



STRUCTURE

SASP is a volunteer organization. It has no paid staff and all of its members hold fulltime jobs. SASP is a small organization with fewer than 20 members. The work of SASP is accomplished through the efforts of its members and the assistance of people in the community who volunteer to help with specific projects or activities. Membership for SASP is recruited from this group of dedicated volunteers. SASP meets regularly on evenings and weekends to plan and execute its work. It has two co-chairs ^{who} ~~that~~ are selected by the consensus of the group for a two year term. All members are part of the policy making body and all decisions are made by concensus.

ACTIVITIES

Since 1978, SASP has had a year-round program to educate the local community about the critical issues in southern Africa and raise funds for humanitarian aid for the liberation struggle.

SASP has successfully provided information to large segments of the community by organizing an annual week-long educational and fund-raising campaign, focused on a specific country in southern Africa, which is the highlight of each year's activities.

WHUR and WPFW radio stations have allowed us to have access to the airwaves each year to disseminate information and raise funds for refugees. WHMM television station has worked cooperatively with us to develop programming during the week. Southern Africa Week also always includes a community forum where a speaker, usually a representative from the African National Congress (ANC) or the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO), provides information to the community. Each year SASP and the Black Film Institute of the University of the District of Columbia have co-sponsored a film or series of films on southern Africa during the week. On a number of occasions, SASP has also sponsored a Run for Namibia during the week to highlight the issues to another segment of the community. SASP produces newsletters, informational leaflets, and slide shows as a means of providing information on critical issues in the region. SASP makes presentations to area schools, churches, universities, community and social organizations, labor unions, and interested persons. SASP has also served as the catalyst and the mentors for the development of a youth organization called Youth Against Apartheid.

"Solidarity is not an act of charity, but mutual aid between people fighting for the same objectives." Samora Machel, President of Mozambique

MATERIAL SUPPORT

The liberation movements in southern Africa are working to prepare their people with the skills needed for liberation. SASP assists their efforts by providing material support to refugees.

There are over 90,000 refugees, mostly orphaned children, women, and the elderly, who have been made homeless by ruthless South African aggression in the region. The United Nations High Commission on Refugees maintains the refugee camps, but because of the large numbers of those needing help, they are able to provide only subsistence support. The African countries where the camps are housed are struggling with economic underdevelopment caused in large part because they are defending themselves against South African military attacks. They are, therefore, unable to provide the additional support which is needed.

Over the last eight years, with the broadbased community support which has been critical element in SASP's success, over _____ has been raised in cash, medical, and educational supplies for the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa. Ninety-five percent of the donations collected, primarily using our annual radiothon, go directly to the refugees. The remaining five percent is used for administrative support (printing, facility and equipment rental, and mailing).

(pie chart)

FUNDING

SASP is a volunteer organization with no paid staff. SASP has always maintained an independent base of funding by seeking grants only from institutions committed to the liberation of southern Africa. For the first two years of its existence, SASP raised administrative money from community fundraising efforts and the dues of its members. Grants were then sought from the World Council of Churches to broaden the scope of our work and allow the organization to develop and distribute a newsletter. Since 1981, SASP has received \$17,500 from the Council. Over the years SASP has received assistance from the United Nations High Commission on Refugees which has enabled us to airship critically needed medical supplies to refugee camps inside Zambia, Mozambique, and Angola for Zimbabwean and Namibian refugees. Recently, SASP received a grant from the United Nations Council on Namibia. The bulk of SASP's funding for direct aid to refugees over the years has been the small contributions made by people from the community.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Individuals and organizations can support the work of SASP by doing the following.

- o Request resource information from groups doing work on southern Africa.
- o Volunteer your services to groups working on southern Africa issues.
- o Organize and attend demonstrations to protest U.S. policy in the region.
- o Urge your church, civic groups, or clubs to learn more about southern Africa and take action against U.S. support for apartheid.
- o Write and call your elected representatives concerning issues critical to the liberation struggle in southern Africa.
- o Organize a southern Africa support committee, if one does not already exist in your area, to provide material support to the liberation struggle and educational information to the general public about the issues.

RESOURCES

(Adwoa prepared such a list while at Howard and will share it with me this weekend. I will copy and share with you Tuesday.)