2012: A year of challenges and opportunities for WNPJ

Thanks to our 171 member groups, hundreds of individual members, work groups and committees, staff and volunteers, the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice celebrated the following accomplishments:

- Welcoming 16 new member organizations, from the energy and environmental watchdog group SOUL of the Kicakapoo, to One Heart in the Baraboo area, to the LGBTQ Narratives project in Madison, each new organization adds their unique perspective, skills, expertise and energy to our Network

- Building grassroots coalitions among anti-mining, Native and environmental groups to challenge the new push for resource extraction. We held a standing room only workshop on mining dangers at the Energy Fair in June, featuring Mike Wiggins, Jr., the Chair of the Bad River Tribe of Ojibwe Indians, speaking on the proposed Penokee Hills iron mine, along with experts on metallic sulfide and frac sand mining in our state

- Working with Peace Action, the Madison Area Peace Coalition and other allies across the state to call attention to the amount of U.S. taxpayer money wasted on wars and weapons systems, while our communities are denied adequate funding for schools, healthcare, infrastructure and other priorities. We organized an Energy Fair workshop on our “Bring Our War Dollars Home” (BOW$H) campaign, supported the Milwaukee “Move the Money” resolution that passed unanimously in September and the AFT-Wisconsin labor union’s BOW$H resolution, passed at their statewide convention in October. We also organized a press conference and grassroots activism in support of a Dane County BOW$H resolution, which will be voted on in early 2013

- Organizing “meet and greet” outreach events in the Kickapoo Valley and in Ashland, to share information about WNPJ, meet new allies and explore how we can best support the social justice work being done across the state

- Consulting with and learning from our membership at our spring steering committee meeting at Echo Valley Farm and at our fall member assembly and awards reception in Milwaukee, which highlighted gun violence, Pentagon spending and energy and environmental issues

- Continuing WNPJ’s commitment to anti-racist action and analysis; being an active member of the Wisconsin Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; joining the new Educational Justice Coalition; and supporting the 11x15 campaign to reduce over-incarceration in Wisconsin

- Connecting and informing our members with action alert and events bulletin emails, via our website, Facebook and Twitter; doing media outreach for WNPJ and our member groups; and producing newsletters on the threats posed by mining, the declared “end” of the Iraq war and the BOW$H / Move the Money campaign

Income: $46,850

Expenses: $46,480

This annual report is available online, at http://wnpj.org/history-and-mission