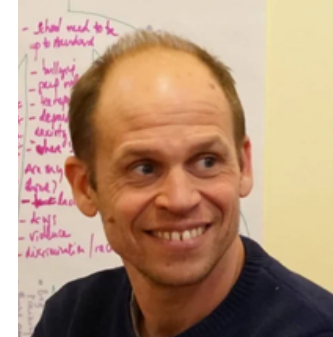




# ATD FOURTH WORLD 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

## MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

As I look back to write this message, I am not seeing only 2023, but the many years that led to it.

Together, we have been ambitious, thoughtful, resilient, and brave. We walked through the waves of Covid 19 by sticking together. When we were able to gather in person again, we built on this togetherness to develop a collective vision and local action plans. In both New York and New Mexico, our members brought together their diverse personal relationships with poverty to take stock of what we have been learning and to plan our next steps together.

In 2023, New Mexico members completed a year-long Participatory Learning & Planning Process which led to plans and projects to focus on three main areas of action for the next two years:

- Presence and learning with families in poverty
- Membership base and capacity building
- Education and art initiatives

The Participatory Evaluation and Planning Process in New York, completed at the end of 2022, led to four focus areas:

- Creating and developing labs for alternative education
- Engaging with the homeless crisis and the lack of affordable housing
- Expanding our network and community
- Building and sharing our knowledge base on the nine dimensions of poverty identified by our research action on the Multidimensional Aspects of Poverty.

For example, this year New York members created a unique opportunity for education by working on the theme of Dignified Work for All at both the United Nations and in our Fourth World People's University.

New Mexico members stayed very close to families in poverty and expanded our reach with the Story Garden on Wheels to remote locations as well as with partnerships in Gallup itself. In both locations, all of the work is rooted in grassroots community building with people with experience of poverty.

**Our community is small but powerful thanks to our capacity to be, to think, and to act together.**

I am excited to share with you here a report that captures some of our main achievements in 2023: <https://atdfourthworld-usa.org/latest-news/story-garden-as-springboard>

As many of you already know, I am stepping down from my responsibility as national director as well as leaving the ATD Fourth World Volunteer Corps. I am full of gratitude for the support and trust that accompanied me every step of the way.

I am not going far. I will dedicate my energy to continue to grow WALTER, a recycling business in Brooklyn that grew out of ATD Fourth World's members' concerns regarding employment and environmental justice.

Your ability to care, your courage, your strength, and your determination will continue to guide and inspire me.

As a new team is stepping up to a leadership role in our community, I am convinced that the best is still ahead of us.

Always yours,

Guillaume Charvon  
National Director



**Stronger Together** is an advocacy and support group in New Mexico encouraging those who want to use their personal experiences of poverty to develop their voices and build collective knowledge for the benefit of the community.

ATD Fourth World in NYC hosted a participatory workshop, **Climate Fresks**, to better understand Climate Change and how each person can take action. ATD Fourth World members from Quebec, Canada, also joined!

**Francophonie Movie Night:** The International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) in partnership with ATD Fourth World NYC hosted a screening of the movie *Joseph the Rebel (Joseph l'insoumis)* to learn about the beginning of ATD Fourth World in a slum area in France and discussed the importance of participation of impacted communities at all levels, including at the United Nations.

**New staff:** The team in New York City was reinforced by Maryann Broxton, ATD Fourth World's representative at the United Nations and Alvaro Iniesta and Marina Mingot from Spain.

## Thank you for your unwavering support.

**Together, our community continues to strive to overcome the injustices of poverty and build a brighter future for all, locally and internationally.**

### Donate Today!

Online: [atdfourthworld-usa.org/donate](https://atdfourthworld-usa.org/donate)  
Mail check or money order:  
PO Box 1787, Gallup, NM 87305



**Family Science Day:** Explora Science Center and Children's Museum made its annual trip from Albuquerque to the Gallup Flea Market's Story Garden for a day of Family Science. Explora brought along Electric circuits, Seed bombs, Kinetic Sculptures, and Bubbles.



**The Learning with Dakota!** Project shared its engaging dinosaur educational exhibit and **Story Garden on Wheels** widened its reach to new families at Gallup's Day of Play.



**"Dignified Work for All"** was studied by people with varied expertise on and experience with poverty at the the Fourth World People's University in NYC and at the United Nation's High Level Political Forum and Commission for Social Development.



**ATD Community Lunches** in New Mexico diminish people's isolation, allow friends of ATD Fourth World to meet one another, and create the conditions to empower people and develop a sense of belonging.

"Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting Dignity in Practice for All" was the theme for this year's **International Day for the Eradication of Poverty**. We witnessed the strength of people with lived experience of poverty navigating their life. People from all walks of life gathered at the United Nations in NYC to advocate for decent work and social protection, committing themselves to putting dignity into practice for everyone.



**Story Gardens** continue to grow learning and community in Brownsville, New York; in Gamarco and at the Gallup Flea Market in New Mexico; and in rural areas of New Mexico and Arizona through the Story Garden on Wheels.



**Internships and work experience:** The team in New Mexico welcomed two new interns, one through a partnership with the National Indian Youth Council (NIYC) who then joined the team and one through our local network.

**Story Garden Blanket:** Children and adults in Gamarco, NM created designs sharing what they love about Story Garden on fabric squares which were stitched together into a new quilt to sit on while reading books.



**A Writing Workshop** in New York was a time of togetherness, bringing us closer by sharing our lives.



The **Festival of Arts and Learning** in Brownsville, New York was a beautiful time of togetherness and community, despite the housing project's ongoing construction making gathering more challenging.



**Open House:** Members of ATD Fourth World and new friends gathered at the Fourth World House in NYC to learn about our actions and the values guiding our work.

