

FUNDS IN	
1994	351
1995	3860
1996	4143
1997	3544
1998	7643
1999	5814
2000	3514
2001	5290
2002	2873
2003	1785
2004	0
2005	4439
2006	3268
2007	4312
2008	3448
2009	6468
2010	6225
2011	5867
2012	4795
2013	4633
2014	6004
2015	7657
2016	9406
2017	9098
2018	8470
2019	16489
2020	13753
TOTAL	153,149

FUNDS OUT	
1994	120
1995	2796
1996	4308
1997	4588
1998	6412
1999	5191
2000	4544
2001	4637
2002	4320
2003	2850
2004	1492
2005	2620
2006	2880
2007	3471
2008	3750
2009	3700
2010	5200
2011	7730
2012	6480
2013	5360
2014	4880
2015	4960
2016	5200
2017	6420
2018	7700
2019	10,380
2020	8680
TOTAL	130,669

DONATIONS

The current report reflects all funds that have come in as of August 2020.

In July, the Warchest received a total of 11 donations, totaling in the amount of \$2785. In August, the Warchest received 11 donations, totaling \$341. For the two months combined, the donations totaled \$3126.

Funds currently in the Warchest: **\$21,387**

(*Funds collected and dispursed were not fully reported in 2004)

Emergency Funds

(These are one time disbursements issued to those in temporary need):

- Chuck Africa \$500

Warchest Fund

August 2020 Report



The Warchest Program

The Warchest program began in November 1994 by various chapters of the Anarchist Black Cross movement. Its purpose is to collect monthly donations from groups and individual supporters so that the funds can be distributed to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War (PP/POWs) incarcerated in North American prisons. These funds are distributed to prisoners who, without these funds, would receive little or no financial aid.

Collecting Money

The concept of raising funds for political prisoners is not new. In fact, it is a long tradition of the Anarchist Black Cross movement. Earlier formations of the organization would raise funds for prisoners incarcerated in Tsarist Russia. Funds at that time would be used to help feed and clothe prisoners, and in some cases, help them escape. Today, most of the fundraising goes to court costs, daily expenses and other needs.

Despite our dedication and support for imprisoned political prisoners, many of us cannot afford more

than \$5, \$10, or \$20 per month. Alone, this does not amount to much. But, when we pool our resources and all give that amount to one Warchest, we are able to make progress. The purpose of the ABCF Warchest is to consolidate efforts going on around North America in support of PP/POWs in order to substantially aid our political prisoners. We can honestly say that the Warchest has been a successful act of solidarity.

As of August 2020, we have collected and disbursed over \$130,669 to PP/POWs through this program. We currently have 19 PP/POWs who receive monthly stipends through the Warchest. With your help, this will increase both the amount we provide and the number of prisoners we support.

In addition to monthly stipends, the Warchest program provides emergency funds to political prisoners who are in need of one-time assistance. Such need can be due to release from incarceration, legal fees or the need to have items that have been lost or seized replenished. For instance, Jalil Muntaqim (New York 3) was transferred and lost his

Individuals Currently Receiving Warchest Stipends:

(Each individual receives a \$40 monthly stipend)

- Oso Blanco
- Jalil Muntaqim
- Alvaro Hernandez
- Ruchell Magee
- Hanif Bey
- Joseph Bowen
- Sundiata Acoli
- Jaan Laaman
- Malik Smith
- Ronald Reed
- Veronza Bowers
- Mutulu Shakur
- Eric King
- Abdul Azeez
- Ed Poindexter
- Chip Fitzgerald
- Kamau Sadiqi
- Leonard Peltier
- Douglas Wright

belongings including his coat and gloves in the dead of winter. With the recent release of Herman Bell, Robert Seth Hayes, Connor Stevens, and several of the MOVE members, the ABCF was able to send funds to help them start their new lives outside of the prison walls. This aspect of the Warchest program is designed to provide quick and immediate support in sudden situations.

Where Does The Money Go?

The funds that are collected are distributed to prisoners who do not receive regular financial support from their family or other political prisoner support organizations. When the Warchest was first established, a list was created of PP/POWs who were suspected of being in need. With the help of several political prisoners (Ojore N. Lutalo, Sundiata Acoli and Sekou Odinga) the list was refined. As years have passed, prisoners who received funds from the Warchest have been freed, passed on, or have begun to receive funds from other

“The Warchest program provides a big part of the financial support sent to me - or to any prisoner struggling against oppression, who has no or little income...”

- Sundiata Acoli

sources. When funds become available, the ABC Federation, with the assistance from the larger political prisoner community, examines which prisoners are the most in need of funds. The imprisoned comrade(s) is contacted to determine whether there is a want or need of funds. If it is determined that want and need exist the political prisoner is added to the list of those who receive monthly stipends.

There are many political prisoners who have remained in prison for decades and who have support diminish over the years. It is these prisoners for which the Warchest was designed to help. While recently incarcerated prisoners also find themselves in need, it is common for these comrades to have an ongoing support community that still provides financial support on some level. Long-term prisoners are often forgotten as time passes and the Warchest ensures that continued financial support exists for them when other support has fallen off.

How Are Funds Raised?

Funds are collected through donations made by individuals and organizations to the Warchest fund. These donations are sometimes one-time donations or through six or twelve-month commitments. The ABCF encourages the six or twelve-month commitments because it allows the organization to know just how much we can expect to have

available in the program. This helps us adjust the monthly stipends to the prisoners or add others onto the list of political prisoners supported by the Warchest.

In addition, the ABCF started an annual event, known as Running Down the Walls, to help raise funds for the Warchest. This is 5k run/walk designed to raise funds and awareness about the needs of our imprisoned comrades. This event has also helped by allowing a large infusion of funds into the Warchest. Despite the success, the need for our imprisoned comrades is great and every dime collected is used to support them.

“This fund for political prisoners is a vital support system - no joke at all. Please know that this aid had helped me in the worst of time in the SMU...”

- Oso Blanco

We Must Not Forget

It is important for those who are active in revolutionary and various social justice causes to remember those who are incarcerated from our communities. The State would love to see our most dedicated locked up behind the prison bars, lost and forgotten. While the Warchest program falls short of ensuring that these individuals are remembered and sup-

ported in the capacity that is truly needed, it is a symbol to those incarcerated that there are many of us outside the prison walls who remember them and the sacrifices they have made for the people’s liberation. The Warchest program is a reminder to everyone that we have a responsibility to uphold. We must take on our obligation to those who have sacrificed so much and have asked for nothing in return. Only through your support can we keep this program going. We encourage you to donate to the Warchest and assist us in the campaign to support our comrades.

For more information about the ABCF and the Warchest program please check out our website at: www.abcf.net

Send cash, checks or MOs made out to Tim Fasnacht:

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timABCF@aol.com

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