

A sunset over the ocean with geometric overlays. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds. The ocean below shows gentle waves with white foam. The image is divided into several geometric sections by diagonal lines. A large white triangle is in the top-left corner. A teal triangle is in the bottom-right corner. The rest of the image is a gradient of the sunset colors.

**DEC  
2018**

# **JUBILEE USA NETWORK**

*End of Year Report*

Note from Eric LeCompte, Jubilee USA's Executive Director:

Dear Friends,

We are so grateful for your partnership. Together over the last year we launched 5 new campaigns and we won 6 major victories.

As you view our year-end report and review our campaigns for 2019, I hope you will join me and make a tax-deductible gift to Jubilee USA. All gifts are matched so your impact is doubled.

Your support means that we won more than \$45 billion in rebuilding aid for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. Because of our strategic efforts together, we moved Republicans and Democrats to ensure that Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands can rebuild to withstand future storms. In the new NAFTA, we stopped “vulture funds” from collecting on old debt and organized major religious institutions to demand that all people should be able to access life-saving medicine. After years of pressure, we moved the IMF to acknowledge the new debt crisis in Africa.

Whether your gift is \$1000, \$15, \$150, \$300 or \$500, your tax-deductible donation will be doubled to support Jubilee's mission.

Your gift now is vital for the year ahead. We need to win another \$80 billion in relief for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. We need to win debt relief for Puerto Rico, Africa and the Caribbean. Your gift now means that we move a NAFTA deal that protects the vulnerable. Your gift now means that we can win a more transparent and responsible financial system.

Gratefully,



Eric LeCompte  
Executive Director





# Jubilee

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Jubilee USA is an alliance of more than 70 US organizations and 700 faith communities working with 50 Jubilee global partners. Jubilee USA builds an economy that serves, protects and promotes the participation of the most vulnerable.



*Eric LeCompte is interviewed on BBC World News live about the IMF reports on future financial crisis and Africa's debt crisis.*

Jubilee USA wins critical global financial reforms and won more than \$130 billion in debt relief to benefit the world's poorest people.

Jubilee's work has been featured in tens of thousands of news outlets this year, including:

**Bloomberg** **devex**  
Do Good. Do It Well.™



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
**WSJ**



*Left: Jubilee USA met with Speaker Ryan (R) and partners from the Episcopalian, Lutheran, Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian and United Church of Christ Churches. Center: Sophia Ijaz, Jubilee USA Board Member, praying at the U.S. Capitol. Right: From left, Eric LeCompte, Anthony Granado, Fran Quigley and Stacy Martin in the US Capitol on our Congress panel to protect access to medicine in trade agreements.*

## Moving Congress on Puerto Rico

The Puerto Rico bankruptcy process we won moved forward. We moved Congress and the White House on more than \$45 billion in Puerto Rico and USVI relief aid (a third of what we are continuing our efforts to win). We strategically secured “better building” provisions so Puerto

Rico and the US Virgin Islands can rebuild to withstand future storms. We successfully won \$5 billion of Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico and we moved Congress to remove unfair excise taxes on the island.

## Preventing New Debt Crises Around the World

Over the last six months, our multi-year campaigns successfully pushed the IMF to acknowledge a new debt crisis in Africa and raise concerns that protections are not in place to prevent the next financial crisis. At the Annual IMF and World Bank Meetings, we held high-level

events and Eric LeCompte publicly addressed all of the IMF decision makers on our efforts. Our high-level event with the Vatican, IMF and Gabon’s Finance Minister offered innovative solutions to new crises.

# Successes of the Year

- We moved the Trump Administration to stop “vulture funds” and support responsible lending, we launched a new website, started the Puerto Rico bankruptcy process and moved Congress and the White House to support more than \$46 billion in Puerto Rico and USVI relief aid.
- Working with Republican leadership, we strategically secured “better building” provisions so Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands can rebuild to withstand future storms.
- We won \$5 billion of Medicaid funding for Puerto Rico and we moved Congress to remove unfair excise taxes on the island.
  - We’ve successfully launched more initiatives, projects and campaigns than we have started over the last 5 years.
  - We convened major meetings with over 60 Ambassadors and heads of state on our efforts.
  - Partnering with the Vatican, we are moving forward major interfaith global events.
  - In March of 2018 we launched a campaign that can change how the global financial system treats countries, states and territories wrestling with financial crisis, debt and austerity. We are doing this by changing the New York laws that govern most of the world’s debt.
  - In May we launched our campaign to secure medicine access for vulnerable populations in trade agreements. We are moving this campaign forward with the partnership and leadership of Reform Jews and the Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Methodist and United Church of Christ Churches.
    - We had our greatest expansion to date with national Muslim, Christian and Jewish institutions.

# Protecting Access to Medicines in Trade

At Jubilee USA's core, we work on economic policies to ensure that resources get to the most vulnerable communities. It's why for years we've worked with and organized our national faith partners to promote trade agreements that ensure that vulnerable communities can access life-saving medicine.

Over the last year we convened a process with national interfaith religious partners on trade, debt and access to medicines in the lead-up to NAFTA negotiations. The work resulted in a powerful statement and advocacy tool that pushed the White House and Congress. We met with the White House, Republican and Democratic leadership and the US Trade Representative. Around the country our Jubilee synagogues, churches, temples, mosques and congregations endorsed the statement. Already the heads of the Lutheran, Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Methodist and United Church of Christ Churches signed the statement.

*Left: Eric LeCompte speaks at a prayer vigil for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Island held on Capitol Hill. Center: At the United Nations in Geneva, Eric LeCompte addresses the assembly on tax, debt, trade and transparency. Right: Jubilee's high-level IMF event with the Vatican, IMF, G-24, Gabon's Finance Minister and Jubilee Latin America partners.*

