

## **Peace and Justice Committee Annual Report 2022**

March, 2022

Since our last report, in April of 2021, the Peace & Justice Committee has been busy. We conduct open meetings each month at the rise of late Meeting on second Sundays. All Friends are invited to join us! Use the regular Meeting link, used for Forums and MfW, at 1pm. We conduct informative, and at times spirited discussions of the many peace and justice activities of the Meeting and of individual Friends. This report highlights only some of these activities, which are too numerous to report in full.

### **We used the listserv, the newsletter, and announcements to educate and encourage Friends about**

- a) ways to support refugees from Afghanistan
- b) activities and opportunities with the Orange County Bail Bond Project
- c) the needs and activities of Re-entry House in Hillsborough
- d) action items provided by our own Emma Hulbert, currently working for FCNL
- e) a letter sent by the committee to Representative David Price, asking him to co-sponsor HR 751, condemning Israel's designation of six Palestinian NGOs as terrorist organizations
- f) contacting Senators Burr and Tillis this Friday, asking them to vote for SJ Res 10, to repeal the 2002 Authorization for the Use of Military Force. (under the auspices of the FCNL North Carolina Advocacy Teams)

### **We supported FCNL and educated Meeting members by**

- a) Sponsoring a Forum to allow Meeting members to share their leadings regarding the best directions for FCNL lobbying efforts in Washington, gathering those leadings, seasoning them in committee, bringing them for approval at the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and sending them on to FCNL.

With the Transition & Support (T&S) Committee, we recommended that **CHFM partner with the Orange County Bail Bond Project**. Volunteers will be welcome to be court observers, provide transportation to court, and perform other tasks once training resumes. Financial contributions from individuals are welcome.

**Anti-Racism (sub) Committee.** Our Anti-Racism (sub)Committee (ARC) consists of several members of the Peace and Justice Committee and several other Meeting members and attenders. ARC took several actions this year:

- Shared several dozen anti-racism anecdotes from Meeting members in the Meeting listserv and newsletter. The complete set can be found at our CHFM website - go to Committees in the left Menu, find P&J and click on documents.
- Published lists of books, YouTube and movie reviews relevant to the subject of antiracism which lists can be found at the CHFM website at P&J documents.

- Seasoned Joyce Sandy's Change the Name Project (CtN), which was approved by Peace and Justice and by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. When major changes were subsequently requested by ARC, CtN was removed from the care of the Meeting by Joyce. Joyce and Faye Stanley continue to move CtN forward, with Tom Munk and Naveed Moeed serving on its board. P&J minuted support for the continued work by these and other Meeting members and attenders. The website for CtN can be found at [ctn.8hcollective.com](http://ctn.8hcollective.com)
- Presented, in a Forum, three of the leading voices in anti-racism work and took reflections from the people who attended. The notes from that Forum will be posted on our CHFM website among the P&J documents.

### **Benevolences.**

- We reported out to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business about the activities of two of our benevolences: the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry, and NC Warn. We sponsored a Forum on NC Warn. FCNCL is the third benevolence and they will report on themselves.
- We confirmed that all of last years' benevolences were received in the correct amounts by their recipients: Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry, Friends Committee on NC Legislation, and NC WARN.
- Recommended an equal distribution this year to the same three beneficiary organizations, with expectation to return to a more robust process next year. These recommendations were approved by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.
- The committee will present a forum about Re-Entry House + in 2022, with the goal of raising \$1000 for it and considering it for a benevolence next year.

We are particularly grateful for the services of Faye Stanley, who was recording clerk of the committee for the first half of this year. In response to Faye's criticism of our committee's bent towards activism, we have suggested to M&W that they sponsor a Threshing Session (two hours or three) on the balance of inward worship and outward service in our Meeting with the purpose of airing feelings and opinions and bringing us, by virtue of listening to each other, to greater unity and understanding of ourselves and our Meeting's place in God's work.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bassinger, Hank Elkins, Joe Groves, Wendy Michener (co-clerk), Tom Munk (co-clerk), Ellen O'Brien, Joyce Sandy