

Fresno Center for Nonviolence dedicated to Peace and Social Justice

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April 2020

Dear Friends of the Center:

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, this Spring Appeal letter is coming to you at a most difficult and dangerous time. On the positive side, we are discovering many other ways to stay in touch as we are 'sheltering in place'. Our Board just used Zoom for our April meeting; I've just sent out links to our list-serv for watching what was to have been a CineCulture film in March. Many organizations and families are video or teleconferencing, skyping, FaceTiming.

And yet, with more deaths from Covid-19 showing up in minority and poor communities in the United States, it has also brought to light the many inequalities and racial discrimination that exist here. It is sincerely hoped that as we recover from this pandemic, we won't forget. We need to regularly remind ourselves and our elected officials that we need healthcare for everyone, shelter, clean air and water. On social media I found this: "It is like we have all been sent to our rooms to think about what we did".

As a precaution, we decided to close our Center facility until we feel it is safe to reopen. Though we had to cancel a number of important events, we are doing our best to stay in touch by continuing to host our Stir-It-Up radio show on KFCF 88.1, prepare the page that we buy in Community Alliance, and forward important messages and links to our list-serv. (Community Alliance will be digital for the foreseeable future: you can find the link at www.fresnoalliance.com.)

Hopefully, our 28th Anniversary on Saturday, June 13th will not have to be cancelled. It will be from 4-6 p.m. at the Community United Church of Christ, 5550 N. Fresno Street, Fresno. It will be a potluck, we'll have our 2020 Way of Peace Awards, a raffle and our keynote speaker will be Marylia Kelley, Executive Director of Tri-Valley Cares, an organization dealing with nuclear issues.

"Violence is bred by inequality, nonviolence by equality." Gandhi Over the past 28 years, many people have supported us in a myriad of ways. We hope those who are able help us financially will continue to do so. Since our facility is closed right now, I can't say to "keep the lights on!" But we want to make sure our landlord, Binh Nguyen, gets paid. He has been very good to us, never putting up our rent. We have two people that work for us as independent contractors – one does flyers and is the editor of our page in Community Alliance and one advises us on technical issues and does our calendar on the webpage; we think it important to continue to pay them.

So, dear friends, please be as generous as possible during our Spring Appeal. You may send us a check at 1584 N. Van Ness Ave., Fresno, CA 93728, or donate via PayPal using our website www.centerfornonviolence.org ***and click on Donate. For 2020 there is an incentive for charitable giving – it includes a new above-the-line deduction for total charitable contributions of up to \$300 whether itemized or not. Though they are not meeting right now, remember that you are also helping many groups that call us home – Community Alliance, WILPF, Peace Fresno, Free College Foundation (KFCF) and an Al-Anon group.

Our Board joins me in sending you a virtual group 'hug.' We sincerely hope that you and your families are safe and staying healthy. If you have any questions, please feel free to send them to me at angela.price41@comcast.net.

n peace,

Angela Price, President

*** Sorry, folks, we are having difficulty with our website right now,. If you usually donate to us via our Center's PayPal account, I believe that should still work for you. However, if this is your first time, there is another way! If you have a PayPal account, you can donate to us by using our eBay account at center.for.nonviolence@gmail.com. If you don't have a PayPal account, it is very easy to set up. Our eBay account still goes into our Bank of Sierra account.

If not easy for you - please just send us a check! Again, sorry for all the confusion.