

Environment and Contemplative Practice April 2007 Grant List

Ceres, Inc.

(Boston, MA)

Sustainable Governance Project

Total Award: \$125,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.ceres.org

To support the Sustainable Governance Project, an initiative of Ceres, Inc. By enlisting investors in a campaign to encourage companies to act on global warming, Ceres and the Project are making climate change risk a priority for corporate management and boards of directors. The multi-year strategy is to pressure companies to take action by mobilizing a group that companies cannot ignore: owners, and in particular, large institutional investors. With past NCF support, Ceres has held major conferences at the UN, recruited 55 investors with \$3.7 trillion in assets, moved AIG - the world's largest insurer - to adopt a climate policy, and is steering \$1 billion in investment capital to clean technology opportunities. The Project and Ceres' goal will be to continue to improve business and investor responses to climate change through direct engagement and shareholder action, with the ultimate goal of building support for national climate policy action.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$75,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 1*

\$50,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc.

(New York, NY)

Carbon Disclosure Project

Total Award: \$150,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.rockpa.org

Project: www.cdproject.net

To support the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), an initiative of the Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, Inc. CDP uses the power of capital markets - combined with the fiduciary duty of corporations to their shareholders - to pressure corporations to take responsibility for the environmental costs and risks of their activities. By working with some of the world's largest institutional investors, CDP is helping to ensure that 2,400 of the largest corporations understand -- and begin to manage -- their carbon emissions. By collecting and distributing emissions data, CDP provides the information needed for investors to make knowledgeable choices between companies based on the legal and financial risks being incurred or mitigated by management from government regulation, law suits and shifts in consumer's perceptions towards heavy polluters.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$130,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Civil Society Institute, Inc.

(Newton, MA)

Global Warming Litigation Project

Total Award: \$125,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.civilsocietyinstitute.org

To support the Global Warming Litigation Project, a project of the Civil Society Institute, Inc. and the Natural Resources Defense Council. The Project brings together State Attorneys General in tort cases against industries responsible for climate change, requiring that they internalize the costs and risks of global warming and related air pollution. Begun three years ago with NCF support, the Project's most prominent case against five major electric utilities awaits a decision from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, with the hopes that it will soon be remanded to the District Court for discovery. In the meantime, the Project played a key role in filing the State of California's suit against automobile manufactures for depleting the state's vital snow pack, the first global warming case seeking monetary damages. The Project will also shortly file a new case on behalf of a coastal Alaskan village that must relocate due to climate change and is working on additional cases seeking damages.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$125,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 1*

Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy

(Los Angeles, CA)

Partnership for Working Families

Total Award: \$150,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.laane.org

Project: www.communitybenefits.org

To support the Partnership for Working Families (PWF) -- a project of the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy -- whose goal is to support local organizations working to change economic development decision-making at the local, state, and federal levels so that quality jobs, affordable housing, clean air and water, and other social outcomes are goals of development. PWF has been key in spreading "Community Benefits Agreements," where large developers are required to guarantee public benefits in return for taxpayers subsidies. These agreements have resulted in tens of thousands of living wage jobs for local residents, guaranteed health benefits, significant affordable housing set-asides and impressive environmental protections. Furthermore, by providing trainings, legal and technical support, peer-to-peer assistance and research capacity, PWF is bringing local organizations into growing regional and national networks.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$100,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$30,000 Health Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Center for Labor & Community Research

(Chicago, IL)

Illinois High Performance Manufacturing Initiative

Total Award: \$100,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.clcr.org

To support the Illinois High Performance Manufacturing Initiative, a project of the Center for Labor & Community Research (CLCR). With previous NCF support, the Center and the Initiative have been able to bring together diverse stakeholders - including manufacturers, government, labor, and environmental, health and community organizations - with the aim to create a "high-road" manufacturing economy. High-road manufacturing is defined by a race "to the top," where the economy provides quality health care, as well as being financially, socially, and environmentally sustainable. In 2007, CLCR will publish a campaign plan and broad framework - endorsed by both the Illinois Manufacturers' Association and the Illinois AFL-CIO - that will stimulate debate and discussion around the "high road" model. It will also work to further develop the Chicago Manufacturing Renaissance Council, which includes start-up projects like the newly approved Austin Polytechnical Academy, Chicago Workforce Center for Manufacturing, and an overhaul of the Community College system as it relates to manufacturing training programs. Finally, CLCR is looking to not only broaden its connections inside Illinois, but also spread interest for the environmentally sustainable "high road" model throughout the region and the nation.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$60,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Health Program: *Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Work Environment Council of New Jersey, Inc.

(Trenton, NJ)

Winning Chemical Safety and Hometown Security in New Jersey

Total Award: \$80,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.njwec.org

To support "Winning Chemical Safety and Hometown Security in New Jersey", a project of the Work Environment Council of New Jersey, Inc (WEC). WEC's mission is to create a more powerful labor, environmental, and community coalition that can win victories on a wider range of difficult issues, from trade and energy policy to environmental justice. This project is focusing on addressing the catastrophic risks inherent to accidents or deliberate terrorist attacks to the chemical industry in New Jersey. The organization aims to educate the state government about the benefits of adopting and implementing a set of recommendations WEC developed and featured in "Actions Steps for Chemical Safety and Hometown Security." These recommendations go well beyond having more gates, guards, and guns on site, by stressing "inherent," or built-in, safety, such as substituting safer chemicals, or reducing unnecessarily large inventories of hazardous substances. WEC will continue to work to resolve outstanding issues, increase media outreach, and mobilize a stronger coalition of supporters and advocates. Ultimately, the goal is to provide a chemical safety model to be adopted by other states and the nation.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$40,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Health Program: *Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$20,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

National Environmental Trust

(Washington, DC)

General Support

Total Award: \$75,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.net.org

For general support of the National Environmental Trust (NET), an organization dedicated to increasing public awareness of environmental problems through the use of professional communications techniques, field organizing and issue campaign management. By working with almost every major environmental organization and hundreds of local organizations, NET is able to reach out to large constituencies, such as religious, public health and scientific organizations. In 2007, NET's goal is to increase the momentum for change demonstrated in last year's election by continuing to educate the public on the need for strong environmental protections across a wide range of issues. NET will conduct public education campaigns on global warming and energy, environmental health, national forests, and marine conservation. NET's strategy involves substantial field organizing, especially in states where support for the environment is weak; extensive media outreach; non-environmental constituency engagement; policymaker education; and coalition building.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$75,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective II, Strategy 2*

Center for Political Accountability

(Washington, DC)

General Support

Total Award: \$50,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.politicalaccountability.net

For general support of the Center for Political Accountability (CPA), an organization established to use the power of the proxy to leverage corporations to become politically transparent and accountable. Building off the work of NCF-supported Ceres Inc. and the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility, the Center works with 25 institutional investor partners and related organizations to pressure companies to disclose all political contributions. The standard CPA resolution calls on companies to divulge their soft money contributions as well as their payments to trade associations and other tax-exempt organizations that are used for political purposes. The effort includes highlighting conflicts between the publicly stated policies and practices of companies that support action on climate change and the policies and political spending activities of their trade associations. Carried out in conjunction with the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, CPA's work emphasizes climate change as a critical issue that directors and senior executives need to pay particular attention to in scrutinizing their companies' political spending.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$25,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 1*

\$25,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Earthjustice

(Oakland, CA)

Social Capital Collaboration

Total Award: \$300,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.earthjustice.org

To support the Social Capital Collaboration project, an initiative of Earthjustice, which uses social values research to broaden the base of public support for environmental sustainability. This cutting-edge project is one of the first to apply data on American social values -- data usually used to market consumer products -- to a social change issue. From the data, focus groups and analysis, the project will implement a set of new strategic initiatives that are designed to both obtain concrete results for the environment while building the social capital necessary to future success. The work will include additional research in support of integrated litigation, political, and media strategies. Earthjustice is also building capacity to replicate values-based initiative development for staff, clients, and partner organizations.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$210,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 2*

\$90,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Earthjustice

(San Francisco, CA)

Social Values Practitioners Seminar

Total Award: \$10,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.earthjustice.org

Presidential Authority Grant

To support the "Social Values Practitioners" seminar, a project of Earthjustice. This project will bring together representatives of health, environmental, labor, contemplative practice and academic organizations that have expressed interest in new forms of social change, including those actively using social values data and analysis. Participants will discuss their experiences and share lessons from using social values data and developing initiatives, and identify best practices in the field.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$5,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 2*

\$5,000 Health Program: *Objective I, Strategy 1*

UWM Foundation, Inc.

(Milwaukee, WI)

What We Got

Total Award: \$100,000 over 1 year

Organization: www4.uwm.edu/uwm_foundations/uwm_foundations.cfm

To support "What We Got" an innovative media project of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Foundation Inc. "What We Got" is a feature-length, hip-hop inspired, format-bending documentary film that chronicles a quest to discover the Commons. The hero character, DJ Spooky, will take the viewer on a journey that examines how much of what is collectively owned by the public -- the environment, broadcast spectrum, Internet, basic health and social well-being, civic institutions, art, knowledge and culture -- is being privatized by overreaching corporations and colluding governments that wish to profit from the commoditization of public goods. The project will also convey the positive story of how a sense of community and new elements of the commons are constantly being formed, especially on the internet. "What We Got" consists of a feature-length film, an extensive outreach plan with 150 planned screenings, a premiere at a prominent music festival, airing on PBS, and a DVD.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$40,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective II, Strategy 1*

\$50,000 Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 3*

\$10,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project

(Billings, MT)

General Support

Total Award: \$170,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.worc.org

For general support of the Western Organization of Resource Councils Education Project (WORCEP), whose goal is to strengthen and expand its multi-state grassroots network in the Rocky Mountain west. The organization boasts 10,000 members and focuses on six program areas: 1) environmentally sustainable resource development; 2) safe food and fair trade policies, economic justice in agricultural markets, and opposition to environmentally destructive farming practices; 3) training staff and leaders to improve organizing, campaigns, and expanding its organizing base; 4) developing leaders to engage in all aspects of civic life; 5) providing technical support to improve the use of technology as an organizing tool; and 6) providing framing and message development, and coordinated media strategies.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$125,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$25,000 Health Program: *Objective II, Strategy 1*

\$20,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

(Fairbanks, AK)

Corporate Accountability and Community Solutions

Total Award: \$75,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.yritwc.org

To support the Corporate Accountability and Community Solutions project, an initiative of the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council. This project aims to challenge the placement of a nuclear reactor in the region, and to provide clean-energy alternatives to the current oil-based energy system. The Japanese company Toshiba has offered these poor, remote communities a 10 Megawatt reactor for "free," to test whether small, "battery-like" nuclear reactors are feasible. The company's plan relies on unproven technology and government subsidies, includes no provision for nuclear waste disposal, and argues for streamlined permitting and minimal security to reduce costs. In addition to opposing the reactor, the Project and the Council are investigating and promoting alternative energy sources, such as small turbines that can harness power from the river, using wind and solar, as well as improving energy conservation and efficiency.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$75,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective II, Strategy 1*

Tides Center

(San Francisco, CA)

Honor the Earth

Total Award: \$50,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.tidescenter.org

Project: www.honorearth.org

To support Honor the Earth's "Energy Justice," a project of the Tides Center, that will mobilize Native American and non-Native efforts to pursue renewable energy production on tribal land. The initiative will work to move tribes towards a post-carbon and renewable energy economy, through outreach, education and field work. By replicating small scale projects and tribal energy plans in Native communities, Honor the Earth is informing and training the next generation of leaders for Indigenous sovereignty and principled self-determination. The project also allows Native populations to challenge traditional power dynamics, by making tribal communities the solution hubs for the nation's energy needs. As part of the tribal outreach work, Honor the Earth is advocating for tribes to sign onto the Kyoto Protocol, develop a Renewable Energy Workbook, and resist fossil fuel energy development on tribal lands.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

Treepeople, Inc.
(Beverly Hills, CA)
General Support

Total Award: \$75,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.treepeople.org

For general support of Treepeople, Inc., whose mission is to establish a functioning community forest in every neighborhood of the greater Los Angeles area. A larger tree canopy and urban forest will assist in solving high levels of polluted stormwater runoff, increased flooding, rising air temperatures, and air pollution. By engaging the public - especially in disadvantaged communities that suffer from the worst environmental health effects - Treepeople is encouraging citizens to take part in shaping their neighborhoods and cities. The organization will also increase institutional support for urban forestry by educating policymakers and facilitate efforts to integrate alternative watershed management practices into the public works system. Finally, Treepeople is recruiting, training and supporting teachers as they incorporate environmental service learning projects on school campuses.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$75,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategies 1 & 2, Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

Educational Broadcasting Corporation

(New York, NY)
NOW on PBS

Total Award: \$200,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.thirteen.org

Project: www.pbs.org/now/

To support NOW on PBS, a project of the Educational Broadcasting Corporation. NOW on PBS is a hard-hitting investigative journalism news program with a strong emphasis on stories about the environment, health and arts and culture. The weekly program puts its two main reporters, David Brancaccio and Maria Hinojosa, in the field to produce in-depth reports - from exploring Congressional misconduct, the aftermath of Katrina, to the levels of toxins in our food and water - that expose systemic environmental, social and economic injustices. Through NOW's interview segments, guests are also allowed to fully explore ideas and take the long view on the important issues. Finally, starting this year, a new segment entitled, "Ideas that Work," will begin that profiles people, communities, and companies that are playing positive, society-changing roles.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$60,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective I, Strategy 2, Objective II, Strategy 2*

\$25,000 Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 3*

\$50,000 Health Program: *Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$15,000 Jewish Life and Values: *Goal I, Objective III*

\$50,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Independent Media Institute

(San Francisco, CA)

General Support

Total Award: \$125,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.alternet.org

To support the Independent Media Institute, aka Alternet.org, an online newspaper dedicated to high-quality journalism and public interest media work. The site delivers in-depth reporting, insightful analyses and information to large audiences, which keeps citizens informed, motivated and in a stronger position to press for positive social, economic and environmental change. In 2007, Alternet will put special emphasis on global environmental issues, corporate accountability, economic fairness, media, and health care quality and access. Reaching around 2 million readers a month, the site is able to amplify many other progressive media sources, which benefits numerous social change organizations, authors, and activists. It also continues to test and implement new technologies, including expanding the use of new interactive multimedia content. Finally, through improved marketing and advertising, Alternet is expanding and diversifying its funding sources.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal I, Objective II, Strategy 2*

\$25,000 Arts and Culture Program: *Objective I, Strategy 3*

\$25,000 Health Program: *Objective II, Strategies 1 & 2*

\$25,000 Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice Program: *Objectives I & II*

Jewish Fund for Justice, Inc.

(New York, NY)

Social Justice Leadership

Total Award: \$50,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.jfjustice.org

To support Social Justice Leadership (SJL), an initiative of the Jewish Fund for Justice, Inc. SJL is dedicated to employing contemplative practice to develop a new generation of individuals and organizations in the social justice movement. This new model is defined by a commitment to a values-driven and reflective practice, a culture of organizational performance that is ambitious and uncompromising on results, and a perspective on movement-building that is strategic and long-term in its outlook. Accordingly, SJL has developed a series of trainings, fellowships and organizational consultations, with three main objectives: personal growth and personal mastery; organizational development; and movement-building. Initially focused on honing its programs with leaders and organizations in the New York City area, SJL plans to expand to other regions in the coming years.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal II, Objectives I & II*

Stone Circles

(Durham, NC)

General Support

Total Award: \$50,000 over 1 year

Organization: www.stonecircles.org

For general support of Stone Circles, an organization dedicated to sustaining activists and supporting the work of social justice through spiritual practice and principles. Stone Circles provides resources that help social change activists do their work better. The organization is focusing on archiving and cataloging their 11 years of work for public use, continuing to make the "Being Change" retreats available and financially accessible to activists from every discipline all over the country, and supporting the Stone Circles fellowship community. Stone Circles is also capturing the stories of transformation and conveying them in a range of mediums, including a 50-minute DVD, that will inspire practitioners and persuade skeptics. Finally, Stone Circles will support the growing community of spiritual activist organizations by launching a new website, mapping and charting the community's activities, and disseminating the information at a national gathering of activists in June, 2007.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Environment/Contemplative Practice Programs: *Goal II, Objectives I & II*