



PSR is the U.S. affiliate of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, recipient of the 1985 Nobel Prize for Peace.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we come to the final months of 2010, it's appropriate to pause to reflect on the success of our intense efforts these past two years on our core issues. When I took the reins at PSR in early 2009, it was an exhilarating time and, in spite of a difficult economy, we set our sights high. This year, we had some clear wins on policies to decrease reliance on nuclear weapons, increase attention to carbon pollution and change the dynamic of the discussion about new nuclear reactors. At the same time, we were challenged by the reality that lasting change is difficult to achieve.

As we entered an increasingly tough political climate, we faced the realities of competing priorities, unappealing bargains and mounting opposition. Although these challenges tested our mettle, I'm convinced that it is just such times for which PSR is so well equipped—and so needed. We have never been about the easy win. We don't expect progress to happen overnight, and we have never relied on a wave of popular opinion to validate our mission. Often, we have gone against the grain and pursued our goals in spite of the odds.

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Executive Director Peter Wilk, M.D. at the IPPNW World Congress in August. A PSR delegation including PSR president Dr. Jeff Patterson, student PSR co-president Craig Levoy, and Board members Drs. Ed Ifft, Robert Gould, Ira Helfand, Andy Kanter, Don Mellman, Maureen McCue and John Rachow, and PSR security program manager Ashish Sinha, attended this inspiring event in Basel, Switzerland.

## On New START, a Victory and a Larger Vision

PSR and others in the nuclear disarmament community led an intense, year-long effort to educate the Senate and the public about the importance of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START). This nation-wide campaign culminated in a rare bipartisan vote (14–4) by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on September 16th, 2010, to approve the treaty and refer it to the full Senate for a vote. This victory represents the most significant advancement in nuclear arms control in more than a decade, but our work is far from over.

PSR was on the ground with speaker tours and organizers in Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Indiana, Maine and Tennessee. With efforts from chapters, members, board members and staff, we ensured that key senators heard a constant drumbeat of support for New START. The successful committee vote builds momentum and clears the way for a vote by the full Senate. Our next urgent effort: to convince the Senate to take up this issue before the end of the year—and to gain the 67 votes needed to ratify the treaty.

In September, following the committee vote, Ira Helfand, M.D., visited the University of Notre Dame's Kroc Institute of Peace, for a public discussion about the treaty, joined by Col. Richard Klass, U.S. Air



Force (ret.) of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, and Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller, the principal negotiator on New START. More speaking tours, media interviews and outreach activities are planned for the coming months. PSR will continue to play a special role in DC coalitions, and in the key states of Maine, Massachusetts and Iowa.

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*Ira Helfand, M.D., at the University of Notre Dame's Kroc Institute of Peace, in September for a public discussion about the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, joined by Col. Richard Klass, U.S. Air Force (ret.) of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, and Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller, the principal negotiator on New START.*

## PSR's Online Think Tank Amplifies Public Health Voices on Toxics Policy

PSR has launched the Environmental Health Policy Institute, an online think tank exploring toxics, health, and policy through monthly topics and essays from environmental health experts. Each month, the Institute poses a question

to a group of experts from the fields of medicine, nursing, toxicology, environmental health science and public health. The resulting essays on a unified theme are posted online,



creating an archive of expert opinion and ideas on toxics policy.

Kristen Welker-Hood, PSR's director of environment and health, decided to launch the institute as she was planning the next phase of PSR's toxics program and realized that the toxics movement needed

a platform that would help amplify the health voice around these issues. "We know that people are exposed to toxic chemicals every day," she said.

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# Nuclear Weapons Documentary Spurs “I More 4 Zero” Campaign

PSR teamed up with the makers of the documentary film *Countdown to Zero* to generate interest in—and inspire action to address—the global threat posed by nuclear weapons. Our chapters held educational events, rallies and panel presentations in conjunction with the film’s release. Security Committee Chair and Board Member Ira Helfand, M.D., and long-time PSR member Jennifer Leaning, M.D. were featured in the film and delivered its most sobering commentary. Ploughshares Fund provided support for our organizational and promotional efforts, helping to draw thousands to see the film and participate in discussions on what we can do to rid our world of these terrible weapons.

The energy and excitement around *Countdown to Zero* led to the launch of PSR’s “I more 4 zero” campaign, an effort to inspire people to build community-wide efforts to address this issue. Check [www.Imore4zero.org](http://www.Imore4zero.org) or contact PSR’s Manager of Security

Programs Ashish Sinha at [asinha@psr.org](mailto:asinha@psr.org) to find out how you can get involved in this broader movement.

PSR/Los Angeles sold out the opening-day screening of *Countdown to Zero* on July 30 at the Arclight Hollywood Cinema. Hundreds attended the screening, which was followed by a discussion with writer and director Lucy Walker, producer Lawrence Bender and Ploughshares Fund President Joe Cirincione.

PSR/New York held two screenings of *Countdown to Zero*, on July 23 and August 5, at the Angelika Film Centre and Empire 25 in New York City. Cathey Falvo, M.D., hosted a panel discussion after the premier with PSR Executive Director Peter Wilk, M.D., and PSR board members Andy Kanter, M.D., and Vic Sidel, M.D. (co-founder of PSR).

PSR/Chicago staged a public rally with the North Suburban Peace Initiative featuring activists with *Countdown to Zero* t-shirts, models of the bombs dropped on Japan, and

Dr. Bob Meyers of the World Security Institute. Sarah Lovinger, M.D., PSR/Chicago executive director, also hosted a panel discussion on *Countdown to Zero* and global nuclear disarmament with Kennette Benedict, Ph.D., editor and publisher of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, and a PSR/ National board member, and PSR President Jeff Patterson, D.O.

PSR/Arizona organized 200 activists for the *Countdown to Zero* screening in Tuscon. Each attendee was asked to sign a postcard to Senators John Kyl (R-AZ) and John McCain (R-AZ) urging support for New START. Actions packets which included PSR talking points and extra postcards to share with friends were distributed at the event. Sixteen hundred postcards were collected and delivered to senators.

Other PSR chapters promoting the film as a means to mobilization included those in Austin, Iowa, Maine, Oregon, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington state. **PSR**

## Medical Student Activism Underway

Student Physicians for Social Responsibility welcomed University of South Florida medical student Craig Levoy as new co-president for the school year. Craig and fellow co-president Jessie Duvall, a University of Washington medical student, will work with other leadership council members including Marie Kim of the University of Iowa College of Medicine to provide direction, training and support to chapters around the country working on a global, local and regional issues. The students launched a leadership and capacity-building effort in August with the roll out of the new Medical Student Advocacy Toolkit and Guide and an online training for campus and community organizing.

SPSR warmly thanks Dr. Tova Fuller, who finished a three-year term as SPSR co-president in January, for her exceptional leadership, energy and strategic vision, which helped to strengthen and expand the student program.

### Medical Student Conference: April 8-10th in Washington, D.C.

SPSR will hold its biennial conference this spring in Washington, DC. Entitled “Rx for Survival: Social Justice and Medical Advocacy,” the conference will bring together the next generation of health professionals defining smart policy and social responsibility will help prepare the next generation of PSR leaders and be an opportunity to celebrate PSR’s 50th anniversary. More details about the conference can be found at [www.psr.org/rxforsurvival2011](http://www.psr.org/rxforsurvival2011). **PSR**



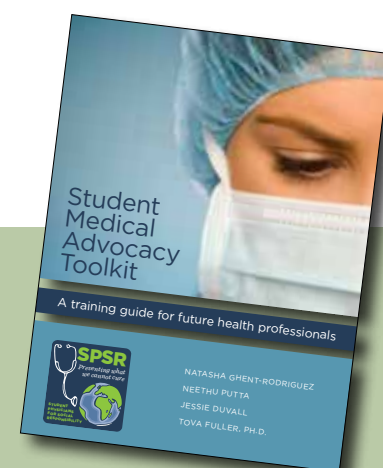
Elizabeth Richey, Dartmouth; Jessie Duval, University of Washington, Craig Levoy, University of South Florida and Sana Hashimi, Stanford at the 2010 student summit in D.C. in May.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

#### RECOMMEND A STUDENT

Sponsor a student for the conference. For sponsorship information, please contact Natasha Ghent-Rodriguez, [nrodriguez@psr.org](mailto:nrodriguez@psr.org) or (202) 587-5227.

The SPSR advocacy toolkit is a training guide for future health professionals, built to help students grow into successful medical advocates. Download your free copy at [psr.org](http://psr.org).



*PSR Reports* (ISSN-0894-6264) is the newsletter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, a nonprofit organization. Guided by the values and expertise of medicine and public health, Physicians for Social Responsibility works to protect human life from the gravest threats to health and survival.

To receive *PSR Reports* regularly, we invite you to join PSR and support our work. Write to PSR, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1012, Washington, DC 20009, or visit our website at [www.psr.org](http://www.psr.org).

*President:*  
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Kristen Welker-Hood, Sc.D., M.S.N., R.N.

*Security Program Director:*  
David Hart

*Safe Energy Program Director:*  
Michele Boyd

*Development Director and Executive Editor:*  
Mary Dillon Kerwin

*Editor:* Sally James, Cutting Edge Design

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Appalachian Voices

## PSR Addresses Health Dangers of Coal Ash

PSR's new report, "Coal Ash: The Toxic Threat to our Health and Environment" has received substantial radio coverage and has been cited in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's public hearings on coal ash.

The report, produced with Earthjustice, documents how toxic substances—including arsenic, lead, mercury, cadmium, chromium and selenium—leak, leach and spill from coal ash storage sites across the country, contaminating underground aquifers and endangering human health. Some states allow coal ash to be used as structural fill, agricultural soil additive, a top layer on unpaved roads, fill for abandoned mines, a spread on snowy roads, and even as cinders on school running tracks.

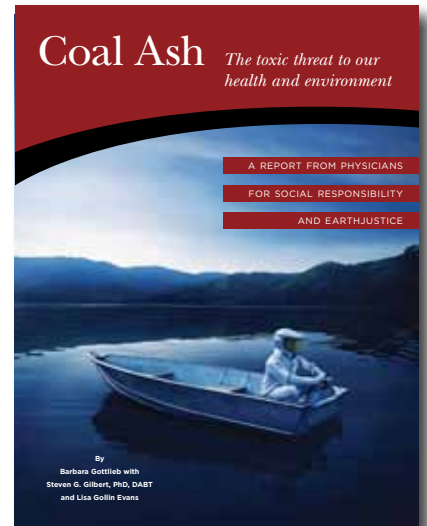
Coal ash contaminants contribute to several forms of cancer, as well as lung disease, kidney disease, mental retardation, neurological damage and even death.

PSR released the report as the EPA was conducting public hearings in

*Two dozen homes were destroyed or damaged by the 2008 coal ash spill in Kingston, Tennessee.*

eight cities across the country on its proposal to regulate coal ash. PSR was the only consistent medical voice present at these hearings. Our physicians and staff testified at six of the hearings; in Chicago; Arlington, Va.; Denver; Charlotte, N.C.; Pittsburgh and Knoxville, they provided much-needed perspective on the human health costs associated with this problem.

The EPA has offered two options for coal ash disposal, only one of which would require mandatory federal regulation. PSR has strongly endorsed that option, known as "Subtitle C," as the alternative that would adequately protect human health. PSR urges all of its members to read the report, available on the PSR website, and to contact the EPA at [rcra-docket@epa.gov](mailto:rcra-docket@epa.gov) voicing their support for strong, federally enforceable safeguards that guarantee coal ash will not pollute our drinking water, rivers, streams, wildlife and communities. **PSR**



## Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit Reaches Migrant Farmworker Families

PSR's Safe and Healthy Children (*Niños Seguros y Sanos*) pilot project, funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, aims to diminish health problems among the children of migrant and seasonal farm workers by preventing and reducing their exposure to environmental hazards, including pesticides, lead, and overexposure to sun and heat. A train-the-trainer curriculum, based on PSR's American Academy of Pediatrics-endorsed *Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit*, is being used to disseminate the program. The curriculum focuses on the unique vulnerabilities of children and fosters community collaboration to address the problem.

The first workshop was held in September in Lansing, Michigan, and was a resounding success. Twenty-five Head Start-associated personnel and support staff participated in the training, including the director of the Head Start program, health educators, nurses, a nutritionist, the directors of special education, and the director and staff of outreach from the local Migrant & Seasonal Head Start Program and Migrant & Community Health Centers. Attendees provided positive feedback; "Most of my education on migrant and seasonal farm workers has been focused on



pesticides. This training has broadened my knowledge and introduced me to new topics to discuss with families" said one, and another commented "I will take the exposure prevention section with me and implement it in my daily life." Those trained at the initial training have in turn trained an additional 50 people.

A second training is planned in October in Florida. At the end of the pilot phase, PSR will have a program ready to be rolled out to Head Start programs nationwide.

For more information about Safe and Health Children project, contact Project Manager Marybeth Palmigiano at [mpalmigiano@psr.org](mailto:mpalmigiano@psr.org). **PSR**

*PSR's Lansing, Michigan training on helping migrant farm worker families prevent against environmental health hazards.*

## Chapters Address Nuclear Arms, Fossil Fuels

Summer and fall were filled with lots of local, state and regional action. Chapters could be found, among other things, testifying about the need for strong health-protective regulations for coal ash, mentoring medical students to be the next generation of physician advocates, and educating the public, policymakers, and fellow physicians about the importance of reductions in nuclear arsenals. Of particular note, 12 chapters hosted movie screenings of *Countdown to Zero*, a film highlighting the dangers associated with nuclear weapons; see the story on page 2. And several chapters trained physicians and other health professionals to be environmental health ambassadors as part of PSR's Confronting Toxics program.

PSR/Oregon teamed up with the Oregon Public Health Association to host "Politics 101: Finding Your Voice to Advocate for Public Health," a training designed to teach health professionals how to be more effective advocates on public health issues. On August 6<sup>TH</sup>, the Oregon chapter held a remembrance event for the 65<sup>TH</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The chapter is helping hospitals in Oregon and Southwest Washington implement farm-to-hospital initiatives, such as farmers markets and farm stands, by provid-



Sen. Herb Kohl, (D-WI), second from left, with PSR/Wisconsin delegation Jeff Patterson, D.O.; Pam Kleiss, executive director; and Alfred Meyer on PSR's Day of Action.

ing access to resources and direct technical assistance.

PSR/Florida, along with the University of South Florida College of Medicine PSR student chapter, placed an op-ed on New START, lobbied on the issue and held a lunch presentation titled the "Medical Effects of Nuclear War" by Ira Helfand, M.D. More than 70 medical and health professional students attended. Students were urged to write Senator Lemieux (R-FL) asking for his support for the treaty.

PSR/Western North Carolina partnered with the World Affairs Council to promote events such as "Beyond War" and "Nuclear Weapons and the Human Future" at University of North Carolina-Asheville. The chapter continues its active opposition to Duke Energy's Cliffside coal plant. They also convened a Hiroshima Day candlelight vigil for peace in downtown Asheville on August 6<sup>TH</sup> and held a three-day exhibit at the Southern Energy and Environmental EXPO, promoting a sustainable environment and nuclear disarmament.

PSR/Greater Austin's Karen Lewis, M.D., a pediatrician and member of PSR/National, represented PSR at the EPA hearing in Dallas on proposed coal ash regulations. Dr. Lewis urged the EPA to assume regulation of coal ash disposal under subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976. Dr. Lewis further commented, at a press conference organized by Sierra Club, that coal ash contains some of the world's deadliest toxins. More than 300 people attended the hearing.

PSR/Chicago is supporting its two new student chapters, one at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine and one at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. Both chapters have sailed into the current school year complete with student officers, plans and enthusiasm for building robust and sustainable chapters. Ann Alexander, a lawyer with the Natural Resources Defense Council, is delivering a talk on each campus this fall on "The Medical Consequences of the Gulf Oil Spill." **PSR**



Michele Boyd, director of PSR's Safe Energy program, at the release of her new report "Is There a Nuclear Revival in the United States?" The Heinrich Boll Foundation and Center for Strategic International Studies sponsored a panel presentation for the release. Download a free copy from the Resources and Publications tab at [psr.org](http://psr.org).

## PSR Challenges New Nuclear Loan Guarantees

Some members of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress are pushing to authorize tens of billions more dollars in nuclear loan guarantees in the lame-duck session this November/December. The Department of Energy currently has \$18.5 billion in authority for nuclear guarantees, of which \$8.3 billion has been given out for two reactors in Georgia. It will take years to know whether this project will fail, leaving taxpayers on the hook to pay back the loan.

PSR and its coalition partners are pushing back. We are educating policymakers, the media, and the public about the dangers of nuclear power and the folly of investing taxpayer dollars in it.

We are providing hard evidence against further loan guarantees.

### New Reports Debunk Nuclear Renaissance Myth

Two new reports look at the economics of new reactors and whether more

subsidies can actually kick-start the U.S. nuclear industry. *Is There a Nuclear Revival in the United States?*, a new paper by the director of PSR's Safe Energy program, Michele Boyd, concludes that the U.S. will start to construct as many new reactors as the federal government and states are willing to heavily subsidize, but the projects may never be completed. Given decreased electricity demand, increasing cost of new reactors, and decreasing costs of renewables, even large subsidies may not be enough to make new reactors competitive with cheaper alternatives, especially efficiency measures, natural gas, and a range of renewable technologies. The paper, published by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, also concludes that heavily subsidizing the first few reactors will not be sufficient to make subsequent reactors economically competitive without subsidies.

A second report, by Mark Cooper, Ph.D., with the Vermont Law School, refutes the claims—popular with some

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Around the Country, PSR Members Strive to Change Our Way of Thinking

One of the most rewarding aspects of the PSR presidency has been traveling, speaking and working with PSR members and like-minded folks from other organizations. This has proven to be very heartening, both to realize what a powerful role PSR plays in this community and to be uplifted by the tremendous activity and dedication that I have seen. We truly are changing things for the future.

I was recently in Chicago to testify at hearings being held by the EPA on coal ash regulations. PSR was present, along with the Sierra Club and many other groups, to take part in a well-organized set of testimonies as well as a large demonstration in Grant Park. The hearings coincided with the release of PSR's new report on the health effects of coal ash, an effort coordinated by Deputy Director Barb Gottlieb and the Environment and Health Committee. A special thanks to Barb, PSR board member Steve Gilbert and Lisa Evans of Earthjustice for authoring this clear, concise report. Many activists were carrying around copies of our previous coal report, reaffirming that PSR plays a major role in the discussion of the dangers of coal.

I also traveled to Nashville, where I met with longtime PSR members Drs. Manfred and Sue Menking. The main events were the opening of the documentary film *Countdown to Zero* and a meeting with the aide to Senator Corker, who provided a key Republican vote in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to bring the New START treaty to the Senate floor. The movie opening on a Friday night was attended by

250 people, most of whom stayed for a discussion of nuclear issues led by myself and Rev. Tyler Wigg-Stevenson, a dynamic organizer and leader of the Two Futures Project. Then about 60 people adjourned to a local restaurant for further discussion. On Saturday, we met with Senator Corker's aide for an hour. Following this trip, I called PSR members in Tennessee, who were eager to help by making calls to Senator Corker. The Senator announced his support for the treaty the following Tuesday, two days before the vote. Similar trips by others, such as Drs. Ira Helfand and Bob Gould, played essential roles in other target states.

Finally, I was recently in Iowa where I spoke and shared two days of planning and strategizing at a terrific conference organized by our PSR/Iowa chapter under the leadership of Drs. John Rachow and Maureen McCue, with a coalition including Veterans for Peace, several religious groups and others. The second day was an enlightening presentation by ReThink Media, a California-based group with whom we have been working. One can view their information on how to talk about nuclear weapons at [http://usintheworld.org/wp-content/uploads/messaging\\_guidance/TalkingNuclearWeapons\\_PersuadableMiddle.pdf](http://usintheworld.org/wp-content/uploads/messaging_guidance/TalkingNuclearWeapons_PersuadableMiddle.pdf).

These experiences give me great hope for the future. Through the dedication, work and perseverance of PSR activists, along with like minded groups, we are having an effect and taking steps in the right direction.

It is important for us to remember Einstein's famous quote about



PSR Board President Jeff Patterson, D.O., in Nashville with long-time PSR members Susan Menking, M.D., and Manfred Menking, M.D., for speaking events to discuss the importance of New START.

drifting toward unparalleled catastrophe and to renew our efforts based upon the first part of his quote that is often missed: "We must never relax our efforts to arouse in the people of the world, and especially in their governments, an awareness of the unprecedented disaster which they are absolutely certain to bring on themselves unless there is a fundamental change in their attitudes toward one another as well as their concept of the future."

This is what PSR is about!

JEFFREY J. PATTERSON, D.O.

Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

## NUCLEAR LOAN GUARANTEES

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policymakers—that the French have solved the waste and cost problems of nuclear power and that the French nuclear industry should be model for the United States. *Policy Challenges of Nuclear Reactor Construction* documents that the French nuclear program is marked by escalating costs, just like the U.S. program. Processes such as standardizing reactor design, learning by doing, and increasing economies of scale have failed to lower reactor costs as predicted. The two French reactors currently under construction in Europe, Olkiluoto in Finland and Flamanville in France, are each years behind schedule and billions of Euros over budget. The French reactor design, proposed for two sites in the United States, has yet to be licensed here because of serious technical issues. Moreover, Dr. Cooper's report finds that new reactors actually

"crowd out" the cheaper and clean solutions to climate change: renewable energy and efficiency projects. Significantly, the French track record on renewable energy and efficiency is poor compared to similar European countries. The same is true in U.S. states in which new reactors have been proposed. Renewable and energy efficiency resources are four times greater in the U.S. than in Europe, and enjoy a greater cost advantage over nuclear power.

### The Challenge in the Next Congress

The question facing U.S. policymakers is whether to attempt to restart an industry that will require large taxpayer subsidies indefinitely. In the next two years, the nuclear reactor industry will be pushing for a dramatic escalation of the funding for new loan guarantees. PSR will be working with grassroots groups

and other coalition partners to continue to provide the medical voice in these debates. Policymakers seek out and depend on PSR's medical and public health perspective—because we supply viable solutions and smart policy recommendations grounded in scientific expertise and the moral sensibility of the medical community.

For more information on the Safe Energy program, please contact Program Director Michele Boyd at [mboyd@psr.org](mailto:mboyd@psr.org) or (202) 587-5242. **PSR**



Nuclear reactors "crowd out" renewable energy and efficiency projects.

# PSR's Leadership Circle

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Leaving a bequest to PSR is a wonderful way to help continue the work you believe in so strongly. We suggest you check with an attorney or tax advisor to see how a bequest to PSR would fit into your estate plans. PSR's Tax ID number and office address are listed below for your convenience. Please contact Jill Hertzler by phone at (202) 587-5247 or by e-mail at [jhertzler@psr.org](mailto:jhertzler@psr.org) for more information.

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A gift of stock is also an excellent way to support PSR's work. Listed below is PSR's brokerage information. Please contact Jill Hertzler by phone at (202) 587-5247 or by e-mail at [jhertzler@psr.org](mailto:jhertzler@psr.org) for more information or to confirm receipt of your gift.

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## STAY ACTIVE

**Would you like to be more involved in PSR's advocacy efforts?** A great place to start is PSR's Activist Updates. Each of PSR's program areas reaches out to members through Action Alerts and e-mail. Sign up to receive updates at [psr.org](http://psr.org).

**Coming to Washington, DC, and have an hour to spare?** How about visiting one of your elected officials to talk about the issues of most concern to you? Contact the PSR office at least a week in advance, and we'll help schedule a meeting, provide you with background materials, and possibly even accompany you on your lobbying call.

### Contact your elected officials:

U.S. SENATE, Washington, DC 20510

☎ (202) 224-3121

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC 20515

☎ (202) 224-3121

THE WHITE HOUSE, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20500

☎ (202)456-1414

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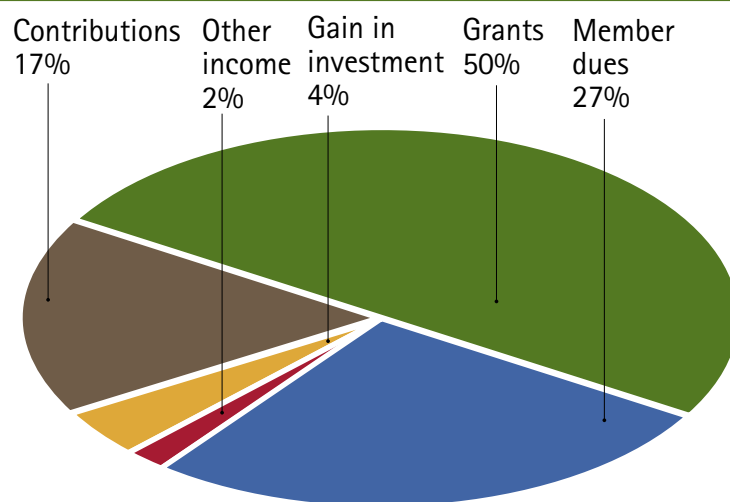
From our campaigns to reduce and eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons to our programs for stronger policies protecting human health from environmental threats, PSR is having an impact on the issues you care about most. There is much more to be done in preparation for the challenges that lie ahead. Your support is critical at this moment. Please make a tax-deductible contribution to PSR today. Give online at [psr.org](http://psr.org) and your gift will be put to immediate good use. It will ensure that we have the resources necessary to deliver the strongest effort possible in the months ahead. Thank you!

# PSR Fiscal Year 2009 Financial Statement

January 1 to December 31, 2009

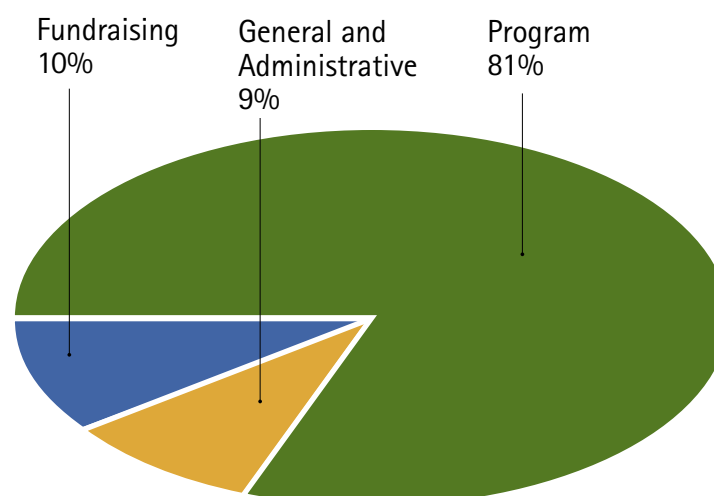
## 2009 REVENUE

Contributions	17%	\$536,012
Grants	50%	\$1,578,800
Member dues	27%	\$850,369
Other income	2%	\$72,247
Gain (loss) in investment	4%	\$110,458
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,147,886</b>



## 2009 EXPENSES

Program	81%	\$2,335,132
Fundraising	10%	\$295,514
General and Administrative	9%	\$262,007
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,892,653</b>



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Continued from page 1*

Wisdom that comes with years of experience, commitment that comes with knowing you are on the right side of the moral equation, and determination that comes with having to work for years to achieve small victories all helped us stay the course this year.

In spite of setbacks, we persevered. When New START was in danger of falling victim to partisanship, we redoubled our outreach with more speaking tours, phone calls, and media interviews. When the admin-

**Achieving important goals requires long-term commitment, whether the issue is eliminating nuclear weapons, stopping climate change or protecting the public's health from the dangers of nuclear energy or toxic degradation.**

istration announced its support for nuclear loan guarantees, we stepped up our message about the economic risks of new reactors. And when the push for comprehensive climate

change legislation stalled, we committed to amplifying the medical and public health voice in the debate and to building a new, more vibrant movement for the future.

PSR members embody the staying power I am talking about. Many of you have been with PSR for 10, 15 or even 25 years. As a group, you have helped build a safer, healthier world. There is much more work to be done. It is more important now than ever before to continue your involvement and support.

PETER WILK, M.D.

**NEW START**

*Continued from page 1*

Although we celebrated the vote as the first serious advance in many years and an important step to getting to zero nuclear weapons, we know the treaty itself does not go far enough to reduce the dangers of nuclear weapons. We plan additional work to reduce our dangerously bloated stockpile of weapons, secure vulnerable fissile material and ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). These key steps will move us closer to zero—our ultimate goal. **PSR**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO**

For more information or to increase your active involvement, contact David Hart at [dhart@psr.org](mailto:dhart@psr.org) or (202) 587-5224.

**TOXICS THINK TANK**

*Continued from page 1*

“Our biomonitoring report, *Hazardous Chemicals in Health Care, 2009*, showed that our chemical policy isn’t working. What’s missing is a stronger public health voice educating people and policymakers about the imperative of reforming chemical policy.”

The Institute has addressed two topics so far: “What is the key obstacle to implementing an effective, health-protective chemicals management system?” and “How can we set science-based policies in the face of scientific uncertainty?” Each month a new set of essays will be posted.

“We hope the Institute will make the most innovative thinking in this field readily accessible to policymakers, advocates, and the media,” said Dr. Welker-Hood. Visit the Institute at [www.psr.org/environmental-health-policy-institute](http://www.psr.org/environmental-health-policy-institute). **PSR**



President Obama with PSR/Los Angeles staff member Ana Mascarenas. The president held a backyard visit/small town hall at Ana’s family home in Albuquerque to hear a variety of concerns from regular middle class families.

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