

# NETWORK NEWS



## IN THIS ISSUE:

WNPJ was a sponsor of the 15<sup>th</sup> annual White Privilege Conference (WPC), held in Madison in March. WPC focuses on the systemic, institutional forms of racism, rather than the notion that racism is a matter of individual behavior. Given Wisconsin's appalling record on matters of race, we thought it appropriate to lead this issue with reflections on the conference from three WNPJ member participants. We also have news from two new member organizations: LGBT Books for Prisoners and the Crawford Stewardship Project. Finally and sadly, the news from the WNPJ office includes the impending departure of our fearless Diane Farsetta. With deep gratitude for all she has done for the Network, we wish her all the best in her new role.



## ELEPHANTS WERE TALKING

*Laura McNeill*

I had the privilege of helping organize and attending the 15<sup>th</sup> annual White Privilege Conference (WPC), which came to Madison for four days in March. The conference 'examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building strategies to work toward a more equitable world. It is open to everyone and invites diverse perspectives to provide a comprehensive look at issues of privilege including race, gender, sexuality, class, disability, etc. — the ways we all experience some form of privilege, and how we're all affected by that privilege.'

I was part of a local organizing team made up of city representatives, business leaders, teachers, neighbors, activists, members of different faith organizations, moms, dads, and youth who volunteered our energy and time. Some of our team's responsibilities were to listen to and learn from past organizers, recruit participants from across the state, provide stipends for youth participants, organize volunteers, put together restaurant lists, stuff folders, move boxes, welcome people, assist presenters in their sessions and clean up. It felt transformative to work hard and be a part of building a successful conference – 2,500 people attended, making it the largest WPC ever!

Once the conference was off and running, the organizers attended three sessions as support staff for the presenters, and as many other sessions as we wanted. Since I have two children, I was drawn to sessions that spoke to engaging with kids. The first was "What Does It Mean To Have Children Speak Truth To Power," a powerful workshop led by Claudia Lewis and Orinthia Swindell from the Brooklyn Friends School, on working with preschool through high school age kids. There were many youth in attendance, and it was refreshing to hear their perspectives. The second was "Perceptions of Middle School Students on Systems of Power and Privilege." Stephanie Logan and Lauren Fontaine reflected on a month long summer institute in Iowa. The presenters shared tools and workshop ideas for exploring equality/inequality, discrimination, power relations and social justice.

One of my favorite workshops was "From Our Ancestors, For Our Future: Lessons from Legendary Organizers Ella Baker and Anne Braden on Building Justice Movements Today." Chris Crass took us on a journey to look at the relationship-based approach to organizing, which Ella Baker and Anne Braden

used to help build strong communities, effective groups, and democratic leadership to seek justice. Ella Baker placed an emphasis on direct action and group-centered leadership; she believed that everyday people had the ability to govern, the ability to transform ourselves and confront fear. Anne Braden's anti-racist organizing in white communities allowed her to call on white people's self-interest to build their commitment to ending white supremacy. She believed we needed an abundance of solidarity and possibility. We were asked to connect our own experiences with history and to our ancestors, finding gratefulness for the paths they traveled.

One session that had a deep impact on me was "If Elephants could Talk: Reducing the Stress of Whiteness in Face-to-Face Relationships," led by Howard C Stevenson, Professor of Education and Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Stevenson used an image of an elephant on a screen to represent racial politics. Kids shared their perspectives from wherever they were climbing on and around the elephant. The kid by the ear was shouting, "It's a fan!" The kid holding onto the tail cried out,

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## Elephants from front page

“It’s a rope!” The kid standing by one of the legs claimed, “It’s a tree.” For another, the trunk was a snake; for another, the tusk was a spear. Dr. Stevenson pointed out that wherever we are standing in regards to racial politics, we have a certain perspective, and we have a hard time believing someone else’s perspective when we’re not seeing and experiencing the same things. He also stated, “What you find - i.e. a rope versus a snake - and the **stress** of what you find- are different. The stress of whiteness is the fear of appearing incompetent or racist in negotiating racial conflicts or disagreements that may arise between individuals. This fear undermines communication, closeness, intellectual sharing, and mentoring in cross and within race relationships.”

Dr. Stevenson asked people of color and white people in the audience to reflect on where in their body they felt the stresses of racism or white privilege on a daily basis, and to rate it on a scale from one to ten, with ten being the most stressful. Several people of color in the audience stated that on a daily basis they felt the impact of racism at or around a level ten; they felt it in their gut, chest and head. One young black man commented he felt it in his whole body. Most of the white people who spoke up shared that on a daily basis they generally did not think about racism or white privilege and didn’t feel it in their body, rating their experiences at a one or two. There was one exception from a white mother of a bi-racial son, who commented she felt racism daily in her gut and heart at a level around a seven.

Next Dr. Stevenson asked at what level, and where in your body, have you felt racism/privilege here at the White Privilege conference? Interestingly, the answers were reversed. Several white people raised their hands and spoke to feelings of fear and nervousness around issues of racism and privilege, feeling it in their throat, gut and chest at levels between eight and ten. Several people of color spoke to feeling more at ease at

the conference knowing that there were white people committed to learning and trying to understand institutional racism and privilege. Two young black men in particular struck me with their answers. One had spoken earlier to feeling daily stress at a level ten. They both spoke to feeling very low stress at the conference, close to a level zero! They were laughing a little, as they reflected that it felt easy to talk openly and honestly about their experiences with racism, and know that the white people present were actually committed to trying to listen, learn and take something away. One young man spread wide his arms and said, “I don’t feel it anywhere – I feel free.” It was very powerful to see and hear him.

It was good to be reminded that when those of us who are white are actively committed to learning about and working to transform institutional racism and privilege, it can have a positive impact on the well being of people of color, as well as ourselves! Attending the WPC strengthened my relationships with local organizers and other individuals committed to engaging in racial justice work, inspired me with poetry, music and stories, and rekindled my courage to continue to reach out to other white people and walk with them on our anti-racist journeys.

*Laura McNeill is a mother, sister, daughter, educator and part-time yoga teacher. She is a member of **Groundwork**, a Madison based anti-racist organization that organizes a fall 6-week anti-racism workshop, and **Families for Justice**, an offshoot of Groundwork that works to educate whole families, developing tools and strategies for talking with our kids about culture, race, racism and privilege at age appropriate levels. Both organizations work to build confidence and skills in white people to dismantle racism and work towards creating a more just society for all people.*



The Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice facilitates activities, cooperation and communication among Wisconsin organizations and individuals working toward the creation of a sustainable world, free from violence and injustice.

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# RECOGNIZING OUR COMFORT ZONE AND STEPPING OUT

*Linda Ketcham*

Late last fall, Reverend Alex Gee wrote an article entitled “Justified Anger” in which he described an interaction with a woman at a meeting. Rev. Gee had given a speech and afterward the woman complimented him on not being an angry black man, never really hearing the pain and anger within his speech.

Madison-area Urban Ministry was a co-host of the 15th annual White Privilege Conference (WPC). We received calls from people wanting to know why the conference couldn’t be called something else; “white privilege” felt so divisive.

In an article I wrote for *Our Lives* magazine several months ago, I referred to a *Capital Times* op-ed by School Board member Ed Hughes. In challenging white privilege, he suggested that if you don’t buy the idea of white privilege, you should think about the disparities in housing, employment, poverty, graduation rates and incarceration rates — and then consider that many white Madison residents described the most pressing social justice issue of 2013 as the right to sing in the Capitol without a permit. Shortly after that article appeared, I received messages from individuals angry with me for disparaging the Solidarity Singers. None mentioned the findings of the Race to Equity report or Rev. Gee’s column. The irony is that it is white privilege and racism that have created the divides, not a conference title.

In “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” Dr. King wrote: “I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro’s greatest stumbling block in the stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen’s Councilor or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate who is more devoted to ‘order’ than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of justice; who constantly says, ‘I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I can’t

agree with your methods of direct action.’ Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection.”

In Madison perhaps it is not white moderates but white liberals and progressives who are more comfortable with the “negative peace” Dr. King describes, who would rather not have uncomfortable conversations about race and privilege. But for the sake of justice we must have those uncomfortable conversations to understand the role of white privilege in denying justice to our brothers and sisters. The WPC afforded the opportunity to have some of those conversa-



*Linda Ketcham, with Rev. William Barber, pastor at the Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, North Carolina, president of the North Carolina chapter of the NAACP, and leader of North Carolina’s Moral Mondays campaign, and Stephen Marsh, President of the Board of Madison-area Urban Ministry.*

tions; to better understand privilege and its function and role in our community; to hear, see, and feel the pain and the resulting anger of our brothers and sisters denied equity and justice because of white privilege and racism.

In his article “Decoding Modern Racial Discourse: A System Justification Theory Approach,” educator Robin Parker posits that system justification theory holds answers to why white people often don’t want to “see color.” “People are motivated to justify and rationalize the way things are, so that ex-

isting social, economic, and political arrangements tend to be perceived as fair and legitimate, even if they are not.”

According to Parker, system justification theory explains that the preservation of the status quo “may be a more salient motive for action than self-interest, domination or out-group prejudice. . . . White people may say, ‘Racism isn’t a problem in our society,’ not because they have a conscious, personal dislike for black people or are unable to understand the contemporary struggles with racism black people endure. Instead. . . the dismissive remark arises from a strong psychological need to maintain the current social order even when doing so is contrary to cogent evidence (e.g. the Race to Equity Report) or espoused values of fairness.”

Sometimes when you attend a conference, you find that the workshops you want to attend are full; this was my experience at WPC. So I wandered the halls looking for a title that drew me in. One such workshop focused on a pedagogical strategy, “Serial Testimony,” a process that facilitates relationship building in classrooms. Serial Testimony uses what one of its founders calls “the autocratic distribution of time in the service of democratic distribution of time.” The activity required sharing at a personal level that I’m not used to. It required listening without responding to the person’s story, freeing me to be more fully present as people shared. It was powerful to sit face to face with a stranger and listen to their story.

As someone who works with people returning to the community from prison, my comfort zone is in having conversations about privilege and race as it relates to the criminal justice system; those were the workshops I tried to attend, but those weren’t the workshops I needed to attend.



# STEP BY STEP: REFLECTIONS ON WPC-15

*Liz Bruno*

As a white person, writing about race has not been easy for me. In fact, it is something I have seldom (maybe never) done for a public audience. Talking about race will certainly set my mental stories a flowin'. How do U.S. public schools teach us to talk about race? The words and the methods I learned as a child are not working. The confusion between these taught methods and my own vision for the future can make it difficult and time consuming to even form a thorough enough sentence to capture the depth of this predominant violence and genocide in the United States today.

After coming of age in a culture that teaches us to be silent about violence and oppression, how do we collectively address racism and all forms of oppression? How do we foster communities rooted in justice and peace?

Grappling with these and many other questions led WNPJ to joining the co-hosting team of the White Privilege Conference (WPC) in Madison this past March. We saw WPC as an opportunity for our members to explore questions in a larger community context, to support a local and national effort to bring issues of race to the forefront, and to gain much needed skills to prioritize working for racial justice.

WPC "aims to create a learning community in which participants engage in a challenging educational experience as respectful community members. Each participant is in a different place with regard to their journey in understanding white supremacy, whiteness, privilege, power and oppression. Thus, we ask that each participant share responsibility for holding ourselves accountable to this community agreement that will allow for a shared experience that fosters the opportunity for understanding, respecting and connecting," states the WPC website.

The WPC co-host team brought together a wide range of people, grassroots organizations and schools from southern Wisconsin, all of whom could agree that race is central in defining the world we live in and that action to overcome racism and other forms of social oppression through personal and systemic transformation is necessary. The co-hosting team was responsible for local logistics and outreach. It also offered the opportunity to learn about the work others are doing in our community, to build alliances and to deepen our shared commitment to ending racism and all forms of oppression.

The WPC provided infrastructure for many necessary aspects of moving forward for racial equality and justice. These include community building, analysis building, and critical reflection, on a personal level and an institutional level.

In addition to making and deepening personal connections, WPC was a great place to feel strength in numbers. It was amazing to hear Rosa Clemente, revolutionary Hip Hop journalist and 2008 Green Party vice-presidential candidate, call out the elite-run political system of the United States and urge more than 2,000 people to take a stand and put our votes where our values lie.

These shared experiences really motivate me to continue this work. It reminds me I am not alone. There are people who have my back, who share my vision for the future, and who will push me to deepen and broaden my perspective. It reminds me that there are so many ways to organize and so many conversations to have. It reminds me of the deep, deep feeling of connection that I long for in this work and that my most precious offering is that which comes from deep within.

The keynote address by professor of law and African American studies at UC

Berkley, John A. Powell, really broke it down. He dissected our U.S. cultural grounding in the enlightenment project's (Descartes, Hobbs, Newton) creation of the "self," in exclusion of "the other," and alongside the creation of whiteness. We are living in a time of great questioning. As science validates what land based peoples (all of our ancestors) have known all along, that we are all connected, our culture is in a crisis of identity. Who are we? This questioning may be an impetus for implosion or an opportunity to redefine ourselves based on connection to each other and the earth.

WPC-15 provided space for critical reflection – on a personal level, a systems level and a social level. May the integration of these points of contact unite us in a quest for a future of liberation for us all. As we center in our values and our vision for the future and tear down the systems that are harmful, we are able to discover what the practice of peace and the practice of justice can look like. This brings us back to WNPJ, the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice. Let us be centered in what we are *for* as we seek to shape the world for future generations, so they may experience deep connection to dignity, the earth and a history of grand transformation. I look forward to furthering WNPJ's commitment to racial justice. If you are curious about participating or have ideas, please contact me at [elizabet.bruno@gmail.com](mailto:elizabet.bruno@gmail.com). Also, John Powell will be returning to Madison for the YWCA Racial Justice Summit, October 2-3, 2014 (details at [ywcamadison.org](http://ywcamadison.org)). Please join me there.

*Liz Bruno is Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice. She sees practicing justice and connection as necessary components to healthy and thriving communities for our future generations.*

# LET US PREPARE: LOOKING BEYOND LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS

*Forest Jahnke*

Before launching into upcoming challenges, let us look back for a moment and reflect on the past legislative session. Not once, but twice, legislation aimed at removing control over non-metallic mining for the sake of “regulatory certainty” was introduced by legislators who do not live in frac sand country. This legislation was clearly written by the industry and was, in fact, so sweeping that it threatened to eliminate police powers altogether. It was a breathtaking power-grab by the state, which would have left local municipalities with only zoning ordinances for any control over land use. Un-zoned townships would have lost the decision-making power that forms the basis of our democracy.

We contacted state legislators, as well as county and township officials. Crawford County was one of the many counties to unanimously pass a resolution against SB 349. First SB 349, then its supposedly toned-down, but in fact no less insidious successor, SB 632, were confronted and stopped by outraged citizens who inspired us all with their civic participation. Despite last-minute notices of the hearings, schedule changes, and misinformation campaigns by the proponents of unchecked-industry-at-all-costs, neither bill even made it to the floor for a full vote. Wisconsin’s tradition of strong local control prevailed. We can allow ourselves to congratulate each other for a job well done.

Unfortunately, this struggle is far from over. The price of liberty is eternal vigilance. We are already hearing rumblings from Madison of plans to pass similar legislation under the radar through riders to the 2015 budget. This underhanded tactic has already been successfully used, in the case of new rules that came into effect this July that make it harder for local citizens to challenge the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ high capacity well permits. We have good reason to suspect that a similar maneuver will again be used to invalidate the great work being done by local governments to regulate non-metallic mining in Wisconsin. We have no intention of being caught off guard by some last-minute ploy pulled by miners’ cronies in the legislature. Let us organize now so we can get ahead of the game.

What lessons did we learn from the last time we fended off state preemption? Don’t count out any legislator, no matter what party. *Every* state representative should be against this, if they are truly representing the best interests of their constituents. Contact your most local representatives at the town, village, city, and county levels and stay in contact with them. Educate them on the inherently undemocratic nature of these measures. Ask your township and county officials to pass on your comments to their respective associations. The Towns Association was key in stopping both SB

349 and SB 632, but the County Association made weak noncommittal statements, neither for nor in opposition to the legislation. Your local officials can help influence its stance.

Though there is reason behind the argument that the state should make some rules around frac sand mining, we do not accept that a regulatory ceiling, limiting what local municipalities can do, is appropriate. *If* the state is to be involved at all, it should be to set minimum regulatory standards which allow for municipalities to add on as they see fit.

Finally, don’t forget your most local and most effective direct action: talk to your friends, family and neighbors about these issues. Try to communicate openly, honestly and without moral judgment, despite differing opinions. Tell them not only of the great challenges that we face in our times, but also about your passions, dreams and vision of the future. With a little joyous struggle on our part, we can build empowered and engaged communities that would never allow such unjust, undemocratic, and ecologically insane legislation to pass.

*Forest Jahnke is an active citizen, farmer, permacultural homesteader, and Co-Coordinator of the Crawford Stewardship Project. You can contact him at forestjahnke@gmail.com (608) 632-2183. Learn more about the CSP at crawfordstewardshipproject.org.*

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## Comfort Zone from page 3

I needed to get out of my comfort zone, to hear stories of pain and joy that reflected normal daily interactions in the workplace, in the grocery store, in school, stories that involved me because I am part of this community and those ordinary day to day interactions. It reminded me that the disparities I can see so clearly through the lenses of my

work, are the end result of the privilege that I and generations of whites have perpetrated for hundreds of years.

Not one of the workshops I attended at WPC was one that I had circled in my conference guide, but every workshop I attended was where I needed to be.

*Linda Ketcham has been the Executive Director of Madison-area Urban Ministry (a WNPJ member organization) for eight years. She is a charter member of the Dane County chapter of the NAACP and a member of the Occupy Madison Board of Directors.*

# NEWS FROM THE OFFICE AND FAREWELL

*Diane Farsetta, WNPJ Executive Director*

This summer has brought winds of change to WNPJ.

Page Metcalf, our wonderful office coordinator since 2012, moved to Boston in May, to try big city life and to be closer to her fiance's family. Rest assured the Land of Dunkin' Donuts is treating Page and Dan well.

In July, we welcomed Dace Zeps as our new office coordinator. Dace (pronounced DOT-suh) is a committed social justice activist with decades of administrative and office work experience. She's a WNPJ member and union member who is very active in the community, including as a volunteer with the Madison chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a WNPJ member group. We're very happy to have Dace in the WNPJ office! If you don't know her yet, the first sentence on her resume is a good introduction: "I think it is our responsibility to listen and watch very carefully and speak up when we should."



*Dace Zeps*

This is also my last newsletter as WNPJ staff. I am leaving WNPJ with mixed feelings. I've been privileged to meet so many principled, caring, intelligent people across Wisconsin through WNPJ, first as a member and then as a staff person. I served as the Carbon Free, Nuclear Free campaign coordinator in 2009, before becoming WNPJ's Executive Director in 2010. However, I realized that I was burning out in this position — and was then offered the opportunity to go full-time at UW-Madison, doing outreach and research coordination at the School of Nursing's Center for Aging Research and Education.

Among my favorite memories during my time on WNPJ's staff are being the last person called to testify on the state's Clean Energy Jobs Act, at a state hearing that went into the night; visiting Tsyunhehkwa, the Oneida Nation's organic farm, which emphasizes environmental and community sustainability; welcoming a large, energized group to our twentieth anniversary celebration, just after the 2011 Wisconsin uprising began; and watching the videos submitted by high school students in the "If I Had a Trillion Dollars" contest, part of our Bring Our War \$\$ Home campaign — not to mention working alongside friends over the years to make many peace wreaths with reclaimed materials.

Since we are engaged in a much-needed strategic planning process,

WNPJ is waiting until our organizational priorities are clear before hiring anyone else. We deeply appreciate your understanding, support and involvement during this time of transition for WNPJ.

Speaking of appreciation, there are many volunteers who have earned ours. Sheila Spear and Ilana Caplan produced our last newsletter, and Fred Brancel, Helen Findley and Josh Steward got it ready for mailing. We had a fabulous and delicious Pancakes for Peace at the Energy Fair in June, thanks to Cham Nusz's amazing organizational skills, Chris Kuehnel's syrup donations and griddle mastery, plus the help of Janet Parker, Carl Sack, John Peck, Dena Eakles, Lauren West, Carlos Miranda, Liz Nunez, Margie Jessup, Tom McGrath, Barb Munson and Marguerite Ramlow. Thanks also to Family Farm Defenders, Organic Valley, Stevens Point Co-op, Emy J's and ALDI for breakfast donations. Kathy Walsh (ask her about her new grandson) continues to provide invaluable office and website support, as do Mary Anglim and Judy Miner.

Lastly, I hope you'll join me — and other friends from around the state — at WNPJ's member assembly and awards reception in October. I couldn't imagine two more deserving Lifetime Achievement Award winners than Mary Beth Schlagheck and John Peck. Mark your calendars (ADD DETAILS WHEN KNOWN) and see you then!

Please tell your co-workers, friends and family: You can support peace and justice at work! WNPJ is a proud member of Community Shares of Wisconsin. Please support us, and other social change groups, by taking part in the Community Shares fall workplace campaign. For details, and to see if your workplace already participates, visit [www.communityshares.com](http://www.communityshares.com).



**Member Agency - Please give generously through your payroll deduction campaign.**



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## RAINBOW READING IN PRISON

### *LGBT Books to Prisoners Volunteers*

In 2006, a group of Wisconsin residents concerned about conditions in the state's prisons formed Wisconsin Books to Prisoners, a project run out of Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative. Shortly thereafter, Dennis Bergren (a former WNPJ Board member) began to volunteer with the project and asked whether the group would be interested in sending LGBTQ-themed books to those who requested them. Dennis knew that he could receive some book donations from OutReach LGBT Community Center in Madison, where he sat on the Library Committee. Wisconsin Books to Prisoners was very excited and soon added LGBTQ literature to their brochures. By the end of 2007, Wisconsin Books to Prisoners had responded to over 40 LGBTQ requests.

Dennis soon took over all LGBT requests, recruited OutReach as his fiscal sponsor, and turned his home into the operations center for Books to Prisoners. According to Dennis, he worked "close to seven or eight days a week" on the project and filled over 2,500 prisoner requests (many multiple times) before stepping down from the project in 2013. Dennis has received many accolades for his tireless devotion to LGBT prisoners across the nation, including having WNPJ's LGBTQ Advocacy Award named after him. Prisoners con-

tinue to write to Dennis, thanking him for his many letters and books over the years.

When Dennis was no longer able to continue the project, Irene Toro Martínez and Melissa Charenko, two UW-Madison graduate students, agreed to undertake the daunting task of keeping LGBT Books to Prisoners alive. Having read many of the letters while volunteering with LGBT Books to Prisoners, they knew how important it was to LGBTQ-identified prisoners to have outside support and receive materials relevant to them. Irene and Melissa enlisted the help of Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative, which offered them a rent-free space to serve as a library and operations center, and began sending books. With OutReach's continued support, more than 75 local volunteers, numerous donors from around the U.S., and the database and materials put in place by Dennis, the project gained momentum.

Karma Chávez, Natalie Deibel and Katherine Charek Briggs soon joined the Organizing Collective, and we haven't looked back since. In addition to partnering with Rainbow and OutReach, LGBT Books to Prisoners has also teamed up with the UW-Madison LGBT Campus Center, which has supplied student labor and other support. The radical queer collective Against Equality has

also become a partner, donating 200 copies of its recent book, *Against Equality: Queer Revolution, Not Mere Inclusion* (AK Press, 2014). Some individual authors have also sent their books to the project, including Julia Serano (author of *Whipping Girl*) and Eric A. Stanley (co-editor of *Captive Genders*).

To date, we have sent over 3,200 prisoners at least one package of books. Often, each person has received many more packages. From January 1, 2014 to July 1, 2014, we sent over 700 packages to more than 200 prisons in 40 states. Each package usually contains three to five books selected to match the prisoner's request as closely as possible. Some of our most popular requests include dictionaries and almanacs, writing guides, LGBT materials - especially transgender, drawing books, and popular fiction.

*This account was compiled collaboratively by LGBTQ Books to Prisoners Volunteers: Katherine Charek Briggs, Melissa Charenko, Karma Chávez, Natalie Deibel and Irene Toro Martínez.*

*People interested in supporting the project or learning more about what we do, can visit us at [www.lgbtbookstoprisoners.org](http://www.lgbtbookstoprisoners.org) or write to us at [lgbtbookstoprisoners@gmail.com](mailto:lgbtbookstoprisoners@gmail.com).*



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Madison Branch  
Citizen Action of Wisconsin - Milwaukee  
Citizens Climate Lobby - WI  
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger -  
Merrimac  
Code Pink - Boscobel  
Colombia Support Network - Madison  
Community for Change - Racine  
Congregation of St Agnes, Justice Peace &  
Ecology Office - Fond du Lac  
Coulee Progressives - LaCrosse  
**Crawford Stewardship Project - Gays  
Mills**  
Dale Heights Presbyterian Church Outreach  
Committee - Madison  
DeKalb, IL Interfaith Network for P&J  
Democratic Socialists of America - Madison  
Area  
East Timor Action Network - Madison  
Echo Valley Hope, Inc - Ontario  
Family Farm Defenders - Madison  
Farley Center for Peace, Justice and  
Sustainability - Verona  
Fellowship of Reconciliation - Fox Valley  
Chapter  
First Cong Church, UCC - Menomonie  
First United Methodist Church, Church and  
Society Committee - Madison  
Forward Marching Band - Madison  
Fox Valley Peace Coalition - Appleton  
Friends of Palestine - Germantown  
Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools  
Grandmothers for Peace - Superior  
Grassroutes Caravan - Madison  
Greater Wisconsin Committee - Madison  
Groundwork - Madison  
Habiba Chaoch Foundation - Janesville

Hill Connections - Chaseburg  
Holy Wisdom Monastery - Middleton  
"Indian" Mascot and Logo Taskforce -  
Mosinee  
Industrial Workers of the World - Madison  
Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice -  
Madison  
International Committee for the Peace  
Council - Madison  
Iraqi & American Reconciliation Project -  
IARP - St. Paul, MN  
Iraq Veterans Against the War - Madison  
Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin  
- Statewide  
Juneau County Peace Committee -  
Mauston  
Kickapoo Peace Circle - Viroqua  
LaCrosse Interfaith Justice and Peace  
Network  
**LGBT Books to Prisoners Project -  
Madison**  
LGBTQ Narratives - Madison  
Loaves and Fishes Catholic Worker -  
Duluth  
Madison Action for Mining Alternatives  
Madison Arcatao Sister City Project  
Madison Area Bus Advocates  
Madison Area Peace Coalition  
Madison Buddhist Peace Fellowship  
Madison Friends Meeting - Peace & Social  
Concerns Committee  
Madison Food Not Bombs  
Madison Hours Co-op  
Madison Infoshop  
Madison Mennonite Church  
Madison Pledge of Resistance  
Madison/Rafah Sister City Project  
Madison-area Urban Ministry  
Many Ways of Peace - Eagle River  
Marquette University Center for Peacemak-  
ing - Milwaukee  
Mary House - Wisconsin Dells  
Midwest Coalition Against Lethal Mining -  
La Crosse, Milwaukee and Madison  
Midwest Renewable Energy Association -  
Custer  
Milwaukee Fair Trade Coalition  
Mother Fool's Coffeehouse - Madison  
National Lawyers Guild - Madison  
No Drones Wisconsin - McFarland

Northland Anti-War Coalition - Duluth  
Northwoods Peace and Justice - Hayward  
Nukewatch - Luck  
Offbeat Press - Oshkosh  
Operation Welcome Home - Madison  
Oshkosh Monthly Friends Meeting  
OutReach! - Madison  
PAX Christi - Madison  
PC Foundation - Madison  
Peace Action Wisconsin - Milwaukee  
Peace Economics - Madison  
Peace, Justice and Sustainability Group of  
James Reeb Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation - Madison  
Peregrine Forum of WI - Madison  
PFLAG - Madison  
Physicians for Social Responsibility - WI  
PNHP-WI - Linda and Eugene Farley  
Chapter - Madison  
Plowshare Center - Waukesha  
Progress Media - Oshkosh  
Racine Coalition for Peace and Justice  
Racine Dominicans Justice Outreach  
Raging Grannies of Madison  
Rainbow Bookstore Cooperative -  
Madison  
Rapids Citizens for Peace - Wisconsin  
Rapids  
Red Cedar Peace Initiative - Menomonie  
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of  
Wisconsin - Madison  
River Falls Peace and Justice  
Rock Ridge Community - Dodgeville  
Rock Valley Fellowship of  
Reconciliation - Janesville  
St. Norbert Abbey Justice and Peace  
Committee - DePere  
St. Norbert College, Peace & Justice Center  
- DePere  
School of Americas Watch - Madison  
School Sisters of Notre Dame - Elm Grove  
SEIU Healthcare WI - Madison  
Serve To Unite - Greendale  
SHAMA, Inc Projects - Plover  
Sinsinawa Dominicans - Sinsinawa  
Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross -  
Green Bay  
Sisters of the Divine Savior - Milwaukee  
Socialist Party of South Central WI  
Solidarity Sing Along - Madison

SOS Senior Council - Madison  
SOUL of Wisconsin - LaFarge  
South Central Federation of Labor,  
AFL-CIO - Madison  
SW Grassroots Citizens for Peace -  
Dodgeville  
T.A.M.E. - Madison  
The Madison Institute  
Union de la Trabajadores Inmigrantes -  
Madison  
United Methodist Federation for Social  
Action, WI Chapter - LaCrosse  
United Nations Association - Dane County  
Chapter & Wisconsin Division  
Uppity Wisconsin - Menomonie  
UW-Milwaukee Peace Studies Program  
Veterans for Peace - Chapters #25-Madison,  
#102-Milwaukee; #153-Superior &  
#114-Sheboygan  
Voces de la Frontera - Milwaukee  
Voices for Creative Nonviolence - Chicago  
Waukesha Catholic Worker  
WAVE Educational Fund - Milwaukee  
**Wild Peace Sangha - Viroqua**  
Winds of Peace - Projects in Vietnam  
Wisconsin Alliance for Tenants' Rights -  
Madison  
Wisconsin Books to Prisoners Project  
Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic  
Violence  
WI Coalition to Ground the Drones and  
End the Wars - Mt. Horeb  
Wisconsin Coalition to Normalize  
Relations with Cuba - Milwaukee  
Wisconsin Community Fund  
Wisconsin Council of Churches - Peace &  
Justice Committee  
Wisconsin Democracy Campaign  
WI Impeachment/Bring Our Troops Home  
- Madison  
Wisconsin Resources Protection Council -  
LaCrosse  
Wisconsin Women's Network  
Women's International League for Peace and  
Freedom - Madison  
Workers' Rights Center - Madison  
Yahara Friends Meeting - Monona