

Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation Update, June 2016



Associate LeeAnn Brathwaite represented Sisters of Charity at June 7 Bread for World Lobby Day in Washington, DC. She writes, "This semester I co-hosted an advocacy workshop with Margaret Tran, a regional coordinator with Bread for the World. My connection with Margaret and Bread did not end after my internship ended. Margaret invited me to take part in Bread's Lobby Day in Washington, D.C. on

Tuesday, June 7th, 2016. The day opened with reflection and worship. There were personal testimonies from Bread staff and information to assist first time participants in Lobby Day. We broke out into regional caucuses in order to formulate plans and practice our pitches to Congressional staff members. I spoke about my own travel experience, specifically the Sisters' work in Guatemala. I was able to share this story three times to three different Congressional staff members. My first Lobby Day was successful and memorable. I hope to return next year with more stories and meet more Bread members." Thank you, LeeAnn, for raising up the stories and voices of mothers and children who are hungry and in need. The Global Poverty Task Force works closely with Bread for the World, especially through the Offering of Letters Campaign.



In honor of World Day Against Child Labor, on June 9 Sr. Mary Ellen O'Boyle attended *End Child Labor in Supply Chains: It's Everyone's Business!* sponsored by UNICEF; ILO (International Labor Organization); US Fund for UNICEF and the End Trafficking Project (UNICEF'S initiative to raise awareness about child trafficking). Speakers were from IKEA; Asia Solidarity Center; ILO office of UN; Starwood Hotels and Resorts; GoodWeave and Fairtrade International. All were enthusiastic about their organization's efforts to end child labor and this was encouraging to the audience. In cooperation with USCSAHT (US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking) efforts were made to have Sisters/Associates/Contacts call Women Senators to co-sponsor S. 1968 (Business Supply Chain Transparency Act).

Pray, Advocate and Mobilize for Safe Clean Renewable

Energy! The Sisters of Charity of New York, and ROAR (Religious Organizations Along the River) and Metro NY Catholic Climate Movement, two groups we collaborate with, are three of many groups endorsing the *March For A Clean Energy Revolution*. Check it out on the internet. We expect many Catholics and people of faith from the Metro NY area to

be present. If you cannot be present physically, please pray, spread the word, and advocate for safe clean renewable energy. This is a critical time, especially in New York State. Its REV (Reforming the Energy Vision) Plan is being discussed and decisions are being made as to the what, how and where of NYS energy sources.

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW!

**MARCH FOR A
CLEAN ENERGY
REVOLUTION**

**SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2016
PHILADELPHIA, PA**

The Temptation of Authoritarianism, a panel sponsored by Auburn Seminary (next door to ICCR) was attended by Mary Donagher and Regina Murphy. Question was raised, “Why are so many people agreeing with plans to build walls, to ostracize Muslims, etc.” Response was, “There is fear in the country because it is a time of great change in our society.” The panel members agreed that faith and moral courage are the key to strengthening our communities. “Too often,” said Simone Campbell, one of the panelists, “We think we don’t need each other.”



The Sisters of Charity Federation NGO Liaisons, gathering from different parts of the USA and Canada, met in Emmitsburg before the Leadership meeting. The morning of June 16 NGO Liaisons and Leadership met together. Sr. Teresa Kotteran (far right) talked about her work at UN this past year and her trips to Ethiopia, Rome, Brazil and South Korea where she represented the Sisters of Charity Federation and brought

the voices of the poor to the conversations. A panel of three NGO Liaisons offered ideas of bold actions needed as the Federation moves into the future and a new Federation Strategic Plan is developed. Leadership Teams and NGO Liaisons viewed short videos of systemic change efforts of Federation member congregations.

Carol De Angelo, SC, Director of SCNY PJIC Office, June 21, 2016