



US CAMPAIGN

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



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A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | YOUSEF MUNAYYER



Staff and Steering Committee members

It's hard to believe, but 2016 is coming to a close and what a year it has been. **For another consecutive year, the US Campaign has undergone growth** and transformation to better meet the challenges of advocating for Palestinian rights in the United States. In the following pages, you will find a comprehensive overview of our work since our last annual conference in the fall of 2015. Suffice it to say, it has been a busy year, and with supporters and friends like you we have been able to achieve new heights. Given your commitments, the commitment of the dedicated staff and steering committee of the US Campaign, and the changing tide of opinion on Palestine led by grassroots dynamism, I can't wait to see what we can achieve together in 2017. In 2016, we have seen the fruits of countless organizing efforts in a string of successes in the faith-based realm as **nine denominations have taken economic action**. We've seen long-time targets like G4S and

Ahava announce steps to either relocate or end occupation profiteering. We raised awareness around and worked to combat an Israeli branding effort at the Oscars. We built greater ties of solidarity across various social justice movements.

On the government affairs end we've **worked during this election year to inject the issue of Palestinian rights into the conversation** and drive the wedge between the political parties on this issue. We want to make it clear: you can't be a progressive without supporting Palestinian rights – and our message is being heard. We've worked to amplify Palestinian voices in Washington by hosting briefings and arranging meetings with officials and we've played a leading role in coordinating a nationwide response to anti-BDS legislation popping up in state and federal legislatures.

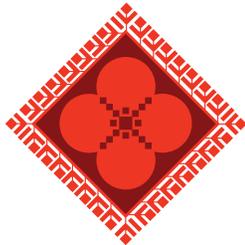
We have also continued to grow this year. **At the start of 2015 we had 4.5 full time staff and have added 3 full time staff members since**. We intend to bring on

additional staff members in the coming year to help us expand the scope and impact of our work. Additionally, we've seen important growth in our fundraising over recent years. We set a fundraising record in 2015 and hope to do so again by the close of this fiscal year. We could not do this without your generous support and we know that while our resources have grown, we need to continue to build and grow given what we are up against. In line with this growth and transformation, **we are making some big changes around here for the first time in 15 years! Check out the next section to see what I mean.**

I hope you can take the time to read through this report which will give you a better idea about the details of our work. Often, so much of our what goes into our work is hard to appreciate. The hours and hours of meetings, conversations, organizing, and planning which are key elements of what we do happen behind the scenes. What follows in this report is a summary of some of the successes that behind-the-scenes work has produced. **With your continued support, I know we can and will reach even greater heights in 2017.**

Yousef Munayyer
Executive Director

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



US Campaign for Palestinian Rights

Working Together for Freedom, Justice, and Equality

Notice something different? Well, it is time to share the big news!

The *US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation* is changing its name!

Moving forward, our organization will be known as the *US Campaign for Palestinian Rights*.

Concurrent with this name change we are also overhauling our **website and logo**. Our new website will be unveiled at our annual conference on October 15th, 2016 themed “Which Side Are You On?: Taking a Stand for Palestinian Rights.”

We wanted to share this news with you and also share some of the thinking that went into this decision. You may know that our coalition, **the largest in the United States working for Palestinian rights**, determined several years ago through a voting process in our membership to change our name. We chose the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights for several important reasons.

While we of course continue to demand an end to Israeli Occupation, **we wanted our name to encapsulate what we stand for, not just what we stand against**. Additionally, we have long stood in support of **the rights of Palestinians living under formal Israeli military occupation** but also of course **the rights of Palestinian citizens of Israel and Palestinian refugees**.

We believe this change compliments a burgeoning and necessary **shift in the discourse on this issue away from a security-based framing and toward a rights-based one**.

We also felt it was important **to highlight “Palestinian” because it is often this very identity that is the calculated target of Israeli policy**. And we recognized that so many people refer to our organization simply as “The US Campaign” so we have decided it made sense to hold on to this part of the name for easy reference and continuity as we go through this change. Last, our new name is more concise and easier to use.

Finally, I wanted to introduce you to our new logo. The image we chose is of a poppy surrounded by a traditional Palestinian embroidery pattern. **The poppy is a flower that, like Palestinians themselves, is native to Palestine and has roots throughout the country**. Annually in springtime the poppies bring beautifully colored sights to the Palestinian landscape after the cold winter. It symbolizes a connection with the land and the triumph of hope and perseverance.

The embroidery pattern, or *tatreez*, is Palestinian needlepoint that traditionally adorned bridal dresses and has been incorporated into many forms of clothing. The masterful products of hours upon hours of carefully crafted and organized design bringing together individual threads **is a reminder of what can be achieved when we organize and act together**.

As we continue down the path of **working together for freedom, justice and equality** we hope we can always count on supporters like you who have helped us elevate the advocacy for Palestinian rights to new heights over the past 15 years.

With gratitude for your continued support,
US Campaign Staff and Steering Committee

CHALLENGING US POLICY

ENGAGING POLITICAL PARTIES FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

❖ In the run-up to the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, the **US Campaign mobilized supporters and worked behind-the-scenes to push for the parties to adopt Palestinian rights planks in their platforms.** The Democratic Party’s platform process was open to the public, enabling us to mobilize supporters in St. Louis and Orlando to create visible presences for Palestinian rights at its platform hearings with specially designed “I Support Palestinian Human Rights” and “Progressive for Palestine”

signs, stickers and buttons. The Democratic Party narrowly defeated platform amendment language which would have called for an end to Israel’s military occupation and illegal settlements. Even though these amendments were defeated, thanks in large measure to our organizing work there, CNN reported that the party’s rejection of the Palestinian rights amendments “led to the loudest boos of the day,” demonstrating clearly the growing support for Palestinian rights within the party.

❖ At the DNC in Philadelphia, we organized a **standing-room-only** panel with member group American Friends Service Committee. Entitled “Progressive for Palestine: Is the US Ready to Rethink Policy on Israel?,” the panel featured Reps. Keith Ellison (via video) and Hank Johnson, Dr. James Zogby of the DNC Platform Drafting Committee, and Linda Sarsour, a prominent Palestinian-American presidential surrogate. Panelists explored the various ways in which support for Palestinian human rights is becoming more



Representative Hank Johnson speaking at our “Progressive for Palestine: Is the US Ready to Rethink Policy on Israel?” panel at the Friends Center in Philadelphia during DNC week.



Delegates from Puerto Rico show solidarity with Palestine during the DNC week.



US Campaign Policy Director, Josh Ruebner, and American Muslims for Palestine's Government Relations Coordinator, Kareem El-Hosseiny talk with Rep. Elijah Cummings about the Democratic platform.



US Campaign Government Affairs Associate, Tamar Ghabin, marches with supporters in Cleveland to show support for Palestinian rights during the Republican National Convention.

mainstream, and even popular, within progressive circles both within the party and on Capitol Hill. The event was designed to create a safe space for pro-Palestinian rights DNC delegates to meet up and continue advocating for changes to US policy.

❖ We also organized an informal caucus of **delegates from more than 30 states** who distributed our t-shirts, signs, buttons and stickers to fellow delegates, creating a nearly ubiquitous display on the floor of the DNC in support of Palestinian human rights. “All the...pro-Palestinian yellow stickers at #DNCinPhilly are truly dispiriting,” lamented prominent right-wing Israel supporter Rabbi Shmuley Boteach. The eagerness with which DNC delegates displayed their support for Palestinian rights was a heartening indicator of change among the grassroots base of the party.

❖ We also helped organize Palestine contingents to DNC protests and supported member group panels and protests. In total, this presence was, Al Jazeera reported, a “**show of force**” in support of Palestinian human rights “**unprecedented at other political conventions.**” Huffington Post noted that if all of the Palestine solidarity activism on full display at the DNC “proceeds on its current trajectory, it could **threaten the virtually unconditional support** for Israeli government policies that has been a core tenet of both major parties for decades.”

❖ At the RNC in Cleveland, we gave workshops and tabled at the People's Justice and Peace Convention and helped organize a Palestine contingent to RNC protests. Through our work in Cleveland, we were able to continue to **solidify Palestine's place within progressive circles**, and **develop our relationship with other social justice causes.**



Delegates from North Carolina raise the Palestinian flag on the floor of the Democratic National Convention—and wear our materials in support of Palestinian human rights while doing so!

CONFRONTING ANTI-BDS LEGISLATION

❖ As the Palestinian civil society-led boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement for freedom, justice, and equality continues to make tremendous strides in the United States, Israel and its supporters are feverishly trying to tamp down the movement by working to pass anti-BDS legislation. The US Campaign has made it a top priority to challenge anti-BDS legislation at both the federal and state levels. While neither Congress nor state governments can enact laws which restrict our First Amendment-protected right to support and organize boycotts, anti-BDS legislation is intended to have a chilling effect on the movement and, in some cases, to actually unconstitutionally penalize BDS supporters. In Congress, we ran a campaign opposing the Combating BDS Act, a bill which encourages states to pass anti-BDS legislation that ironically would divest state investments from companies supporting BDS and/or blacklist BDS supporters from receiving state contracts. Due in part to our organizing, and despite receiving significant support in both the Senate and the House, its sponsors have not tried to bring the bill to a vote. Instead they have tried, so far unsuccessfully, to slip this language into larger must-pass bills as an amendment.



New Yorkers protesting city-level anti-BDS initiatives proudly display our message in support of Palestinian human rights.

❖ #RightToBoycott: As anti-BDS legislation proliferated this year at the state level, we took the initiative to launch a joint website (www.righttoboycott.org) with Palestine Legal and Jewish Voice for Peace to serve as a **clearinghouse for tracking and mobilizing against anti-BDS legislation**. We worked with member groups and individuals in approximately 10 states to challenge anti-BDS bills and resolutions. Although some did pass, thanks to our organizing work and that of member groups and ad hoc statewide coalitions, we did score some notable victories, including stopping an anti-BDS bill in New Castle County, Delaware, **watering down an anti-BDS bill** in California, diluting an anti-BDS resolution

in Virginia and defeating a second bill there, postponing an anti-BDS bill in Ohio, and blocking an anti-BDS bill in the New York State Assembly. Because the ad hoc coalition we helped form and support was so successful in New York, its governor was forced to issue an anti-democratic Executive Order, which resulted in significant backlash against him. In August, we convened a lessons learned conference call with organizers and member groups in preparation for what we believe will be an intensified push to pass anti-BDS legislation in state houses in 2017. To better coordinate national support for local efforts, we also created and managed a nation-wide listserv of organizations challenging anti-BDS legislation.

ADDITIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

❖ **#NoWeapons4Israel**

Last fall, when the United States and Israel began negotiations for a new ten-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) to give Israel as much as \$50 billion more in US taxpayer-financed weapons, we launched a months-long organizing campaign against the deal with several member groups and allies, resulting in more than 60,000 people petitioning the president not to give Israel more military aid.

❖ As a result of our organizing, **we were able to secure high-level meetings at the National Security Council and State Department** at which we presented specific policy proposals to hold Israel accountable for previous violations of US weapons law. We also presented policy demands to ensure that any additional future weapons given to Israel are monitored strictly to ensure compliance with US laws designed to protect human rights.

❖ The United States and Israel signed the MOU for \$38 billion in September 2016, making the United States even more deeply complicit than before in Israel's human rights abuses of Palestinians for another decade (the George W. Bush administration inked a deal to give Israel \$30 billion of weapons over ten years in 2007). Despite this significant setback, the US Campaign will continue to work to ensure that the United States holds Israel accountable for past and future violations of the US laws, such as the Arms Export Control Act and Foreign Assistance Act, designed to prevent US weapons from being used to commit atrocities.

❖ **#NotProgressive**

In November 2015, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was invited to speak at the Center for American Progress (CAP), a self-described "progressive" organization. The US Campaign helped organize, along with

a number of other coalition member groups, a campaign to get CAP to cancel the event. Although we did not succeed in getting the event canceled, our campaign resulted in major media coverage, and many CAP staffers refused to cross our picket line and boycotted the event.

❖ **Amplifying Palestinian voices in Washington, D.C.**

In October 2015, the US Campaign brought members of the Iqrit Community Association to speak at a Capitol Hill briefing. Iqrit is a Palestinian village in Israel which was depopulated by Israel during the Nakba; today villagers and their descendants are actuating their right of return by reestablishing a presence in the village. The panelists spoke of ending military aid to Israel, the urgency of the right of return, and achieving equality for Palestinian citizens of Israel. The other panelists were US Campaign Steering Committee member and USA



Tell the Center for American Progress....



Netanyahu is #NotProgressive



"At this time we need to control all of the territory for the foreseeable future...Will we forever live by the sword--yes."

endtheoccupation.org/notprogressive

Jewish Voice for Peace's Rabbi Joseph Berman, Center for Constitutional Rights' Katherine Gallagher, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights' co-founder Raji Sourani, Al-Haq Director Shawan Jabarin, New America's Zaha Hassan, and US Campaign's Tamar Ghabin all meet with civil rights icon Rep. John Lewis.



Representative for Adalah, Nadia Ben Youssef, and human rights attorney and activist, Noura Erakat.

❖ In March 2016, the US Campaign organized meetings for Palestinian Knesset Member Haneen Zoabi at the State Department and a public briefing at New America. A month later, we organized Capitol Hill meetings and a briefing at New America for **Raji Sourani**, founder of the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, and **Shawan Jabarin**, director of Al-Haq. Organizing these meetings and

briefings for visiting Palestinian leaders, often done behind-the-scenes, remains a vital priority for us to ensure that policymakers and think-tank audiences are hearing Palestinian voices.

❖ **No Way to Treat a Child**
The US Campaign continued to invest significant time and energy supporting the No Way to Treat a Child campaign, led by member group AFSC and Defense for Children International-Palestine. We mobilized our supporters and lobbied on the Hill in support of Rep. Betty McCollum's "Dear

Colleague" letter calling on the Obama administration to appoint a Special Envoy for Palestinian Children. Thanks to our collective organizing efforts, in June, **20 Members of Congress sent the letter to the State Department.** The Obama administration's disappointing response to Rep. McCollum, rejecting the proposal to establish a Special Envoy for Palestinian Children, means that we will continue to build upon this Capitol Hill support for Palestinian children's rights and seek additional ways to ensure US policy supports Palestinian children.

US CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS IN ACTION



St. Louis residents attend the platform committee meeting for the DNC and display our signs in support of Palestinian human rights.



People take to the streets in Cleveland during the RNC to show their support for Palestinian rights and ending racism.

BOYCOTT AND DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGNS

2016 marks eleven years since the Palestinian-led call for **Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS)** targeting Israel and institutions complicit in its occupation and apartheid policies. Last year, for BDS@10, we celebrated more than 100 U.S. BDS victories – an incredible milestone. Today, just over one year later, that list has climbed to more than 150 victories! BDS is not just growing; it is **growing exponentially**, gaining unprecedented power and momentum for the movement for Palestinian rights. The US Campaign has **played a critical role in mobilizing and connecting** campaigns and coalitions to **build and leverage that power**.



The number of U.S. BDS victories is growing exponentially.

UNPRECEDENTED WINS THROUGH BDS & THE MOVEMENT FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

Not long ago, BDS was dismissed as marginal and ineffective. Today, we are seeing from the highest political ranks that BDS represents arguably the **most serious strategic threat to Israel's occupation and apartheid regime**. Nowhere is this clearer than from the wave of anti-BDS legislation being introduced at the local, state, and federal level, described in our

policy section. These desperate, top-down, draconian attempts to quell time-honored, constitutionally-protected tactics used in social justice struggles throughout history show precisely how **effective** this nonviolent, grassroots movement for Palestinian rights has become.



On March 9th, two long-time targets Ahava and G4S announced corporate changes following years of BDS campaigns worldwide. Notorious security company **G4S**, which helps run Israeli prisons, checkpoints, and a police center, announced **plans to sell its Israeli subsidiary**. The US Campaign began targeting G4S in 2012 and has played a leading or supportive role in dozens of local, national, and international campaigns including those successfully urging the Bill & Melinda



Gates Foundation (2014) and United Church of Christ (2015) to divest. Months before G4S's announcement, the US Campaign helped lead an International Day of Action calling on the United Nations to end contracts with G4S, with some UN entities heeding the call. **G4S remains a critical target** both for its role in worldwide repression and because it has not yet fully withdrawn from Israeli oppression.



Occupation profiteer **Ahava** announced plans to **move its factory out of the illegal Mitzpeh Shalem settlement**, a victory hailed by member group CODEPINK: Women for Peace which led the Stolen Beauty Campaign targeting the Israeli cosmetics company for seven years. The US Campaign took on the Stolen Beauty campaign shortly after it began, supported countless campaigns and days of actions, and sent out hundreds of Boycott Ahava resource packets to organizers nationwide.



It seems the more Israel and those defending its policies fight BDS, the stronger our movement becomes. Increasingly, campus, church, labor, and other campaigns are openly and **proudly affiliating with the BDS call**. Last September, United Electrical Workers union (UE) became the **first national union in the U.S. to endorse BDS**. Two months later, the Connecticut AFL-CIO passed a powerful resolution calling for national AFL-CIO to support BDS. This came less than a year after Local UAW 2865, representing 14,000 University of California workers, became the first major U.S. labor union to endorse BDS. The backlash against UE, CT AFL-CIO, and Local UAW 2865 was fierce and the **US Campaign supported each union** by quickly mobilizing letters of support, organizational endorsements, and thousands of petition signatures.





BDS's success can also be gaged by **increasing mainstream media coverage exposing Israeli apartheid.** In February, we organized with an international coalition to urge Oscar nominees to reject a \$55,000 all-expenses-paid trip to Israel being offered as part of Israel's efforts to whitewash its war crimes. We launched a **#SkipTheTrip** video and petition that amassed more than 10K signatures, along with an ad placed with member group Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) in the *LA Times* – which reaches 700,000 readers – after it was censored from *Variety Magazine*. This and other US Campaign BDS initiatives garnered coverage in *Reuters*, *CNN*, *Slate*, *Vox*, *International Business Times*, *Haaretz*, *Telegraph*, *Forward*, *The Wrap*, *The Nation*, *Al Jazeera*, *Washington Post*, and beyond.

THE OSCAR TRIP

Paid for by Jewish Voice for Peace and the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation

FREE TRIP TO ISRAEL AT THE EXPENSE OF PALESTINIANS.

TLV

Mazel Tov on your Oscar nomination!

ExploreIsrael.com would like to reward you and your plus-one on a 10-day all-inclusive VIP trip to Israel. Includes first class airfare, 5 star hotel, executive detail, executive car service, and all the falafel you can eat!

\$55,000

#SKIPTHETRIP

DON'T ENDORSE ISRAELI APARTHEID.

THEY DIDN'T ASK FOR IT, but this year's top Oscar nominees are getting a \$55,000 trip to Israel, sponsored by the Israeli government. This is part of a larger "Brand Israel" strategy to use celebrities to distract from almost 50 years of illegal occupation of Palestinian land and human rights abuses, including separate laws for Palestinians — a defining feature of an apartheid state.

SUPPORTING FREEDOM, JUSTICE & EQUALITY

US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation
www.endtheoccupation.org

Jewish Voice for Peace
www.jvp.org

Our ad published in the *LA Times* after it was censored by *Variety Magazine*.

Still, nowhere is the power of the movement for Palestinian rights clearer than in the realm of churches...

#CHURCHDIVEST: NINE DENOMINATIONS TAKE ECONOMIC ACTION FOR JUSTICE!

Two years ago, when the Presbyterian Church (USA) became the first mainline U.S. church to divest from the Israeli occupation by a razor thin margin, we could never have imagined that by 2016 the number of denominations to take economic actions for justice in the Holy Land would have **climbed to nine!**

This January, following years of divestment advocacy led by member group United Methodist Kairos Response with support from the US Campaign and others, the United Methodist Church (UMC) **divested from five Israeli banks**. The US Campaign was busy working with the Unitarian Universalists (UU) for Justice in the Middle East providing significant strategic support and mentorship in their campaign calling for the UU Association to divest in June. Similar to the UMC, the **UUA responded to the grassroots campaign by divesting** in April!

Just days later, the **Alliance of Baptists passed their own divestment resolution!** This followed actions by the Catholic Conference of Major Superiors of Men, which called this year for a boycott of Israeli settlements, and actions in previous years by the Quakers, Mennonite Central Committee, and United Church of Christ – with strong support from the US Campaign.

Not to be outdone, the PC(USA) took things to the next level in 2016, passing sweeping measures put forth by member group Israel Palestine Mission Network, including overtures urging the IRS to investigate the tax-exempt status of organizations supporting Israeli settlements; asking the U.S. government to enforce laws requiring correct labeling of Israeli settlement goods; and committing the church to **prayerfully read and engage with the writers of the Palestinian BDS call**.

But nothing could prepare us for the extraordinary moment when the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) voted by 90%** to implement a screen to **end investments** in corporations profiting from Israel's violations of Palestinian rights and by 82% to end unconditional U.S. aid to Israel. **The US Campaign provided intensive support** before and at the vote to Isaiah-58 Lutherans leading the dynamic campaign.

Lutherans vote overwhelmingly to stop investing in occupation and end unconditional U.S. aid to Israel.





WE CANNOT PRAY
FOR PEACE
 & INVEST IN VIOLENCE

I'M VOTING **YES** ON THE
 DIVESTMENT RESOLUTION
 #UUdivest4peace

The US Campaign provides intensive, on-the-ground support passing lessons learned from one church assembly to the next.

In many assemblies, US Campaign staff serve as official resource people **testifying to voting delegates**. We have **mobilized grassroots support** from social media to letters from Palestine to on-the-ground delegations. Each church group leads their campaign within their own church, while the **US Campaign has been the glue and institutional memory to ensure that the wisdom gained at each church assembly is passed on to another**. We have transferred knowledge from one church to the next around everything from **strategic planning to legislative organizing to coalition-building to how the opposition operates by hijacking** the process rather than respecting the unique process and culture of each church.

The US Campaign has also ensured that church groups can help each other – passing on wisdom directly – by **bringing together leaders of various denominational groups** in assemblies, webinars, and an annual interdenominational summit. This year's gathering, co-organized with members groups Friends of Sabeel - North America (FOSNA), Kairos-USA, and Palestinian Christian Alliance for Peace (PCAP), will host **70 faith leaders from more than 40 faith-based organizations** to strengthen relationships and deepen cross-denominational collaboration for justice in the Holy Land.



Pastor Khader Khalilia testifies at the 2016 Lutheran assembly about living under Israeli occupation.



The US Campaign has provided this type of critical networking and “glue” far beyond the faith-based realm...

“THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT”: CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, NETWORKING, AND COORDINATION

As the largest and broadest coalition for Palestinian rights in the country, the US Campaign uses our bird’s-eye view of the movement to provide a multiplier effect – **identifying** strategic campaigns in one city and **spreading** it to dozens more; **amplifying** member groups’ work to **give a national voice and impact to local initiatives**; and **developing infrastructure, capacity, and programs** to propel work happening nationwide. The US Campaign manages campaign-, campus-, and faith-based networks and we are always looking for ways to facilitate coordination, collaboration, and resource-sharing between member groups.



The US Campaign supports member group-led campaigns nationwide, giving a national voice to local efforts.

Hewlett Packard (HP) companies represent an important, strategic target given their role in enabling Israel's deadly blockade of Gaza and managing people for profit at prisons from the U.S. to Palestine. The US Campaign has partnered with the Palestinian BDS National Committee (BNC) to **bolster the Boycott HP campaign across the nation and beyond** by populating and convening a network of worldwide HP campaigners

coordinating bi-weekly around tactics, strategy, research, resources, and social media culture jamming opportunities. In September, we hosted two webinars on why and how to boycott HP, featuring **lessons learned from anti-apartheid veteran Caroline Hunter**, who spearheaded the landmark, successful boycott of Polaroid, the company that provided imaging for South Africa's notorious pass system in the 1970s just

as HP provides imaging at Israeli checkpoints today. The webinars drew close to 200 activists from 25 countries worldwide, illustrating the **tremendous momentum** behind this important campaign which will see an exciting Week of Action November 25 (Black Friday) through December 3, including the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on November 29.



The US Campaign organized a webinar featuring Polaroid boycott campaigner Caroline Hunter to share lessons learned from the anti-apartheid movement with 200 other activists and organizers.



The US Campaign has provided critical **facilitation, action planning, and coordination** for the **Stolen Homes coalition**, comprised of member groups including US Palestinian Community Network, JVP, CODEPINK, and FOSNA. The Stolen Homes campaign was launched in January to urge Airbnb to stop listing properties in illegal settlements. The campaign has gathered more 150K petition signatures and saw a successful Day of Action at 10 Fidelity (Airbnb investor) offices nationwide as the 1967 occupation entered its 50th year in June. An accompanying online campaign included graphics and videos reaching millions with a message from Palestinians: We Can't #LiveThere, So Don't Go There.



Activists speak out against Airbnb's role in displacement from the U.S. to Palestine as part of #StolenHomes Day of Action.

We are excited that BDS is gaining momentum **on the municipal level**. The US Campaign provides ongoing support to a new network convened by FOSNA of municipal campaigns -- including Portland, which took steps toward becoming the first occupation-free city in the U.S.! We are hosting the network for an in-person meeting at this year's conference. This January, we hosted a popular webinar on **"Making Your City Occupation Free"** with more than 125 attendees from nearly 80 cities.

The US Campaign hosted a webinar on building municipal campaigns with over 125 attendees from nearly 80 cities.



STRATEGIC SUPPORT, TRAININGS, AND MORE TO STRENGTHEN MEMBER GROUPS AND BDS

Over the year, the US Campaign provided **trainings, workshops, one-on-one strategic support, and other mentorship to more than 120 organizations nationwide**, including campus groups, faith-based organizations, and broad coalitions.

The US Campaign supported member group-led campaigns including working with Minnesota Break the Bonds to **petition the SEC** to enforce U.S law for Israel bonds; calling for **PayPal**

to stop discriminating against Palestinians; calling for Le Cordon Bleu to end its partnership with **SodaStream**; a **Librarians and Archivists with Palestine** international reading campaign of *Sharon and My Mother-in-Law*; **Boycott Sabra**; **Remodel RE/MAX**; **#CancelPinkwashing** at the Creating Change Conference; **Take Apartheid Off the Menu** at the Round Tables culinary show in Tel Aviv; urging **PEN American Center** to reject support from the

Israeli government; protesting the **Newseum** for giving a platform to the IDF; lobbying actor **Sean Penn** to pull out of the IsraAid Conference; appealing to **Carlos Santana** to cancel his concert in Tel Aviv; and celebrating musician and producer **Pharrell Williams**' cancellation of a planned Israeli show. We continue to serve on the **Rasmea Odeh Defense Committee** as she faces ongoing U.S. government persecution for her activism.



Palestine activists in the Bay Area attempted to deliver a petition to Carlos Santana urging him to respect the call to boycott Israel.



The **Stop the Jewish National Fund (JNF)** campaign held days of action March 30 (Land Day) through April 16 (Tax Day) to coincide with the National Lawyers Guild's submission of a regulatory challenge to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requesting an investigation into the JNF's charitable status. We launched a petition urging the IRS to conduct an investigation, delivered to **five IRS offices on Tax Day**. As part of the coordinating committee of the campaign, which includes member group International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network, the US Campaign played a major role in planning the days of action and garnering critical media attention.

The US Campaign also provided support of various kinds – resources, letters, networking, grants, and more – to **students leading powerful boycott and divestment campaigns on more than 20 campuses nationwide**. In spite of growing backlash, Spring 2016 brought one dozen U.S. campus victories -- the same number as the entire previous year and more than twice any year



Last but not least, the US Campaign provided strong support to the **Palestinian BDS National Committee (BNC)** in hiring a **North America Advocacy Advisor** to represent the BNC, liaise with the global BDS movement, and support

before that. The US Campaign continues to serve with student leaders and national organizers on the **Campus BDS Support Team, streamlining and enhancing support for campus organizers**, providing research, legal support, media tips, and sophisticated technology for online targeted actions.



strategic and effective BDS campaigning in North America. The US Campaign has worked extensively with **Garik Ruiz**, who was hired for the position, to integrate him into the many campaigns and facets of U.S. BDS organizing.

JOINT STRUGGLE FROM FERGUSON TO PALESTINE AND BEYOND

The US Campaign considers joint struggle and intersectional organizing to be a strategic focus and priority area of our work. Following the police killing of Mike Brown, an unarmed Black teenager in Ferguson, Missouri in August 2014, staff and Steering Committee members based in St. Louis and Washington, DC have taken part in countless direct actions, trainings, meetings, and coalition efforts with the central message that **Black Lives Matter**. We understand that racist policing is part of a broader U.S. history of white supremacy and violence against people of color; first through genocide of the indigenous population and the enslavement of Africans, followed by countless occupations abroad -- including Israel's U.S.-sponsored colonization of Palestine.



US Campaign staff and Steering Committee members hear from Ferguson residents on a visit to pay respect at Mike Brown's memorial.

Over the past year, the US Campaign helped organize a **#Ferguson2Palestine** St. Louis report-back by Black leaders who traveled to Palestine; spoke to international solidarity for the St. Louis National Day Against Police Brutality; and spoke on Justice for All: Echoes of the Global Movement for Black Lives panel about Black-Palestinian solidarity. The US Campaign played a supporting role in the Land Day Tour of the play, **“There is a Field,”** leading and helping create curriculum for discussions and workshops to explore connections and build cross-struggle solidarity.



The US Campaign is committed to doing the messy, ongoing work of **challenging racism and white supremacy** inside and outside our organizations and movement. White US Campaign organizing staff are also providing workshops for other white folks on **white supremacy and how racism can show up in social justice organizing**. We also provided strong support to member group St. Louis JVP in issuing an open letter to a local rabbi who was supporting both AIPAC and Black Lives Matter -- to point out the hypocrisy and support Ferguson leaders working for transnational liberation.



Have you seen our new intersectional website g4sfacts.org outlining G4S's role in oppression worldwide?

The US Campaign serves on the **Steering Committee of the Prison Divest Coalition**. This year, the Prison Divestment National Week of Action coincided with Palestinian Prisoners' Day and we released the G4Sfacts.org website highlighting G4S's role in **worldwide repression** from the U.S. to South Africa to Palestine and beyond. The **intersectional website** is co-hosted by 12 organizations including Black4Palestine, Dream Defenders, Hands Up United (Ferguson), and immigrant rights and prison divestment organization Enlace.

We were excited to promote the inspiring California statewide mobilization against **Urban Shield**, a highly militarized SWAT training and weapons expo that brings together local, regional, and international police-military units – including those from Israel – to collaborate on surveillance, repression, and state violence. And as this report went to press, we were honored to support the **Palestinian Youth Movement caravan to join in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe** in their resistance to the U.S. government's plan to install an oil pipeline on sacred and water-rich Native land. We know that challenging colonization and state violence abroad is incomplete without also confronting and dismantling those systems at home in the United States. In the words of the 2014 Palestine contingent to Ferguson: “We recognize that none of us is free until all of us are free.”

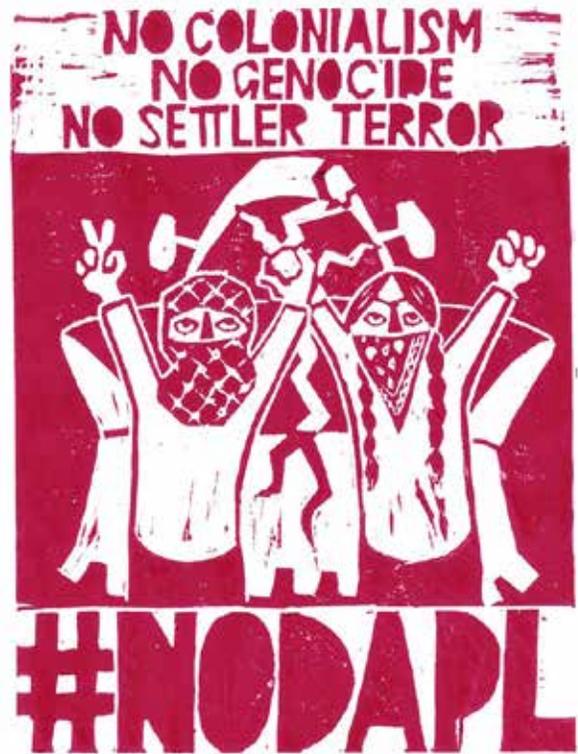


Illustration by Leila Abdelrazaq

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

DEVELOPMENT/FUNDRAISING

The US Campaign's income in 2015 came from more than 3,900 individual donors throughout the country and the most common gift amount was \$25. The US Campaign's supporters and donors are truly the heroes of this organization and their generous support makes the work described in this report possible. We're immensely grateful to the diverse range of people across the country who help keep the US Campaign a mission-driven and financially durable organization.

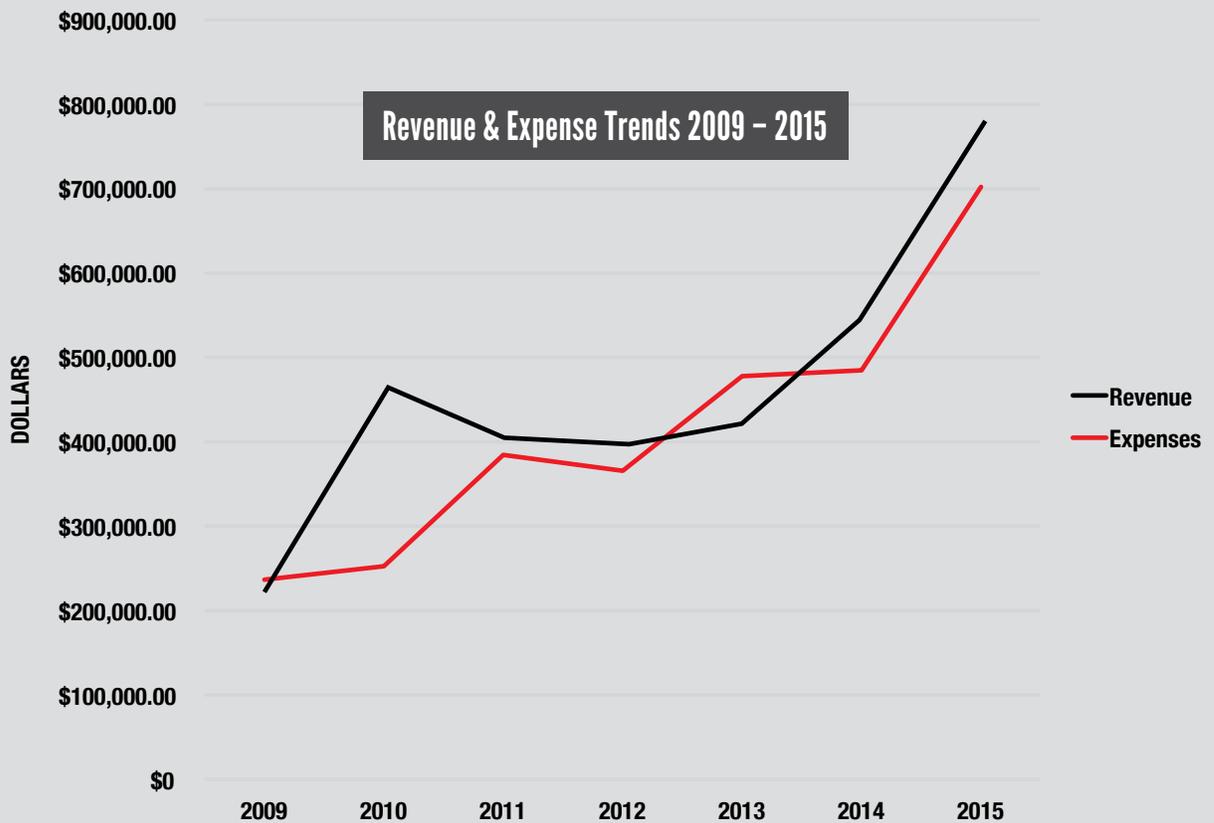
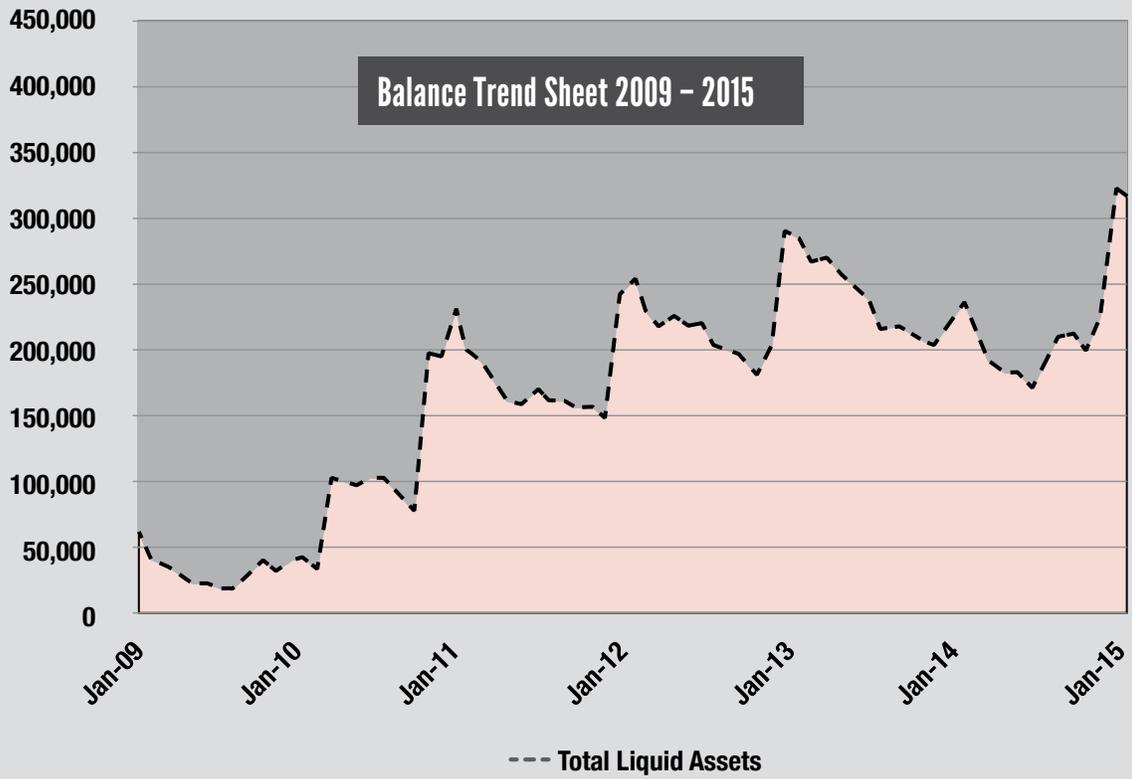
As the US Campaign diversifies its tactics in combating injustice, our finances will continue to reflect the robust and sustainable base of support we enjoy across a range of sources. In the past year, we've further expanded opportunities for giving to the US Campaign, including the development of resources to make it easy for supporters to make planned gifts.

The US Campaign also works diligently to ensure proper stewardship over donor funds. The US Campaign was given a Gold rating by the preeminent nonprofit review firm GuideStar and was voted a "Top Rated Nonprofit" by the publication GreatNonprofits.

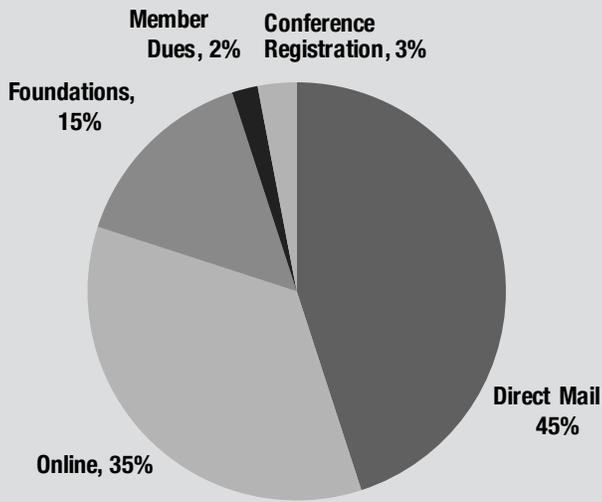
Below are the figures from our 2015 tax filing submitted to the Internal Revenue Service. These figures can be found, along with previous filings, under our legal name *Education for a Just Peace in the Middle East*, which is registered to do business as the *US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation*. The US Campaign's tax identification number, or EIN, is 42-1636592.

- ❖ In 2015, the US Campaign received \$777,757 in income and spent \$705,083 for a net income of \$72,674.
- ❖ At the end of 2015, the US Campaign had a cash balance of \$371,313.
- ❖ In 2015, more than 3,900 different people across the US made gifts to support our work. 836 people gave at \$25, making it the most common donation amount. At a close second, 772 people gave at the \$50 level. With over 40% of our donor base giving at these levels, and over half giving \$50 or less, our finances directly reflect the grassroots characteristics of the coalition.

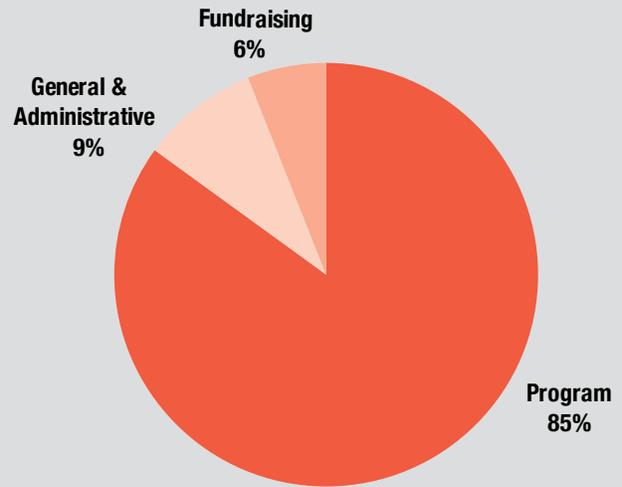




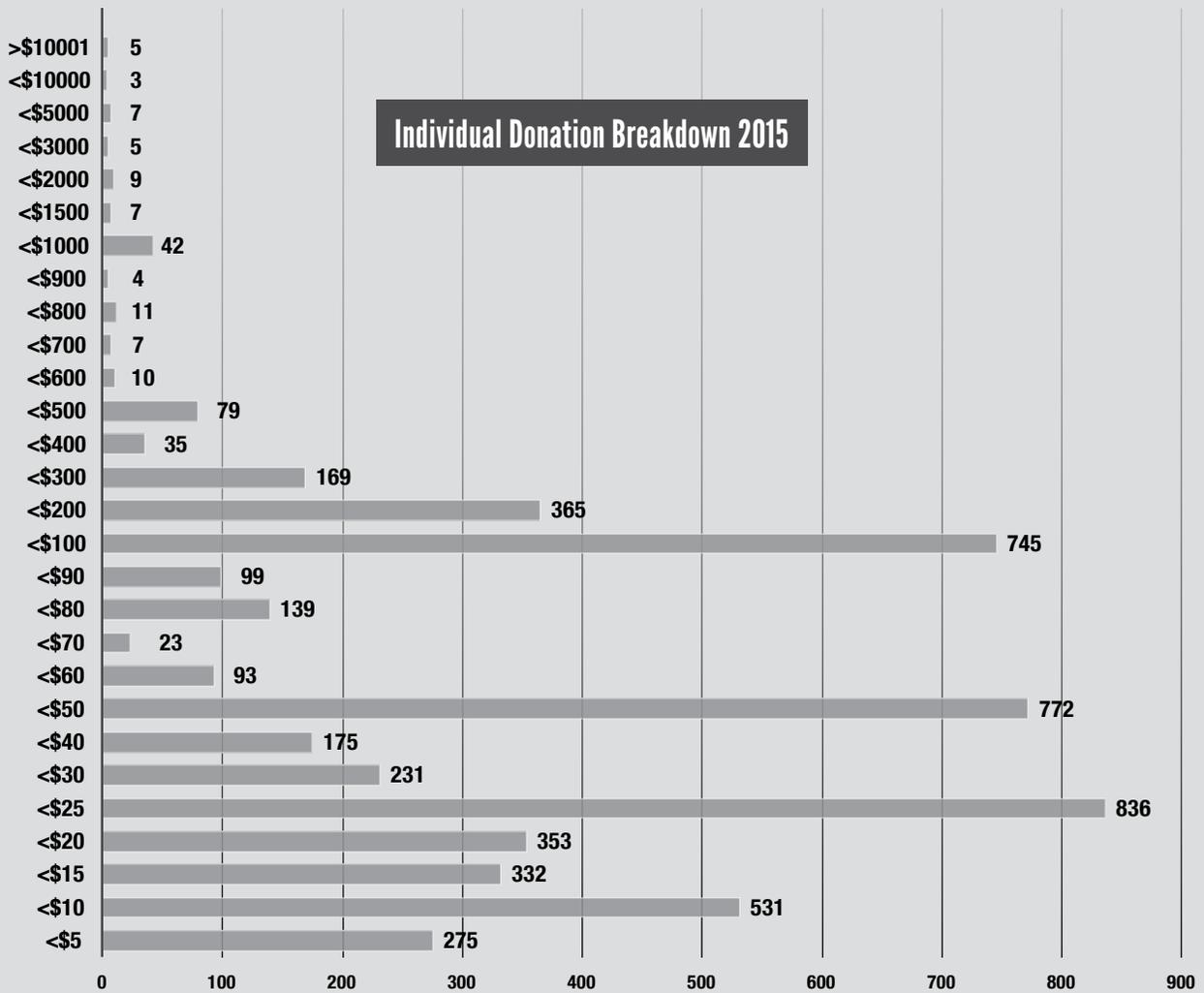
Income



Expenses



Individual Donation Breakdown 2015



STAFF & STEERING COMMITTEE



STAFF

Yousef Munayyer
Executive Director

Anna Baltzer
Director of Organizing
& Advocacy

Mike Coogan
Director of Development

Ramah Kudaimi
Director of Grassroots Organizing

Josh Ruebner
Policy Director

Karl Anderson
Manager of Finance
& Administration

Tamar Ghabin
Government Affairs
Associate

STEERING COMMITTEE

Andrew Kadi (2016)
US Campaign Co-Chair

Sandra Tamari (2018)
US Campaign Co-Chair

Abraham Greenhouse (2016)
The Palestine Freedom Project

Bekah Wolf, Esq. (2018)
Santa Feans for Justice
in Palestine

Nadia Ben-Youssef (2018)
Adalah- The Legal Center for Arab
Minority Rights in Israel

Hatem Abudayyeh (2016)
US Palestinian Community Network

Manal Fakhoury (2017)
Fakhoury Leadership International

Mike Merryman-Lotze (2017)
American Friends Service Committee

Sydney Levy (2017)
Jewish Voice for Peace

Nasser Barghouti (2016)
San Diego BDS

Rahim Kurwa (2017)
UCLA Students for Justice
in Palestine

2016 TIMELINE

JANUARY

YOUR RIGHT

Challenging Anti-BDS Legislation The US Campaign worked closely with member group Delaware Neighbors Against the Occupation to defeat an anti-BDS bill in New Castle County.

FEBRUARY

FREE TRIP TO ISRAEL AT THE EXPENSE OF PALESTINIANS.

#SkipTheTrip Coalition We organized with a diverse coalition of national and international partners to urge Oscars nominees to reject Israel's offer of an all-expenses paid trip valued at \$35,000.

MARCH

Beauty

BOYCOTT AHAVA BEAUTY PRODUCTS EXPOSE THE UGLY SECRETS FROM THE DEAD SEA

Long-time Targets Announce Changes! Following years of BDS campaigns, prison profiteer G4S plans to end contracts with Israel and settlement product Ahava will move its factory out of the occupied West Bank.

APRIL



Anti BDS bills Defeated! In partnership with local coalitions across the country, we either blocked or watered down anti-BDS bills from Virginia to California.

MAY

"ISRAEL'S MILITARY DETENTION SYSTEM TARGETING CHILDREN IS AN ANOMALY IN THE WORLD."

Congressional Support Working with a diverse coalition of groups, we supported a Congressional letter by Rep. McCollum to President Obama calling for the appointment of a special envoy for Palestinian children.

JUNE



Stolen Homes Day of Action We helped deliver over 150,000 petition signatures to Airbnb investors nationwide and an online campaign reached millions with a message from Palestinians: We Can't #LiveThere, So Don't Go There.

JULY

I SUPPORT PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS

National Conventions We created a large and visible presence for Palestinian rights at the RNC and DNC by organizing panels and workshops, and by supporting protests in Cleveland and Philadelphia.

AUGUST



#ChurchDivest Season Continues! We provided strong support for the Presbyterians, Unitarian Universalists, Lutherans and others as 2016 ushered in landmark faith-based breakthroughs.

SEPTEMBER



Ramping Up HP Boycott! We're organizing trainings and coordinating days of action targeting Hewlett Packard, which provides technology for Israel's racial profiling and apartheid practices. Boycott HP!

OCTOBER

WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON? TAKING A STAND FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

15th National Conference Meet us at what is sure to be a phenomenal US Campaign national conference – a great opportunity to network, build your skills, lobby your Members of Congress, and be inspired by powerful speakers!

NOVEMBER

OLIVE TREES MEAN A FUTURE

Trees for Life Program As part of the Trees for Life program, the US Campaign, Palestinian Fair Trade Association, and Caravan Fair Trade have planted more than 7,000 olive trees for Palestinian farming families.

WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY AMAZED BY THE LEADERSHIP, HARD WORK, AND CREATIVITY OF OUR MEMBER GROUPS, WHOSE ACTIVITIES INSPIRE AND KEEP US BUSY EVERY DAY. LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO EACH AND EVERY PERSON WHOSE

SUPPORT ALLOWS US TO CONTINUE OUR CRITICAL WORK TO END ALL FORMS OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND APARTHEID, WITH THE VISION OF FREEDOM, JUSTICE, AND EQUALITY FOR ALL. FROM ALL OF US HERE AT THE US CAMPAIGN,

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS WORK POSSIBLE.

ONWARD!





US Campaign for Palestinian Rights

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ANNUAL REPORT

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