



M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence

Welcome to Our 2015-2016 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

It's my honor once again to invite you to review this brief synopsis of 2015-2016. The Gandhi Institute is composed of the work of many hands, sharing talent, time and treasure—often all three. *Thank you* for whatever you do to help keep nonviolence in play during these challenging times.

Kit Miller
for the Gandhi Institute

School Climate Transformation

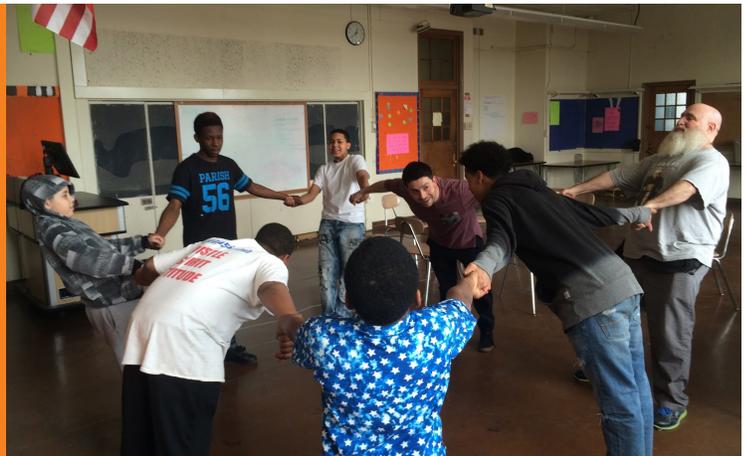
"I learned how to handle my anger in nonviolent ways....You taught me the ways to handle my issues peacefully. I really appreciate it."

—Keirre C.

In 2015-2016, the Institute expanded nonviolent practices into two new schools through Wilson's "STAR" ("Stop, Think, and Reflect") room and No. 19's Help Zone.

The Institute continued daily initiatives at Monroe, Northwest, and School #17 for a total of five Rochester city schools. Staff also supported intensive research on the impact of restorative practices. Throughout the year, the Institute **worked with 985 students to facilitate nearly 2,000 conversations and mediations.**

In May, the Institute partnered with the Rochester City School District and Rochester Institute of Technology's Criminal Justice Department to bring nationally-recognized restorative justice advocate **Dr. Fania Davis** to Rochester. Dr. Davis inspired hundreds of participants as she described the **implementation of restorative processes in schools as a key to ending the school-to-prison pipeline.**



School Success: A Story by Sarah

A 9th grade student came to me angry and upset about a conflict among her and several friends. Discouraged by her friends' rejection of mediation, an escalated verbal scene occurred.

By talking to me, she had a space in which her emotions and anger were heard. We went through the feelings and needs cards through which the pattern of instability, loneliness, and longing for connection related to her personal history of changing schools frequently when her family moved. By the end of our meeting, the student expressed the desire to apologize to her friends for yelling.

Research at Monroe last year showed when teachers and staff were interested in students' emotional states during a behavioral incident, 78% of students were more likely to remain engaged in school.

Operating Budget for 2015-2016

REVENUE

Annual Support,	\$ 106,000.00
Training/Event income	83,500.00
Material Sales	8,000.00
Fundraising	155,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 352,500.00

EXPENSES

Program	\$ 265,940.00
Admin	77,013.10
Reserve fund	9,546.90
TOTAL	\$ 352,500.00

Workshops

In 2015–2016 the institute offered workshops and speakers on nonviolence and conflict resolution to **more than 3,000 youth and adults.**

“The Gandhi Institute has such an open and warm atmosphere, very welcoming. It was a nice change to be a part of a workshop/training that allows people the chance to reflect and deflect on their own life experiences. All of the feedback I received was very positive, everyone, including myself left the training with a fresh outlook on their roles and purpose in life. You were very knowledgeable, genuine and transparent when presenting each portion of the workshop; your honesty made it easy for others to open up. I appreciate the great work you’re doing within the community.”

Beverly Roseborough
Family Service Assistant Program Coordinator
Ibero/East High School



The Gandhi Service Fellowship

Through nonviolence trainings, mentorship, and modest funding, Rochester area college students carried out a variety of student-led initiatives in 2015–2016. Fellows’ projects included the creation of college stress management programs, LGBT+ youth support programs, an urban organic farm, a nonviolence awareness campaign, a refugee tutoring program, and an urban scholars program.

Summer Youth Facilitation Institute (SYFI)

Five local high school students held paid summer apprenticeships during which they **taught elementary students about nonviolence and peace** through the Freedom School and Peace in the Garden programs. SYFI facilitators led activities during the Institute’s 3-day Summer Nonviolence Intensive.

One participant commented, *“I really applaud the courage, grit, and humor of the young facilitators.”*

