

“I Wish to Live Without Wars”

We are honored to partner with the Afghan Peace Volunteers (APVs). They are a group of Afghans, mostly students, who develop inter-ethnic projects that help build friendships between people from different tribal backgrounds. The APVs study and seek non-military solutions to clashes and conflicts.

At their “Borderfree Centre” 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

Street Kids School for children who work to support their family. Monthly rations of food and 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 and skyping with University and high school classes around the world

The ‘#Enough!’ campaign- coordinated multinational actions for peace, education and awareness-building

Find out more about the Afghan Peace Volunteers by visiting 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 Asia.

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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: We have sought to meet face-to-face and learn from the people who live amidst the practical results of U.S. intervention. We strive to stay in contact with grassroots movements for peace in Afghanistan.

Solidarity with Iraq Refugees: We have closely followed the situation of Iraqi refugees in Jordan and Syria over the past decade. Now, due to escalated violence in Syria, countless Iraqis have had no choice but to pick up and move again. Activists with VCNV have made trips to Jordan, Turkey, and low-profile trips to Iraq in the hope of re-connecting with friends and relaying their stories.

Ground the Drones: In collaboration with a nationwide network, we have tried to build awareness about and resistance to the U.S. 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, Whiteman Air Force base in Missouri, and Beale Air Force base in California. VCNV has also organized a number of peace walks to places that remotely operate drones, including Rock Island to Des Moines (2013), Chicago to Battle Creek (2014), and Madison to Camp Douglas, WI (2015).

Challenging Overseas Base Construction: We have documented and participated in popular demonstrations to slow down and stop U.S. base construction on Jeju Island and Okinawa. Nearly 200 U.S. bases in Korea and Japan endanger the region by contesting Chinese access to vital ocean trade routes and tempting China into an arms race.

Emergency Delegations to Gaza, Bahrain: 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.