

FINDING RESILIENCE THROUGH COMMUNITY

EUPHRATES INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT
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EUPHRATES



CARR FIRE

This year, we invite you to consider the importance of **resilience** as humanity faces unprecedented changes, on the climate level, technological level, and increasing global interdependence. As in nature, **the human capacity for resilience is remarkable** and occurs primarily through community--by coming together in support of one another in challenging times.

In Redding, California, home to Euphrates' headquarters, an unprecedented wildfire swept through the region over the summer, scorching **200,000 acres** and destroying thousands of homes and structures. Immediately the local community banded together to take in and provide for those affected. **Posters of gratitude** and goodwill plastered the streets and the community sent hundreds of messages of love and forgiveness to the couple whose flat tire caused sparks that ignited the fire.

RESILIENCE capacity to recover quickly from difficulties from Latin 'resilire': to jump back

Through Euphrates' global family that includes you, this resilience sustains our individual and **collective peacebuilding** and change-making efforts through tough challenges, such as violence, extremism, apathy, lack of support, etc. We **emerge from these fires** stronger and more effective through the community of practice that Euphrates provides.

We hope you'll join us in looking to the rivers of hope, rather than the fires of destruction, on the local and global landscapes of today. How perfect that just as the Euphrates River flowed peacefully through the war zones of Iraq, the Sacramento River, quietly, yet powerfully, **continued to flow undisturbed** amidst the flames.



Signs around smoky Redding to inspire the community, Photo: Janessa Gans Wilder

Yours gratefully,

Janessa Gans Wilder
Founder and CEO

Glenn Williams
Chairman, Board of Directors

Euphrates Institute is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) experiential education and grassroots peace building organization comprising 30 Chapters in 15 countries.

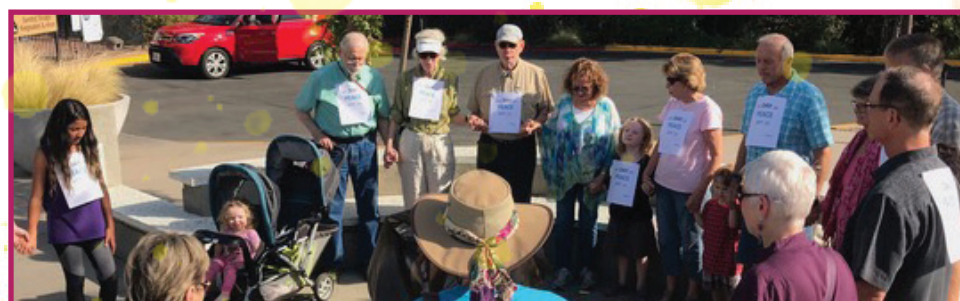
We offer workshops, trainings, study trips and a supportive community that equip today's thinkers to be informed, inspired, and transformed global citizens—everyday people who understand the interconnectedness of our world and communities, and who are contributing to global change by healing themselves, their communities, and humanity.

Our purpose is

... to inspire humanity to act from Oneness.

Guiding Principles

- We strive to practice the Golden Rule, locally and globally.
- We believe the world is interconnected and interdependent.
- We believe there is a solution to every challenge.
- We seek to humanize the Other.
- We get beyond headlines of despair and highlight the good.
- We agree with Albert Einstein's sentiment that problems cannot be solved at the same level of thinking that created them.



YOUR IMPACT

With the generous contributions from our donors, Euphrates provided rivers of inspiration throughout the world during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Here are just a few examples:



New Euphrates chapter established in Cameroon

They are working to address the anglo-phone crisis, a socio-political conflict that is a leftover result of colonialism.

Launched a grant program to fund work of Chapters globally

Pictured here is a Euphrates-funded Chapter event in Kinshasha, Congo. Chapter leader Ellesse Bafandjo organized a day-long program including dialogue and music to reconcile albinos, a persecuted community, and non-albinos.



Conducted dozens of educational forums...

Notable forums include a series of "Difficult Conversations" workshops conducted by Kern Beare in Redding, CA, which brought together diverse groups of community leaders to gain skills in listening, dialogue, and self-awareness.

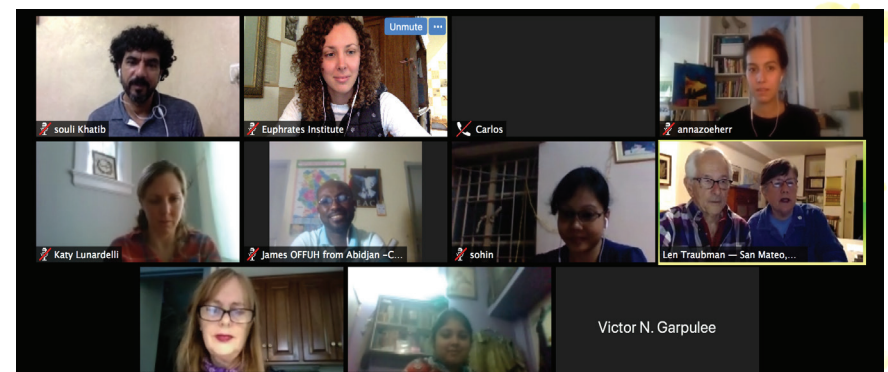


Strategic capacity-building

Deepened partner collaboration, program focus and impact, and team synergy through several intensive retreats across the country.

Conceived of new program-- Global Citizenship Passport

This collaborative is a movement to promote global citizenship through an online passport that will inform, inspire and transform participants to become more engaged and empowered citizens of the world.



VISIONARY

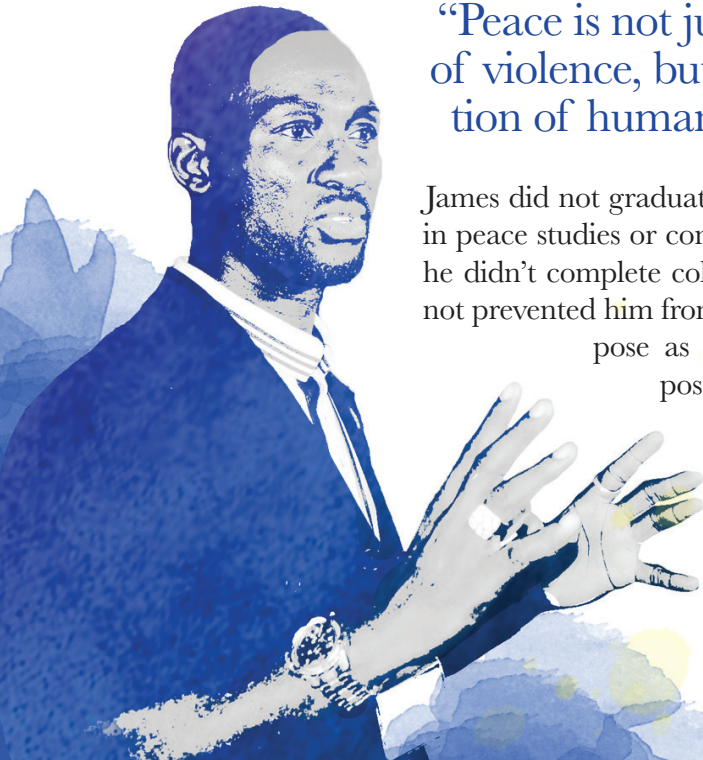
OF THE YEAR 2018

FINDING RESILIENCE IN PURPOSE

— James Offuh —

A Missionary for Peace and Reconciliation
Our Chapter Leader in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Among our global community of changemakers are remarkable and powerful stories of reconciliation, healing and the restoration of hope and peace. James' story is one of them. These community members have sustained us, made our vision practical and enabled us to emerge into a global movement. James' nomination celebrates each of our partners in peace.



“Peace is not just the absence of violence, but the manifestation of human compassion.”

James did not graduate college with a degree in peace studies or conflict resolution. In fact, he didn't complete college at all. Yet this has not prevented him from fulfilling his life's purpose as a peacebuilder; a purpose he feels is higher calling, a divine mandate.



Against Conflicts International - a non-governmental organization (NGO) that uses dialogue to create an inclusive, just and thriving society.

“The ‘other’ holds the secret for survival.”

Most notably, UFPACI successfully reconciled two tribes, entrenched in violent rivalry in Côte d'Ivoire, - the Gueree and Dozos - a feat no other NGO had successfully accomplished. He has also restored relationships between albinos and non-albinos and Christians and Muslims, and has worked to humanize and integrate into society people with handicaps, including those who are deaf, and to address electoral violence.



James views his work of healing broken relationships as being a spiritual and metaphysical encounter. He believes strongly that everyone has a compassionate spirit, even those who commit acts of violence. He calls for the need to give space for their spirit to shine forward and the humanity in them to be revealed.

The situations James goes into, reconciling torn communities and healing broken relationships, are not easy. Yet he finds inspiration and strength to keep going in his understanding that this is his calling.

“When you understand your purpose on the planet Earth, it keeps you going, even when the circumstances of life challenge you.”

TEKE AND JOEY HOFFMAN
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



WHY DO YOU
SUPPORT
EUPHRATES?

... Because we see it as a wonderful antidote to all that would try to divide us.

The African proverb, **“When you pray, move your feet,”** is symbolic to us of the work that Euphrates does. We feel it is a potent answer, replete with possibilities, for transforming the great challenges of our times.

Inspired by the vision of peace-building from the grassroots level, we find Euphrates to be a wonderful healing response to the clamor that seeks to divide us. Instead, it offers a structure, a framework, a process...to comprehend the fundamental aspect of Peace.

It's pretty simple, really: the Euphrates model helps us discover that no matter where we're from, our age, gender, race, culture, or religion, we come to understand that we are all so much alike.

When we work with and look for good in others, they look for it in us... And then we find it in each other. We are not on two sides of the river; rather, we are all part of that continuous flowing toward true peace. We are so grateful to be able to be intentional in pursuing peace through The Euphrates Institute.

OUR DONORS

JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018

*three years or more of giving

**matching donor

~sustaining member (monthly donor)

Euphrates is an independent nonprofit organization that is sustained 100% by individual financial and in kind donations. Your investment enables this work of peacemaking and local and global transformation to continue and grow.

50,000+

James Carr

20,000+

Anonymous*

10,000+

Edward and Penelope Glassmeyer*

5000+

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Catalyst Redding Young Professionals

3000+

Paul and Cherie Gans*

Gary and Lauren Ranz

Robert and Joyce Schwentker*

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200+

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100+

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 Emily Osborne*
 Trudy Palmer*
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 Bruce and Mary Townsager
 Anna Marie Trueman
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 Marilyn Wood*
 Alyson Wright*
 Rozanne Zwick

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 Kern Beare
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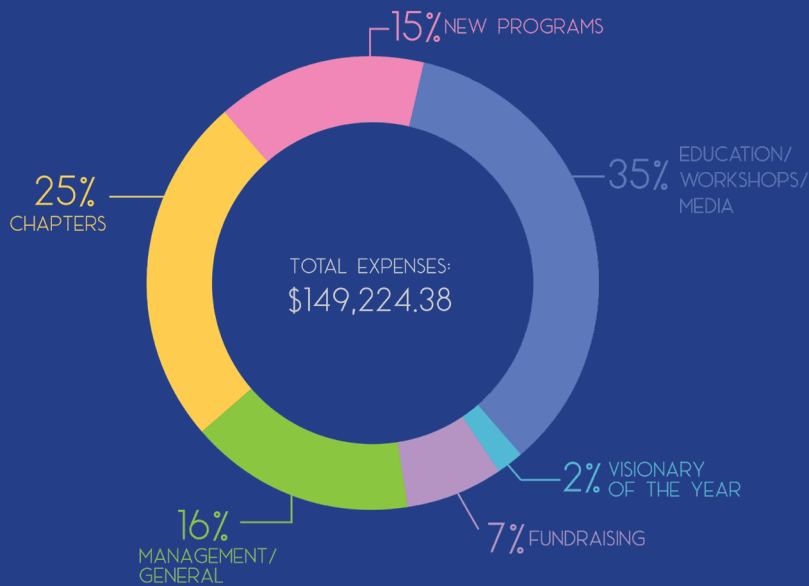
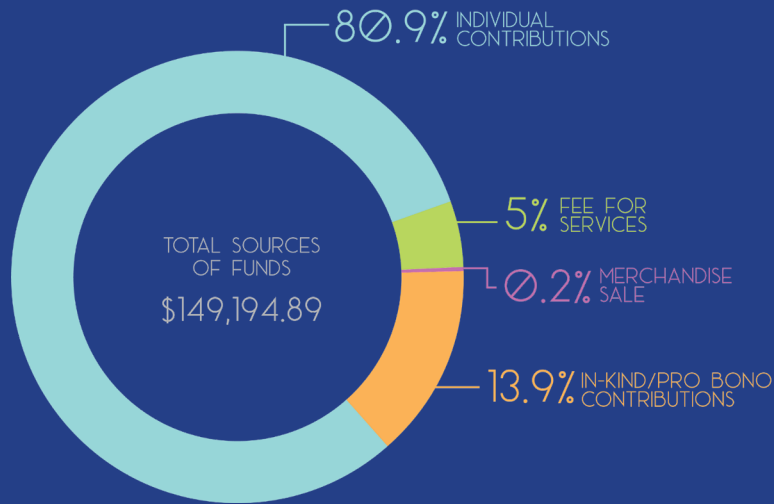
The children of our Kinshasa community celebrating Peace Day

The future for Euphrates and our Chapters is bright as this community flourishes, deepens, and spreads its influence and effectiveness. We are deeply grateful for your life-changing support of this community.

Thank you

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018



We are sincerely
thankful

to our leaders for their vision and commitment

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CHAPTER LEADERS

James Offuh - *Abidjan, Ivory Coast*
Samuel Baddoo - *Accra, Ghana*
Amir Taha - *Alexandria, Egypt*
Emmanuel Tanifum - *Bamenda, Cameroon*
Debbie Fry - *College Station, TX*
Debra Myers - *Dallas, TX*
Hriday Sarma and Mashkoor Alam - *Delhi, India*
Mirza Mueen - *Faisalabad, Pakistan*
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It is time to come together!

Find strength and inspiration in community.

Please join us in 2019 for Euphrates' first annual **Gala** on **March 29th** in Redding, California!

Reserve your spot at:

www.riverofhopesummit.com

We look forward to welcoming you!

See website for details on how to apply for the five day preceding summit, March 25th-29th.



CONTACT INFORMATION



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Euphrates Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which relies on individual contributions for its local and global peacebuilding efforts.

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