

# 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL JUSTICE

"Working Locally for Justice in the Global Economy"

## 2008 in Review

by Chris Iberle & Bill Aal

First, we must thank you for making 2008 a great year. CAGJ accomplished a lot, but only with the support and hard work of many people! Thanks for your support, and for laying the groundwork to make this coming year phenomenal! There were many turning points for the US and the world in 2008. The intersecting waves of climate change, oil scarcity and the financial meltdown (combined with speculation) led to a global food crisis which impacted the poorest first, but brought attention to food insecurity in almost every country as food prices soared everywhere. The world consensus is not *if* these issues exist, but *how* they will continue to unfold. The election of Barack Obama brought hope to many in the US and around the world that more humane and just leadership might emerge here. At the beginnings of the campaign, it seemed like the war and justice would be at the center; by the end it was clear that jobs and the failing economy were to be the Obama administration's defining issues. Food Justice and food sovereignty are now becoming key conversations in social justice circles here in Seattle as well as global justice circles in the Global South. Our organizing frame of *strengthening local economies everywhere* has never seemed so apt.

### Organizing & Leadership in 2008

CAGJ's organizing is led by incredible people whose creativity and dedication are inspiring many new people to get involved. CAGJ's Co-chairs - Sage Van Wing, Bill Mace and Chris Iberle - ensure CAGJ's overall health and sustainability, along with our hard-working Treasurer, Celia Orzogzo. CAGJ launched three programs in 2008: the Food Justice Project, AGRA Watch and the Trade Justice Project. Teresa Mares played a key role in transforming the Food Justice Project from idea to reality, and co-coordinated our extremely successful Teach-in, "Confronting the Food Crisis", in December. We are thrilled to have an awesome new co-coordinator of FJP, Maria Elena Rodriguez. Bill Aal, one of CAGJ's co-founders, continues to play a central role by leading AGRA Watch. Coming from many years of Fair Trade activism at the UW, Masha Burina coordinates CAGJ's Trade Justice work, which recently launched



Local pears served at December Teach-in, 'Confronting the Food Crisis'

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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
3rd annual  
Strengthening Local  
Economies Everywhere  
Dinner & Fair  
Sat. July 18, 2009  
St. Demetrios Church

the **Trade Action Network - Sign Up Today** using the orange card enclosed in this mailing! CAGJ's organizing is led by our Director, Heather English Day, who continues to do amazing work for CAGJ.

### Building CAGJ's Membership

We depend on our members to make everything at CAGJ happen. As an all-volunteer, membership-based organization, CAGJ's members put in the time, money, creativity, thought, and action that defines our work. Last year we made great improvements to our membership systems with the leadership of our UW Masters in Social Work Practicum student, Alma Dea Michelena, who has been our Membership Coordinator since the Fall of 2008. Alma Dea developed our new membership card, which makes it possible for our supporters to define what membership means to them and what type of commitment they're willing to make. These additions have helped us clearly define who our members are and makes it more accessible to people who may not be able to make financial donations, but can donate time, organizing skills or resources. This new card was put to good use at the December Teach-in, where 50 people became members! **If you haven't filled out the new membership card yet, find it on our website - We ask current members to renew annually!**

### Educating and Mobilizing: CAGJ's 2008 Events

CAGJ's events in 2008 cumulatively involved over one thousand people, exposing old friends and new supporters to our vision of just

## 2008 Review cont. from pg 1... **CAGJ Taking Action!**

food and our analysis of the fallacies of corporate globalization. To strengthen our community ties and build a stronger movement for justice, we partner with allies and like-minded organizations on our own events, and we often co-sponsor and co-organize with others as well! CAGJ's work is geared towards building the movement for social and economic justice, here and abroad. Our events bring together all kinds of people, educating and developing new ways to challenge corporate globalization and build our own alternatives. We strive to build a financial base to make our events free or very low cost, to make them accessible to everyone and nurture a community that can work toward our common goals. We gathered 99 signatures at the Teach-in to call the new administration to action in addressing the "food crisis" from the perspectives of the environment, labor, food access, immigration, and more, highlighting how these all intersect. As the threat of the new Colombia Free Trade Agreement came (and went with the end of the legislative session), we mobilized signatures to our representatives to oppose it. We've built a strong local community focused on global food justice through education and eating, at our Strengthening Local Economies, Everywhere dinner. We've built or expanded on relationships with Madison Market, El Comité Pro-Reforma Migratoria y Justicia Social, the Acting Food Policy Council, UFCW 1001, various farmworkers organizing all over Washington State, Marra Farm, Jubilee Farm, the Oakland Institute, Food First, and Carol Thompson (African Scholar from Northern Arizona University involved in AGRA Watch), among others. These relationships, our members, and our broader community made our work happen, and all these and more will be integral to building a radical food politics in 2009!

## **What people are saying about CAGJ...**

**"CAGJ has the vision and does the hard work to make connections between global issues and local communities working for justice and democracy. Central Co-op's Madison Market is proud to work with CAGJ as one of our 2009 community partners."**

*webster walker, Central Co-op's Madison Market*

**"In my view the CAGJ and its leadership are doing a superb job of raising awareness about the roots of social and economic inequities and are providing meaningful opportunities for people to become involved in the work that needs to be done to begin to resolve these injustices."**

*Erick Haakenson, Jubilee Farm*

**"The amazing thing about CAGJ is the way it serves as both an effective rallying place and a warm community space for all who care about social justice. CAGJ brings people together to fight the good fight and have fun doing it!"**

*Marina Skumanich, CAGJ Advisory Board & WA Fair Trade Coalition*

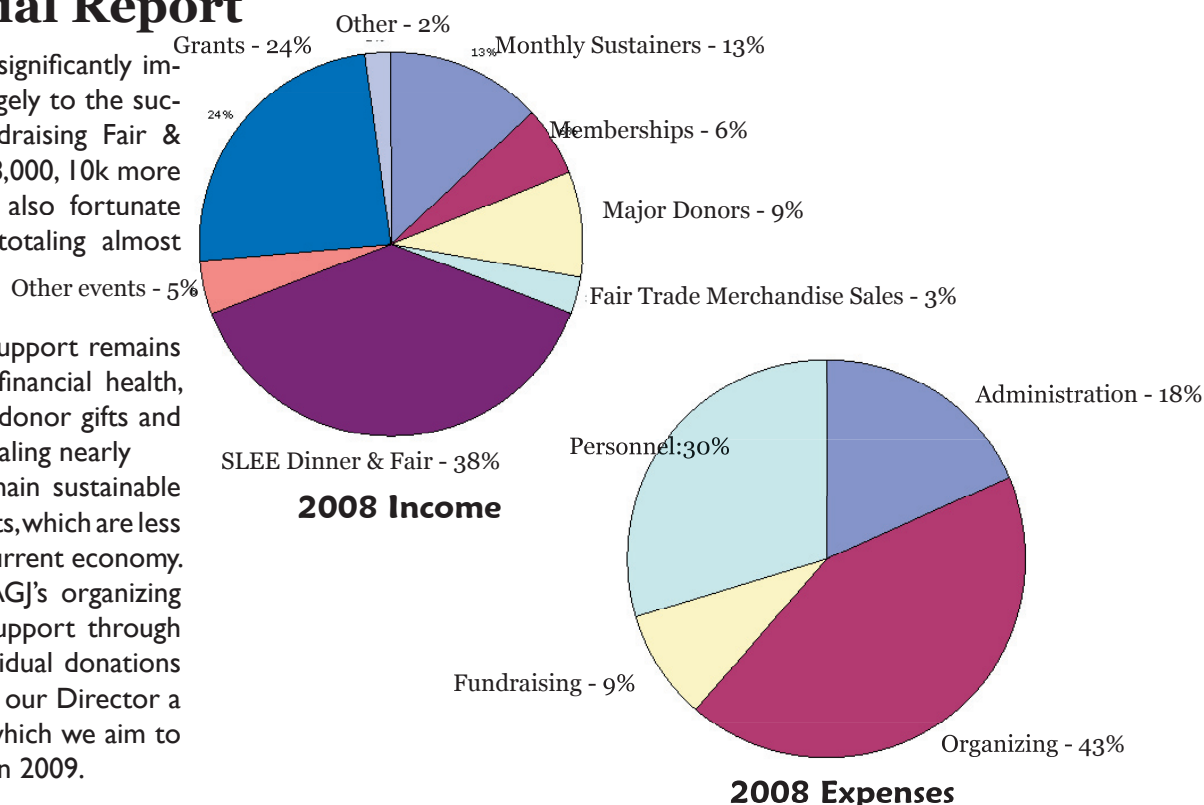
### **CAGJ NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!**

Help to strengthen CAGJ today so we can continue our organizing to strengthen local economies, everywhere! CAGJ is a 501c3, so donations are tax-deductible. Mail a check to "CAGJ" or donate securely online: Click the 'Donate Now' button on our home-page!

## **2008 Financial Report**

CAGJ's financial situation significantly improved in 2008, thanks largely to the success of our summer fundraising Fair & Dinner, which grossed, \$18,000, 10k more than in 2007. We were also fortunate to receive three grants totaling almost \$12,000.

However, our members' support remains the backbone of CAGJ's financial health, with memberships, major donor gifts and monthly sustainerships totaling nearly \$13,500. We aim to remain sustainable without depending on grants, which are less reliable, especially in the current economy. In addition to making CAGJ's organizing possible, our members' support through the SLEE dinner and individual donations allowed us to begin paying our Director a part-time salary in 2008, which we aim to increase to full-time time in 2009.



# You made CAGJ's work possible in 2008 - THANK YOU!

## VOLUNTEERS, ACTIVISTS & INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Bill Aal	Nikola Davidson	Shana Greene	Angela McCochran	Karen Rogulja	Alex Urmeneta
Danielle Abbott	Ashley Jean Deforest	Susan Gregory	Sue McGann	Oscar Rosales Cas-	Yecelica Valdivia
Eleanor Abercrombie	Diane Dempster	Kerri Gross	Annie Menzel	taneda	Hoby Van Hoose
Margo Adair	Cory Deppe	Noam Gundle	Alma Dea Michelena	Robert Rowland	Sage Van Wing
Shimon Alkon	Marguerite Di-	Darrin Gunkel	Deb Montgomery	Kaila Russell	Leonard Wainstein
Rebecca Allen	giovanni	Gregory Heller	Francis Montojo	Jessica Savage	Greg Wakefield
Alice Amanda	Amber Duginske	Caitlin Henry	Tammy Morales	Alex Sawyer	webster walker
Helen Amos	Ben Dunlap	Andrea Hermanson	Max Morange	Nate Schmidt	Rebecca Wells
Alex Applebaum	Mark Dworkin	Tania Hino	Reid Mukai	Susan Schneider	Elizabeth Wheat
Diane Roseman Baer	Jessica Eagle	Courtney Hollen-	Jen Mullen	Andrew Schwarz	Anne Wilson
Elsa Batres-Boni	David Edeli	beck	Dee Nadir	Arturo Segura	Gwen Wilson
Tere Bazan	Pamela Emerson	Kathy Hubenet	Sarah Nason	Grace Sessoms	Alice Woldt
John Beardsley	Kristin Engelbrecht-	Selena Hunstinger	Keith Neal	Anisha Shankar	Ritz Annette Wood
Sheryl Belcher	Bleem	Chris Iberle	Philip Neff	Jeremy Simer	Jocelyn Yee
Phil Bereano	Travis English	Marissa Janfe	Whitney Neufeld-	Coral Sisk	Melissa Young
Mauricio Berho	Phoebe Esperas	Lucy Jarosz	Kaiser	Stephen Sissel	Catie Zarski
Rebecca Borders	Ashley Fent	Jubilee Biodynamic	Albert Niemoller	Stefanie Skiljan	
Christopher Borland	Carly Fischer	Farm	Elaine Nonneman	Marina Skumanich	
Rachel Boudin	Robert Forman	Erica Kay	Celia Orgogozo	Viki Sonntag	
Heather Bowen	John Foss	Cindy Kempf	Jesus Ortega	Stanley Sorscher	
Francisca Bravo	Danielle Friedman	Claudia Kienholz	Susan Partnow	Gregory Speltz	
Vicky Brodine	Katie Gagnon	Angela King	Allan & Jane Paulson	Kathryn Speltz	
Anne Buffardi	Wilson Evans Gal-	Eric Kocaja	Jill Perry	Kathryn Sperling	
Masha Burina	loway	Nancy Kool	Mike Pierce	Liam Stacey	
Sarah Butzine	Deborah Gardner	Kristen Kosidowski	Judy Piggot	Michelle Stitzer	
Kaelyn Caldwell	Sharon Garrett	Dan Leahy	Gary Porter	Ilvs Strauss	
Janet Capps	Morgan Geenseth	Garth Lesperance	Sara Prout	Jan Strout	
Aline Carton	Richard Geer	Lily Lewison	Magie Ramirez	Nora Sullivan	
Seth Caswell	Sherril Gerel	Roger Lippman	Matt Reed	Kenneth Tanzer	
Seth Christian	Neil Gerrans	Sarah Louisignau	Emily Reilly	Ariana Taylor	
J. Peter Constantini	Victoria Gibson	Michael Lubrano	La Mer Riehle	Jenn Tennent	
Dominic Corva	Erica Giegler	Helene Lustan	Bobby Righi	Eden Trenor	
Lorraine Cunningham	Shelley Gillespie	Bill Mace	Michael Righi	Melvin Trenor	
Alexi Curelop	Heather Golden	Teresa Mares	Kahterine Riley	Diane Turner	
Nicole Dade	Duncan Goulding	Shannon Markley	Gabrielle Roesch	Rick Turner	
Jennifer Danek	Melissa Green	Robert McCauley	Maria Rodriguez	Roxanne Turner	



### 2008 GRANTS thank you!

City of Seattle  
Department  
of Neighborhoods  
Matching Fund

Money to Movements

Nonviolent Action  
Community of Cascadia

Art-work by Rini Templeton

### MONTHLY SUSTAINERS

William Aal	Ben Morris
Rachel Boudin	Debra Morrison
Anna Brandt	Shirley Morrison
Elaine Coret	Jen Mullen
Nicole Dade	Sarah Nason
Robert Day	Elaine Nonneman
Anthony Draye	Dennis Ortbal
Danielle Friedman	Fernanda Oyarzun
Nan Geer	Marina Skumanich
Lee Gilchrist	Mike Withey
Shelley Gillespie	
Heather Golden	
Lawrence Hemingway	
Derek Hoshiko	
Tom Iberle	
Christopher Iberle	
Kaaren Johnson	
Phillip Kaplan	
Victoria Lawson	
Bill Mace	
Teresa Mares	
Steve Marquardt	
Annie Menzel	



THANK YOU  
FOR  
NOURISHING  
CAGJ  
FROM THE  
GRASSROOTS

### 2008 INTERNS

Alexi Curelp  
Mai Dang  
Laura Delman  
Caitlin Henry  
Courtney Hollenbeck  
Chantal Huynh  
Brodie Nelson  
April Nishimura  
Marina Pita  
Nicole Pita  
Alexandra Sawyer  
Coral Sisk  
Roxy Turner  
Juan Vasquez  
Mae Wiskin  
Leah Zarski

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FARMS, FISHERFOLK, CREAMERIES, BAKERIES, WINERIES, BREWERIES, FAIR TRADE VENDORS & RESTAURANTS WHO DONATED TO THE 2008 SLEE EVENT!

Willie Greens Organic Farm	Estrella Family Creamery
Nash's Organic Produce	Samish Bay Creamery
Billy's Gardens	Port Madison Creamery
Stoney Plains Farm	Port Madison Creamery
Blong Cha's Garden	Mt. Townsend Creamery
Alm Hill Gardens	Golden Glen Creamery
Growing Things	
Full Circle Farm	Pike Pub & Brewery
Oxbow Farm	Red Barn Cider
Lyall Farms	Tulip Valley Winery
Tonnemaker Orchards	Eagle Haven Winery
Jubilee Biodynamic Farm	Hoodsport Winery
Rock Prairie Herb Garden	
Growing WA	
Wilson Fish	Kaspars
Loki Fish Co.	La Medusa
Taylor Shellfish	Portage Bay Cafe
	Chef Seth Caswell
Essential Baking Company	Grounds for Change
Tall Grass Bakery	Alter Eco



# 2008 CAGJ Project Reports

## Food Justice Project

2008 was a great first year for CAGJ's Food Justice Project (FJP)! After being officially kicked off at our winter retreat, the FJP welcomed two new co-coordinators, Teresa Mares and Maria Elena Rodriguez, over the course of the year. In September, an outdoor film event at Marra Farm drew together nearly 100 people to watch *The Greening of Cuba* and *Zapata's Garden*, while eating freshly roasted corn under the stars. In December, with the help of dozens of volunteers a two day Teach-in, *Confronting the Food Crisis: Cultivating Just Alternatives to the Corporate Food System*, was born. Generously funded by the City of Seattle Neighborhood Matching Fund, the Teach-in was a huge success and brought together more than 400 people who attended 18 workshops and panels, and enjoyed a free, all-organic lunch from Madison Market. FJP is planning new projects in 2009 to both refine and implement our two main political objectives: (1) Making local, sustainable and humanely produced food accessible to everyone regardless of race, class, ethnicity, ability, religion or community; and (2) Working in solidarity with small farmers and immigrant workers in strengthening the Washington state food system.

## AGRA Watch



AGRA Watch evolved in 2008 from an idea in the heads of a few activists, to a public campaign taking on the biggest foundation in the world. Throughout the year Ashley Fent, Bill Aal, and Karen Magnuson Rogulja rotated roles as co-chairs of the committee. We support African programs that foster farmers' self-determination and food sovereignty. We aim to transform the current way that development aid from private sources (such as major foundations) works hand in hand with aid and trade policies of the US and other countries that foster corporate investment in industrial agriculture in Africa. AGRA Watch also supports the fight against the use of genetic engineered crops in food aid and agricultural development assistance.

### 2008 Accomplishments:

- ...Initial web site publication outlining our criticisms of AGRA (Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa), and Gates Foundation role in founding it
- ...We were invited with other colleagues in Seattle by the Gates Foundation to talk with them about our concerns
- ...Began a conversation with Kenyan farmers and Africa NGO's about the impact of the Gates Foundation research activities and AGRA's role in promoting a "green" (read \$) revolution in Africa
- ...Conversation and strategizing with colleagues in Seattle and around the US - Oakland Institute, Food First, Raj Patel, Prof. Carol Thompson & others
- ...Mentored three interns and began to foster a deeper collaboration with activist scholarship in the academy with UW Professors Lucy Jarosz and Phil Bereano
- ...CAGJ activists responded to neoliberal statements about hunger in Scientific American and Foreign Affairs, picked up by blogs and journals around the world

## Trade Justice Project

The past year proved to be a tenuous time for trade policy. The Bush administration was angling all year to introduce their three bi-lateral trade deals (with South Korea, Panama, and the most odious, Colombia), prompting us to collect signatures, make calls and meet with our representatives to continue sending the message: NAFTA-modeled Free Trade Agreements, wrought with special corporate privileges, that offer no safeguards to human and environmental rights, have no place in our global policies! But the election year climate was never right to get the deals passed. The new Congress and Administration seem to have a more balanced trade agenda, yet the Bush trade agenda continues to linger, despite the fact that the recession removed the veil from our leaders' eyes of oligopolies effecting our economic policies and corporate corruption.

Thus CAGJ continues to organize to provide a critical analysis and garner attention to the political process. We hosted speakers from the Council of Canadians, Global Exchange, and independent journalist John Gibler, who explained the stealth Security and Prosperity Partnership, and we organized a successful workshop at the December Teach-in, connecting issues surrounding trade, migration, and our relationship with the Global South. CAGJ members participated in two meetings with Representative Jay Inslee in 2008, one that we hosted in our office and another at his Congressional office in Washington D.C., which followed an intensive national trade strategy meeting attended by CAGJ Trade Justice Chair, Masha Burina, and hosted by Citizen Trade Campaign. We recently met with Representative Dave Reichert in his 8th District Office, advocating on behalf of the TRADE Act and expressing our concerns with the Colombia and Panama Free Trade Agreements.

## Trade Justice Project in 2009

The Trade Action Network was launched in 2009, a means for CAGJ members to advocate for economic justice and a more balanced trade system through concrete action: **Join The Trade Action Network Today – Fill out the enclosed orange card!** With our allies in the Washington Fair Trade Coalition, we are educating and advocating for the fair TRADE Act, and will continue to pressure our members of Congress, insisting that the Bush bi-laterals are not acceptable!

This fall will mark 10 years since we shut down the WTO! The Trade Justice Project will be considering proposals for how to mark this anniversary with actions and education aimed at drawing connections between today's economic and food crises and the neoliberal order we so creatively and effectively challenged in 1999. Join us with your ideas at monthly meetings - 4th Tuesday/month 6:30 - 8:30 at CAGJ office.

**GET INVOLVED!** If you are interested in helping organize festivities around the WTO 10-year Anniversary, or want to identify opportunities to mobilize the Trade Action Network, please email Masha! [tradejustice@seattleglobaljustice.org](mailto:tradejustice@seattleglobaljustice.org)

# CAGJ Organizing in 2009

## CAGJ to visit local farms & food sites!

CAGJ's Food Justice Project invites our members and others to learn about and build connections with key players in the local food region through monthly visits to farms, community kitchens, and community gardens! The site visits will include hands-on work that is needed by or is appropriate to the sites, opportunities to debrief and reflect at the end of the site visit, and calls to action! These visits will allow CAGJ members and supporters to gain a grounded understanding of how these sites work and how they relate to the local food economy. We hope to facilitate the connections between the sites that we visit, and aim for an experience that is mutually beneficial to CAGJ, our members, and the host site. CAGJ hopes to facilitate a place for the voices of our local food producers to be heard and their knowledge and skills to be recognized and celebrated.



## "Our Food, Our Right: Recipes for Food Justice"

The Food Justice Project has begun work on new community recipe book and activist resource guide that promotes self-sufficiency and knowledge sharing, through a food sovereignty framework. The guide seeks to increase access to information on issues such as container gardening, starting a community garden, composting, local farmer and farmworker profiles, immigrant worker's issues, fair and direct trade, organizing community meetings, and more. Local community members and activists from diverse communities will have the opportunity to submit ideas and recipe cards to be included in the guide. By creating this guide with help from diverse sources and making it available to many communities, we hope to put forth an accessible and inclusive attempt to do community education and mobilization around food justice issues. The Food Justice Project believes that all people should have the ability to access good, healthy, culturally appropriate foods, and that we as communities have the power to take back our food choices. This resource guide and recipe book will reflect these ideals, and offer hands-on tools for change and engage people in thinking alternatively about their food. A first edition of the resource guide will be available for purchase at the CAGJ's Dinner and Fair on July 18, 2009. Copies will also be made available at a low cost or free to local shelters, food banks, community centers, grocery stores, and other CAGJ events. Would you like to contribute ideas or personal recipes? Or are you able to contribute financially to help get this project going? Please email Maria at [fjp@seattleglobaljustice.org](mailto:fjp@seattleglobaljustice.org) with your ideas or contributions! And keep an eye for the first edition coming out in July!

### Proposed Site Visits

(Dates and Sites to be determined)

**May:** Marra Farm (Seattle)

**June:** Urban food projects in Seattle

**August:** Day trip to Carnation or Duvall

**September:** Overnight weekend trip to Vashon Island

**October:** Day trip to Carnation or Duvall

**November:** Alternative giving of thanks event at a Seattle area community kitchen

All the visits will have carpool, public transit, and bike transportation options. Food will either be provided or shared potluck-style, depending on the logistics of each site.

If you are interested in helping to plan or join our visits, please contact Teresa at [fjp@seattleglobaljustice.org](mailto:fjp@seattleglobaljustice.org)

## AGRA Watch in 2009

### What to look forward to in 2009:

An active campaign involving community activists and scholars in the US, farmers in Africa and their allies to challenge the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to be more transparent in its endorsements of policies, and more accountable to its stated goals. We will also work to build a network of solidarity to highlight and support sustainable models of agriculture already being used in African contexts. GET INVOLVED!  
[agrawatch@seattleglobaljustice.org](mailto:agrawatch@seattleglobaljustice.org)

### Community Alliance for Global Justice

606 Maynard Ave #252  
Seattle, Wa 98104  
Phone: (206) 405-4600  
[contact\\_us@seattleglobaljustice.org](mailto:contact_us@seattleglobaljustice.org)  
[www.seattleglobaljustice.org](http://www.seattleglobaljustice.org)

### CAGJ Steering Committee

Bill Aal  
Danielle Abbott  
Masha Burina  
Victoria Gibson  
Chris Iberle  
Bill Mace  
Teresa Mares  
Maria Elena Rodriguez  
Sage Van Wing

### Advisory Board

Phil Bereano  
Shelley Gillespie  
Derek Hoshiko  
Lucy Jarosz  
Nancy Kool  
Sarah Luthens  
Marina Skumanich  
Viki Sontag

### Director

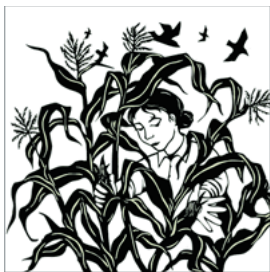
Heather English Day  
Interns

Erica Bergmann  
Laura Brady  
Laura Brody  
Rebecca Collins  
Maggie George  
Alma Dea Michelena  
Michelle Nguyen  
Bjorn Ruud  
Yecelica Valdivia

### Annual Report team

Bill Aal  
Masha Burina  
Victoria Gibson  
Chris Iberle  
Teresa Mares  
Maria Elena Rodriguez





Artwork by Olympia artist, Nikki McClure

SAVE THE DATE! 3rd Annual  
**Strengthening Local Economies, Everywhere  
Dinner & Fair!**

**Sat. July 18, 2009**

**New Location! St. Demetrios Greek Church 2100 Boyer Ave in Montlake**

**CAGJ SEEKING TABLE CAPTAINS!**  
**See enclosed letter for details!**

**Tickets go on sale May 15** at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)

\$12 low-income \$35 Regular \$65 Support a Farmer/Food Worker

*Buy a ticket for yourself and enable a local farmer or food worker  
to be one of our honored guests.*

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**We are also seeking Dessert donations & items for our Silent Auction**

If you can donate, or want to volunteer, please contact CAGJ at 206.405.4600!

**CAGJ**

606 Maynard Ave South #252  
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