



March 30, 2016

Dear friends,

When we launched PeaceWorks in 1990 we started engaging our friends and neighbors to stand with Central Americans whose lives were overshadowed by violence and extreme poverty. Nearly 25 years later, many Central Americans still face crippling poverty, but wars have subsided and local activists are working throughout much of the region with greater liberty and less fear. And then there's Honduras.

On the evening of March 3rd, Honduran indigenous leader and environmental activist Berta Cáceres was murdered in her home. Winner of the 2015 Goldman Environmental Prize, Berta Cáceres helped lead the fight against a proposed dam project threatening to ruin natural ecosystems and displace local communities. Not even two weeks later, as the shock of Berta's death reverberated around the world, Nelson Garcia, another member of Berta's organization, COPINH, was also murdered.



Berta Cáceres

Focus on Honduras: PeaceWorks April 9th Dinner Forum

In an incredibly sad turn of events, it was Bertha Cáceres who gave an interview to Radio Mundo Real in August 2014 on the murder of another Honduran activist, Margarita Murillo:

"[Margarita] was a renowned activist in the social movement. A strong, energetic woman, who gave herself to the struggle in a critical and passionate way... These coward murderers found her with a hoe in her hands. She was on her way to sow cucumbers, to work the land, to give life.

Margarita Moncerrath Murillo, Margarita's daughter will share her family's story, setting the scene of her mother's life and death and the culture of repression in Honduras. Now in exile, Ms. Murillo will be joined by members of a NY-based Honduran Solidarity Committee to help us explore the root causes of violence and the impunity that exists in a country in which only 20% of murders are even investigated.

As we learn more about the situation in Honduras, we will continue supporting our partners in Nicaragua. This month we are preparing for an exciting new campaign.

**PeaceWorks, c/o Johnston, 150 Indiana St., Maplewood, NJ 07040
973-378-9325, peaceworks.org**

20 Teens to take care of...and no car?? Help us launch our month-long crowdfunding campaign to get Inhijambia a badly needed vehicle.

Last year, PeaceWorks helped Inhijambia build the new dormitory for girls who used to live and work on the streets of Managua. But with 20 teenage girls living under their roof, Inhijambia needs a way to transport the girls to doctors appointments, school events, dance practice and countless other errands necessary when caring for teenagers. If you're a parent or have ever cared for children, need we say more? But we need your help to spread the word.

Help us launch a successful campaign!

- 1) Go to PeaceWorks.org to sign up for the campaign pre-launch.
- 2) Make a pre-launch pledge before we officially kick off the campaign on April 9th -- we need pledges now to look strong out of the gate during the April 9th official launch.
- 3) On April 9th share the campaign with your friends and family on Facebook, Twitter and email.
- 4) We have only 30 days to get the job done -- stay tuned for updates.



Can you help us get a new one of these for Inhijambia??

One last thing -- thanks to everyone that came out to our March dinner forum! 70 of us had a beautiful exchange with all nine members of our January delegation to Nicaragua. Each shared reflections on places visited, people met and the life-sustaining monetary and material aid donations left behind. We also just started posting a series of short films we shot in the field. Visit peaceworks.org to watch "This is what climate change looks like," a translated conversation with Ramon Garcia on a hike just outside of Palacagüina.

We hope to see you at the April 9th Dinner Forum: Focus on Honduras. And on May 14th we'll need your help packing our 69th shipping container full of material aid for our Nicaraguan partners. See the attached flyer for details and requests for donations.

Berta Cáceres, ¡Presente! Margarita Murillo, ¡Presente! ¡Viva Honduras!

Denis, Diane and the PeaceWorks Board

I'm not much for contributing online, so here's a check for *Inhijambia* to buy a new vehicle: \$ _____

I'd like to contribute to the general Peaceworks Fund for aid shipments, partner support, etc.

\$50 _____, \$100 _____, \$150 _____, Other \$ _____

_____ Please add me to the PeaceWorks email list for meeting reminders and events announcements.

Name: _____ Email: _____

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FOCUS ON HONDURAS

A CONVERSATION WITH MARGARITA MURILLO ON REPRESSION, IMPUNITY, AND THE THE FIGHT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

In August 2014, human rights activist Margarita Murillo was murdered in broad daylight while working in her garden in Honduras. A few days later her presumed assassin was also killed, as well as the lead investigator of the case. What is happening in this small country of only eight million people?

Join PeaceWorks on April 9th for an in depth discussion on the current culture of repression and violence in Honduras -- including the recent murder of environmental leader Berta Cáceres. Meet Moncerrath, Margarita Murillo's daughter, along with leaders of Honduras USA Resistencia, Lucy Pagoada and Roberto Quesada.

Please RSVP to PeaceWorks Events Committee Chair Newly Preziosi at 973-543-4721 or newillwest@aol.com so we know how much to cook!



Margarita Moncerrath Murillo,
daughter of slain human rights
leader, Margarita Murillo

Saturday April 9th, 2016

Dinner at 6:30. Program at 7:30pm.

Summit-Chatham Friends Meeting, 158 Southern Blvd, Chatham, NJ.

\$10 adults. Kids free.



peaceworks.org

For more
information
please visit:

[http://www.
firstfriendsnjny.org](http://www.firstfriendsnjny.org)

or call:
908.965.0455



OF
NEW JERSEY
AND
NEW YORK

dignity & compassion for immigrants

Who is my Neighbor? Fear and Family in a Polarized World

4th ANNUAL BENEFIT DINNER

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

7:00pm



**SISTER SIMONE
CAMPBELL, SSS**

THE RICHFIELD REGENCY

420 Bloomfield Avenue,
Verona, New Jersey



**GUEST SPEAKER
and HONOREE**

**Sister Simone
Campbell, SSS**

Director of NETWORK
A Social Service Justice Lobby

Creator of NUNS on the BUS

Extending Love and Expanding Operations in Managua: The Inhijambia Program for Street Children

We are proud to announce that our Nica partner Inhijambia is working hard to expand operations to provide health and education services to nearly 700 more children and adults living and working in the streets of Managua. PeaceWorks began working with Inhijambia more than a decade ago and we have seen for ourselves how they have transformed the lives of hundreds of children in desperate need of love and support.

Let's help Inhijambia continue to expand operations. Please join our online campaign to help them buy a badly needed vehicle. Visit peaceworks.org for details. The following excerpt is from a recent letter from Inhijambia Director Mirna Sánchez.



Go Maplewood & South Orange! One of the Inhijambia kids sports a new shirt that came down on one of our material aid shipments.

March 26, 2016
Managua, Nicaragua

My dear friends,

We have made yet another achievement in fulfilling our mission to work with Nicaragua's most vulnerable children!



Mirna Sanchez with a family in the Eastern Market.

The Italian NGO, “Tierra de Hombres” is helping us expand programming to Managua's wholesale market as well as the inter-city bus terminal. Girls, children and teenagers are trapped laboring at the markets and bus terminals. These places are full of danger -- crime, drug addiction, unwanted pregnancies, and prostitution. The children are left with very low self esteem and an emotional hollowness. Their own parents do not recognize that being able to rest, play games and participate in recreational and cultural activities is something to be valued. State programs in these places are also seriously limited.

The health situation of children, like everyone else here, is hard. Diarrhea and acute respiratory infections are very common. Because people are poor, access to good food is limited and hygienic practices are bad. Kids don't get the education and training they need for their full economic and social development.

Our new program will include new recreational and cultural activities, like sports programs, classes and workshops involving around 663 people (including adults). Our approach is to raise awareness and change attitudes about the respect for the rights of children, so our programming is not just about education, but about recreation, freedom of expression, and freedom from mistreatment and abuse.

All this work has kept me very busy ... but so very happy to support more kids!

With immense love,
Mirna Sánchez



TO NICARAGUA WITH LOVE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PACK PEACEWORKS 69TH MATERIAL AID SHIPMENT TO NICARAGUA

Do you have material aid donations? Some of the things our partners have requested include:

- *medical equipment (no medicine, please)
- *sporting equipment
- *gently used or new clothes
- *bed linens and blankets
- *fully functioning electronics & computers
- *television sets, DVD & VHS players
- *tools & garden supplies
- *notebooks, pencils...school supplies
- *kitchenware, pots and pans & luggage
- *bicycles are in huge demand
- *sewing machines
- *bedroom sets and furniture



Saturday May 14th, 2016, 10am-4pm

United Presbyterian Church. 525 East Front Street

Plainfield, NJ 07060. 973-543-4724

Contact: Jason Hammond, jhammond@drew.edu



peaceworks.org