

Mary's Pence
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www.maryspence.org

Funding Women. Changing Lives.

Mary's Pence

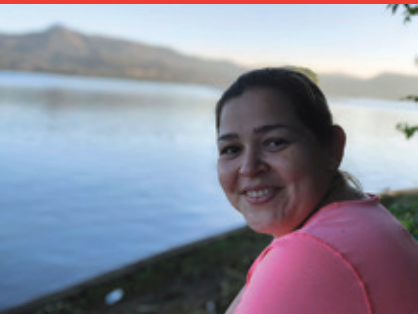


Mary's Pence

Funding Women. Changing Lives.

2020

ANNUAL REPORT and CALENDAR OF WOMEN



Letter from the Executive Director

We've always known that women-focused organizations have traditionally lacked funding and resources. In fact, that's why Mary's Pence was founded in 1987 – to direct funding to organizations that promote women and their communities.

But a report published this year by the Women's Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University provided us with data that I think is worth sharing.

Funding Women

The Women & Girls Index, which examines trends in giving to women's and girls' causes nationwide, found that organizations focused on women and girls receive a mere 1.6% of overall charitable giving. Even more incredibly, only 8% of that funding is restricted for programming outside the U.S. That's just a fraction of 1% of total annual giving!

While it's disappointing to know that funding for women and girls is so low, the report is critical to demonstrating the importance of our work. Whether it is providing grants to grassroots organizations throughout the U.S. and Canada that address social and economic justice issues important to women, or supporting the hundreds of women who participate in our ESPERA program in Central America and Mexico – 100% of our grants and programs address the root causes of social and economic inequalities for women.

Changing Lives

The report also confirms what we have known for our 32 years of funding women: there are relatively few organizations exclusively dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls. And those that do exist are doing more with less. Tighter budgets mean smaller staff size and fewer resources for growth and building capacity.

This affirms our focus on helping small organizations and women's groups develop the skills to grow their capacity. By convening training sessions for grant recipients via webinars and facilitating workshops for grantees at grantee retreats, we provide women with the tools and knowledge necessary for success. Through gatherings such as emotional wellness workshops for ESPERA partners and by inviting women to actively participate in the program's evaluation process, we ensure women have the power to make their own decisions.

Moving Forward

Some may interpret the Women & Girls Index as bad news, but we think it's a step in the right direction. It inspires us to generate more energy and action. It challenges us to respond to issues at the heart of women's lives. As both a fundraiser and a grantmaker, it will better help us engage donors, welcome new allies, and identify gaps in our grantmaking and program development.

Thank you for supporting our work. We look forward to continue working with you in the future and keeping you updated on the many ways that we transform women's lives – together.

In solidarity,

Katherine Wojtan, Executive Director



Katherine Wojtan
Executive Director

Mary's Pence Prayer

by Katie Lacz
Former Mary's Pence
board member

God of the widow's mite,
the five loaves and two fishes,
the touch of a hand on a cloak's tassel,
help us to remember that you create
abundance from the smallest of gestures.

Take my crumb, my single thread,
my penny of prayer,
and join it with the beloved community
of women in Mary's Pence
so that it may become
a nurturing feast
an intricate tapestry
an abundance of riches.

Bless las mujeres de ESPERA,
who pay forward not only funds, but hope;
our grantees — artists, lawyers, organizers,
activists, all seeking change;
and all those who support
the empowerment of women —

Grant us the gift of being co-creators with You,
knowing each small offering we bring
takes us one step closer to creating
your Kin-dom of justice and peace here on earth.

Staff and Board

Mary's Pence Board

Sister Barbara Battista, SP ~ Co-Chair
Terre Haute, Indiana

Sister Julie Fertsch, SSJ ~ Co-Chair
Los Angeles, California

Carol Fendt, PhD ~ Treasurer
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New York, New York

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Washington, D.C.

Amanda Steepleton
Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota Staff

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Robyn Browning ~ Grants Manager

Kaye Cassidy ~ Ignatian Volunteer

Christine Lian ~ Office Coordinator

Sarah Mechtenberg ~ Development
and Communications Manager

Bridget Peterson ~ St. Joseph Worker

Nadine Sehnert ~ Bookkeeper

Central America & Mexico Staff

Gilda Larios
ESPERA Team Lead
Mexico City, Mexico

Eva Martinez
ESPERA Promoter
Suchitoto, El Salvador

Brenda Valladares Escobar
ESPERA Business Facilitator
Suchitoto, El Salvador

Out and About

Did you see us?

We were proud to be present at the following conferences and gatherings:

Women's March
Nationwide, Los Angeles, California ~ January 2019

JRLC Day on the Hill Day
St. Paul, Minnesota ~ February 2019

MN x MN Beyond the Vote
St. Paul, Minnesota ~ February 2019

National Catholic Education Association Convention
Chicago, Illinois ~ April 2019

Spring St. Paul Art Crawl
St. Paul, Minnesota ~ April 2019

May Day Festival
Minneapolis, Minnesota ~ May 2019

Dignity USA
Chicago, Illinois ~ July 2019

National Organization for Women (NOW) Annual Conference
Bloomington, Minnesota ~ July 2019

Leadership Conference for Religious Women
Scottsdale, Arizona ~ August 2019

Fall St. Paul Art Crawl
St. Paul, Minnesota ~ October 2019

Did you hear us?

We spoke to the following groups:

**The Woman's Club
of Minneapolis**
Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Hamline Midway
Progressive Women**
St. Paul, Minnesota

Zion Lutheran Church
St. Paul, Minnesota

Eagan Rotary Club
Eagan, Minnesota



Mary's Pence
Board of Directors
celebrate ESPERA's
10th anniversary
at the April 2019
board meeting in
Chicago, Illinois.

Honor Women Every Day

For every day of the year,
this calendar recognizes an
inspiring woman who has
contributed to social justice
and equality.

You can read more about
these women at
[maryspence.org/
news-events/inspiring-women](http://maryspence.org/news-events/inspiring-women)

Mary's Pence Grants fund women's organizations in the U.S. and Canada that are working with their local community to create long-term systemic change. In 2019, Mary's Pence expanded its definition of women to "cis women, trans women, and non-binary people" to be more inclusive of all women.

The organizations we fund are all small, with budgets under \$200,000. They advocate to change unjust policies, and educate to build skills and increase capacity. Like Mary's Pence, our grantees promote human dignity, the common good, the right to economic security and dignified work, care for the earth, and nonviolence.

Our grants act as seed money for newly founded organizations, and as on-going operational support for organizations that have been working at the grassroots level for years.

In addition to providing financial support, Mary's Pence connects our grantees with other like-minded organizations and helpful resources to build organizational capacity. We believe that by helping small organizations form alliances and work collaboratively, we are amplifying the voices of women everywhere.

During our 32-year history, Mary's Pence has awarded more than \$1,750,000 in grants to women-led organizations in the Americas.

Highlights

- Mary's Pence held its second annual Grantee Retreat: "Flourishing Organizations: Operating a Small Nonprofit." Twenty representatives from 12 grantee organizations attended the grantee retreat in September 2019. Mary's Pence facilitated workshops and conversations around building organizational capacity and promoting nonprofit sustainability.
- Mary's Pence hosted 4 webinars for past and current grantees throughout the year that focused on skills critical to successful nonprofit management. The hour-long, online sessions addressed topics such as program evaluation, leadership development and volunteer management. Topics for the webinars were chosen based on grantee feedback and interest.
- The Mary's Pence grants program received a record-number of applicants for the spring grants cycle. The grants team credits the peak in applications to increased visibility of the grants program on a national level, as well as growing demand for funding on behalf of women-centered organizations.



Photo: Hannah Smith
Mary's Pence staff, guest facilitators, and representatives of 12 grantee organizations met for the Second Annual Grantee Retreat in Farmington, Minnesota, September 22-25, 2019.

Fiscal Year 2019 Grantees

Fall 2018

- California Coalition for Women Prisoners
San Francisco, California ~ 1st Grant
- Centro de Recursos Educativos para Adultos (CREA)
New York, New York ~ 3rd Grant
- Collective Action for Safe Spaces
Washington, D.C. ~ 1st Grant
- Exodus Lending
Minneapolis, Minnesota ~ 3rd Grant
- Families & Criminal Justice
Los Angeles County, California ~ 1st Grant
- Feminists Act!
National Organization ~ 1st Grant
- KC Mothers in Charge
Kansas City, Missouri ~ 1st Grant
- MakeShift Circus Collective
Atlanta, Georgia ~ 1st Grant
- Welcoming the Stranger
Warminster, Pennsylvania ~ 3rd Grant

Spring 2019

- Advocacy Partners Team
Surfside, Florida ~ 1st Grant
- Austin So Close to the Border/
Austin Tan Cerca de la Frontera
Austin, Texas ~ 3rd Grant
- Code/Art
Miami, Florida ~ 2nd Grant
- Contact Center Inc.
Cincinnati, Ohio ~ 3rd Grant
- EarthArt Institute
Moffat, Colorado ~ 1st Grant
- Stonewall Youth
Olympia, Washington ~ 1st Grant
- The Womanist Working Collective
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ~ 1st Grant
- Women Organizing Women Network
Minneapolis, Minnesota ~ 1st Grant
- Youth Trust Project
Lawrence, Kentucky ~ 1st Grant

ESPERA Program

ESPERA partners with grassroots women's organizations across Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador to increase women's economic autonomy and well-being.

We grant our partners the funds for local lending pools. The funds are collectively owned by the women who decide the terms for managing and loaning the funds. Women repay the loans with interest into the local lending pool, creating a growing and sustainable resource for the partner organization.

Women are supported with coaching and technical support as they work to grow their small business initiatives. Meeting with women regularly to discuss issues and progress, and encouraging peer support, is critical to success. This includes bringing women together for emotional wellness retreats and ongoing workshops that promote skills for healthy living.

ESPERA staff work to increase the capacity of partner organizations and strengthen connections among individual participants, as well as organizational partners.

Since its inception in 2008, ESPERA has given more than \$150,000 in grants for the lending pools, which has resulted in the total distribution of \$803,000 worth of loans to women. In addition we have given over \$100,000 for organization operations and capacity building to our 10 partners.

Highlights:

- ESPERA celebrated its 10th anniversary at a special encuentro in La Palma, El Salvador, in January 2019. Seventy women representing 10 ESPERA partners from 5 countries joined for the 3-day gathering to reflect on their accomplishments as ESPERA program participants in the women's groups.
- In 2019 ESPERA facilitated an evaluation of its programming. The evaluation gathered information about how the women's lives have changed since they first started the program, and what barriers they have faced to achieve economic security and empowerment. A steering committee, made up of 15 representatives of women's groups and ESPERA staff, is discussing future changes to the ESPERA program.
- As a result of participating in ESPERA's emotional wellness workshops, women have cited positive changes in their self-esteem, as well as improved relationships with family and friends. In August 2019, 50 women participated in an ESPERA emotional wellness retreat that was the last in a 3-part series. ESPERA also offers ongoing biweekly emotional wellness series for women at their local organizations.



In July 2019, representatives of CEPROSI, ESPERA's partner in Nindiri, Nicaragua, participated in a day-long leadership workshop.

Partners

El Salvador

- Asociación de Mujeres Emprendedoras por la Justicia de San Rafael Cedros
San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador
- Asociación de Mujeres Rurales "Olga Estela Moreno"
Bajo Lempa, El Salvador
- Concertación de Mujeres de Suchitoto
Suchitoto, El Salvador
- Parroquia San Nicolás Obispo and Asociación de Mujeres de Tonacatepeque (ACOMEST)
Tonacatepeque, El Salvador
- Red Unión de Mujeres Salvadoreñas
San Salvador, El Salvador

Guatemala

- Asociación Coordinadora de Organizaciones de y para Personas con Discapacidad de Sololá
Panajachel, Guatemala
- Asociación de Mujeres Sembradoras de Esperanza
Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala

Honduras

- Grupo Emprendedor La Epifanía
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Mexico

- Red de Mujeres Morelenses por una Economía Solidaria
Morelos, Mexico

Nicaragua

- Centro de Promoción y Salud Integral (CEPROSI)
Nindiri, Nicaragua

Mission, Vision, Values, and Achievements

Mission and Vision

Mission

We invest in women across the Americas by funding community initiatives and fostering collaborations to create social change.

Vision

We envision a world where empowered women and their communities flourish in solidarity and justice.

Values

Our commitment to justice motivates our work. We are grateful to walk alongside people of all faiths and beliefs on this journey toward justice.

DIGNITY We recognize the inherent dignity of every person, especially women and others who are marginalized. Equity for all must include the right to health care, education, productive and meaningful work, food security, shelter, and freedom from violence.

JUSTICE Each person has the right and responsibility to participate economically, politically, and culturally in society and in the home. Women's full participation is essential for strong communities and a just society.

SOLIDARITY Mary's Pence has privilege and influence. It is our responsibility to accompany women working for justice by listening deeply and providing funding and responsive support. We believe in collective power. Change happens when those most impacted by injustice are integrally involved in creating solutions.

Grantmaker Forum Gives Mary's Pence its Highest Rating

Mary's Pence has a 100% rating on GrantAdvisor – an online forum that collects, shares and quantifies anonymous feedback from grantees about their experience of securing grant funding.

In return, grantmakers such as Mary's Pence receive free, honest feedback about their grantmaking process. GrantAdvisor was launched in an effort to build transparency and trust-based philanthropy for grantseekers and grantmakers.

“This is a funder who pays attention to their grantee's needs and challenges. They genuinely want to partner with you to achieve your mission and will do much more than write you a check.”

~ Anonymous grant applicant review on GrantAdvisor

To read all the reviews and ratings for Mary's Pence, visit grantadvisor.org.

Mary's Pence Receives 2019 Grantmaker of the Year Award

Mary's Pence was named the 2019 Grantmaker of the Year in the private sector category by the Grant Professionals Association (GPA), an international membership association for people in the grants industry.

GPA's Grantmaker of the Year Award recognizes public and private funders that improve the way grant professionals do their work and acknowledges outstanding contributions to the field of grantmaking.

“Mary's Pence is the epitome of what grantmaking should be, investing in a nonprofit holistically with well rounded support that includes more than just monetary assistance.”

~ Meg Eubank, executive director of Welcoming the Stranger in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, nominated Mary's Pence for the award. Welcoming the Stranger is a 3-time grant recipient.



Mary's Pence Executive Director Katherine Wojtan and Grants Manager Robyn Browning accept the 2019 Grantmaker of the Year Award for the private sector from the Grant Professionals Association on November 7, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

Mary's Pence Shares Experience with International Nonprofits

Mary's Pence Executive Director Katherine Wojtan, ESPERA Team Lead Gilda Larios, and Eva Martinez and Brenda Valladares Escobar, ESPERA staff in El Salvador, facilitated a morning breakout session called “Evaluation as a Collaboration Among Partners” at the annual Minnesota International NGO Network (MINN) Summit on November 1, 2019, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The presentation at the MINN Summit allowed colleagues working in the field of international development to learn from Mary's Pence experience of facilitating an open and participative evaluation process with female representatives of partner organizations in Central America and Mexico.

“The Mary's Pence presentation shared invaluable best practices and lessons learned with our audience of iNGO practitioners.”

~ Rachel Hawley MINN board member

Financial Report

Financials

Fiscal Year 2019: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Income

Contributions	\$436,367
Estate Contributions	\$51,718
Investment Income.....	\$33,942
Total Revenue and Support.....	\$522,027

Expenses

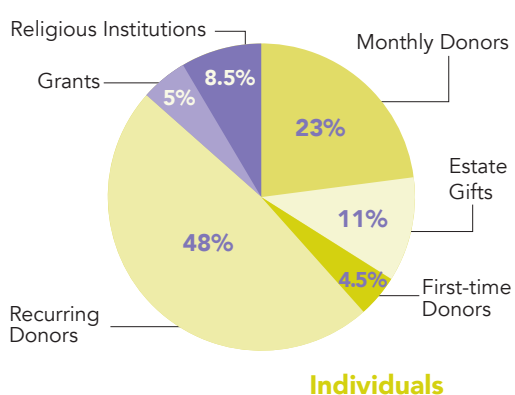
Program Expenses	\$557,636	(83%)
Management and General Expenses.....	\$34,439	(5%)
Fundraising Expenses	\$83,593	(12%)
Total Operating Expenses.....	\$675,668	

Change in Net assets (\$153,641)

Mary's Pence has a policy to maintain a reserve of 6-9 months of operating expenses. Due to a large gift and bequest received, Mary's Pence budgeted a deficit for the 2019 fiscal year. Significant, one-time gifts provide Mary's Pence with the unique opportunity to expand and grow our programming.

Our Donors

Organizations



Financial Transparency

Mary's Pence is committed to serving as a faithful steward of all financial gifts.

In addition to the Mary's Pence financial committee reviewing financial statements on a monthly basis, an audit of Mary's Pence is completed once a year by a CPA firm that specializes in nonprofit organizations. A copy of our 990 is available on our website.

For more information, visit: maryspence.org/about/financials

Ways To Support



Artwork: Sister Ansgar Holmberg, CSJ

Monthly Compañera

Compañeras stand in solidarity with women across the Americas by making recurring monthly donations at any level that is meaningful. It is the most sustainable way to support Mary's Pence.

Giving monthly is easy and convenient. Donations can be made by check, credit card, or ACH bank withdrawal on our website: maryspence.org/ways-to-help/companeras

Legacy Circle

Dedicated to supporting the social and economic liberation of women for generations to come, members of the Legacy Circle have decided to maximize their investment in the lives of women by naming Mary's Pence as a beneficiary of their life insurance or retirement account.

Joining the Legacy Circle is a way to leave a lasting impact. You can join our Legacy Circle online: maryspence.org/ways-to-help/planned-giving

Honor and Memorial Gifts

Honorariums and memorials are a thoughtful way to commemorate a major life milestone of a friend or to remember a lost loved one. They also contribute to the foundation of our work to empower women and their communities to flourish in solidarity and justice.

Recognizing someone special with a donation to Mary's Pence is a powerful way to honor and thank them. Give the gift of solidarity online: maryspence.org/ways-to-help/honor-memorial-giving

Sisterhood of Sharing

The collective voices of advocates for social justice and equality amplify our message of economic and social justice equality for women. Whether you order a free 2020 Mary's Pence calendar for a relative or pass along a recent Mary's Pence newsletter to a friend, you play a critical role in helping us to share information about our work.

Inspiring others to support Mary's Pence can be as simple as one click online. Look for *maryspence1987* on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to follow, like, share or comment. To order an extra calendar, visit: maryspence.org/contact

Donate

Mail a check: Mary's Pence
275 East 4th Street, #642
St. Paul, MN 55101

Visit our website to make a donation online:
maryspence.org/ways-to-help

SUSTAIN

JOIN

HONOR

SHARE

DONATE



Women Organizing Women Network (WOW Network)

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Empowering East African women to assert their political voice.

East African women immigrants commonly face challenges as a result of societal bias and stereotypes within their own communities. WOW Network responds to these challenges by inspiring East African women to become engaged citizens and community leaders.

One example is WOW Network's Voter Education Program, which educates women about how their vote can bring change to issues that matter to them most. WOW Network also offers training in financial literacy, voting rights and political engagement. WOW Network's quarterly Bashaal social events gather women of diverse backgrounds to share ideas and build community.



Mary's Pence

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January/Enero 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 World Day of Prayer for Peace Mary, Theotokos (God Bearer)	2 Sadie Alexander Civil Rights Activist	3 Bella Abzug Civil Rights Activist, US Representative (NY)	4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Educator
			New Year's Day			
5 Sonia Sotomayor 1st Latina Justice of SCOTUS	6 Charlotte Ray 1st Black Woman Attorney in the US	7 St. Bernadette Soubirous 19th c. Mystic, Visionary	8 Emily Greene Balch Economist, Pacifist, Nobel Peace Prize (1946)	9 Rigoberta Menchú Guatemalan Political Activist, Nobel Peace Prize (1992)	10 Gabriela Mistral 1st Latina recipient of Nobel Prize in Literature (1945)	11 Remember Women Brought out of Africa and Baptized Against Their Will
	Epiphany					
12 Diana Ortiz Torture Survivor, Founder: Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition	13 Anne Reynolds Advocate for LGBTQ+ Community	14 Sr. Theresa Maxis Duchemin Founder: Oblate Sisters of Providence	15 Etty Hillesum Holocaust Victim, Author: <i>An Interrupted Life</i>	16 Dian Fossey Primatologist, Author: <i>Gorillas in the Mist</i>	17 Martha Cotera, PhD Latina Activist, Author: <i>Life Along the Border</i>	18 Coretta Scott King Civil Rights Activist, Author: <i>Coretta: My Life, My Love, My Legacy</i>
19 Mourning Dove Indigenous Rights Activist	20 Pray for Victims of Domestic Violence 1 in 3 US Women Experience Physical Violence by an Intimate Partner in Their Lifetime	21 Sophia Jex-Blake, MD Women's Rights Activist	22 Hildegard Goss-Mayr Nonviolence Activist	23 Gertrude Elion Pharmacologist, Nobel Prize for Medicine (1988)	24 Maria Tallchief 1st Indigenous Prima Ballerina, American Ballet Theater	25 Sandra Ware Co-founder of "Let's Start," Mary's Pence Grantee
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day					
26 Angela Davis Political and Social Activist	27 St. Angela Merici Educator	28 Honor Women Theologians	29 Sr. Kaye Ashe Founding Board President of Mary's Pence	30 Ritamary Bradley Women's Rights Activist	31 Ludmila Javorová Catholic Priest in Underground Church During the Cold War	

ESPERA Program



Encuentro Celebrating ESPERA's 10th Anniversary *La Palma, El Salvador*

In January 2019, Mary's Pence celebrated ESPERA's 10th anniversary in La Palma with a special *Encuentro*. Seventy women gathered, representing 10 ESPERA partners from 5 countries.

During the *Encuentro* the women shared stories from their lives and their experiences with ESPERA. Some of the discussions and exercises gathered data on the changes in the women's lives since they began participating in ESPERA, and the struggles and successes they have experienced with their economic initiatives. This information gathering initiated the ESPERA evaluation, an important process for preparing the program for the future.



Mary's Pence
Funding Women. Changing Lives.

February/Febrero 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 The Kuna People Matrilinear Indigenous People of Panama and Colombia
2 Civil Rights Sit-ins 40% of the Women of Bennet College Were Arrested (1960)	3 Sr. Mary Lange Founder: Oblate Sisters of Providence	4 Betty Friedan Feminist, Author: <i>The Feminine Mystique</i>	5 Judith Baca Contemporary Urban Artist	6 Tullia d'Aragona 16th c. Poet, Philosopher	7 Marian Anderson 1st Black Artist to Perform in the Metropolitan Opera	8 St. Josephine Bakhita Sudanese Woman Taken in Slavery, a Woman of Forgiveness
9 Alice Walker Pulitzer Prize (1982), Author: <i>The Color Purple</i>	10 St. Scholastica 5th c. Founder of Women's Religious Order	11 Morkarrameh Ghanbari Iranian Artist, Woman of the Year (2001) International Day of Women and Girls in Science	12 Sr. Margaret Traxler Mary's Pence Founding Board Member	13 Rana Hussieni Journalist, Equal Rights Activist	14 Ruchira Gupta Social Worker, Human Trafficking Abolitionist Valentine's Day	15 Susan B. Anthony Women's Rights Activist
16 Mildred Fish Harnack German Resistance Leader, Executed by Hitler	17 Mary Breckinridge Founder: Frontier Nursing Service Presidents' Day	18 Toni Morrison Pulitzer Prize (1988), Author: <i>Beloved</i>	19 Harper Lee Presidential Medal of Freedom (2007), Author: <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	20 Angelina Grimke 19th c. Women's Rights Activist World Day of Social Justice	21 Barbara Jordan Civil Rights Activist, US Representative of TX (1973-1979)	22 Isabella Hooker Founder: New England Suffrage Association
23 Frances Watkins Harper Suffragist, Abolitionist, Poet	24 Pearl Witherington Agent for Britian's Special Operations, WWII	25 Alicia Montemayor 20th c. Feminist, Activist Mardi Gras	26 Mabel Staupers Organized the Harlem Clinic for Black Physicians Ash Wednesday	27 Rosa Perea Advocate for Deaf and Blind Persons	28 Lydia Allen Founder: Lydia's House Daycare Program for Children with AIDS	29 Augusta Savage Sculptor, Equal Rights Advocate for African Americans in the Arts

Collective Action for Safe Spaces (CASS)

Washington, D.C.

Eliminating public gendered harassment and assault.

Collective Action for Safe Spaces (CASS) uses community-based resources to eliminate public harassment and violence against women and folks in the LGBTQ+ community. CASS believes in the power of community-driven, action-oriented solutions to spark change at all levels of society. CASS's response to gender violence is multi-faceted, employing research, advocacy, education, and art to address harassment and violence.

To engage people in the prevention of violence, CASS offers a *Bystander Intervention Training Program* that instructs witnesses of harassment or violence to respond to public aggression in appropriate ways. By promoting community responsibility, the program makes public areas safer for everyone.



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March/Marzo 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Margaret Randall Social Activist, Feminist <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	2 Nawal El Saadawi Egyptian Feminist	3 St. Katharine Drexel 20th c. Educator Serving Indigenous and Black Children	4 Young Shin Founder: Asian Immigrant Women Activists (AIWA)	5 Catherine MacKinnon Radical Feminist	6 Valentina Tereshkova 1st Woman to Travel in Space	7 Sts. Perpetua and Felicity 3rd c. Martyrs for Their Faith
8 International Women's Day Commemorating the Movement for Women's Rights <i>International Women's Day Daylight Saving Begins</i>	9 Zahra Rahnavard Academic, Artist, and Politician Suppressed by the Iranian Government <i>Purim</i>	10 Harriet Tubman Leader of the Underground Railroad	11 Hallie Quinn Brown 19th c. Educator, Reformer, Social Activist	12 Mechtild of Magdeburg 13th c. Mystic	13 Mary Bowser Abolitionist, Spy for the Union Army	14 Fannie Lou Hamer 20th c. Civil Rights Activist, Philanthropist
15 Ruth Bader Ginsburg 2nd Woman Justice of SCOTUS, Advocate for Gender Equality	16 Sr. Anne Dengel Founder: Medical Missionary Sisters	17 Women Celtic Saints <i>St. Patrick's Day Daylight Saving Begins</i>	18 Golda Meir Israeli Prime Minister (1969-1974)	19 Josefa Ortiz de Dominguez 19th c. Supporter of the Mexican War of Independence <i>First Day of Spring</i>	20 Mary Mills 20th c. Black Nursing Ambassador to the World	21 Belle Sherwin 19th c. Women's Rights Activist <i>Laylat al-Mi'raj</i>
22 Dorothy Stratton 1st Woman Commissioned into the US Coast Guard	23 Ada María Isasi-Díaz Mujerista Theologian, Past Board Member of Mary's Pence 	24 Esther 5th. c. Persian Queen, Savior of the Jewish People	25 Margaret Chase Smith Worked to End McCarthyism, US Representative of MA	26 Emma Sepulveda, PhD Director: Latina Research Center, Author: <i>Death to Silence</i>	27 Adrienne Rich Radical Feminist, Poet, Essayist	28 Asma Jahangir Pakistani Attorney, Human Rights Activist
29 Pearl Bailey US Goodwill Ambassador (1975), Presidential Medal of Freedom (1988)	30 Kathy Kelly Peace Activist, Founder: Voices for Creative Nonviolence	31 Marjorie Agosin Human Rights Activist, Voice for Latin America				



Red de Mujeres Morelenses por una Economía Solidaria Morelos, Mexico

Based in El Salvador, ESPERA staff Eva Martinez and Brenda Valladares Escobar visited Mexico for the first time in June 2019. During their stay they visited many of the women's homes and businesses. They also learned the art of tortilla making, which is part of the Mexican culture and much different than the traditional Salvadorian pupusa. They had fun making tortillas with Rocio of Coatetelco Morelos and Felipa and Letty of Cuentepec Morelos. Letty, pictured on the right, is the record keeper for their local ESPERA lending pool.



Mary's Pence

Funding Women. Changing Lives.

April/Abril 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Wangari Maathai Environmental Activist, Nobel Peace Prize (2004)	2 Barbara Caine Australian Feminist Historian	3 Sarah Brady Anti-gun Violence Activist	4 Maya Angelou Poet, Civil Rights Activist, Author: <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>
5 Pandita Ramabai 19th c. Indian Social Reformer	6 Gloria Macapagal Arroyo President of the Philippines (2001-2010)	7 Joyce Hilda Banda President of Malawi (2012-2014)	8 Betty Ford Activist for Equal Rights Amendment, Founder: Betty Ford Clinic	9 Irene Morgan Kirkaldy Civil Rights Activist	10 Dolores Huerta Labor Leader, Co-founder: National Farmworkers	11 Ethel Kennedy Philanthropist, Justice Activist
Palm Sunday			Passover Begins	Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Holy Saturday
12 Clara Barton Founder: American Red Cross	13 Julian of Norwich 14th. c. Christian Mystic, Author: <i>Revelations of Divine Love</i>	14 Simone de Beauvoir 20th c. French Author: <i>The Second Sex</i>	15 Corrie ten Boom Helped Jews Escape the Holocaust, Author: <i>The Hiding Place</i>	16 Joan Sawyer Bahamian Chief Justice (1996-2001)	17 Jo Anne Robinson Civil Rights Activist, Educator	18 Augusta Savage Black Sculptor, Harlem Renaissance
Easter						
19 Betty Green Pilot, Founder: Mission Aviation Fellowship	20 Maria Varela Photographer for Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee	21 Nina Simone Musician, Civil Rights Activist	22 Loretta C. Argrett Assistant Attorney General, Advocate for Underserved People	23 Maria Teresa Tula Salvadoran Political Writer, Activist	24 Willa Cather Pulitzer Prize for Fiction (1923), Author: <i>O Pioneers</i> and <i>My Antonia</i>	25 Martha George Chair of Suquamish Tribe (1920s-1940s)
	Yom HaShoah		Earth Day	Ramadan Begins		
26 Amy Biehl American Anti-Apartheid Activist in South Africa, Assassinated 1993	27 Mary Wollstonecraft 18th c. Women's Rights Activist	28 St. Catherine of Siena Doctor of the Church 14th c. Mystic, Theologian	29 The Wise Women of Mary's Pence Mary's Pence Founded (1987)	30 Aviva Chomsky Historian, Author: <i>How Immigration Became Illegal</i>		



KC Mothers in Charge

Kansas City, Missouri

Accompanying the families of victims of violent crime and working to end violence.

KC Mothers in Charge is a group of women committed to reducing violent crime through prevention, education and intervention. Rooted in their own experiences of losing loved ones to violent crime, KC Mothers in Charge wants to prevent others from experiencing the tragedy of homicide.

An important part of their work is supporting the families of victims of violent crime. When a homicide occurs, KC Mothers in Charge is notified immediately by the Kansas City Missouri Police Department and arrives on the scene to provide trauma-informed crisis intervention for bereaved family members and friends. KC Mothers in Charge works to organize support groups and counseling workshops for survivors, as well as provide opportunities for family and friends to participate in advocacy and anti-violence events happening citywide.



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May/Mayo 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Anne Marie Jarvis Founded Mother's Day	2 Nannie Burroughs 20th c. Black Educator, Feminist, Civil Rights Activist
3 Maryam Mirzakhani 1st Woman to Receive Field's Medal (2014), Highest Scientific Award for Mathematicians	4 Rosalyn Yalow Medical Physicist, Nobel Prize for Medicine (1977)	5 Sr. Barbara Ford Missionary Nurse Assassinated in Guatemala	6 Mary McLeod Bethune Educator, Civil Rights Activist	7 Eva Peron First Lady of Argentina (1946-1952), Advocate for Labor Rights	8 Phillis Wheatley Former Slave, 18th c. Black Poet	9 Septima Poinsette Clark Educator, Civil Rights Activist
				National Day of Prayer		
10 Maggie Kuhn Founder: Gray Panthers	11 Mercedes Lopez Mexican Artist	12 Remember the Women who Nurture Us	13 Florence Nightingale 19th c. Nurse, Founder of Modern Nursing	14 Marjory Stoneman Douglas Environmentalism, Author: <i>Everglades: A River of Grass</i>	15 Digna Ochoa y Plácido Mexican Human Rights Attorney, International Human Rights Award (2002)	16 Sr. Margaret Anna Cusack 19th c. Founder: Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
					International Day of Families	
17 Satya Rani Chadha Anti-dowery Movement Activist	18 Ida Bell Wells 19th c. Journalist, Founder: NAACP	19 Lorraine Hansberry Black Playwright: <i>Raisin in the Sun</i>	20 Sr. Rose Hawthorne Founder: Hawthorne Dominicans and Home for Poor Cancer Patients	21 Mitsuye Endo Plaintiff in SCOTUS Lawsuit to End Japanese Internment	22 Judy Chicago Feminist Artist	23 Concha Ortiz y Pino State Representative, NM (1936-1941)
	Laylat al-Qadr			Ascension of Jesus		Eid al-Fitr
24 YWCA Working for Women's Empowerment Since 1855	25 Forugh Farrokhzad Poet, Film Director	26 Sr. Mary Ellen Butcher, OP Advocate for Economic Justice	27 Rachel Carson Environmentalism, Author: <i>Silent Spring</i>	28 Julia Ward Howe Abolitionist, Author of Lyrics to the <i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i>	29 Jehan Sadat Egyptian Human Rights Activist	30 St. Joan of Arc French Hero of the 100 Year War
31 Elizabeth Blackwell, MD 1st Woman to Earn an M.D. in the US	Memorial Day Remember our Grandmothers			Shavuot Begins		
Pentecost						



ESPERA Intercambio Tonacatepeque, El Salvador

Several women from Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico and Guatemala stayed a few extra days in El Salvador after attending the ESPERA emotional wellness retreat in September 2019.

The purpose of their extended stay was to visit with some of the local Salvadorian women's groups and learn about their work. They took one refreshing day off and went to the beach, accompanied by women from Tonacatepeque. For some women it was their first visit to the ocean. Sonia, pictured on the far right, is from Tonacatepeque and serves on the ESPERA Evaluation Steering Committee.



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June/Junio 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Helen Keller Advocate of the Blind and the Deaf, Author: <i>Story of My Life</i>	2 Hanan Daoud Khalil Ashrawi Palestinian Legislator, Educator	3 Josephine Baker Dancer, French Resistance Agent	4 Marian Wright Edelman Activist for Disadvantaged Children	5 Sappho 5th c. BC Greek Poet	6 Sr. Ann Manganaro Catholic Worker, Physician in El Salvador
7 Elizabeth Gurley Flynn 20th c. Labor Leader, Activist	8 Sr. Frances Margaret Taylor 19th c. British Nurse, Writer, Editor	9 Ann O'Hara Graff Theologian, Author: <i>In the Embrace of God</i>	10 Equal Pay Act (1963) Requires that Men and Women Be Given Equal Pay for Equal Work	11 Jeanette Rankin 1st Woman in Congress, Women's Rights Activist	12 Anne Frank Victim of the Holocaust, Author: <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>	13 Gloria Rolando Cuban Filmmaker
14 Alicia Partnoy Argentinian Human Rights Activist, Poet	15 Evelyn Underhill 20th c. Mystic, Author: <i>Practical Mysticism</i>	16 Margaret Bondfield British Politician, Trade Union Advocate	17 Marita Bonner Author: <i>Frye Street and Environs</i>	18 Fay Bennett Advocate for the Rural Poor	19 Patria Jiménez First Openly Gay Elected Official in Mexico	20 Nedā Āghā Soltān Iranian Martyr for Freedom
21 Miriam Jewish Prophet, Sister of Moses	22 Hidden Figures NASA Scientists Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan	23 Title IX Education Programs Receiving Federal Funds Can't Discriminate Due to Gender	24 Zora Neale Hurston 20th c. Black Writer, Author: <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	25 Women in Black Worldwide Network of Protestors of War And Violence	26 Pearl S. Buck Advocate of Women's Rights, Author: <i>The Good Earth</i>	27 Jovita Idár 20th c. Latina Journalist, Civil Rights Activist
28 Sr. Marjorie Tuite, OP Catholic Activist	29 Shamita Das Dasgupta Indian Scholar, Social Activist	30 Lena Horne Civil Rights Activist, Jazz Vocalist, Actor				

Fathers' Day

Juneteenth
Abolition of Slavery

World Refugee Day
First Day of Summer

Mary's Pence Grants



Welcoming the Stranger Bucks County, Pennsylvania

Equipping immigrants and refugees to become thriving members of the community.

For many newcomers to the U.S. who struggle with basic communication or job skills, it's a daunting task to enroll children in school, look for work, or apply for citizenship. *Welcoming the Stranger* offers free classes in English as a Second Language (ESL), computer skills, and U.S. citizenship test preparation to adult immigrants and refugees.

As a result of *Welcoming the Stranger's* work, adult learners find that their acquired skills open up new social and employment opportunities, which leads to economic self-sufficiency. Graduates of the program become successful advocates for themselves, their families, and other members of the immigrant community. Since its inception in 1999, *Welcoming the Stranger* has educated more than 4,000 immigrants from 100 different countries.



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July/Julio 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Harriet Beecher Stowe Abolitionist, Author: <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>	2 Herlina Hakim Indonesian Actor, Activist	3 Angela Eunjin Oh Civil Rights Attorney	4 Women Heroes of the American Revolution Independence Day
5 Anna Hedgman Civil Rights Activist, Author: <i>The Gift of Chaos</i>	6 St. Maria Goretti Martyr and Woman of Forgiveness	7 Luisa Moreno Guatemalan Labor Activist in the US	8 Eunice Kennedy Shriver Founder: Special Olympics	9 Alice Paul Women's Rights Activist, Original Author of the Equal Rights Amendment	10 First Meeting of the Women's Political Caucus (1971) Non-partisan Group Supporting Women Candidates	11 Lady Bird Johnson First Lady (1963-1969), Advocated for Beautification of Highways
12 Mary Eliza Mahoney 1st Black Nurse in the US	13 Frida Kahlo 20th c. Mexican Painter	14 St. Kateri Tekakwitha First North American Indigenous Saint	15 Violette Neatley Anderson First Black Woman Attorney to Argue Before SCOTUS	16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel The Patron of Chile	17 Hannah Szenes Hungarian Poet, Worked to Save Hungarian Jews	18 Remember the Arizona Copper Mine Strike of 1983
19 Mary Ann Bickerdyke Union Nurse, Advocate for Veterans	20 Eulalia Arrila de Pérez 19th c. Keeper of the Keys at Mission San Gabriel, Healer, Midwife	21 Hortense Sparks Ward Early 20th c. Civil Rights Activist	22 St. Mary of Magdala Disciple of Jesus of Nazareth	23 Nancy Mairs Author: <i>Waist High in the World</i>	24 Amelia Earhart Aviator, Adventurer	25 Mev Puleo Photo Journalist, Author: <i>The Struggle Is One</i>
26 St. Anne Mother of Mary of Nazareth	27 Linda Richards 1st Professionally Trained Nurse in US	28 Mary Luke Tobin Advocate for Peace and Justice, Mary's Pence Founding Board Member	29 St. Mary of Bethany Devoted Friend of Jesus of Nazareth Arafat Eid al-Adha Tisha B'Av	30 Antonia Hernández Social Activist, Philanthropist	31 Azar Nafisi Author: <i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i>	



Parroquia San Nicolas Obispo and Asociación de Mujeres de Tonacatepeque (ACOMEST)

Tonacatepeque, El Salvador

Daisy makes flower arrangements for special occasions – birthdays, weddings, and funerals. Part of her business comes from relatives who have migrated north and contact her to make floral arrangements for their family back home.

Daisy is a member of ACOMEST, a group formed of women from Parroquia San Nicolas Obispo (a faith based group) and Asociación de Mujeres de Tonacatepeque (a local feminist organization). Though members of both groups might not see eye to eye on all issues, the relationships have enriched their lives and lasting friendships have formed. With the help of Mary's Pence the women recently rented a local space they call *Nuestra Casa* for meetings and selling their products.



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August/Agosto 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Henrietta Lacks Black Cancer Patient, Subject of Book: <i>The Immortal Cells of Henrietta Lacks</i>
2 Jewell Jackson McCabe Feminist, Social Activist	3 Flannery O'Connor 20th c. Author: <i>Wise Blood</i>	4 Isabel Allende Chilean American Author: <i>The House of Spirits</i>	5 St. Mary Ellen McKillop, RSJ 19th c. Australian Educator of the Poor	6 Susie King Taylor First Black Army Nurse	7 Lydia Villa-Komaroff Biologist, Advocate for Women in STEM Careers	8 Sr. Maureen Gallagher, OP Mary's Pence Founder
9 St. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein) Theologian, Martyred at Auschwitz International Day of Indigenous People	10 Geraldine Ferraro 1st Woman Nominated for the Vice Presidency	11 St. Clare of Assisi Founder: Poor Clares in the Franciscan Tradition	12 Alexa Canady, MD 1st Black Neurosurgeon	13 Sr. Maude Petre British Theologian, Author: <i>Modernism, Its Failure and Fruits</i>	14 Sr. Irene Fitzgibbon 19th c. Founder: New York City Founding Hospital	15 Edna Ferber Pulitzer Prize Winning Author: <i>So Big</i> Assumption of Mary
16 Marilyn Joy Waring Feminist Economist, Author: <i>If Women Counted</i>	17 Raïssa Maritain Early 20th c. Philosopher and Poet	18 Sojourner Truth Abolitionist, Feminist, Famous Speech: <i>Ain't I a Woman?</i>	19 Simone Weil 20th c. Mystic, Philosopher, Author: <i>Waiting on God</i> Hijra	20 Carolee Schneemann Contemporary Visual Artist	21 Alice Garg Advocate for Abolishing the Caste System in India	22 Willa Beatrice Player 20th c. Black Educator, Civil Rights Activist
23 St. Rose of Lima 16th c. Peruvian Sister who Ministered to the Poor	24 Clara Maass 19th c. Nurse who Sacrificed her Health to Study Yellow Fever	25 Sumi Haru Actress, Advocate for Equal Rights for Asian Actors	26 US Women Get the Right to Vote (1920) Women's Equality Day	27 St. Monica of Hippo Patron of Mothers	28 Lydia of Philippi Early Christian Leader and Benefactor	29 Tz'u-his 19th c. Regent of China
30 Sr. Jeanne Jugan 19th c. Founder: Little Sisters of the Poor	31 Dr. Maria Zavala Valladares Activist for Latina Access to Medical Careers					

Mary's Pence Grants



Code/Art

Miami, Florida

Inspiring girls to code.

Code/Art's mission is to increase the number of girls studying computer science by delighting and inspiring them with the creative possibilities of computer programming. Young women (grades 4-12) participate in Code/Art clubs and community workshops that teach participants how to write computer code that generates art.

The art the girls create makes the computer coding experience tangible – allowing them to freely express their inner creativity while also learning a practical skill. Using art as an introduction to coding encourages girls to consider pursuing a career in computer programming – an area where women and people of color are currently underrepresented. Increasing diversity in the field of computer science means that digital solutions will include a variety of voices and perspectives.



Mary's Pence

Funding Women. Changing Lives.

September/Septiembre 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Ela Ramesh Bhatt Indian Advocate for Women's Rights	2 Annie and Sarah Delaney Civil Rights Pioneers, Authors: <i>Having Our Say: The Delaney Sisters' First Hundred Years</i>	3 St. Teresa of Calcutta Nobel Prize Winner, Cared for the Sick and Poor of India	4 Gertrud Heinzelmann 20th c. Swiss Feminist	5 Give Us Bread and Roses Textile Strike (1912)
6 Jane Adams 19th c. Women's Rights and Peace Leader	7 Kiran Bedi 1st Woman to Join the Indian Police Service <i>Labor Day</i>	8 Nativity of Mary of Nazareth	9 Louise Patterson 20th c. Political Activist	10 Lillian Wald Early 20th c. Nurse, Human Rights Activist <i>World Suicide Prevention Day</i>	11 Remember Worldwide Victims of Terrorism	12 Ngoan Le Founder: Asian American Institute
13 Antonia Pantoja, MD First Latina Recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom <i>Grandparents' Day</i>	14 St. Catherine of Genoa 15th c. Mystic, Author: <i>Life and Doctrine</i>	15 Shirley Graham Du Bois Civil Rights Activist	16 Mary Beth Edelson Activist, Feminist	17 St. Hildegard of Bingen 12th c. Doctor of the Church Mystic, Artist, Healer	18 Helen Zia Activist for Asian LGBTQ+ Rights <i>Rosh Hashanah Begins</i>	19 LaDonna Harris Founder: Americans for Indian Opportunity
20 Billie Jean King Professional Tennis Player, Feminist	21 Ethel Percy Andrus Educator, Elder Rights Activist, Founder of AARP <i>International Day of Peace</i>	22 Phua Xiong, MD Founder: Quick Urgent Care, First Hmong-Owned Medical Clinic <i>First Day of Autumn</i>	23 Mary Church Terrell Founding Member of NAACP	24 Dorothy Stang, SND Martyred Advocate for Environmental Justice in Brazil	25 Remember the 16th Street Church Bombing by the KKK Victims: Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Carol McNair	26 Mary Brave Bird Lakota Activist for Indigenous Rights
27 Liu Sola Chinese Musician <i>Yom Kippur Begins</i>	28 Ada Deer Asst. Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs (1993-1997)	29 Gabriela Silang 18th c. Leader in Filipino Movement for Freedom from Spain	30 Ruth Cheney Streeter Advocate for Women's Rights			



Emotional Wellness Retreat Tonacatepeque, El Salvador

The women's experiences with hardship and violence are evident when we visit them in their communities and hear their personal stories. Two years ago ESPERA initiated a series of 3 emotional wellness retreats to help women address their shared life challenges.

In September 2019, women gathered for the final retreat in the series. Women came from all 10 ESPERA partners, representing 4 Central American countries and Mexico. They discussed plans for their lives and learned different techniques for emotional wellness, such as Tapping EFT (emotional freedom technique). During the course of 3 years the women have come to know one another; they stay in touch through a WhatsApp group on their phones called ESPERA sin Fronteras / ESPERA without Borders.



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October/Octubre 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 St. Thérèse of Lisieux Doctor of the Church, Mystic	2 Käthe Kollwitz German Artist Whose Works Depict the Impact of Poverty and War	3 Penny Lernoux Champion of Latin American Poor
					Sukkot Begins	
4 Kek Galabru, MD Cambodian Defender of Human Rights	5 Maya Lin Designer of Vietnam Veterans Memorial	6 Rosalie Muschel-Reinhardt Mary's Pence Founding Board Member	7 Our Lady of the Rosary	8 Vilma Martinez Civil Rights Activist	9 St. Mary Joseph Rogers Founder: Maryknoll Sisters	10 Aparna Basnyat Humanitarian and Reformer
					Shemini Atzeret Begins	Simchat Torah
11 Eleanor Roosevelt First Lady (1933-1945), Humanitarian	12 Ann Petry Black Author: <i>The Street</i>	13 Mary Williams Equal Rights Activist, Author: <i>The Lost Daughter, A Memoir</i>	14 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz 17th c. Mystic, Poet	15 St. Teresa of Ávila Doctor of the Church, Mystic, Author: <i>The Interior Castle</i>	16 Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins Indigenous Tribal Leader, Author: <i>Life Among the Paiutes: Their Wrongs and Their Claims</i>	17 Mae Carol Jenison First Black Woman to Travel in Space
International Day of the Girl Child	Indigenous Peoples' Day			International Day of Rural Women		
18 Violeta Barrio de Chamorro Leader of Nicaragua (1991-1997), Brought Contra War to a Close	19 Ellen Malcolm Advocate for Equality, Founder: EMILY'S List	20 Sisters Martyred in Liberia: Mary Kolmer, Shirley Kolmer, Kathleen McGuire, Agnes Mueller, Barbara Muttra	21 St. Ursula 4th c. Martyr	22 Barbara C. Harris First Woman to Become an Anglican Bishop	23 Shahla Sherkat Iranian Publisher	24 Barbara Rouse Chief Justice of the Superior Court of MA (2004-2009)
25 Irene Sendler Nurse who Served in Polish Underground in WWII	26 Juliette Gordon Low Founder: Girl Scouts	27 Carrie Chapman Catt Early 20th c. Suffragist	28 Elizabeth Cady Stanton Suffragist, Abolitionist	29 Maxine Hong Kingston Chinese American Author: <i>The Woman Warrior</i>	30 Abigail Adams Founding Mother of the US	31 Catherine Hoffman Founder: Youth Peace and Justice Corps
			Birth of Muhammad			Halloween Dia de los Muertos

Mary's Pence Grants



California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) San Francisco, California

Ending violence against women, transgender people and people of color in California prisons.

The California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) is a grassroots advocacy organization for women and minorities in prison and those who have been released and are facing a difficult transition.


One of CCWP's advocacy initiatives is their Drop LWOP (Life Without Parole) campaign. Drop LWOP is focused on changing California code to commute the sentences of people currently serving LWOP, ending LWOP sentencing, and halting all forms of in-prison discrimination against people serving LWOP. Their strategy is to work simultaneously to improve incarcerated people's lives right now while working to change the system fundamentally.



Mary's Pence

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November/Noviembre 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Olympe de Gouges 18th c. French Feminist, Abolitionist All Saints' Day	2 Rosemary Radford Ruether Feminist Theologian, Mary's Pence Founding Board Member All Souls' Day	3 Anne Knight 19th c. Feminist and Abolitionist Election Day	4 Sr. Janemarie Luecke Mary's Pence Founding Board Member 	5 Margaret Cavendish 17th c. British Philosopher, Writer	6 Sr. Jeanne Chézard de Matel 17th c. Mystic	7 Marie Curie Nobel Prize in Physics and Chemistry
8 Fanny Kemble Author: <i>Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation in 1838-1839</i> Daylight Saving Ends	9 Diana L. Hayes Black Womanist Theologian	10 Lynda Van Devanter National Women's Director of the Vietnam Veterans of America	11 Sr. Catherine McAuley 19th c. Founder: Sisters of Mercy Veteran's Day	12 Mary Astell Feminist, Author: <i>A Serious Proposal to the Ladies</i>	13 Juliana Dogbadzi Advocated to Abolish Religious Slavery in Ghana	14 Julia and Celina Ramos Martyred in El Salvador
15 Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace (2003) Organized by Crystal Roh Gawding, Leymah Gbowee, Comfort Freeman	16 Margaret Hassan Aid Worker in Iraq International Day of Tolerance	17 Winson Hudson Civil Rights Activist	18 Wilma Mankiller Chief of Cherokee Nation (1985-1995)	19 Emma Lazarus 19th c. Author: <i>The New Colossus</i>	20 Nora Kizer Bell Proposed a Feminist Prospective to Medical Ethics Transgender Day of Remembrance	21 Presentation of Mary
22 St. Cecelia 4th c. Musician, Martyr	23 Our Lady of Peace Mary of Nazareth, Bringer of Peace	24 Las Mariposas The Maribal Sisters, Martyred Opposing Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic	25 International Elimination of Violence Against Women Day International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	26 Emma Goldman 20th c. Speaker and Writer on Women's Rights Thanksgiving	27 Dorothy Day Pacifist, Advocate for the Poor, Author: <i>The Long Loneliness</i>	28 Mary Walker, MD Civil War Surgeon
29 Shirley Chisholm First Black Woman in Congress Advent Begins	30 Elizabeth Kenny 20th c. Pioneer of Physical Therapy					



Comité de Mujeres San Rafael Cedros Cedros, El Salvador

Nora, a member of the ESPERA group in Cedros, raises cattle and owns a bakery. She has participated in the emotional wellness retreats for the past 3 years. Currently Nora is serving on the ESPERA Evaluation Steering Committee, which is made up of representatives from ESPERA groups who are discussing and prioritizing the program's evaluation results.

When Nora learned that Mary's Pence is funded by donations she used the opportunity of the emotional wellness retreat to sell her baked goods and, with the proceeds of her sales, made a donation to Mary's Pence. Participants of the retreat enjoyed the baked goods with their morning coffee.



Mary's Pence
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December/Diciembre 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Rosa Parks Civil Rights Activist	2 Jean Donovan, Maura Clark, Dorothy Kazel, Ita Ford Maryknoll Sisters Martyred in El Salvador	3 Patty Mink Advocate for Women and the Poor	4 Edith Cavell Nurse in WWI, Executed as a POW	5 Remember the Alabama Bus Boycott (1955)
6 Elizabeth Johnson, CSJ Feminist Theologian	7 Cynthia Maung Physician, Humanitarian	8 Sr. Mary Aloysia Hardey Catholic Educator <i>Immaculate Conception</i>	9 Ruby Dee Entertainer, Civil Rights Activist	10 Emily Dickinson 19th c. Poet <i>International Human Rights Day First Day of Hanukkah</i>	11 Marie-Marguerite d'Youville Founder: Sisters of Charity, Montreal	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Patron of the Americas <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
13 Ella Baker Civil Rights Activist	14 Catherine de Hueck Doherty Social Worker, Founder: Madonna House	15 Senai Sarihan Malaysian Human Rights Attorney	16 Margaret Mead Anthropologist <i>Las Posadas Begins</i>	17 Amy Carmichael 20th Century Missionary to India	18 Clara Hale Humanitarian, Cared for Orphans	19 Sacagawea Indigenous Guide for Lewis and Clark
20 Madam C.J. Walker Entrepreneur, Philanthropist	21 Emma Tenayuca Latina Labor Leader <i>First Day of Winter</i>	22 St. Frances Cabrini Founder: Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart	23 Sr. Mary Antoinette, DW Missionary, Martyr in Africa	24 Hortense Powdermaker Anthropologist <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 Mary Gives Birth to Jesus <i>Christmas</i>	26 Our Lady of Chiquinquirá Patron of the Andean Region of South America <i>First Day of Kwanzaa</i>
27 Eve Ensler Feminist Activist, Playwright: <i>The Vagina Monologues</i>	28 Arundhati Roy Author: <i>The God of Small Things</i>	29 Sr. Thea Bowman Black Educator and Evangelist	30 Remember Families Living in Poverty	31 Sr. Marie Neal, SND Sociologist <i>New Year's Eve</i>		