

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Vivian Stromberg

Twenty years ago, when Kathy Engel invited me to be part of a newly formed women's response to the US war against Nicaragua, I never dreamed we were planting the seeds of an organization that would play a leading role in the peace and justice movement in the US and in the movement for women's human rights globally. I never dreamed that we were sinking the roots for an institution that would not only outlive the administrations of Reagan, Bush I and Clinton, but would nurture and help sustain two generations of human rights activists.

But at the time, I was just beginning to get to know Mirna Cunningham, Annie Hess and Kathy. Today, after two decades of shared organizing, strategizing, mobilizing, demonstrating, dancing, leafleting, meeting, eating, laughing and crying, I look back on all we have accomplished together as MADRE and I see the following qualities in these three women whom we honored at our 20th Anniversary celebration this fall: their leadership and creativity, tenacity and courage and, simply, sheer hard work. As a friend and co-conspirator of 20 years, I thank you, Annie, Kathy and Mirna.



Laura Flanders

MADRE Executive Director Vivian Stromberg with school children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Annie, thank you for your hands-on dedication to justice and for understanding the importance of building progressive institutions that are places of joy as well as outrage.

Kathy, thank you for placing your art in the service of justice and infusing your work for justice with art. Thank you for being, in the words of Muriel Rukeyser, a "poet of passion and a poet of possibility."

And Mirna, thank you for all you have taught me about taking and offering leadership, about Nicaragua and the world and about laughing in the face of disaster and plowing ahead with our crucial work of recreating this crazy world.

On October 7th, we honored these three brilliant women with a celebration of MADRE's 20 years. Beyond this celebration, we honor them — along with all the women who have inspired us to work for a better world — by rededicating ourselves to making peace, justice and human rights lived realities in our own lives and in the lives of women and families around the world.

Thank you,

Vivian Stromberg

MADRE

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MADRE is an international women's human rights organization that works in partnership with women's community-based groups in conflict areas worldwide. Our programs address issues of sustainable development, community improvement and women's health; violence and war; discrimination and racism; self-determination and collective rights; women's leadership development; and human rights education. MADRE provides resources and training to enable our sister organizations to meet immediate needs in their communities and develop long-term solutions to the crises they face. Since we began in 1983, MADRE has delivered over 20 million dollars worth of support to community-based women's groups in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Africa, the Balkans and the United States.

Newsletter Staff

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A BIG THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL INTERNS:

Alison Egic
Kelly Hartman
Alicia Iriarte
Violeta Krasnić
Jennifer Nagle

MADRE mourns the passing of two passionate intellectuals, whose dedication to human rights will be greatly missed:

Arthur Kinoy
&
Edward Said

20 Years of Women Recreating the World



Margaret Randall for AMNLAE

In Managua in 1983, Nicaraguan mothers of the disappeared demonstrating for an end to the US-sponsored Contra war

In the summer of 1983, a group of women from Nicaragua's national women's association and the Ministry of Health for the Autonomous Region of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua extended an invitation to a small group of women in the United States. The Nicaraguan women were living through the worst days of a 10-year terrorist campaign, an undeclared war in which right-wing Contra militias, illegally trained and funded by the US, targeted civilians with mass killings, rape, torture, abduction, the destruction of crops and livestock and the bombing of daycare centers, schools, hospitals, churches, community centers and homes to overthrow Nicaragua's left-wing Sandinista government. This invitation by the Nicaraguan women would give rise to an international women's human rights organization encompassing a network of

women activists, advocates, artists, educators and community leaders in more than a dozen countries.

Earlier that year, a group of Nicaraguans, including members of the women's association and the Ministry of Health, who had survived attacks by the US-backed Contras, filed a lawsuit against the United States in the International Court of Justice. The plaintiffs' testimonies were so moving that Kathy Engel, a young poet-activist in the United States, decided to produce a dramatic reading based on the trial transcript. At the time, Nicaragua was not in the headlines. Although the Contras were killing people almost daily and the US was covertly mining Nicaragua's harbors, no one called it a war. "We hoped that the reading would bring public attention to what the United States was doing in Nicaragua," said Kathy. Three of the plaintiffs

agreed to come to the US to take part in the reading.

One of them was Dr. Mirna Cunningham, the Minister of Health for Nicaragua's North Atlantic Coast. "After the reading," recalls Mirna, "we invited the organizers to Nicaragua. We hoped that they, in turn, would bring more women to see for themselves what their government was doing to our country. We wanted them to look into the eyes of mothers whose children had been killed by the Contras and to turn that feeling into action. We wanted them to see what we were trying to build in Nicaragua at that time. To understand the lunacy of their government's claim that our Revolution was a threat to the United States. Most of all, we wanted them to go home and organize other women. We believed that if women in the US truly understood the misery that their government was causing, they would demand change. And we were right."

In fact, the women who traveled to Nicaragua that summer came home with a commitment to the women they met there. Joined by others who were moved by the stories and information they shared, they set out to build an organization that would respond to the needs of women and families threatened by US foreign policy and give people in the United States the means to demand alternatives to unjust policies. Inspired by the Mothers' Committees of Nicaragua — mothers whose children had been killed by the Contras or during the fight to overthrow the right-wing Somoza regime — they named the organization MADRE. ♦

Making MADRE: the movements, the moment

Among the women who built MADRE were artists, teachers, poets, actors, health workers and life-long political organizers. They came together across differences of culture, class and community, recognizing one another by their shared commitment to linking the struggles against sexism, racism, war, homophobia and economic exploitation in which they were active. These were the feminists who demanded that the women's movement confront racism — in society and within its ranks; the Independentistas who had a feminist critique of nationalism; the socialists who insisted that liberation was more than a function of economics. Building on their common commitment to women's rights and leadership, MADRE's founders pooled the strengths of their diverse political work and life experiences to create a women-led, women-run organization that was both a culmination of and an innovation on the movements for social change in which they were active.

"With Kathy's leadership, we created MADRE to address the crisis of Nicaragua," said Anne Hess, who founded MADRE's Board of Directors. "But also to enable people to see the connections between that crisis and problems right here in the US. Remember, 1983 was a watershed moment in this country." Three years earlier, the Republican Party had

emerged from the shadows of the Watergate scandal to reclaim the White House and the courts. The Reagan Administration not only expanded Jimmy Carter's support for the Contras into a full-scale covert war abroad; it also worked domestically to roll back the victories of social movements of the 1960s and 1970s — such as publicly funded day care and health care — and to enact an economic program that would bring about a massive redistribution of resources from poor to rich. Around the country, racist and homophobic violence escalated as a right-wing religious ideology moved into the mainstream. Women's economic and reproductive rights came under attack. Poverty worsened and homelessness soared.

"We worked to identify the causes of these problems and the roots of the violence we had witnessed in Nicaragua," said Anne. "We focused on the links, for example, between the dismantlement of day care programs in the US and the bombing of day care centers in Nicaragua." MADRE's founders understood the Contra War in



Nora Astorga, former Nicaraguan Ambassador to the United Nations, and long-time friend of MADRE, speaking at the UN

Mel Rosenthal

Nicaragua as one of many instances in which US policymakers prioritized militarism and profit-making over people's basic needs, particularly the needs of women.

"Our focus on US foreign policy," said Anne, "stemmed from our experiences in a range of political movements, for example, the movement against Apartheid in South Africa. We learned a lot from the African National Congress in the 1980s, which identified the system of Apartheid as its enemy and not white South Africans. The ANC of that era is remembered as a model of multi-racial organizing, but it also gave us a principle for understanding who your enemy is and where you apply pressure when you want to see change. We understood that our target was US policy; not men, or the rich, or the people who voted for Reagan, but the policies and institutions that perpetuated suffering. An understanding of the role of US policies became crucial to every issue that MADRE addressed." ♦



Alexis De Veaux and Kathy Engel

"Motherhood is not simply the organic process of giving birth... it is an understanding of the needs of the world."

— MADRE sponsor and poet Alexis De Veaux

Women and Families

From the start, MADRE approached its work from the perspective of women, reflecting the world through the eyes of those who are responsible for the housing, healthcare, daycare, nutrition, education and emotional wellbeing of the vast majority of the population and who are targeted for discrimination and violence. MADRE's founders understood that women's social roles as caretakers give them a powerful stake in political issues ranging from food stamps to nuclear proliferation. They also believed that women could transform their individual experiences of violence and discrimination into a stance against all forms of oppression if they saw that different types of oppression are mutually reinforcing.

MADRE's founders knew that while women's traditional social roles and discrimination against women were global in scope, they are experienced differently, depending on race, nationality, class, sexuality and other aspects of identity. They saw that

building on the strengths of those differences while focusing on the universality of women's roles and women's oppression could be a key to building lasting political partnerships between women from different communities within the US and between US-based women and those in other countries.

This approach defied a trend toward single-issue politics that marked a lot of progressive organizing in the 1980s. Kathy Engel recalls how MADRE's insistence that "the Nicaragua activists think about El Salvador as well as Palestine and East L.A." was sometimes unpopular. "Some of the Central America solidarity groups wondered why a women's organization was sticking its nose into foreign policy. And some sectors of the women's movement didn't like how MADRE talked about 'women and their families,' refusing to dislodge 'women' from the daily context of their lives and communities. When we started to talk about human rights,



Emily Kunster

Residents of Xemal, Guatemala, celebrating the inauguration of their community's corn mill, a MADRE-supported project

mainstream human rights organizations barely acknowledged the economic issues we claimed were central for most women in the world — including in the US — like rights to food, housing and health care." MADRE's founders were determined to build an organization that was both clearly focused on concrete issues and able to sustain a political practice as complex as the reality of women's lives. ♦

MADRE's Sister Organizations: Partnerships for Change



Laura Flanders

MADRE Executive Director Vivian Stromberg and MADRE sponsor Helen Rodriguez-Trías delivering aid to an Iraqi hospital after the 1991 Gulf War.

MADRE's work with the women of Nicaragua became the model for our partnerships with "sister organizations," around the world — community-based women's organizations that share our commitment to social justice and progressive politics. The women

who come together through these organizations are those for whom the most horrifying newspaper headlines are a daily lived reality. They are survivors of war, political repression, genocide, economic and sexual exploitation and the twin burdens of natural disaster and disastrous policies. Yet they have refused to give in to despair. Instead, they have organized with MADRE to build health



“Because of MADRE, I had the opportunity to dance with many Nicaraguan women. MADRE is perhaps the only organization that has been able to combine this kind of joy and real material help for the women of Nicaragua with education and action in this country.” — Grace Paley

clinics, nutrition programs, domestic violence shelters, community radio stations, human rights training centers, literacy campaigns, and programs to promote human rights advocacy and women’s political participation. These programs help meet immediate needs in our partners’ communities and work to

change the balance of power in favor of women and their families.

Through our sister organizations, we have been able to offer life-saving support to hundreds of thousands of women and their families. What our sister organizations have given us in return cannot be quantified. They have

taught us that despair is a luxury and that hope is a rational response to hardship if we can join together with others to create change. As Kathy Engel said, “We are strengthened by ... the women who are our models, who have always stepped into the fire when there was no other way to save a child.” ♦

MADRE’S MEMBERS: Turning Outrage into Action

None of MADRE’s 20 years of accomplishments would have been possible without our 23,000 members. You are the ones who have supported our ongoing programs and come through again and again when our sisters have faced sudden catastrophes like paramilitary attacks, hurricanes or intimidation campaigns by their governments. You have been there not only with funding for our sister organizations, but with messages of friendship and support. These have been as crucial as bread in ensuring our sisters that they are not alone, that someone knows about the hardships they are confronting and is standing with them.

You have responded to our requests for letter-writing campaigns to stop US weapons sales to Israel and to hold the US accountable to international law. You have collected eyeglasses, AIDS medications and toys to deliver to hospitals and clinics in Cuba. You have joined MADRE delegations to

Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Cuba, Iraq, Palestine and Lebanon to see for yourself the impact of US policy on our sisters in those countries and to educate people back home about what you saw. You have attended meetings, film screenings, house parties, vigils, concerts, demonstrations and community fundraisers in support of MADRE’s work. You have passed on our newsletter to friends.

Above all, you have understood the importance of sustaining MADRE as a political home, a place where we can all come together to defy the isolation and apathy that this country so often instills in its people. Together, we have cultivated a vision of the world we wish for and we have built mechanisms to demand that our government’s policies reflect that vision.

We have reached out to thousands of other women and men who are not necessarily political activists, but have a basic sense of right and wrong. We have enabled them to channel their principles



Judith A. Rumak

(Top left) Writer Grace Paley and playwright Tony Kushner at MADRE’s 12th anniversary event, photo by Ann Meredith; (above) South African activist Matlhogonolo Maboe during *Mother Courage II Peace Tour*

into coherent political positions and given them the means to act on what they know to be true: that governments have a responsibility for the welfare of their people; that we in the US and millions of others throughout the world will remain imperiled unless the United States respects human rights and international law; and that human need, not corporate greed, must guide public policy.

“MADRE’s work is crucial in exposing people to the true realities of war and social change in Central America and nurturing women-to-women support. It is also important because it is multi-racial, providing one of the many bridges we need along the road to solidarity and self-determination at home and abroad.” — Holly Sklar



Jonathan Snow

(Top right) MADRE staff member Mónica Alemán and Actor Danny Glover, photo by Jeff Yas; (above) MADRE member Fitzgerald Taylor on a MADRE delegation to Nicaragua after Hurricane Joan

At the height of the Cold War, we helped to expose the Reagan Administration’s covert wars against the people of Central America. During the first Gulf War, we stood up to George Bush, opposing the bombs and trade sanctions that threatened Iraqi women and families. For eight years, we challenged the bogus humanitarianism of Bill Clinton and worked to hold his Administration accountable to its rhetoric. And since the attacks of September 11, 2001, we have showed the world that the jingoism of “united we stand” is a myth. Instead, we have stood united against Bush’s war on the world, including his assaults on civil and political rights, women’s reproductive health, international law and the priorities of women and families at home and abroad. Today, despite serious challenges to our work — including a beleaguered US economy, deepening crises for many of

our sister organizations and the Bush Administration’s attempts to silence critics of its foreign policy — we are, thanks to you, stronger than ever.

Twenty years ago, MADRE was created, in partnership with those women who were most directly threatened by US foreign policy, to meet immediate needs in their

communities and to address the underlying causes of the crises they faced. Grounded in the concrete work of collecting crayons, books, powdered milk, medical equipment and art supplies for Nicaragua, MADRE offered ways for people in the US to think about their own lives in a political context and to join together to demand alternatives to destructive policies, at home and abroad.

Since then, MADRE has provided over 20 million dollars worth of material support to our sister organizations in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Haiti, Cuba, Colombia, Peru, Rwanda, Kenya, the countries of the Former Yugoslavia, Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Afghanistan. Today, MADRE is an internationally recognized women’s human rights organization situated at a crossroads of the movements for women’s equality, peace and justice and international human rights, reflecting the understanding that women’s rights are human rights, that US foreign policy is a “women’s issue” and that human rights everywhere are inherently political. ♦

Join MADRE’s Voyages with a Vision Delegations!

PERU: February 21-29, 2004

Come to Carnival in Peru. Participate in a convergence of cultures and meet with MADRE’s sister organizations in rural Ayacucho and Lima, struggling for the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Peruvians.

GUATEMALA/NICARAGUA June 19-28, 2004

Learn from MADRE’s partners in Guatemala about Indigenous women and youth, and the struggle to end abusive labor conditions in sweatshops. Then travel to Nicaragua’s North Atlantic Coast and learn about Indigenous Peoples and African-descent communities’ efforts to defend their rights and resources.

CUBA July, 2004*

See firsthand the impact of the US embargo on life and culture in Cuba. Learn about Cuba’s public health system, one of the world’s best despite the crisis caused by the US embargo, and witness the many changes underway in Cuba today.

**pending renewal of MADRE’s license* ALL TRIPS FEATURE EXPERIENCED GUIDES AND TRANSLATION.

1983 – 2003

20 YEARS OF TURNING OUTRAGE INTO ACTION



From MADRE's Delegation to Nicaragua, March 1984

We are women from all walks of life joining together in our concern for the health and survival of each other and women and children in Central America and the Caribbean. We come to Nicaragua knowing that we have a lot in common with the women, knowing we are all concerned about basic human necessities, dignity and the right to choose our own lives and leadership.

This visit is the first of many efforts to develop links between us, to share information about our lives, and to work together towards peace. We believe that the welfare of people in this country is directly connected to the welfare of people in Central America. We believe it is our responsibility to find out for ourselves what is being done by our government, in our names, and to act upon what we learn. We take the initiative — joining hands and hearts with the mothers and children of Central America and the Caribbean.



Maddy Miller

1983

Since our first woman-to-woman exchange in Nicaragua, MADRE has formed dynamic partnerships with community women's organizations in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Haiti, Cuba, Rwanda, Kenya, the countries of the Former Yugoslavia, Palestine, Lebanon, Iraq and Afghanistan — working to meet immediate needs of women and families and developing long-term solutions to human rights crises.



Maddy Miller

1984

MADRE supported Bertha Calderón Hospital, Nicaragua's first women's hospital. We delivered urgently needed medical supplies and equipment, including the hospital's first ambulance, and sent doctors, nurses and midwives to conduct training workshops for staff.

"MADRE isn't something far away or distant from this hospital... MADRE donated our first ambulance and sends vital equipment and supplies. MADRE is very special — a 'mother' to Bertha Calderón Women's Hospital."

— Dr. Maritza Cuan, former Director, Bertha Calderón Women's Hospital

MADRE has gone on to support community-based women's health clinics on Nicaragua's North Atlantic Coast and in El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Bosnia and Rwanda.



Jonathan Snow

Since our beginning, MADRE has partnered with Indigenous community organizations, supporting initiatives for self-determination and collective rights.

MADRE has worked with Indigenous Peoples in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Argentina and Kenya, and is an advisor to the International Indigenous Women's Forum at the United Nations.

Judith A. Rumak



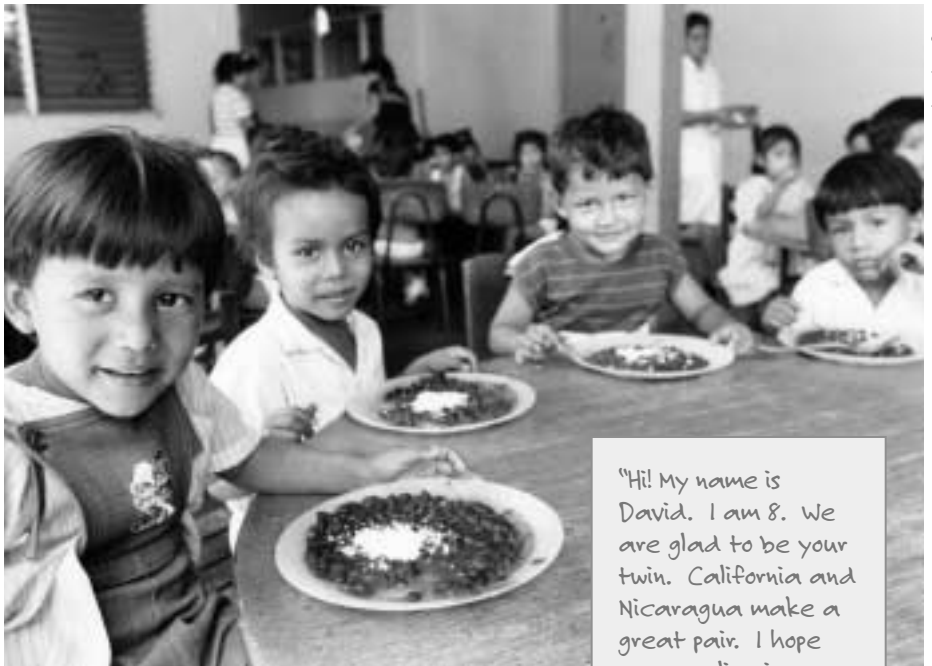
“Between peoples, borders shouldn’t exist, especially when what we are looking for is food for everyone, a decent place to live, medicine and education for our children, and a guarantee of a future with life and with respect. It is in this context that we understand the relation between MADRE and our sisters as a common struggle for a common tomorrow, without tears and without pain.”

— Rigoberta Menchú Tum
Nobel Peace Prize Winner

1985 In its daycare twinning program, MADRE acted as a liason between centers in the US and in Nicaragua. Exchanging letters, banners, songs, photos and even visits, the daycare centers built deep and lasting friendships.



Jonathan Snow



Jonathan Snow

“Hi! My name is David. I am 8. We are glad to be your twin. California and Nicaragua make a great pair. I hope you can live in peace soon.”

— child at Berkeley After School Program

MADRE has continued its work with children and youth through *Voices of the Children*, an exhibit of drawings by children in war-torn communities; *Las Niñas*, a self-esteem-building project for Guatemalan girls; Ibdad's youth leadership development activities; and MADRE's leadership role in the 2001 UN World Conference Against Racism Youth Caucus.

Group slaps FBI with suit

Actresses denounce investigation

By Sam Meoia
USA TODAY

Actress Susan Sarandon Tuesday joined the outcry against the FBI's probe of opponents of President Reagan's Central America policies.

Sarandon — better known for film parts including the beguiling Annie Seavey in *Indochina* — was named in FBI investigative files for her support of aid to Nicaraguan women and children.

It's "hard to explain that voicing my opinion... will lead to calling me a supporter of international terrorism," said Sarandon. She held a news conference outside the FBI's New York office to publicize a federal, class-action suit filed against the FBI in Washington.

The suit, filed by the Center for Constitutional Rights, in New York, asks that the FBI be blocked from further use of files from its 1983-85 terrorism probe of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador. Four: that people named in files could be denied government jobs if background checks link them to the probe.

Actress Joanne Woodward also is named in the files as a "sponsor" of the group MADRE, which aids Nicaraguans.

In September, FBI Director William Sessions said he was disciplining six staffers in connection with the files. The CISPEL case spawned 178 "spies" probes — but no criminal charges.

The FBI declined to comment on the suit. But Sessions has ordered that guidelines be drawn to restrict divulging names to other agencies.

Margaret Ratner of the Center for Constitutional Rights



ACTRESS JOINS FIGHT: Susan Sarandon at a news conference Tuesday in New York publicizing a lawsuit against the FBI.

said unnamed government sources told her that "thousands" of people were listed in the FBI's investigative files and in government computer data banks.



Actor Alfre Woodard, writer Alice Walker and poet June Jordan at MADRE's 6th anniversary party

Jonathan Snow

1987 The Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) uncovered secret and extensive FBI surveillance of organizations opposing Reagan Administration policies in Central America. In response, CCR filed a suit, in which MADRE was a plaintiff, charging the FBI with widespread violations of law and the Constitution.

MADRE continues to challenge government attempts to stifle dissent through our ongoing *Justice, Not Vengeance* campaign, initiated after the attacks of September 11, 2001.

1991

With the Gulf War looming, MADRE expanded its work from Central America to the Middle East. Our first US MOTHER COURAGE PEACE

TOUR brought together women from Iraq, Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, Israel, Turkey, France, Puerto Rico and the US to call for an end to the sanctions on Iraq and a US foreign policy that respects human rights. Following the tour, MADRE delivered 10 tons of milk and medicines to women and families in Iraq. MADRE's MOTHER COURAGE tours have become a model for conducting public education and outreach across the US.



Laura Flanders

MADRE's *Mother Courage* tours have continued to mobilize people in response to the crisis of women in the Former Yugoslavia; the Israeli bombing of Qana, Lebanon; the attacks of September 11 and the bombing of Afghanistan.



Laura Flanders



David Foelcke

HELPING HANDS you can make a difference!

Help collect health and hygiene supplies, eyeglasses, books and toys for women and children in Latin America and the Caribbean. Contact us to find out how you can help.

1994

MADRE co-founded Klinik Fanm, the first clinic in Haiti dedicated to women's health and human rights. MADRE worked directly with women who survived rape committed as part of the terror campaign against Haiti's pro-democracy movement; and as part of a consortium of women's organizations led by Rhonda Copelon that won legal recognition of these rapes as torture, a violation of international law. That precedent led to recognition by the UN tribunal on the Former Yugoslavia of rape as a war crime and, under certain circumstances, an act of genocide.

MADRE has worked to combat rape as a weapon of war, supporting healthcare and healing for survivors in Nicaragua, the Former Yugoslavia, Haiti, Rwanda and Peru and demanding justice through local, national and international mechanisms.



Laura Flanders

Palestine's children are tomorrow's peace makers. MADRE supports trauma counseling, girls' leadership development, human rights education, cultural exchanges, and computer and media training for young Palestinian refugees living under Israeli occupation.

MADRE has conducted human rights trainings and women's leadership development programs in Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti, Rwanda, Kenya, Palestine, Peru and Colombia.



Agencia Nueva Nicaragua

1998

Support from our membership enables MADRE to respond quickly to emergencies like Nicaragua's Hurricane Mitch, without compromising our crucial ongoing work for women's human rights. After Hurricane Mitch, MADRE travelled by canoe to deliver \$600,000 worth of support to communities on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast, many of whom had no other source of medical relief.

“Water is a source of life, of peace, of joy for those who drink it. Thank you, MADRE, for bringing clean drinking water to our village of Rilima.”

— Suzanne Odette, BENIMPUHWE, Rilima, Rwanda



Rick Miller



Laura Flanders

Long after human rights crises recede from the headlines, MADRE stands with survivors who are working to heal their lives and rebuild their communities. In Rwanda, MADRE supports a multi-faceted reconstruction and reconciliation project for women-headed families.

2000

Through our SHARE HOPE campaign to combat breast cancer, MADRE sent nearly \$1 million in medicine and mammography equipment to hospitals in Cuba. MADRE has worked in Cuba for over 10 years, bringing urgently needed medicines and medical supplies to help alleviate chronic shortages caused by the US trade embargo.




Elena Arengo

2003

Today, MADRE continues to struggle against destructive US policies and support women's efforts to create a just and peaceful world. MADRE's EVERY CHILD HAS A NAME campaign helped people mobilize against the invasion of Iraq, provided emergency aid for Iraqi women and children and petitioned the UN to hold the US accountable to international human rights and humanitarian law.



Laura Flanders



July 11, 2003

Vivian Stromberg
Executive Director
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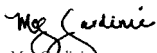
Dear Ms. Stromberg,

On behalf of the U.S. fund for UNICEF, I would like to thank you for your generous contribution to UNICEF's *Operation Child Survive*.

I would also like to express our deep appreciation to MADRE as it marks its 20th year anniversary to improve the lives of war-affected women and children through its impressive activities on international advocacy and program support. MADRE's instrumental leadership within the NGO Committee on UNICEF working group on armed conflict throughout the years is deeply appreciated. These collaborative efforts have affected the lives of countless women and children caught in the crossfire of armed conflict and strengthened the partnership between our two organizations. We would like to express our gratitude to you for all that you have done throughout your 20 year history and wish you success in your future endeavors.

Please extend our heartfelt thanks to all the members of MADRE and once again — thank you for your support to the women and children of Iraq.

Sincerely,



Meg Gardinier
Director, Non-Governmental Organizations

Donate your extra medicines and medical supplies to the MADRE Medical Project!

The MADRE Medical Project delivers urgently needed medicines and medical supplies to our sister organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean. Our sisters then distribute them to local hospitals and clinics that serve women and children. For more information on how to get involved, visit the MADRE Medical Project page on our website at www.madre.org/medicalproject.html



program highlights FALL 2003

MAKING MADRE: 20 YEARS OF WOMEN RECREATING THE WORLD



Natalia Caruso

Board Co-chair Zala Highsmith-Taylor, Latin America Program Coordinator Monica Aleman, and Honoree Mirna Cunningham at MADRE's 20th Anniversary celebration.

On our 20th anniversary, MADRE passed the 20 million dollar-mark in our humanitarian aid deliveries. This support represents life-saving resources and critical opportunities for healthcare, education and human rights training for thousands of women and their families who rely on our sister organizations in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico, Cuba, Peru, Colombia, Rwanda, Kenya and Palestine.

On October 7, 2003 MADRE celebrated its 20th anniversary with a night of music, poetry, dinner, awards and dancing in New York City. The event honored three women who have inspired MADRE: Mirna Cunningham, the director of MADRE's first sister organization in Nicaragua; MADRE founding Director Kathy Engel; and founding Board member Anne Hess.

MADRE's 20th Anniversary Fund supported a variety of events organized by our sister organizations, including workshops on sexual and reproductive rights, youth leadership development projects and human rights trainings.

PERU

NEW Sister Organization

MADRE formed a promising new partnership with LUNDU: The Center for

Afro-Peruvian Studies and Promotion. LUNDU is a youth organization providing skills training for young Afro-Peruvians, facilitating their political participation nationally and internationally. LUNDU offers anti-racism programs that address issues of sexuality, identity, and reproductive rights, with a special emphasis on Afro-Peruvian women. MADRE supports LUNDU's human rights workshops, which use art, music and theater to raise awareness about racial and gender discrimination.

■ MADRE sent support to *Voices for Justice: Human Rights Radio*, a project of our sister organization, CHIRAPAQ, for trainings in journalism and women's leadership development.

MEXICO

NEW Sister Organization

This year, MADRE initiated a partnership with Elige, a youth organization in Mexico City that focuses on sexual and reproductive

rights. MADRE is working with Elige to address the crisis of the unsolved murders of over 300 women who work in maquila zones in Juarez and Chihuahua, Mexico.

NICARAGUA

■ MADRE sent a shipment of dental equipment to our sister organization, CADAMUC Clinic. The shipment will enable CADAMUC to provide quality dental care in a community where the only other dentist is private and unaffordable for most people. MADRE also sent 65,000 condoms to CADAMUC.

■ MADRE sent theatre-sized movie screens to our partners at Casa Museo and Wangki Luphia in Nicaragua. The cinemas will provide an exciting focal point for people from the community to gather and enable our sister organizations to reach large audiences with messages about the services they provide. MADRE also sent support to Wangki Luhpia's Harvesting Hope program, for training in agricultural production and the creation of a seed bank.

■ Through MADRE's Sisters Without Borders program, MADRE members

Henry Chalfant and Tohanesh Terrant traveled to Casa Museo to give trainings on video editing and production.

PALESTINE

■ MADRE sponsored a young woman from Ibdah, our sister organization in the Deheisheh refugee camp, to travel to the North Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua for two weeks. While there, she met with MADRE's sister organizations and took part in discussions and cultural events with young Nicaraguans. The program was part of MADRE's Young Women's Leadership Development Initiative, aimed at empowering young women by developing their leadership skills and providing an opportunity for cultural exchange.

■ MADRE hosted a photography workshop for 20 young Palestinian dancers from Ibdah. Working with MADRE staff, the youth learned basic photography skills, empowering them to document their life experiences in the refugee camp.

■ MADRE sent support for Ibdah's trauma counseling program, to help children and families heal from the violence they have endured under Israeli occupation.

program highlights FALL 2003 continued...

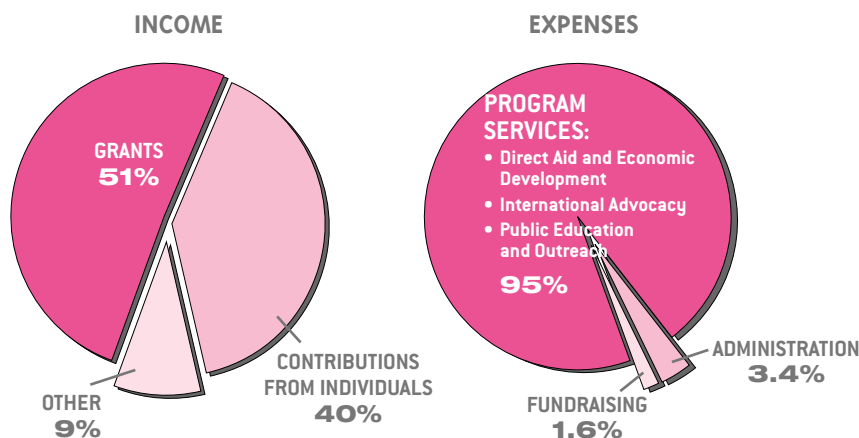
GUATEMALA

■ MADRE sent support to T'al Nán K'oi, our sister organization, for legal fees to obtain official status as a non-governmental organization. This new legal status offers a measure of protection from government harassment, which is especially important in Guatemala's current climate of political instability and increasing violence against social activists.

■ MADRE provided support for the installation of potable water taps in three primary schools in Barcenas, a shanty-town on the outskirts of Guatemala City, bringing clean drinking water to 2,500 school children. MADRE staff also traveled to Barcenas to give capacity-building workshops at the Barcenas Maquila Workers' Committee, a local organization that responds to the needs of women who work in *maquilas*.

MADRE Income and Expenses

FISCAL YEAR 2002 – 2003



Note: \$2,533,468 is the value of "in-kind" medical shipments and services donated to MADRE during the year. This category is not considered income by the Internal Revenue Service, but it is a very important source of support for MADRE.

Please consider a generous gift to MADRE today!

The sluggish US economy and right-wing political climate emanating from the Bush Administration have had a detrimental impact on charitable giving, especially for organizations like MADRE that demand respect for international human rights and US compliance with international law. Around the world, programs that

support women's human rights, including reproductive rights, are under attack. Growing numbers of people worldwide are identifying US policies as threats to world peace and security. These are just two of the many reasons why MADRE's work is so crucial. *All contributions to MADRE are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

WAYS TO GIVE

- Become a MADRE Member.
- Participate in MADRE's Sustainer Program.
- Give a MADRE Gift Membership.
- Learn more about MADRE's Planned Giving Program.
- Arrange for a matching gift through your employer.
- Arrange a speaking engagement in your community.
- Federal and State Employees: Give to MADRE through payroll deduction campaigns.
- Host an event and donate the proceeds to MADRE.
- Working Assets Members: Vote for MADRE when you receive your yearly ballot from Working Assets.
- Purchase MADRE gifts.

For more information about ways to support MADRE, please contact us at 212.627.0444 or madre@madre.org. Thank you for your crucial support!

Give the gift of MADRE!

• Joining hands & hearts with women & families for peace, justice & human rights •



• 121 West 27th Street, #301 New York, NY 10001 • 212.627.0444 • fax: 212.675.3704 • email: madre@madre.org • www.MADRE.org •

Mugs

MADRE design (above) printed wrap-around in red, yellow, purple and green on an 11 oz. white ceramic mug



around in red, yellow, purple and green on an 11 oz. white ceramic mug

\$10 each + shipping & handling:

(\$3 per mug; \$2 for each additional mug to the same address)

MADRE Address Books

Hardcover address book tells the story of MADRE through poetry and photographs

\$15 + s&h (shipping & handling: \$3 per book; \$2 for each additional book to the same address)

MADRE T-shirt



Original MADRE design printed on black or white 100% cotton pre-shrunk t-shirts in full color. (please indicate color when ordering; LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE)

Adult sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL \$20 + s&h
children's sizes: ch XS (2-4), ch S (6-8) \$15 + s&h

(shipping & handling: \$3.50 per shirt; \$3 for each additional t-shirt to the same address)

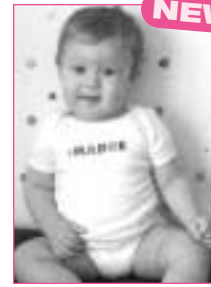
Tote Bags

Off-white canvas bag with MADRE design (detail at right).



Available in **MEDIUM (15" x 13") \$25 + s&h** or **JUMBO (19" x 18") \$35 + s&h**

(shipping & handling: \$5 per tote; \$3 for each additional tote to the same address)



NEW!

Baby Onesies

Black or white with MADRE design (please indicate color when ordering; LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE)

Baby sizes: 3-6 months or 6-12 months \$14 + s&h

Tank Tops

Original MADRE design printed on black, pink or purple 100% cotton pre-shrunk tank tops.

Adult sizes: M, L, XL \$15 + s&h

(shipping & handling: \$3.50 per shirt; \$3 for each additional shirt to the same address)



NEW!

Fill out coupon below and return to: **MADRE 121 West 27th Street, #301 New York, NY 10001**

Please send me MADRE gifts!

| ITEM | SIZE | COLOR | QUANTITY | PRICE EACH | SHIPPING | SUBTOTAL |
|---------------|------|-------|----------|------------|----------|-----------|
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| TOTAL: | | | | | | \$ |

I am enclosing \$ _____ for my purchase, made payable to MADRE, Inc.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

PLANNED GIVING

Private philanthropy plays a crucial role in MADRE's development and offers benefits such as additional income and tax benefits to donors. Here are a few ways to give:

- 1. DONATE STOCK OR OTHER SECURITIES.** You may claim a tax deduction for the full market value of appreciated stock, bonds and other kinds of securities that you have held for over a year.
- 2. MAKE A GIFT BY BEQUEST.** Consider naming MADRE in your will. You can make a bequest in several ways: you can specify that MADRE receive a one-time, fixed dollar amount or a percentage of your estate or that, after other beneficiaries are given fixed amounts, MADRE receive your remaining assets.
- 3. OTHER WAYS TO GIVE.** Options include contributing a life insurance policy, establishing a charitable trust or a charitable gift annuity, donating art or real estate, making MADRE the beneficiary of your individual retirement account (IRA), creating a pooled income fund or taking advantage of the sale of a company.

For more information, please contact Vivian Stromberg, Executive Director, at 212.627.0444 or vstromberg@madre.org. MADRE, together with our investment advisor, will be happy to work with you and/or your financial planner.