



Educating Tomorrow's Citizens



2001 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission

Constitutional Rights Foundation seeks to instill in our nation's youth a deeper understanding of citizenship through values expressed in our Constitution and its Bill of Rights, and educate them to become active and responsible participants in our society. CRF is dedicated to assuring our country's future by investing in our youth today.





President's Report

Marjorie S. Steinberg

To my mind, the events of September 11 and their aftermath give new urgency to the work of Constitutional Rights Foundation. It is more important than ever that our nation's young people learn about their constitutional heritage with its traditions of religious tolerance, separation of church and state, equality for all, and due process of law. It is crucial that young people develop the analytical skills to evaluate issues of public policy and make enlightened decisions. It is also important that they learn the skills of engaged participation so that they can become effective citizens. And it is just as important that they commit themselves to improving their communities to strengthen our republic today and in the future.

I am happy to report that in 2001, Constitutional Rights Foundation made important strides in advance of this mission. We continued and expanded our programs including the California Mock Trial Competition, the Summer Law Institute, the Youth Internship Program, and History Day in California. We published and distributed new civic education materials and in response to the national tragedy, we launched a new Internet resource, *America Responds to Terrorism*, to help teachers address the domestic and foreign issues raised by the attacks. We were also successful in securing new federal grants for programs addressing the professional development needs of history teachers serving urban populations and for technical assistance and exchange activities with civic educators in Eastern Europe and in former Soviet republics. I am also happy to report that in 2001, the foundation set a new record for local fundraising.

None of this would be possible without our energetic Board of Directors, our skilled and dedicated staff, and the thousands of professional people who volunteer their time to make our programs work.

In 2001, our Spring Dinner Committee and board raised a record amount for the annual event. Special thanks go to co-chairs Jerome Coben, Alan Friedman, and Robert Greenfield and to members Jane Arnault, Joseph Calabrese, Knox Cologne, Louis Eatman, Alice Herald, Richard Kolodny, William Polkinghorn, Richard Sheehan, Brian Sun, and Michael Waldorf. A special thanks also goes to the chair of our annual appeal, Joseph Calabrese, whose committee was so successful in spite of difficult economic circumstances.

The board continued its ongoing evaluation and improvement of the foundation's programs under the leadership of Lee Edmon and Carlton Varner and with the hard work of members of the Education and Program Oversight Committee.

Thanks are also due to William Polkinghorn, who put in many hours in support of our Internship Program and, as always, for Peggy Saferstein's generous contribution of her time and expertise to help our summer interns with the college application process. We are grateful to all of the board members who are willing to invest so much of themselves in our programs and the young people they serve.

(Continued on next page)

I am particularly grateful to the members of the Executive Committee, who attended monthly meetings, quarterly board meetings, and other CRF events and made contributions in other innumerable ways. Jane Arnault, Jerome Coben, Gerald Chaleff, Louis Eatman, Haley Fromholz, Robert Greenfield, Joseph Keller, Thomas Pfister, William Polkinghorn, Robert Stern, and Carlton Varner have served with dedication, distinction, and enthusiasm throughout the past year.

I also want to recognize the outstanding executive staff of CRF: Todd Clark, Marshall Croddy, and Jo Ann Burton. Their expertise in management, program development, publishing, fundraising, and supporting board activities certainly helps make CRF the outstanding organizations it is.

Finally, my best wishes to President-Elect Jerome Coben who begins his term in 2002. There is simply no one better suited to lead CRF's efforts to strengthen our democracy through educating our youth.





Executive Director's Program Report

Todd Clark

CRF's mission is to improve the civic education of young people at the local, state, and national level. Our programs are designed to help young people understand our legal system and governmental institutions and to become engaged and committed citizens. To do so, young people must develop academic skills such as critical thinking, research, and writing; and civic-engagement skills such as goal-setting, working effectively as a member of a group, public speaking, and leading and planning projects. CRF's programs give them the opportunity.

YOUTH ACTION PROGRAMS

Conferences. During 2001, we worked with a number of community partners to plan and implement several youth summits—conferences where local youth apply policy-evaluation and decision-making skills to issues and events such as the 2001 Los Angeles mayoral election. CRF staff also planned and facilitated several Cops and Kids conferences in 2001. These productive gatherings bring together students and law enforcement agencies using CRF materials designed to build positive communications between young people and the police.

Leadership Development. Our Youth Leadership for Action (YLFA) and Youth Task Force regularly involve students from high schools throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District. YLFA provides leadership training for students who want to design and implement school-based projects. CRF's Youth Task Force involves student campus groups that wish to address issues and problems facing their schools or communities.

Summer Law Institute. This one-week summer residential program, offered in cooperation with UCLA Law School, provides young people with the opportunity to spend a week on the UCLA campus working with professors and lawyers. Students also visit courts and law offices and enhance their understanding of university life and our legal system.

State and Local Mock Trial Competition. Now in its 24th year, the California Mock Trial program annually involves over 8,000 students from 35 California counties. Based on a different hypothetical criminal case prepared each year by CRF staff, the program also involves more than 2,500 legal professionals who serve as judges, scorers, and advisors.

History Day in California. Part of a large national program, California History Day involves nearly 50,000 young people who develop documented, research-based presentations that address a central theme. Presentations range from exciting, multimedia documentaries to detailed research papers and dramatic performances. The program helps thousands of students build academic skills while they learn about history.

Free Expression in a Free Society. Students are invited to submit multimedia entries that focus on the principles contained in the Bill of Rights. The winning student entry each year is premiered at the CRF Spring Dinner and is followed by remarks from the young filmmakers to the audience of nearly 1,000 people.

(Continued on next page)

After-School Programs. Interest is growing in providing special enrichment and supervision for young people in the after-school hours. Both state and federal programs now support these efforts. CRF staff is working on several after-school programs, adapting CRF materials and techniques to help young people develop positive attitudes about themselves and their communities.

Youth Internship Program. Each year more than 100 young people are selected to take part in an eight-week internship in a business, law office, non-profit agency, or government office. Students also participate in seminars led by CRF staff designed to build student skills and provide an understanding of issues facing our community. More than 600 students have completed the Youth Internship Program since its inception. Nearly every intern has had a successful experience, and virtually 100 percent of the interns have graduated from high school.

CETTA. This year, CRF contracted with the Corporation for National and Community Service to begin work on Civic Engagement Training and Technical Assistance (CETTA) for National Service Programs. CRF will help implement this three-year project by providing AmeriCorps members with enrichment activities and lessons that teach civics and citizenship skills.

DEEP. CRF also received funding in 2001 to embark on a new international program—the Democracy Education Exchange Project (DEEP). This far-reaching project is designed to strengthen civic education in the United States, Central and Eastern Europe, and the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

CLASSROOM PROGRAMS AND PUBLICATIONS

In 1993, with funding from the DeWitt Wallace/Readers Digest Fund, CRF developed the **Active Citizenship Today (ACT)** framework for use by students in studying their communities, analyzing issues or problems, exploring options, and planning and taking action. The framework was used in publications developed for the ACT program, and two subsequent programs have used it as an organizer: **CityYouth**, our national middle-school program funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and **CityWorks**, our current effort to infuse local issues and institutions into traditional U.S. government courses, funded by the Surdna Foundation of New York. Each of these programs is supported by curriculum materials.

In 2001, in our continuing effort to provide U.S. government and social studies teachers with effective materials, CRF completed a *Cops & Kids Conference Planning Manual*. Under contract with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, CRF designed and completed a field test version of Project LEAD, *Legal Enrichment and Decision-Making*, a curriculum designed to introduce at-risk students to the legal system and help them make positive life decisions.

Working in partnership with Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago, CRF contracted with the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention and the American Parole and Probation Association to develop *Giving Back*, a service-learning manual to be used in one of the nation's fastest-growing crime intervention programs—youth courts.

The Internet is proving itself to be a great boon to our mission with its power to send—and receive—communications about CRF programs and publications. The CRF web site features regularly updated online lessons, extensive research links, a complete list of CRF programs, a publications catalog, and easy access to CRF staff, events, and programs and publications. We invite you to visit the CRF web site at www.crf-usa.org.

After the tragedy of September 11, 2001, CRF staff worked quickly to develop **America Responds to Terrorism**. This regularly updated addition to the CRF web site has already grown substantially and provides readings, lessons, and other resources that enable teachers and students to explore the political, cultural, and constitutional implications of terrorism.

As we have for more than 30 years, CRF continues to write and distribute the *Bill of Rights In Action (BRIA)* to over 30,000 social-studies educators. Distributed as a public service to our fellow professionals, *BRIA* articles on a wide range of topics provide teachers with engaging and interactive lessons designed to connect traditional courses with real world issues. *BRIA* is widely used throughout the United States and is also available on the CRF web site.

In addition to these notable developments, we continue to distribute a broad range of publications through our catalog. The CRF catalog is now accessible online, enhancing our ability to serve the educational community around the globe. Each year our publications revenue increases, illustrating the growing reach of our materials.

STATE AND NATIONAL OUTREACH

CRF's commitment to create interactive classrooms and active civic participation by young people includes state and national outreach efforts.

For many years, we have worked in collaboration with the American Bar Association, Center for Civic Education, and Street Law, Inc., in building a national network of state law-related education centers. This program, **Youth For Justice**, is funded by the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Through this collaborative, teachers and juvenile justice workers are trained, a national network is maintained with organizations in almost every state, and projects and materials on a range of topics are distributed to educators.

As national interest in youth service and service learning has grown, CRF has been a leading group promoting the link between service and civic education. We have been active for more than 15 years in the movement to create a national service program for American young people. Our staff has consulted extensively with the Corporation for National Service and has given presentations at its meetings. We have received grants from the corporation, which have augmented funds received from the Ford Foundation to promote service learning nationally and within many states. Our publication *Service-Learning NETWORK* is distributed to 13,000 service-learning professionals throughout the nation and is available on our web site at www.crf-usa.org.

This year CRF's **National Outreach in Civic Participation and Youth Service** hosted 10 training conferences from across the nation through Project Civic Connections. Funded by the Ford Foundation and the Corporation for National Service, Project Civic Connections promotes civic knowledge and skills in the context of service learning and has helped give CRF an influential voice in the service-learning community.

CRF also sponsors the **Maurice R. Robinson Mini-Grant Program**, funded by the Robinson family in honor of Maurice R. Robinson, the founder of Scholastic, Inc. The Mini-Grant Program awards grants of up to \$600 to teachers throughout the nation for service-learning projects.

I, along with several members of our staff, have taken part in many activities designed to promote service learning and its linkage with traditional civic education. We have served on state and national committees and commissions and have written and spoken widely on the importance of service being linked to civic education. As we have in years past, CRF continues to expand our mission to educate tomorrow's citizens.

Statement of Operational Revenues and Expenses

For the Year Ending December 31, 2001

REVENUES

GRANTS		
Government	1,341,279	37%
Private	695,688	19%
CONTRIBUTIONS		
General Contributions	193,080	5%
Events	773,637	21%
INVESTMENT INCOME	16,225	1%
MATERIAL SALES	176,249	5%
PROGRAM FEES	397,397	11%
OTHER SOURCES	<u>24,104</u>	<u>1%</u>
	\$ 3,617,659	100%

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES		
Law and Government	1,387,837	
Civic Participation	881,097	
Publications	<u>164,248</u>	
	2,433,182	77%
FUND RAISING	221,124	7%
ADMINISTRATION	<u>499,130</u>	<u>16%</u>
	\$ 3,153,436	100%

The above data has been audited and financial statements are available upon request.

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Constitutional Rights Foundation was saddened by the loss in 2001 of Jerome C. Byrne, board member and past president of CRF. A partner for more than 40 years at the Los Angeles law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Jerry made a lasting contribution to the practice of law, the people of California, and CRF.

In 1967, Jerry joined the board of directors of CRF and remained an active board member until his death. Jerry served as CRF's president for two years and was the chair of the publications committee for over 20 years. During his tenure, CRF's publications expanded from a part-time to a full-time staff and from just a few titles to over 60 titles. Jerry took particular interest in the *Bill of Rights in Action* newsletter. With his leadership, the quarterly curricular newsletter evolved from a small subscription publication to one with a nationwide free readership of 30,000. In recognition of Jerry's many contributions to the foundation, he received CRF's Lloyd M. Smith Award in 1995. In keeping with Jerry's regard and affection for CRF's

publications, he established the Jerome C. Byrne Publications Endowment at CRF. CRF's Board of Directors is most appreciative of the generous gifts that many of Jerry's friends, colleagues, and family contributed in his memory. The Jerome C. Byrne Publications Endowment is an important addition to the CRF Endowment program. People wishing to contribute to the Jerome C. Byrne Publications Endowment can send their tax-deductible contributions to CRF, c/o Development Office, 601 South Kingsley Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90005.

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CRF acknowledges with enormous gratitude the continuing Life Income Gifts made by Phyllis and Robert Henigson.

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