (Get Involved Volunteer Exchange), which directs volunteers to service organizations and care facilities within Southern California. They also support Under the Bridges and On the Streets, which distributes full meals and clothing directly to homeless people on the streets in and around Los Angeles. Kashi Los Angeles plans to expand and create a Center to serve Southern California.

**Kashi Foundation, West Coast  
USA**

**Ongoing Humanitarian Service to  
Needy People Throughout  
the World**

The Church of Jesus Christ-Latter Day Saints will continue to provide equipment, educational materials, instruction, and service to needy people and communities in emerging countries through its humanitarian arm: Latter-Day Saint Charities. For example, from 1984 through 1998, the Church provided assistance valued in excess of \$80 million (US) to countries on the continent of Africa alone. Over \$30 million of that amount was contributed to countries in Southern Africa and East Africa: Angola, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Aid has consisted of clothing, food, water and sanitation facilities, medical supplies and equipment, immunizations, text books, school equipment and supplies, agriculture and irrigation projects, disaster relief, and other projects.

**Church of Jesus Christ-Latter Day Saints  
USA**

**Nursing Training School**

The Dr. Bhanuben Nanavati Nursing Training Center, an initiative of the Global Hospital and Research Center at Mt. Abu, India, trains area youth to be nursing assistants. Vocational education, otherwise not available for many people, helps to ensure financial sustenance for poorer families. In addition, trained nurses help staff outreach clinics in rural areas.

**Brahma Kumaris Educational Society, Mt. Abu  
INDIA**

**S.H.K.V.R.B. Trust Hospital**

A hospital with a 35 bed nursing home, conceived with the motto "Service to the suffering is service to God," took shape under Sri Chandra Kali Prasada Mathajji's personal supervision. It is fully equipped with the most modern medical and surgical equipment, including an ambulance extending services to the surrounding villages. Three general practice physicians, as well as specialists in dental surgery, dermatology, ophthalmology and other fields, offer their dedicated services. Free cataract operations and free spectacle distribution are arranged by Sri Mathaji, granting physical sight as well as spiritual insight.

**Sri Kali Gardens, Nambur. (R.S.)  
INDIA**

**Clean Drinking Water Worldwide**

Clean Drinking Water Project is one of the projects organized by the World Ahlul Ul-Bayt Islamic League. The specialized organization, Water Aid Foundation Asia (WAFA) organizes its working groups and local volunteers to dig wells and put electrical or hand pumps on them to provide drinking water to people. Every person in the area benefits from this service, as well as their animals and fields. The project has been carried out in hundreds of rural areas and villages in India, Afghanistan, and Nigeria.

**World Ahlul Ul-Bayt Islamic League  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **The 5H Program / Homes for Change**

The 5H Program's five main priorities are Homes, Hygiene, Health, Human Values, and Harmony in Diversity. Currently its focus is on social and community development in rural areas of developing countries. The "Homes for Change" initiative, a part of the 5H Program, builds modest but durable homes for poor families in rural south India, at no cost to the recipients. Each home is comprised of three rooms – a kitchen, a bedroom, and a family room – with a separate toilet provided. All homes are built of durable brick and cement, and each costs approximately \$2,000 (US) to build in India. Donors can contribute the cost of particular items, such as a toilet, materials, or labor. The program is being expanded to other countries. All 5H projects are planned in consultation with the local population to ensure that the greatest needs are met for both individuals and the whole community.

**International Association for Human Values  
CANADA**

### **Residential Model School**

This residential model school is dedicated to the service of children of different religions whose families are unable to guide their education and upbringing. Academic excellence combined with strong moral character building is the focus of the school – which helps to liberate the downtrodden and to prepare them for service to mankind. The project is undertaken in northeastern India, and was initiated by the Islamic Trust and Hindus, with Christians, in the Academic Council.

**Islamic Educational and Welfare Trust  
INDIA**

### **Molo Songololo**

Molo Songololo, a child rights organization, concerns itself with the survival, protection and development of children. Molo Songololo is a Xhosa expression means "Hello Millipede". The Millipedes have many legs which symbolize the beauty of many cultures united towards a society conducive to the development of the child.

**Molo Songololo / It's Your Move  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Smart Living Program for Public and Private Schools**

Smart Living Program, created by Dr. Gaspar Garcia, MD., teaches children *Qigong* practice in a game-like situation. This ancient Taoist practice teaches children correct breathing and the capacity to utilize the breath for thought and emotion management, concentration, relaxation, regular exercise, and human values. The program has been taught for more than ten years at the Sports Center of the Marbella City Council, and is taught now in public schools of the Costa de Sol District, in Malaga, Spain. Several programs are offered to school teachers to learn the *Qigong* practice so they can teach their students in their own schools. Also, some programs encouraged students' parents to become involved. *Qigong* training provides health, peace and happiness, love, inner strength and security, and the possibility of mastering an ability. By teaching its practice to children, the programs are actually giving them tools that they will be able to use throughout their lives in order to lead a more healthy, rewarding, successful, and happy existence.

**World Academy for Zen Medical Qigong  
SPAIN**

### **Global Church Challenge Partnership — Global Village**

There are many ways to become involved with Habitat for Humanity International. By becoming a volunteer through the Global Village program, individuals can help build houses with affiliates in other countries. These short-term builds are occurring throughout the year, all over the globe. Church congregations can also do Global Village trips, through the Global Church Challenge program, where they will partner with a faith group in their host affiliate. Building houses, building human connections and building faith is what Habitat is all about.

**Habitat for Humanity International  
USA**

### **Jimmy Carter's Work Project**

Former President Jimmy Carter, Habitat's most distinguished volunteer, builds annually with Habitat for Humanity International. In 2000, the Jimmy Carter Work Project in New York City will complete the 100,000th home built worldwide. President Carter will also drive the last nail in the house which will end poverty housing in his hometown of Plains, Georgia, USA.

**Habitat for Humanity International  
USA**

### **Senior Citizen's Service Mission: Old Age Home**

To strengthen the confidence of senior citizens, the National Public Charitable Trust plans to establish an Old Age Home, which is rare in India, and may be the first of its kind in the area. In addition to shelter, proper care and attention, the seniors will be provided with an atmosphere free from tensions, stresses, disrespect and heavy responsibilities. The House will be a cosmopolitan home open to all, irrespective of caste, creed, religion and sex. These and other facilities are being constructed under the banner of the National Public Charitable Trust.

**National Public Charitable Trust  
INDIA**

### **The Linji Buddhist Seminary**

The Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Order's Lin Ji Farm is being converted into an orphanage and primary school for up to 600 residents. The primary focus of the orphanage will be to provide housing and care for the 2 million children who will be without parents as a result of the AIDS epidemic in Southern Africa by the year 2010. The program will also invite elders who have lost their children to AIDS to teach at the school in an effort to preserve native languages and traditions.

**Fo Guang Shan, Nan Hua Temple  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **InterReligious Council of Central New York**

Founded in 1976, the Interreligious Council of Central New York (IRC) is a community in which the local religious bodies relate to each other and the wider community as people of God working together for the common good. IRC offers programs focused in its three strategic areas: relationships, advocacy, and service. Each year, IRC and its programs collaborate with over 250 organizations to address needs in Central New York. Projects include the following:

The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program works to improve the quality of life for those living in long term care facilities and adult homes. Trained volunteers advocate on behalf of residents and their families, helping them preserve the dignity and rights of the frail elderly and people with disabilities.

The Senior Companion Program empowers over 100 low income senior citizens to serve as companions for those elders who are unable to care for themselves.

The Refugee Resettlement Program settles over 750 participants from all over the world each year through congregational sponsorships. The Southeast Asian Center serves over 3,000 Southeast Asians with community-building activities, English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes, and cultural events.

The Covenant Housing Program creates safe, accessible, and affordable housing for the homeless, the low income community, and those who are medically and physically challenged. People are empowered to live independently in the community and often can buy their own homes.

The Pastoral Care Program not only trains chaplains from many faith communities, but 20 contracted chaplains serve hospitals, elder homes and jails in our area.

**InterReligious Council of Central New York  
USA**

### **Creatively Providing Accommodation for Community Needs**

The Catholic Welfare and Development office in South Africa assists in providing accommodations and housing for sustainable, community based projects. To date this project has provided accommodations and offices for several creches, feeding centers, clinics, and resources centers. By donating space for community projects in poor areas, communities are empowered to regain dignity and address issues on their own terms.

**Catholic Welfare and Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **International Wheelchair Donation Drive**

The Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Order along with the Tsao Association have initiated an International wheelchair donation drive over the past year in the over 100 countries in which Fo Guang Shan is located. In South Africa alone over 2,000 wheelchairs have been donated to the disabled, and an additional 1,500 to seven other countries in Africa.

**Fo Guang Shan, Nan Hua Temple  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Magnetotherapy Treatments for Disadvantaged Communities**

Magnet Medicare is a low-cost clinic offering natural health care to disadvantaged communities, the elderly, and other groups who would otherwise not have access to natural healing. After the initial consultation, all treatments cost only R15. On Fridays, State pensioners are given free treatments. The clinic was started shortly after South Africa became a democracy and is ongoing. Through the Parliament of World Religions, Dr. Badat would like to offer this service to many more people in Cape Town.

**Health Alert Islam  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Project to Restore Hope & Dignity**

The Catholic Welfare and Development has conceived 18 projects to better the lives of people in need, whatever their religion, race, origin, or political affiliation. These projects help the hungry, the homeless and the marginalized, by providing food, shelter, practical assistance, training and education. Methods aim to restore hope and dignity, empowering people to improve their own lives.

**Catholic Welfare and Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **IBBY — International Board on Books for Young People**

IBBY, founded in Zurich, Switzerland in 1953, links together people and organizations working in the field of children's literature. Organizations in over 65 member countries promote the cause of better books for children or the supply of books to underprivileged communities. The Board also selects and rewards the best children's books of the world and their creators.

**International Board on Books for  
Young People  
SWITZERLAND**

### **Provision of Sewing Machines for Self-Help Programs**

In addition to constructing capital-intensive school buildings, the Divine Life Society is engaged in encouraging self-help programs within the African community. The first of these took the form of building a sewing school at Esikhaweni in KwaZulu Natal. Subsequently, sewing workshops have been started at the Umlazi Technical College, the St. John's Apostolic Mission in Ntuzuma in northern Durban, and the Folweni Community Center near Adam's Mission in southern Durban. Presently the Society is inviting schools to form organized self-help sewing groups, to which sewing machines will be donated. Five machines have recently been given to the Abalindi Welfare Society under this initiative. More equipment will also be provided at the Umlazi Technical College.

**Divine Life Society Of South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Lifeline Network for Peace**

Founded in 1982, Lifeline Network for Peace has created an international network of humanitarian aid and human rights advocacy, particularly focusing on the needs of women and children.

As part of an inter-faith coalition advocating peace in the former Yugoslavia, Lifeline Network with its sister organization, World Alliance for Humanitarian for Bosnia facilitated the collection and shipment of humanitarian aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia and the placement of war-wounded Bosnian refugees in the United States.

In February 1994, the founder and President of Lifeline Network for Peace, Beverly Britton, made several trips to Bosnia-Herzegovina where she delivered medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, taught massage therapy to stimulate weight gain in low birth-weight babies, taught stress management for pain control and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), started the International Children's Peace Quilt Project with war-wounded and orphaned children and helped open the underground Velmos Hospital in East Mostar.

On December 1995, Lifeline Network hosted a meeting in Sarejevo with representatives from ZAR and Zena 21, coalitions that represent 60 Bosnia-Herzegovina women's organizations, discussing the women's post-war needs, self-help and empowerment strategies, meditation skills and support systems for enterprise outreach. The outreach included the setting up of a Bosnia-Herzegovina Women's Roundtable Network to connect the women's organizations through an on-line computer service such as International Global Communication's PeaceNet.

### **Lifeline Network for Peace**

**USA**



Passing on the Gift  
A program that Alleviates Hunger, Poverty  
and Environment Degradation  
*Heifer Project International*

# NURTURING TRANSFORMATIVE COMMUNITY



**The Prison Smart Program,  
South Africa**

An initiative of The Art of Living Foundation, this program delivers a unique stress management and rehabilitative training program to inmates, residents of halfway houses, individuals on parole and probation, at-risk youth, victims of crime, law enforcement officers and probation staff. Participants utilize specific breathing techniques to alleviate anxiety and clear their minds.

**The Art of Living Foundation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Interreligious Sustainability  
Project**

The Interreligious Sustainability Project devotes itself to engaging and supporting religiously-based reflection and action on sustainable development. The project has published *One Creation, One People, One Place* – a statement of common regional values, coupled with an assessment of the greater Chicago region. The network includes congregations and lay people from a wide variety of religious traditions including Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Bahá'í, Unitarian Universalist and Buddhist. The project supports people in religious congregations in defining public actions from a religious perspective in three ways — through hands-on work experience, workshops, and public policy initiatives. In these activities, the project is responsive to the interests and concerns expressed through the community-level sustainability circles and by congregations directly. The Project is convening a Symposium on Sustainable Development at the 1999 Parliament.

**Center for Neighborhood Technology  
USA**

**Protecting Creation, from  
Generation to Generation**

The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) engages Jewish institutions and individuals in bringing the moral passion of the Jewish tradition to social action and environmental stewardship in order to advance social justice, protect future generations, preserve the integrity of creation, and strengthen the Jewish community.

**Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life  
USA**

**International Sufi Youth (ISY)**

ISY is an international network of Sufi youth dedicated to serving their community through mentorship programs and social service projects. As a network of youth, the ISY has been involved in numerous interfaith projects designed to create reflective leadership development programs and peer counseling projects. As a Gift of Service to the World offered at the 1999 Parliament, ISY would like to use their resources to foster relationships with community service programs and to encourage more youth involvement in community development. ISY will speak with local school representatives to find ways in which community service can be encouraged within local communities.

**International Association of Sufism  
USA**

**Gandhi and King:  
a Season for Non-violence**

A Season for Non-violence (January 30 - April 4, 1998-99) is an educational media campaign inspired by the 50th and 30th memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.. Launched at the United Nations, citizen leaders from multi-denominational spiritual communities in 115 cities implemented over 300 projects and events exemplifying non-violence during this 64-day period.

**Association for Global New Thought  
USA**

**Cultivating Community**

The Orion Society devotes its summer 1999 issue of *Orion Afield* to conveying community stories of how people have successfully come together to protect their homes and to create a better future. On the occasion of the 1999 Parliament, the Orion Society will distribute an additional 50-100 free copies of this issue to grassroots groups who are involved in community-building work.

**The Orion Society  
USA**



## **A Model for Nurturing Self-Sustainable Communities**

The SEED Foundation's mission is to inspire and cultivate awareness about the importance of a balanced and harmonious coexistence with Mother Earth through self-sustainable living, education, and action based initiatives. The Seed's first model in progress is a community of self-sustainable single family dwellings (Earthships) surrounding and supporting a holistic healing and community center, all made from recycled and sustainable materials. The Seed Foundation is an action based youth initiative supporting and networking like-minded individuals and organizations working to build a peaceful, just and sustainable future.

**The SEED Foundation**  
**USA**

## **Community Biodynamic Farm**

The SEKEM farm in the desert northeast of Cairo provides an example for Egypt and the world. This six-company initiative combines Biodynamic farming and production with cross-cultural and religious cooperation and community building. The farm was founded in 1977 on 70 hectares of desert where Biodynamic agricultural methods, which had been adapted for their effectiveness in arid zones, were used for the first time under the guidance of the German agronomist G. Merckens. Subsequently, the desert sands have been converted into fertile soil, and green, flowering landscapes, supporting livestock and bees. A steadily increasing group of Biodynamic farms in Egypt has served as the base for the modern development of Egyptian agriculture, with more than 150 farms, totaling approximately 2,000 hectares now cultivated.

SEKEM aims to contribute to the development of the consciousness of the Egyptian people through an enlightened understanding of our contemporary culture by embracing three aspects of modern life: the economic, the social and the cultural. SEKEM strives to create effective, modern, social institutions, so that women and men can carry out their responsibility towards nature, mankind and community.

**SEKEM**  
**EGYPT**

## **The Caring for Creation Religion and Ecology Ministry and Program**

The "Caring For Creation" Religion and Ecology Ministry and Program is offered by the International Consortium on Religion and Ecology to involve, educate and empower religious institutions and communities of faith in order to bring about a socially and environmentally sustainable and regenerative world community. This is accomplished by enabling these groups to participate in a transformative process which assists local projects beginning with Earth Day 2000. This Gift of Service involves leaders from faith communities in Asia, Africa and the Americas. While scheduled to begin at the 1999 Parliament and on the worldwide web that day, many months have been spent in preparation for this immense international interfaith effort.

**NACRE and International C.O.R.E.**  
**USA**

## **Center for Interfaith Studies and Joint Action (CISJA)**

World Peace Ashram and the Community Holistic Growth Center Inc. proposes to establish a center for interfaith studies at Kanyakumari – an important pilgrimage and tourist center with connections to Swami Vivekananda and Francis Xavier.

The center will:

- 1) Organize courses on all faiths for interested people helping them to understand the fundamentals among different faiths, and to see the commonalities of different faiths;
- 2) Organize interfaith seminars, dialogues and research on issues of common concern – caste, gender, and racial discrimination, poverty and socio-economic injustice, etc;
- 3) Bring together groups working on interfaith relations for periodical conferences and consultations;
- 4) Organize exchange programs with people from other similar multi-religious contexts, both within India and abroad;
- 5) Build up a small library and documentation on topics related to interfaith relations, and;
- 6) Produce literature on interfaith issues, including a *Journal of Interfaith Studies (JIS)*.

**Community Holistic Growth Center**  
**USA**

### **Giving the World Energy & Hope**

The World Energy and Hope Project is the gift of thousands of educators, religious organizations, and environmental advocates. This gift will touch the lives of countless women and children through networks of schools, hospitals, and social service programs. It will offer the world the skills, inspiration, and content to uplift and transform various communities.

**Global Education Associates**  
**USA**

### **The Desmond Tutu Peace Museum**

Archbishop Desmond and Mrs. Leah Tutu are the founders of the Desmond Tutu Peace Trust. Guided by the values espoused in the life and work of the Archbishop, the Desmond Tutu Peace Museum will be launched to work for peace development as the way to transform the people of Africa.

**The Desmond Tutu Peace Trust**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Earth Day Worldwide Network**

With over 500 million people, thousands of organizations, and events on every continent, the Earth Day Worldwide Network is using grassroots organizing and the Internet to plan events and programs, compare problems, share solutions, build an ever-deepening knowledge base, and empower even the most remote concerned citizen. Earth Day 2000 will harness thirty years of commitment and momentum to create a united, global voice for a hopeful, planet-wide sustainable future.

One of the examples of Earth Day's world-wide network, is taking place in Chad, where the Ministry of Agriculture is raising awareness of Earth Day 2000 through a 6-month campaign of conferences, debates and announcements in local and regional media. The Ministry is currently appealing to its larger government for official recognition of Earth Day. Another inspiring example is taking place in Mexico, where 30,000 high school students will assemble to plant thousands of trees throughout their nation's capital.

**Earth Day Network 2000**  
**USA**

### **Interfaith Seminary Projects**

The Interfaith Seminary offers a variety of opportunities for interreligious understanding and cooperation. It allows people of all faiths to be ordained and serve as Interfaith ministers and to join a global interfaith ministry community. Seminarians learn about various spiritual and religious traditions.

The Interfaith Youth Center is a sacred place for young people from all over the world to share music, art, spiritual practice and traditions, interfaith wisdom, and mutual respect. After visiting the Interfaith Youth Center, these honorable young people will return to their communities as gift bearers of a new way of life.

The All Faiths Open Community is place where people from diverse backgrounds can share in an amazing variety of activities: meditations, chants, dances, and spiritual practices. The project is creating a new Interfaith way of worship and community.

*Imagine Interfaith Books* illustrate understanding and cooperation between people of different faiths and ethnic backgrounds. The books that have been published range in content, but all have one consistent theme: religious and cultural harmony.

**Interfaith Seminary**  
**USA**

### **Education in Sustainability — Hope for the Future**

San Domenico School – steeped in the Dominican tradition, the New Cosmology, and a vision of hope and sustainability for God's creation – is developing and integrating a curriculum of sustainability for pre-school through grade 12. Faculty, staff, students, and parents work together to understand the critical relevance of responsible care for the earth, engaging in study and experiences directed to forming attitudes of respect for the earth and our interdependence as a human community with all of creation.

**San Domenico School**  
**USA**

## **2000 Campaign Vision: Youth and Schools**

In Los Angeles, where 12 youth lose their lives due to violence every week, school communities and young people can directly and immediately benefit from the teaching of non-violence in coping with the very urgent challenges that they face in their day to day lives. Our aim is to inspire and empower the next generation to become effective agents for non-violence in their own lives and communities by offering schools and community-based groups programs and resources which teach the principles and applied practice of non-violence to youth and those who serve them. The Campaign will launch with the premiere of the CNN film, *Children of Peace*, a work profiling five members of the Children's Peace Movement in Colombia (currently nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize). SNV-LA is inviting 800 youth from throughout LA to the West coast premiere, followed by an evening of dialogue with filmmakers and members of the Children's Peace Movement.

**A Season for Non-violence — LA  
USA**

## **Kindness House**

Kindness House is an ashram, or spiritual community, which houses and operates the Human Kindness Foundation and its Prison-Ashram Project. Located in Central North Carolina, USA, the Kindness House hosts many visitors and volunteers for no charge. Residents and staff live in simple rooms or cabins and abide by a schedule which typically includes group practice in the early mornings and evenings, and a dynamic work day which involves house work, and administrative work for the Prison-Ashram Project.

**Human Kindness Foundation  
USA**

## **Oasis of Peace in the Middle East**

Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam is a village in Israel established jointly by Jews and Palestinian Arabs of Israeli citizenship. In the framework of its School for Peace and children's educational structure, members of Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam are engaged in educational work for peace, equality, and understanding between the two peoples. The settlement has grown from one family to 30 over the last twenty-seven years. The School For Peace was established in 1979 as Neve Shalom/ Wahat al-Salam's major outreach educational institution. The SFP activates the principles upon which the Community was founded by engaging in encounter work between Arabs and Jews. The encounters sow the seeds for conflict resolution. Since the establishment of SFP, over 25,000 Jews and Arabs have participated in a wide range of activities. NSW also sponsors Youth and Adult Encounter Programs that bring Jews and Arabs together in three-day events, which include personal, social, and political acquaintance activities. One Jewish and one Arab leader oversee small groups of participants and guide them through several experiences which culminate in a simulation game on the future relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel.

**Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam  
ISRAEL**

## **Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences**

The Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES) networks world-wide with NGO's, international organizations, academic bodies, and grass roots organizations. IFEES invites collaboration from organizations and individuals of all persuasions who are also dedicated to the maintenance of the Earth as a healthy habitat for future generations of humankind as well as other living beings. Projects include: research and the dissemination of information; producing teaching materials, books and journals; training on practical and theoretical subjects; and the setting up of an experimental center focusing on land use, organic farming and the development of alternative technology.

**Islamic Foundation for Ecology and  
Environmental Sciences  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Building Better Communities Network**

The Building Better Communities Network (BBCN) is a collaboration of over 300 leaders in key sectors from across the US which engages in information exchange and discussion about conflict resolution. The collaboration focuses on providing housing and human services for people in need in community based settings, and at the same time strengthening neighborhoods and building a sense of community.

**HomeBase / The Center for Common Concern USA**

### **Tiholego Development Project: an Ecological & Economical Model**

Tiholego Development Project (TDP) is an Eco-village development and educational institute, including former farm workers. The Project demonstrates by example, and through its training workshops, principles of ecologically sustainable living. This is an on-going process, with knowledge and skills continually evaluated and improved through self-assessment and interaction with similar organizations and individuals worldwide. The project started in 1991 and has a time frame of 10 - 20 years as an initial model and long-term sustainable living community.

**Tiholego Development Project (TDP)  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
USA**

### **The Wilderness Leadership School**

The Wilderness Leadership School is a tool for developing young people from diverse backgrounds through experience in wild country. This experience, when coupled with the courses offered at the School, leads participants to develop a strong ecological consciousness and conscience with respect to each other, God, and the earth. Since its founding in 1957, this school has grown to over 25,000 acres of private land and has attracted numerous young students representing a broad spectrum of backgrounds.

**The Wilderness Foundation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **The Gifts to the Earth Program**

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) began the Gifts to the Earth program on April 23, 1998 – 1,000 days before the year 2000. The aim was to mark a turning point in worldwide efforts to protect endangered species, safeguard the habitats they need to survive, and address global threats that put all living things in harm's way. WWF continues to call on governments, institutions, and individuals to make "Gifts to the Earth" – bold actions to preserve the web of life. WWF will continue to place ads in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* at each 100 day mark before the Year 2000.

**World Wildlife Fund  
USA**

### **The Ladakh Farm Project**

The Ladakh project was created to bring information to Ladakh, India about cultural and environmental development in other parts of world. The Farm Project offers opportunities for foreign volunteers to spend a month or more with a farming family in Ladakh. By helping with daily farming tasks, volunteers experience a different way of life — one more in tune with our natural surroundings, more decentralized in terms of economic organization. The project also helps to restore young Ladakh's respect for a centuries old, sustainable way of life when they see volunteers (mainly Westerners) do physical work side by side with Ladakhi families.

**International Society for Ecology and Culture  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Minimizing Cruelty in Ritual Slaughter**

We advocate the use of a device invented in America, and improved upon in South Africa. It causes less cruelty, stress, pain, and suffering to animals that are being slaughtered. The equipment is also more economically viable because of its efficiency.

**Humans Against Violence to God's Creations  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Abalimi — the People Who Plant**

Based at two people's nurseries in Kyalitsha and Nyanga, Abalimi supports the emergence of a new environmental and urban agriculture movement in the grassroots community. The people's nurseries are the only nurseries in the Cape Flats. Projects and programs of WPI include: start up inputs (manure, seeds, etc.) supplied to 1,000-5,000 survival food gardeners annually; training in ecological gardening given to 300-5000 micro-farmers annually; 1-7 year developmental partnerships with emerging community gardening associations resulting in sustainable food garden organizations; and 1-7 year developmental partnerships with grassroots environmental organizations such as schools, parks, youth clubs, and green street groups.

**Abalimi Bezakaya**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Alleviating Hunger, Poverty and Environmental Degradation**

Heifer Project International's grassroots approach has provided food and income producing animals and training to millions of resource poor families in 115 countries. Giving microcredit in the form of livestock promotes self-reliance, which builds self-esteem and helps families lift themselves out of poverty. At the heart of HPI's philosophy is the commitment families make to "pass on the gift" by sharing one or more of their animal's offspring with other families in need. Helping others ensures dignity and multiplies the benefits of the original gift from generation to generation.

**Heifer Project International**  
**USA**

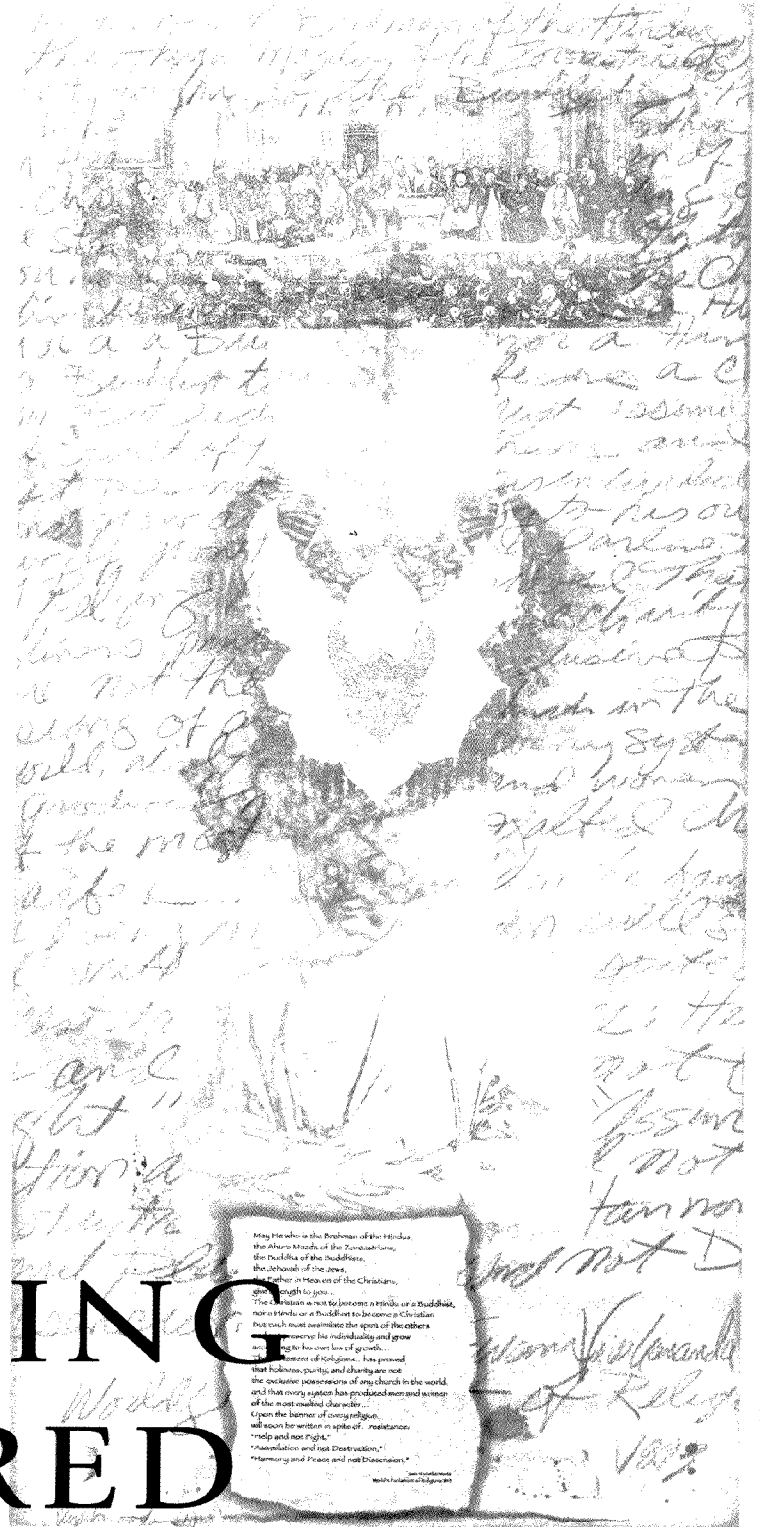
### **Grass Roots Peace Building**

World Fellowship of Inter-Religious Councils (WFIRC) has taken the message of peace to the grass roots level with the help of regional units. They have also formed peace councils in different parts of Kerala, and outside the state, to check violence, promote harmony, and build bridges of understanding and cooperation. In addition, the WFIRC fosters social justice, peace, and harmony among followers of different traditions by conducting values education classes in colleges and high schools.

**World Fellowship of Inter-Religious Councils**  
**INDIA**

An Illumination of Toward a Global Ethic  
and A Call to Our Guiding Institutions

Hanson Studios, Inc.



# OFFERING SACRED PRACTICE

May He who is the Preceptor of the Hindus  
the Ahimsa Friends of the Zoroastrians,  
the Buddha of the Buddhists,  
the Mahatma of the Jains,  
the Father in Heaven of the Christians,  
grant strength to you.

"The highest aim is to become a Hindu or a Buddhist,  
not a Hindu or a Buddhist to become a Christian.  
Each must assimilate the spirit of the others  
and transcend the individuality and grow  
into the highest law of God."  
— Mahatma Gandhi

"The essence of Religion... has proved  
that holiness, purity, and charity are not  
the exclusive prerogative of any church in the world,  
and that every system has produced men and women  
of the most exalted character...  
Upon the banner of cosmopolitanism  
will soon be written in spite of... resistance,  
"Harp and not Fight."  
"Harmonization and not Destruction."  
"Harmony and Peace and not Disunion."

— Mahatma Gandhi



**The Radiation of Light into the Hearts and Minds of Humanity**

Thousands of White Eagle members all over the World are committed to radiating the Light several times a day, but particularly at noon, into the hearts and minds of the people around them, in their own countries, and the rest of the world. This project helps to stimulate and strengthen the better, higher, nature of mankind, thereby helping the whole of humanity and the earth itself.

**White Eagle Lodge  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**A Circle of Respect: a Ritual to Welcome All**

SHEM Center for Interfaith Spirituality offers "A Circle Of Respect", a simple ritual that acknowledges the universe from which we come and the sacred earth upon which we walk. Recognizing that a rich and blessed diversity makes up our world, the ritual honors all spiritual paths and faith traditions. The SHEM Center begins all its events with this ritual, and it has been used with groups as small as three and as large as sixteen hundred. The Circle works to weave together different people into a web of respect, happiness, love and friendship so that they might share with others. The goal is to discover and celebrate the similarities that underlie and unite all individuals.

**SHEM Center for Interfaith Spirituality  
USA**

**Multi-Cultural Training in Eurythmy**

Eurythmy is an art of movement, which makes visible the underlying creativity in music and speech. Eurythmy develops the inner as well as the social life, bringing about harmony and balance in our challenging world. In the training sessions, participants from six different cultures work and study together. This is a wonderful symbol of the "Rainbow-nation" revealing mutual understanding and deepening harmony in the social sphere.

**Kairos - Eurythmy - Training at the Centre for Creative Education  
RSA**

**Establishing the Vedanta Center of Atlanta**

After seven years of renting a home for itself, the Eternal Quest (Vedanta in Atlanta) has purchased property in order to establish the Vedanta Center of Atlanta. Spiritual education and scriptural study will be offered to any who is interested, and members uphold that this will foster mutual understanding and cooperation amongst the world's faiths. The center will also provide a base from which to encourage and support individuals to continue engaging in volunteer work throughout the city. Thus far, members of Vedanta congregations have been involved with the Community of Hospitality, a house of volunteers who are running a drug recovery program at Cafe 458 and Samaritan House in depressed areas of Atlanta. They have also been "Buddies" with AIDATLANTA for those with HIV and AIDS, and have supported the AIDS Walk and Hunger Walk. Lastly, the Eternal Quest Society has also delivered meals for Project Open Hand.

**The Eternal Quest Society  
USA**

**Universal Hour of Peace, and the Personal Pledge for Peace**

World peace will be created when everyone creates peace in their own environment. The Universal Hour of Peace encourages individuals to commit – by signing a Pledge for Peace – to create peace for a short time, at the same time as others involved in the Hour of Peace. This time can be extended to one week, one month, one year, one decade until it becomes a way of life. Thoughts and visions of peace and being peaceful are being collected for this hour. After a 1,000,000 pledges are received at the School of Metaphysics, a petition will be presented to heads of government and other guiding institutions to underscore the need to make creating peace a top priority.

**Interfaith Church of Metaphysics  
USA**



### **Healing Through Yogic Meditation**

Henry Martyn Institute will introduce interested persons to meditation techniques drawn from various religious traditions in order to lead them to inner peace so that they might pass on a current of harmony to other peoples, nations and races.

**Henry Martyn Institute**  
**INDIA**

### **A Sacred Cairn for Harmony**

The EarthSpirit Community will establish an outdoor sacred site surrounding a stone cairn at its home and conference center in western Massachusetts. The site will be dedicated to harmony among all peoples and between humans and the other aspects of creation, including animals, plants and spirits of nature. The first stone laid will be one found near the site as a tribute to the spirits of the land. The second will be a stone brought home from South Africa by EarthSpirit's representative to the Parliament in recognition of the work being done there. All who come to the Center will be invited to add a stone to the cairn with their own personal invocation for harmony. The cairn will be built in the ancient traditional manner (common to many cultures in Europe and other parts of the world) and will be set about with healing herbs and plants. It will be a spot for meditations, singing and dancing, where a vision of harmony and peace throughout all the realms of creation can be fostered.

**EarthSpirit**  
**USA**

### **Return to Spirit Guidebooks for Spiritual Development**

House of Spirit, Yoga and Retreat Center offers free 'download-able' guidebooks (at [www.spiritsong.org](http://www.spiritsong.org)) that are based on the Yoga chakra system, Buddhism, and Transpersonal Psychology. Each guidebook addresses one of the chakras, and offers information, readings, exercises, and spiritual practices for spiritual growth and development. These free books function as accessible guides for personal spiritual exploration, and will help foster understanding between cultures and within oneself.

**House of Spirit, Yoga and Retreat Center**  
**USA**

### **Sacred Stone Circle**

Circle Sanctuary has created a Sacred Stone Circle, dedicated to planetary healing and well-being. Stones are given by people representing spiritual paths from around the world. The site itself, and spiritual practices done there, honor the interconnectedness of humans with each other and the greater Circle of Nature. A series of multicultural, international, and interreligious meditations, ceremonies, and celebrations will be held at the Circle in honor of the Millennium. More stones will be added during these events and, as done with the placing of previous stones (there are now thousands), prayers for peace will accompany the setting of each one.

**Circle Sanctuary Inc.**  
**USA**

### **Self-Realization Fellowship Prayer Council**

The Self-Realization Fellowship Prayer Council, established by Paramahansa Yogananda to serve the world through prayer, consists of monks and nuns of the Self-Realization Fellowship monastic communities who daily meditate and pray for others. The SRF Prayer Council, as well as lay members at SRF temples, will pray for the 1999 Parliament and its participants from December 1-8, and throughout 1999. They will also pray for world peace and healing as we transition into a new millennium.

**Self-Realization Fellowship**  
**USA**

### **Lectio Divina — Prayer of the Church**

"*Lectio Divina*," the Holy Reading, is a presentation of how the Scriptures were read and prayed during the first thousand years of the Christian Church's history. This is a simple but enriching method of praying the Scriptures and allowing the healing power of the Word to be active in our lives.

**Catholic Biblical Foundation**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Sri Lankan People's Walk for Peace**

Representatives from all parts of Sri Lanka will enter the Vihara Maha Devi Park after a two kilometer meditational Peace Walk starting from four locations: near the Liberty Roundabout (Kollupitiya), Maradana, Horton Place (Borella End), and Reid Avenue. Religious dignitaries, political leaders, representatives of peace organizations, and volunteer organizations will also be participating in the walk. The purpose of this meditational walk is to raise people's spiritual consciousness and direct their minds towards national unity and ending the terrors of violence and war.

**Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana**  
**SRI LANKA**

### **The ABC's of Peace / Caretakers of Peace**

The ABC's of Peace/Caretakers of Peace Workshop is designed to help people to realize a consciousness of peace, to bring each participant into a peaceable, tranquil, calm, nonviolent, friendly state of mind. The workshop will explore principles, techniques, and methods that will inspire individuals and groups to care about the quality of their lives and the supreme quality of all people's lives as well as all the lives of our fellow creatures.

**The Rev. Dr. Marguerite P. Goodall**  
**UNITED STATES**

### **The World Peace Prayer Ceremony**

The World Peace Prayer Ceremony invites people of all faiths and nationalities to say a simple prayer for peace for each country of the world as its flag is raised. The prayer celebrates humanity's oneness through the prayer, "May Peace Prevail on Earth." This ceremony has been presented all over the world in settings of all sizes, ranging from a person's living room to the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations. It is performed annually at United Religions Initiative summits, and is a powerfully moving experience of our shared humanity and the universal need for peace.

**World Peace Prayer Society**  
**USA**

### **Cloak the Earth**

People of all faiths create prayer cloths as tangible offerings of healing for the planet. On January 1, 2000, healing rituals will be held to fly the cloth-prayers and encircle the earth with expressions of love. Everyone is welcome to participate in this project – churches, schools, shelters and community groups can express their hope, dreams and commitment through decorating small, two-yard, white shawls. Once completed, ties are attached to each side of the shawls to connect them together and create prayer chains, and "star-clusters" which consecrate spaces, trees, people, etc. The process of making these tangible prayers elicits dialogue and questioning: What values do we hold dear? How can we change our consciousness to become better stewards for the future? The hope is that these prayer cloths can become metaphors of love, cloak-ing pockets of the world that are torn and broken.

**Cloak the Earth**  
**USA**

### **We, The World**

We, The World seeks to raise global consciousness and awaken a spirit of caring around the world through a series of international public events, a film release, and other programs that engage and inspire people to join the global family of organizations and coalitions — for our collective social, ecological and spiritual healing.

**We, The World**  
**USA**

### **Universal Peace Covenant**

The Universal Peace Covenant recognizes that we are spiritual and visionary individuals who can create peace in our world. It calls upon each of us, individually and collectively, to create and foster peace within ourselves and within our environment.

**Interfaith Church of Metaphysics**  
**USA**

**Experiencing the Soul:  
the Spirit of Life Tour**

The Spirit of Life Tour is a traveling entertainment/ educational outreach program sponsored by the non-profit For a World We Choose Foundation. It offers people of all ages practical ways to spiritualize everyday life through learning a universal form of meditation, as well as cultivating common sense, scientifically-supported lifestyles. The program promotes positive lifestyle changes in order to create more inner and outer peace, both individually and collectively.

**For a World We Choose Foundation  
USA**

**Millennium Silent Retreat:  
Serenity and Celebration**

Integral Yoga International will celebrate the millennium with a four-day silent retreat at Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville. This retreat will offer people the opportunity to usher in the new millennium in the serene environment of a spiritual community. Retreatants will enter the millennium in prayer, with Sri Swami Satchidananda, at the Light Of Truth Universal Shrine.

**Satchidananda Ashram-Yogaville  
USA**

**Interfaith Healing Liturgies**

The Women's Interfaith Institute's healing liturgies are planned and developed by a group of dedicated and gifted members who represent Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish and Unitarian faith traditions. This group meets regularly to study Biblical texts, share sometimes widely differing interpretations, offer personal stories, issues, and ideas, then strive together to design worship services that will help bring healing, hope, and meaning to persons of diverse religions, or none at all, who have suffered abuse, violence or the loss of a child. Women and men who have attended these liturgies have reported the experience to be an extremely important, and out of the ordinary, gift. The services have sometimes helped women to deal with woundedness caused by religious teaching or institutions.

**Women's Interfaith Inst. in the Berkshires  
USA**

**A Million Prayers for the  
New Millennium**

The Thomas Merton Center Foundation is enlisting elementary and high school students in Louisville, Kentucky parochial schools to lead a prayer campaign for peace in the new millennium. The students are encouraging all people of the Louisville community to add their prayers in solidarity and hope so they might realize peace, justice and the sacred in their lives. Using prayers inspired by Thomas Merton, the children will generate one million prayers and create community awareness of their desire for a peaceful world for themselves and future generations.

**The Thomas Merton Center Foundation  
USA**

**Pray for the Children**

"Pray for the Children" organizes a simple grassroots effort to seek spiritual guidance and intervention to save the world's children from the scourge of drugs and violence. "Pray for the Children" weekend, October 22-24, 2000, will provide an occasion for people of all faiths to pray for children to be drug-free. Participants also pray that families may have the strength, support and wisdom to keep their children safe.

**Pray for the Children  
USA**

**Brahma Vihara:  
Spreading Love, Curbing Anger**

Brahma Vihara, is an ancient Buddhist practice that cultivates the virtues of Metta (Loving-Kindness), Karuna (Compassion), Mudita (Sympathetic Joy) and Uppekha (Equanimity). The members of the Rosebank Buddhist Group will individually and collectively practice the Brahma Vihara on the Uposatha days (Full and New Moon). These observance days will be dedicated to the healing of our city, country, continent and the world, to end violence, hatred and anger, to eliminate suffering and spread love, peace and happiness of body and mind. The Rosebank Buddhist Group will work to contact other Buddhist groups and draw in people from other denominations.

**The Rosebank Buddhist Group  
SOUTH AFRICA**

**Jewish Holiday Enhancement Program**

Am Yisrael's Religious School students visit the Robineav Self Help Home for the Jewish Elderly on five or six Jewish holiday occasions throughout the year. Led by Cantor Stuart Simon, the children present a holiday program and socialize with residents in order to enhance their holiday observance.

**Am Yisrael Conservative Congregation  
USA**

**The Peace Pole Project**

The Peace Pole Project is a global effort by thousands of individuals and groups worldwide. There are Peace Poles in over 200,000 locations around the world, with their ranks growing daily. They are used to dedicate towns, universities, libraries, parks and places of worship to world peace, in the spirit of the prayer "May Peace Prevail on Earth," which appears on all sides of the Peace Pole in many languages. It is highly replicable – the more the better! Peace Poles form a powerful network of prayers for peace, spanning the globe, giving everyone the opportunity to create and/or plant one.

**World Peace Prayer Society  
USA**

**Temple of GoodWill**

The Temple of GoodWill, in Brasilia, Brazil, is a seven-sided pyramid where people of all creeds, nationalities, and races come together to meditate, pray, and create a network of trust and understanding. The Temple not only serves as a symbol of an egalitarian community, but also houses the peaceful spiritual coexistence of people with diverse backgrounds.

**Temple of GoodWill  
BRAZIL**

**Slow Walk for Peace**

The Shalem Slow Walk for Peace is a meditation practice to further our world's most authentic desire for goodness, positive solutions and peace, grounded in God. The Shalem Institute offers this time to appreciate our contemplative tradition, with its emphasis on open availability to God in all of daily living.

**Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation  
USA**

**Healing Hands to Croatia**

During the Serbian occupation of Bosnia, an estimated 75,000 Muslim women were raped. The Center for Women's War Victims in Zagreb, Croatia was set up to assist at least some of the survivors. Mrs. Brown, a past victim of violent rape, offered her Reiki, a hands-on healing technique as spiritual support. In her three weeks stay in the Center, she demonstrated and taught spiritual healing techniques to the staff of the Center, so they could offer the healing to those in need. Her committee also raised private donations of \$2,000 for the Center's use.

**Mrs. Bettina S. Brown  
USA**

**One Earth One People,  
World Healing Ceremony**

The One Earth One People initiative will honor American Indian prophecy for world peace with a world healing ceremony. Collectively, they hope to reconcile humanity's violence and heal the present with songs. A children's handprint peace quilt brings joy to our forgiveness prayers. Through this ceremony, they will work to purify their minds and hearts, and move forward in peace.

**One Earth One People  
USA**

**Thirteen Month New Moon Ritual  
of Reconciliation**

Beginning in January 2000, on each of 13 consecutive New Moons, Labyrinth Dancing will light a 7-day candle charged with the intention that individuals in the group each recognize the love of the Divine in themselves and therefore in each other. At the end of these 13 months, the group will apply this accumulated energy toward a group action to manifest reconciliation tangibly in the world by planting a reconciliation tree, holding a festival, or signing a treaty.

**Labyrinth Dancing  
USA**

### **Institute of Noetic Science: Pathfinding Project**

Pathfinding Project is a network of people, supported by the Institute of Noetic Science, connected by a common process for creating a positive future, and committed to transforming our own lives and the world around us. The project is an opportunity to envision a future that resonates with our minds and hearts so clearly that it inspires us each day to make it a reality. The initiative is based on three activities. The first is seeking to understand the present state of the world and the areas of our personal lives we consider most important. The second is creating positive images of the future that, like a magnet, pull us in the direction we desire. The third is identifying specific paths by which we can develop a more just, compassionate, and environmentally sustainable society.

**Institute of Noetic Science  
USA**

### **Creative Training**

Dr. Chatsumarn Kabilsingh offers a training program to empower and uplift women. The methodology employed emphasizes training of the body-mind, with *chi kong*, yoga, and balancing exercises.

**Thammasat University  
THAILAND**

### **World Meditation Hour**

World Meditation Hour began in 1978 as a way to bring all the members of the Brahma Kumaris around the world together to meditate for world peace. On the third Sunday of each month, people sit together and radiate peace, love and care to the world. This practice had spread to over 70 countries world-wide, attracting over a half a million people. The meditation upholds that all people have the potential to guide the world towards becoming a more loving place. The transformative process begins with our ways of thinking, as our outer world is a reflection of what lies within our inner world.

**Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University,  
Global Cooperation House  
UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Personality and Human Relations: Personal and Social Transforma- tion for the 21st Century**

Personality and Human Relations (PRH), an in-depth experiential and educational process for personal growth and transformation, originated in France in 1970 and has spread to all six continents. Founder Andre Rechais' certitude that at the core of each person is a dynamic life force, the being, which aspires to express itself and contribute to a thriving community is the root of all 30-hour sessions. Through the process, one's inner potentialities and intuitions emerge, gradually humanizing one's decisions and relationships. With such training, individuals will be more creative and loving in solving the challenges of the 21st Century.

**PRH, Western Division  
USA**

### **An Illumination of Toward a Global Ethic and a Call to Our Guiding Institutions**

Hanzon Studios will create a body of fine art works based on the Parliament's documents *Toward a Global Ethic* and *A Call to Our Guiding Institutions*. This collection of artwork is meant to illuminate and celebrate these documents, as well as aid in the dissemination of the ideas contained in them. Lonnie Hanzon will create two "sets" of documents: The first will be sent to the 1999 Parliament and exhibited during the gathering (the individual pieces will then be gifted to those present, to be dispersed around the world). The second set will be kept in Denver, Colorado to be exhibited, published or sold. Any monetary profits generated beyond the initial costs of the project will be used to expand the documents' dissemination, or given to the Parliament for additional outreach.

**Hanzon Studios, Inc.  
USA**

**Meditations for Peace**

Dedicated to promote peace in the world, the non-profit organization CoreLight facilitates Meditations For Peace journeys. On these pilgrimages to places like South Africa, Israel, Mexico and U.S. Native American homelands, we pray and meditate, holding the common intention for peace, transformation, forgiveness and unity consciousness in the world.

**CoreLight  
USA**

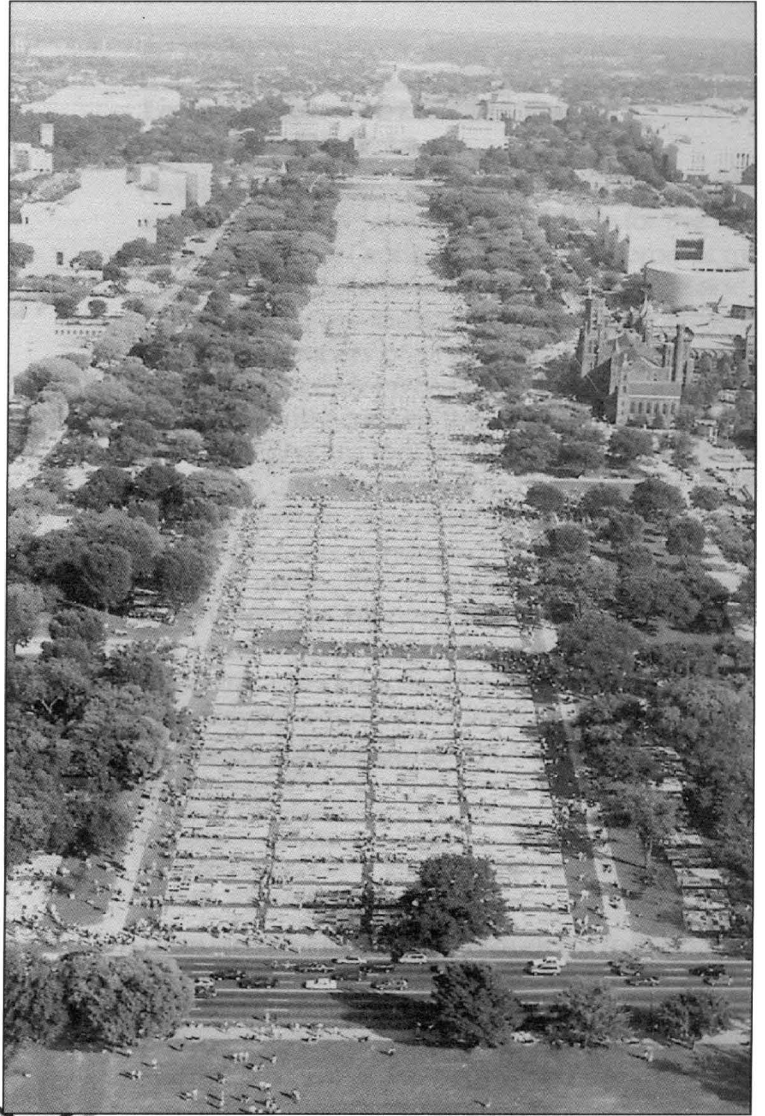
**Interreligious Pastoral Care of  
People Suffering Cancer  
and Their Families**

A group of religious leaders (consisting of a Rabbi, an Imam, a Pastor, a Priest and a Roman Catholic teacher) go to a clinic to help patients, their families, doctors and nurses with the strength and hope that faith and prayer can give. They sit with the patients while they are having their chemotherapy, or whenever they need assistance. Each of these leaders commits at least one day a week, and often more. Every two weeks they have a general meeting where they meditate together about different subjects related to the situation: Why me? Fears, Listening to God's Voice, Real Happiness and other themes. In earlier stages of these meetings, there were only a few participants. At this point, about fifty people (patients, relatives, nurses and the interreligious group) participate regularly at meetings. They have also prepared an interreligious book of prayers.

**Ms. Maria Eugenia deCrespo  
ARGENTINA**



Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, Worldwide  
*River Fund / Kashi Foundation*



# PURSUIING UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS





**Promoting the Rights of Indigenous and Aboriginal Populations in Africa**

IPACC is involved with building the capacity of the growing network of indigenous organizations in Africa participating in the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations. Through exchange programs, organizations can share skills and experiences while teaching each other how to solve problems without conflict. The focus is on developing and implementing strategies to convince African governments of the importance of protecting the rights of indigenous people as detailed in the UN Draft Declaration.

**Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC)**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**How Women’s Organizations Can Foster Inter-Religious Association**

The Union of Jewish Women illustrates how volunteers can make a difference in the lives of any community. Services range from Friendship Clubs for senior citizens to assistance with crèches and pre-primary school. From Adult Education to skills training, and from book and study allowances to comfort rooms and counseling for women, the Union works to help all South Africans.

**Union of Jewish Women — Cape Town**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Bonne Esperance Refugee Accommodations**

Bonne Esperance hopes to create a home away from home for refugee/asylum women and children. The project provides safe, temporary accommodation, as well as care and support. With the aim of fostering empowerment and self-sufficiency, the project provides a learning environment for all: a creche for refugee children, a language/literacy program, and a skills program. The project hopes to raise the awareness of South Africans about the plight of refugees, and facilitate the integration of refugees into the community.

**Catholic Welfare and Development**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Interfaith Network for Human Rights**

Amnesty International is an independent, worldwide activist movement working impartially for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners, and an end to torture and executions. Since the founding of Amnesty International in 1961, members of all the world’s major faiths have been deeply involved in our work. In February 1999, Amnesty created the “Interfaith Network for Human Rights” to mobilize persons and communities of faith to take action against human rights abuses, and to promote awareness among faith communities and activists of human rights violations based on religious beliefs. This network will enable Amnesty International to improve outreach through a better understanding of religious groups and to increase the cultural and religious diversity of the organization’s supporters worldwide.

**Amnesty International USA**  
**USA**

**Healing Tao Prisoners Program and Meditation**

Through the Healing Tao Prisoners Program, former prisoner James Cappellano teaches meditation to people in prison. In addition to corresponding with prisoners, he sends them free books and newsletters. For the past five years, Cappellano has been expanding the potential for self-transformation among prison populations.

**Healing Tao Prisoners Program**  
**USA**

**The Right to be Heard**

The Cape Mental Health Society upholds that people with intellectual disabilities should be valued in the same way as other people, and that they should be protected from sexual abuse. This psycho-legal program provides counseling, psychological assessment and support throughout the court proceedings.

**Cape Mental Health Society**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Women's Crusade Against Rape**

Women's Crusade Against Rape focuses on the responses of young women to the issue of rape. Ten young women with strong feelings about the issue perform a play. To quote from the play: "The mama who is molested at the street corner will be me tomorrow... women have a right to be protected by the law, if the law does not protect women, women must protect themselves."

**Pulpit Youth Theatre Project**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

### **Actions for Peace — Rio, Put That Gun Down!**

Viva Rio is an NGO in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, active in the fields of human rights, education and community development. Since 1993, Viva Rio has worked to integrate the socially-divided city of Rio de Janeiro through actions aimed at overcoming violence in the city and promoting a culture of peace. Peace-building activities of Viva Rio involve all sectors of society, and carry a powerful message for concerned citizens, urging them to work together to restore peace. Five projects are currently underway through which Viva Rio is mobilizing civil society in Brazil and abroad to support a government proposed law which will ban the sale of small arms in Brazil. Small arms are responsible for 27,000 deaths per year in Brazil, which has one of the highest rates of death by firearms in the world. The campaign is raising awareness about the threats posed by the proliferation of small arms, and how these weapons are being used in a cycle of violence that is spiraling out of control in many cities throughout the world. As a founding member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA), and with the support of the World Council of Churches, Viva Rio is gathering signatures for a petition to support a ban on the sale of small arms. This petition has already received over half a million signatures in favor of the ban, and has the support of Nobel Peace Prize laureate and South African Bishop Desmond Tutu. The campaign has also set up a network of church organizations in Rio which serve as neutral depositories for voluntary weapon hand-ins. The guns deposited at these centers are dismantled and destroyed by church personnel trained by Viva Rio.

**Viva Rio**  
**BRAZIL**

### **World Tibet Day**

World Tibet Day is a worldwide event, held annually in the beginning of July, near the birthday of H.H. the Dalai Lama. Founded in 1998 by Ma Jaya Bhagavati, and directed by her student Brahma Das, the event celebrates the unique beauty of Tibetan culture and thought through music and dance. Speeches are given by prominent figures in religion, academia, and the arts. This event is an affirmation of the basic rights of the Tibetan people, and their entitlement to fundamental religious, civil, political, social and economic freedoms.

**World Tibet Day Foundation**  
**USA**

### **Jubilee 2000**

Jubilee 2000 USA is a campaign to cancel the crushing debts of impoverished countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America by the end of the year 2000. The resultant funds would be used for environmental protection, HIV prevention, literacy, and rural development. The campaign advocates canceling debts that are unpayable through a fair and open process, which could save the lives of 7 million children a year. It aims to accomplish this objective by pressing world leaders — including U.S. President Clinton and members of U.S. Congress — to make the relatively small contributions of government funds required to cancel the debts and set up a fair and open process for cancellation. To convince leaders, Jubilee 2000 has enlisted the support of faith groups, including the Roman Catholic Church, the World Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, American Jewish World Service, Muslim Public Affairs Council, and others. Jubilee 2000 also has the support of Oxfam America and Friends of the Earth. Supporters from all faith backgrounds — or no faith background — are welcome to join in the campaign.

**Jubilee 2000 USA**  
**USA**

**The Incorporation of Women's Experiences and Views on Religion and Spirituality**

Foundation for Pastoral Care for Women offers research and publications on women's experiences and views on religion and spirituality. The research focuses on aspects of religion that stimulate self-esteem, and sustain the promotion, protection and implementation of women's human rights at all levels of society. The foundation also collaborates with communities that want to highlight women's experiences and views on religion and spirituality.

**Foundation for Pastoral Care for Women  
NETHERLANDS**

**School of Law**

Founded and operated by Bishop Most Rev. Willy Romélus, this law school provides young college graduates with the opportunity to stay in their hometown to study law, instead of migrating to the Capital of Port-au-Prince.

For the first three years after obtaining their degree, students serve people in need of legal help acting as advocates, free of charge. In July 1999, the first 17 students obtained their degree. Among them, nine went on to practice law and eight proceeded to judicial school.

In order to help eradicate illiteracy in Haiti, which currently is at 80%, the Bishop founded 6 schools at the high school and technical levels. These school provided children with the opportunities for an education, which otherwise they may not have had.

**Diocese of Jérémie  
HAITI**

**Services for Victims of Torture**

The Center for Victims of Torture (CVT) was founded in 1985, and provides direct care to survivors of politically motivated torture and members of their families. CVT, the first organization of its kind in the United States, has pioneered a comprehensive assessment and care program that is respected worldwide. In recent years, the Center has expanded its work to include research, training, and public policy initiatives designed to create new resources for torture survivors worldwide.

**The Center for Victims of Torture  
USA**

**The 5 in 6 Project**

One in six South African women is abused — and five in six men can do something about it! The project reaches out to men through workshops at corporations, farms, civic centers and government departments, as well as through national awareness campaigns targeted at men.

**The 5 in 6 Project  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Edmonton's Prayer to Eliminate Racism**

The Edmonton Interfaith Center for Education and Action offers the gift of an interfaith prayer service held each March 21 (the UN Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination) by representatives of thirteen religions. Participants share a common concern for victims of racism, and a commitment to praying together for its elimination.

**Edmonton Interfaith Center for Education & Action  
CANADA**

**Center on Violence and Human Survival**

The Center on Violence and Human Survival is a research center devoted to the study of violence and the pursuit of non-violence. The center's community consists of the John Jay College, The Graduate School, and the City University of New York's faculty and students, writers, artists, and other concerned professionals from many fields. All of its programs are free and open to the public. The center has formed an ever-widening scholarly and professional community. The center believes that knowledge and intellectual growth emerge from disciplined, reflective, critical, and collaborative inquiry. The Center seeks to increase and deepen public knowledge around issues of violence and human survival in the 20th century.

**CCNY — Center on Violence and Human Survival  
USA**

### **Active Voices**

A team of researchers from Cultural Survival proposes to collaborate with indigenous leaders in the analysis of information relating to indigenous peoples worldwide. This collaboration aims to identify the most critical issues that indigenous peoples currently face, and to propose a foundation for action to resolve them. This data will be obtained through Active Voices — an online research system that is currently in operation. Active Voices will enable a network of scholars to work closely with indigenous peoples in identifying and proposing solutions to the problems they face.

**Cultural Survival**  
**USA**

### **Long Term Plans for Non-violence**

A Season for Non-violence - LA plans to undertake several long-term programs. The SNVLA Curriculum and Resource Package is available for all grade levels, as is in-service training for educators regarding application and tools. Voices of Vision – Non-violence Speaker/Workshop Series presents pioneers in various fields who are demonstrating the effectiveness of non-violent principles and strategies in those areas. It includes programs for the general public and workshops for professional audiences in each field. Non-violence Assessment Tools identifies non-violent of culture (behavior and attitudes); facilitates assessment of these elements in specific institutions (schools, families business, etc.), and provides referral and consulting services.

**A Season for Non-violence — LA**  
**USA**

### **Inyvat Maa**

This project was established in 1993 as an NGO/CBO initiative to address the needs of the Maasai people in Tanzania. It serves a population of 500,000. The project promotes the pursuit human rights, especially the rights of indigenous groups.

**Inyvat Maa**  
**TANZANIA**

### **Promoting Sustainable Consumer Behavior**

The Container Recycling Institute (CRI) commits itself to providing information and technical assistance to those working to minimize beverage container waste around the world. CRI hopes to provide essential information and support to policymakers and grassroots activists in countries around the world and to assist those who seek ways to implement these programs. More recycling and reusing can curb the rapid depletion of valuable resources and the corruption of native lands associated with mining.

**Container Recycling Institute**  
**USA**

### **The 5H Program and the Rural Youth Leadership Program**

The program's five main priorities are Homes, Hygiene, Health, Human Values, and Harmony in Diversity. Currently, it is focused on social and community development in rural areas of developing countries.

The objectives of this program are to train a corps of volunteer service leaders to deliver the 5H program in villages throughout India, to dramatically expand community outreach, and to assist at-risk youth. The program begins with a four-month "Train the Trainer" program with carefully selected youths from disadvantaged backgrounds who represent various regions in India. The volunteers receive intensive training about 5H service projects, including health, hygiene, and life-skills education. Much emphasis is placed on human values, cross-cultural exchange, and an appreciation of diverse religious and spiritual backgrounds. Upon completion of the training, each youth reaches out to a minimum of ten villages in his or her region every year, initiating 5H programs that in turn reach 800-1200 people in every village. In a span of three years, these young service leaders will have touched between 10-14 million lives. These dedicated youth receive ongoing support, guidance and assistance from a network of experienced resource persons from the International Association for Human Values and its partner organizations.

**International Association for Human Values**  
**CANADA**

**Action for Peace —  
Disque Denuncia**

As part of Viva Rio’s strategy to empower citizens with the means to fight for their rights and care for their city, Viva Rio was instrumental in the setting up of Rio de Janeiro’s crime watch hotline, called “Disque Denuncia”. An anonymous toll-free number linked to police squads, the hotline receives calls from citizens who report on crimes and kidnappings, and thus helps the police to carry out their work. Aside from helping to solve hundreds of cases per year, the hotline has also contributed to breaking the law of silence in the city and ending the cycle of fear among witnesses of crimes.

**Viva Rio  
BRAZIL**

**Human Kindness Foundation —  
Prison Ashram Project**

In 1973, the founders developed a strategy to help prisoners use their prisons as ashrams if they were tired of seeing themselves as convicts just biding their time until they were released. The primary purpose of the project is to inspire and encourage prisoners and prison staff to recognize their value as human beings, and to act accordingly. The project posits that people’s inmost nature is divine, and that the nature of our lives is an incomprehensibly wonderful mystery in which each human being can experience solitude and silence. Prisoners have opportunity to dedicate themselves to the inward journey without the distractions and luxuries which occupy many people in the “free world.” The project is now in the United Kingdom, and is described in a book, *We’re All Doing Time*, by Bo Lozoff, its founder. The book has been translated into several languages in Europe, and is available for free to prisoners.

**Human Kindness Foundation  
USA**

**Global Awareness Campaign**

The Kashi Foundation will sponsor a campaign using 21st century media and grassroots education to raise awareness about racism, bigotry, and prejudice. This campaign will be in the form of public service announcements, online broadcasting, the internet, proactive documents and global interaction. The first phase of the campaign, already in production, is the Statement of Conscience regarding the Global HIV/AIDS Pandemic. Religious leaders and people of all faith traditions (among the first to sign were His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu) will sign this document initiated by Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati, and Clevè Jones, (founder of the Names Project). The Statement asks for people of all faiths to reach out and care for people living with AIDS that are fully deserving of love, compassion, care, and human dignity. The second phase of the project will be a series of public service announcement videos of youth speaking out to the world about the critical issues that are facing the human society today.

**Kashi Foundation  
USA**

**Educational Movement Toward  
the Dignity of the Poor**

Serviço de Educação and Organização Popular serves twenty socially-excluded communities in the Greater Rio area through popular educators and community agents. The movement works to assist, educate, and organize children and women in kindergartens and social centers, fostering their cultural manifestations and involving them in environmentally sustainable production. The organization is financed by international solidarity, and maintains the Peace International House as a place for discussion of global issues, and offers an opportunity for popular diplomacy. They also publish a weekly tabloid, *Journal Popular*, a monthly in-house newsletter, *Terra Azul*, and a bi-annual magazine, *Poema Pedagógico*.

**Serviço de Educação e Organização Popular  
BRAZIL**

### **Stop the War Against the Poor Campaign**

Composed of people of faith and conscience, Witness for Peace is called to speak out against economic wars in Central America and the Caribbean. Stop the War Against the Poor Campaign issues a call in response to the violent effects of the policies and practices of the US government, international financial institutions (like the World Bank and the IMF), and multinational corporations. Every month, the National Office of Witness for Peace in the U.S. puts out a Call-a-Week bulletin which includes background information on selected issues, talking points, and contact information. Everyone can join to raise their voices in protest.

**Witness for Peace  
USA**

### **America's Shadow Struggle: Native American Religious Freedom**

America's Shadow Struggle combines video documentaries, nonfiction books, and a symposia at the 1999 Parliament of the World's Religions to shed some light on the rarely reported religious persecution of the Indigenous peoples of the United States. Featuring dialogues between the renowned Religious Studies Professor Huston Smith and eight eloquent Native American leaders, this effort seeks to foster respect for ancient religious traditions and to envision a world free of religious persecution for the next millennium.

**Dreamcatchers, Inc.  
USA**

### **Shelter from Hate Project**

The Shelter from Hate Project grew from the participation of the Spirit of the Lake United Church's delegation at the World Council of Churches gathering in Harare, Zimbabwe in 1998. The project advocates for Christian churches to celebrate "Shelter From Hate Sunday" the first Sunday of every October. The Church has a worldwide website offering education, worship suggestions, and links to other relevant sites on hate crime of all kinds.

**Spirit of the Lakes United Church of Christ  
USA**

### **Campaign for Secure Dwellings (CSD)**

The CSD, in cooperation with Israeli peace groups and Palestinians, calls on people of faith to actively advocate an end to Israel's home demolition policy. Fifty Palestinian families whose homes and lands are targeted for destruction are linked with sixty-three families, peace groups, and congregations in North America. This campaign is spearheaded by Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), a program of active peace-making supported by Mennonite and Brethren congregations and Friends meetings. The CSD project is in cooperation with the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions and the Hebron Land Defense Committee. CPT has had a presence in Hebron since June, 1995 at the invitation of Hebron's mayor.

**Christian Peacemaker Teams  
USA**

### **When Racism Becomes Law**

A two-part exhibition: one covers Anne Frank and the Holocaust, the other the Apartheid era. The programme for young people presents the lives of Anne Frank and Nelson Mandela and examines how they were influenced when racism became law. The programme began just after the '94 South African elections and has been used throughout KZN - from Newcastle to Port Shepstones. It promotes human rights, democracy, decision-making and voter education.

**Council of KZN Jewry  
Human Rights Forum  
RSA**

### **Association for the Promotion of Batwa Women**

The Batwa women need to be made aware of their rights and how to defend and apply them. To this end, The Association for the Promotion of Batwa Women was created in 1997 by a group of 10 women. Currently, the association has 54 associations in 6 parts of the country.

**Muhawenimana Marthe  
RWANDA**

**Prison and Literacy Programs**

The goal of the Prison and Literacy Projects is to promote health and personal responsibility for physical, mental, and spiritual health in order to increase self-understanding and self-acceptance. These projects focus on developing libraries within prisons and lower-income communities, establishing healing relationships with inmates, and bringing needed information and supplies to prisons and lower-income communities. With the support of the Sufi Women Organization, the Prison and Literacy Projects will begin a Breast Cancer Awareness Program for female inmates. The program will also include a series of workshops to teach inmates about breast cancer and self-exams. In addition, the programs will gather relevant medical information and disseminate it among inmates and prison officials.

**International Association of Sufism  
USA**

**Action for Peace — Viva**

Viva is a self-help network for victims of violence in the city of Rio de Janeiro, and aims to provide moral support to victims by offering guidance and counseling following a traumatic experience. Thirteen centers throughout the city of Rio de Janeiro are currently operating, where trained staff attend to the needs of the victims and their families, enabling them to talk about their experiences and to find concerted means of action to combat the wave of crime and violence in the city.

**Viva Rio  
BRAZIL**

**Education for Life —  
A Behavior Change Process**

Education for Life – A Behavior Change Process teaches life skills throughout Africa, with a particular focus on the AIDS epidemic. This project emphasizes spirituality and education as key to curbing the AIDS issue. This project has been running successfully in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the Republic of South Africa.

**Sr. Dr. Miriam Duggan  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**The Interfaith Call for Universal  
Religious Freedom and Freedom  
of Worship in Tibet**

A new worldwide interfaith event has been created which offers a forum and a vehicle for faith traditions to worship together while standing up for religious freedom. Since its inception, houses of worship around the world have been incorporating the Interfaith Call for Universal Religious Freedom and a call for Freedom of Worship in Tibet into their regular services. In the first two years (1998-99), well over one thousand houses of worship around the world participated. In this world observance, religious leaders offered prayers, meditations, and sermons. A valuable byproduct of the Interfaith Call has been the creation of a new network of spiritual leaders who are willing to take a common stand on issues of religious freedom and human rights.

**World Tibet Day Foundation  
USA**

**The Names Project  
AIDS Memorial Quilt**

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is a powerful emotional and spiritual reminder of the enormity of the AIDS Pandemic. The AIDS Memorial Quilt was conceived by Cleve Jones, who founded the NAMES Project, and has been brought to the Parliament by Ma Jaya Bhagavati and the River Fund. The experience of the Quilt provides a creative means for remembrance and healing, and engenders a call to remember and to serve. South Africa is among one of the nations hardest hit by the disease with 11% of the total population of 42 million estimated to be infected. 80% of world's AIDS deaths are on the continent of Africa and 8 million children are orphaned as a result. The Quilt, like the Parliament, is a tapestry that connects us to one another and transcends all boundaries. A presentation of the Quilt at the Parliament will coincide with World AIDS Day and AIDS Awareness Week Dec. 1-8, 1999.

**River Fund / Kashi Foundation  
USA**



### **International Code of Conduct — Year 2000 Campaign**

The International Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers is a collaborative effort of The Commission of Nobel Peace Laureates together with arms trade specialists at BASIC, Safer World, Demilitarization for Democracy, the Council on Economic Priorities, and Amnesty International. Dr. Oscar Arias founded the Year 2000 Campaign with the goal to promote mutual, dramatic reductions in military spending and redirect the savings to human development. The campaign upholds that Governments must implement and defend internationally recognized standards of democracy, human rights and peaceful international relations.

**Commission of Nobel Peace Laureates  
USA**

### **Viva Rio — Citizen's Counter**

Since December 1997, Viva Rio's human rights project provides free legal assistance and conflict mediation in nine shanty-towns of Rio de Janeiro. Thousands of citizens have benefited from the legal guidance provided at the Citizens Counters, which restore confidence in the legal system and create a culture of non-violence in the conflict-ridden communities of Rio de Janeiro's shanty-towns.

**Viva Rio  
BRAZIL**

### **Millennium People's Assembly Network**

Millennium People's Assembly Network (MPAN) is a group of individuals and organizations from around the world who have long advocated a global and Permanent Global People's Assembly. Affiliated with the United Nations, the Network addresses the basic human needs which cross all political boundaries, and works to ensure the freedoms and rights listed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for everyone. The First Global Millennium People's Assembly will be held at the Capital City of Samoa on April 3 - 8 of 2000. Civic society and all the people of the world are invited to the inaugural sessions to explore issues and options for representation of all people.

**Millennium People's Assembly Network (MPAN)  
USA**

### **Healthy Democracy: Citizen Voices in Public Policy**

In fifteen months, America Speaks engaged almost 50,000 citizens in interactive dialogue on Social Security reform in the United States. Using face-to-face dialogue and two-way interactive teleconferencing supplied by networked laptop computers, citizens came to agreement on critical issues working simultaneously in ten cities over two days. In total the project reached 11 million homes and influenced the U.S. Congress. America Speaks is currently planning for international dialogues on critical issues.

**America Speaks  
USA**

### **Adopt-A-Minefield™**

The Adopt-A-Minefield Campaign encourages individuals, community groups and businesses (in the United Nation's) to remove landmines around the world. The Campaign helps to save lives by raising funds to clear minefields, and by raising awareness about the global landmine crisis. Moving beyond the political and policy debates typically associated with banning the use of landmines, the Campaign provides a practical solution to ridding the world of the tens of millions of mines that contaminate it.

**United Nations Association of the USA  
USA**

### **Education Towards Overcoming Poverty**

The Center for Creative Education helps township women discover who they are, and shows them how to access their own creativity. The Center also trains them to educate children creatively and holistically, and how to develop a beautiful, enriched, and healing environment. This helps children overcome the poverty conditioning they inherit, and urges the children and their teachers to engage constructively and creatively with life.

**Center for Creative Education  
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