



Presbyterian Committee on the Self Development of People

The Tri-Presbytery **Self Development of People** Committee makes small project grants addressing:

- social justice
- long-term conditions such as by poverty and oppression
- people who implement and control the project directly benefit from it.

Taking it to the Streets is an art creation and sales venture lead by homeless and poor youth in Berkeley. Your SDOP grant provided funds for an art cart enabling youth to sell their art at street fairs and markets. Youth receive a commission from the sale of their art and stipends from the grant to help with living expenses.

Workers from the **Hayward Day Labor Center** needed better tools to improve their lives. Your SDOP grant provided these; the group volunteered to clean vacant and underutilized lots for the City of Hayward, gaining work experience and training each other. Some of your SDOP grant money paid worker stipends; through advertising and leverage of their volunteer work phase, they received additional paid yard cleaning and maintenance jobs.

Migrante San Francisco outreaches to Pilipinos who have been labor-trafficked. Trafficked victims to the US in fraudulent and/or abusive domestic, manual labor and teaching jobs, find it difficult to leave due to visa and language issues, debts owed to the labor contractor, and the threat of harm to their families in the Philippines. Your National SDOP grant supports trafficking survivors who provide support, education and help to their peers to safely leave their trafficked work, reunify with family, legalize their visa status, and to pursue legal action.

The **African Community Health Initiative** serves East African refugees in San Jose. Your SDOP grant funded several self-help support groups so members could safely address the emotional and psychological stress of fleeing war and entering a foreign country. Participants have taken English-language and citizenship classes, become stronger self-advocates in health systems and schools, and created a successful women's sewing class.

PEER PALS, in Santa Clara County, were a group of caring people who had experienced first-hand the loneliness and isolation that often accompanies a diagnosis of a serious mental illness. Looking for ways that they could share their own strength from their recovery, your SDOP grant allowed Peer PALS to develop a small program to match a trained mentor with a mental health client who wanted to move forward in their own recovery.

Please join us in prayer for those seeking to regain their God-given gift of dignity.

SDOP information: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/sdop/who-are-we/>

Apply for a grant, learn more or join the local Tri-Presbytery SDOP Committee:
<http://www.sanjosepby.org/committees/sdop/>

God's gift of dignity for all people, especially the poor and marginalized

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