

Right Sharing OF WORLD RESOURCES

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Right Sharing of World Resources is a Quaker organization which supports grassroots income-generating projects in the developing world and encourages economic discipleship in the United States.

GOD CALLS US
TO THE RIGHT SHARING OF
WORLD RESOURCES,
FROM THE BURDENS OF
MATERIALISM AND POVERTY INTO
THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S
LOVE, TO WORK FOR EQUITY
THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH
OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

GAINING CLARITY, OPENS GENEROSITY

Most of us now living in the United States have never experienced anything like the economic insecurity that is now so much the case around the world. Yes, it is relative in that we still have so much more than many on the planet. Nonetheless, it is real in our lives. There are two basic responses to the situation, hold on tight to what we have or let go and help those who are worse off.

It is, of course, a natural response when confronted with insecurity and the resultant fear to hold tighter to what we have. This strategy works, but only in the very short run. In the longer run, such a response isolates us from others, more generally, "hardens our hearts", and heads us in the opposite direction to which we are

called as persons of faith, to love. When the thousands were hungry following the Sermon on the Mount, it would have been natural to hoard the little bit of fish and bread that people had. Instead, they were asked to open their hands and arms, and share. The miracle is that, in the time of scarcity, by God's grace and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, all were fed.

To illustrate this from RSWR experience, I want to lift up a specific point experienced in innumerable RSWR projects. Most often when a grant is approved for a group of women, there are not sufficient funds to provide loans to everyone at first. For example, if 20 women are in a self-help group, there may only enough money to buy 12 cows. What do they do? Time after time when asked about this situation, their

response is always the same, "We give loans to the neediest first."

That is a simple response, but not a simple situation. First, how do they determine need (usually women with no other means of income, especially widows)? Second, how do the 8 women not getting a loan assent to the decision (they have already established a level of support with the group which includes the trust that loans will be repaid and that, in time, funds will be available for them to buy a cow)? Third, who are they as a community (there are many relationships, including financial, all relying on trust)? With clear answers to these complex questions the answer is simple. Without clear answers, it would be impossible.

In these times of economic insecurity, may we all open our hearts, minds to the neediest, the "least of these".

With this issue, we hope to bring readers to a deeper understanding of the RSWR experience, especially in contact with project partners. First, however, we provide a brief financial overview of 2008. Second, "The Heart of RSWR" is an attempt to put RSWR in its most basic terms, "why do we do what we do?". Third, RSWR board members, Lucretia Humphrey and Blake Lipsett, and RSWR Proposals Coordinator Cindi Goslee each write about their recent experience of travel among partners. For Lucretia and Blake, it was in Sierra Leone. For Cindi, it was India. Finally, RSWR Program Secretary Jackie Speicher provides a list of RSWR and RSWR-related educational resources.

"...MAY WE ALL
OPEN OUR HEARTS,
MINDS, TO THE
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'LEAST OF THESE'."

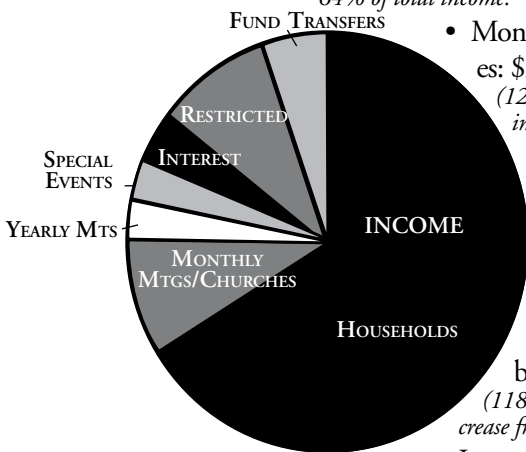
2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The focus of RSWR's work is the grant-making we do with very poor people in the developing world. This work has consistently been 85-90% of our budget. The balance of our budget serves as education/outreach and administrative support to this effort. Of course, none of it could happen without the financial support of Friends (and friends of Friends) in the United States. As for most everyone, 2008 was a difficult economic year for RSWR. For the first time in ten years, income decreased from the previous year. Even with this downturn, we were able to maintain all our work, and continued our commitment to making a dollar to go a long way. In the way of being open and transparent as to exactly what that means, we present the following financial summary of 2008:

RSWR's 2008 budget was \$460,947.20. Total income was \$403,903.00, 88% of budget, and a 7.4% decrease from 2007. Three points should be noted. First, the decrease in income was not as much as many other organizations experienced. Second, it provided us with sufficient funds to carry on our ministry. All grants approved in October, totaling \$116,000, were paid in January. Third, while we can carry on, it is not without some cost cutting measures and extra care in cash flow management.

INCOME

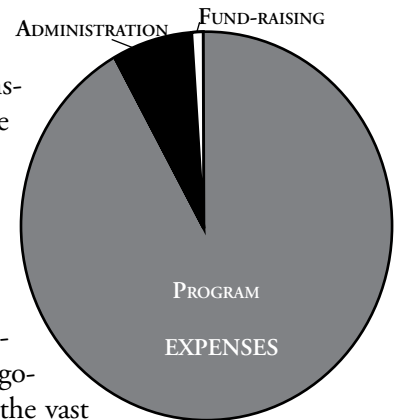
- Individual households: \$260,240.2
(77.8% of budget and a 9.5% decrease from 2007).
64% of total income.
- Monthly meetings and churches: \$39,546.48
(12.4% of budget and an 11.3% increase over 2007). 10% of total income.
- Yearly Meetings: \$11,324.82
(206% of budget and a 87.5% increase over 2007).
3% of total income.
- Special Events Contributions: \$13,012.68
(118% of budget and a 1.5% decrease from 2007). 3% of total income.
- Interest (almost entirely from the Interest-Free Loan Program): \$15,782.39
(93% of budget and an 2.7% decrease from 2007).
4% of total income.
- Restricted (almost exclusively to project grants): \$26,956.67
(98% of budget and a 54.4% decrease from 2007).
7% of total income.



- Transfer from restricted funds: \$37,039.76
(110.9% of budget and a 100% increase over 2007).
9% of total income.

EXPENSE

Total expenses in 2008 were \$476,713.33 (103.4% of budget and an increase of 13.6% over 2007). Cost overage in three categories constituted the vast majority of the expense increase; A) Staff (health insurance and travel), B) In-country representation (began field staff in south India), c) 4% increase in grants to projects.



RSWR remains a "lean" organization putting a donated dollar to good use. 91.5% of the budget went to program (87% for grant-making and 4.5% for education), 7% to organizational administration, and 1.5% to fundraising.

THE HEART OF RSWR

From its beginning in 1967 the basic idea of RSWR has been wealth redistribution. In 1967 we called it "right sharing". Today, we also understand it as Jubilee justice or Sabbath economics, recalling the Biblical teaching of Sabbath and Jubilee. We believe God is calling Quakers and other persons of faith in the United States to this practice.

"THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO LET THE OPPRESSED GO FREE, TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOR."

Walter Brueggemann¹ has shortened Luke's account of Jubilee justice to the following:

YOU FIND OUT WHAT BELONGS TO WHOM AND GIVE IT BACK.

¹ “Voices of the Night—Against Justice” in *Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly: An Agenda for Ministers*. 1986

“Giving it back” is wealth redistribution. RSWR’s distinguishing feature is in the practice of redistribution as a grant (*gift*) of capital, which is then owned and used by women’s self-help groups to support the implementation of small-scale, income-generating businesses. Most micro-enterprise endeavors make capital available via *loans*, which must be paid back by the poor to the original owner of the capital. RSWR understands that God calls us to Jubilee justice, wealth redistribution, in the grants which continue to be redistributed. Our partners who receive the grant are women’s self-help groups who hold and manage the funds in common, making loans to members to implement small-scale, income-generating businesses. Each member must repay her loan, with interest, so that the original gift will continue to flow and grow within the community.

The heart of RSWR, then, is a partnership. One member of the partnership is Quakers and other persons of faith seeking to live more justly, providing capital to help support micro-enterprises, and experiencing jubilee justice. The other member of the partnership are women’s self-help groups who, with the guidance of local non-governmental organizations and by their participation in the self-help group and the micro-credit project, are living Sabbath economics in their own community.

What do these experiments and these women teach us? That the Jubilee can be a real, practical way of life that liberates us all into God’s shared abundance. Specifically, three principles are the root



Everest Trust Rope-Making

of RSWR’s understanding of Sabbath economics as practiced by RSWR partners:

Local Self-Reliance – Economies, to the extent possible, are locally-based. Production is for local consumption. Local consumption needs guide local production.

Sustainability – Economies are sustainable in a number of ways including environmental, fiscal, social, political, and cultural. Economies serve the community, rather than the community serving economies.

Mutual Support and Accountability – Each social unit is a vital part of a community. As such, everyone should be accountable to and responsible for “the common good”.

The heart of RSWR is a partnership in which we, Americans and the planet’s poorest of the poor, practice jubilee justice and demonstrate that just living is possible.

—*Roland Kreager*

IT IS A JOURNEY OF FAITH

I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Sierra Leone 1973-1974. Five and a half years ago, not long after the civil war, I returned for the first time. I was braced for the horrifying realities that we had read about, people without limbs and overwhelmingly sad stories of loss. I was almost too scared to return. Instead, when I got off the plane in Freetown things appeared fairly normal. There were numerous United Nations workers and soldiers, but they were reassuring. I was surprised that things appeared so normal in a country that had been so beaten down after eleven years of war, rape, torture, disintegration, degradation and total disruption. What I did not easily see was how many people in Sierra Leone were worried about immediate needs, like medical care.



Lucretia and Geriatu



Prospective Group Mothers, Mile 91

My host family had a doctor, but it was not until Massah, my thirty year old host, died from complications of malaria that I appreciated what the lack of adequate health care really means. Hidden in what looked nearly normal was an intense desperation just to survive, to find normalcy, and to begin a future with hope.

Sierra Leone has never been an especially prosperous place for the majority of people. In fact, Sierra Leone ranks second to last in the UN's most recent Human Development Index. There is no consistent electricity available in the capital city of Freetown, and on Christmas day of our recent visit the water was shut down. Educational opportunities are lacking and there is no functioning free public school system. Yet, the amazing thing is the optimism and energy amongst so many as they work to bring back "Sweet Salone". They are most proud of having had non-violent and fair elections last year, and of having recently passed laws giving women rights in divorce proceedings. Many people comment that Sierra Leone could be a tropical paradise with gorgeous beaches, generous and kind people, and farmable land to feed the country with staples like rice, cassava, pineapple, mango, sweet potatoes, and groundnuts (peanuts).

My most recent trip to Sierra Leone was two months ago. Blake Lipsett, another RSWR Board member, and I spent ten days visiting recently-funded RSWR projects over the Christmas holiday. One morning early in our visit we woke to find Sierra Leonean visitors on the verandah of the guest house where we were staying. After the social greetings – who we were and where we were from



Haja explaining the goodness of a belly full of rice and mango.

– one of the gentlemen, while having his head shaved, asked a very basic question, "How do you know that what you are proposing is of real use to the Sierra Leonean?" "He went on to say that Sierra Leoneans are so polite that they will say yes to anything suggested by the white, wealthy westerner. His thoughtful question made my thoughts jump to Quaker history: stories of reaching out in love and care to others while calling them our equals and inviting them to tell us what it is they think they need.

In these 5½ years and three visits, I have seen a change of need and desire. Looking back to my first trip, I know that money was well used to keep people from starving, to put clothes on children, and to provide the means of survival for a small village or community. RSWR made it possible, for example, for the community of Hungbo to make it through. We created a relationship in that area of Sierra Leone (Mile 91) that taught us about war and peace and about how even simple

acts of development, such as supporting farm co-operatives and development of farm infrastructure, lays an ongoing foundation for peace.

As RSWR has continued its work in Sierra Leone, the leadership of women has begun to emerge. Men have stepped back. When I first visited Sierra Leone in 2004, our projects were managed by men with women helping and providing support to the men. Speeches honoring our assistance and partnership were conducted by men. It was even difficult at times to speak to a woman. Though our grants were helping a village and the women and children in the village, it was not clear what real leadership the women were able to take.

On my second visit, the projects were beginning to recognize that RSWR wanted to see women in leadership. More projects were introducing women as the leaders who were leading the efforts that benefitted the entire village. One particularly strong model was Madam Sallay at Mile 91 who was running an orphanage for children. Oversight of this project was totally in her hands, although the procurement of RSWR funds probably came from men in her community. Interestingly, women in

Sierra Leone have traditionally been empowered to carry out their own small businesses, whether in the market or along the road. Many are eager to extend this ability to farming cooperatives where women have worked hard physically but have not reaped the rewards of their work. As we know, a woman's income goes for the betterment of her children, providing food, medicine, and education – thus raising up the whole community.

On this last trip, women were no longer in the background. We were greeted by women. Women showed us the way to their farms. Women spoke more openly about their plans and desires for their lives, and they were able to tell stories of what they went through during the war. One woman told how her husband had separated from her and the children in the hope that the rebels would treat them more humanely. She continued by telling how women prostituted themselves to feed their children and how relieved they were for RSWR assistance so they could now be able to provide for their children.

At one project, Katimpi Vulnerable Group, I asked the project manager how she had come to know about RSWR. She had found us on the Internet! When her project was operating, it was noticed by Adama Bundu who was visiting a relative in Sophiatu's village. Mrs. Bundu then decided that she needed to do the same for her community on the outskirts of Freetown. Mrs. Bundu's husband died in the war, forcing her to leave her village "up-country" and come to the city. The area is on a hillside that was forested 30 years ago but now after the war is covered with homes, sheds, and huts. During the rainy season the soil is literally washed to the estuary two miles away turning the sea to reddish brown. Their farming project, Women in Action for Development, helps protect the land as well as provide food and income for another group of women. Now she and the other women in the group are able to farm and care for their fatherless children.

It is a great step of faith for donors to trust us, the Board of RSWR, with your money. You are trusting that RSWR will use your money in ways that truly empower Sierra Leonean women. We do our best to be practical and realistic, requiring that applicants submit written proposals, and then rely

on the recommendations of our in-country representative, Harold Johnson. Recipients understand that their grant is seed money only and will not be continued indefinitely. They know they must make the best use of this opportunity.

After the award of a grant, the small, struggling non-governmental organizations (NGOs) use and reinvest the grant money with little control from us. We are comfortable with this outcome because our relation with the people we assist is one of partnership, equality and trust. We want to empower the women to make their own decisions for what is best for their communities. These women will decide how to plant the rice, when to make the vegetable



Proud Women of War Widows Development Programme

gardens, how to distribute the food and ultimately how to re-invest the small amount of money to make an ongoing enterprise. Making trustworthy connections is a continuing and evolutionary process that ultimately links people of vastly different life circumstances in a mutual step of faith.

Much is possible for Sierra Leone. Women are learning that they can organize and do better together for themselves and their children. Women are gaining strength by learning new skills and competencies. These women who have long been the small shop keepers of the market can now move into larger arenas. One cooperative had hired men for the bush clearing. Who would ever have imagined women hiring men 30 years ago! Your dollars given in faith are part of an evolution of empowerment and ongoing development to share with your sisters and brothers in Sierra Leone. Blessings on you as you participate in this communion of Spirit.

—*Lucretia Humphrey*

REFLECTIONS ON VISITS WITH RIGHT SHARING PARTNERS IN SIERRA LEONE

RSWR's partners in Sierra Leone embody powerful ways Quakers and friends are working to remove the occasion for the civil war which engulfed Sierra Leone. The peace is still not secure. There are reports of rebel guerillas near the borders and there was a coup in neighboring Guinea during our visit. Sierra Leone is recovering from the trauma and dehumanization of war – with a generation raised hiding in the bush, in exile, mothers raped, villages abandoned, and children emerging from enslavement as soldiers. The country is growing to be “sweet Salone” once more.

I could feel, taste and see that with RSWR's relationships and seed grants, our partners are helping to make the current peace last in Sierra Leone. As a leader in the work for peace, Sesay Issak Mohammed Muckson, says they are in the movement for peace through development. Almost ten years after the formal end of the civil war, Sierra Leoneans are now more able to seek out local and international partners who can assist them in their empower and create relationships in which information and assistance are shared.

RSWR is poised to deepen its relationships with Sierra Leoneans – to be known as faithful friends throughout the region as we are in Tamil Nadu, South India and among Friends in Kenya. RSWR's micro-grants help to create the opportunity for communities to have something to work with, some hope. This is what Lucretia and I were told again and again as we traveled with RSWR partners from Bo in the south, Mile 91 in the central region, and Kambia in the north.

Women community organization leaders told how they are building together with RSWR. They are breaking through the cycles of poverty that were caused by and resulted from war. They are healing their children, rebuilding trust and cohesion, re-socializing former child soldiers, and mending families torn apart by the violence of war. Micro-enterprise is key to all this.

Many, like Mary Beatrice Kamara (Muckson's co-leader of Organization for Peace Reconciliation and Development, OPRD), say the war was caused by individual greed and violence. Bringing people together, especially young people some of whom were forced to be child soldiers, and inspiring them to become involved in their home villages,

“...PARTNERS LIKE MUCKSON AND MARY BEATRICE WORK IN AN INSPIRED WAY TO MOVE FROM DEVELOPMENT WORK WHICH PROVIDES HAND-TO-MOUTH LIVING TO WORK WHICH ENABLES COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE.”

is powerful. Beyond the pivotal role that micro-economics plays in food security and the sustainability of the structures of village family life, it is a staple of the pursuit of peace. At Mile 91 where Mary Beatrice and Muckson operate, farming can draw the youth away from the two dominant trades, running illegal substances (primarily marijuana) and selling your body – both primarily women's work.

As RSWR partners and micro-enterprise farmers, Sierra

Leoneans are creatively moving past desperation, past the need for constantly seeking relief. Now that systematic physical violence is less a part of the society, partners like Muckson and Mary Beatrice work in an inspired way to move from development work which provides hand-to-mouth living to work which enables community and individual independence and self-reliance.

For example, rather than directly loaning people money from the RSWR grant OPRD received, the organization raises seedling oil-palm trees and fruit trees and gives them to people as “loans”. Given that people are starving, if they receive monetary loans, their first thought will be of their immediate needs, they may fill their bellies and feed their families. The trees are “loans” only in that the farmers who receive them are required to give OPRD the first gallon of oil or batch of fruits from the trees. OPRD then revolves this return – they use the money from the sale of these fruits to raise more seedlings to give to more farmers. OPRD also supports the farmers in learning the practice of planting and tending the trees, and realizing the return of the loan – such as processing the fruits to oil. Now that many farmers



Educate the Girl Child for a Better Future

are successful, OPRD wishes to purchase machinery so farmers can process their fruits and oil into other more profitable forms and add value to their products and increase their revenue.

Again and again in Sierra Leone women were engaged in collective micro-enterprise and community organization to care for children. The children of Sierra Leone, all of whom work, are the most vulnerable and most voiceless of all. For most, the first movement of the day – and often also the last movement of the evening – was carrying huge plastic tubs full of water on their heads the several miles it might be to bring it from streams to their family's place. The rest of the day, these same heads might carry tall baskets full of coal or fish to sell at market, or a tourist's suitcase.

Sierra Leone has one of the highest children to adult ratios. This is because of the war. Mile 91 (the central area where RSWR is engaged) was hard hit by rebels. Many of the children at Mrs. (Mammy) Sallay Koroma's Life for the Relief and Development Orphanage are the products of war, born to raped mothers too young and unable to care for them. All of Mammy Sallay's children were orphaned by the war – and each asks if we've met their mother.

With Mammy Sallay as a RSWR partner, this group can care for themselves and be self-reliant even though they do not have land to farm. They can be together safely at night with a roof above their heads. This is largely because they had the resources

from a RSWR grant to make soap (soda soap) from local materials and sell it for the local market.

**A PERSONAL REFLECTION:
 CHILDREN DANCING, SINGING, KNEELING, OUR BODIES PRAYING**

It's dry and the darkness is a thick 100° at 8pm as we go to Mammy Sallay's orphanage dance circle. The generator is pumping for this

special occasion and a flare light bounces beams from red, dusty earth to gleaming, animated faces. Mammy Sallay is presiding. A stately older woman, her face and head scarf glisten. The 48 little ones, ages 0-15, coax and shove each other into the circle's center, singly or in pairs – or whisper who I should pull in with me. We are clapping, singing. But there's a cluster of 4 or 5 year olds who stare quietly, resist dancing and cling together, some do not speak to anyone. Muckson explains that the dance circle creates a supportive environment where children can just "be" with others, even if they are too traumatized from the war to really engage.

At Mammy Sallay's dance circle I thought of home and after-school dance-circles at Chester City Eastside Ministries (CEM) where I used to work with Pendle Hill. What makes dancing competitive in the U.S.? What made the young people at CEM play out culture and racial tensions in talk or avoidance? Was it the traumas of having been tear-gassed in school, abused or de-valued in society, the war of institutional racism raging in the ghettos of the United States, or was it a demonstration of healthy pride and self-conception? How does the movement for peace in Sierra Leone teach us to live in North America? How can we be faithful to our partners' inspiration, the patterns of their lives in their homes and our homes as true RSWR partners?

—Blake Lipsett

THE COMMUNITY OF JUBILEE

During the first two weeks of February, I, accompanied by my daughter, Katie Goslee, traveled to India on behalf of RSWR. Our mission was two-fold; to visit with project partners, and to explore with our field staff, Dr. Kannan, the viability of the new training programs and our expanded presence through the field staff position in India.

As RSWR staff, board and volunteers can attest, visits in country with RSWR partners are a powerful experience. To be able to sit with committed NGO leaders and the women self-help group (SHG) members is a humbling experience as we see Jubilee justice at work. When we speak with each of the SHGs we talk of RSWR's commitment to mutual partnership. Mutuality can mean possibilities of life-altering lessons for us as

we listen to the experiences of our partners.

A learning that I carry with me from this trip is in the power and rightness of community. Katie and I spoke with scores of women whose lives are changing through the power of their community.

Their lives began to change long before RSWR came into their awareness. They began to change as the women organized together in self-help groups; began pooling their meager savings, and lending to one another as needs arose. Lives also change as the women share worries, concerns, burdens with one another, and as they learn more about their rights and their opportunities. I often wonder why these SHGs have been so successful in India, yet a similar structure does not exist here in the US. I wonder if the women in India have an understanding of community that we may have lost.

As I sit with the women, I am particularly struck with the realization that it is hard to identify who is the mother of the child that wanders from lap to lap. Is it this women who kisses him, or that



Tribals Social Educational and Economical Development Trust

who scolds him or the other in whose lap he falls asleep? While there is one woman in this group who loves him above all others, he grows up with many mothering hearts and hands.

My daughter and son were, for the most part, mothered only by myself. No aunt was nearby, one living grandmother gave tremendous love when the children could visit her in another city; but my children had only my lap, my kisses, my scolding, my mothering model on a regular basis. As I watched the many-mothered children, I thought of the richness my children could have experienced with a community of mothers and am struck, once again, by the great wisdom we can gain from our partners.

In the second portion of our mission, I was similarly struck by the import of community. Dr. Kannan, with the assistance of "senior" RSWR partners (NGO's who have worked with RSWR for a number of years), has offered three workshops within the past eight months. Two of the workshops focused on potential partners with an orientation to micro-credit, income-generating projects, and grant writing. The third workshop's focus was for RSWR's recently-approved partners, and was designed to assist them with successful implementation and completion of their projects. These NGOs came together for three days of training in which their first step was to re-write their project proposal in their native tongue (Tamil in Tamil Nadu or Telugu in Andhra Pradesh) so that they could more fully "own" the project. To a person, the NGO leaders expressed gratitude and appreciation for the clear learning they received and for the opportunity to meet with others who are doing similar work. We



Welcome at Roopan Trust

also heard a desire for enhancing opportunities for RSWR partners to meet together and share needs, experiences and learnings. This is tremendously exciting new work in India and we look forward to expanding such work in Kenya within the coming year.

Each time I travel on behalf of RSWR, I

return with a renewed energy, zeal and gratitude for RSWR's work and particularly with a deeper understanding of the gift of RSWR's commitment to partnering with our grant recipients. By so doing we expand the community of right sharing, the practice of Jubilee.

—Cindi Goslee

CURRENT RSWR EDUCATION RESOURCES

Right Sharing has developed a number of resources for peace and social concerns programs in your monthly, quarterly and yearly meetings and has identified many others that are very helpful. We use them in our outreach and education programs. They can be useful tools for Young Friends' First Day School, for children and youth in classroom settings, adult study groups, workshops and retreats. Contact me for ideas about programs using these resources. Some ⁽¹⁾ are available on the RSWR website. I am glad to help with or send the others.

CHILDREN'S RESOURCES

- "This Little Light of Mine" song sheets in English, Spanish, and Kiswahili. Many persons in the world never get to see their light shine because of inadequate food, housing, healthcare, and education. This song is a great lead in to other activities on world hunger and how even a little contribution by us here in the US can make a big difference.
- The Right Sharing Game is a unique, cooperative board game which promotes understanding of economic inequities between developed and developing nations and encourages consideration of solutions. Players move towards a world where sustainable local economies are supported by self-help projects, simple living and conservation. For 3rd grade through adults. Good for mixed ages. Playing time 1-1½ hours for 12 players. (Minimum of 7 recommended).
- *Beatrice's Goat*, Page McBrier, Athenaeum Books for Young Readers is picture book about a young girl in Africa whose mother gets a goat that changes Beatrice's life.
- *One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference*, Katie Smith Milway, Kids Can Press is picture book about a boy in Ghana who gets a loan to buy a chicken and grows up to be the

biggest egg producer in his country, providing jobs for many.

- RSWR Children's CD—PowerPoint presentation showing children of India and Africa and the businesses their families start with RSWR micro-loans.
- Gratitude calendars for children.¹ Practicing gratitude as a spiritual discipline helps us realize how much we have to be thankful for and helps answer the question, "How much is enough?", unlocking generosity toward those with much less. Can be used both as both an educational and fundraising tool.

RESOURCES FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS

- "Walking Awhile in their Skin" is a brief, interactive exercise to allow participants to experience the lives of micro-loan recipients in India and to learn from their stories
- Gratitude calendar for teens and adults.¹
- Right Sharing of World Resources DVD is an introduction to the imbalance in distribution of world resources and how micro-enterprise is helping to alleviate world poverty.
- RSWR PowerPoint presentation introducing RSWR micro-loan recipients in India and Africa and the businesses they have started.
- "60 Minutes: Beatrice's Goat". Introduces the real Beatrice of the children's book, showing her African village and the US college she now attends because of the goat her mother received that helped Beatrice go to school.
- "The Richest Dog in the World". An animated movie about a very wealthy dog who has some of his assumptions about world hunger and poverty challenged by a flea who understands our interdependence, empowerment of the poor, and the need for limits on growth.
- "The Mouse's Tale". An animated cartoon in which a little mouse acts as the conscience and teacher for

a cat who does not understand the issues that cause hunger and famine around the world

- “All the Right Stuff”. A video documentary, using hip-hop to address the issues of consumer marketing aimed at teens and how it affects their desire to buy, spend, and have.
- “No Spare Parts”. A video on appropriate technology which makes us think about doing more reusing and recycling in our own country by showing how in Ghana nothing is ever thrown away. It is all reused for amazing and ingenious new purposes.

RESOURCES FOR ADULTS

- “Practicing Simplicity as a Spiritual Discipline”.¹ Leader’s guide and participant materials for a three-hour workshop or weekend retreat.
- “Practicing Gratitude as a Spiritual Discipline”. Leader’s guide and participant materials for a one-session class.
- Sermons and talks on the Biblical mandates for economic justice, care for the poor, and healthy relationships to money and possessions:
 - “How Much is Enough?”.¹ *Good for the Thanksgiving/Christmas holiday season*
 - “Who is My Neighbor?”.¹ *Global interconnectedness makes the answer to this question much different today than at the time of Jesus. Or does it?*
 - “Sabbath Economics”.¹ *A “new” approach to justice, based on the Jubilee*
- First Day School or small group study materials. Brief, one to three-page handouts to stimulate discussion:
 - “Household Sabbath Economics Covenant”, *Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries*
 - “Sabbath-Jubilee Lifestyle Considerations”, *Vivienne Hawkins*
 - “On Social Investing”, *Andy Loving*
 - “Scripture Wisdom on the Burdens of Affluence”¹
 - “The Bible on Simplicity”¹
 - “Simplicity as a Spiritual Discipline”¹
 - “More Thoughts on Simplicity as a Spiritual Discipline”¹
 - “Guiding Principles for Simplification”, *from Richard Foster*
 - “Five Simple Steps to Begin Simplifying Life”¹

OTHER RESOURCES FOR YOUR MEETING OR CHURCH

- “Making the Simplicity Testimony Work in Our Time—Bibliography”¹
- Instructions for a simple meal or Empty Bowls project to raise money for RSWR.¹
- Instructions for a “Simplify Life” garage sale to raise money for RSWR.¹
- Alternative Gift cards for holidays, birthdays and other special occasions

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATING ABOUT RSWR

- RSWR Brochures¹ (contact the office for multiple copies)
- RSWR tri-fold display¹ (or from the office)
- Copies of the newsletter

RESOURCES FOR DEEPER EXPLORATION

- *The Biblical Vision of Sabbath Economics*, Ched Myers, Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries. 66-page booklet appropriate for 7-week group study. Excellent introduction to Sabbath economics, a redistributive justice approach based on the practice of Jubilee.
- *Sabbath Economics: Household Practices*, Matthew Colwell, Tell the Word, Church of the Savior. 92-page booklet introducing the Seven-Fold Sabbath Economics Covenant, a practical approach to living Sabbath economics in daily life. Includes group discussion questions for each of the seven chapters.
- *Money and Faith: The Search for Enough*, Michael Schut, Ed. Collection of short essays by Ched Myers, Walter Brueggemann, Sallie McFague, Henri Nouwen, Bill McKibben and others. Excellent study guide included with models for 12-week group discussion as well as several shorter options.
- *Real Lives*. An interactive life simulation computer game enabling players to live one of billions of lives in any country in the world. Through statistically accurate events, it brings to life different cultures, political systems, economic opportunities, personal decisions, health and family issues, schooling, jobs, religions, geography, war, peace, and more. A free trial can be downloaded at <http://www.educationalsimulations.com/>
- *Population-Resources Exercise: a Guide for Facilitators*, Intergenerational activity using a large floor map of the world and crackers to illustrate the inequitable distribution of food resources around the world. A great, quick exercise to help participants see and feel the differences between rich continents and poor ones. Available from Quaker Earthcare Witness, www.quakerearthcare.org.

—Jackie Speicher

¹ Available on the RSWR website, “Get Involved” tab. Many of the study materials can be found under the simplicity workshop tab in educational events.

HOW TO SUPPORT RIGHT SHARING

FINANCIALLY

MAKE AN OUTRIGHT GIFT

A) Via the mail; B) On-line, see the RSWR website, www.rswr.org, for details; C) At age 70½, distributions from IRAs must start, consider RSWR; D) Publically traded stocks; E) Publically traded bonds; F) Privately traded securities; G) Tangible personal property¹; H) Real estate¹. Contact the RSWR office for details regarding transfer of stock, bonds, securities, and property.

¹ Upon acceptance by RSWR

MAKE A GIFT WHICH PROVIDES AN INCOME TO YOU

A) Charitable Remainder Trusts; B) Charitable Gift Annuities. Done in coordination with the Friends Fiduciary Corporation.

MAKE A DEFERRED GIFT

A) Bequests (include RSWR in your will); B) Designate RSWR has a beneficiary of your life insurance; C) Designate RSWR as a beneficiary of your retirement plan (annuity, pension, Keogh, 401-k, 403-b, or IRA).

BECOME A RSWR REGULAR DONOR

Your gift (of at least \$10) can be made to RSWR regularly (monthly, quarterly, or other donor-definition) can be made by either a withdrawal from your checking or savings account, or your credit card (Mastercard, Visa, Discover). Contact the RSWR office or the RSWR website for a brochure and authorization form.

MAKE AN INTEREST-FREE LOAN

Loans can be recalled within 30 or 180 days. Current interest-free loans provided RSWR with \$15,750 in 2008. Contact the RSWR office for details and a loan form, or go to the website.

SPECIAL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

HOST A RSWR PRESENTATION

RSWR staff are available for presentations on Right Sharing's grant-making work, simplicity

as a spiritual discipline, and Sabbath economics. Contact Roland Kreager, rswr@rswr.org or Jackie Speicher, jackie@rswr.org.

SAVE STAMPS

Send them to Quaker Missions Project of Mat-tapoisett Monthly Meeting. Stamps should be sent to Brad Hathaway, PO Box 795, Mat-tapoisett, MA 02739-0795. This project has provided over \$50,000 to RSWR and other Quaker organizations.

REMEMBER RSWR AT SPECIAL TIMES

In lieu of gifts at Christmas, birthdays, marriages, or other special times, ask that a gift be made to RSWR. Make a gift to RSWR in honor of the life of a person who has recently died.

HAVE A SIMPLE MEAL

Contact the RSWR office or RSWR website for resources to do a Simple Meal. The Simple Meal is a wonderful way to have fun raising money and awareness at the same time.

HAVE A SIMPLIFY LIFE GARAGE SALE

Contact the RSWR office or website for details about doing a Simplify Life Garage Sale. It's fun to do, raises money, and helps you, your family and others learn about what is enough.

PERSONALLY

EVALUATE YOUR LIFESTYLE

Take steps in your family to use fewer resources and to reuse and recycle more of what you do use. Encourage these practices in your meeting or church and in your community.

PRAY

for Divine guidance in understanding how our focus on the material clouds our vision of God's will for us as individuals, our families, and the Religious Society of Friends, that the extremes of poverty and wealth, which are genuine hindrances to right relationship with God and each other, may be reduced and that God can, therefore, be more present to all of us.

THANK YOU!

Right Sharing of World Resources is a program which is "owned" by many people. The Committee and staff have certain responsibilities but the program would not be successful if it were not for contributors, people who send in ideas and those who are critical or give encouragement. Your suggestions and comments are welcome.

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES
projects are supported by individuals, monthly meetings and yearly meetings. Contributions are tax-deductible in the USA and may be sent through your own meeting or church or directlyRight Sharing General Secretary and newsletter editor: Roland Kreager.

TO OUR DONORS

Approved project support for 2009 totals \$277,500. We currently have 53 project partners, and welcome your gifts to meet the needs of all of these projects. **There are 7 projects for which 100% of a contribution restricted to that project will go directly to the project.** For a complete list of these projects, and a description of their work, go to the RSWR website, www.rswr.org. Meetings and churches which would like to be involved in any special way with any of the projects should contact:

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Right Sharing News is available via email. Contact the RSWR office to request an electronic version (PDF format) of the newsletter.

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO: **RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES**
101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, Indiana 47374-1926.

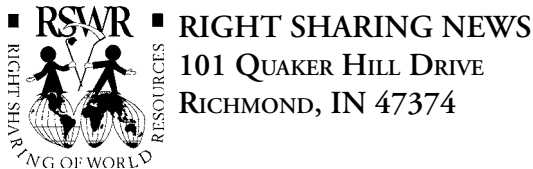
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