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# APPA

## 2016-2017

# ANNUAL REPORT

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ACTION FOR PEACE THROUGH PRAYER AND AID  
(UN ECOSOC CONSULTATIVE STATUS NGO)

[WWW.AAPAUN.ORG](http://WWW.AAPAUN.ORG)

# Greeting

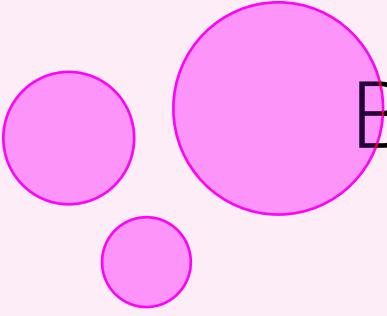
I am grateful for all the help received throughout the year. This includes not only monetary aid but also mental support and kind words. These are the very things that enabled us to mark another great year for APPA. We continued some of our most successful programs for 2016-2017 such as legal counseling, Sunday services, street evangelism and summer and winter internships. These programs informed the youth of social issues and encourage them to actively participate in the activism. A lot of interns testified that they learned to love and care for others through the programs.

I appreciate the Korean-American volunteers who prepared meals and made donations for the homeless every Sunday. Alsom I would like to extend special thanks to those who helped the legal service programs. Each month, at least four American lawyers, five law school students and volunteers devoted their time to provide legal counseling to the homeless. This help allowed many homeless to find affordable housing and job training programs by the federal government.

This year, APPA newly launched the Human Trafficking Advocacy Campaign through Art Medium. This campaign raised awareness about the importance of helping the weak, the poor, the vulnerable. Through fingerprinting, people committed themselves to be part of the activism - to eradicate poverty and help the most vulnerable in our society.

This year, we have focused on extending and strengthening our internship programs in order to further educate the young adults - the future leaders - of the social issues. For our upcoming year, APPA is planning to create workbooks on SDGs through training the interns. These tetbooks will be used in the International School to educate the children of the global issues.

Thank you for all of your help last year. Without your support, it would have been impossible to implement many of our programs. We look forward to your help this year.



# Board of Directors

## Founder

Sang Jin Choi

## Advisory to Board of Directors

James Quinn

Dr. John T. Oliver

Carol René Rogers

## Honorary Advisor

Yoon-shik Park

## Board Members

Hee-Soon Juon

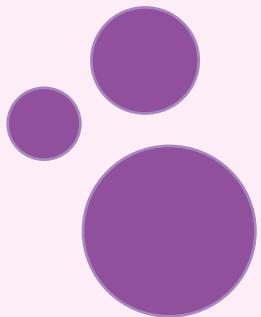
Haksoon Ahn

Jeongsook Kim

Myoung-Ok Kang

## Research Fellow

Bryan Bonsuk Koo



## Vision towards 2017-2018

For this upcoming year, APPA will focus on extending programs abroad for global partnership. We will continue to concentrate on educating the youth on various social issues including renewable energy and climate change. In addition, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we plan to train each interns to research on one of the goals that is of their interest. To grow future leaders, APPA has committed itself to promote open-mindedness and compassion in the youth. For this year, we hope to expand our programs to reach an even larger group and diverse audience.

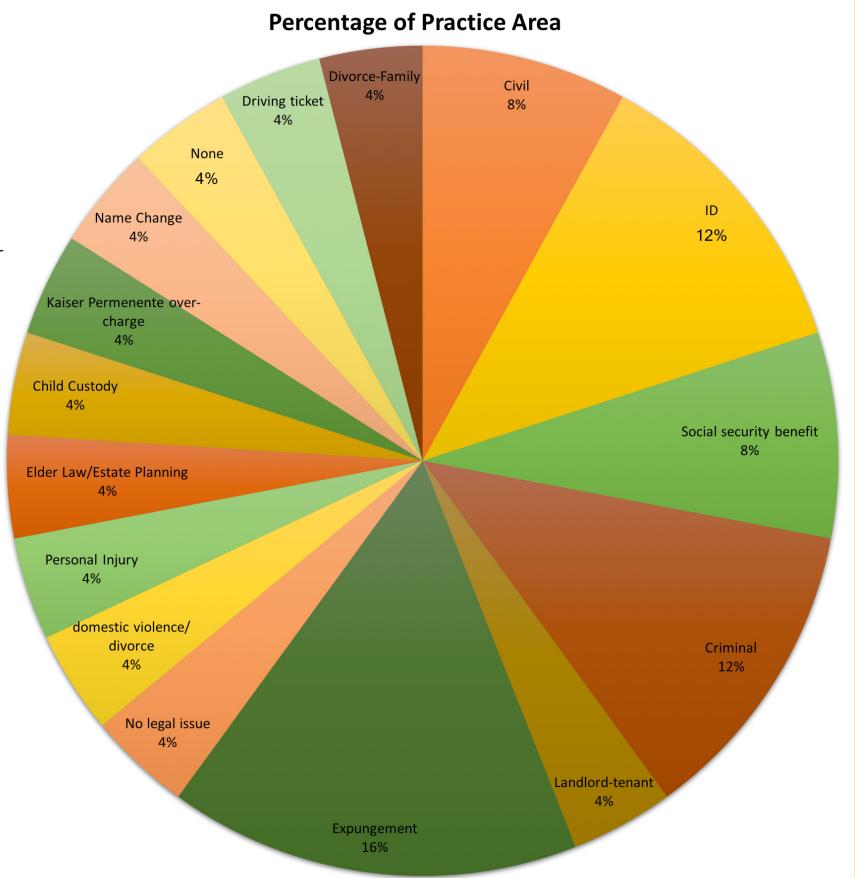
# LEGAL SERVICE

APPA provides monthly legal aid clinics without charge

APPA provides monthly legal aid clinics without charge. These clinics offer legal consultation for Washington DC's homeless and low-income community members with legal issues. These services provide legal consultations and advice for those who need the help but cannot afford a lawyer, even providing referral follow-up sessions if necessary.

Total number of legal volunteers in 2016-2017: 25

Legal Issues: Civil, ID, Social security benefit, Criminal, Landlord-tenant, Expungement, No legal issue, domestic violence/ divorce, Personal Injury, Elder Law/Estate Planning, Child Custody, Kaiser Permenente over-charge, Name Change, None, Driving ticket, Divorce-Family.



There are two types of volunteers, one group involves lawyers and law students who offer practical advice. Many of these lawyers are sponsored by the DC Christian Legal Aid Program of the Christian Legal Society. The other group consists of general volunteers who help fill out intake forms. We also offer other programs that benefit these recipients, such as holiday parties, job coaching, and distribute needed toiletries. These volunteers come from the surrounding Washington D.C. metropolitan area. The legal aid program's office is open the second Saturday of every month with thirty-five lawyers and law school students available for counseling. Legal volunteers are protected by CLADC insurance. APPA legal Aid Services takes place at the House of Peace located at 1204 3rd Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. This service takes place from 9 AM to 12 PM, every second Saturday of the month. Anyone who wishes to become a legal volunteer can contact DJ Choi, APPA legal director, at dj.choi@christianlegalaid-dc.org.

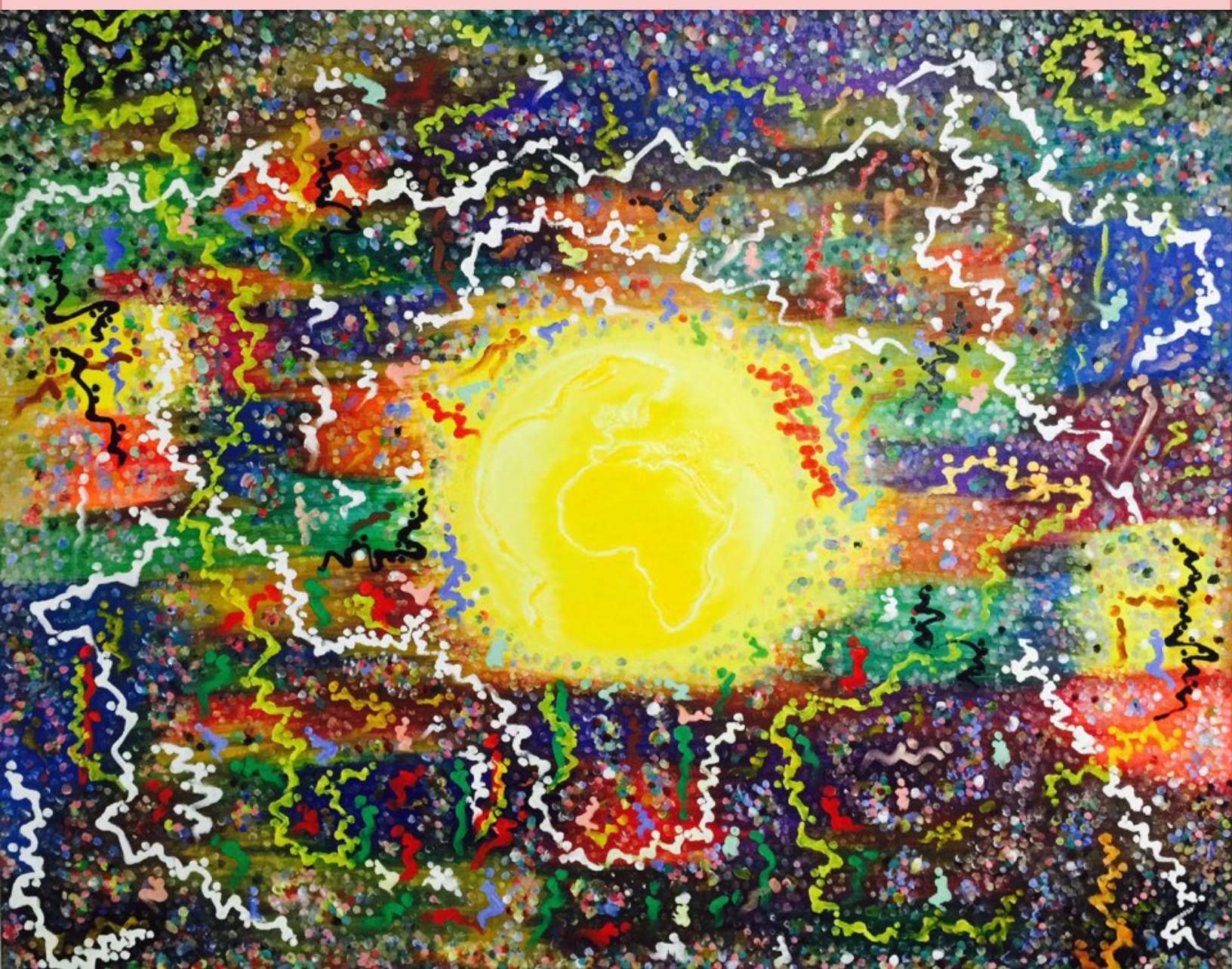
# Human Trafficking Advocacy Campaign through Art Medium



Action for Peace through Prayer and Aid (APPA) participated in the 2016 St. Charles County Art Festival held in June 11, 2016, St. Charles County Hall, La Plata, MD. Over 50 vendors had registered, displaying a wide variety of original, hand-made art, literature, carvings, sculpture and more. There were non-stop musical performances on both stages of the Town Hall with 12 groups performing bluegrass, jazz, barbershop, choral, folk, popular and classic selections.

In a world where identity and labels have begun to dominate what it means to be human, Artist Sang Jin Choi, President of APPA, strives to convey a sense of support for those in need. Choi harnesses his signature fingerprints of various individuals to symbolize identity, a sense of binding, and a contribution of ourselves to the artwork. Fingerprinting is used for legal documentation, engagement, law suits, and swearing. All the people who have participated in Choi's art are now aware and willing to support the cause. These fingerprints often surround a circle focused on individuals in need like victims of human trafficking, the homeless, etc... They are printed on by many volunteers with mixed media meant to symbolize supporting these individuals and surrounding them with love. They symbolize the engagement and witness of the poor. The wide array of colors also represents the many different ethnicities, ages, and backgrounds of those who volunteered to print onto the canvas.





This artwork of Choi, 48" x 60" oil paint with fingerprints, signifies how human trafficking must be stopped. The connected, amputated arms symbolize the victims that do not have freedom and how it is impossible for them to break out of the forced labor system without help. Thus, it is important to raise awareness of the issue so more people will support the activism to stop human trafficking. Choi works to serve the weak, the vulnerable and the people who need his help the most. These populations include homeless people and the victims of human trafficking. The various colors used in the background stand for how people of various ethnicities, countries and cultures are involved in this project to end trafficking – as social workers, as donors, as supporters, and as victims who want to break the cycle most themselves.

Advocacy to prevent human trafficking is extremely pressing because human trafficking is a serious crime that violates human rights. Every year, thousands of men, women and children get trafficked. According to Article 3, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, trafficking includes the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation has many forms, such as the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices like slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. So, to prevent these terrors APPA harnesses the power of art to spread awareness and move the hearts of the public.



APPA UN NGO Intern

University of Michigan Political Science major

Jamie Kim

# UN NGO Leadership Program

Mennonite Central Committee - Doug Hostetter

It was a great pleasure to meet Doug Hostetter, the director of the UN Office Mennonite Central Committee. According to his explanation and the MCC website, the MCC UN Office strives to serve the global communities by advocating peace. Hostetter explained that the MCC focuses on five main areas: (1) caring for the lives and futures of uprooted and other vulnerable people, (2) providing water, food and shelter first in times of hunger, disaster and conflict, then education and ways to earn income, (3) working with churches and communities to prevent violence and promote peace and justice, (4) investing in opportunities for young people to serve in Canada, the U.S. and around the world, and (5) serving with humility and in partnership to meet local needs with local solutions. He emphasized the importance of cooperation, consideration, and understanding for peacebuilding. Hostetter shared an anecdote in which he became friends with a North Korea ambassador. While the ambassador was staying in the New York City for foreign affairs, Hostetter invited the ambassador and his wife to his house for dinner. When the ambassador went back to North Korea after his stay, they were not able to keep in contact for three years. However, few months earlier this year, the ambassador had to come back to attend the UN Conference and contacted Hostetter for reunion. Going off from this story, he said that genuine friendship should be the basis of peacebuilding. Sincere caring for each other is the foundation of any relationship building.



APPA UN NGO Intern

Cornell University

Jungwon Shin

# UN NGO Leadership Program

The Lutheran Office for World Community

## Objective

During the UN APPA training, we visited a special office at the UN NGO. The Lutheran Office for World Community (LOWC) is a dual ministry with the Evangelical Church of America that advocates on behalf of various social policies. Currently operating in 98 countries and representing over 72 million people worldwide, the organization centers around tackling gender justice issues, problems occurring in warring zones such as Israel and Palestine, and food issues, along with many others. Furthermore, they look to solve primarily from a faith perspective and claim that they see a connection with advocacy and religion. Many of their activities have to do with collaborating and cooperating with the United Nations (UN).

## Goal

Nick, who is a program associate at LOWC, welcomed and introduced us to the Lutheran Office for World Community. There, we were able to learn more about the organization's stance on the newly-enforced Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). When asked during the interview, he stated that they tended to focus on the SDGs goals numbers one, three, five, ten, and sixteen -which pertain to achieving success in issues such as gender justice and making sure that everybody has the access to nutritious amounts of food. In addition, they made sure to address that it was impossible to simply focus on a select few of these numerous goals as they described the beauty of the SDGs being the fact that they are all fundamental to each other's success. "I agree that these newly adopted goals are all related as they tackle current global issues that have some sort of impact on one another," said incoming sophomore at Paul D. Schreiber Senior High School, Becky Han. As they stated how LOWC continues to advocate for other worldwide concerns, such as providing aid to those affected in Israel and Palestine, they described to us that their primary perspective when solving global issues is how faith can be integrated to help others. Their cooperation with Lutheran churches not only greatly helps in spreading word of the SDGs to citizens, but also allows them to further gather important data and communicate more efficiently. However, while the collection of data is a goal of the Lutheran churches, many problems still exist regarding the process.

## Solution

The LOWC contributes to providing the various forms of data necessary to keep the progress of the SDGs in check. For instance, Nick talked about how they could gather and offer medical records and statistics since their Lutheran organization had set up multiple hospitals. Furthermore, the 145 churches that play a role in completing the SDGs also act as stations where data for various topics, such as AIDS and HIV, can be collected from the citizens and then reported back to the United Nations for further analysis. He emphasized that data from Lutheran churches are more valuable than data from national governments due to the direct relationships with their members. Youngmin Kim, a rising senior at Robinson Secondary School, believes that, "The sheer number of churches working in tandem is sure to make a big difference, and to fix its biggest problem by enacting a due date for research results seems like a much-needed but doable task." Also, because there are no deadlines for national governments to submit their data, the LOWC was receiving data from national governments at completely different dates which creates a difficulty for the organization to compile data.

## Project Outline

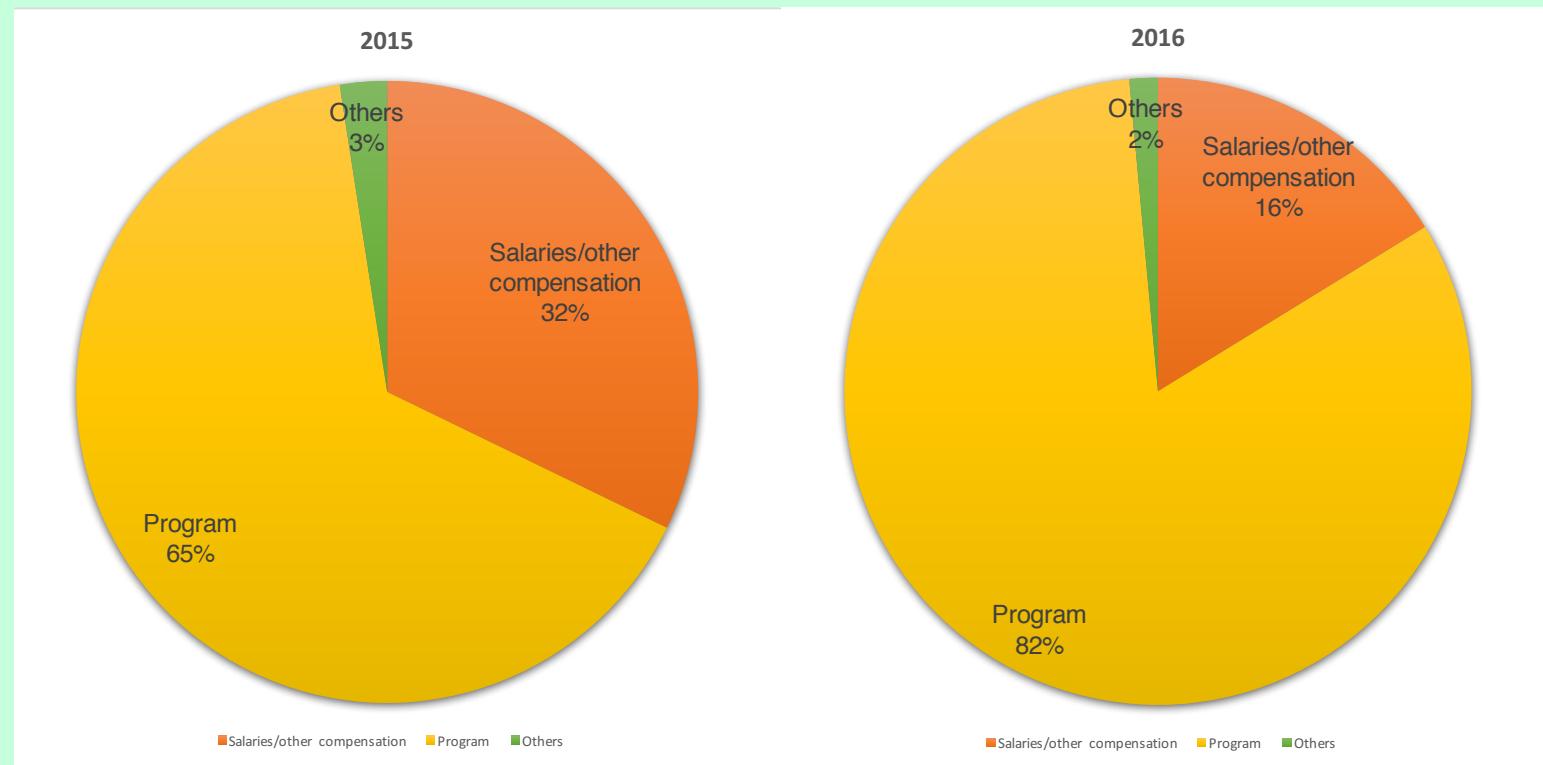
As stated in the previous sections, the LOWC advocates for gender equality, food rations for all citizens, and ending conflict in Israel and Palestine. A key part of Lutheran action in the world is the use of churches to educate and assist the general public. Paul Kim, a rising junior at Cumberland Valley High School, believes that although it is no easy task, if the UN were to set up multiple Lutheran churches in areas of need, just like those in Tanzania, these churches could not only act as a relief center, but also as a place of religious communion where the public can be educated on how to peacefully end conflict. To overcome the problem of having no clear submittal date which results in difficulties compiling data, the UN could set dates for when the data would be due, resulting in much more accurate information.

APPA Interns

Becky Han, Paul Kim, Minju Seo, Youngmin Kim

# Financial Report

Title	Categories	2015	2016
Total Income		376,127	364,941
Expenses	Salaries/other compensation Program Others	118,421 240,373 9,000	55,386 280,994 5,000
Net Total		8,333	23,561





Action for Peace Through Prayer and Aid  
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