

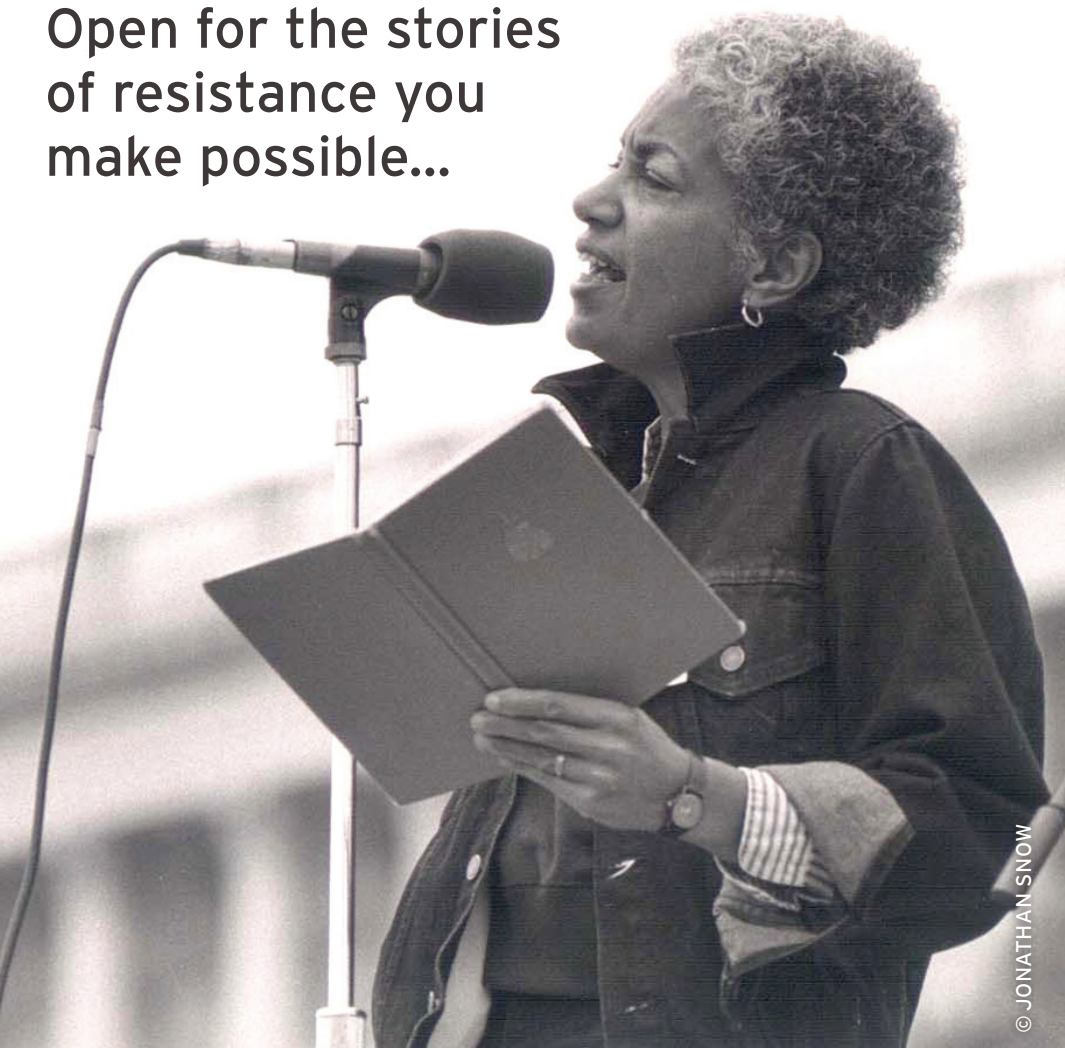


MADRE

Spring 2017

www.madre.org

Open for the stories
of resistance you
make possible...



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friend,

MADRE was born out of a belief that together, we can make a difference. More than 30 years ago, when the US-sponsored Contra wars in Nicaragua threatened the lives of women and families there, we joined hands with local mothers to protect vulnerable communities and speak out against the Reagan administration's violence.



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Ever since, we — MADRE, our sisters and *you* — have been raising our collective voices against harmful US policy and its impact on women's rights globally, from Nicaragua to Iraq, from Cuba to Syria, and beyond. Through our local sister organizations, we bring vital aid and care to women, families and communities most impacted. And your support makes it possible.

Look inside to see a brief history of some of the activism that MADRE members like you have supported through the years. Thank you for standing with us, and for creating a better world through MADRE.

In solidarity,



Here's the Scoop

Want to read our latest, cutting edge insights on the issues that are important to you? Visit madre.org/analysis. And please, let us know what you think at feedback@madre.org.

Cover photo: June Jordan speaks out

Your Support in Action

When bombing decimated Aleppo, thousands of Syrian mothers and children fighting for their lives in the besieged city had no access to medical care and nowhere to turn. But thanks to MADRE supporters like you, we responded with lifesaving care. We joined a medical aid convoy, delivering incubators, ventilators, hospital beds and other vital supplies to rebuild and stock a local children's hospital estimated to reach over 60,000 Syrian children with lifesaving medical care. Thank you! To read more about the impact of your support, visit madre.org/myimpact.



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Celebrate a Mother in Your Life



Airport Nurse-In by Erin Currier

Mothers around the globe raise healthy families, build strong communities and create peaceful worlds. This Mother's Day, we celebrate their strength. And what better way to honor a special mother in your life than with a gift to support some of the world's bravest women? Visit madre.org/mother to make a gift, and we'll send the mother you honor a card featuring the gorgeous artwork of artist and MADRE friend, Erin Currier (art pictured here).

Over 30 years of speaking

out against harmful US policy and standing up for women worldwide caught in the crosshairs of war and disaster— **thanks to you.**

1983 MADRE forms when women activists in New York City join hands with mothers in Nicaragua to speak out against the US-sponsored war against civilians in Nicaragua.

◀ MADRE members deliver one ton of fortified powdered milk and one ton of baby cereal to mothers and families in Nicaragua devastated by US-driven war.

◀ 1986 MADRE members help launch “Boycott South Africa, Not Nicaragua,” bringing together students from South Africa, Namibia, Nicaragua and the US to protest US support for the South African apartheid government and deadly US intervention in Nicaragua.

◀ MADRE members send over \$52,000 worth of medical supplies and equipment to a women’s hospital and daycare centers in Nicaragua, including diapers, powdered milk, oxygen masks, stethoscopes and more.

1991 Members like you launch the Mother Courage Peace Tour, uniting women from Egypt, Europe, Great Britain, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, Puerto Rico, Turkey and the US to form an international chorus of women’s voices for peace and justice.

◀ MADRE members deliver 10 tons of milk and medicines to Iraqi women and families following the first Gulf War.

1994 MADRE leads a “Support our Sisters in Haiti” delegation to Washington, DC to call attention to the horrific human rights abuses in Haiti, including torture, murder and rape as a weapon of war, and to protest US policies towards Haiti.

MADRE members provide healing trauma counseling and medical care for rape survivors in Haiti.

◀ 2000 Members like you stand up against the harmful US embargo of Cuba. We send a delegation of human rights activists to visit local schools and hospitals and to speak out against US power games that threaten the health and wellbeing of women and families there.

MADRE members send \$700,000 in critical breast cancer screening equipment and medicines to the Cuban Red Cross.

2004 MADRE calls on the Bush administration to end its illegal occupation of Iraq, withdraw US troops, and renounce control of Iraq’s economy and oil resources.

“The voice of a community of sisters from around the world reaffirmed a positive definition of peace— not the absence of fighting or bombing, but the use of resources to supply basic needs.”

—MADRE on the Mother Courage Peace Tour

MADRE members help co-found and support three vital women’s shelters with the Organization of Women’s Freedom in Iraq, bringing safety and care to women and families fleeing war and violence.

2009 With members like you, MADRE denounces the Obama administration’s troop surge in Afghanistan, calling for a new course in US-Afghan relations based on the understanding that the US needs to engage with the rest of the world, not occupy it.

MADRE members support a shelter in Afghanistan for women fleeing life-threatening violence, where they receive safe haven, healthcare and education.

◀ 2013 MADRE and you speak out against US airstrikes in Syria, calling on the Obama administration to increase humanitarian aid to the region and to refocus on diplomacy, not violence, to end the war in Syria.

MADRE members deliver vital reproductive health care, including contraception and family planning, to Syrian refugee women and girls.

◀ 2017 MADRE attends the Women’s March on Washington, the International Women’s Strike and other mobilizations to raise our voices against the Trump administration and its dangerous policies on women and families in the US and around the world.

With your continued support, we stand ready to bring urgent aid and care to women around the world where US policies threaten healthcare, endanger the environment and exacerbate international tensions.

“We fight here. We fight against our government, against its policies. We fight to make the United States government respect the people of the world, and to respect the wishes of the people in this country, as well. We fight to make our government truly democratic. We feel our struggle is your struggle; we are united.”

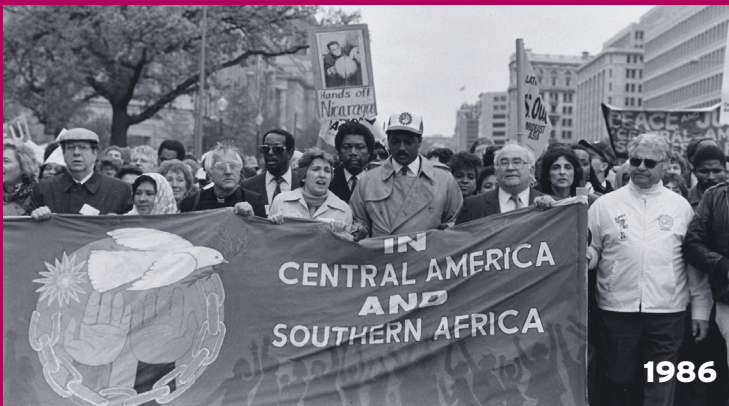
—Sally Roesch Wagner, MADRE member, in a 1984 letter to mothers in Nicaragua

“I am struck so deeply by what makes us MADRE, by how we became sisters — country to country, friend to friend, woman to woman — connected as much by the need to survive as by an extraordinary generosity of both heart and hand.”

— Vivian Stromberg, former Executive Director



1983



1986



1991



2000



2013



2017

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