

## Annual Report 2019

World BEYOND War is a global nonviolent movement to end war and establish a just and sustainable peace. We aim to create awareness of popular support for ending war and to further develop that support. We work to advance the idea of not just preventing or ending any particular war but abolishing the entire institution. We strive to replace a culture of war with one of peace in which nonviolent means of conflict resolution take the place of bloodshed.



### **World BEYOND War**

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#### Founded January 1, 2014

Fiscal sponsor: Alliance for Global Justice, tax ID 52- 2094677 Checks must be made out to "World BEYOND War / AFGJ" Donations are U.S. tax-deductible.

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# Message from David Swanson, Executive Director

As we kick off a new decade, we are faced with ever-increasing military aggression. The U.S.'s assassination of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani puts the world at the brink of yet another war. This is a stark reminder of the importance of the work that we do at World BEYOND War as we advocate for an alternative global security system based on peace, demilitarization, and nonviolence.

2019 was a year of change and growth. We face this new decade equipped with new staff and a much-expanded set of educational resources to provide our volunteers, activists, chapter coordinators, and allies with the skills and tools to advocate for the abolition of war. New publications in 2019 include the completed 365-day *Peace Almanac*; a 15-page summary version of *A Global Security System: An Alternative to War* (AGSS) in 6 languages; an audiobook version of the AGSS; and a fact sheet series on sanctions and the reasons for abolishing war. We also launched a World BEYOND War podcast series. We hosted two major events in 2019: the No to NATO, Yes to Peace Fest in April to unwelcome the arrival of NATO in



Washington, DC for its 70th anniversary, and #NoWar2019, our 4th annual global conference, the first WBW conference in Europe.

2019 was also marked by 2 big victories. First, World BEYOND War won the 2018-19 Educator's Challenge Award & People's Choice Award offered by the Global Challenges Foundation. Second, we initiated and led the successful campaign to divest the city of Charlottesville, VA from weapons and fossil fuels!

New Staff & Advisory Board Members In 2019, we welcomed Phill Gittins, PhD, to the team as WBW's new Education Director, replacing Tony Jenkins, who has



stepped into a position on the Advisory Board. Phill has 15+ years of programming, analysis, and leadership experience in the areas of peace, education, and youth. He has particular expertise in context-specific approaches to peace programming; peacebuilding education; and youth inclusion in research and action. He holds a PhD in International Conflict Analysis, MA in Education, and BA in Youth and Community Studies. Phill has received multiple awards for his contributions to peace and conflict work, including the Rotary Peace Fellowship.

We also welcomed Alex McAdams as WBW's new Development Director. She has worked as a content producer, advocate, and director of development for various arts, social justice, and civil rights organizations. With a BA from the University of Vermont in Women's Studies and Philosophy and a JD with a focus in civil rights from CUNY School of Law, much of Alex's work has focused on giving voice to and advocating for the rights and protections of marginalized communities. Alex's anti-war work started as a member and organizer for Food Not Bombs and then as an organizer and co-producer of the original Not In Our Name event that took place in NYC following September 11 in response to the U.S. government's unjustified militaristic response.

Board member Marc Eliot Stein also joined the staff in 2019, to assist with website development and social media. Angel Reynolds joined the WBW team as well, in the role of bookkeeper. New to our Advisory Board in 2019 are Krishen Mehta, Rivera Sun, Dennis Kucinich, and Tony Jenkins.

#### **Board of Directors:**

Leah Bolger (President), David Swanson, Alice Slater, Odile Hugonot Haber, Barry Sweeney, Gar Smith, Donnal Walter, Pat Elder, Marc Eliot Stein, Liz Remmerswaal Hughes, John Reuwer, Foad Izadi.

#### Staff:

Executive Director: David Swanson Organizing Director: Greta Zarro Education Director: Phill Gittins

Technology and Social Media Director: Marc Eliot Stein

Development Director: Alex McAdams

Bookkeeper: Angel Reynolds

#### **Advisory Board:**

Mairead Maguire - Nobel Peace Laureate and Co-Founder of Peace People

Kathy Kelly - A peace activist, pacifist, war tax resister, and author; one of the founding members of Voices in the Wilderness; and a Co-Coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence

Kevin Zeese - Co-Director of PopularResistance.org, Co-Host of Clearing the FOG radio, and Co-Founder of Come Home America





Maria Santelli - Executive Director of the Center on Conscience & War and former coordinator of the Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice

Hakim Young - Mentor to the Afghan Peace Volunteers, the 2012 recipient of the International Pfeffer Peace Prize, and the 2017 recipient of the Singapore Medical Association Merit Award

Gareth Porter - Investigative historian and journalist on the national security state, and author of *Manufactured Crisis: The Untold Story of the Iran Nuclear Scare* 

Ann Wright - A retired U.S. Army colonel and retired U.S. State Department official, known for her outspoken opposition to the Iraq War; a delegate on the 2015 Women Cross the DMZ; an organizer of numerous peace delegations and freedom flotillas to Gaza; and a co-author of the book *Dissent: Voices of Conscience* 

Medea Benjamin - Co-Founder of CODEPINK and Global Exchange, and the author of ten books, the most recent of which is titled *Inside Iran: The Real History and Politics of the Islamic Republic of Iran* 

Johan Galtung - A sociologist, mathematician, and the principal founder of the discipline of peace and conflict studies; the main founder of the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) in 1959 and its first director until 1970; coined the term "peace research" and established the Journal of Peace Research in 1964; in 1969 appointed to the world's first chair in peace and conflict studies at the University of Oslo; and winner of the 1987 Right Livelihood Award

David Hartsough - Co-Founder of World BEYOND War and Nonviolent Peaceforce, lifelong Quaker, and author of *Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist* 

Patrick Hiller - Peace scientist, Executive Director of the War Prevention Initiative by the Jubitz Family Foundation, and professor of conflict resolution at Portland State University

Matthew Hoh - Former U.S. Marine officer, senior fellow with the Center for International Policy, and a member of the advisory boards of Expose Facts and Veterans For Peace

Dennis Kucinich - A former U.S. Representative from Ohio, serving from 1997 to 2013, and a candidate for the Democratic nomination for president of the United States in 2004 and 2008

Rivera Sun - Author, nonviolence trainer, and former programs coordinator and digital strategist for Pace e Bene/Campaign Nonviolence; editor of the weekly Nonviolence News; an alumna and presenter at the James Lawson Institute; a creative advisor to the Nonviolence Now project launched by the Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence; and co-author of the Metta Center's Nonviolence Animation series

Tony Jenkins - Lecturer in Justice & Peace Studies at Georgetown University, former Education Director of World BEYOND War (2017-2019), Managing Director of the International Institute on Peace Education, and Coordinator of the Global Campaign for Peace Education

Krishen Mehta - Writer, lecturer, and speaker on international tax justice and global inequality; Director at the Tax Justice Network; Senior Global Justice Fellow at Yale University; Advisory Board member for Aspen Institute's Business and Society Program; and a member of the Asia Advisory Council of Human Rights Watch



## **Education Program Highlights**

World BEYOND War won the 2018-19 Educator's Challenge Award offered by the Global Challenges Foundation! The award acknowledges innovative approaches to engage students and broader audiences in discussions on the importance of global challenges, ranging from war to climate change. Additionally, World BEYOND War was the recipient of the Global Challenges Foundation's People's Choice Award!

#### Webinars

2019 was the second year of our much-loved online webinar series. The webinars enable us to engage in live dialogue with members and partners around the world. The webinars are recorded and posted on our website for free viewing at any time. Hundreds of people have participated in the webinar series. 2019's topics focused on civilian-based defense, grassroots chapter organizing, divestment, NATO, and militarism in the media.

## **Study War No More** – A Concerned Citizen's Study & Action Guide for "A Global Security System: An Alternative to War"

We continued to develop our dynamic online resource "Study War No More" in 2019 by adding new online lessons. "Study War No More" is our free learning tool developed in partnership with the Global Campaign for Peace Education to support the study of AGSS. The guide can be used for independent study or as a tool for facilitating dialogue and discussion in classrooms (secondary, university) and with community groups. Each discussion topic features a video introduction from our "study and action partners."



#### **Online Courses**

Over 100 students participated in our 6-week War Abolition 101 course, the second time that WBW has offered this course.

#### A Global Security System: An Alternative to War

In 2019, we released a new abridged summary version of our book, the AGSS. The summary version is available for free download from our website in multiple languages, including English, Serbo-Croatian, Japanese, French, German, and Spanish, with many more translations to come. Thank you to countless volunteers

who have worked with us to complete these translations. In addition to the abridged version, we also released a new audiobook edition. The audiobook is available for download from WBW's website, and on audible.com, Amazon, and iTunes. Many thanks to Tim Pluta, a World BEYOND War supporter & volunteer, for the narration, and TuTu Studios for the production. Additionally, in 2019, we consulted with two artists, Vy Vu of The Sanctuaries and Patricia Kambitsch of Playthink, to develop illustrations that bring the concepts of the AGSS to life. We are utilizing these illustrations in a variety of ways as educational tools and starting points for discussion about the strategies needed to move us towards a world beyond war.

#### **Peace Almanac**

We're excited to announce the completion of the Peace Almanac project, a daily calendar of peace holidays! World BEYOND War's Peace Almanac records important steps, progress, and setbacks in the movement for peace that have taken place on each day of the year. Marking these peace moments is part of the process of developing a culture of peace, as a counter to society's glorification of war through military holidays. Peace holidays can also be used as an organizing tool; as inspiration for organizing an educational event or day of action, writing an op-ed, or putting out a press release on that day. The Peace Almanac is available for free on our website, and for purchase in print edition at https://worldbeyondwar.org/calendar.





#### Mapping

In May, WBW released an updated 2019 mapping of militarism in the world, illustrating weapons exports, global military spending, where U.S. troops are stationed, and much more. View the maps here: http://bit.ly/mappingmilitarism We also released two other mapping projects. The first one maps out the 500+ organizations around the world that have signed WBW's Declaration of Peace: https://worldbeyondwar.org/world-beyond-war-peace-pledge-signers The second maps out WBW's network of chapters and affiliates around the world: https://worldbeyondwar.org/findchapter

These maps are updated on a monthly basis as our global, grassroots network continues to grow.

#### **Podcast**

Led by new staff member Marc Eliot Stein, we launched a podcast series in 2019! Episodes are published on a monthly basis and have featured discussions on topics such as peace education, war's environmental impact, anti-war fiction, art & activism, grassroots organizing, and NATO. The episodes are available for free at: https://worldbeyondwar.org/podcast



#### **Fact Sheets**

In 2019, we published a long-awaited fact sheet series outlining the reasons why we should abolish war and the negative impact of sanctions. The fact sheets are designed as printable handouts that can be used for tabling events, grassroots lobbying meetings, and much more. Each one is meticulously footnoted with a list of references for further information. Thanks to a team of numerous volunteers who helped compile the fact sheets! The fact sheets are available for free download from our website: https://worldbeyondwar.org/flyers/#fact



## Organizing Around the World

Daily, we hear from people around the world who want to get involved in some capacity, whether through tasks like website development and databasing petitions, to researching and writing about anti-war issues, to organizing a chapter in their community and giving financial support. It inspires us to see this influx of support, as our global, grassroots anti-war network continues to expand each year. Currently, World BEYOND War coordinates 16 chapters in 7 countries and maintains partnerships with 82 affiliates around the world. In 2019, to highlight the work of our dedicated volunteers and chapter coordinators worldwide, we initiated a volunteer spotlight series. In each biweekly e-newsletter, we share the inspiring stories of World BEYOND War members working for peace.

#### **Chapter Highlights**

Berlin for a World BEYOND War organized weekly vigils every Wednesday in support of Julian Assange and every Saturday in opposition to U.S. interventionism in Latin America. Notably, the chapter gathered over 6,000 petition signatures in support of its appeal urging Germany to avoid war with Iran.

Fort Myers for a World BEYOND War meets monthly at the Fort Myers Congregational UCC. Topics of discussion have included a study and discussion group reviewing World BEYOND War's book, as well as events on the economic cost of war and the impact of sanctions on Venezuela and Cuba.

Ireland for a World BEYOND War had a busy year, as the host of World BEYOND War's 4th annual global conference, #NoWar2019 in Limerick (see Conferences section below). As a result of partnerships forged at the conference, the chapter is working in conjunction with INNATE and Afri-Action Ireland to insert a peace module into the school curriculum at the Irish secondary school level.



In 2019, Asturias for a World BEYOND War organized three World BEYOND War events, distributed flyers, collected signatures for the Declaration of Peace, and expanded outreach and association with several Spanish peace groups in the region. The chapter contributed to the Spanish translation of WBW's book, and the creation of an English language audio book edition. The chapter also participated in a 10-day peace delegation to Nicaragua, organized by Veterans For Peace.

Several chapters participated in events to celebrate this year's International Day of Peace, including the Fort Myers, Florida chapter, and Pivot2Peace, World BEYOND War's South Georgian Bay chapter. Over 100 people turned out for Pivot2Peace's Peace Day celebration on September 21. Thanks to such a successful awareness-raising event, Pivot2Peace is now over 25% towards its goal of collecting Peace Pledge signatures from 3.5% of the town of Collingwood, the number cited by researcher Erica Chenoweth as the statistical threshold for guaranteed success for nonviolent civil resistance campaigns.



John Miksad, chapter coordinator for the Fairfield for a World BEYOND War chapter, participated in a peace delegation to Cuba with CODEPINK in December to witness the impacts of economic sanctions. The chapter participated in several anti-war rallies throughout 2019, created an infographic for the World BEYOND War website about the "Reasons to Bury War," and is now developing anti-war materials to present to groups in the Fairfield area.

## **REASONS TO BURY WAR**

Leaders have taken us to war for insane reasons

The elite profit from war

The poor pay the highest price for war

There are better alternatives to war



People are people regardless of where they live
War needs to demonize other people
Violence begets violence
Peace is an on-going process
We have global issues to address like the climate crisis

There never was a good war or a bad peace.



2019 was a busy year for Liz Remmerswaal, New Zealand chapter coordinator, who was honored at the Zonta International Women's Day for her outstanding work for peace. She gave talks across New Zealand, at the University of the Third Age at Havelock North, the National Quaker Youth Camp in Palmerston North and the UNA National Council Meeting in Napier, as well as internationally, at the IPAN national conference in Darwin, Australia, and World BEYOND War's #NoWar2019 Conference in Limerick. Liz represented World BEYOND War at the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Conference & International Peace Bureau Congress in London, at the Tehran Peace Museum in Iran, the Vienna Peace Museum in Austria, and at the Bertha von Suttner Conference in Prague. She obtained the license for the NZ peace film Soldiers Without Guns, and organized screenings in Brisbane, Sydney, Prague, and Vienna, along with a screening of Beyond the Divide in Christchurch. Liz co-organized the International Count the Nuclear Weapons Money Day at Parliament in Wellington, in conjunction with the United Nations Association (UNA). Liz is currently collaborating with Metal Bird on a Peace Dove fundraising project for World BEYOND War, with a scheduled launch planned for May 2020.



The Central Florida chapter of World BEYOND War in The Villages continued to grow in membership and recognition in 2019. The chapter is recognized by other area organizations as a leading activist organization for peace and alternatives to war. During 2019, the WBW-Central Florida chapter met monthly and presented educational programs on a variety of topics, including conscientious objection, economic sanctions, debunking war myths, drone warfare, the situation in Venezuela, and the U.S. media's

portrayal of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The chapter organized its first annual "Peace, Love and Pizza Boogie" fundraiser, a fun evening filled with music, conversation, and food. In addition to organizing World BEYOND War chapter events, WBW-Central Florida members also gave presentations to other organizations in the area, focused on topics such as the efficacy of nonviolence, the use of sanctions as a weapon of war, and war myths. Members staffed a table at the regular meetings of the largest Democratic Party Club in Florida, seeking sign-ups, handing out material, and encouraging people to join the WBW network. Eighteen percent of The Villages retirees are U.S. military veterans. The chapter is dedicated to providing support for WBW-Central Florida members who are also military veterans and is organizing a joint chapter of Veterans For Peace.

#### **Coalitions**

World BEYOND War is a member of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, the Divest from the War Machine Coalition, the Global Day Against Military Spending, the International Peace Bureau, the Korea Collaboration Network, the Poor People's Campaign, Overseas Base Realignment and Closure Committee (OBRACC), United for Peace and Justice, the United National Antiwar Coalition, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, and the international network "No to war – no to NATO."

#### **Conferences**

#### No to NATO, Yes to Peace Fest, April 3-4, Washington, DC

WBW hosted the No to NATO, Yes to Peace Fest on April 3 in Washington, DC, featuring keynote speakers, live music, screenprinting, nonviolence training, art exhibitions, activity stations, and more, in preparation for protests outside NATO's meeting at the State Department on April 4. WBW bottom-lined the April 4 protests, organizing signage, keynote speakers, and live music. Protesters marched from the State Department to the MLK Memorial for additional speeches, chants, and music, to commemorate the anniversary of MLK's assassination. WBW also organized protests at additional NATO meetings on April 3, including a rally outside of NATO's address to Congress at the U.S. Capitol. Featured No to NATO speakers included Nadine Bloch, Brittany DeBarros, Medea Benjamin, Luci Murphy, Omali Yeshitela, Lee Camp, and Ana Maria Gower, a Serbian-British mixed media artist who survived the NATO bombings of Yugoslavia. Details from the event: https://worldbeyondwar.org/notonato

#### #NoWar2019 - Pathways to Peace, October 5-6, Limerick, Ireland

In 2019, we hosted our 4th annual global conference in Ireland, the first WBW conference in Europe. The conference brought together prominent and dedicated experts and activists from more than 10 countries. Featured speakers included Tarak Kauff, Ken Mayers, Laura Hassler, Peadar King, Dave Webb, Hakim Young, and

Nobel Peace Laureate Mairead (Corrigan) Maguire, among many others. The United States sends tens of thousands of troops through Shannon Airport on their way to wars, in direct violation of Irish neutrality and international law. This provided the context for many of the speeches and workshops throughout the event. To conclude the conference, we demonstrated outside Shannon Airport to protest the U.S. military's use of the civilian airport. #NoWar2019 generated much increased Irish media interest in the problem of the U.S. military's use of Shannon Airport. Read more and watch videos at: https://worldbeyondwar.org/nowar2019





## **Billboards Project**

World BEYOND War has raised donations and grants to put up billboards, bus stop ads, and online advertising promoting the abolition of war and development of a peaceful world. We've also partnered with local organizations to put up billboards, and organized press conferences, flyering, petitioning, and other means of maximizing the audience reached by the billboard. In 2019, in light of our 4th annual conference hosted in Ireland, we put up 4 billboards in the Irish town of Limerick. See worldbeyondwar.org/billboardsproject

#### Divest from the War Machine

2019 was a year of growth and success for the divestment campaign. WBW's Executive Director David Swanson initiated and led the successful campaign to divest the city of Charlottesville, VA from both weapons and fossil fuels! On June 3, Charlottesville voted to divest its operating budget. David is currently working with the city to divest its retirement fund as well. WBW & CODEPINK are co-managing the Divest from the War Machine Coalition, including initiating quarterly calls for coalition members, and facilitating an in-person meeting of the coalition in 2019. We are collaborating with CODEPINK to run grassroots divestment campaigns in Philadelphia, Arlington, Seattle, and Oregon, as well as to support allied groups' divestment campaigns in other locations. On July 2, World BEYOND War hosted a webinar on divestment, featuring David Swanson of World BEYOND War, Maya Rommwatt of CODEPINK, and Susi Snyder of PAX/Don't Bank on the Bomb. https://worldbeyondwar.org/education/#webinars



### No Bases Campaign

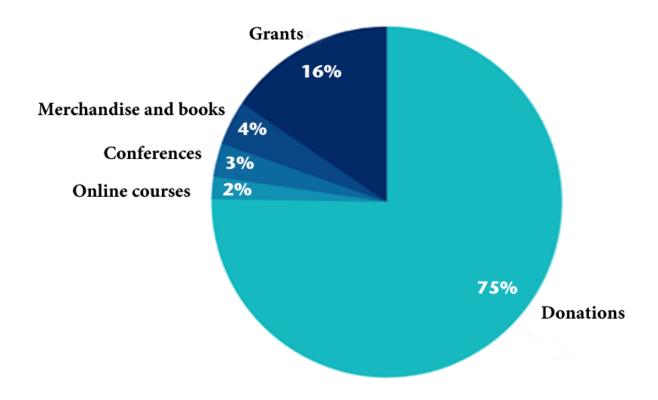
WBW is a founding member organization of the Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases, and we communicate regularly with partner organizations. The Coalition Against U.S. Foreign Military Bases is planning a second international conference in partnership with the World Peace Council, which will take place from March 28-29, 2020 in Cyprus. WBW is represented by Board President Leah Bolger in the Overseas Base Realignment and Closure Committee (OBRACC), which was initiated by American University professor, and the author of Base Nation, David Vine. OBRACC is taking an "inside"

approach, such as lobbying influential congressional representatives, to close foreign bases. In 2019, OBRACC focused lobbying efforts on 2 amendments to the NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act), introduced by Rep Ilhan Omar. The first requires the U.S. Department of Defense to report financial costs and national security benefits for overseas military operations, including permanent military installations and bases, and the second prohibits the construction of a base in Somalia. WBW issued an online action alert calling on our membership to urge their U.S. representatives to support these amendments. Our members sent over 4,000 letters to the House of Representatives in support of these amendments. Both amendments were approved in the House! However, the amendments were stripped in the Senate's version of the bill. WBW then initiated a second action alert, which also garnered over 4,000 letters, urging Congress to include both amendments in the final version of the NDAA.

WBW Board Member Pat Elder is making major progress on the issue of PFAS & PFOA (so-called "forever chemicals") water contamination on military bases, both domestic and overseas. He is lobbying key members of Congress and has been interviewed by various news outlets, including CNBC. With the support of the Patagonia Foundation and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Pat is organizing a state-wide tour in California to talk about how the military is poisoning the state's vulnerable aquifers with these toxic chemicals. Pat is developing an online database that will allow the public to search by town to discover nearby m ilitary bases and contaminants in the local groundwater and soil.

#### **Financials**

#### Income



World BEYOND War was the proud recipient of a \$7,000 multi-year grant from the Barrett Family Foundation, a \$5,000 grant from the Jubitz Family Foundation, and a two-year \$43,000 grant from the Cove Charitable Trust that supported 2018 and 2019 programming.

With sustainable and on-going support from foundations, World BEYOND War is able to more clearly project revenue for upcoming years. This is critical to expanding global programs and strategic efforts for abolishing war.

The majority of World BEYOND War's income is from small donations (75%). Another 16% is in grants. Additional income comes from conference tickets and sponsorships; sales of books, t-shirts, scarves, etc.; and online course tuition.

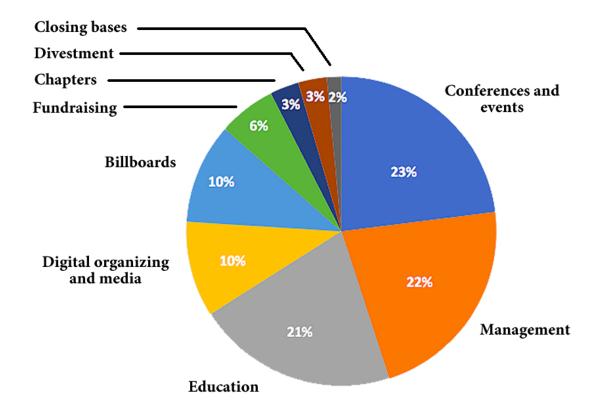
Total 2019 income: \$189,408.

Small donations to World BEYOND War are both one-time and recurring. The average monthly income from recurring donations in 2019 was \$4500. The number of recurring donors was 164 in 2019.

World BEYOND War is extremely grateful to every volunteer and donor, although we don't have room to thank them all, and many prefer to be anonymous. Over the past five years, we have been supported by Home Rule Globally, Jubitz Family Foundation, Puffin Foundation, Cove Charitable Trust, James R. and Mary Jane Barrett Foundation, Christopher and LuAnne Hormel of the Fire Monkey Fund of RSF Social Finance, Alms Committee of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Wallace Action Fund, Peaceworkers, Helen Alexander, Robert Barkley, Medea Benjamin, Stephen Clemens, Carol Crossed, Charles and Angeliki V. Keil, Kit Kitterage, Robin Lloyd, Wayne Martinson, William McLaughlin, Krishen and Geeta Mehta, John Melrose, Arthur Milholland, Josh Mitteldorf, John Reuwer, Daniel Riehl, Deb Sawyer, Peter Selby, Walter Singer, Shau Sumar, John Vechey, Donnal Walter, Nancy Weaver, and Paddy Welles.



#### **Expenses**



World BEYOND War has grown to include five half-time staff, many of whom maximize their efficacy by working with key volunteers. By paying five highly motivated half-time, remote staff to work on our projects, events, fundraising, organizing, and coalition-building, with minimal travel and zero office expenses, we have been able to grow rapidly and to exceed our expectations. We have accomplished a great deal with minimal overhead expenses.

Our total expenses for 2019 were about \$235,000. In addition to costs related to specific activist campaigns, we have also used our conferences and other events as fundraisers as well—which offsets some of the overall expenses.

Our No Bases campaign is led by WBW Board President, Leah Bolger, who volunteers her time in support of closing military bases across the globe. This accounts for the low expense of this category.



