

# Project Peace East Bay Year-End Report 2011



## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



For six years, Project Peace has helped to fill gaps and change lives in our community. Service providers are extending their impact by being connected to a broader community of people who can help. Volunteers have walked away from monthly service projects changed by what they have seen and are eager to be more involved. Most importantly, those who need mercy, justice and peace are receiving it. I have the honor of helping to “connect the dots” of need and provision as we all work toward peace in the East Bay.

Thank you for generously partnering with us and I look forward to great successes in the coming year!

Jen McKillips, Executive Director

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## 2011: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **325 people** from throughout the East Bay participated in Project Peace’s four **Days of Peace**. These volunteers provided nearly **1,000 hours of service** to Berkeley’s Le Conte Elementary School, Lake Merritt’s McElroy Fountain, and Oakland’s Claremont Middle School.
- **16 small groups** (each with 8-15 members) groups of volunteers provided a conservative estimate of **3,000 hours of service to hundreds of East Bay residents**. Garnered from churches in Berkeley and Oakland, these groups were engaged in monthly volunteer service with East Bay social service providers, including: Claremont Middle School, College Avenue Presbyterian Church’s Friday Night Community Meal, Lake Merritt Institute, Shalom of Oakland, University Village, World Impact West Oakland, and Youth Emergency Assistance Hostel (YEAH!).
- Project Peace hosted its **first annual Speakers Series** featuring Joel Salatin, a third-generation alternative farmer in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley. A **sold out crowd of over 700** joined us to discuss symbiotic farming, local food, and the ethical and spiritual thread that, “connects the field to the plate.” Project Peace was able to donate \$5,000 from the proceeds to the Oakland Food Connection and People’s Grocery.

## 2012: LOOKING AHEAD

- Reach out to 5 new churches with whom to partner
- Build up our network of new partners to serve alongside
- Speakers Series will focus on the issue of Human Trafficking
- Provide a healthy runway for future years by building a budget surplus

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## MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!

Constance & Joseph Anderson, Justin & Peggy Ashforth, A & S Baak, Greg Barton, Chris & Heidi Bassett Blair, Ralph & Rebecca Bouton, Katie & Matt Branagh, Alexandra & Jonathan Burns, Gerald & Colleen Cambra, Elise Chan & Baylen Wang, Jon & Joy Channell, Shelley Chapman & Carlos Estevez, Ann Chen, Christ Church East Bay, Americo & Hope Cinquegrana, Patricia & Tommy Dawson, Christi Foist, Andrew Foy, Emily & Steven George, Robert Goldstein, Erick & Faith Gong, Wesley & Kristin Gong, Curtis & Sue Ann Heimer, Alex & Amy Hood, Helena Hunt, Jennifer Ifft, Jack & Nancy Keele, Henry & Miriam Kim, Brian & Samantha Lee, Brian & Jen McKillips, John & Julie Miller, Eunice & Ryan Nichols, Sandra Nichols, Jenna & Stuart Rentz, Manny & Zoe Reyes, Wes & Adrienne Selke, Calvin & Carol Snipes, Patsy Sonsten, Celeste & Tommy Stinson, Sini Thomas, David & Katherine Vosburg

## INTRODUCING JEN MCKILLIPS- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Jen has over 12 years of non profit leadership experience. For over a decade she played key roles in growing and managing Young Life, an international non profit working with high school students. Most recently she has been the chair person of the local non-profit Peralta Parent Teacher Group, a 501C3 which supports an elementary school in North Oakland. Jen and her husband, Brian, have 3 children and have lived in Oakland since 2006.

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## ABOUT PROJECT PEACE EAST BAY

Project Peace East Bay has been active in Berkeley and Oakland since 2006, and was officially incorporated as a 501(c)3 California nonprofit in December 2007.

**Our Mission-** Project Peace exists to create partnerships between local churches and services that work together for just and sustainable communities in Berkeley, Oakland, and surrounding areas.

**Our Partners-** We partner with churches and faith-based groups, social service providers, local businesses, and government agencies in order to create a network that works for the betterment of our East Bay communities and cities.

**Our Values-** Our core values are *Mercy, Justice, and Peace*.

**We start with Mercy** – Mercy is a word used to describe the compassion shown by one person to another. Project Peace provides opportunities for individuals and groups to extend mercy to their neighbors and communities through monthly service projects, quarterly Days of Peace, and special service events.

**We move towards Justice** – While mercy might temporarily extract someone in need from a broken system, justice works to repair the system. Thus, mercy is only the first step; for communities to become truly sustainable, we must address inequitable social structures through advocating for justice. Justice requires a long-term involvement in our communities. Project Peace is currently promoting equity and opportunities for underserved students and schools in Berkeley and Oakland.

**We fight for Peace** – Our vision of peace is a world in which God, humans, and all creation are webbed together in equity, fulfillment, and delight. This is what the ancient Hebrew prophets call shalom. “We call it peace but it means far more than mere peace of mind or a cease-fire between enemies. In the Bible, shalom means universal flourishing, wholeness and delight – a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator and Savior opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights. Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be.” – Cornelius Plantinga, *Not The Way It's Supposed to Be*

Think of peace as a beautiful tapestry; the interlocking vertical and horizontal threads which create that tapestry are mercy and justice.

The staff & Board of Project Peace adhere to the historic Christian faith as defined by the Apostle's Creed.

### PROJECT PEACE STAFF

**Jen McKillips- Executive Director**  
**Catherine Keep- Bookkeeper**  
**Mazzarello Media & Arts, Website & Design**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Bart Garrett**  
**Faith Gong**  
**Amy Hood**  
**Brian McKillips- President**

**For More Information and Updates- [www.projectpeaceeastbay.org](http://www.projectpeaceeastbay.org)**  
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