

Our Communities, Our Water

Connecting the Local & the Global

CONFERENCE AGENDA, WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS & PRESENTERS

September 22-24, 2006

University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA

CONFERENCE SUPPORTERS

Project Partners

- Massachusetts Global Action
- North American Alliance For Fair Employment
- Alliance For Democracy
- Food & Water Watch
- Polaris Institute
- Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

Sponsors

- American Friends Service Committee – New England
- Council of Canadians

Endorsing Organizations

- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 93
- ARISE for Social Justice
- Boston Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador
- Cambridge Alliance for Democracy
- Coalition for a Strong United Nations
- Concerned Citizens of Lee
- Corporal Accountability International
- Earth & Environment Department, Mount Holyoke College
- Graduate Employee Organization/UAW Local 2322
- Grassroots International
- Greenfield Community College, Behavioral Sciences Department
- Hands Off Our Water!/Lawrence
- NH Sierra Club
- NH Water Table
- SAGE
- Sierra Club - Atlantic
- Traprock Peace Center
- The Enviro Show on WXOJ-LP, 103.3FM
- U. Mass, Social Thought and Political Economy Department
- UNITE Local 2261
- Vermonters for a Clean Environment
- Western Mass AFSC
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - Boston Chapter
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom – Save the Water Campaign

Friday, September 22, 2006		
Time	Event	Location
5 p.m.	Registration Begins	Campus Center Auditorium (CCA)
6 p.m.	Opening Reception w/music, food, and drink (Public Welcome to attend)	CCA
7 p.m.	Keynote: (Public welcome to attend)	CCA
	Moderator : Jonathan Leavitt Speakers : Armando Flores (Center for Consumer Defense-El Salvador), Claudia Torrelli (Friends of the Earth, Uruguay), and Ray Rogers (Killer Coke Campaign)	

Saturday, September 23, 2006 – Organizing Issues		
Time	Event	Location
8:30 a.m.	Welcome & check in	CCA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Check in: give and get conference materials and review agenda ◆ Water Barons Mapping of New England, NY, and Canada 	
9:30 a.m.	Plenary: <i>Corporate Assaults by Water Barons in New England & Why We Need to Mobilize</i> Moderator : Suren Moodliar (North American Alliance for Fair Employment) Speakers : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ruth Caplan (Alliance for Democracy) ◆ Jonathan Leavitt (Massachusetts Global Action) 	CCA
	Plenary: <i>Global Water Struggles: Communities Resist Worldwide against Corporate Water Grabs</i>	
	Speaker : Tony Clarke (Polaris Institute)	

Saturday, September 23, 2006 – Workshops on Organizing Issues		
Time	Event	Location
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.		
<i>1. Pumping for Profit: Bottled and Bulk Water</i>		
	<p>A massive international marketing campaign by the big four beverage corporations to turn water into a designer food item is threatening the water supplies for communities world-wide and undermining public confidence in municipal water systems. Find out what happens when a bottled water company comes to town and what you can do about it.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Olivia Zink (Save our Groundwater) ◆ Ruth Caplan (Alliance for Democracy) ◆ Annette Smith (Vermonters for a Clean Environment) 	TBA
<i>2. Preserving and Promoting the Strengths of Public Systems</i>		
	<p>Eighty-six percent of Americans get their water from publicly owned and operated utilities and have for many years - so we must be doing something right. Yet, public funds for water infrastructure are less available than they once were, leaving more and more communities open to offers of privatization. In this workshop we will identify the old and new ways that citizens and water workers from Brazil to Washington, DC are ensuring universal access to clean and affordable water through public systems, including community control of public utilities, new strategies for accountability, sources for public financing, and strategies for more equity. Find out what you can do in your community to prevent privatization with positive alternatives for efficiently financing and managing water in the public interest.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Art Cohen (SANIPLAN) ◆ Jessica Roach (Food & Water Watch) 	TBA
<i>3. Public Trust and the Commons</i>		
	<p>What does it mean for water to be held in the public trust? How is this currently defined by state laws and court decisions? How can the concept of public trust be expanded by the broader concept of the commons? This workshop will include a hands-on weaving of the “Tapestry of the Commons”.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bill McCann (Save Our Groundwater) ◆ Nancy Price (Alliance for Democracy) 	TBA

<i>4. Water and Trade</i>		
	<p>How do NAFTA, CAFTA, WTO agreements like GATS, and other international trade agreements threaten democracy and the right to water for all people and nature? How does NAFTA relate to the Canada-US-Mexico Security and Prosperity Partnership and plans for massive infrastructure projects, such as the northeastern project called "Atlantica?" How might such projects promote the export and import of water? How can we work together across national borders to protect water resources and keep water services in the public sector?</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Arnie Alpert (AFSC-NH) ◆ Janet Eaton (Sierra Club-Canada) 	TBA
<i>5. Myths of Privatization</i>		
	<p>What are the myths that corporations use to control the dialogue around privatization? Learn the tools for understanding these myths and effectively countering them with your own organizing.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Karl Flecker (Polaris Institute) ◆ Suren Moodliar (NAFFE) 	TBA

Saturday, September 23, 2006 – Lunch Break – 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m	
<i>Lunch Onsite</i>	Campus Center

1:00 p.m.	<p><i>Keynote Address (Public Welcome to Attend)</i></p> <p>Speaker: Francis Moore Lappe</p>	CCA
1:45 p.m.	<p>Plenary: <i>Creative Organizing, Alliances & Base Building</i></p> <p>What does it take to be successful?</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ward Morehouse, (POCLAD) ◆ Gail Darrell (Barnstead) ◆ Susan Howatt (Council of Canadians) 	CCA

Saturday, September 23, 2006 – Workshops – 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

6. Local Initiatives for a Human Right to Water

	<p>Equitable access to sufficient, safe, affordable water (human right to water) is a key problem facing our communities, whether the water services are public or private. This workshop hopes to address the gap in the existing legal framework - neither Canada nor the US recognize the international obligation of the human right to water. Should communities establish local laws that will implement minimum rates for the "40-60 liters/day/person" right to water, a ban on water shutoffs, democratic participatory decision making for water rates (affordability), quality (safe water) within their utility? What might be effective strategies for a local initiative?</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Patricia Jones (UUSC) ◆ Claudia Torrelli (Friends of the Earth) ◆ Susan Howatt (Council of Canadians) ◆ Becky Smith (Clean Water Action) 	TBA
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7. Can't Live Without, It So the Fight Is On! How Grassroots Social Movements Are Claiming Their Right to Land and Water

	<p>Water and Land are resources that we all can't live without, but access to safe water and land to grow food is becoming increasingly unequal in our world today. In this interactive workshop, participants will look at the impact of global trade and neo-liberal policies on communities around the world and at examples of grassroots social movements in Haiti, the U.S., Brazil, Mexico and El Salvador are organizing to regain control over these vital resources.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Arnie Alpert (AFSC-NH) ◆ Saulo Araujo and Jake Miller (Grassroots International) ◆ Armando Flores (CDC- El Salvador) 	TBA
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8. Faith Communities and Water Roundtable

	<p>Water has been symbolic of life, blessings, spiritual cleansing in the writings and ceremonies of many faith communities throughout the world. Find out how some Faith communities are participating in a dialogue about protecting water. We will share stories about actions and programs in our faith communities in a roundtable format with help from several resource people who will serve as facilitators.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Zandra Rice (Corporate Accountability International) ◆ Mary Ellen Foley (NH Water Table) 	TBA
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<i>9. Taking on the Soft Drink/Bottled Water Giants</i>		
	<p>Learn about the International Coke Boycott and the ongoing work against both Pepsi and Nestle that is underway and how it connects directly to the issue of control of water as well as labor rights worldwide.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Karl Flecker (Polaris Institute) 	TBA
<i>10. New Paradigm Organizing: Communities Just Say NO to Corporations</i>		
	<p>Frustrated with regulations that let corporations pollute your community and planet? Some communities are taking a new approach to stop corporate predation and pollution in its tracks. Learn how communities in PA and NH are just saying NO.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ruth Caplan (Alliance for Democracy) ◆ Gail Darrell (Barnstead) ◆ Bill McCann (Alliance for Democracy) 	TBA

<i>11. Municipal Water Systems: Public Ownership, Private Ownership, & the Challenge of Public-Private Partnerships. Anatomy of a Winning Campaign.</i>		
	<p>What happens when your local water system is put up for sale? Who controls the town's water? What can you do to challenge corporate control and keep your water supply locally owned and operated? In this workshop, we'll learn the basic tools for challenging water privatization in your community--from a seasoned community activist, a water workers' union president, and an experienced campaigner. Get ready to learn not only what, but how. From educating your neighbors to influencing local elected officials to talking with the media, learn from folks who have been there!</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Jessica Roach (Food & Water Watch) ◆ Deedee Consolati (Concerned Citizens of Lee) ◆ Mike Esposito (Utility Workers of America, Local 423) 	TBA

Participatory Activity – 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.		
	<p>Have folks throw out the most exciting new ideas people heard during the day</p> <p>Facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Doug Renick (Massachusetts Global Action) ◆ Olivia Zink (Save our Groundwater) 	CCA

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Social Event at Northampton Center for the Arts – 7:00 p.m. (see below)		
	<p>Sneak Previews of “Water Warriors” and “Water First” followed by Live Music w/ The Reagan Babies, plus Rob Skelton and Pitchfork, and RESISTDANCE</p> <p>Special Guests:</p> <p>● Filmmakers Liz Miller & Amy Hart</p>	Northampton Center for the Arts

Films that will be “Sneak Previewed” Saturday Night

Water First (Amy Hart) is an ongoing documentary film project about global water issues. The section shown at this event is set in Johannesburg South Africa where residents are protesting against the installation of pre-paid water meters. Many of the residents cannot afford to pay for water, much less to pay ahead. When they cannot pay, their water is shut off. Many residents claim their water was cut off despite the fact that they owe nothing. While the government official from the South African Department of Water And Forestry insists that the water is never cut off, since it goes against the constitutional rights of the people, we go into homes where the water has been shut off for over 3 months. In the streets, police threaten to shoot at the chanting crowd – but they stand strong and are willing to die for the sake of clean water.

Water Warriors (Liz Miler) Water Warriors, is the story of one community's determination to fight the seemingly inevitable path of privatization. The film will capture up close the passionate and determined players in this dramatic conflict: seasoned community organizers, local workers, corporate managers pleading for efficiency; and local government officials, torn between state directives and citizens needs.

Highland Park, U.S.A. was once the center of a thriving car industry and the birthplace of Henry Ford's assembly line. Today the city is on the verge of financial and physical collapse and as a result is under a state take over. A team of corporate emergency managers have been appointed to get the city out of its financial crisis and to do this they have raised water rates, attached unpaid bills to property taxes, and are looking to privatize the community's remaining valuable resource - the water plant.

These measures have resulted in an unprecedented number of water shut offs and residents are at risk of losing their homes and their voice in what happens to this public resource. For the residents of Highland Park the threat of water privatization is simply the last straw, and an impetus to fight back.

Sunday, September 24, 2006 - Building the Movement in the Region		
Time	Event	Location
9:00 a.m.	Welcome Back	
9:15 a.m.	Plenary: <i>Lay Out the Organizing Challenges—Labor, Religious, Student, Women, Peace, etc.</i> Moderator: Jessica Roach (Food & Water Watch) Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Karl Flecker (Polaris Institute) ◆ Tim Newman (Clark University) ◆ Nancy Munger (WILPF) ◆ Mike Esposito (Utility Workers of America Loc423) 	CCA
10:30 a.m.	<i>Small Group Discussions by Constituency</i>	
	Identify Biggest Challenges and opportunities to our work Facilitators: TBA	TBA
11:30 a.m.	<i>Small Group Discussions by Region</i>	
	What kind of mutual support and networking do we need to meet these challenges? Facilitators: TBA	TBA

Sunday, September 24, 2006 – Lunch Break – 12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m	
<i>Lunch Onsite</i> Reps from small group caucuses	Campus Center

Sunday, September 24, 2006 – Implementation		
1:30 p.m.	Group 1: Utilizing Water Warriors/THIRST/Water First as an Organizing Tool Facilitators: Jonathan Leavitt, Liz Miller, Amy Hart Group 2: Conceptualizing and Developing a Regional Network Facilitators: Ruth Caplan, Susan Howatt, Annette Smith Group 3: Strategizing Collaborations with Major Unions for Coordination on Issues Facilitators: TBA	TBA TBA TBA
3:00 p.m.	Closing thoughts and meeting evaluation	
	What kind of mutual support and networking do we need to meet these challenges? Facilitators: TBA	CCA

Biographies and Contact Information of Presenters

Arnie Alpert, New Hampshire Program Coordinator for the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization dedicated to social justice and peace. He has closely followed the impact of globalization and “free trade” agreements on labor and water since the mid-1990s, and has spoken and written extensively on the topics. He is a member of UNITE-HERE, and is also active in the NH Water Table, a statewide network which brings together grassroots activists fighting Contact: commodification of water. aalpert@afsc.org

Saulo Araujo Global Program Assistant, Grassroots International has dedicated himself to working for the resource rights of rural and urban communities in Brazil, Mexico and the U.S. In his native country of Brazil, Saulo worked with rural communities in the arid northeast region to develop sustainable water sources and protect local genetic materials. He also worked with water management programs in the state of Guanajuato, Mexico. In New England, he has worked with environmental justice groups in inner city neighborhoods, supporting the work of residents to protect open and green spaces, food security and environmental health. Currently, Saulo is a member of the first class of the Environmental Leadership Program/Greater Boston Regional Network and a member of the grant-making committee of the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund (NEGEF). Saulo has a Master’s Degree in International Development and Social Change from Clark University. Contact: info@grassrootsonline.org

Ruth Caplan is National Campaign Coordinator for the Alliance for Democracy's Defending Water for Life Campaign which is organizing in the Northeast and on the West Coast to stop commodification and privatization of water and water services. In 2003, she helped organize the Water Allies Network, a diverse national network of people and groups who believe “secure and equitable access to clean water is a human right and must be protected for all generations and all living things.” She is part of the global Our World Is Not For Sale network opposing the WTO and has written “Trading Away Our Water.” Caplan also chairs the national Sierra Club's Water Privatization Task Force. Her history of activism includes helping to stop three nuclear plants on Lake Ontario and serving as Executive Director of Environmental Action which supported grassroots campaigns and named the Dirty Dozen members of the U.S. Congress. In 2004, she received the national Sierra Club's Special Service Award for her work on corporate accountability, international trade, water privatization, and energy policy. Contact: rcaplan@igc.org

Tony Clarke is the founder and executive director of the Polaris Institute, which assists civil society organizations, both in Canada and internationally, to develop new capacities and tools for democratic social change in an age of corporate globalization. One of the main projects at the Institute has to do with water issues such as the privatization of water services, bottled water and bulk water exports. Through this project, Polaris works with citizens’ groups, public service workers and social movements who are engaged in frontline struggles on these water issues in Canada, the United States, South Africa and India. Internationally, Tony has been a keynote and panel speaker at conferences on water issues in Europe, Africa and Asia. He is the co-author [with Maude Barlow] of *Blue Gold: The Corporate Theft of the World's Water* [2002], which has been published in 40 countries. Contact: tony@polarisinstitute.org

Art Cohen was trained in public health as well as law, he has been working in public and environmental health for over 30 years. During the first half of the 1980's, he managed a county's public water and sewerage company in Southern Maryland. The company was responsible for providing potable water to and collecting and treating sewage from 35,000 households. More recently, he directed a local public health department in Southeastern Connecticut. He currently lives in Baltimore, Maryland and devotes much of his time to opposing water privatization, and working with many others on ways to improve public water supply and sanitation systems for low income persons living in the world's larger cities. Contact: artc12@comcast.net

Janet M Eaton, PhD, is both an activist and part time academic who has lectured at several Nova Scotia universities, where she has taught courses on 'Critical Perspectives on Globalization', Community Political Power' and 'Environment & Sustainable Society'. Janet presently serves as the Sierra Club of Canada's International Liaison to the Sierra Club's Corporate Accountability Committee and Water Privatization Task Force. She has worked with communities in Nova Scotia to oppose and stop a bottled water plant, and mega-quarry among others. She also works internationally and nationally on issues associated with corporate globalization, water privatization,

militarism, the Security and Prosperity Partnership for North America (SPP) and more recently has been researching and speaking out against Atlantica and the emerging North American cross border trade regions. Contact: jeaton@ca.inter.net

Mike Esposito is president of the Utility Workers Union of America Local 423, representing about 250 workers in New Jersey. The local is currently challenging rate increases proposed by New Jersey American Water, a subsidiary of Germany's RWE. Mike has worked at his local water utility for 16 years. Contact: me423@earthlink.net

Karl Flecker is the Director of the Polaris Institute's water program that includes managing campaigns like Inside the Bottle, a project dedicated to working with community coalitions to challenge the bottled water industry in North America. He has 20 + years experience in community and international development work with a strong focus on equity issues & labour issues. Karl has done research & campaign work for the Council Canadians -- Bovine Growth Hormone file, Canadian Labour Congress, & the David Suzuki Foundation. Contact: karl@polarisinstitute.org

Armando Flores has a law degree from the University of El Salvador; in 1991 he becomes co-founder of the Committee for the Defense of the Consumer - CDC; in 1989 and 1990, he is the coordinator of the education program for the Federation of Consumer Cooperatives of El Salvador; between 1991 and 1995 he is Vice Director of CDC; in 1996 he is the Coordinator for the Consumers International for the Central American and the Caribbean region and has been the CDC Director since 1997.

Sr. Mary Ellen Foley, Sisters of Mercy, New England, recently served as the peace and justice coordinator for the Sisters of Mercy Region 2. She actively opposes the death penalty, leading legislative efforts to abolish it as a punishment in New Hampshire. Sr. Mary Ellen is a member of the NH Water Table, a statewide network which brings together grassroots activists fighting commodification of water. She has presented water-related prayers and days of action to her congregation and regionally, highlighting the powerful connection between faith and water.

Amy Hart is a New York-based filmmaker. Currently she works on a production of a feature length film on water issues in Africa. In addition to indie filmmaking, she also produces three national TV series on public health issues for the University at Albany. Amy Hart worked at Miramax Films, Fine Line Features and New Line Cinema before starting her own film company, Hart Productions. Contact: ahart@albany.edu

Susan Howatt is the national water campaigner with the [Council of Canadians](http://councilofcanadians.org), the largest citizen watchdog group in Canada. Before joining the Council, she was the international campaigner with the Mining Advocacy Network (Jatam), a network that works with communities impacted by the mining industry in Indonesia. Susan was the cofounder of Unofficial Opposition, an umbrella group that advocated for social services in British Columbia. She has worked extensively in media and communications for anti-poverty, environmental and human rights groups in Vancouver and served as a human rights observer in Chiapas, Mexico. Contact: showatt@canadians.org

Patricia Jones works as the Environmental Justice program manager at UUSC, More information available at: www.uusc.org/

Francis Moore Lappe is the author or coauthor of fifteen books. Her 1971 three-million-copy bestseller, *Diet for a Small Planet*, continues to awaken readers to the human-made causes of hunger and the power of our everyday choices to create the world we want.

Her newly released [Democracy's Edge](http://democracy'sedge.com) has been widely praised. Historian Howard Zinn called the book "poetic and passionate," adding: "A small number of people in every generation are forerunners, in thought, action, spirit, who swerve past the barriers of greed and power to hold a torch high for the rest of us. Lappé is one of those."

[Democracy's Edge](http://democracy'sedge.com) is the completion of a trilogy which began in 2002 with *Hope's Edge*, written with her daughter Anna Lappé. It is the 30th anniversary sequel to Lappé's first book. Jane Goodall said of *Hope's Edge*: "Absolutely

one of the most important books as we enter the 21st century.” Second in the trilogy is *You Have the Power: Choosing Courage in a Culture of Fear*, written with Jeffrey Perkins.

Frances and Anna Lappé lead the Cambridge-based Small Planet Institute, a collaborative network for research and popular education to bring democracy to life. Together they founded the Small Planet Fund which solicits and channels resources to democratic social movements, especially those featured in *Hope's Edge*.

In 1975, with Joseph Collins Lappé launched the California-based Institute for Food and Development Policy (Food First). Its publications continue to shape the international debate on the root causes of hunger and poverty. The Institute was described by *The New York Times* as one of the nation's “most respected food think tanks.”

In 1990, Lappé co-founded the Center for Living Democracy, a ten-year initiative to help accelerate the spread of democratic innovations. Lappé served as founding editor of the Center's American News Service, which placed solutions-oriented news stories in almost 300 newspapers nationwide.

Lappé's books have been used in a broad array of courses in hundreds of colleges and universities and in more than 50 countries. Her articles and opinion pieces have appeared in publications as diverse as the *New York Times*, *O Magazine* and *Christian Century*. Her television and radio appearances have included PBS with Bill Moyers, the Today Show, CBS Radio, and National Public Radio. She is a contributing editor to [Yes! Magazine](#), a founding councilor of the [World Future Council](#), and sits on the advisory board to the [Simple Living](#) television series.

Lappé is a sought after public speaker and has received 17 honorary doctorates from distinguished institutions. In 1987 in Sweden, Lappé became the fourth American to receive the Right Livelihood Award, sometimes called the “Alternative Nobel,” for her “vision and work healing our planet and uplifting humanity.” Contact: jess@smallplanetinstitute.org

Jonathan Leavitt has served as a Field Manager for [Clean Water Action](#), founded the Lawrence Grassroots Initiative, and served as its Executive Director for seven years, founded the [Massachusetts Green Party](#) in 1996 and served as its first staff person and then initiated and ran the [Jill Stein for Governor](#) campaign before leaving to run for State Representative as the Green Party's first ever Clean Elections candidate. After the campaign Jonathan founded the Massachusetts Anti-Corporate Clearinghouse, and in October of 2003 was brought in to coordinate the development and staffing for the [Boston Social Forum](#). He is a founder of Massachusetts Global Action and is currently consulting for the “Our Communities, Our Water” project. Contact: Leavitt.jonathan@gmail.com

Bill McCann is a member of the Board of Directors of SOG. He is also Chair of SOG's Legislative and Governmental Issues Committee. He is a former six term State Legislator, serving two terms as Assistant Democratic Whip, and a retired SEIU Field Representative/Organizer. He was Chair of the School Board for six years [1974-1980] and also served two terms as Vice Chair. He has been responsible for drafting SOG's Pro Se Appeals to NH DES, the NH Water Council and the NH Wetlands Council. Contact: billmc4545@verizon.net

Jake Miller, Communications Coordinator at Grassroots International, recently returned from a program visit to the northeast of Brazil, where he met with social movements and social change organizations working on sustainable irrigation and agriculture projects and saw the social and ecological consequences of large-scale dams for irrigating agro-industrial plantations and hydro-electric power. Jake has been a student of Brazil for nearly 20 years and has lived in Salvador, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro. In addition to his work at Grassroots, Jake is a free-lance writer and photographer who has written and published his photographs in a variety of publications including the New York Times, Peacework, and Science. He writes about politics, culture and science. He has published more than 40 children's books on topics like the biology of spiders and lizards and the history of the U.S. civil rights movement. An avid birder, Jake is particularly interested in the ways that agro-ecology can benefit both human and natural worlds. Contact: info@grassrootsonline.org

Liz Miller, is an educator, community media artist, and director of social issue documentary films and new media. Her last documentary, *Novela, Novela*, has been integrated into high school curricula and used by international coalitions working against violence and defending the rights of women, children and glbt populations

(<http://www.redlizardmedia.com/novela/> or <http://www.puntos.org.ni>). Her current film, *Water Warriors* is an hour long documentary on the battle for public water in Highland Park, Michigan is due for release in 2007. Miller teaches video production at Concordia University in Montreal. She is also a faculty advisor of "Cinema Politica," an international student network organizing a political film series across Canada, Mexico, France and the United States. Contact: elizabeth.miller@sympatico.ca

Suren Moodliar is a co-coordinator of the [North American Alliance for Fair Employment](#) (NAFFE). His organizing experiences range from the liberation struggle in South Africa and the divestment movement in the US, to campus and union organizing as well as managing international NGO networks and impacting international treaties. His formal education is in political science and regional planning with degrees from Indiana University and the University of California, Los Angeles. Suren played a major role in organizing the [Boston Social Forum](#)-coordinating the program for the entire event, among many other things. He is a founder of Massachusetts Global Action. Contact: suren@fairjobs.org

Ward Morehouse, of Northampton, is a co-founder of Shays2: Western Mass Committee on Corporations and Democracy as well as a co-founder of the Holyoke Citizens for Open Government, which has been challenging the privatization of that city's wastewater treatment system by a multi-national corporation for 2 ½ years. He was a co-founder in 1994 of [POCLAD](#) (Program on Corporations, Law and Democracy). Many of his essays are included in the standard introductory book for POCLAD work, *Defying Corporations, Defining Democracy*. Morehouse is internationally known for his work struggling against the corporate assault on human rights and a co-founder of the International Coalition for Justice in Bhopal, India, working on behalf of the victims of the 1984 Union Carbide Corporation's chemical spill in that city. Morehouse has written or edited some 20 books, including *Building Sustainable Communities*, *Abuse of Power: The Social Performance of Multinational Corporations*, and *The Underbelly of the U.S. Economy*. Contact: ward.moorehouse@comcast.net

Nancy Munger is a drummer and boatbuilder living on Cape Cod (MA). She is a member of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, working on local water issues as well as being on the National Leadership team of WILPF's "Save the Water" campaign. Contact: munger54@hotmail.com

Timothy Newman graduated in May 2006 from Clark University in Worcester, Mass., where he majored in Sociology and International Development. At Clark, he helped found the Clark chapter of the Student Global AIDS Campaign, and helped launch the CAN Coke campaign, which is working to get Coke products off Clark's campus. He has done internships with Food & Water Watch, Africa Action and the National Society for Human Rights in Namibia. Contact: tim.c.newman@gmail.com

Nancy Price is Co-Chair of the Alliance for Democracy and Western Coordinator of the Defending Water for Life Campaign. She is on the Leadership Team for the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom's Save the Water Campaign. She is also President of the California Center for Community Democracy and Board members of Friends of the River (CA). Contact: nancytprice@juno.com

Zandra Rice is a national field organizer with Corporate Accountability International, an organization that protects people and the environment by challenging corporate abuses. A graduate of Gonzaga University, she has worked on electoral campaigns in Maine and New Hampshire, most notably as a State Deputy Communications Director with America Coming Together during the 2004 elections. She lives in Boston and campaigns to expose and challenge the corporate control of water and to protect our fundamental human right to water. Contact: zrice@stopcorporateabuse.org

Jessica Roach is a Senior Organizer with the Water for All Campaign at Food & Water Watch. Prior to joining Food & Water Watch, Jessica worked as a Legislative Assistant for Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), where she specialized in trade and economic policy. Jessica has also campaigned with Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch, working to halt WTO meetings in Seattle in 1999. She holds an MA in International Studies from the American University, and a BA in Political Science from the University of Washington. Contact: jroach@fwwatch.org

Ray Rogers is president and director of New York City-based Corporate Campaign, Inc. (CCI), has been described as labor's most innovative strategist and "one of the most successful union organizers since the CIO sit-down strikes of the 1930s." For 25 years, Corporate Campaign has championed union and community solidarity and membership and family involvement in campaigns for social and economic justice. Rogers and his organization have been featured many times in major publications such as Time, Business Week, Forbes, Fortune, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Newsday, USA Today and The Washington Post, as well as many television programs. In 2006, Business Week described Rogers as "a legendary union activist." Many of Rogers' accomplishments are cited in Marquis Who's Who in America. Contact: stopkillercoke@aol.com

Annette Smith is executive director of Vermonters for a Clean Environment, www.vce.org, a grassroots organization based in Danby, Vermont. VCE grew out of opposition to a billion dollar energy project proposed for southwestern Vermont in 1999, and has continued under Annette's leadership to deal with issues of concern to Vermonters such as mining, pesticides, large farms, landfills, energy, safe drinking water and water rights. A graduate of Vassar College, Smith lives off the grid with solar panels on a small farm, hand milks a cow and grows her own food. Contact: vce@vce.org

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