

Annual Report 2014/2015



View from 8th floor
ICA solar array

MESSAGE FROM THE STAFF



ICA's work ^{IN} of 2014 and 2015 gave shape and form to the vision and momentum from our 50th anniversary in 2012. They showed ICA's capacity to appreciate and learn from the wisdom of our past while working on behalf of the future. We transitioned our leadership and made a significant mark on our history that will be visible for a long time to come. In these years, we accomplished a tremendous amount, ^{and} and are extremely grateful for our supporters, volunteers and cheerleaders without whom, our reach would not have been as wide, and our impact could not have been as significant.

Some of the highlights we would like to raise from 2014 & 2015 are:

- Installed 485 solar panels on ICA GreenRise making it the second largest solar installation in the City of Chicago, and engaging over 30 Uptown organizations in our solar launch event. *One building 15th is building (GreenRise) as the C.R. Hammy bld*
- Facilitated 11 events around sustainability at the GreenRise and engaged over 326 attendees from Uptown and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Hosted and Facilitated a week long East African Regional conference drawing over 20 colleagues from around the globe, and helped launch the new ICAI website
- Trained over 95 students in environmental justice and ICA methods
- Engaged 200 core and ally members representing 174 organizations in the Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network (CSLN), and hosted 49 events with over 800 participants.
- Celebrated the largest Archives Sojourn to date with over 50 colleagues participating, both virtually and at the Archives headquarters in Chicago *in September 2015*
- 130 licensed trainers from the ToP Network delivered over 300 facilitation courses training over 4,000 people across the nation.

We would like to thank all those who have shared in our commitment to create a just and equitable society and we look forward to continuing to work together for social change.

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Just a portion of our staff and volunteers who make our work possible.



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Fused Building Solutions
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ICA GreenRise Community
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Lao American Community Services
Lawrence House Pharmacy
Living Comfort Ministries
Loud Grade Produce Squad
New Hope International Church

North Shore Federal Credit Union
Northside Housing Service Center
Pegasus Theater
Sarah's Circle
Stone Soup Cooperative
Veteran Youth Corp
Witness For Peace

ENGAGING AT ICA GREENRISE

SOLAR PROJECT & BEYOND

To continue to carry out ICA's mission across all initiatives, the 485-panel solar array was installed in September 2014. ICA's array is the second largest in Chicago, and, from September 2014 through 2015, it generated 189 Mwh, equivalent to 116 barrels of oil.

As a celebration of the launch, ICA hosted a sustainability focused event each week of September leading up to the ICA Solar Launch & Uptown Share Fair on September 24, 2014. Over 30 Uptown organizations participated in the event to share their work and meet other service providers in the community.

ICA GreenRise continued to attract citywide attention and grow as a community space after the solar launch. Showcasing new solar panels and Energy Star certification, the building engaged over 1000 visitors during Open House Chicago 2014, an annual Chicago architecture festival. Attendees were most intrigued by the intentional community and the diverse tenants.

The living community welcomed new short-term members through Public Allies, an institutional partner of the ICA that trains young social change makers who support work at hundreds of nonprofits in Chicago and nationally. Over the past two years, ICA hosted 8 Public Allies to live at GreenRise and engage with ICA programs to provide more value during their year of service.

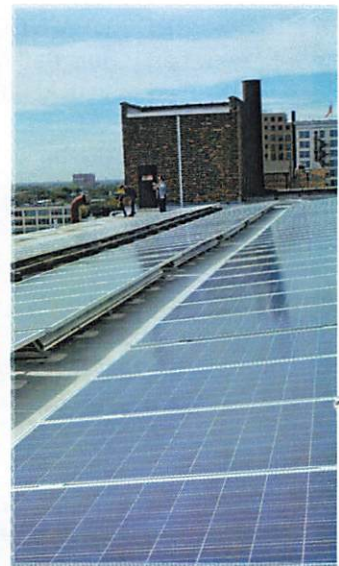
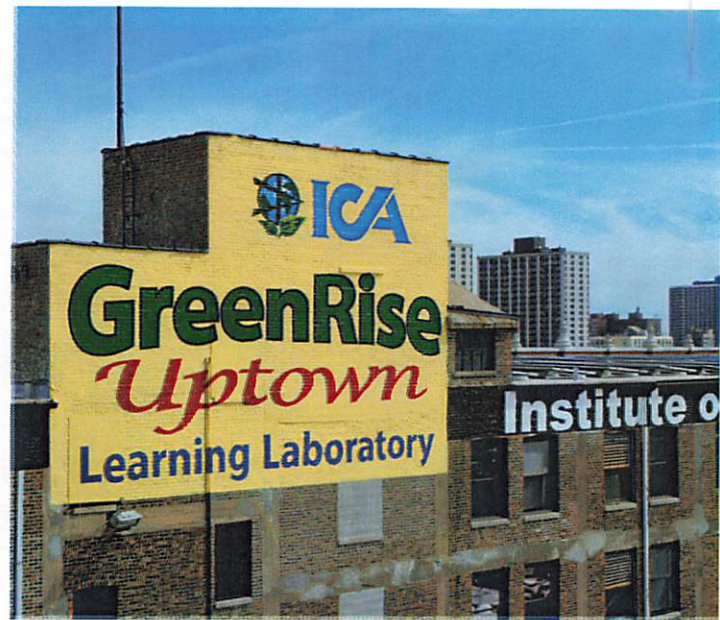


Photo Right: Lesley Showers (ICA Property Manager), Karen Weigert (Chief Sustainability Officers for the City of Chicago), Alderman James Cappleman, and Terry Bergdall (ICA CEO)

SUSTAINABILITY HUB

Health and Wellness Community Cohort
Continuing the momentum from the solar launch, ICA coordinated a 6-month health and wellness training cohort with Uptown community partners, supported by Thorek Memorial Foundation. Over **12 sessions**, which covered community member-led topics such as healthy food and meditation, ICA engaged **21 community members representing 10 organizations**.

Hub Days

ICA officially launched as a north side sustainability hub and hosted **11 events** featuring **community-led programming** about skills and resources to enable Uptown residents to live more sustainably. Supported by the Seabury Foundation, this programming engaged **326 residents**, many of whom were new to the ICA! The **three major events were 'hub days'** featuring community-led skill shares and facilitated discussion to deepen resident engagement with each other. ICA considers the hub days especially powerful for **building community connections**. An intentional community-themed hub day served as welcoming for Stone Soup, an intentional community set to move into the GreenRise in 2016. Attendees responded that they were most looking forward to continuing to build relationships with people and organizations they met at ICA's events, affirming the value of ICA GreenRise as a community space.

FAITH FORUM

To expand the CSLN's reach to faith congregations, ICA organized and hosted a Faith and Sustainability forum. The forum engaged over **85 participants** from across Chicagoland and provided ways for participants to engage with each other as well as citywide resource organizations. The **four main workshop tracks** were Eco Justice, Urban Ag/Native Plants, Energy, and Spirit. Across all tracks, attendees responded that they valued the opportunity to come together with a **wide range of like-minded faith leaders** and collectively think and share strategies.

Overall, the **two major questions** of the day were:

- ◇ How do faith communities activate their values about climate change at a local level?
- ◇ How do leaders make climate change an accessible issue?



Table-talk at the Faith Forum



Hub days engage multiple learning styles through hands-on training



ICA brought together 4 intentional communities to share and learn

BUILDING & SUSTAINING NETWORK GROWTH



On stage at GreenTown

HOW WE WORK

The Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network (CSLN) connects grassroots leaders from communities across Chicago to share resources, support each other's work, collaborate, build a stronger collective voice, and nurture equitable and impactful relationships with policy makers. In early 2014, CSLN was a creative space to establish network structure, a mission statement, and devise guidelines for collaborative activities. Network members most appreciated coming together because the diversity of spaces and people was unlike any other sustainability space in Chicago.

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

ioby

In early 2015, CSLN partnered with *ioby*, short for 'in our backyards,' an online crowdfunding platform that connects community-based projects with resources and teaches online fundraising basics. CSLN members raised \$3,532 for 4 projects, representing 26 total partners. The projects focused on alternative housing, bikeable, walkable communities, and sustainable gardening.

Illinois Science and Energy Innovation Fund

In partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago, the ICA and three CSLN members--the Chinese American Service League, Centers for New Horizons, and Sacred Keepers Sustainability Lab--received a \$250,000 grant from the Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation (ISEIF) to integrate Smart Grid consumer education into their community engagement programming. Through ongoing evaluation and sharing approaches at cross-community events, the partners developed innovative strategies to engage residents about energy.

Is it Just Space?

In October 2014, ICA and Center for Humans and Nature partnered on an event to explore spacial justice. The event compelled attendees to hold a series of 5 more events called the *Is it Just Space?* series. With the involvement of 24 community partners, this series exemplifies the multidisciplinary innovation made possible through the CSLN.

Highlights from the events include:

- ◇ *Urban Ecology Classroom: A Tale of Two Migrations*: experiential learning through milkweed planting to compare the flight of monarchs to the Great Migration;
- ◇ *Do You Feel Welcome Here?:* reflecting on the Chicago Families exhibit at the Swedish American Museum to dive into ways to cultivate more inclusive spaces;
- ◇ *From Transit to Trails*: engaging with land, water, and city at Montrose beach connecting historical and natural contexts to the current state of Uptown;
- ◇ *Sustainable September Ride Series*: bike rides in 5 communities with Slow Roll Chicago to promote an equitable bike culture--each community area shared something unique; and
- ◇ *Re-envisioning Underutilized Community Spaces*: A work day to transform a reclaimed lot into a food-producing garden in Englewood with students from Urban Prep Academy.

Network meeting at National Hellenic Museum

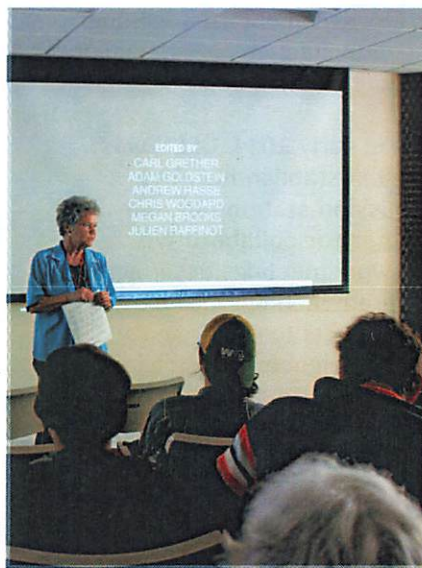


SHARING OUR WORK

CSLN publicly debuted as a network at the **GreenTown Chicago Conference** in May 2014. The network session stood out from the traditional conference format with a participatory panel of **6 network members** that invited the audience to dialogue with the panelists about working as a network and a broad definition of community sustainability. Nearly a year later in April 2015, a group of **6 network members** travelled to Lansing, MI for the **Integrated Network for Social Sustainability (INSS)** conference where they presented on the ISEIF project and the CSLN. Engaging with the sustainability community at large has been valuable for sharing widely the possibilities of a multidisciplinary sustainability network. National conferences like INSS also enable collaboration beyond Chicago. In fact, ICA, in coordination with CSLN, will be hosting an INSS conference site in 2016.

IN-BETWEEN SPACE

CSLN members formed a **policy group** with the goal of connecting 'bottom-up' community organizations to communicate in a unified voice with 'top-down' policymakers. In 2015, the policy group began to cultivate this in-between space through **2 round table meetings** with Karen Weigert, Chief Sustainability Officer of the City of Chicago, to explore the possibilities of a productive relationship between the CSLN and the City. One action the network followed up on from the roundtables was **creating a set of network values and process recommendations** for the city to incorporate into their next sustainability plan. A key theme in this plan was to engage in a meaningful way with the work already happening in communities.



Photos: (ToP) CSLN meeting at Benton House, Hub day film screening with CSLN partners, ISEIF Cross community event at IIT, ISEIF event at ICA, (Bot) CSLN Policy Group with Karen Weigert after roundtable

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

HOW WE WORK

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Table-talk at the Faith Forum



In response to the 2015 earthquakes, ICA-USA collected funds from colleagues and our community to fund disaster relief efforts headed by ICA-Nepal.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

By working with young leaders, the ICA strengthens the capacity of the next generation of change agents.

Sustainable Community Development Intensive (SCDI)

In 2014, ICA added a layer of participatory processes to its summer courses to create the SCDI course; enhancing the existing focuses on theory and community engagement. SCDI was designed to serve students who were interested in pursuing a career in community development, public policy, urban planning or social work. Program participants came from four Chicago based institutions, along with a student from Macalester College in Minnesota.

Acting as a community of learners, students become more informed about the ICA's participatory processes, and, fittingly, led sections of the course. Students learned tools to help communities and groups create a vision, identify root problems, and plan for action and implementation. As a practical application, the students were engaged alongside staff to help plan for the ICA's Solar Launch and Uptown Share Fair that took place in September 2014.

Social Entrepreneurship

Since 2013, ICA has enjoyed a partnership with the INSEEC Graduate Business School located in Paris. ICA developed a fall social entrepreneurship service learning program comprised of methods training, theory, and action research. By integrating their experience in the methods training and action research, students were able to compare the social systems and economic structures between the USA and France.



STUDENTS



UNIVERSITIES



PARTNER ORGS

SERVICE LEARNING STATS

2014 - 2015

By the end of the program, students were able to apply their critical mindset regarding social impact and methods for consensus building in their future work.

A key portion of the curriculum is the action research, where the students are placed in social enterprises in Chicago to tangibly develop their skills and gain greater context about the city. Host organizations have ranged in mission and structure, including the volunteer-run Chicago Time Exchange, non-profit initiatives like the One Earth Film Festival, and for-profit social enterprises like IshiVest and Greenlawn Landscaping. Over the past two years, ICA partnered with **21 Social Entrepreneurships** across the city including **3 Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network** members.

Reflecting on their experience, the students consistently noted their appreciation for the opportunity to produce impactful projects for their host organizations, and the partner organizations have found the relationship equally beneficial for their own missions.

Unfortunately, INSEEC has moved their USA host city to San Francisco in the coming year and therefore ICA will be unable to contribute to the 2016 experience.

INSEEC students enjoyed their host, One Earth Film Festival (OEFF), and recruited classmates to also volunteer at OEFF events.

ICA GLOBAL ARCHIVES

The ICA Global Archives work in 2014 & 2015 intentionally focused on understanding and using the ICA legacy to strengthen current programming.

A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

A notable first step in understanding our history was the publishing of *A Chronological History of the Ecumenical Institute and the Institute of Cultural Affairs, 1952 - 1988* by ICA colleagues Beret Griffith and David Dunn. *A Chronological History* documents the creation, use, and evolution of the intellectual, social, and spirit methods and models that are the foundations of the work of EI, ICA, and the [Technology of Participation](#) (ToP)[™] group facilitation methods training.

Many thousands of people contributed to the publication, which is still a work in progress. The last pages of the book invite colleagues to continue the story, especially by filling in the history gaps extending to the end of the 90s.

ARCHIVES FALL SOJOURN 2015

The Archives team hosted the largest sojourn to date from Sep 21-25th, with 50 colleagues joining both in person and virtually. The Sojourn aimed to produce work that would serve current programs through three major focus areas: (1) Historic Use of the GreenRise Building, (2) Training Inc. and (3) New Religious Mode.



Historic Use of the GreenRise Building

The task before this team was to find evidence supporting the use of the building as a place where innovative social justice programs were designed, coordinated and implemented over 44 years. The search for documentation focused on three areas of ICA work to meet necessary criteria: Uptown 5 (local); Town Meeting '76 (national); and The Band of 24 Human Development Projects (global). This work was integral to the ICA GreenRise's application to become a *National Historic Landmark (NHL)*

50 colleagues joined in-person & virtually

Training Inc.

In addition to discerning what aspects of the curriculum are relevant to the future of ICA, The Training Inc. team was called to celebrate 40 years of Training Inc. The group was able to archive key documentation of both the beginning and most recent years of Training Inc. and articulate the 'heart of the matter' that made Training Inc. successful. The work of this team resulted in a draft of an 'Image Transformation Toolkit' to be used in future conversations and programs related to image transformation.

New Religious Mode

This team drew in the most newcomers to the Archives and aimed to make the wisdom of the past relevant to ICA's current sustainability work while still maintaining the depth of the original curriculum.

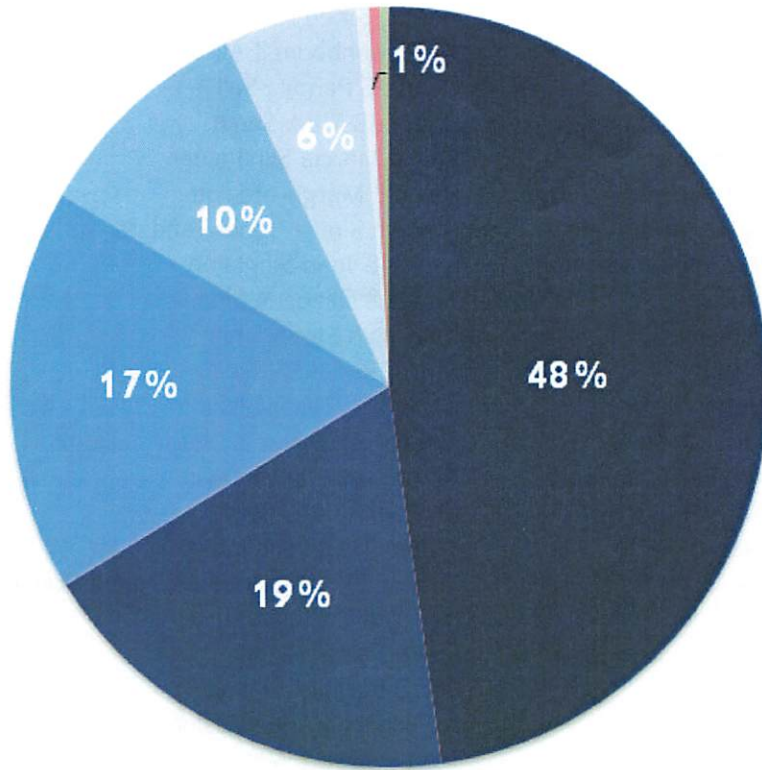


Sojourn participants were able to reach deeper analysis by working in focus areas

FINANCES & ACCOUNTING FOR 2014

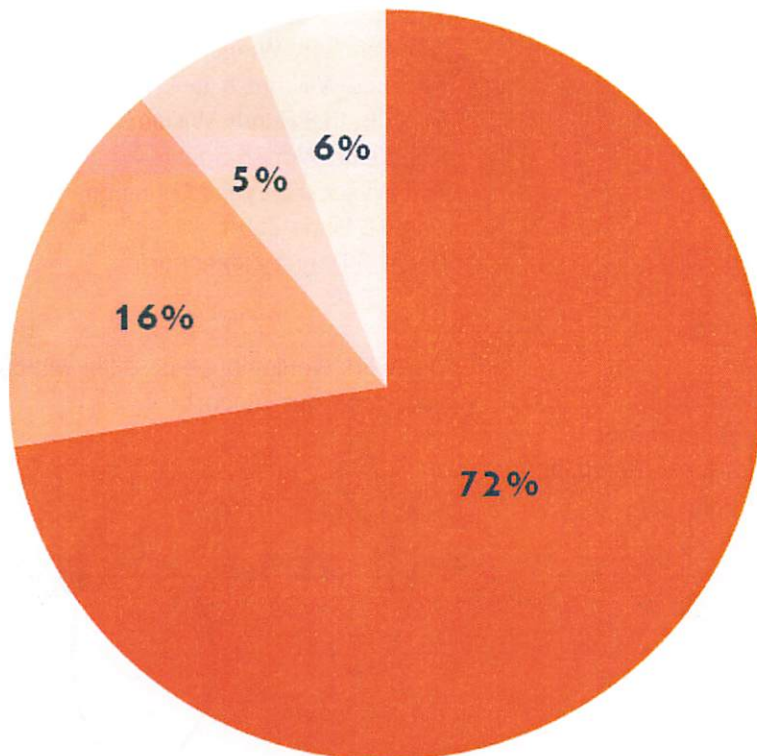
Support & Revenue	Individual Contributions	410,430
	Program Designated Individual & Foundation Contributions	378,174
	Institutional Grants	12,926
	Program service fees	210,958
	Rental revenue	1,059,875
	Product revenue	125,615
	Gain on Sale of Investments	46
	Unrealized gain on investments	9,941
	Interest and Dividends	8,576
	Other Income	776
	Total support and revenue	2,217,317
Expenses	Program services	1,733,166
	Management and general operations	104,899
	Fundraising	113,856
	Total Expenses	1,951,921
Changes in unrestricted net assets		265,396
Changes in temporarily restricted net assets	External Program Support	437,413
	Released Program Designated Support	-378,174
Changes in temporarily restricted net assets		59,239
	Change in net assets	324,635
	Net assets, beginning of year	98,111
	Net assets, end of year	422,746

INCOME - 2014



- Rental Revenue
- Individual Contributions
- Program Designated Individual & Foundation Contributions
- Program Service Fees
- Product Revenue
- Institutional Grants
- Gain on Sale of Investments
- Unrealized Gain on Investments
- Interest and Dividends
- Other income

EXPENSES - 2014



- GreenRise Services
- ICA Program Services
- Management and General Operations
- Fundraising

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS 2014—2015

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Our work would not be possible without
your generous support,



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CHG Envision LTD.
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River Forest Park District
River Forest Parks Foundation
Seven Generations Ahead

SugarCup LLC
The Boeing Company
The Gold Hatpin
The Green Medical Practice
The Seabury Foundation
The Village of Oak Park
Thorek Memorial Foundation
Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist
Uptown United
Visit Oak Park
Vital Clarity
Whole Foods Market
Windfree

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James Troxel and Karen Snyder Troxel
Pamela and Terry Bergdall
Sue and Stefan Laxdal

Sandra Conant Strachan
Thomas and Jana Bergdall
Jack and Judy Gilles

Judith Hamje
Lela Jahn
Gerald Jaecks
Louise Singleton
Jan Sanders and Richard Sims
Kenneth and Ruth Gilbert
Frank and Lois Greenburg
Beret Griffith and Paul Noah
Mary Beth and Randy Williams
George and Donnamarie West
Bill & Sheela Westre

Nebraska Galaxy Church Colleagues
Grace UMC, Lincoln
Trinity UMC, Ralston



Rooftop shots before & after solar installation

ICA LEGACY SOCIETY

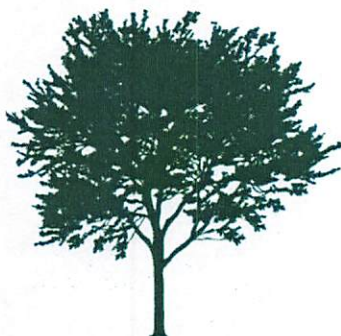
The Legacy Society honors colleagues who support the ICA through a bequest intention, donations of life insurance, IRA gifts, or other types of charitable planned gifts. In gratitude for such generosity, the ICA spotlights the philanthropic leadership of the Legacy Society members by including their name on a brass-leaved donor legacy tree that is displayed in the 4750 N. Sheridan Road building.

By becoming a member of the Legacy Society, colleagues help ICA meet the challenges of tomorrow by leaving an intentional legacy of possibilities for the next generations. Colleagues from across the country who are connected by the assemblies, projects, methods, history and mission of the ICA can tangibly and posthumously stay connected through the Legacy Society.

We would like to thank all our colleagues listed below for joining the Legacy Society and ensuring the bright future of our work:

Dick Alton	Alan Gammel	Karen Sims
Andrea Beacham	Ken and Ruth Gilbert	Louise Singleton
Terry and Pam Bergdall	Beret Griffith	Janice Ulangca
Roger and Maxine Butcher	Cheryl Kartes	Alfrieda Wilkins
Bruce Donnolly	Norm and Judy Lindblad	
Mark and Jennelle Dove	Larry Loeppke	
Gary Drown	Frances Moore	
Donald Elliott	Alice Neill	

If you are thinking of becoming a member of the Legacy Society, please contact CEO Ted Wysocki at 773-769-6363.



IN MEMORIAM

The Institute of Cultural Affairs salutes the memory and dedication of the following colleagues and friends who have passed away since our last Annual Report.

We deeply appreciate their commitment to ICA and their communities.

William Applegate

Pat Drown

Judy Gilles

Chen I-An

Lela Jahn

Ester Lyman

Maisie Maher

Dorothea Miller

Charles Moore

Wayne Nelson

Aaron Sands

Kenneth Smith

Paul Tideman

Darrell Walker

Helen Walker

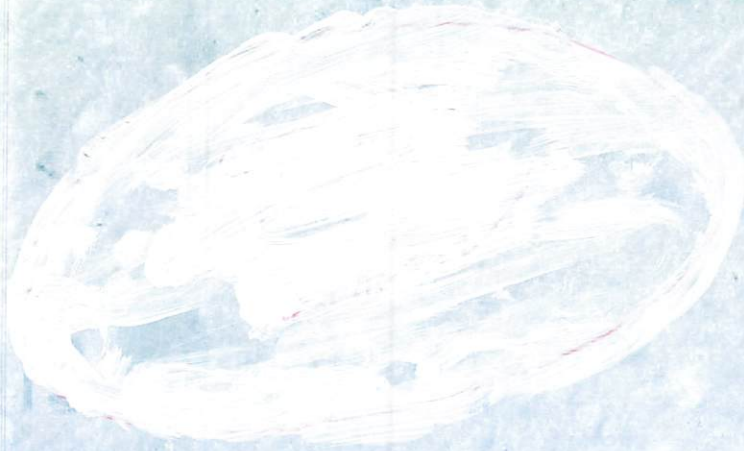
Lariat Weigel

Donnamarie West

Susan Moore Williams

Richard E. Zufall





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of Cultural
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