

Financial Report



To obtain a copy of our latest form 990, please visit www.mettacenter.org or email info@mettacenter.org

Statement of Financial Condition

(April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018)

Support and Revenue

Total Support and Revenue \$111,505.66

Expenses

Programs:

Study \$30,858.09

Practice \$11,752.19

Research \$12,955.16

Media \$23,745.24

Total Expenses \$121,688.58

Assets

Total Current Assets \$108,085.66

Other Assets \$2,025.00

Total Assets \$110,110.66

Liabilities

Total Liabilities \$810.35

Equity

Net Assets - Unrestricted \$119,483.23

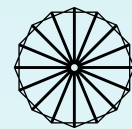
Net Income -\$10,182.92

Total Equity \$109,300.31

Total Equity and Liabilities \$110,110.66

The Metta Center works with a small staff, all of whom share the tasks of work related to fundraising and administration, making every dollar that much more effective in terms of what it accomplishes. We are very proud to share that it is no exaggeration to say that most everything we do at the Metta Center is directly related to programs - from every letter we write to every material we create and every conversation we have. This is how the message of nonviolence spreads.

If you are interested in learning more about making a charitable donation or getting involved in our mission, please contact us at info@mettacenter.org.



METTA CENTER
for NONVIOLENCE

Annual Report 2017-2018

Fiscal Year: April 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2018

A Rose By Any Other Name...



It is symptomatic of the disorientation of the world we live in that whereas the word 'violence' has been around for a long time (it's from Latin *violare*, 'bear in on with force'), but 'nonviolence' wasn't coined until the twenties of the last century. It's even more symptomatic that 'nonviolence' makes its debut as a negation of violence - though it's violence, as Gandhi showed, that is the ultimate negation! (Remember the Devil in Goethe's *Faust*: *Ich bin der Geist der stets verneint*, 'I am the spirit who always says 'no'). So what should we call it if not nonviolence? Love, love-in-action, soul force, *ahimsa*? The debate comes up inevitably, from almost any audience. At Metta we have decided to simply stick with 'nonviolence' - without the hyphen. We then use the hyphenated form when we're talking about the mere absence of physical violence, what Gandhi called 'the non-violence of the weak,' rather than the positive, active, "greatest force humankind has been endowed with."

By any other name, nonviolence would indeed smell as sweet - and pack thorns as potent! Nonviolence, if I may be allowed to spin out the metaphor, pricks the conscience of the ones we perceive to be doing harm while offering them the fragrance of reconciliation. This would be our horticultural rendering of the oft-quoted "two hands of nonviolence" by Barbara Deming: "I will not put up with your injustice...but I'm open to you as a human being." This is such a useful reminder that nonviolence is after all a power, but a power that restores relationships and fosters life.

My teacher, Sri Eknath Easwaran, often compared Gandhi to St. Francis, "the poor little man of India and the poor little man of Assisi." This brings up an image for me. In 1209, Pope Innocent III had a prophetic dream of Francis holding up the toppling Church; I see Gandhi holding up the edifice of nothing less than human civilization, which is indeed listing to its doom, top-heavy as it is with violence.

Well, none of us (speaking for myself, certainly) is either a Francis or a Gandhi. But together, are we not a potent force helping to right civilization with the stabilizing force of love-in-action? I think the way Metta is growing, seen, for example, in a growing number supporters like yourself, shows that the blessing of the Great Ones is behind us.

Michael





2017-2018 Key Accomplishments

- Moved into a **beautiful office in downtown Petaluma** for deeper connection to our local community and local experiments in nonviolence.
- Begin our **community work** for the promotion of Restorative Justice in our local school system. RJ research completed by our Research Fellow.
- **Trainings** offered in Conflict De-escalation and Third Party Nonviolent Intervention.
- Metta Center is featured in the New York Times as we helped people strategize to oppose the rise of Neo-Nazism in their local communities.
- **A New Story of the Economy animation** released to the world.
- **Peace and Conflict Studies Lectures Videos** uploaded and archived. This is a famous course that Michael Nagler taught at UC Berkeley. A key resource for recruiting people into Nonviolence.

- **World News Study Group** piloted for three months at the end of 2017 to highlight how to find nonviolence in our world news landscape.
- **Two new resource websites launched:** Our Thought for the Day at GandhiDaily.org and our exploration of the Science of Nonviolence at Scienceofnonviolence.org.
- **Metta goes to Google:** presentation in San Francisco Google office.

- **Strategy!** Metta hosts an important meeting in Tomales, California, with key US nonviolent strategists from various sectors around the movement to seek consensus on the path forward for a national movement of movements.
- **Families Practice Nonviolence:** 12-month Family Program and curriculum launches.
- **Nonviolence Magazine** offers two new beautiful issues.

*Our own pulse beats
in every stranger's throat.*

—Barbara Deming

- The Metta Center receives **Special Consultative Status** at the United Nations through ECOSOC and a team is created to support our work in New York.
- **Trailer for our Nonviolence Documentary** is available and campaign to build more financial support for the film begins.
- **Nonviolence Radio** offers 24 new shows about nonviolence in our world today, including segments on Nonviolence in the News.

- **Certificate in Nonviolence Studies** completes its fourth iteration and sets stage for major transition to a primary organizational project for 2018.
- **Hope Tank:** our monthly “think tank” gathering to discuss and strategize about nonviolence in our world today.
- **Consulting:** on-going work with activists around the world.



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