

**IFCLA** works for justice at home and in Latin America, focusing on immigration policy reform, fair trade, human rights, environment, and non-violence. Always trying to put a human face on the issues, we aim to accompany our sisters and brothers in mutuality and respect. Weekly Headlines and an active webpage ([www.ifcla.net](http://www.ifcla.net)) keep our subscribers up to date on news, upcoming events, and action alerts.

### **IMMIGRATION**

- ❖ Organized May 1 March and Rally for Civil, Immigrant and Human Rights with United Methodist Women and 30 local organizations at Kiener Plaza with great press coverage, puppetistas and lots of people.
- ❖ Met with Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials in Washington, DC and delivered 4,000 postcards to Secretary Napolitano for an end to detention and deportation abuses in September.
- ❖ Continued *Intercambio* at CAMP (Community Arts and Media Project) for language and culture exchange. Hired a part-time coordinator.
- ❖ Represented IFCLA on the Board of MIRA (Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Advocates).
  - Briefings in Jefferson City
  - Support for National Legislation to reform Immigration Laws
  - Lobbying for state legislation which welcomes immigrants
- ❖ Became a chapter of Detention Watch Network with the goal of challenging abuses of human rights of Hispanics in detention and deportation proceedings.
- ❖ Collaborated with ACLU, MIRA, Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice, HRAS and parishes to begin to confront racial profiling of Hispanics by local law enforcement beginning with a series of meetings with David Harris.
- ❖ Outreach to Hispanic/Latino community through PLAN and engagement in the work of IFCLA.

### **ACCOMPANIMENT/IMMERSION**

- ❖ Virginia Druhe accompanied the Resistance under threat in Honduras. Anna Baltzer went to Colombia with Witness for Peace.
- ❖ Co-sponsored Compas de Nicaragua (dance and culture troupe) with First Presbyterian Church and Carpenter Branch Library.
- ❖ The Ana Manganaro Clinic received the support of \$7000.00 through contributions of family and friends.
- ❖ Nine Nerinx Hall students spent a week in Guarjila and San Salvador. They brought scholarships for young women students.
- ❖ Hosted 6 dinners at Latino Restaurants, raising awareness about realities in Peru, Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, US/Mexico border, Nicaragua and Paraguay gathering people from the various countries to share experiences.

### **INVESTMENT**

- ❖ University City residents organized a campaign to pass a resolution to make U City a Sweatfree Community (Oct. 4) and they now form the advisory board.
- ❖ IFCLA will continue to support efforts in other municipalities promoting the Sweatfree initiative throughout the region.
- ❖ Sent alerts about new Call to Duty Black Ops video game (includes the assassination of Fidel Castro).
- ❖ Joined the campaign to challenge the legal cases against anti-mining movement in El Salvador. These struggles continue throughout Latin America.
- ❖ Supported FAIR TRADE by marketing products from our sister communities. We sell weaving, twisted spoons, and embroidery at craft fairs and sponsor a night at Plowsharing Crafts each December.

### **INTERVENTION**

- ❖ Co-sponsored a speaking engagement for Tom Cardero for High School students on the Global War on Terror.
- ❖ Responded to the human rights violations in Honduras by keeping our Congressional Reps updated and urging action to return the country to democracy and to condemn the many human rights abuses by the coup regime.
- ❖ Secured sign-on's by Rep. Russ Carnahan, Rep. Lacy Clay and Senator McCaskill to an end to Travel Ban to Cuba, and Rep. Lacy Clay to Sec. Hillary Clinton concerning Human Rights violations in Honduras.
- ❖ Joined the Honduras Solidarity Network and the Continental Campaign Against the Bases.

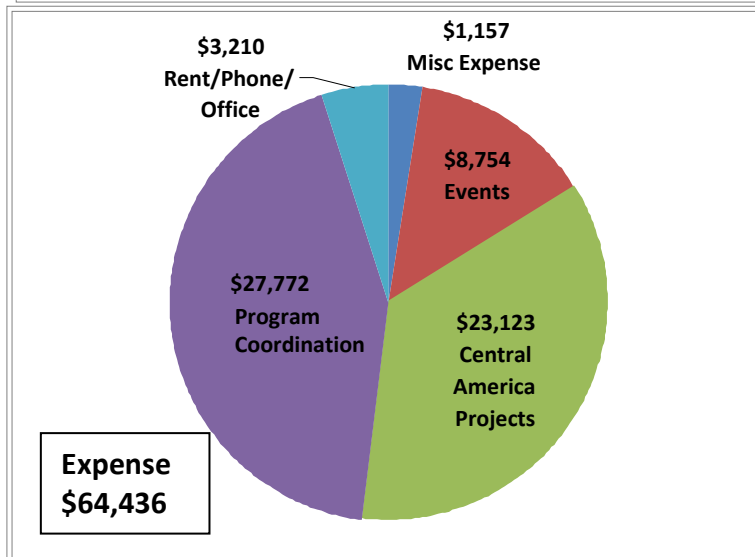
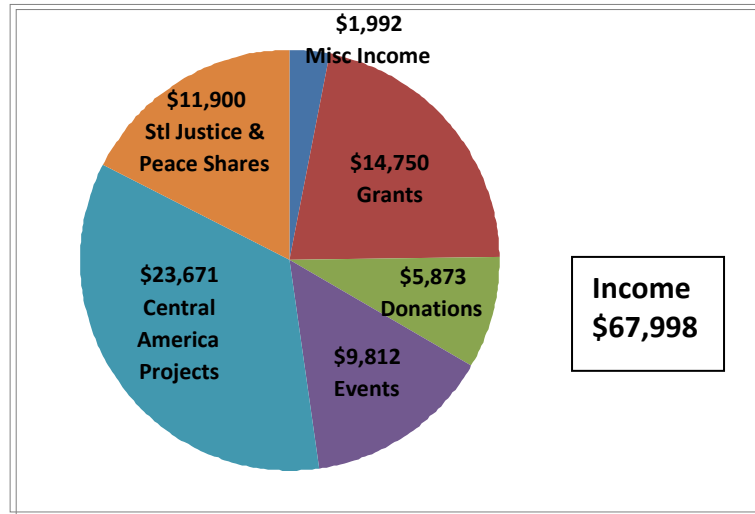
### **School of the Americas/WHINSEC**

- ❖ IFCLA is active in the national campaign to close the School of the Americas (now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation) at Ft. Benning, Georgia. Since 1946, graduates have been implicated in and convicted of crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity in many countries of Latin America. A bill to demand the names of graduates became law in the summer.
- ❖ This year IFCLA:
  - Sponsored a bus and arranged housing for students (Nerinx Hall, Villa Duchesne, Priory, Barat Academy, Webster Groves HS, CBC, and UMSL, Lindenwood, McKendree and Turman Universities, a Loretto Volunteer) and activists to the vigil in Fr. Benning, GA.

### **PRESENCE IN THE COMMUNITY**

- ❖ IFCLA participated in thirty festivals, panels, workshops, service fairs, and talks at churches, schools, clubs, and community organizations.

## FINANCIAL REPORT January-December 2010



**THANK YOU:** With your help we are in a stronger financial position than the last two years. We have hired a Program Assistant. We want to continue to grow so we can expand our staff and pay benefits. We are grateful for those who serve on the Core Committee, help plan events, advocate for justice in their communities. Volunteers prepare mailings, sell crafts, balance the books, solve computer problems, update the webpage, captain the SOA buses, translate, join JPS, facilitate our visioning, and so many little things. ¡Mil Gracias!

## IFCLA WORK

- ❖ Maintains news, events, alerts and country updates on the webpage: [www.ifcla.net](http://www.ifcla.net) and sends weekly Headlines to keep constituents informed.
- ❖ Mentors interns and volunteers.
- ❖ Provides opportunities for young adults to meet to learn and share experiences in Latin America.
- ❖ Serves as a resource for groups planning immersion experiences in Latin America.
- ❖ Endorses campaigns for environmental justice, workers rights and protection of farmworkers.
- ❖ Meets monthly with Staff Members of JPS groups.
- ❖ Communicates regularly with Senate and Representative offices regarding legislation affecting Latin America.
- ❖ Networks with PLAN (Professional Latino Action Network), IPM (International Partners in Mission) Advisory Council, Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery, and other local peace and justice groups.

## VOLUNTEER/GET INVOLVED/SHARE YOUR GIFTS

- ❖ **Join an Intercambio group.**
- ❖ **Join the Detention Watch/Racial Profiling Project.**
- ❖ **Translate/transcribe dvds for the Ann Manganaro documentary.**
- ❖ **Find funding sources for JPS and IFCLA.**
- ❖ **Monitor Legislation related to the issues we work with at National/State and Local Level.**
- ❖ **Invite a speaker to speak at your school, congregation, or organization.**
- ❖ **Join delegations to our sister communities and other countries in Latin America.**
- ❖ **Prepare articles for the web page and the newsletter.**
- ❖ **Organize fair trade campaigns in schools, congregations, and neighborhoods.**
- ❖ **Represent IFCLA in local organizations.**



# 2010 ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT

***Building relationships between St. Louis and the people of Latin America***



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