

Mary's Pence  
275 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 707  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
www.maryspence.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Anna Zaros, Development Liaison  
Tel: 651-788-9869  
Cell Phone: 612-518-4860  
Email: anna@maryspence.org

### **Mary's Pence Names New Board Member**

*Oakland local leader and former assistant regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, Shelly Coppock, approved as a board member of Mary's Pence.*

Mary's Pence, a grassroots organization that funds women's social justice and social economic projects across the Americas, today announced the appointment of Shelley Coppock to its Board of Directors. "We're delighted to have Shelley Coppock join the board of Mary's Pence," says Katherine Wojtan, Mary's Pence Executive Director. "Shelley demonstrates a long history of solidarity with the women of Latin America, and a commitment to women's issues. Her time living and working in Mexico for the Mexican Friends Service Committee links her heart to our work. Her experience working within non-profits and on the boards of nonprofits gives her the experience needed for this strategic and governance role."

**Shelley Coppock** recently retired after 26 years working for the National Labor Relations Board's Oakland regional office, where she was responsible for unfair labor practice investigations and union representation elections as an investigator, supervisor, and assistant regional director. Prior to her career at the NLRB, Shelley worked in California as an organizer with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union and in Mexico with the Mexican Friends Service Committee. She has a BA in Sociology and Women's Studies and an MS in Industrial and Labor Relations specializing in collective bargaining, labor history, and labor law. Shelley has also served in a variety of roles at the national and local levels with the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization, in which she focused on community relations, immigration, labor, LGBT, and peace issues.

### **About Mary's Pence**

Mary's Pence has been giving grants to women's organizations across the Americas for over 25 years. Established in 1987, Mary's Pence has helped many grassroots organizations work for justice and change in their communities. To date, grants totaling over \$1,500,000 have funded over 500 projects, in 15 countries across the Americas. Funding decisions are rooted in a Catholic tradition of social justice together with feminist values where all are welcome at the table. In Latin America Mary's Pence has sponsored 9 ESPERA networks – community lending pools owned and managed by a women's network - in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Haiti. Mary's Pence provides an opportunity for women's organizations throughout the Americas to receive funds for projects that benefit women and create positive social change. For additional information on Mary's Pence and its programs, please visit our website at [www.maryspence.org](http://www.maryspence.org).

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