



Peacemakers in your Neighbourhood

The Meeting House partners with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to walk with people who have been impacted by violence around the world and here in Ontario. Each year we collect funds and items in order to put together Relief Kits and Peace Cards. Relief Kits are a collection of essential items that MCC distributes to compliment their relief services to people affected by crisis in order to meet their basic needs. This year the kits are going to persons affected by the violence in Syria. The funds raised through Peace Cards support MCC's peacebuilding work across sub-Saharan Africa as well as their reconciliation efforts with our Indigenous neighbours and Restorative Justice work in Ontario.

1. Prepare

- Determine your strategy to get your neighbourhood involved. Who will you ask? What will you be collecting (kits, cards, or both)? What are your collection goals?
- If you are collecting Relief Kits, prepare one ahead of time to show as an example.

2. Invite

- Communicate the campaign and your goals to your neighbours in person, online, or by phone.
- Share why you are collecting Relief Kits & Peace Cards. i.e. *"Every year our church supports an organization called Mennonite Central Committee who partners with organizations globally and in Ontario to help provide practical support to people affected by violence."*
- Communicate that for financial donations, people can give at themeetinghouse.com/giving or by texting "TMH" to 77977 and selecting 'Peacemakers' from the dropdown menu.
- Share the date and location your neighbours can deliver the cards and kits.
- Give your neighbours your contact information in case they have questions.

3. Collect

- (Optional) Host a gathering for your neighbours to celebrate the amount of Peace Cards and/or Relief Kits you collected.
- Take a photo and send it to your neighbours to say thank you.
- Send this photo to your site's Lead Pastor and Compassion Coordinator.

4. Follow Up

- Report the total number of Relief Kits and Peace Cards that The Meeting House collected.
 - Share the Peacemakers wrap up video with your neighbours which The Meeting House will share on social media a couple weeks after the campaign collection day.
 - Invite your neighbours to provide feedback for your fundraiser for next year's campaign.
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Ideas to Engage your Neighbours

- Invite your neighbours to attend an information session at your house to learn more about the campaign. A link to videos about Peacemakers will be available at the website listed below.
- Facilitate an educational experience on one of the areas we support in the campaign. If you are stumped on where to start, review this document ([here](#)) for resources on Indigenous and non-Indigenous reconciliation.
- Take turns as a group walking through the Global Rich List website and reflect on your own experience of wealth and poverty (<http://www.globalrichlist.com/>).
- Take a photo once a week as your collection of items grows and share it by email/text

Collection Date: Sunday, March 08, 2020 at all Meeting House locations.

For a list of items in the Relief Kit and more information about Peacemakers please visit:
themeetinghouse.com/peacemakers

Peacemakers in your Workplace

The Meeting House partners with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to walk with people who have been impacted by violence around the world and here in Ontario. Each year we collect funds and items in order to put together Relief Kits and Peace Cards. Relief Kits are a collection of essential items that MCC distributes to compliment their relief services to people affected by crisis in order to meet their basic needs. This year the kits are going to persons affected by the violence in Syria. The funds raised through Peace Cards support MCC's peacebuilding work across sub-Saharan Africa as well as their reconciliation efforts with our Indigenous neighbours and Restorative Justice work in Ontario.

1. Prepare

- Determine your strategy to get your workplace involved. Who will you ask to give? What will you be collecting (kits, cards, or both)? What are your collection goals?
- If you are collecting Relief Kits, prepare one ahead of time to show as an example.
- Confirm with your employer that you would be able to promote the campaign at work.

2. Invite

- Communicate the campaign and your goals at a staff meeting, on a poster, or via email.
- Share why you are collecting Relief Kits & Peace Cards. i.e. *"Every year our church supports an organization called Mennonite Central Committee who partners with organizations globally and in Ontario to help provide practical support to people affected by violence."*
- Communicate that for financial donations, people can give at themeetinghouse.com/giving or by texting "TMH" to 77977 and selecting 'Peacemakers' from the dropdown menu.
- Share the time and location your colleagues can deliver the cards and kits to your work.

3. Collect

- (Optional) If you are collecting Relief Kits, display collected bags as they are dropped off in a central location in your workplace.
- Take a photo and send it to your colleagues to say thank you.

4. Follow Up

- Report the total number of Relief Kits and Peace Cards that The Meeting House collected.
 - Share the Peacemakers wrap up video with your colleagues which The Meeting House will share on social media a couple weeks after the campaign collection day.
 - Invite your colleagues to provide feedback for your fundraiser for next year's campaign.
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Ideas to Engage your Workplace

- Host an information session during lunch to share more about the campaign. A link to videos about Peacemakers will be available at the website listed below.
- Create labeled tags for each item that is needed to go inside each kit. Have your colleagues pick out as many tags as they want to be responsible for contributing.
- Purchase reusable grocery bags to represent the number of kits that you want to complete as a team and invite colleagues to take a bag.
- Take turns as a group walking through the Global Rich List website and reflect on your own experience of wealth and poverty (<http://www.globalrichlist.com/>).

Collection Date: Sunday, March 08, 2020 at all Meeting House locations

For a list of items in the Relief Kit and more information about Peacemakers please visit:

themeetinghouse.com/peacemakers



Fundraiser Procedures

This document outlines proper procedures for how to securely handle money raised for The Meeting House Peacemakers campaign in support of Mennonite Central Committee. Please follow these steps if you will be handing money to ensure the funds collected are secured. You do not need to follow these procedures if you are exclusively collecting in-kind donations to make Relief Kits.

Money Collection Steps:

1. Inform your Lead Pastor and your Compassion Coordinator that you are organizing a fundraising event for Peacemakers.
2. After the event, have two individuals count the money and place it in an envelope or a pencil case-type pouch. Write '*Peacemakers Fundraiser*' and the total amount of money raised on the outside of the envelope or on a piece of paper that can be placed inside the pouch.
3. Bring the envelope the following Sunday morning to church and give it to the offering counters. If the fundraiser is ongoing bring in money as collected. **Do not hold onto the money for more than a week**
4. Ask the offering counters to count the money and inform them to label it separately on one of the empty 'other' boxes on the offering count sheet.
5. If there is a lot of small change please place the coins into coin rolls.
6. Inform everyone involved in the fundraiser the total amount of funds raised and share about your fundraiser with your Compassion Coordinator and Lead Pastor.

If you have any questions about how to securely handle money for a Peacemakers fundraiser please contact Judy Maranta at judy.maranta@themeetinghouse.com

January 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

Every year our church, The Meeting House, organizes a fundraising campaign for the international development organization, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). For the campaign, which we have named *Peacemakers*, we raise finances and collect select in-kind donations to make Relief Kits valuing approximately \$70 for MCC's peacebuilding and relief initiatives in sub-Saharan Africa, Jordan, and Ontario. Last year we raised \$260,000 and collected 1,000 Relief Kits as a church.

Please consider the opportunity to support our fundraising efforts for this year's campaign.

Your support will go towards:

- a. Peacebuilding projects across sub-Saharan Africa
- b. Peacebuilding projects in Ontario in the areas of Restorative Justice and reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours
- c. Humanitarian relief efforts in Jordan

We are grateful for the support you can provide our community as they host a variety of fundraising events now until our campaign concludes on March 8, 2020. We also welcome and appreciate donations and store discounts towards the purchase of any items listed on the included checklist. Please note that The Meeting House is unable to provide tax receipts for gifts in-kind.

Thank you for partnering with us as we support the work MCC is doing globally and in Ontario to serve those living in conflict. Our goal this year is to collect 1000 Relief Kits and raising \$225,000. To learn more please visit our website at **themeetinghouse.com/peacemakers**.

If you have any questions regarding the campaign, please do not hesitate to call me or to reach out to The Meeting House location nearest you.

If you graciously donate please follow up with the church member who approached you directly rather than contacting myself.

Sincerely,

M. Thompson

Matt Thompson
Compassion Manager
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