



Center for Action
and Contemplation

2015 Annual Report

A note from Richard Rohr...

Almost thirty years ago, I founded the **Center for Action and Contemplation**, hoping to meet a need I witnessed while working with activists. Too many people I knew were burning out and becoming disillusioned, or their activism was motivated by a sense of superiority and self-righteousness.

The little word “and” is the most important part of our name. Both contemplative practice *and* compassionate action are essential. Without action, our spirituality is lifeless and bears no authentic fruit. Without contemplation, all our doing comes from ego—even if it looks selfless—and can cause more harm than good. External behavior must be connected to and supported by inner guidance.

Over the years, the CAC has grown to reach hundreds of thousands around the world with transformative messages that flow from the Christian contemplative tradition. We hope these teachings affirm sacred intuitions and invite others to rediscover their True Self. I’m humbled and honored to be part of this movement that seems to grow organically, in spite of our small and imperfect efforts.

In 2015, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and underwent a complete prostatectomy. It was another opportunity to surrender into the Love that is larger than me. Even so, I’m grateful that it appears I have more time to be a conduit for Love on earth, to keep sharing, as best I can, whatever God asks of me.

Thank you for participating in and supporting this work with your prayers, your donations, and your presence. We couldn’t do it without you!

Peace and Every Good,

Fr. Richard Rohr, O.F.M.



The CAC teaches contemplative ways of knowing—grounded in the Christian mystical tradition—that nurture compassionate and peaceful action in the world.



In 2015, the CAC lived out this mission through our educational programs, resources, and events. . . .

The Living School for Action and Contemplation is . . .

1 of-a-kind, with a single aim—the transformation of human consciousness that calls forth acts of compassion.

The program offers...



2 years of intentional study and practice in the Christian contemplative tradition.



Students from around the world study with...

3 core faculty members.

Richard Rohr, Cynthia Bourgeault, and James Finley—some of the most respected spiritual teachers of our time—engage with students online and also in-person at annual symposia in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Staff and students, along with guest teachers, create a rich, diverse environment for shared learning.



169

students completed the first Living School program in September 2015.

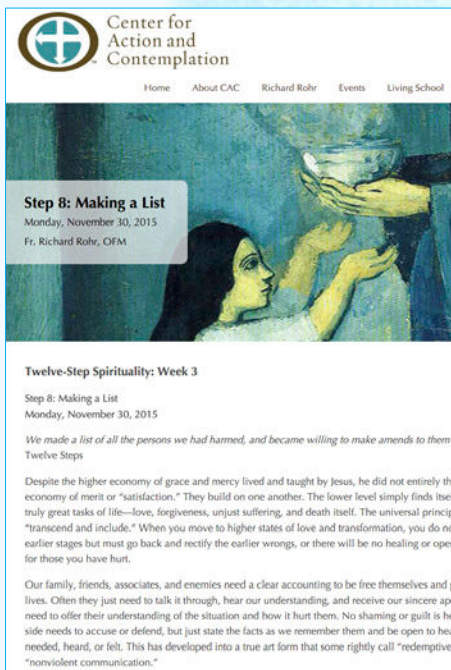
199

students (out of 588 applicants) have been accepted to the 2018 Living School cohort.

“The past two years of the Living School have been life-altering. I have been introduced to a God that is bigger than Christianity and more loving than imaginable; a Cosmic Christ that is universal; and an awareness of self and others that has affected my everyday living. I have a new understanding of and appreciation for other religions, recognizing that Christianity does not have the only answers. I have had the opportunity to learn firsthand from people who are the best in their fields. I have met people from so many walks of life and have formed relationships that I am sure will continue to impact me for the rest of my life. Thank you for the awakening.” —Living School alumnus, 2015 cohort

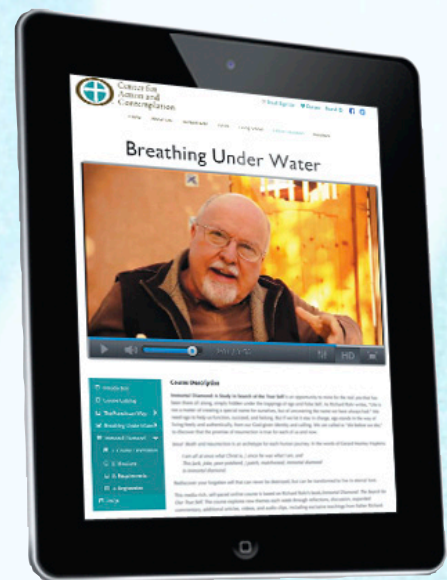
150,000

people worldwide received CAC's free emails, 365 days of the year.



"I am deeply grateful to Richard Rohr for sharing his insights through his Daily Meditations. His efforts to combine elements of science, history, and theology appeals to my intellect and logic as a healthcare professional. Most importantly, though, the meditations appeal to my heart and compassion. They are simultaneously affirming and challenging; my spiritual growth has been deeply supported by these meditations." —Reader, social media community member, and donor

The Daily Meditations in 2015 explored Fr. Richard's lineage—the teachers, texts, and traditions that have formed his spirituality.



3,025

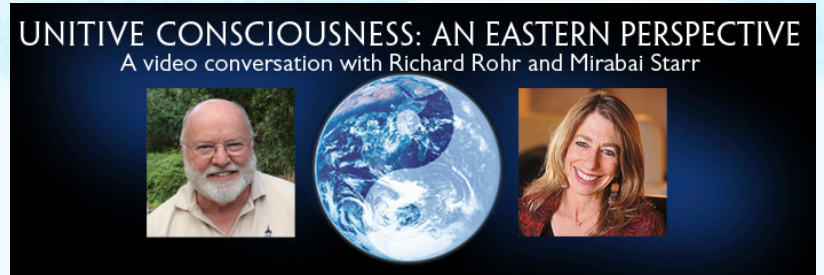
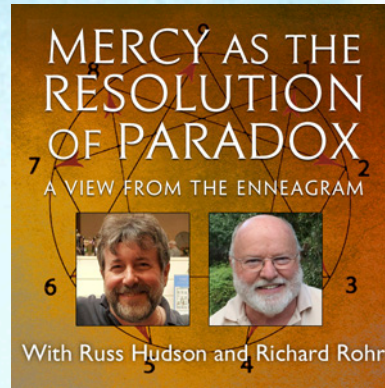
people participated in CAC's 3 self-paced, online courses.

Each course helps integrate Fr. Richard's teachings—his books *Breathing Under Water* and *Immortal Diamond* and exclusive videos on the Franciscan Way—into students' day-to-day lives through study, contemplative practice, and discussion.

3

topical webcasts reached over 5,500 people around the world.

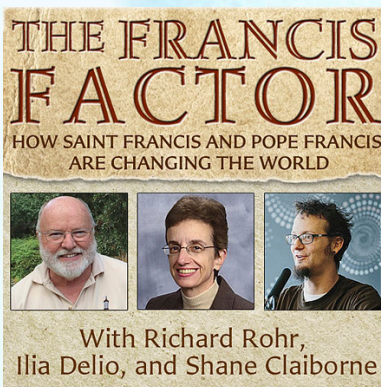
Fr. Richard, Mirabai Starr, and Russ Hudson spoke from their hearts in an intimate setting during CAC's evening webcasts. Those who couldn't view the live events watched later, at their convenience.



7

annual CONSPIRE conferences explore themes of an alternative orthodoxy.

CONSPIRE 2015: One Reality, the 3rd conference in the series, featured Richard Rohr, Simone Campbell, Chris and Phileena Heuertz, Timothy Shriver, and Mirabai Starr.



In 2015 over

1,000

people also gathered in New Mexico for *The Francis Factor: How St. Francis and Pope Francis are changing the world*, a conference with Richard Rohr, Ilia Delio, and Shane Claiborne. Another 1,000 individuals joined *The Francis Factor* via live webcast.

100s

of titles by Richard Rohr and other teachers are available at store.cac.org.

CAC's bookstore offers books, audio and video recordings, and our bi-annual spiritual-literary journal, *Oneing*. Many of these resources are not available anywhere else.

The generosity of our donors supports everything at CAC!

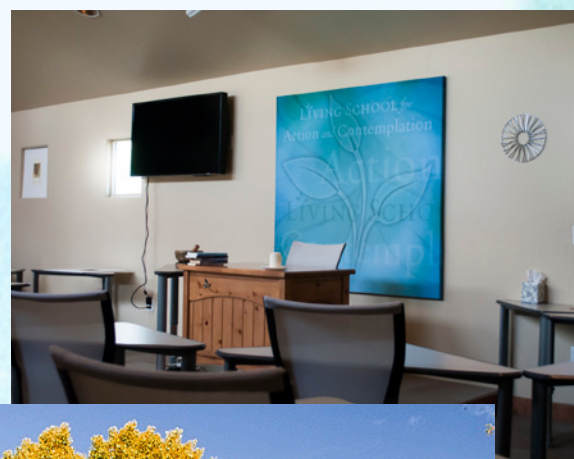
12,363

donors made 21,249 donations in 2015, making it possible for CAC to offer flexible rates for topical webcasts and free Daily Meditation emails. Donations allowed us to invest in better technology and develop a beautiful new website.

Donations also funded . . .

\$49,900

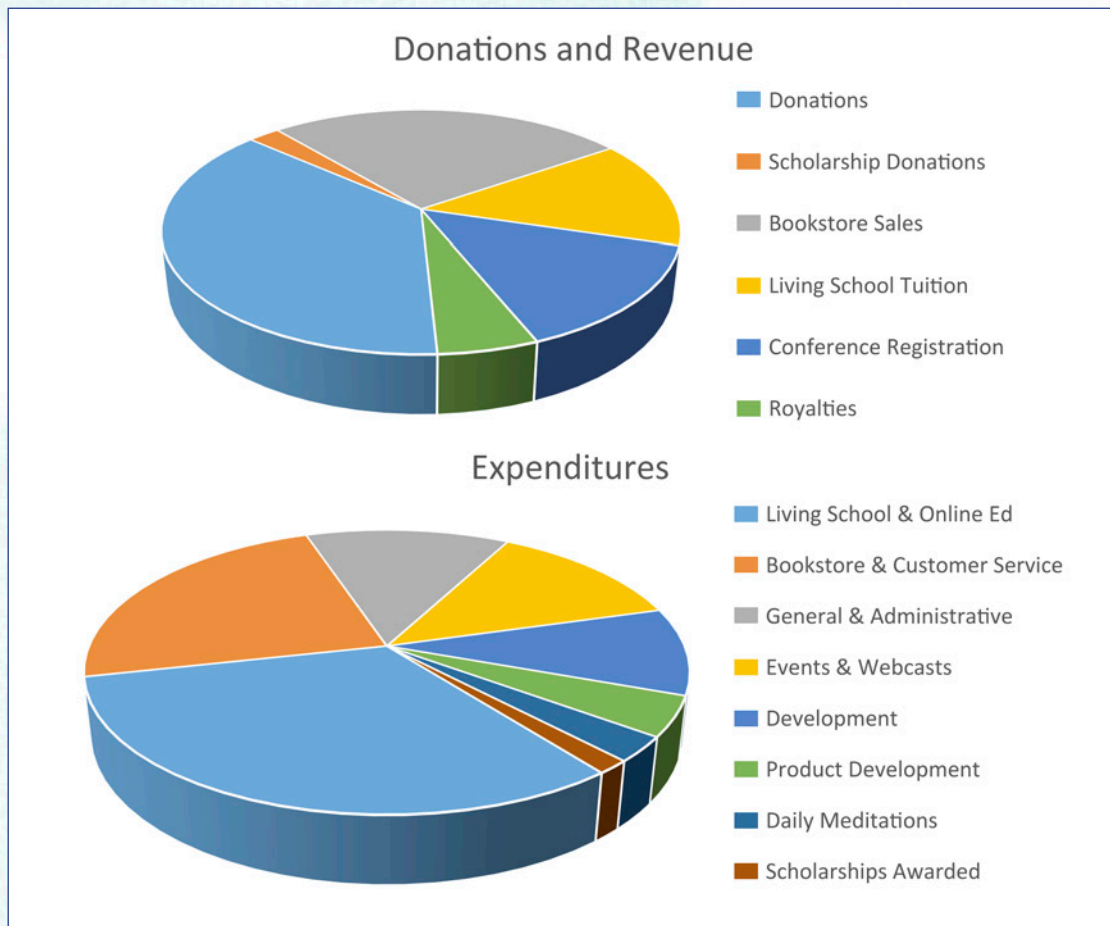
in scholarships, awarded to participants in the Living School, conferences, and online courses.



Financial Report

2015 Statement of Activities

The CAC Board and staff appreciate the generosity shown by Fr. Richard, the Franciscans, and CAC supporters. We take our responsibility for being good stewards of these resources most seriously. As part of our Franciscan heritage, we strive for a spirit of simplicity and humility in everything we do. At the same time, we believe that building a healthy operating reserve is essential to allow for unanticipated events that impact operations, and to allow the organization to invest in new major programs. More information about the CAC's financial management practices is available upon request (email development@cac.org).



CAC 2015 Financial Highlights

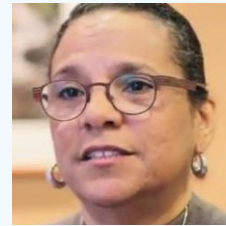
Unaudited

Donations and Revenue			Expenditures		
37%	Donations	1,665,400	32%	Living School & Online Ed	1,035,200
2%	Scholarship Donations	105,000	23%	Bookstore & Customer Service	751,500
26%	Bookstore Sales	1,180,200	13%	General & Administrative	417,700
14%	Living School Tuition	640,300	13%	Events & Webcasts	412,100
14%	Conference Registration	630,900	10%	Development	320,100
5%	Royalties	236,500	5%	Product Development	146,100
	Total Support and Revenue	\$4,458,300	3%	Daily Meditations	91,900
			2%	Scholarships Awarded	49,900
				Total Expenditures	\$3,224,500

9

exceptional members on CAC's Board of Directors

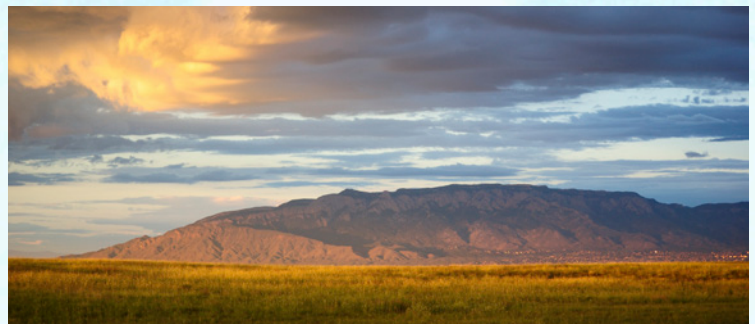
Phil Robers, Chair
Richard Rohr, Vice Chair
Phileena Heuertz, Secretary
John Willome, Treasurer
LaVera Crawley
Jeannette Esposito
Damien Faughnan
Christopher Ferebee
Ben Keesey



A special thanks to . . .

outgoing Board members

Richard Barlow
Mark Cavanaugh

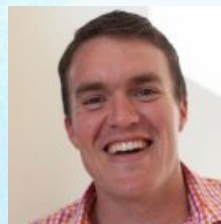


2

3

committed staff leaders on CAC's Executive Team

Michael Poffenberger, Executive Director
Corinne Carmony, Director of Finance and Operations
Tom Eberle, Director of Education



Looking Ahead

The Center for Action and Contemplation has been blessed to share Richard Rohr's teaching for almost 30 years. As we imagine what lies ahead, Fr. Richard, CAC staff, and Board are discerning how CAC can best continue stewarding Fr. Richard's legacy beyond his lifetime. Stay connected—through CAC's emails, newsletter, and social media—and watch for updates as our future evolves.



Center for
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Contemplation

cac.org

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