
Benevolences 2018-2019

Peace and Justice Committee

January 12, 2019

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ALAMANCE ORANGE PRISON MINISTRY

(Updated December 9, 2018 by Hank Elkins)

ADDRESS

P.O. Box 9932, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

DESCRIPTION

Alamance Orange Prison Ministry (AOPM) serves men incarcerated at Orange Correctional Center (OCC) in Hillsborough (a minimum security state prison) and works with outside groups for the transition of men to civilian life. Our Transition and Support Committee (T&S) works closely with AOPM in assisting men (partners) both before and after release, by providing support circles to help our partners as they return to the community. The T&S Committee works with the Chaplain to assess the needs of our partners, including identifying appropriate housing, and coordinating with the IFC Community House to place men in temporary housing.

AOPM expenditures approximate \$50,000/year, with the chaplain's position funded 100% by AOPM. About \$15,000 is raised through the annual pecan/Brunswick Stew sale in which our Meeting participates. The balance of the budget comes from contributions by faith organizations and individuals. The Re-Entry Committee of the OCC Community Resources Council (on which three of our members serve) works with AOPM to provide to financial assistance for Parents' Day activities as well as materials for the pre-release course, each offered twice/year.

Men from OCC attend our Meetings for Worship on a regular basis, brought by Meeting sponsors, and are an integral part of the monthly Transition & Support Committee meeting. Many former residents of OCC now attend our Meeting on a regular basis, providing continuity and support for the men still serving at OCC and enriching our Meeting. They have shared their experiences through forums; several work with Friends in various capacities serving the community once released from prison. The Ready Singers from OCC have performed at our forums.

The Meeting sponsors two or three Meetings for Worship a year at the prison, attended by approximately 40 men living at OCC. The Meeting has also established a Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (ReFAC) to help partners with basic needs of clothing and personal items when they are released. Members of the group participate in and assist with the semi-annual Pre-release course and the semi-annual Parents' Day at OCC.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Asta Crowe, Maria Darlington, Hank Elkins, Nancy Fisher, Tim Fogarty, Rita Kuwahara, Tom McQuiston, Richard Miller, Paul and Joyce Munk, Bonnie Raphael, Ann Shy, Tom Smith, David Schneider, Monteze Snyder, and Carolyn Stuart all serve as Yoke Fellows. Byron Stevens serves the men with paralegal assistance and general mentoring. Many also volunteer for Parents' Day and assist with the re-entry course.

Hank Elkins, Tim Fogarty, Tom McQuiston, Richard Miller, Paul Munk, Tom Smith, David Schneider also serve as sponsors for men at OCC.

Asta Crowe, Richard Miller and Emilie Condon serve on the OCC Community Resources Council.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

(Updated by Hank Elkins, December 26, 2018)

ADDRESS

1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 www.AFSC.org

DESCRIPTION

The American Friends Service Committee is a Quaker organization that promotes lasting peace with justice, as a practical expression of faith in action. Drawing on continuing spiritual insights and working with people of many backgrounds, we nurture the seeds of change and respect for human life that transform social relationships and systems.

AFSC's major efforts are focused on criminal justice, economic justice, humanitarian assistance, immigration/migration, peace building/conflict prevention, and youth. It defines its top priorities in 2018 as the following: ending discrimination that flows from racism, sexism, and homophobia; building peace and nonviolent responses to social conflicts; defending immigrant rights and sanctuary for immigrants; ending mass incarceration; and building economic justice. All of these programs and priorities reflect core Quaker values and converge with the values of CHFMs. Through all its work and programs, AFSC seeks to answer the call of Quaker Testimonies including Peace, Equality, and Community and to do this work with Integrity.

In 2018 AFSC has continued to work actively on all of the programs listed in the previous paragraph through wide-ranging international and domestic campaigns and projects that are listed on the AFSC website, including: accompanying the Migrant Caravan, Bystander Intervention trainings, Communities Against Islamophobia, Gaza Unlocked campaign, Urban Farming projects, prison mentoring projects, Global Youth campaigns, piloting new E-Courses on anti-racism, Youth Undoing Institutional Racism, Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions campaign, and more.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Many members and attenders at CHFMs have served as AFSC staff or in leadership roles in the past, as well as currently. Lori Fernald Khamala is the local director of AFSC NC Immigrant Rights Project; Naveed Moeed serves on AFSC South Region Executive Committee; AFSC staff have led multiple forums at CHFMs; Many Friends contribute to AFSC on a personal level and receive mailings and communications from AFSC and have expressed deep commitment and appreciation for the work of AFSC on an international and national level.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE OF THE CAROLINAS

(Updated by Lori Khamala, Oct. 31, 2018, Karen Porter Nov. 28, 2018)

ADDRESS

801 New Garden Road, Greensboro, NC 27410 Www.AFSC.org/Greensboro

BACKGROUND

Background: The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a Quaker organization that promotes lasting peace with justice, as a practical expression of faith in action; and this proposal requests support for the AFSC of the Carolinas specifically. Drawing on continuing spiritual insights and working with people of many backgrounds, AFSC nurtures the seeds of change and respect for human life that transform social relationships and systems. AFSC strives to live and act out Quaker values every day through its work. Through national programs focused on Ending Discrimination, Building Peace, Ending Mass Incarceration, Building Economic Justice and Defending Immigrant Rights, AFSC seeks to answer the call of Quaker Testimonies including Peace, Equality, and Community and to do this work with Integrity.

PROGRAM

Immigrants - AFSC has had a presence in North Carolina for many decades, working for racial, economic, and social equity to make NC a more just home for all North Carolinians, including, at this time, extensive efforts for immigrants.

Established in 2004, AFSC's NC Immigrant Rights Program (NC IRP) seeks to build a society that values the worth and dignity of every person in NC. In 2017, AFSC founded Siembra NC ("the planting/ growing" in Spanish), a grassroots group of undocumented Latinx residents in Greensboro and surrounding areas dedicated to community defense and self-determination.

AFSC is critically and uniquely positioned in North Carolina to respond to the current and increasing threats to immigrant communities. Since the election of President Trump, AFSC's work has evolved rapidly to respond to the shifting environment and increasing threats to immigrants. Over the last year, AFSC has developed a model for organizing undocumented Latinx communities for the purpose of winning concrete improvements in the lives of members while at the same time challenging oppressive systems. AFSC has shifted its work to now intensively focus on base-building with Latinx immigrants, strengthening leadership of undocumented individuals, resisting deportations, and fighting wage theft, primarily in Guilford and Alamance counties.

Communities Against Islamophobia – The NC office is also part of the AFSC Communities Against Islamophobia project, offering training to allies (non-Muslims) and also providing opportunities for young Muslims to learn together and advocate for change.

Triad Immigrant Family Support Fund - AFSC and its grassroots group Siembra are partnering with the Interactive Resource Center of Greensboro to support immigrants in the Triad facing immediate crisis situations, often resulting from detention or deportation of a family member. 100% of the donations go directly to families/ individuals in need.

Engaging the Quaker Community – NC AFSC tries to have a presence at most of the Yearly Meetings in North Carolina and frequently offer forums and other programs to local Quakers. AFSC's Office of Friends Relations offers lots of opportunities to connect with Friends.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Members of the Meeting have been actively involved in recent activities of the AFSC of the Carolinas. Staff member Lori Khamala (lkhamala@aFTC.org), Sanctuary Everywhere Initiative National Coordinator and NC Immigrant Rights Program Director, regularly attends CHFM; and she has held a forum and an evening presentation on the immigration, Sanctuary, and other activities of AFSC. Naveed Moeed serves on the AFSC South Region Executive Committee. Other Meeting members have been actively involved in supporting refugees and assisting people who face the complexities of immigration law, including volunteering in the local Sanctuary program.

BOLIVIAN QUAKER EDUCATION FUND

(Updated November 12, 2018 by Pam Schwingl and December 9, 2018 by Hank Elkins)

ADDRESS

65 Spring Street, Fredonia, NY 14063-2128 www.BQEF.org

DESCRIPTION

Background: Bolivia, South America's poorest nation, has the continent's highest proportion of indigenous people. Oppressed in Bolivia for centuries, indigenous people were not allowed to attend public schools until 1952, and still possess only a fraction of the economic means and political power of those of European extraction. Bolivia's 33,000 indigenous Friends constitute the world's third largest Quaker population.

Program: The Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) provides scholarships to Quaker students attending public universities. Since tuition is free, the scholarships at \$700 per year pay for books, meals, and transportation. Without the scholarships, most scholarship holders would not be able to go to university. More than 120 scholarship recipients have graduated and are taking roles of leadership in the country as environmentalists, agronomists, as nurses, dentists, and teachers. The graduates have formed their own scholarship program and are giving back. One graduate works as a lawyer in a key governmental environment agency; another graduate after receiving a master's degree at Earlham serves as a Quaker pastor; two have established a Quaker Center in the heart of La Paz to foster Quaker studies. They support the Center by translating to and from Spanish, English, and indigenous languages. Another graduate is using her training in cooking to create healthy foods and research alternative grains to help enrich the diets of malnourished children in El Alto.

BQEF has established the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) in prisons and this year has brought AVP to all six major cities in the country. The AVP message of nonviolence is new in Bolivia. Since facilitators volunteer their services, the AVP workshops run on minimum cost and extraordinary enthusiasm.

For ten years BQEF ran a residence for secondary students in the Andean town of Sorata, where students from remote rural villages have resided Monday through Friday to attend the town's high schools. Each Sunday afternoon the students walked two to six hours to the residence and returned to their homes Friday afternoon. Starting their high school studies with little Spanish, the students received tutoring and inspiration from the BQEF scholarship holders. Once again this year, all graduates are going to university. Unfortunately, because new government regulations require that a social worker and psychologist be present in the residence, BQEF discontinued the residence in December, coinciding with the end of the 2018 school year.

In selecting scholarship holders and members of the secondary school residence in Sorata, BQEF explicitly prohibits discrimination "on the basis of sex, religion, ethnic origin, sexual preference (orientation), culture, or other conditions." It is useful to place the non-discriminatory policy of BQEF in the context of the country as a whole. Under the leadership of Evo Morales, Bolivia's first an indigenous president, Bolivia has modified the Bolivian constitution to

guarantee the rights of LBGTQ persons in Bolivia. As the Washington Post reported, the 2016 Constitutional Revision makes same-gender sexual activity legal in Bolivia and bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The Bolivian constitution, notes Wikipedia, makes Bolivia "one of the only few countries in the world to have such constitutional protections for LGBT people" (see Wikipedia on LGBT rights in Bolivia).

This year, for the first time since 2008, a Bolivian scholarship recipient and experienced teacher, Vanessa Ely Maldonado Choque, will teach Spanish in the Middle School at Carolina Friends School starting in January. Immigration and Diversity are themes this year at CFS, and having a Bolivian Quaker as a visiting teacher will not only broaden Vanessa's own experience of Quaker education which she will be able to bring back to Bolivia, but will also enhance CFS students cultural and linguistic awareness.

We anticipate higher expenses in paying for the Vanessa's travel. BQEF has also had some major challenges in funding this year in addition to its regular expenses. The program has had to raise an additional lump sum payment of \$11,000 to the Bolivian government for staff compensation benefits; pay for increases in scholarship and other annual expenses; and compensate for an important multi-year bequest ended this year, and for the loss of major donors including our founder, Newton Garver. With all of these challenges, BQEF is aiming to continue to support the educational successes of Bolivian Aymara students - and meet the continued and expanding need for more educational opportunity among this population.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Although the primary activities of BQEF are in Bolivia, BQEF has made a major local contribution in the past by donating the services of Alicia Lucasi as a Spanish teacher at Carolina Friends School during the academic year 2008-2009. Hosts for Alicia from our Meeting included Mike and Marsha Green, Pam Schwingl and Pat Mann, Aura and Brad Schwartz. Carolina Friends School so appreciated Alicia's contribution that this year the School invited a second teacher who will begin in January, and if the U.S. approves her visa will stay through December 2019. Pam and Hank will be coordinating housing for the new teacher.

Pam Schwingl is currently a BQEF board member and serves on the BQEF Outreach and Fundraising Committee. Hank Elkins serves on the BQEF Outreach and Fundraising

Committee as well. Hank served on the BQEF Board of Directors 2007-11 and clerked the Finance Committee. In 2007, Hank visited Bolivia on behalf of BQEF; in 2008, Pam Schwingl and Pat Mann hosted a dinner meeting for Chapel Hill and Durham Friends in which Alicia described current BQEF program activities in Bolivia. In 2013 at the Haw river state Park, Barbara Williamson and Hank hosted and participated in the three-day 2013 BQEF board retreat. On May 28, 2017, Barbara Williamson, Pat Mann, Pam Schwingl, and Hank Elkins presented a forum at Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

In June 2018 Hank and Pam gave a presentation on BQEF to the Durham Friends Meeting; and in July, Pam Schwingl gave a presentation on BQEF to First Day School.

Chapel Hill Friends are invited to volunteer in Bolivia to work with scholarship students in La Paz and to teach English or computer literacy in Quaker schools.

CAROLINA FRIENDS SCHOOL

Updated by Lynn Drake December 15, 2018 and Hank Elkins January 12, 2019

ADDRESS

4809 Friends School Rd, Durham, NC 27705

BACKGROUND

With faith, foresight, and effort, members of the Chapel Hill and Durham Friends Meetings founded Carolina Friends School in 1962 as a model for integration based on Quaker values. That mission continues. Today 510 students, with 24% of the student body representing racial/ethnic diversity, are engaged in a challenging curriculum that adheres to the Friends Council on Education's "Principles of Good Practice: Affirming the Quaker Identity."

PROGRAM

During the last year, Carolina Friends School introduced a radical new tuition model that calls on families to pay a tuition based on their ability to pay. This represents a major opportunity for CFS to be a model for what is possible in private school education, reflecting socioeconomic and ethnic diversity, just as the founding of the school was a model for racially integrated education 56 years ago. In the first year of this program, Carolina Friends School went from 26% of the families receiving financial aid to 33% in the adjusted tuition program with over one million dollars made available for tuition adjustments last year. It is anticipated that these numbers will continue to rise, and will further assist in creating a community of learners that reflect the socioeconomic and ethnically diverse face of the surrounding community.

Carolina Friends School also has a powerful role in creating future advocates for Quaker values in all arenas of our culture. Service through informed action is nurtured in every unit of the school. CFS is an intentional place to develop future leaders who will prioritize equality and justice, and speak truth to power. Some examples include CFS' participation in the Peaceful Schools Coalition and the Sister Schools project (with a school in Afghanistan), welcoming a Bolivian teacher to the CFS staff through the Quaker Bolivian Education Fund, offering funded

slots to students from Durham's Nativity School to attend CFS, and hosting a group of teachers from China who are visiting CFS for an extended period.

The CFS Board of Trustees, which includes four members from the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, guides the school in sound financial stewardship. Although net assets of the school increased by \$1.6 million from last year and the endowment increased to \$12.9 million, areas of concern for the Board include the decision to take on a debt for the first time in the school's history for facility construction and maintenance. CFS has issued a 30 year bond of \$5.31 million with a fixed rate of 3%. Another concern is the need to do an analysis of staff salaries and plan for anticipated future increases. This analysis is undertaken with the goal of properly compensating those who serve the school with salaries that are more nearly aligned with their peers at other public and private schools.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Members of CHFM have served on the CFS Board since its founding and four presently serve. Many CHFM members and attenders have worked at CFS, served on the Board, volunteered on committees, and are alumni, parents and grandparents of students. CFS Board members present an annual report at MWAB. CFS staff generally present one or more Forums each year to the Meeting. The latest two were Karen Cumberbatch, the CFS Head, and Brad Kershner, Head of CFS Chapel Hill Early School. Additionally, many new attenders arrive at CHFM through their interactions with CFS. A review of the current Meeting Directory revealed about 100 names of Meeting people with connections to CFS.

As stated in Faith and Practice (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, 1997), "Friends as individuals and Meetings have a special responsibility to support Friends educational institutions. These institutions are an important Quaker outreach to the larger world, insofar as they embody our ways of worship, our social testimonies, and our commitment to service." Let us continue to support in word and deed this organization that has shown itself to be the embodiment of the values to which its founders aspired. It has engaged in the messy, imperfect business of living the values of the Quaker testimonies, and continues to demonstrate what is possible when our efforts are undertaken in love, grounded in an insistence on equality and justice. Carolina Friends School has proven itself worthy of this support and trust.

THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT CENTER

(Updated by John Bell, Lynn Drake and Hank Elkins December 26, 2018)

ADDRESS: 302 WEST WEAVER STREET, CARRBORO, NC 27510

PROGRAM

The Dispute Settlement Center (DSC) is a non-profit mediation center focused on promoting and bringing about the peaceful settlement of disputes and preventing the escalation of conflict. The Center works with individuals, groups and institutions and offers youth programs and regular training sessions in the community.

The Center's mission is to promote and bring about the peaceful settlement of disputes and to prevent the escalation of conflict through mediation, conciliation, facilitation, and training.

The Center has the vision of building a community in which individuals and groups recognize their own and others' needs and respond with empathy, clarity, wisdom, and fairness. Founded in 1978 [a founder was CHFM member Charlotte Adams, see below] as the first community mediation center in North Carolina, the Center now serves nearly 3,000 people each year and offers services to the entire community without regard to ability to pay.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

The Center is well-known to members and attenders of CHFM, as well as our broader Quaker community, because it is located in and has served the Orange County community and beyond for 40 years, and was co-founded by CHFM member Charlotte Adams.

In addition, the Dispute Settlement Center has varied Quaker connections, among them are: DSC's Executive Director Frances Henderson is a graduate of Guilford College; DSC staff member Valoree Hanson teaches Restorative Justice at Guilford College; Eric Ginsburg of West Grove Friends Meeting and FCNL board member is a DSC volunteer mediator; Claude and Mary Schotts' daughter Carolyn Lloyd who grew up in CHFM was a former DSC Board chair; DSC staff member Will Dudenhausen has taught at the Carolina Friends School summer camps; former DSC Executive Director Claire Millar was on staff at CFS for many years; DSC has had several interns from Guilford's Peace Studies Department; Betsy Fenhagen, a current attender of Meeting, was a mediator and supported of DSC, especially in its early days; and John Bell is a supporter and consultant to the Dispute Settlement Center. No doubt there are many more connections between DSC and CHFM.

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

(Updated by Nancy Milio Oct. 29, 2018, by Karen Porter Nov. 28, 2018, and by Hank Elkins Dec. 26, 2018)

ADDRESS

245 Second Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002. www.fcnl.org

BACKGROUND

The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) lobbies Congress and the Administration to advance peace, justice, opportunity, and environmental stewardship. Founded in 1943 by members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), FCNL fields an expert team of lobbyists on Capitol Hill and works with a grassroots network of tens of thousands of people across the country to advance policies and priorities established by FCNL's governing General Committee. FCNL is a nonpartisan organization that seeks to live the values of integrity, simplicity, and peace while building relationships across political divides to move policies forward. FCNL's multi-faceted approach draws on the expertise of registered lobbyists in

Washington, DC, the commitment and passion of people around the country in its advocacy network, and the relationships FCNL cultivates with elected officials and community leaders.

PROGRAMS – FCNL FOCUSES ITS WORK ON THIS LIST OF ISSUES:

- Criminal justice
- Economic justice
- Environment and energy
- Immigrants and refugees
- Middle East and Iran
- Native Americans
- Nuclear weapons
- Peace building
- U.S. wars and militarism
- Voting and elections

FCNL conducts lobbying and public education concerning passage of legislation based on priorities selected biennially by Quaker meetings, churches, and other organizations. This year, as a result of the Capital Campaign, the new Quaker Welcome Center opened, holding policy briefings and bringing sides together in private, away from the political spotlight; and educating Congressional staffers, officials, and others. FCNL this year has fielded more staff to organize at the state level to generate coordinated grassroots lobbying, aimed especially at younger people. Media and electronic communications have also been expanded.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

CHFM member Nancy Milio is a member of the FCNL General Committee and is a former member, then Clerk, of the FCNL Policy Committee, and Clerk of the NC FCNL Capital Campaign Committee. She engages in lobbying, writes Letters to Editors, presents Forum discussions, and has attended a policy briefing in DC. Other CHFM members also engage in lobbying, fund raising, and other activities.

FRIENDS HOUSE MOSCOW

(Created November 12, 2018, by Karen Porter)

ADDRESSES

000 Friends House Moscow
Sukharevskaya M. pl. 6, str. 1
127051, Moscow, Russian Federation

For donations:
Friends House Moscow Support Assn. (FHMSA)
P.O. Box 60253
Palo Alto, CA 94306

PROGRAM

Friends House Moscow (FHM), the only Friends organization in the Russian Federation, sponsors many projects, including translations of Friends books and other materials, counseling and educating young Russian men about alternatives to (mandatory) military services, education services for (legal and social) orphans, Alternatives to Violence Programs (AVP) in Moscow and Ukraine and also (from time to time) for immigrants and prison personnel, assistance for families, preservation of archival historical materials about Friends, and English teaching. FHM also works closely with two groups comprising the Moscow Meeting.

Examples of FHM's promoted work include, among many other projects:

- Work With Conscripts and Conscientious Objectors: The Alternativshchik program, which counsels mandatory military service conscripts as well as conscience objectors, conducted over 300 consultations in 2018 and represented several current servicemen in legal proceedings. This program also publishes and disseminates a widely read newsletter in hard copy, and FHM staff is working on a website (for 2019) that will contain all their informational materials.
- AVP/Moscow: The 2018 reactivation of the Moscow AVP program (after a two-year hiatus), has started training new facilitators. FHM also funds online advertising for this AVP program.
- AVP/Ukraine: A grant for AVP/Ukraine, which is closely connected with German Quakers and Mennonites, will cover the costs for two series of workshops in 2019: (1) Workshops for up to 100 juvenile delinquents and soldiers and (2) workshops for up to 300 social workers, psychologists, and teachers. In 2018 AVP/Ukraine focused on Ukrainian Army conscripts and students in technical colleges in three cities.
- Dzerzhinsk: "Children & Social Networks" is a relatively new program in 2018 in Dzerzhinsk, involving teaching safe Internet use and suicide prevention involving over 70 adult volunteers over 7 months, working with child internet addiction and safety. An example of activities is older children who have been trained work with younger children teaching them about dangerous websites and about protection of personal data. Five 12-hour peer training sessions involved 62 participants; and presentations to parents at 5 schools were held. A telephone hotline service involved intensive work with 2 families and 66 individuals.
- Moscow Refugee School (Kids Are Kids Integration Centre): This FHM-supported project, along with the German Quaker-Hilfe, helps refugee children from such countries as Syria and the Congo adapt to Russian life. FHM and Quaker-Hilfe pay the salary of an administrator and specialists training volunteer tutors. [Http://kidsarekids-center.com/events](http://kidsarekids-center.com/events)
- The Big Change English Club: This group met twice a month over seven months in 2018, with 2-10 adult volunteer English teachers in sessions with 5-10 legal and social orphans transitioning out of orphanages into adult life. Orphans in Russia face extreme difficulties in their post-orphanage life, with only a 42-year anticipated life expectancy.
- Web/Social Media Activities: The Quakers.ru website is an online resource center for Russian-speaking people interested in Quakerism, and the Russian Quaker group has a lively Facebook platform (increased to 290 participants in 2018). Vkontakte (Russian form of Facebook, increased to 194 participants in 2018) is the second main social media platform. Staff updates the website at least weekly, recording about 31 visitors per day.
- FHM's Future Plans: FHM has a three-year plan which includes, among many other projects, selling Quaker books (42 books and articles have been translated into Russian)

in progressive bookshops, as well as crowdfunding print copies of William Penn's *Fruits of Solitude*, as translated.

FHM accomplishes much with a meager staff and facilities and little money. Financing comes from the U.S., Britain, Germany, and other European countries, including some foundation money, individual contributions, and some meeting contributions. FHM has two staff members, Natasha (full-time) and Sergei (almost full-time), who work extremely hard for subsistence wages. Additionally, FHM has a very hardworking, totally engaged board of Friends from the Russian Federation, the U.S., Britain, Luxembourg, France, Germany, and, from time to time, other European countries.

In the U.S., the Friends House Moscow Support Association (FHMSA; 501(c)(3)), collects and manages donations. With sadly deteriorating relations between Russia and the West, as well as rapidly escalating totalitarianism in Russia, FHM has taken on increasing responsibility in a country that almost totally lacks "civil society." Economic sanctions have made operations drastically more expensive as the declining value of the ruble makes everything much more expensive. Authorities are reducing the social supports on which many Russians depend, such as medical services and pension benefits; and the danger of more repression is increasing, with predicted increased chaos and lack of stability.

FHM faces extreme difficulties with ever-decreasing resources - but with amazing personal courage. The staff members there are incredibly brave and totally committed - often at great personal sacrifice.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Chapel Hill Friends member Karen Porter is deeply connected, having served on the board for four years, including terms as Clerk (two years) and Assistant Clerk (currently); four years as a member of the Management Group and as a member of the board of the Friends House Moscow Support Association. She conducted a CHFMSA forum, with excellent attendance, on Sept. 10, 2017; and will conduct a second forum on March 10, 2019. Having taught Anglo-American law to Russian lawyers for one semester a year over seven years of her retirement in 2010, she lived and worked in Russia for almost two years over that period, cumulatively.

INTER-FAITH COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE

(Updated by Karen Porter, Nov. 29, 2018, Hank Elkins Dec. 26, 2018)

ADDRESS

110 West Main St. Carrboro, NC 27510. www.ifcweb.org

Background:

The Inter-Faith Council for Social Service (IFC) was founded in 1963 to address the significant gaps that existed in the social safety net of the community. Seven local church women created the IFC "to discover unmet needs and to respond through the coordinated efforts of volunteers." With no paid staff or office space, IFC began providing crisis intervention assistance to people in

dire need. Today it is a nonprofit, nondenominational social service organization with a small staff providing basic services to combat poverty, hunger, and homelessness in Chapel Hill and Carrboro. IFC is the principal agency in Orange County for mobilizing the community to address homelessness, hunger, and economic disparity.

PROGRAM

Community Kitchen - Last year the IFC provided around 60,000 meals to food insecure individuals. Meals are free of charge and are provided to anyone who is hungry as well as to the residents of Community House and HomeStart. Community volunteers and volunteer groups representing congregations, businesses, neighborhoods and the University provide nutritious, hot meals 365 days a year.

Food Pantry - The Food Pantry provides around 1,300 bags of groceries to those in need every month. Households in Chapel Hill or Carrboro, or in which an adult works in those communities, may become members of the Pantry who are welcome to receive groceries once a month. Grocery quantities offered are based on the number of people in the household. Food Pantry members may be eligible for other services.

HomeStart - FC HomeStart is a 24-hour emergency shelter for women and families experiencing homelessness. In keeping with IFC's belief that everyone deserves dignified and affordable housing, HomeStart provides a safe, temporary home until residents obtain permanent housing. They assist residents in connecting to appropriate community resources for finding housing as soon as possible, as well as other resources such as healthcare and income growth. During extremely cold weather, HomeStart offers emergency overnight accommodations as space allows.

Community House - Community House is a 24-hour residential facility for men experiencing homelessness. In keeping with IFC's belief that everyone deserves dignified and affordable housing, it provides a safe, temporary home until residents obtain permanent housing. It assists residents in connecting to appropriate community resources for finding housing as soon as possible, as well as other resources. In partnership with Piedmont Health, it offers healthcare to residents and, during extremely cold weather emergency overnight cots as space allows.

Crisis Intervention - The Crisis Intervention program serves local households and persons in need by providing food, clothing, rent, utility assistance, help obtaining IDs, transportation, information, and referrals. Anyone who lives or works in Chapel Hill or Carrboro may call or visit when they are faced with economic uncertainty, an illness, or hardship that could lead to homelessness. Trained volunteers and professional staff assess clients' needs and provide a compassionate response to personal and household emergencies.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

CHFM members, notably Gerry Gourley and Mildred Ringwalt, were instrumental in founding IFC in 1963. CHFM members who have participated in IFC activities include (but are not limited to) Asta Crowe, Ann Drake, Max Drake, Kurt and Gwyn Hein, Dottie Heninger, Nancy Martin, Paul Munk, Gwynne Pomeroy, Bonnie Raphael, Carolyn Stuart, and Carolyn White. Individual members prepare and serve lunch for about 90 people in the Community Kitchen every first

Thursday and provide food items each first Sunday (IFC First Day). Many members and attenders provide services at IFC shelters and participate in the annual CROP walk and RSVVP programs; and some Meeting attenders have transitioned from the Orange Correctional Center back into the Community through a period of residence at the Community House.

ORANGE COUNTY JUSTICE UNITED

(Updated December 9, 2018 by Hank Elkins)

ADDRESS

PO Box 9484, Chapel Hill NC 27515 (919) 328 3966 - <http://www.ocjusticeunited.org/>

DESCRIPTION

Orange County Justice United is a broad based community power organization that develops civil sector leaders with the capacity to organize and win. In the late summer, 2017, the organization conducted a listening campaign with dozens of small groups representing important and diverse religious and civil organizations throughout Orange County. On September 11, 2017, leaders voted to focus on broad categories of concerns related to Housing, Jobs, and Immigration.

Employment: In April, 2018, four Orange County School Board candidates pledged to support recruitment of minority teachers and counselors in the county schools. All four candidates won their elections.

The Housing Action Team has drafted a proposal for Master Leasing of housing for those Orange County residents challenged to find conventional housing because of extremely low income, criminal records, mental illness, or poor credit. The proposal calls for a pilot project for ten housing units and a budget of approximately \$115,000. During the spring of 2018, the Housing Team met with the Housing Advocacy Boards for the both Orange County and the Town of Chapel Hill. Over the summer and early fall of 2018, the team met individually with members of the Town Council of Chapel Hill and the Orange County Commissioners. Grubb Properties has promised to lease up to ten units in the Glen Lennox apartment complex. The Triangle Community Fund has pledged \$35,000 toward the project, and the Community Home Trust has agreed to serve as project administrator. Justice United plans to present the project for funding first to the Chapel Hill Town Council and subsequently to the Orange County Commissioners.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Engagement</u>
Jim Palmer	Representative to Justice United from Peace and Justice Committee
Carolyn Stuart	Participant in Leaders' meetings and Town Council meeting
Dottie Heninger	Participant in Leaders' meetings
Tim Fogarty	Participant in Leaders' meetings
Tom McQuiston	Participant in Leaders' meetings
Richard Miller	Participant in Town Council meeting

Ronald Carnes Member, Housing Action Team
Buffie Webber Member, Housing Action Team
Hank Elkins Member, Housing Action Team

Jim Palmer, Dottie Heninger, Carolyn Stuart, and Tim Fogarty have received three-day training in community organization.

Jim Palmer has organized and led listening sessions to identify priorities for county action.

Devin Ross, JU organizer, presented a forum in the spring of 2017 focused on JU's efforts to negotiate a more equitable manner of dealing with undocumented immigrants without driving licenses. Undocumented people are not legally able to get drivers' licenses, and there is evidence that they have been targeted by Orange County sheriff's office. Numerous citations for driving without a license is costly for immigrant families and has curtailed, for some, their participation in school and community events for fear of being stopped for drivers' license checks. After Devin's forum, the meeting had 25 or so Friends in attendance at a rally held at St. Thomas More hosted by JU. Jim Woodall, District Attorney, was there and he committed to a new protocol to use with undocumented drivers. If they have no moving violations or other citations, they can take a safe driving course and the citation for driving without a license will be not be prosecuted. JU saw this as a significant win.

On November 29, 2017 Richard Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Nancy and Hank Elkins participated in the Chapel Hill Town Council meeting in support of affordable housing on the 36 acre Legion Road property.

NC WARN

(Updated December 9, 2018 by Hank Elkins)

ADDRESS

PO Box 61051, Durham, NC 27715-1051, www.ncwarn.org

DESCRIPTION

Background: On November 23, 2018, thirteen federal agencies issued a major scientific report with the starkest warnings to date on climate change for the United States. The report calls for significant action to prevent a loss of as much as ten percent of the size of the American economy.

Program: NC WARN, the foremost environmental justice organization in North Carolina, is waging an effective battle by combining scientific research, education, and practical action. Recently NC WARN published the comprehensive [North Carolina Clean Path 2025](#), a 113 page document replete with both technical and practical information. An [Executive Summary](#) of 7 pages is also available. Coupled with the publication is an [action plan](#) specifying practical steps for each of three types of localities. The North Carolina Clean Path 2025 offers a way to combat climate change by replacing greenhouse emissions with renewable solar power and enhanced batteries. The creation of the recommended distributed system would create more jobs, be less vulnerable to storms, and cost North Carolinians far less than the expensive system of large

power plants and long transmission lines proposed by Duke Energy. NC WARN Orange County Clean Path 2025 is off and running.

In 2018, NC WARN, in alliance with other environmental groups, successfully turned back a request by Duke Energy to the NC Utilities Commission for a 12 percent rate increase to pay for the cancellation of Duke's half-billion dollar investment in the Lee Nuclear Plant in northern South Carolina.

With the NAACP and other organizations, NC WARN is championing [Emergency Methane Action](#) endorsed by CHFM to stop the spewing of the powerful greenhouse gas. NC WARN is also waging a campaign to stop the proposed 600 mile [Atlantic Coast Pipeline](#) from bringing fracked gas from West Virginia and Pennsylvania to eastern North Carolina.

The Solarize Campaigns: The 2013-2016 NC WARN Solarize Campaigns helped hundreds of homeowners install solar panels. NC WARN enlisted homeowners to join in collaborative installation contracts to save thousands of dollars. With allied organizations, NC WARN waged solarize campaigns in more than a dozen locations including Asheville, Boone, Buncombe County, Cabarrus, Carrboro, Charlotte, Chatham County, Durham, Orange County, Raleigh, the Research Triangle Park, the Sandhills, and Wake County. Overall 498 solar installation contracts totaled 2.7 megawatts of power and avoided the burning of 1,453 tons of coal. .

In sum, NC WARN both educates and takes effective action in North Carolina. No other organization comes close.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

- On November 17, 2018, CHFM members Barbara Williamson, Hart Pillow, Madeleine Parker, Hank Elkins, and Ruth Zalph participated at the Friday Center in a forum updating North Carolina Clean Path 2025.
- At the request of NC WARN, Hank Elkins testified three times before the NC Utilities Commission against construction proposed by Duke Energy of coal power plants at Cliffside, NC. These presentations taking place in Raleigh and Durham required preparation in two forms, a written document to present to the Commission and an oral presentation before the Commission, the public staff, and the audience numbering 60-100 at the hearings.
- On November 11, 2017, Hank Elkins participated in the Orange County NC Clean Path 2025 meeting in Hillsborough at the Whitted Building. Among about 30 participants were elected officials from the Orange County Board of Commissioners and the towns of Hillsborough and Carrboro. Orange County has obtained a survey of the suitability of county buildings for solar installation and initially plans solar installation on the gymnasium adjacent to the Whitted Building.
- Madeline Parker, member of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, has joined NC WARN as an employee. She is a Youth Climate Justice Organizer.
- NC WARN needs additional volunteers for research, presenters/speakers on NC Clean Path 2025 and other topics, artists, mappers, people to meet with public officials, and volunteers to staff tables at public events.
- Jim Warren, Executive Director of NC WARN, presented a forum on NC WARN in 2016.

ORANGE COUNTY PEACE COALITION

(Updated by Hank Elkins, October 31, 2018)

ADDRESS

% Ann Powers, Treasurer, 6 Carolina Meadows, Apt. 102, Chapel Hill 27517-8525

DESCRIPTION

The Orange County Peace Coalition sponsors annual events on Memorial Day and Hiroshima Day. In addition, the Coalition organizes vigils, petitions to local governing bodies, and forums on topics of peace. The Coalition's Memorial Day Event celebrated on May 28, 2018 featured the Mennonite pastor, Rev. Issac S. Villegas on the topic "The Ongoing War on Immigrants and Refugees." The 2017 speaker on immigration and sanctuary had been Lori Khamala of Chapel Hill Friends and AFSC on the subject of undocumented immigrants and the role of sanctuary. For the Hiroshima-Nagasaki event on Nagasaki Day, August 9, 2018 the Coalition sponsored a John Pilger's film, "*The Coming War on China*." The aim of this film is to break a silence: the United States and China may well be on the road to war, and nuclear war is no longer unthinkable. Max Drake serves as the meeting representative on the Coalition. Participating organizations include:

- Balance and Accuracy in Journalism
- Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
- Coalition for Peace with Justice
- Community Church
- Church of Reconciliation
- Elders for Peace
- Ethical Humanist Society
- Peace Action
- Peace 1st
- St. Thomas More Church
- Veterans for Peace
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom –Triangle Branch

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

- At the Coalition's Memorial Day Event celebrated May 29, 2017, Lori Khamala, member of Chapel Hill Friends, was the featured speaker. This event was announced and publicized in the Meeting.
- Members of the Meeting were active in the successful efforts to petition local government bodies to call for reduction of military expenses. The local bodies included the Orange County Board of Commissioners, the Chapel Hill/Carrboro School Board, the Chapel Hill Town Council, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, and the Hillsborough Commissioners.
- Max Drake currently serves as the representative from Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. Past representatives have included Ruth Zalph and Hank Elkins.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD CHAPEL HILL

(Submitted by Maura Murphy on Oct. 21, 2018, updated by Karen November 30, 2018)

ADDRESS

Planned Parenthood, 1765 Dobbins Drive, Chapel Hill NC 27514.
https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center/north-carolina/chapel-hill/27514/chapel-hill-health-center-4169-90860?utm_campaign=chapel-hill-health-center&utm_medium=organic&utm_source=local-listing

BACKGROUND

Planned Parenthood provides low-cost health care to women and provides safe access to gynecological, HIV testing, and abortion services. Given the possibility of Roe vs. Wade (guaranteeing abortion rights) being overturned in the near future, it is critical to provide support. This organization is a great resource for the community and provides an important way for CHFM to demonstrate its support for women. Planned Parenthood is one of the nation's leading providers of high-quality, affordable health care, and the nation's largest provider of sex education. With or without insurance, a woman in need can always come to Planned Parenthood for health care.

PROGRAM

In October 2016, Planned Parenthood turned 100 years old. Planned Parenthood was founded on the idea that women should have the information and care they need to live strong, healthy lives and fulfill their dreams — no ceilings, no limits. Today, Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider, an informed educator, a passionate advocate, and a global partner helping similar organizations around the world. Planned Parenthood delivers vital reproductive health care, sex education, and information to millions of women, men, and young people worldwide.

Planned Parenthood is a respected leader in educating Americans about reproductive and sexual health and delivers comprehensive sex education that empowers all people to make informed choices and lead healthy lives. Planned Parenthood provides young people with honest sexuality and relationship information in classrooms and online to help reduce the nation's alarmingly high rates of unintended teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Planned Parenthood affiliates provide educational programs and outreach to 1.5 million young people and adults every year.

A woman who needs emergency contraception (AKA the morning after pill), can walk in anytime Planned Parenthood is open. Birth control refill pick-ups are also available during open hours.

On campuses and online, in statehouses and courts, in community settings, and in the media, Planned Parenthood is a visible and passionate advocate for policies that enable Americans to access comprehensive reproductive and sexual health care, education, and information. Whether talking with members of Congress, parents, or faith leaders, or arguing cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, Planned Parenthood fights for commonsense policies that promote women's health, allow individuals to prevent unintended pregnancies through access to affordable contraception,

and protect the health of young people by providing them with comprehensive sex education. Planned Parenthood has 12 million activists, supporters, and donors nationwide. The Planned Parenthood Action Network enables online activists in all 50 states to stay on top of the issues and get involved with campaigns that advance and protect women's rights and health.

The Planned Parenthood Action Fund is an independent, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization formed as the advocacy and political arm of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Fortifying our commitment to protect women's health, educate teens, and prevent unintended pregnancies, the Action Fund engages in educational and electoral activity, including public education campaigns, grassroots organizing, and legislative advocacy.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Both Maura Murphy and Naveed Moeed volunteer for Planned Parenthood.

QUAKER EARTHCARE WITNESS

Updated by Asta Crowe October 12, 2018, Hank Elkins December 9, 2018

ADDRESS

www.quakerearthcare.org, Quaker Earthcare Witness, P.O. Box 6787, Albany, CA 94706, 510-542-9606

BACKGROUND

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) is a spiritually-centered movement of Quakers and other like-minded people seeking ways to integrate concerns for the environment with Friends' long-standing testimonies for simplicity, integrity, peace and equality, taking spirit-led action to address ecological and social concerns, emphasizing Quaker process and testimonies, including continuing revelation. QEW has grown over the last 25 years out of a deepening sense of spiritual connection with the natural world. Out of this has come an urgency to work on climate and related issues.

PROGRAM

QEW's work currently consists primarily of 1) material and spiritual support for individual Friends and Friends groups who are working on ecological sustainability issues from a spiritual perspective and 2) publications, programs, projects, and other activities that are aimed at making human activities not only ecologically sustainable but in harmony with the larger purposes of creation. Animal welfare is an ongoing concern and they publish articles in their newsletter about living in right relationship with all beings, the value of a vegetarian/vegan diet and humane treatment of domestic animals as well as the value of preserving wild lands and natural habitats for species diversity and welfare.

In July 2018 the QEW United Nations Working Group organized the African Diaspora Earthcare Coalition focusing on the UN Decade for Action: Water for Sustainable Development, hosted the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York. This follows their successful 2017 gathering on food sovereignty that connected leaders and participants from North America and Africa. (See <https://www.quakerearthcare.org/article/water-reconnecting-people-african-descent> for more information). They launched a fundraising campaign through

Crowdrise to fund this work. Next summer (2019) the focus of the forum will be on food sovereignty.

QEW has a small office staff with an operating budget around \$80,000/year. Their work has focused on areas such as indigenous rights, climate change, and youth leadership among Friends. They have revised their Earthcare curricula; continue to fund hands-on sustainability through their mini-grants program (up to \$500), and continue to sponsor international forums on environmental concerns for the African diaspora. Mini-grant programs can include improving the immediate environment, educating young and old on reducing carbon footprint, and others. Previous projects have included starting edible gardens, adding a composter to a Friends' school, completing a Meeting solar energy project. Our own Meeting received such a grant several years ago to establish an edible garden for the First Day School.

See their website (<https://www.quakerearthcare.org>) for extensive information on their service, work, and outreach. It's worth visiting this to find out more about their work. Mary Jo Klingel (mjklingelftlq@comcast.net) the new clerk of QEW, is in Charlotte NC and might be willing to come and meet with us, possibly present a forum.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Our Meeting has been a recipient of one of their mini-grants. Most of their funding comes from the Quaker community, which is an essential component of their on-going work. They are currently bringing in 10-15% less than they need to be sustainable so our support is important. In previous years Ruth Hamilton and Michael Jokinen participated in regional national QEW meetings and represented QEW at the Intermountain Yearly Meeting.

QUAKER HOUSE

(Updated December 15, 2018 by John Hite)

ADDRESS

223 Hillside Ave., Fayetteville, NC 28301 www.quakerhouse.org

BACKGROUND

The Quaker House mission is a manifestation of the Religious Society of Friends' Peace Testimony. Based in Fayetteville, NC, the home of Fort Bragg, Quaker House provides counseling and support to service members who are questioning their role in the military; educates them, their families, and the public about military issues; and advocates for a more peaceful world.

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting is a founding member of Quaker House since 1969 when Dean Holland, a Vietnam era soldier who wanted to be a conscientious objector came to our meeting requesting help. The meeting concluded that "Quakers need to be in Fayetteville" and with the help of Bob Gwyn and local meetings established Quaker House.

PROGRAM

The Quaker House GI Rights Hotline answers thousands of calls from active duty military, veterans, and their families. The number of calls to the hotline continues to increase. This year the Hotline counselors answered an average of 246 calls per month for a total of 2,948 calls. The counselors most rewarding yet most time consuming work is helping service members obtain conscientious objector status, guiding and providing moral support as service members move through regulations, delays and at times deliberate roadblocks of the command structure. The counselors also have been busier than ever helping service members who are being threatened with other-than-honorable discharges. Service members are being accused of “misconduct” or “personality disorder” when they actually suffer from PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, Moral Injury, and/or Military Sexual Trauma. Quaker House helps them prove their medical condition so that they can receive an honorable discharge and their medical benefits. Quaker House has helped bring national attention to this problem.

Domestic violence, sexual assault, and moral injury: Quaker House also continues the important work of providing free and confidential counseling and support for the victims of military domestic violence, sexual assault, and moral injury. The therapist, Joanna, is a valuable support for the GI Rights Hotline counselors. They have been able to refer several suicidal service members to her and know that they will be in good care. The reputation of the program has grown both in the community and on base at Fort Bragg. The service is often the last resort for those in need of help

Other Program Activities:

- Alternatives to Violence Project training
- Provision of Truth in Recruiting literature
- Mindfulness classes
- AA group meetings
- Race Relations discussions
- Advocating for conflict resolution classes in the public schools
- Collaboration with military chaplains and mental health care professionals at Ft. Bragg

Mental health: Quaker House has taken up the issue of the poor mental health care provided for the more than 250,000 incarcerated service members and veterans. This issue was brought to the attention of Quaker House by the tragic case of a service member in Fayetteville who was sentenced to 10-18 years in prison for an offense that was brought on by his severe PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury. Quaker House is working with his family and lawyer to help him, and has organized a petition and a vigil calling for “Adequate and Compassionate Mental Health Care for Service Members and Veterans” nationally. The Military Chaplains Association of North America published the petition on their electronic newsletter, and the Raleigh News and Observer and the Fayetteville Observer published an op ed by Quaker House on the subject. In September, Quaker House tabled at both the Mental Health Summit and the Special Victims Summit on Ft. Bragg.

Publications: Quaker House published two books this year. *Help for Moral Injury: Strategies and Interventions* was written by Cecilia Yocum, Ph.D. She volunteered to write the book after hearing the moral injury presentation. It is selling nationwide and even as far as England. Curt Torell, our board treasurer, wrote *Conscientious Objection: Is This for You? Discerning a Claim and Documenting It with Selective Service*. It, too, is reaching a wide and appreciative audience.

Financials: This past year, Quaker House made a special appeal to our meeting to boost or least continue its allotted benevolence, especially since Quaker House recently lost the support of our largest donor, who passed away in 2016. Quaker House also incurred additional expenses in our search and transition for a new director. With no endowment, Quaker House is experiencing increased need for services and anticipates that this need will continue to grow as our current administration in Washington is significantly more bellicose and belligerent. Quaker House has proved its services to be both effective and efficient. One call to our GI Rights Hotline counselor costs Quaker House only \$9.28, including salary and all overhead, with calls averaging about 11 minutes and some calls lasting 40 minutes. The cost to Quaker House of a one hour long session with our Domestic Violence in the Military counselor is \$31, about one third the typical rates in the area. Many times our clients in both services are desperate, having no other recourse; some are suicidal. Our services are free and available to anyone. Quaker House saves lives.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

On December 10, 2017, the new Quaker House director, Kindra Bradley, presented a forum at CHFM. Quaker House board members make regular announcements at meeting for worship and post information in the newsletter and listserv. Teens, most recently Finn James, presented their Conscientious Objector letters to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and members and attenders participate in Quaker House events and vigils both in Fayetteville and across the state. Many in our meeting receive our newsletter. Curt Torell recently published an article in Friends Journal on "Why Talk about Conscientious Objection with Youth?" CHFM has four representatives on the Quaker House board: Nancy Fisher, Richard Miller, and Curt Torell.

CHURCH OF RECONCILIATION FOR SANCTUARY EFFORTS

(Updated by John Hite Dec.15, 2018, Hank Elkins Dec. 26, 2018)

ADDRESS

110 N Elliott Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

PROGRAM

Currently, Rosa del Carmen Ortega Cruz lives in Sanctuary at the Church of Reconciliation. She was the fifth person in the state to enter Sanctuary rather than be deported back to Honduras, not only one of the most dangerous countries in the world overall, but also where she fled an abusive partner who attempted to kill her. Rosa applied for asylum but so far her requests have been denied. She has one remaining appeal.

Since President Trump took office, immigration arrests have increased dramatically and more immigrants are at risk than ever before. The Church of Reconciliation and the Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship have worked together to offer Rosa a safe haven. This has meant an enormous amount of volunteer hours and financial support.

Making an ongoing financial commitment to Sanctuary would greatly support this effort to resist Trump's cruel deportation policies and would support our local sister congregations who are taking the strong stand by actually housing people in need of Sanctuary.

We propose CHFM make a significant ongoing financial contribution to churches in our area offering Sanctuary. Right now, there is a great need with Rosa at the Church of Reconciliation, but that need could potentially shift, if she is able to leave Sanctuary and someone else enters, for example at the Community Church (Universalist Unitarian congregation).

There are constant financial needs to support Rosa and her children, who are staying with family members in Greensboro, since Rosa is not able to work while she is in Sanctuary. For example, Rosa is able to occupy herself and make a little extra money by making and selling beaded jewelry.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Quakers were very involved in the first Sanctuary movement in the 1980s and from as far back as the Underground Railroad supported communities seeking safety from abusive government policies. Through multiple forums and by individual member participation, the Meeting has indicated support for the concept of Sanctuary and for individuals in Sanctuary, but we have yet to make a substantive contribution as a collective body.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Engagement</u>
Lori Fernald Khamala	Personal support as well as organizational support through the American Friends Service Committee
Imani Khamala	Photographed Rosa for a school project about heroes
Karen Porter	Regular volunteer
Leslie Rountree	Regular volunteer
Tim Fogarty	Support with donations
Others	Several others have been engaged with Rosa and Sanctuary efforts in some way.

SNOW CAMP OUTDOOR THEATRE

ADDRESS

Snow Camp Historical Drama, P.O Box 535, Snow Camp NC 27349

PROGRAM

The Snow Camp Historical Drama Company produces two dramas with local Quakers at the center of the drama. One is during the Revolutionary War (Sword of Peace) and the other is during the 1850s (Pathway to Freedom) Both show how Quakers in this area were affected by war and slavery and how some of them reacted. The plays are, and always have been, performed by multiracial casts. The Society also produces children's plays, a Juneteenth celebration, and contributes to local Halloween, harvest, and Christmas events. The site is home to several historic meeting houses, an ordinary house for the early 1800s, a black school building, and a museum of farm equipment and other interesting items. There is also a good restaurant and an ice cream shop.

Officers are David Hobson, Treasurer - 336-202-9089

Elijah Chester, General Manager - 336-376-6948

Note: While not formally "Quaker," it is devoted to presenting Quaker history and witness in drama and in preserving historic NC Quaker buildings & artifacts.

MEETING INVOLVEMENT

Wendy Michener has attended events and shows, explored all the buildings and exhibits and supported fundraising efforts. The drama company has spoken and performed at CHFMs forums, most recently in 2017. Numerous CHFMs members have attended the presentations.

Friends from Chapel Hill Meeting have often attended the plays. Troupes of cast members have visited CHFMs to share sketches & music (especially from our play, *Pathway to Freedom*, about the Underground Railroad.) We would welcome more CHFMs engagement, as an opportunity for a broadened multicultural Quaker experience, as many of the Friends who built & sustain the Snow Camp Drama are from the programmed/pastoral traditions. We also maintain racially diverse casts, and our original plays, while based on past events, resonate strongly with present day issues and struggles.

BENEVOLENCE BUDGETS 2018-2019

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting	2017- 2018	2018-2019 Proposal	Change
Proposed Benevolences for 2018-2019	Amount	Amount	
Alamance Orange Prison Ministry	\$400	\$400	\$0
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC-P)	\$1,100	\$900	-\$200
American Friends Service Carolinas (AFSC-C)	\$800	\$900	\$100
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF)	\$600	\$800	\$200
Carolina Friends School (CFS)	\$4,000	\$4,300	\$300
Dispute Settlement Center	0	\$100	\$100
Friends Com. On Nat'l Legislation (FCNL)	\$2,300	\$2,350	\$50
Friends House Moscow (FHM)	200	\$150	-\$50
Interfaith Council (IFC)	6200	\$5500	-\$700
IFC Food First Capital Project	400	0	-\$400
NC WARN	\$1320	\$1,400	\$80
Orange Co. Peace Coalition (OCPC)	\$50	\$50	\$0
Orange County Justice United (JU)	\$300	\$500	\$200
Planned Parenthood	0	\$100	\$100
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$200	\$100	-\$100
Quaker House (QH)	\$6,500	\$6,600	\$100
Sanctuary (Church of the Reconciliation)	0	\$250	\$250
Snow Camp Outdoor Theater (SC)	\$50	\$50	\$0
Totals	\$24,420	\$24,450	\$30