

Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World

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Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World Holds Die-In at Schakowsky's Office, Protests Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

CHICAGO, IL, Jan. 19, 2010 - Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World will mark the beginning of President Obama's second year in office on January 19, 2010, by holding a die-in outside Congresswoman Schakowsky's office, in protest of the ongoing wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., twenty participants, covered in red paint, will sprawl out on the sidewalk outside her office at 5533 N. Broadway and refuse to move. Participants will also distribute fliers outlining the devastating affects of continuing to fund a nine-year war, while others will hold signs urging their support of alternatives to U.S. militarism.

"The United States has the most powerful military forces in all of human history, but we are wasting all the world's resources, entering into unprecedented national debt, and creating incalculable destruction, displacement, and death by continuing these wars," said Jeff Leys, a Chicago resident and member of Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World.

Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World believes that the current "War on Terror/Overseas Contingency Operations" paradigm of occupation and militarization is counterproductive and that the United States needs a new path and vision for creating peace and justice in the Middle East and Central Asia.

"We cannot continue to sit complacently as our government allocates billions more to expand the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Jerica Arents, a mother of two and member of Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World. "These wars are illegal, immoral, and unjust. Our troops need to leave immediately."

Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World, an anti-war community action network, was founded in 2002 and is comprised of concerned citizens of greater Chicago. Its members are committed to both legal and extralegal (nonviolent civil disobedience/civil resistance) lobbying efforts to stand for alternatives to U.S. militarism. Chicago Citizens for a Peaceful World is partnering with Voices for Creative Nonviolence in the Peaceable Assembly Campaign.

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