



ANNUAL REPORT 2015
LET US GET IN THE MIDDLE.



NEW YORK
PEACE
INSTITUTE

CONFLICTS HAPPEN, WE CAN HELP



A NOTE FROM OUR CEO

This year, New York Peace Institute expanded our impact as one of the nation's largest community mediation programs. Our efforts reached over 10,000 people, giving them the resources they needed to manage conflicts, heal relationships, and build community cohesion.

We helped with nearly every kind of dispute: from noise complaints and family conflicts to housing matters and financial conflicts, to fighting between youth and more. Our specialized programs continue to touch lives in some of New York's most vulnerable communities. These programs include Special Education Mediation, Custody, Visitation, and Child-Support Mediation, Civil and Small Claims Court Mediation. Our company trainings expanded this year, allowing us to offer peacebuilding skills to a broad range of organizations in New York City and beyond. We have trained numerous city agencies (including the New York Police Department), and countless community-based organizations, labor unions, and schools in vital communication and conflict management skills. We are also in courts every day, providing restorative practice trainings for adults and at-risk youth.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015 INCLUDE:

- We led conflict resolution trainings to dozens of organizations this year including: The Department of Education, New York Police Department, Urban Dove, Partnerships for Parks, UNICEF, Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Boys and Girls HS, Brownsville Community Justice Center, Make the Road, Harlem Children's Zone and more.
- Our ongoing work in Brownsville public schools reached over 300 students. Each student received a 5-hour training to learn how to respond to conflicts and were shown de-escalation techniques. Our presentations included group exercises, role plays, and multimedia to create energizing, engaging, and age-appropriate trainings.
- Thanks to the generous support of the Pinkerton Foundation, we've expanded our Restorative Justice Programs – in which we help communities and individuals heal and undo the harm in the wake of violence and other disruptions.
- On May 5th, 2015 we held our *We Can Smirk It Out* fundraiser. It was our first comedy event and effectively raised funds and our profile – while giving everyone some good laughs in the process.
- We were featured in The New York Times and various blogs – doing our part to raise awareness of our work to build peace in New York City. Our online presence has also grown with more than 10,000 Twitter followers, with our Facebook page growing to 1,173.

Even though we spend each day addressing serious issues in our community, we have managed to continue our creative, hands-on, learn-by-doing model. We take peacebuilding seriously, but we also believe learning should be interactive and fun. We bring a joyful approach to making a difference – and you'll see in the report that it's working.

I hope you enjoy this snapshot of our year. We're just getting started!

Sincerely,

Brad Heckman
Chief Executive Officer





HELPING YOU FIND SOLUTIONS TO DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Ryan* was a bright, fun, precocious 5-year-old starting his first day of school. He was ecstatic to be there, walking through the halls as if he owned the place. His teachers enjoyed his energy and saw that he could make friends easily and be a leader.

Unfortunately by second grade, Ryan's feelings toward school changed. He had been struggling with reading and math, and found out from school evaluators that he has a learning disability. The school wanted to help him and created a plan to support Ryan's education: he received help from a special education teacher five times a week, and counseling once a week. That program worked well for him through fifth grade, and he continued to advance academically. However, his progress declined during seventh grade, and he began to have frequent angry outbursts and low self-esteem.

It was a difficult situation. The school kept removing Ryan from his class and called his mother at work,

disturbing her employer. As this became a recurring problem, friction between Ryan's mother and the school escalated. This is where New York Peace Institute came in.

New York Peace Institute called a special mediation with Ryan, his mother, his teacher, the school principal, and a school district representative. These individuals had the opportunity to listen to each other and to make a thoughtful, sustainable plan to help Ryan.

At first, educators recommended moving Ryan to a more restrictive specialized school in a class for students with emotional disturbances. However, by the end of the meeting, the school district agreed to pay for an independent neuropsychological evaluation to better understand the way Ryan learns and the reasons he was struggling. The school also agreed to evaluate Ryan behaviors and to implement a behavior plan to teach him how to approach his behavioral challenges.

The parties agreed to meet again to develop a new plan to support Ryan following the completion of the neuropsychological evaluation and the implementation of the behavior plan for two months. Ryan's mom said that she felt relieved and appreciative of mediation, which "kept the tone positive and kept the focus on the well-being of the child."

This is what we do at New York Peace Institute. We create a space where parties can hear each other and see opportunities to move forward positively. The issues kids like Ryan face often require a nuanced, multipronged approach which is best created when all parties are present and working together. With the right combination of support, school becomes a welcoming place where students can thrive.

** We've combined the stories of a few children we've worked with into one narrative that illustrates a typical case and protects anonymity.*

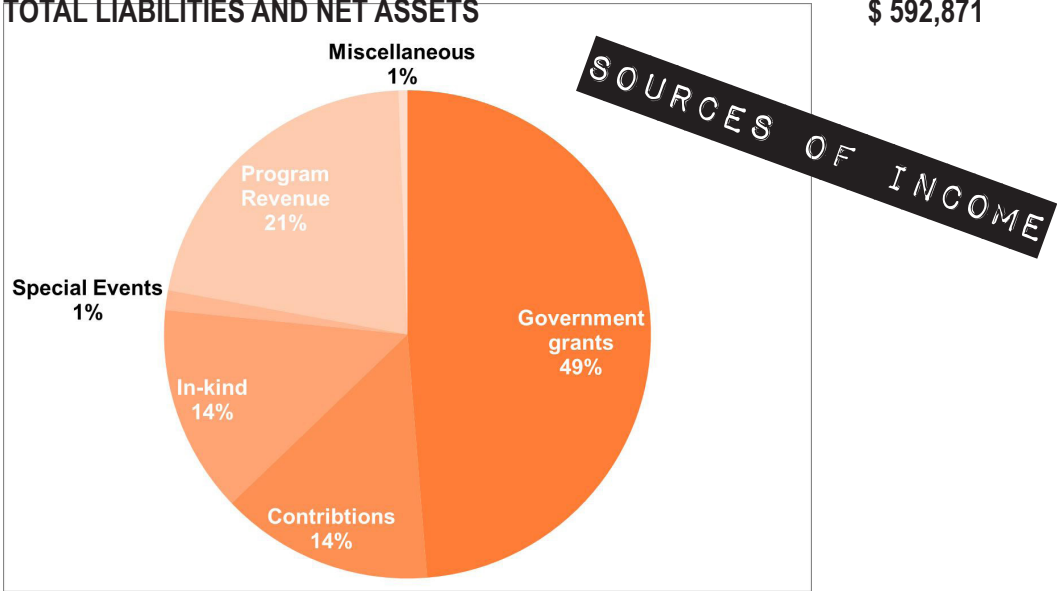
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

The successes highlighted in this report would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors, partners, and volunteer mediators. New York Peace Institute is able to touch thousands of lives city-wide because our donors understand the need to invest in creative and dynamic programming. Our programs are also successful due to our wonderful volunteers. We have one of the world's largest volunteer mediation forces – 400 and going strong. Our volunteers are specialized and committed to supporting their neighbors, while elevating our city to be a safer and more peaceful place.

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014

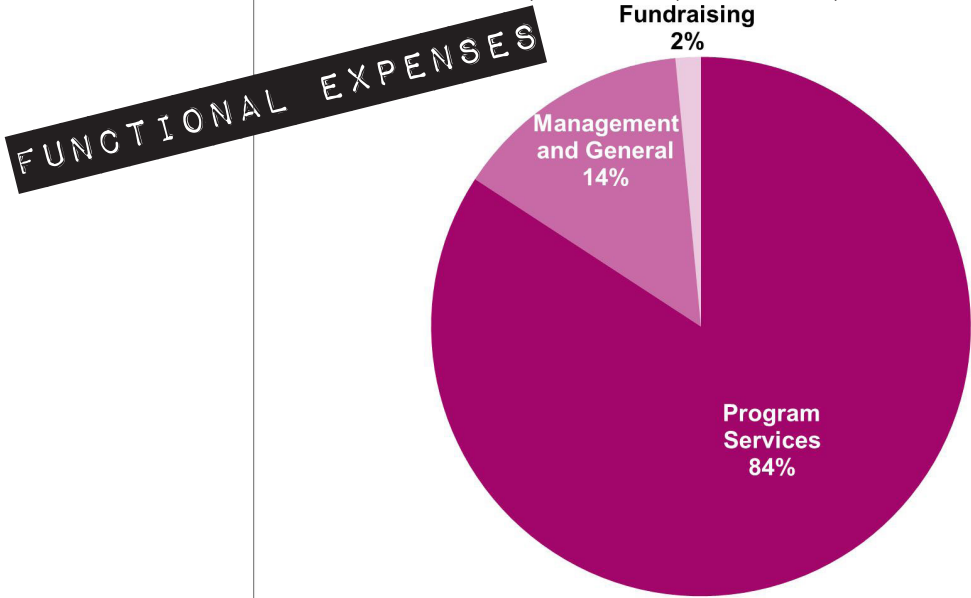
	2015	2014
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 264,189	\$ 167,155
Grants and accounts receivable	249,852	269,197
Contributions receivable	-	50,425
Prepaid expenses and other assets	71,203	35,151
Property and equipment, net	7,627	4,356
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 592,871	\$ 526,284
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 114,218	\$ 129,254
Advances from related party	100,000	125,000
Deferred revenue	29,199	12,150
TOTAL LIABILITIES	243,417	266,404
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	219,557	137,234
Temporarily restricted	129,897	122,646
TOTAL NET ASSETS	349,454	259,880
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 592,871	\$ 526,284

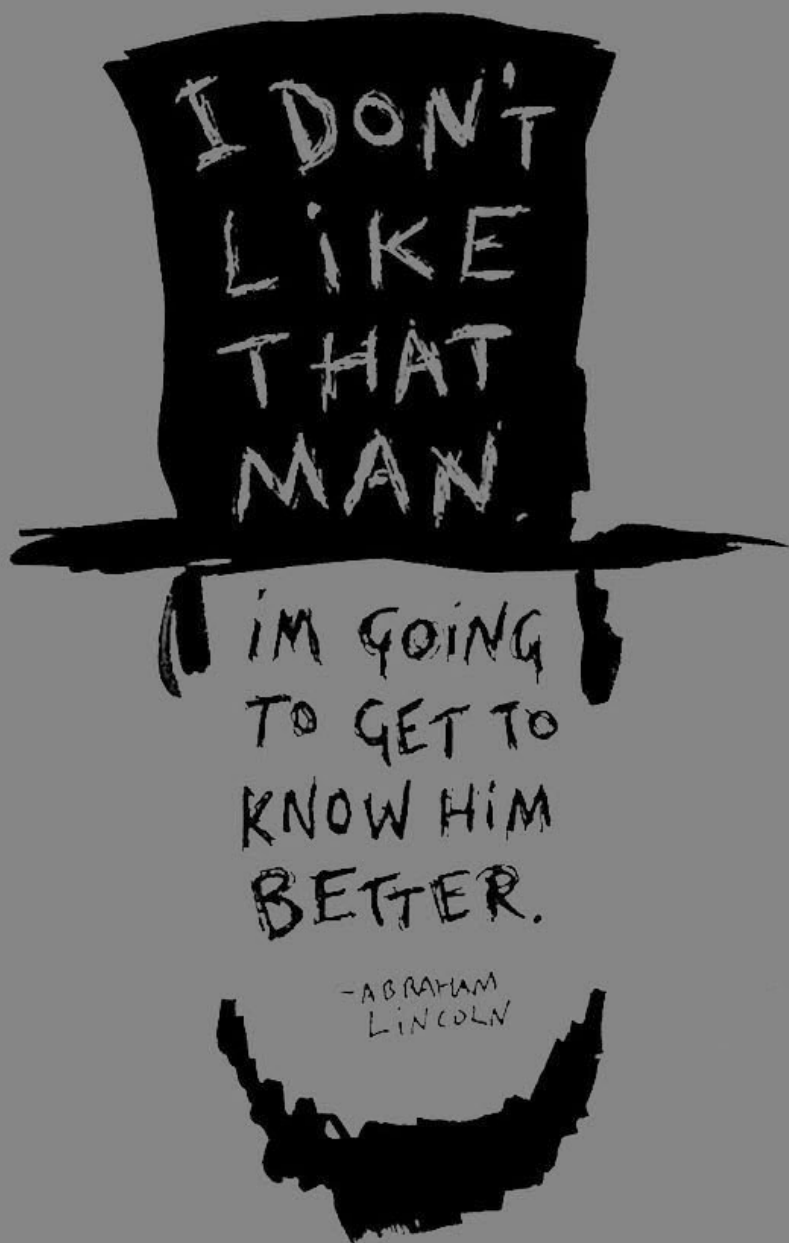


STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2015 and 2014

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2015	Total 2014	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted
SUPPORT AND REVENUE:						
Grants revenue	\$ 792,956	\$ -	\$ 792,956	\$ 789,900	\$ 789,900	\$ -
Contributions	98,471	131,500	229,971	214,633	82,383	132,250
In-kind contributions	223,718	-	223,718	274,348	274,348	-
Special events <i>(net of expenses \$1,966 (2015), \$1,286 (2014))</i>	21,470	-	21,470	20,619	20,619	-
Program service revenue	350,065	-	350,065	384,623	384,623	-
Miscellaneous income	9,557	-	9,557	4,071	4,071	-
Net assets released from restrictions	124,249	(124,249)	-	-	73,548	(73,548)
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	1,620,486	7,251	1,627,737	1,688,194	1,629,492	58,702
EXPENSES:						
Program Services	1,295,204	-	1,295,204	1,295,353	1,295,353	-
Management and general	219,629	-	219,629	222,344	222,344	-
Fundraising	23,330	-	23,330	20,727	20,727	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,538,163	-	1,538,163	1,538,424	1,538,424	-
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	82,323	7,251	89,574	149,770	91,068	58,702
Net assets - Beginning of year	137,234	122,646	259,880	110,110	46,166	63,944
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 219,557	\$ 129,897	\$ 349,454	\$ 259,880	\$ 137,234	\$ 122,646





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OUR MISSION

People disagree and arguments escalate. As experts in conflict response, the New York Peace Institute empowers people to find creative and durable solutions to their disputes. We teach vital conflict resolution skills to communities and organizations, and we advance the field by training and certifying professional mediators.



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