

FertileGroundInstitute.org — FertileGroundInstitute@gmail.com — PO Box 11262, Eugene, OR 97440

2019 Annual Report

May 31, 2020

Year in Review

Earth at Risk continues to have ripple effects (and we would love to hold another, if we could find funding to make it happen). At the 2014 EAR conference in San Francisco, we connected with the brilliant organizers with Asian Women for Equality (AWFE; originally known as Asian Women's Coalition Ending Prostitution), a Canadian group.

In October 2018, we began a collaboration with AWFE on a new project: Indigenous and Women of Color Rise. In March 2019, that event was held and was a major success. We attracted an audience of more than 200 people to this event focused around the brutal intersections of racism and sexism for women of color and indigenous women, and to the resistance movement against this exploitation. Our board member Cherry Smiley was unable to attend, but the phenomenal poet Dominique Christina delivered a powerful performance.

This event also provided an opportunity for us to organize a meeting of feminist organizers before the event. Around 20 dedicated women gathered on Capitol Hill and spent a few hours sharing and connecting with one another. It is our experience that gatherings such as this are a great way to sew the seeds of future projects—to create, for lack of a better term, Fertile Ground. We're very glad to work with AWFE on this project.

Additionally, our fiscal sponsorships have continued as with last year. The Good Grief Group, based in Salt Lake City, "is a network of individuals and groups refusing to settle with the status quo. We work for social, political, and spiritual change. Good Grievers treasure critical thinking, nuanced dialogue, and coloring outside of the lines." The second organization, the Mountains and Waters Alliance, is based on a small farm in Minnesota. Their mission is "to heal the mind of separation, the cause of our time's unthinkable violence, and to ally with forces of nature to protect and restore the wholeness of life. Releasing human arrogance, with love and beyond conventional wisdom, we seek and follow guidance from those forces: land care, growing food, teaching, writing, retreats, and whatever is required. This is our intervention on climate catastrophe, while we prepare to offer hospice if needed."

We provide these groups with support, accounting, and 501c3 fiscal status, and in return take a small portion of their income as a processing fee.

Outlook for 2020

In 2020, we plan to continue our base work, engaging with allies and partners engaged in grassroots organizing and resistance work. We are potentially partnering with a community garden project based in the Bay Area.



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Financial Summary

Income

Fertile Ground (Donations and Events): \$4904.26Mountains and Water Alliance income: \$5,725.32

Total gross income: \$10,629.58

Expenses

- Mountains and Waters project expenses: \$7,191.03

- Other Program Expenses: \$4,465.61

- Misc. Expenses: \$378.96

Total expenses: \$12,035.60

Assets

Total end of year assets for Fertile Ground Institute: \$7,850.33

Total end of year assets for Mountains and Waters Alliance: \$1,394.12

Total: \$9,244.45