

# Crossing to End the War

WOMEN CROSS DMZ ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



MOBILIZING WOMEN  
FOR PEACE IN KOREA  
**WOMENCROSSDMZ**

## From the Executive Director

### Dear Friends,

On August 6, the Los Angeles Korean-American Musicians' Association (LAKMA) held a benefit concert for Women Cross DMZ at the Walt Disney Concert Hall. I spoke to a packed audience about the urgent need for a peace agreement to formally end the Korean War, and Deann Borshay Liem screened clips from her new documentary film *Crossings*, about our women's peace

movement. The evening ended with a piece by Ukrainian musicians and a standing ovation from 1,700 people who applauded the musicians and our calls for peace.

Later that night, Dr. Seung Choi, the President of LAKMA, asked, "Women Cross DMZ's work is so important; how do we reach more mainstream audiences?" I replied, "We just did."

Thanks to your support, since 2014, Women Cross DMZ has steadily built a formidable organization that educates the public and policymakers about the need for a peace-first approach to resolve the seven-decade conflict on the Korean Peninsula.

But peace doesn't just happen. It takes hard work, courage, perseverance and new thinking. Yet women have historically been absent from peace talks, meaning we're

not just missing the perspective of half the world's population but also fresh ideas for how to end a 70-year war. We know that when women are involved at all levels of peace processes, a peace agreement is more likely to be reached — and endure.

With the support of volunteers and donors, we've built a multigenerational grassroots movement of Korean Americans — many from divided families — and many others from here and around the world who recognize the importance of ending the Korean War. In the U.S. we now have 10 regional chapters of the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network, plus caucuses for Korean-speaking, Christian, and Generation Z members. Despite the challenges brought on by the pandemic, our grassroots members continue to organize meetings (both virtual and in-person), write letters to the editors and op-eds, attend town halls and meet with their Congressional Representatives to share how the unresolved Korean War impacts them. Thanks to their dedication, there are now almost 50 co-sponsors of H.R.3446, the Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act.

July 27, 2023 will mark the 70th anniversary of the Armistice Agreement that halted, but did not permanently end, the Korean War. Most of the world, including those in the U.S., don't realize that the Korean War never ended, and that its legacy lives on in



On the cover:  
A scene from  
the new  
documentary  
film *Crossings*  
by filmmaker  
Deann Borshay  
Liem about  
our 2015 DMZ  
crossing calling  
for peace.  
Photo by  
Niana Liu

the continued separation of families, open enmity, and in the dangerous arms race that threatens all of humanity.

The key parties to the Korean War — the United States, North Korea, South Korea and China — must set the table for peace talks and replace the ceasefire with a permanent settlement of the Korean War. That's why we commissioned a new report, *From Confrontation to Peacebuilding: U.S.-China Competition and the Korean Peninsula*, that explores how peacebuilding in Korea offers an opportunity for cooperation between Washington and Beijing.

We aim to garner more support for peace and normalizing relations with North Korea by educating the public, building and leading coalitions, and strengthening our grassroots chapters. We plan to organize 100 screenings of *Crossings* by the end of 2023 to mobilize grassroots communities and campus chapters in the work to motivate policymakers to support ending the Korean War. We will continue to work with Congressional Korea peace champions to reintroduce the Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act in spring 2023. Our National Organizer, Elisha Choi, has laid the groundwork to launch several new campus chapters nationwide, including at Boston College, University of California at Santa Cruz, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and Spelman College.

I'm also happy to announce that we recently hired Giboom Park as Women Cross DMZ's new Communications Associate. Giboom is a recent graduate of Northwestern University and a former Women Cross DMZ Feminist Korea Peace Fellow.

Unfortunately, Women Cross DMZ also suffered an enormous loss this year when our beloved comrade Hyun Lee, our National Campaign & Advocacy Strategist, passed away after a long battle with cancer. Hyun made enormous contributions to the cause of Korea peace, and we dedicate this issue to her. (Read more about her in the following pages.)

Peace cannot wait. We know that unless we act, from taking to the streets to lobbying members of Congress and crossing the DMZ ourselves, there will be no durable, lasting peace in Korea. Thank you for supporting Women Cross DMZ and being a part of our movement to realize peace in Korea.

With enduring hope,



**CHRISTINE AHN**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WOMEN CROSS DMZ



# Remembering Hyun Lee

(Sept. 20, 1970  
- March 7, 2022)

This year the Korea peace movement suffered a devastating loss when Hyun Lee, National Campaign & Advocacy Strategist (and former U.S. National Organizer) of Women Cross DMZ and the Korea Peace Now! campaign, passed away after a long battle with cancer. Much more than a colleague, she was also a beloved mentor, teacher, friend and sister to many.

Hyun was a longtime activist and tireless advocate for peace on the Korean Peninsula. She began her career in grassroots community activism in the 1990s in New York City and gradually became more involved in Korea peace and reunification efforts. More recently, she served as U.S. National Organizer and then Campaign Strategist for Women Cross DMZ and our Korea Peace Now! campaign beginning in 2018. Her organizing and advocacy skills were instrumental in building the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network, which now consists of more than a dozen chapters across the country. It was a direct result of this powerful grassroots movement that we saw the first Congressional resolution calling for an end to the Korean War with a peace agreement.

Among Hyun's many gifts were her expertise, insightful analysis, and strategic thinking. She could speak cogently on a range of complex issues, from the necessity of stopping the joint U.S.-South Korea military exercises to the need to lift the ban on U.S. citizens traveling to North Korea. She was equally adept at addressing Members of Congress as she was speaking to grassroots activists, always delivering her message with poise, calm, and passion. She served as a bridge between people, organizations, communities, and movements. Fully bilingual in Korean and English, she successfully strengthened relationships between social movements and policymakers in South Korea and the U.S.

Gone much too soon, Hyun nonetheless sowed seeds of peace and justice that will sprout for generations to come. While she is no longer with us physically, her spirit continues to guide our movement on the long road to peace. We will miss her dearly and will forever carry her in our hearts.





# Our Accomplishments

## Organizing a Korea Peace Strategy Meeting

From May 6-8, Women Cross DMZ organized a Korea Peace National Strategy Meeting to convene key leaders from advocacy, grassroots organizing, humanitarian, and messaging sectors of the U.S.-based Korea peace movement in order to assess the current political reality and develop strategies across these intersecting vantage points. We gathered at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's Pocantico Center — our first in-person meeting since the pandemic — which provided a generous, supportive space to build new relationships and deepen existing ones. We concluded the two-day meeting reinvigorated and clearer about the future direction of our Korea peace movement.

The meeting began with an assessment of our current work for Korea peace, from

H.R.3446, the Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act, to our (so far unsuccessful) efforts to engage the Biden administration and the State Department. We mapped the new grassroots and advocacy networks that have formed in recent years to support our work and assessed the current political moment impacting it, from stalled talks to rising U.S.-China tensions and the election of South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol.

We engaged in a facilitated group process to develop shared goals and theories of change, and after a lengthy discussion arrived at a refined goal for our U.S.-based Korea peace movement: to pressure the United States to remove barriers towards normalizing relations with North Korea. Women Cross DMZ will continue to focus on strategies and tactics that would lower these barriers, such as eliminating sanctions that harm ordinary North Korean lives, halting

Leaders of the Korea peace movement convened for a strategy meeting organized by Women Cross DMZ in May 2022.  
Photo by Constance Faulk

U.S.-South Korea war drills that further provoke North Korea, and lifting the Trump travel ban prohibiting Korean Americans from reuniting with their families in North Korea and preventing people-to-people exchanges such as our 2015 DMZ crossing.

Many participants appreciated learning from one another's expertise and convening in person to build collective strategies and personal relationships.

### **Building the Feminist Peace Initiative**

With our partners MADRE and Grassroots Global Justice Alliance, Women Cross DMZ continued to build the Feminist Peace Initiative (FPI), which seeks to reorient U.S. foreign policy away from militarism and endless wars towards one that prioritizes interdependence, cooperation and justice. Our primary goal is to create a movement-driven U.S. foreign policy, making linkages between domestic and foreign policy and centering the voices and experiences of those most impacted by U.S. wars and militarism.

In November 2021, during the COP26 Glasgow Global Climate Conference, the FPI hosted an online event with grassroots organizers from communities impacted by environmental destruction due to U.S. militarism. They traveled to Scotland to stress the importance of holding accountable the world's greatest single contributor to fossil fuel emissions: the U.S. military.

And this summer, when the United States led 26-nations in RIMPAC, the world's largest maritime exercises as a demonstration of force against China, Women Cross DMZ set out to provide a feminist response to the great power conflict. We partnered with the Institute

*"American and Korean women have been building the political will for peace on the Korean Peninsula. Now, two women in power could do what men before them have failed to do: bring an end to the 72-year old Korean War."*

—GLORIA STEINEM

for Policy Studies' *Foreign Policy In Focus* to organize articles from frontline activists from throughout the Pacific and Asia region, including Christine Ahn's piece on a feminist critique of RIMPAC, WCDMZ board member Ann Wright's piece on NATO and RIMPAC, Joy Enomoto and Kim Compoc on Hawai'i, Kenneth Kuper from Guam, Sung-hee Choi from South Korea and Jeju Island, Youkyung Ko on the U.S.-China rivalry on South Korea's arms race, Kozue Akiyabayashi and Suzuyo Takazato from Okinawa and Japan, and Sarah Raymundo from the Philippines. These pieces provide critical on-the-ground perspectives on the impact of the U.S.-China rivalry on the region. We culminated the series in early August with a panel discussion featuring many of the authors moderated by Colleen Moore with Washington, DC-based advocates working on U.S.-China policy.

This fall/winter, we will hold a series of strategic roundtables to connect the concerns of U.S. communities with peace and justice movements in the various countries impacted by U.S. militarism, and continue to promote analysis linking domestic conditions with U.S. foreign policies.

## Engaging the State Department

This year Women Cross DMZ continued to engage the State Department on key issues impacting peace on the Korean Peninsula. In March, we sent a letter signed by 100 women leaders to U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and North Korea's First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Son-hui urging them to set the stage for a diplomatic solution. The letter from Nobel Peace Laureates, parliamentarians, prominent feminist activists and scholars, writers, humanitarian aid workers, and an ambassador for gender equality reminded the two highest-ranking women diplomats in their respective countries that they are in a unique position to represent the interests of women, particularly the gendered impacts of the ongoing war in the form of sanctions and divided families. "American and Korean women have been building the political will for peace on the Korean Peninsula," said Gloria Steinem. "Now, two women in power could do what men before them have failed to do: bring an end to the 72-year old Korean War."

Last September, following the State Department's decision to extend the 2017 Trump ban on U.S. citizens traveling to North Korea, Women Cross DMZ had organized another letter urging Secretary of State Antony Blinken to make modifications to the ban while working to sunset it. The signatories, which included Governor Bill Richardson, Amnesty International's North Korea country expert Jack Rendler, and several members from separated families, wrote, "As those who have traveled to North Korea for humanitarian activities, family reunions, the repatriation of U.S. service member remains, and peace and reconciliation initiatives, we understand the importance

and urgency of continuing people-to-people engagement in North Korea, especially as tensions mount on the Korean Peninsula." From 2000 to 2017, approximately 6,000 Korean Americans traveled to North Korea, many seeking to reunite with family members. Although President Biden pledged to reunite "Korean Americans separated from loved ones in North Korea," his administration continues draconian policies intended to keep families apart. We will continue to pressure the State Department to lift the travel ban, which would go a long way to supporting family reunions, resuming urgently needed humanitarian aid, and enabling people-to-people engagement that is fundamental to building trust and understanding between the peoples of two nations at war.

## Protest the U.S.-R.O.K. War Drills

This past spring we partnered with Korea Peace Network, Veterans for Peace, and South Korean civil society organizations to call for suspending the U.S.-R.O.K. military exercises and decreasing military tensions on the Korean Peninsula. More than 350 U.S., South Korean, and international civil society groups endorsed our statement to demand the suspension of these costly and highly provocative military exercises, which would be a crucial step toward restarting genuine diplomacy with North Korea.

Various rallies were held with the support of the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network to oppose the war drills. On April 10 the Washington DC Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Chapter held a rally in front of the White House, and on April 23 the New York/New Jersey Chapter participated in a rally and symbolic human chain connecting the two Koreas' UN Missions in New York.



Members of Women Cross DMZ, Veterans for Peace, and Nodutdol attended the Wall of Remembrance Dedication Ceremony at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation in Washington, DC, on July 27, 2022.

In August, the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network and Peace Treaty Now held a joint selfie campaign and collected 193 selfies. These photos were sent to the South Korean Committee for Implementation of the June 15 Joint Declaration to support their August 15 Independence Day rally opposing U.S.-R.O.K. joint war drills.

### **Korea Peace Advocacy**

Throughout the year we focused on advocacy for H.R.3446, the Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act, which calls for a binding peace agreement to formally end the Korean War, negotiations to establish liaison offices in each country's capital, and a review of the travel restrictions to North Korea. Approaching the end of the 117th Congress (2021-2022), H.R.3446 has 45 co-sponsors, including Rep. Brad Sherman (who introduced the bill), House Foreign Affairs Committee members, Korean Americans, and progressive and moderate Democrats, including Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV), Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rep. Sara Jacobs (D-CA), Rep. Andy Kim (D-NJ), and Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-WA),

plus one Republican, Rep. Andy Biggs (R-AZ). This growing bipartisan consensus for peace is mainly due to the collective work of a coalition of national peace and justice organizations and a large network of grassroots activists.

In June 2022, Women Cross DMZ collaborated with the Korea Peace Network, Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network, and Peace Treaty Now to organize “Korea Peace Advocacy Week” for nationally coordinated online advocacy. More than 100 people from 24 states participated and met virtually with 80 Congressional offices to advocate for a formal end to the Korean War, the reunification of separated families, and humanitarian assistance to North Korea. As a result of this work, Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA), Rep. Adriano Espaillat (D-NY), and Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) co-sponsored H.R.3446; Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) co-sponsored the Enhancing North Korea Humanitarian Assistance Act (H.R.1504/S.690); and Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA) co-sponsored the Korean War Divided Families Reunification Act (S.2688).

We continue to deepen Congressional engagement by cultivating Korea Peace Champions. For example, 15 members of Congress signed on to a letter from Rep. Brad Sherman to the Subcommittee for Defense in the House Committee on Appropriations to support a request to include language in the FY23 Defense Appropriations Bill to prohibit making funds available to be used to engage militarily with North Korea without the prior approval of Congress or in response to an armed attack against the U.S. Rep. Chuy Garcia (D-IL) tweeted on July 27 calling for a formal end to the Korean War. We also featured Congressman Andy Kim in a video of Korea peace supporters calling for a peace agreement.





### July 27 Armistice Anniversary Activities

July 27 marked the 69th anniversary of the signing of the armistice that suspended — but did not permanently end — the Korean War. To call attention to the ongoing consequences of this unended war, we traveled to Washington, DC, for the Wall of Remembrance Dedication Ceremony hosted by the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation. After the ceremony, which was attended by thousands of U.S. military families and friends, members of Women Cross DMZ, Veterans for Peace, the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network, and Nodutdol held a vigil and spoke with members of the public about the need for the Biden administration to pursue diplomacy with North Korea and officially end the Korean War by replacing the armistice with a peace agreement.

That evening we held a screening of *Crossings* followed by a moderated discussion at Busboys and Poets. Dozens of people attended, eager to learn about the continued division of the Korean Peninsula and how we are collectively

mobilizing for an end to the Korean War. Participants left with a heavy sense of moral responsibility to bring peace and security to both Koreans and Americans by advocating for a closure to the oldest U.S. war.

### Korea Peace Now! Campus Network

In recent months, we've seen a surge of interest and participation among high school and college students in our Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network. To capture this new hope and energy, and to cultivate the next generation of Korea peace activists, we're launching the Korea Peace Now! Campus Network this fall. To start, we will pilot the program at the following schools where students have shown interest: Spelman College (Georgia), University of California at Santa Cruz, Boston College (Massachusetts), University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and Dartmouth (New Hampshire). We've spent the last several months planning and preparing for the launch, including creating a new page on the Korea Peace Now! website

Attendees of a screening of *Crossings* held at Linksbridge in Seattle in April 2022.



*Crossings* filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem, Maya Soetoro of the Matsunaga Institute, Women Cross DMZ's Christine Ahn and her daughter, Jeju, attend the world premiere of *Crossings* at the Hawai'i International Film Festival in November 2021.

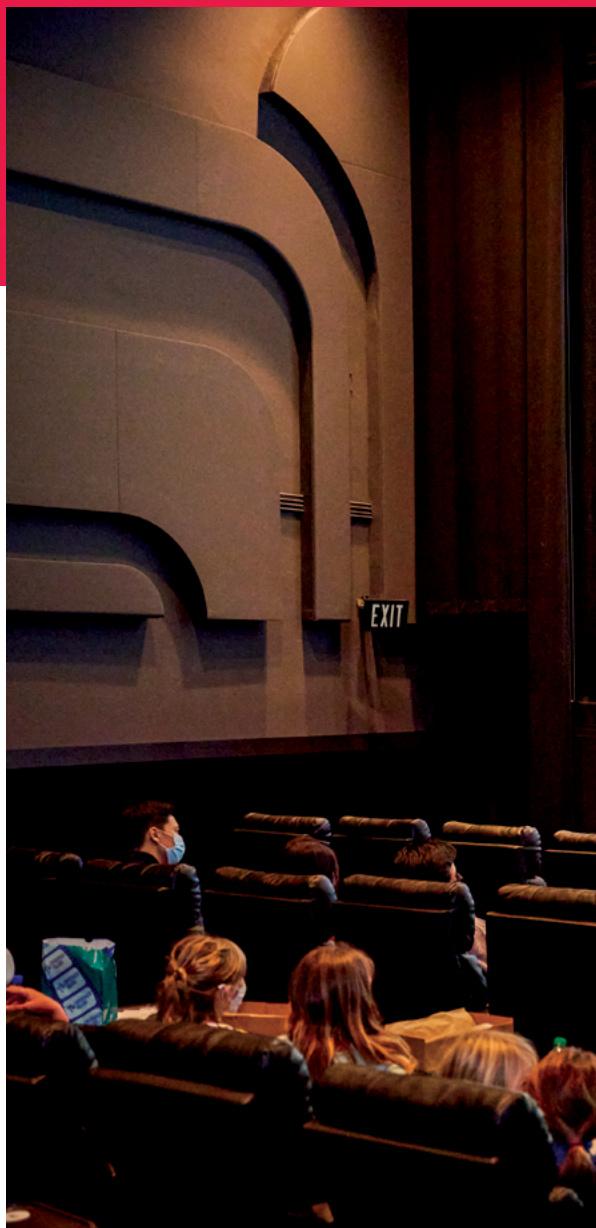
Photo by  
Brandon Liu

(<https://koreapeacenow.org/campus-network/>) with ample resources for students who want to start a chapter at their institution and join our movement to educate, organize, and advocate for an official end to the Korean War and the signing of a peace agreement.

### Organizing Screenings of *Crossings*

In November 2021, the new documentary film *Crossings* by Emmy-award winning filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem premiered at the Hawai'i International Film Festival. *Crossings* documents our historic journey across the demilitarized zone in 2015 from North Korea to South Korea to call for an end to the 70-year war that has divided the Korean Peninsula and its people.

Since then, *Crossings* has been featured in multiple film festivals, including the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival, Washington, DC Asian American Film Festival, New York City Asian American International Film Festival, DMZ Peace Forum in Imjingak near the DMZ, Boston Asian American Film Festival, and at the



United Nations Association Film Festival in Palo Alto. We've organized community screenings at Linksbridge in Seattle, Sié Film Center in Denver, Robinson S.P.A.C.E. with GYOPO in Los Angeles, Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and virtual screenings with hundreds more from the Korea Peace Now! Grassroots Network, Veterans for Peace, and the Presbyterian Church. We've also screened clips to the Ploughshares Fund community and at the Los Angeles Korean American Musicians





*Crossings* filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem, Women Cross DMZ's Christine Ahn, and Women Cross DMZ Board Member Ann Wright speak to the audience during a Q&A following the screening at the Hawai'i International Film Festival in November 2021.  
Photo by Brandon Liu

Association symphony concert at Walt Disney Concert Hall. There is never a dry eye in the audience, and the overwhelming response is, "What can we do to get involved?"

Thanks to our donors, Women Cross DMZ and Mu Films raised \$100,000 to screen *Crossings* 100 times by the end of 2023, which will mark the 70th anniversary of the Armistice Agreement. We will screen it to grassroots communities, on college campuses, and to

policymakers. *Crossings* is a powerful tool to educate these audiences on the history of the unresolved Korean War, the role of women in forging peace, and the responsibility of the U.S. to negotiate a peace agreement with North Korea. As *Forbes Magazine* put it, "*Crossings* is an inspiring film about activism — in which a group of women set out to accomplish a seemingly impossible mission and, despite serious obstacles and setbacks, succeeds in making an important statement."

# What People Are Saying About Women Cross DMZ

“As a member of Congress, I will continue pushing for a formal end to the Korean War. I will also continue working to ensure that the negotiating table always includes women, and that women’s voices are not only heard, but are put into action. I truly believe that without women meaningfully involved in the process of making peace, that we cannot achieve a lasting and durable peace on the Korean Peninsula, and I look forward to continuing to work alongside all of you to achieve this goal.”

— Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)



“Women Cross DMZ is doing such important work to bring a formal end to the Korean War. As a physician who is from a divided family, I am profoundly moved and inspired by their dedication and activism, which I believe will bring us one step closer to helping Korean families heal and reunite.”

— Dr. Seung Choi, President, LAKMA



“I wholeheartedly support your efforts to lift the travel ban and to quickly facilitate reunions of long-divided families. I look forward to being an active partner in all these efforts.”

— Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-WA)



“Women Cross DMZ is a deeply needed model of a internationalist, feminist organization, led by Korean diaspora women mobilizing the grassroots to reshape U.S. foreign policy away from militarism and forever wars. Imagine if there were Women Cross DMZs for every war that the U.S. has been waging — we would have a different United States and world.”

— Yifat Susskind, Executive Director, MADRE





"Five years ago, congressional advocacy on Korea peace issues simply did not exist. Now, there is a thriving coalition of groups who legislatively promote ending the war, reuniting divided families, and using diplomacy to roll back the North Korean nuclear weapons program. Women Cross DMZ helped build this robust activist infrastructure, which is now in place to address future moments of crisis and possibility. The organization's comprehensive approach to North Korea has already influenced the policy conversation in Washington and it continues to have an impact worldwide. Ploughshares Fund is proud to support Women Cross DMZ, a leader in the international movement to bring peace and security to the Korean peninsula."

— John Carl Baker, Nuclear Field Coordinator and Senior Program Officer, Ploughshares Fund



"Women Cross DMZ understands that peace on the Korean Peninsula will best be accomplished through collaboration between a wide spectrum of missions with interests in the region. One of the leadership's gifts is an ability to bring these diverse missions together in pursuit of the one goal that will allow them all to move forward. Peace."

— Rick Downes, President, Coalition of Families of Korean & Cold War POW/MIAs



"I am so proud to support Women Cross DMZ because I know that it is only through women's peacebuilding efforts that we will be able to move beyond the patriarchal, militarized approach to solving conflicts. There is so much documentation and evidence that when women are active participants in policy and decision making, the results are so much better. Women Cross DMZ has brought together powerful, committed women who will find better solutions and bring us to a better world."

— Cynda Collins Arsenault, Founder, Our Secure Future - Women Make the Difference



## Events We Participated In

- 10.15.21 **"History of the North Korea Nuclear Crisis,"** hosted by World Beyond War
- 11.13.21 **Crossings** world premiere at Consolidated Theatres Kahala, hosted by the Hawai'i International Film Festival (Honolulu, HI)
- 11.15.21 **Film For Thought Program** presented by the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities, hosted by the Hawai'i International Film Festival
- 11.20.21 **"Korea Peace and Grassroots Public Diplomacy,"** hosted by the Peaceful Unification Advisory Council Boston Chapter
- 12.7.21 **DC Progressive Foreign Policy Happy Hour** (Washington, DC)
- 12.9.21 **"Peace and Human Rights in North Korea: An Argument for Ending the War,"** hosted by Women Cross DMZ and Korea Peace Now!
- 12.13.21 **"How a Peace-First Approach Can Resolve the Security Crisis on the Korean Peninsula"** (Australian launch of the 'Path to Peace' report), hosted by the University of Melbourne's Initiative for Peacebuilding, in collaboration with the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies
- 1.12.22 **"Understanding Peace Prospects with Korea: A Korean Peace Treaty Is Key to a Nuclear Free Northeast Asia,"** hosted by Upper Hudson Peace Action
- 4.8.22 **Crossings** screening and conversation with Jane Barry, Deann Borshay Liem and Christine Ahn. Linksbridge, Seattle, WA
- 4.15.22 **Spelman-GW East Asia Virtual Professional Development Program**



- 4.23.22 **Human Chain to Unite 2 Koreas,** hosted by the 6.15 NY Committee for Reunification of Korea (New York City)
- 4.26.22 **"LIFTing Voices for Peace: Korean American Authors on the Un-Ended Korean War,"** hosted by the LIFT (Let Individuals Freely Travel) campaign
- 5.2.22 **"Unmute Yourself: Peace on the Korean Peninsula,"** hosted by the Ploughshares Fund
- 5.3.22 **"Peace in Media: Peacebuilding cross the DMZ | PeB Theme Week,"** hosted by Pax et Bellum, Sweden
- 5.10.22 **Crossings** screening at the Japanese American Museum, hosted by the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival (Los Angeles, CA)



6.13.22 **"Conflict Transformation and the Role of Women," Diplomatic Training of the German Federal Foreign Office conference on "Sustainable Peacebuilding"**

7.20.22 **"How We Get to Peace on the Korean Peninsula," hosted by the Veterans for Peace New York Chapter**

7.27.22 **Wall of Remembrance Dedication Ceremony, hosted by the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation (Washington, DC)**

7.27.22 **Crossings screening at Busboys and Poets, hosted by Women Cross DMZ and Korea Peace Now! (Washington, DC)**

8.2.22 **"New Visions for the Pacific" roundtable discussion hosted by the Feminist Peace Initiative**

Women Cross DMZ Board Chair Aiyoung Choi attends "Human Chain to Unite 2 Koreas," hosted by the 6.15 NY Committee for Reunification of Korea in New York City on April 23, 2022.

8.4.22 **Crossings screening at the Asia Society, hosted by the Asian American International Film Festival, New York City**

8.6.22 **"Peace Concert: Unified in Friendship and Harmony" at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, hosted by LAKMA (Los Angeles Korean-American Musicians' Association) (Los Angeles, CA)**

8.7.22 **Crossings screening at Robinson S.P.A.C.E., hosted by GYOPO and Women Cross DMZ (Los Angeles, CA)**

10.1-2.22 **Crossings screening at the DMZ Film Festival (Imjingak, Korea)**

10.4.22 **Crossings screening at CineQ (Seoul, Korea)**

10.4.22 **"Building Peace and Human Rights on the Korean Peninsula and Overseas Networking," 2022 DMZ International Peace Conference, at the Cheorwon Border Peace School, hosted by Gangwon University Unification Institute, Sungkonghoe University Human Rights Institution, Hanshin University Global Peace Center, Asia & Pacific Alliance of YMCAs, The National Council of YMCAs of Korea, The National YWCA of Korea, Korean Women's Movement for Peace (Cheorwon, Korea)**

10.5.22 **"International Understanding and Cooperation for Human Rights and Peace Building on the Korean Peninsula" 2022 DMZ International Peace Conference (Cheorwon, Korea)**

10.6.22 **Crossings screening at Catholic University of America, hosted by the Catholic Korea Peace Forum (Washington, DC)**

## Media Coverage of Our Work

**Al Jazeera****Blowback****Cape Breton Spectator****The Chicago Tribune****Common Dreams****Counterpunch****Flux****Forbes****Foreign Policy in Focus****Hankyoreh****Hawai'i Public Radio****The Hill****The Intercept****KCSB****KOFICE****Korean Quarterly****KPFA Radio****Ms. Magazine****The Moveable Fest****Multipolarista****The Nation****The New York Times****Newsweek****NK News****Press the Button****Responsible Statecraft****Reuters****Yonhap**

“The U.S. military-first approach to foreign policy has direct implications for people living in the U.S... Militarism and endless wars not only destabilize other countries but directly rob our communities of the resources we desperately need to live healthy, secure lives.”

— Christine Ahn quoted in  
*Ms. Magazine*, October 7, 2021

“The Biden administration’s new war plans to counter North Korea and ramping up maximum economic pressure on North Korea are counterproductive to the goal of building peace.”

— Colleen Moore op-ed in  
*Common Dreams*, January 5, 2022

“To counter the threats to peace and gender equality under a Yoon presidency, South Korea will need the active participation of women. Feminists are powerful agents for peace and democracy. Yoon, and South Korea’s democratic allies in the West, cannot afford to dismiss them.”

— Christine Ahn op-ed in  
*Newsweek*, March 11, 2022

“Regional cooperation — including with China — will be key to achieving denuclearization. A critical area of cooperation could be replacing the cease-fire with a peace agreement that formally ends the Korean War. Many experts agree that the war’s unresolved status has been the main obstacle to restoring peace in the region.”

— Christine Ahn letter to the editor in  
*The New York Times*, March 18, 2022



## Our Financial Health

### REVENUES

In the fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022), our revenues totalled \$698,513, while our expenses were \$633,607.

We raised \$643,201 from 16 institutional donors/foundations and 175 from individuals who gave between \$5 and \$15,000. Forty-five individuals made donations to both the Korea Peace Now! campaign and our Crossings Impact Campaign; together, with Mu Films, we raised \$100,000.

This fiscal year ended with a healthy \$386,000 balance, leaving us on a good footing to pursue our goals into FY 2023.

Among our leading Institutional Supporters in the fiscal year were:

<b>Ploughshares Fund</b>	\$ 60,000
<b>The Compton Foundation</b>	\$ 75,000
<b>The Channel Foundation</b>	\$ 50,000 (first of a three-year commitment)
<b>Open Societies Foundation</b>	\$100,000
<b>The Jubitz Family Foundation</b>	\$ 7,500
<b>Stewart Mott Foundation</b>	\$ 20,000
<b>Starry Night Fund</b>	\$ 55,000
<b>The Rockefeller Brothers Fund</b>	\$120,000 (for the Feminist Peace Policy and to support a Korea Peace Now! Strategy Meeting)

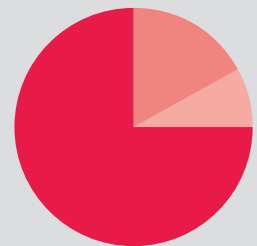
We continue to receive foundation support and more individual donations, including many donors who generously gave to the Crossings Impact Campaign. Increased in-kind donations reflected generous pro bono counsel from the law firm Steptoe & Johnson and IT/security support from Tiny Gigantic.

### EXPENSES

Eighty-eight percent of our budget directly supports our education, advocacy and organizing work, with the majority of this amount committed to wage and consulting fees. Becoming an independent 501c3 organization this year led to an increase in administrative expenses, including for financial and tax reporting, and insurance coverage for the Executive Director and Board of Directors.

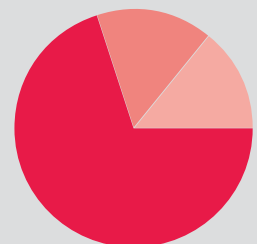
As we emerge from the pandemic, our work has become increasingly hybrid. While most of our activities are still virtual, we have begun to hold in-person gatherings again. As noted previously in this report, we had a broad-based in-person strategy meeting, in-person rallies, and showings of *Crossings*.

### REVENUES



- **75%** Foundations
- **17%** Individuals
- **8%** Speaking Fees

### EXPENSES



- **70%** Wages & Consulting Fees
- **16%** Education & Advocacy
- **14%** Administrative Costs

*\*Grant numbers reflect the total award, before fiscal sponsorship fees are subtracted. Numbers shown for total revenues reflect amounts available to WCDMZ, after fees are subtracted.*

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## The Road Ahead



### In the coming year, Women Cross DMZ will continue to:

We're broadening our Korea peace movement to urge more support for removing barriers toward normalized U.S. relations with North Korea.

Photo by  
Constance Faulk

- Garner more U.S. government support in Congress and within the Biden administration for peace and normalizing relations with North Korea. We will continue to educate the public, lead and build coalitions, direct national advocacy work, and mobilize our grassroots chapters. We will work with Korea Peace Champions in Congress to reintroduce the Peace on the Korean Peninsula Act in Spring 2023.
- Produce cutting-edge analysis building the case for Korea peace. In Fall 2022 we will publish *From Confrontation to Peacebuilding: U.S.-China Competition and the Korean Peninsula*, a new report that explores how the great power competition threatens prospects for peace in Korea, and conversely, how peacebuilding in Korea offers an opportunity for cooperation between Washington and Beijing.
- Cultivate the next generation of activists to become Korea Peace Champions by establishing Korea Peace Now! campus chapters in colleges and universities, including at Boston College, University of California at Santa Cruz, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Spelman College, and more.
- Organize 100 screenings by December 2023 of the new documentary film *Crossings* to grassroots communities, on college campuses, and to policymakers as an educational and organizing tool to grow our movement and encourage people to take action to end the Korean War.
- Lead an international delegation of women leaders on a De-militarization Tour to South Korea in 2023 on the 70th anniversary of the Armistice Agreement — a deal that halted active fighting but did not end the Korean War. We will travel to the DMZ and other militarized sites to hear from women about the impact of the ongoing 70-year-old war on their daily lives, and about their vision of a genuinely de-militarized Korea, region and world.