

# Peace Brigades International-USA Newsletter

JUNE 2010



PBI Guatemala Team  
Volunteer Jessica Fujan

Dear Friend of Peace,

I hope your summer is going well. At Peace Brigades International, we have four exciting initiatives that I'd like to inform you about today.

- PBI Involvement at the US Social Forum in Detroit, Michigan, June 22 - 26, 2010 including presenting workshops on Continuing Struggles Faced by Indigenous Peoples with the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission, June 24, 10:00am-12:00pm WSU Student Center Ballroom; Leveraging Power: Building Solidarity Through Protective Accompaniment with Fellowship of Reconciliation, Christian Peacemakers Team and the International Solidarity Movement, June 24, 1:00-5:00 pm, Cobo Hall D3-25; and Impunity in the Global North and South sponsored by Toward Freedom, June 24, 1:00-3:00 pm, WSU Student Center, Room 283. We'd love to see you there!
- Advocacy Speaking Tour on Guatemalan Human Rights beginning at the USSF and continuing on to Washington, DC, and New York City (June 28-July 2) featuring Silvia Weber and Jessica Fujan, PBI-Guatemala team field volunteers based in Guatemala City presenting critical human rights issues in Guatemala including CICIG, ongoing emblematic legal cases, WHRDs, indigenous rights and the role of corporations and the state in human rights abuse and what we can do.
- National Gathering and gala event during our National Coordinating Committee F2F meeting in the San Francisco Bay Area, September 11, 2010. This will include an announcement about the launch of our two new PBI-USA Advisory Committees-the National Advisory Board and the National Lawyers Committee on Human Rights-and a keynote speaker on peace, updates on our Projects and by-law changes. Save the date!
- PBI will be featured on the June 25 national Peace Talks Radio show. This show is nationally syndicated and will be aired on a number of public radio stations throughout the country. Please check their website: [www.peacetalksonline.org](http://www.peacetalksonline.org) for a recording of the show and schedule in your area. Liam Mahony, PBI-International Council Member, and co-author of *Unarmed Bodyguards*, and Dana Brown, recently returned PBI-Colombia volunteer are featured, along with myself, regarding the mission, vision, and relevance of PBI's work for peace building and human rights in today's world.

Finally, we're excited to announce the selection of three PBI-USA volunteers for Project Training this summer--Kristin Donovan, Colombia Project, Delphine Verhyde, Mexico Project and Rebecca Vo, Indonesia Project. We wish them luck! For those interested, a summer Volunteer Orientation Weekend will be held in Washington, DC end of July or early August, time and date to be announced.

As always, we need your ongoing commitment to our work to make this all happen. [Donate online today or send a check to support the Advocacy Speaking Tour on Guatemala Human Rights and ongoing volunteer expenses.](#) Also, be aware of our planned giving program which allows you to leave a permanent legacy supporting your commitment to social change and peace with justice. You can get more details online under "Support PBI-USA: Leave a Legacy for Peace: Planned Giving" or call me at 202-232-0142. For almost 30 years, PBI has worked on behalf of highly threatened human rights defenders and their communities--victims and survivors of human rights violations. We work to "create a safe space for peace" for local activists to implement local solutions aimed at building peace with justice. Now, more than ever, they need your support for continued protection!

Thanks for all you do-let's keep up the hope, but most importantly, keep up the work!

Peace,

Katherine Hughes-Fraitekh  
Executive Director  
PBI-USA



PBI National Coordinating Committee, NCC, members and PBI Staff 2010