

CRITICAL RESISTANCE



The Impact of The Zachary Project

"The Zachary Project fund has enabled me to complete the last step in order for me to stay in this country with the right documentation. After a 10 year immigration struggle, and much hardship due to it, I am able to stay in this country with my partner and family, and will not face a high risk of deportation, and therefore family separation."

"I reached out to The Zachary Project at a time when my relationship with an intimate partner spiraled and became extremely abusive-- physically, mentally, and emotionally. At the time I was financially tied to this partner and forced to live in the same location as them. The Zachary Project funds enabled me to part for part of the moving expenses that included paying off utilities and medical bills."

"Zachary's spirit still provides nourishment and protection for those in need, and can be felt through this solidarity, compassion and care. His legacy provides relief to people who have had disenfranchisement and financial wars waged upon them. I benefited personally from The Zachary Project in the area of mental health; the fund made sure that I can cover therapy sessions over a 4-month period."

Dear friends and supporters,

You are all in our hearts and on our minds today as we raise up Zachary Ontiveros' spirit following his birthday, January 26. In commemoration of Zachary's contributions to Critical Resistance and in honor of the Salazar family who seeded [The Zachary Project](#) in 2015, we're writing to share an update on The Zachary Project and to imbue this community that has come together in his name with strength, hope and comraderie.



The uncertainties of the current political climate are also being felt personally by many, and in these difficult times, many of us have been called to support our loved ones and communities with the conviction that our lives are worth defending, fighting for and investing in. Through The Zachary Project, Critical Resistance-Oakland carries on Zachary's spirit by providing mutual aid for CR members and close allies in times of crisis. The Zachary Project allows us to meet pressing needs, inspires us to support one another, and builds up the skills, relationships and practices that we need for our abolitionist future, today.

The fund gives us hope and fortitude. Since 2015, you have helped raise \$5,520 for The Zachary Project. There is currently \$3,350 in the fund as we begin 2017; we have distributed \$2,170 since it began. With the support of The Zachary Project, members of our community have been able to access mental health resources in critically urgent times, have support for housing and healthcare post-eviction, leave a violent relationship and housing situation, and meet pressing immigration deadlines. For people receiving the funds and their loved ones supporting them, we've heard overwhelming relief, hope and appreciation.

Thank you all for helping build this community resource and practice of mutual aid. As donors, recipients, and CR members, we truly hope that you will help us replenish The Zachary Project and build roots for this resource to grow. The Zachary Project is making a difference, having an impact and we hope that you will help us nurture it this year. Please consider making a donation at whatever level you are able (instructions below) and share this communication with friends, loved ones and networks and invite them to join you. In Zachary's honor, we look forward to a year filled with hope, laughter, struggle, and resistance.

Onward, together. ¡ Zachary, Presente!

Jess Heaney, Development Director
on behalf of Critical Resistance- Oakland

Make a gift to the Zachary Project:

You can donate to *The Zachary Project* online at www.criticalresistance.org. [Click the yellow DONATE NOW button](#). Under *Program Designation*, select "The Zachary Project."

You may also send a check (payable to Critical Resistance) to
The Zachary Project, c/o Critical Resistance
1904 Franklin St, Ste 504
Oakland, CA 94612

"As we take hard steps on the path ahead, we can keep him present by remembering and carrying forward the important work he took up, and the humble and generous style in which he did it. We can remember to reach out to one another, build resilience, and take extra special care. In small ways and large, this world is hard, but it is also so beautiful. It is worth fighting for—we are each worth fighting for."

- Isaac Ontiveros, from "Remembering Zachary Ontiveros," [The Abolitionist](#) Issue 24.



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