

## “I Wish to Live Without Wars”

We are honored to partner with the Afghan Peace Volunteers (APV). They are a group of Afghans, mostly students, who are living together in an inter-ethnic community. Committed to non-military solutions to war, they try to build friendships between people from different backgrounds and different sides of conflict.

From their home, the APV carry out a number of projects to promote social justice and nonviolent collaboration. Among these are:

The Duvet Project- a women’s self-employment cooperative which provides warm duvets throughout Kabul’s harsh winter to families who need them

Tutoring Street Children who work to support their family. Rations of food and cooking oil are given to the family. The APV tutor the children so they can catch up academically and return to school

Hosting chats on [globaldaysoflistening.org](http://globaldaysoflistening.org) and skyping with University and high school classes around the world

The ‘Borderfree’ campaign- coordinated multinational actions for peace

Find out more about the Afghan Peace Volunteers by visiting [www.ourjourneytosmile.com](http://www.ourjourneytosmile.com)

# VOICES FOR CREATIVE NONVIOLENCE



**Voices for Creative Nonviolence  
has deep, long-standing roots  
in active nonviolent resistance to  
U.S. war-making.**

**We invite you to join with us as we  
engage in action to challenge U.S.  
economic and military warfare waged  
in the Middle East and Afghanistan.**

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## Our Mission

We ask: what is the appropriate response of a citizenry in a country which has committed unspeakable crimes against a people? Over 1 million people have died as a consequence of a decade of economic sanctions and the U.S. occupation in Iraq. Thousands of civilians continue to die as a result of the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan and of the drone strikes that occur daily.

It falls upon us as citizens of the country initiating these wars to utilize all nonviolent means available to stop war. We must engage in the electoral and legislative process, as possible, via protest, march, and demonstration.

We look to history as a guide to learn from those who preceded us and somehow found the ability to form communities of resistance to oppression in Nazi Germany, in apartheid South Africa, and in the Jim Crow South. We also draw on the lived experience of those who have engaged in active nonviolent resistance to the U.S. military might, including draft resistance, the Sanctuary Movement, and the Plowshares resistance efforts.



VCNV is committed to strategic campaigns of active nonviolent resistance. Such resistance must take into account that war-making is both military and economic.

We also move from traditional demonstrations to active nonviolent resistance. We withdraw our collaboration and complicity with this system and use our bodies and lives as a means to create social change. Nonviolent action in solidarity with those in the crosshairs of U.S. war-making cannot be a single day event; we make a commitment and act upon it every day of our lives.

## Recent VCNV Campaigns

### Delegations to Afghanistan (2009-present)

We have sought to learn from the experiences of people bearing the brunt of US economic and military intervention as well as make contacts with grassroots movements for peace in Afghanistan.

### Solidarity with Iraq Refugees (2005 to present)

We have closely followed the situation of Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Syria. Due to escalated violence in Syria, countless Iraqis have had no choice but to return to Iraq. Since 2012, Voices activists have made trips to Jordan and low-profile trips to Iraq in the hope of meeting old friends and new contacts.

### Ground the Drones (2009-Present)

In collaboration with a nationwide network, we have tried to build awareness about and resistance to the US military's use of weaponized remotely piloted vehicles (drones). Part of this campaign has included civil resistance at Creech Air Force base in Nevada, Hancock Field in New York, and Whiteman Air Force base in Missouri. VCNV has also organized a number of long walks to places that remotely operate drones, including Rock Island to Des Moines (Summer 2013) and Chicago to Battle Creek (Summer 2014). Contact us for 2015 updates.

### Emergency Delegations to Gaza, Bahrain (2012)

In order to provide grassroots information about nonviolent organizing in parts of the world that are difficult to access (Gaza) or where journalists are willfully denied entry by the government (Bahrain), VCNV has sometimes made decisions to send an emergency team to learn about present-day reality and expose this information to public view.

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