

I am a New Orleans resident and know many parts of my hometown well, but **my involvement with ATD Fourth World Movement has greatly expanded my connection to the whole community.**



The children who are a part of the Street Library are imaginative, curious, hilarious, and thoughtful. Through this Movement, I am invited to sit on their stoop/sidewalk each week, which is a privilege I don't think I would otherwise be afforded.

~ Katherine Doss, volunteer Street Library Facilitator in New Orleans, fundraiser, writer, and folklorist



~ Barbara Ammirati, Emergency and Development Program Expert, ATD Fourth World friend and Story Garden facilitator in New York City

I've had the great privilege of participating alongside the committed volunteers at ATD Fourth World in facilitating community Story Gardens, Festival of the Arts, People's University and the MAP Research Project.

One critical realization is that: **Activists – those living in poverty are unequivocally best equipped to articulate, identify, problem solve, plan and implement life solutions – their voices need only be raised.**

## Build our **Collective Capacity** to End Poverty

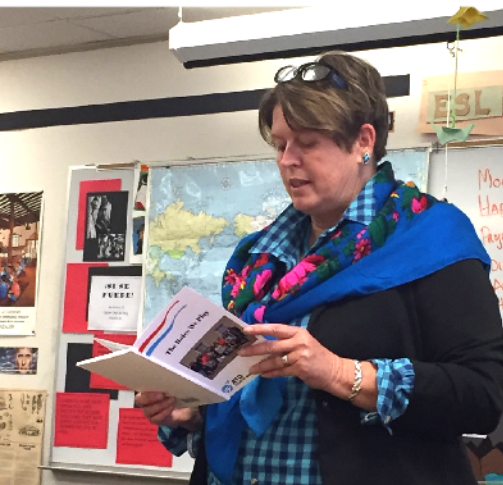
Personal and social transformation are at the heart of overcoming poverty in our country and world. Our social, legal, and political systems definitely play a major role, but those are sculpted by people and mirror what is valued in a society.

ATD Fourth World Movement is in the business of personal and social transformation, and **many people involved build skills, abilities, and their own personal capacity to be change makers to overcome the injustices of poverty around them.** Through taking part in Street Library programs, Fourth World People's University, research or partnering on local programs that directly impact people faced with persistent poverty, involvement with ATD Fourth World changes people.

It takes work, commitment, energy, and resources to carry out quality programs and long term presence that build these capacities for meaningful change making. ATD Fourth World is committed to continuing this work and we count on your support to make it possible!

Please donate today and help more people build their personal capacity to fight the injustices of poverty and in doing so **transform our country.**

ATD Fourth World allies, activists, and team members describe how their lives and work are transformed through ATD Fourth World Movement involvement.



~ Laura Jijon, teacher, writer, story-teller and ATD Fourth World friend in New Mexico

**Without stories, our authenticity, understanding, and growth is impossible.**

ATD Fourth World's Story Garden at the Gallup Flea Market allows families a welcoming space in the heart of the region's traditional economic center to listen to and create culturally relevant stories that organically integrate the children, youth, parents, and grandparents—a source of ancient strength. The Roles We Play (project with University of New Mexico) honored students' life stories verbally and visually, validating experiences they had previously viewed as meaningless and unimportant.

**This, then, is my legacy from ATD Fourth World: Time.**  
**Time that values the individual to enrich community.**  
**Time that honors the brokenness to create wholeness.**  
**Time that celebrates the silence from which all stories are told.**

During the time that I have known ATD Fourth World, I have learned to value the time it takes to deepen relationships with individuals and families within a community. I believe that the **accompaniment of people in the challenges that families go through day by day, creates a sense of belonging, which little by little will be able to strengthen the community itself.**

~ Inga Ruiz, ATD Fourth World team member in Gallup, New Mexico



ATD trusted me and gave me a chance to speak at the UN and do the programs like People's University and MAP. **Here at ATD, you learn to trust yourself. And to trust people too.** When you're in poverty you don't want to trust anyone because it's dangerous. With poverty there are injustices, crimes, and loneliness. But with ATD there is a huge, huge hope. You learn to trust yourself and see yourself in a different position. Now I am proud of myself.

**ATD changes your loneliness to having a family.**  
To have someone who will say, "Hey Patrick, you're not alone now. We are here."

~ Patrick Lubin, Human Rights Activist with ATD Fourth World in New York City