

# FAN Spring Highlights 2010

## INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS CALL FOR LEGISLATION THAT

### CARES FOR CREATION

In April, Pennsylvania Senators Bob Casey and Arlen Specter received letters from the Bernardine Franciscan Sisters, the Felician Sisters, and several Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia urging them to support Franciscan values in climate change legislation. Srs. Corinne Wright, OSF and Miriam Eileen Murray, OSF also signed a letter to the editor which was published in the Delaware County Times.

Individual members of FAN asked their Senators to “caulk for creation” through Home Star legislation, which would reduce energy waste and greenhouse gas emissions in most American homes by 20% to 40% and lead to an estimated 168,000 construction and manufacturing jobs. Members in key states also protected Brother Wind by defending the Clean Air Act against Senate Joint Resolution 26, an attempt to undermine the EPA’s authority to regulate greenhouse gases. The vote on this Resolution is scheduled for June 10. There is still time to [ask your Senators](#) to “Vote NO on Senate Joint Resolution 26 and protect the Clean Air Act.”

## CARE FOR CREATION (C4C) CURRICULUM COMING SOON!

This highly anticipated [program](#) is in its final stages of publication! The workbook is off to the printers, and we are excited about the engaging Franciscans who will feature in the companion DVD. This adult formation program should be available for purchase starting in July.

## HEALTH CARE

This past March historic healthcare legislation. FAN was actively involved in efforts to get the best law possible. A part of this was to help our membership understand the complexities of the proposed law. We worked closely with our various Franciscan sponsored health systems and others. The work with healthcare reform now moves to a new stage. We must make sure that the promises made to expand coverage and not fund abortions are carried out. Stay tuned for more opportunities to have an impact on the law's implementation.

## WHITE PAPERS

As public discourse continues to heat up, FAN has offered its membership theological reflections on issues such as health care, [civil discourse](#), and the [economy](#). Our contributors this spring have included: Fr. Albert Merz, OFM; Marie Dennis, SFO of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns; Guy L. Clifton, M.D. of the University of Texas; Fr. Thomas A. Nairn, OFM, Ph.D. of the Catholic Health Association.

## LENT & EASTER REFLECTION SERIES

Weekly during Lent and bi-weekly during Easter, FAN featured a reflection series on the theme “Behold a New Creation.” Lenten reflections addressed care for creation through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Easter offered opportunities to practice “Resurrection Politics”

The series is available at [www.franciscanaction.org/lent\\_2010](http://www.franciscanaction.org/lent_2010).



## 2010 EAD: “A PLACE TO CALL HOME: IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND DISPLACED PERSONS.”

Following a day and a half of fruitful fellowship and reflective strategy with members of the FAN [Action Commission](#), staff and most of the Action Commissioners present “crossed the border” between Washington, DC and Virginia to participate in [Ecumenical Advocacy Days](#). The journey across the Potomac, above by car or below by Metro train, was symbolically appropriate for the weekend’s theme of “A Place to Call Home: Immigrants, Refugees, and Displaced Persons.” The Friday-Monday conference was attended by over 700 participants, many of whom participated in a 200,000+ rally on the National Mall. Monday’s culmination was visits to representatives and senators.

## INTERNS OFFER ASSISTANCE!

In March and April Luca Battocchio Bellamoli, an Italian student from Verona, joined FAN staff. Luca did much behind the scenes in the office, but he also wrote two perspective pieces that are available on the FAN website.

On June 1, FAN staff will welcome Maria Sapucahy Balata, a graduate student from CTU in Chicago. Maria will be working on several projects with FAN during the summer.



## FAN STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED!

After several months of work, the Strategic Planning Committee presented the Board with the final [Strategic Plan](#) for Board approval. The Board approved the Plan, which guides FAN’s future development and direction.

## ‘OURS TO DO’ CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TRAINING INFO SESSION

On May 26, 2010, FAN hosted a webinar for those interested in the OURS TO DO Civic Engagement Training that will be occurring in the Early Fall. Ours to Do is for two sets of individuals: those who are already involved in Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation efforts and those who are new to the task, or perhaps interested in it, but without much experience. The training will be held in three locations throughout the country so as to provide both geographic and date options. Monica Herald has registration forms and brochures, if you would like more information. You can contact her at [herald@franciscanaction.org](mailto:herald@franciscanaction.org)