



Community Alliance for Global Justice Annual Report 2015

Year in Review: Heather Day, CAGJ Executive Director

As much as news media is focused on the presidential elections, it's important to remain aware of food and trade issues, which have a direct impact on our health and livelihood. For our 15 years of existence, CAGJ has been a leader in the movement for a just economy and food system. A movement's longevity requires an ability to adapt and respond to new challenges, which is what CAGJ has continued to do through 2015.

The TPP and TTIP are highly contentious trade agreements whose details were kept largely hidden until November 2015 (though Wikileaks released chapters as early as late 2013). Throughout the year CAGJ's Food Justice Project educated and mobilized local food groups and farmers to defeat these trade agreements on the basis of their harm to responsible local food producers and our right to safe, labeled food. To share our analysis, we created an educational presentation for use in local food justice meetings, made even more accessible through a free webinar version linked on the website and shared on social media outlets.

The Food Justice Project also provided solidarity and support for Familias Unidas por la Justicia, the only independent farmworker union in our state, in their labor dispute with Sakuma Bros. Farms. In addition to co-founding and participating in the Seattle Boycott Committee, a farmworker led education and advocacy group, FJP shared updates on boycott efforts and calls to action and also highlighted the struggle at our SLEE dinner in August. The following month, CAGJ organized a Teach-Out with Familias Unidas, bringing together farmworkers and supporters from Skagit Valley, Seattle and Bellingham to learn about the past, present and future of farmworker organizing, deepen analysis of food justice issues and mobilize supporters for future direct actions.

Late last year, the FDA approved GE salmon for consumption, but long before CAGJ had researched and educated the public on its potential dangers. CAGJ successfully campaigned for Costco's commitment not to sell GE salmon, and we are partnering with local tribes to educate about the cultural and economic reasons for Northwest indigenous resistance to GE salmon. Though CAGJ was only able to slow the approval process and not prevent it, the work will continue to prevent its introduction into the market, and, at a minimum, to require clear labeling.

CAGJ's AGRA Watch campaign followed up 2014's successful Summit by continuing the work developed at the event. AGRA Watch led the GM Banana Campaign, which highlights the role of the Gates Foundation in opening African markets to agrochemical and biotechnology corporations. Through research, FOIA requests, a joint sign-on letter with our African partners and petitions with Iowa State University students, we exerted pressure throughout 2015 on the Gates Foundation and ISU to end support for the GM Banana, and integrate civil society concerns into the consent forms of participants in the human trial.

As in past election years, it's important to vote, but as important (if not more) is to remain educated on pressing issues, be involved in your local community and organize on a grassroots level. One way to do all of this and more is through your support for CAGJ, which allows us to grow and continue to adapt and respond to critical developments in the years ahead.





Food Justice Project

2015 FOOD JUSTICE PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Farmworker Justice: Familias Unidas por la Justicia

- Participated in the Seattle Boycott Committee, supporting the Driscoll's boycott called for by farmworker union Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ), in their campaign for justice at Sakuma Bros. Farm located in Skagit Valley, WA.
- Co-coordinated and mobilized supporters to participate in 25 regular informational pickets at PCC and other stores, distributing over 5,000 leaflets. CAGJ led 3 of these pickets.
- In September, hosted a Teach-Out for over 35 participants who heard directly from farmworkers and visited the fields where they work and organize.

Right to Good Food: Got Green?

- Raised \$1000 for Got Green through annual Green-a-thon fundraiser.
- Invited Got Green ED Jill Mangaliman to highlight Got Green's organizing for climate justice at October 27 forum, "Climate, Food and Race: Challenges for the Food Movement", with Eric Holt-Gimenez of Food First.
- Participated in a statewide Climate Justice Summit in November, co-organized by Got Green in a coalition that became Front and Centered.
- Participated in Got Green's community event, "Food Access, Food Sovereignty and Farmworker Solidarity."

Food Justice Everywhere: Stop the Trans-Pacific Partnership

See Trade Justice for highlights!

Looking forward to 2016

Solidarity Campaigns:

Supporting frontline food justice and sovereignty work are some of the most direct, systemic ways we engage and mobilize our members and the public.

- We aim to focus our campaign opposing GE Salmon on solidarity with Pacific Northwest tribes, in partnership with Muckleshoot Food Sovereignty Project.
- Demand that Sakuma Bros. Farm sign a contract with Familias Unidas por la Justicia, and continue to expand support for their boycott of Driscoll's Berries through pickets and other solidarity.
- Support UFCW 21 grocery workers demands for a fair contract and support living wage and sick-time pay state-wide!
- Educate and mobilize food activists to protest the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Educate for Action:

- Working with two new facilitators, we will continue to hold workshops to educate, learn from, and mobilize people for food justice and sovereignty.
- We have already given 5 workshops in 2016 on the Trans-Pacific Partnership to Seattle food justice organizations, and we will continue to build opposition to the TPP amongst the good food movement.

2015 FOOD JUSTICE PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Educate for Action

- Gave 6 workshops on the TPP, Food Justice and Food Sovereignty, reaching 250 attendees.
- Hosted a day-long Teach-Out with farmworker union Familias Unidas por la Justicia.

Solidarity Campaigns

Small-scale food producers: Stop GE Salmon

- Coordinating nationally with Friends of the Earth, and working in solidarity with local fisherfolk, labor, and tribal groups, CAGJ carried out two Costco actions and received abundant media, including the local evening TV newscast.
- **VICTORY!** The FDA unfortunately approved GE salmon in December. The day after, Costco succumbed to our pressure and did the right thing by issuing a public statement that they don't have plans to sell GE salmon in the future!

Trade Justice

Opposition to the **Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)** grew in 2015. More sectors of society now realize that the TPP is not a trade agreement intended to benefit all, but an attempt by multinational corporations to write the rules of this century's global economy.

CAGJ is bringing the message to sustainability and food justice movements that trade agreements have an impact on food systems! This is a long-term confrontation between large-scale global corporate agriculture and small-scale local sustainable food systems.

2015 Trade Justice Highlights

- Developed new Workshop and Webinar, "Linking Food Justice to Trade Policy."
- On May 19, hosted "Resist the TPP!," inviting partner organizations and CAGJ members to give input on our strategy.
- Worked with Washington Fair Trade Coalition to oppose the TPP by mobilizing members through petitions and call-in days.

Looking forward to 2016

- We have already given 4 workshops in 2016 on the TPP to Seattle food justice organizations.
- On March 1 we co-hosted a well-attended TPP workshop, "Another Food System is Possible! But not with the TPP!"
- Working with 350 Seattle and WFTC, we co-drafted a letter to WA congressional delegation focused on the TPP's impact on food systems. Help us reach 500 signers!

Gates Foundation Demonstration: In March 2015, simultaneous demonstrations at the Gates Foundation's US and UK headquarters exposed a secret meeting in London between the Gates Foundation, USAID and corporate interests on how to privatize the seed and agricultural market of Africa, where no African farmers were represented. Our Seattle protest was on the evening TV news!

March Against Monsanto: In May 2015, CAGJ's ED Heather Day spoke at the annual Westlake rally and march to the Gates Foundation. CAGJ street theater exposed Monsanto's influence on trade negotiations, and we raised awareness about how the Gates Foundation retains strong ties to the global megacorporation in Africa, despite their divestment from Monsanto.

The GM Banana Campaign: AGRA Watch chose this campaign as our first joint activity following the Summit partly because human feeding trials were scheduled to take place at Iowa State University. Providing yet another example of the ideology that high-tech is necessary to ameliorate perceived Third World problems, the research and trials are poorly conceived and monitored. AGRA Watch helped coordinate a resistance strategy with African partners and ISU students, starting with an Open Letter from the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa to ISU, signed by over 100 NGOs and scientists. Throughout the year we assisted in research and FOIA requests about the trials, which led to a student-originated petition delivered in December. After CREDO Action picked up the petition and gathered over 57,000 signatures, we carried out very successful joint delivery of the petitions in February 2016, receiving major press coverage.

The 2014 Africa-US Food Sovereignty Strategy Summit propelled AGRA Watch into a very productive year in 2015!

Agroecology Exchanges: Exchanges between agroecology practitioners in Africa and the US was identified at the 2014 Summit as a crucial strategy for the food sovereignty movement. The first exchange took place in October 2015, co-coordinated by AGRA Watch and several Summit partners. A South African farmer and farmworker, Norah Mlondobozi and Petrus Brink (pictured above on left and right), travelled to the US for three weeks for meetings with farming and food justice projects all over the country, including AGRA Watch activists in Seattle and our farmworker allies in Bellingham, WA. The trip built grassroots ties between South African and US activists, and laid the groundwork for future learning exchanges. Planning has begun for a 2016 exchange of US farmers and farmworkers to travel to meet their counterparts on the African continent.

Gates Foundation Research

In 2015 AGRA Watch continued to be a vital service to the movement by researching who receives grant funding, where the foundation is investing, and by helping to expose the Gates Foundation's public relations strategy. In October 2015 we presented our research at a public forum, where we discussed how the control of seeds is being taken from small farmers and increasingly vested in multinational corporations and institutions of the Global North, with the support of the Gates Foundation.

Looking forward to 2016

- **GM Banana Campaign:** Working with student allies at ISU, and our African partners, we are evaluating the GM Banana campaign, and considering other approaches, including a possible expansion to a focus on the problems with Gates Foundation funding of biofortification of several crops.
- **Mobilizing Seattleites:** We are hosting multiple educational events, with a focus on the theme of philanthrocapitalism, the use of philanthropic funds to develop new markets for corporate development. We look forward to building even stronger alliances with other local campaigns targeting the Gates Foundation.
- **Building International Capacity:** To strengthen current alliances, introduce more members to our international partners, and educate ourselves to build our capacity, we hope to send AGRA Watch members on two important trips in 2016: To Africa to meet with our partners, and to Mexico in December for UN and social movement meetings focused on seeds.
- **New Research:** In 2016, we plan on publishing a larger analysis of the Gates Foundation, and will branch into new research areas identified jointly with our African partners.

Strengthening our Food Sovereignty Movement

Leadership Development and Alliance-Building

CAGJ members further developed their leadership by participating in the Activists Mobilizing for Power conference, attended by our Co-Directors in July, the International Studies conference in New York in February, where AGRA Watch Co-Chair Bill Aal presented on philanthrocapitalism, and the Indigenous Food Practices and Ecological Knowledge conference, attended by Food Justice Project Co-Chair Ross Kirshenbaum in May. In 2016 CAGJ will continue to support our leadership to participate in trainings, assemblies and **conferences to develop the relationships and leadership skills needed to mobilize our movement towards victories!**

On April 5th CAGJ hosted a screening of “Out Here” at Central Cinema, a documentary film created by the Queer Farmer Film Project. The director Jonah Mossberg spoke to a packed house afterwards about the film, which looks at the **experiences of queer farmers across the country.**

On August 1st over 300 guests had the pleasure of hearing Dean Jackson, Executive Director of Hilltop Urban Gardens (HUG), give the keynote at our annual SLEE Dinner. Entitled “Growing Racial, Economic and Gender Justice in Tacoma,” **Dean shared powerful personal stories about their food sovereignty organizing**, including how their transgendered identity influences and shapes HUG’s food justice work for racial and economic justice.

CAGJ actively participated in the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance (USFSA) through two major undertakings in 2015:

Food Sovereignty Prize: CAGJ worked with the committee who chose this year’s two winners, helped plan the prize ceremony, and supported the communications team. CAGJ had the honor of co-presenting the prize to Miram Miranda, representing OFRANEH.

October 2015 USFSA National Assembly: Four of CAGJ’s leaders were able to travel to Des Moines, Iowa in October to participate in the USFSA Assembly, thanks to a successful House Party and individual fundraising efforts. Emma Shorr, AGRA Watch Co-Chair, Ross Kirshenbaum, Food Justice Project Co-Chair, Jenny McIntosh, Farmworker Solidarity Campaign lead, and Heather Day attended.

In 2016 we look forward to strengthening CAGJ’s involvement in the USFSA, and we will work with Community to Community to begin the process of organizing a regional USFSA gathering.

In light of the dangerous situation faced by Honduran activists resisting aggressive development in their country since the U.S.-supported 2009 coup, CAGJ highlighted their struggles in 2015. CAGJ hosted Honduras Solidarity Network organizer Karen Spring in June and two prominent Honduran social movement leaders, Berta Cáceres and Miriam Miranda, in November. Cáceres and Miranda spoke to a packed house after the screening of the documentary Resistencia. Miranda’s organization Black Fraternal Organization of Honduras, was awarded the 2015 Food Sovereignty Prize, along with Federation of Southern Cooperatives, and Cáceres was awarded multiple prizes in 2015, including the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize.

Berta Cáceres Presente!



CAGJ joins the international movement of solidarity with Hondurans in condemning the assassination of Cáceres on March 3, 2016. We call on the U.S. government to cease all aid to the Honduran government and we demand an independent investigation.



CAGJ by the Numbers in 2015

57,793

Signers on Credo Action GM Banana Petition delivered to the Gates Foundation Feb 15, 2016

\$38,600

Membership Donations given by 240 people (17% increase from 2014!)

\$13,558

Monthly Sustainer donations in 2015 from 67 people (48% increase from 2014!)

1000

Signers on Student GM Banana Petition delivered to ISU Dec. 16, 2015

75

CAGJ Volunteers

28

Interns

3

Number of times CAGJ interviewed for TV news!

**FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
IS A TRUE SOLUTION
TO THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS.**



CAGJ Organizing for Climate Justice

CAGJ started 2015 with a workshop based on Naomi Klein's book, *This Changes Everything*, where we discussed how CAGJ can engage in the struggle for climate justice. One strategy we have pursued is to educate about how food sovereignty offers one solution to the climate crisis, as La Via Campesina has asserted.

Close to 200 people came out for our event at UW in October with Eric Holt-Gimenez, Executive Director of Food First, who spoke on "Climate, Food and Race: Challenges for the Food Movement". We featured Got Green's incredible local organizing by inviting Executive Director Jill Mangaliman to speak as well. You can watch a video of their talks on our website!

CAGJ supported people of color-led climate justice initiatives in the Northwest in a variety of ways; helping to organize and participating in a Race and Climate Justice series, supporting Communities of Color for Climate Justice (now Front and Centered), and by sharing information and joining organizing meetings, participating in their statewide summit on November 6th as one of few white ally organizations invited.

CAGJ is Funded by the Grassroots!

Our Members fuel CAGJ, contributing 55% of our funding through one-time and monthly donations. The SLEE dinner, which brought in a quarter of our income in 2015, continued to be a reliable source of funding thanks to our vast community of Sponsors, Table Captains, Silent Auction, Dessert and food donors, and ticket-buyers! In October we tried a new fundraising strategy: A Farm Dinner with special guest Eric Holt-Gimenez, Food First's ED, which was hosted by CAGJ Director Heather Day and her husband and SLEE chef, Travis English. The dinner raised over \$4200! Overall finances were tight at the end of 2015, and we saved money by not hiring to replace our Co-Director Danielle Friedman, who left in September. We hope to hire by mid 2016!

Income	\$69,565	Expenses	\$77,769
Fundraising Events	\$16,473	Personnel	\$49,282
Contributions	\$25,072	Organizing	\$16,122
Sustainers	\$13,558	Admin	\$8,780
Grants	\$6,675	Fundraising	\$3,584
Merchandise	\$1,247		
AGRA Watch Reserves	\$6,120		

Beginning Balance: \$22,855

Ending Balance: \$14,652

Financials

"CAGJ is our strongest ally in providing moral, logistical and research support in our fight for food rights and justice in Eastern Africa."

- Daniel Maingi
Kenya Food Rights
Alliance and Growth
Partners Africa

Help us grow in our 15th year!

We are aiming to significantly increase capacity in 2016 – our 15th year! – by hiring a new Co-Director, and expanding the AGRA Watch organizer position from 5 to 20 hours/week. One approach we are undertaking is attempting to expand the portion of funding from grants beyond the 10% mark in 2015, which is fairly typical for CAGJ. However we know our loyal Members will continue to provide the grassroots base of support we rely on to provide an independent, critical view on the issues we all care about.

Get Involved in 2016!

CAGJ is run by our volunteer members and there are many ways to plug in! Here are just a few:

- Become a Member by signing up to contribute financially and/or with volunteer hours!
- Stay informed about upcoming opportunities by signing up for our monthly e-mail newsletter, project listservs, and connecting with us on Facebook and Twitter.
- Attend a meeting, event or action – check out the calendar on our website.
- Volunteer in the office or at an event.
- Contact us to talk about specific ways you would like to contribute!

"UFCW 21 recognizes CAGJ as a strategic partner in working for economic, political and social justice throughout the food chain. Together we stand with farmers, fisher folk, processors, grocery store workers and consumers who are calling for safe work, sufficient wages, and sustainable supply chains to provide for our most basic human need, food."

- Todd Crosby
President, UFCW 21

THANK YOU to everyone who makes CAGJ's organizing for a better world possible!

Foundations & Sponsors

Central Co-op
Friends of the Earth
G & O Family Cyclery
Loki Fish Co.
Marsh & McLennan
Shared Services Corporation
New Roots Organics
Real Change
Stansbury Family Foundation
The Seattle Foundation
United Food and Commercial Workers
Local 21

Sustaining Members

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Gilberto Abascal
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Shani Banai
Tabitha Barbour
Jordan Beaudry
Phil Bereano
Matt Canfield
John Chapman
David Chen
Fai Coffin
Ari De Lena
Eric Dee
Thao Do
Pam Emerson
Travis English
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John Fawcett-Long
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Maddie Foutch
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Tash Hansen-Day
Kirsten Hansen-Day
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Roselle Heckendorn
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Amy Huynh
Chris Iberle
Zarna Joshi
Britah Kabiru
Ross Kirshenbaum
Vy Lam
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Gillian Locasio
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Special Thanks

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Nabila Gunawan
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Reid Mukai
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*Special thanks to
Organizing Director
Danielle Friedman, for all
of your contributions to
CAGJ in 2014 and 2015!*

Join us July 9th for SLEE!

**Community Alliance for Global Justice Celebrates
15 Years of Global Justice Organizing**

10th Annual SLEE Dinner
Strengthening Local Economies Everywhere!

Keynote by **Anuradha Mittal**, Executive Director
of the Oakland Institute.

Saturday, July 9th, 2016

Happy Hour 5 - 6:30pm; Dinner 6:30 - 9pm

University Christian Church

4731 15th Ave NE, Seattle 98105

Tickets available June 1st

cagj.org/slee2016



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