Reject the Lie of the #FourthofJuly!

Neither Africans, nor Natives, nor any peoples exploited and brutalized by American settler colonialism knew freedom at the inception of this so-called holiday in 1776. The exploitation and murder of our ancestors continued unabated as the myth of this country was born. Join May Day 505 at Phil Chacon Park on Thursday, July 4, Noon-5pm, as we celebrate the #FourthoftheLie: an afternoon of revolutionary speakers, music, delicious shared food (with vegan options!), flag burning, and international and working class solidarity against oppression. Join us at the park as we expose the lie of American Independence Day and continue to build Albuquerque’s movement for social justice and against imperialism, capitalism, and colonialism - all while having a great time with good food on a beautiful day. This event is free and open to all: families, children, elders, LGBTQ folks welcome!

MONDAYS
350NM.org 1st & 3rd Mon. 5-7pm, 4th Mon. 6:30pm. 350-6000
Veterans for Peace ABQ 2nd Monday, 5:30-8pm. 720-4939
Non-Binary Support Group 2nd/4th Monday, 7-9pm, TGRCNM, 149 Jackson St. NE, 200-9086
CTTT-ABQ 3rd Mon. evenings. 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE. ComingToTheTable.org

THURSDAYS
Americans United for Separation of Church & State-NM 1st Thursdays, 6pm. 296-8073
P&J Center Coordinating Council 3rd Thursdays, 5:30-7:30pm, all are welcome. 268-9557

FRIDAYS
Sierra Club & Root Beer 1st Friday on odd months, 6:30-8pm, 243-7767
Open Mind Discussion (NVC) 2nd and 4th Fridays, 11:30am-1pm, 881-4536
P&J Building & Grounds Committee Last Friday, 2-3:30pm, 933-1558

SATURDAYS
Good Food Distribution Weekly, 9am. 315-4167
Sitting for Peace Weekly, 9-10am, Bataan Park NE corner, 3407 Lomas NE, all welcome in silence. 265-2178
St. Mary Magdalene Community Mass, Weekly, 5-7pm, 1st Congregational UCC, 2801 Lomas NE, 345-3677, 977-4661.
Grandmother’s Council of NM 2nd Saturday, 1:30-3:30pm. 610-8258
Diné Bizaad Study Group 2nd/4th Sat. at 1pm, 1421 Central Ave. NE. rrzayas@unm.edu
Vigil for the Children Weekly at Noon, U.S. Fed. Courthouse, NW corner of 3rd/Lomas. medicinedrumcircle@yahoo.com
Medicine Drum Circle 2nd Sat. 1:30-3pm, St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal, 425 University Blvd NE. 417-4704
Cottonwood Medicine Collective herbal clinic, 3rd Saturdays 11am-3pm. cottonwoodmedicine@gmail.com
Gray Panthers 4th Saturday, 1-2:30pm at Highland Senior Center, 131 Monroe NE. 266-8823.

SUNDAYS
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Weekly, 11am-noon. Potluck on 5th Sunday, 11am-2:30pm. 440-6688.
ABQ IWW 4th Sunday, 1-3pm. abqiww@gmail.com
St. Oscar Romero Catholic Community Weekly, 11am at St. Paul’s ELCA, 1100 Indian School NE. 332-4061.
Generation Justice Weekly, 7-8pm on KUNM 89.9FM

Picnic for Peace
Meet 20 amazing young women from Palestine and Israel who will share inspiring stories about their lives and devotion to work for peace, Sunday, July 28, 10am-1pm at Santa Fe Botanical Gardens, 715 Camino Lejo in Santa Fe. Explore the beautiful Botanical Gardens, enjoy a picnic lunch, listen to talks by the young peacemakers and live Middle Eastern music by EVET. We’ll kick off the event with Chalk4Peace, an outdoor collaborative art project at 10am, followed by the talks and music. Bring your family and enjoy kids’ activities throughout the event. Boxed picnic lunches are included in the ticket price.

Suggested donation: $40 in advance; $50 at the door; Students/Volunteer $20; children under 12 free with option to purchase $6 lunch. Advance purchase at creativityforpeace.org. Organized by Creativity for Peace, a nonprofit organization based in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with operations in Israel and Palestine. Details: info@creativityforpeace.org.

PEOPLE OF THE PEACE CENTER
Coordinating Council:
Samia Assed, President
Amelia Paradise, Treasurer
Sidni Lamb, Margarita Mercure Hibbs
Building & Grounds Committee:
Maureen Wright, Kent Zook
Finance Committee:
Greg Polk, John Ellig, Jim Mackenzie, Amelia Paradise
Newsletter Mailing:
Susan McKinstry, Ellen Robinson, Mandy Pino, Ilsa Garduño, Pam Harris, Sally-Alice Thompson, Sherri Kalman
Food Distribution: Mollie Wilkie
Web Calendar: Michelle Meaders
Grassroots New Mexico (KUNM):
Cal McManus, David Lopez
Staff:
Jiva Manske & Monique Salhab, Interim Co-directors
Martha Engberg, Coordinator
Derek Caudwell, Newsletter
Rick Keeney, Cleaning Services
Information Technology:
Kris Hardy, Carol Chen
Swing Dance Door Volunteers:
John Ellig, Julia Oviedo, Kent Zook, Michael Gallagher

Website: Derek Caudwell
Web Design: Melody Mock
Social Media: Ilse Biel
Building Help: Don Meaders
Front Desk Volunteers:
France Daniels-Thompson, Julia Oviedo, Maureen Wright, Michelle Meaders, Kent Zook, Eliza Schmid, Sharyn Kaye, Sarina Carruthers, Aathira Suresh, Michael Hillyer, Elizabeth Anderson, Yolanda Torres-Martinez
Canines: Sasha, Pepie
Students/Interns: none currently
Calendar of Special Events

Tuesdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 10-11:30am
Writing to Change the World creates a safe space to write with others who care about peace and justice. At the Peace Center. More info: jiva@abqpeaceandjustice.org or monique@peaceandjustice.org. and see Noticias, pg. 5

Tuesdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 5:30-8:30pm
Jewish Study & Anti-Racism Justice Circle: Awakening to Whiteness, an ongoing workshop using the Jewish values of “Tikkun Olam, Repairing the World” and deep reflective inquiry, at the P&J. ameliaparadise@gmail.com.

Thursday, July 4:
The Peace Center office will be closed for the Independence Day holiday. Previously scheduled events will still take place; call 268-9557 for info. May Day 505 Coalition will be hosting Fourth of The Lie at Phil Chacon Park, 1098 Louisiana Blvd SE, from Noon-5pm. More info at fb.com/abqmay1st, and see Cover page.

Saturday, July 6, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by David Swanson: “The Abolition of War” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org

Monday, July 8, 11am
Speak out at the public hearing to tell CYFD not to cut childcare assistance! At Apodaca Hall, 1120 Paseo De Peralta in Santa Fe. More info: see Noticias, pg. 5

Tuesday, July 9, 9am sharp
Join New Energy Economy at the NM Supreme Court, 237 Don Gaspar Avenue in Santa Fe, to hear live argument on the complex issues of San Juan Generating Station abandonment by PNM, which is resisting regulation of any kind. For more info, see Noticias, pg. 5

Wednesday, July 10, 4-8pm
The Growing Health and Justice Coalition’s 2019 School Garden Crawl begins at Wilson Middle School, 1138 Cardenas Dr SE, and continues on to 2 others. More info: fb.com/Growing-Health-and-Justice-Coalition-538155859916976

Wednesday, July 10: 6-7:30pm

Saturday, July 13, 2-5pm
Pan-African Film Series screens The Spook Who Sat by the Door (Sam Greenlee, 1973), a drama about the first black CIA officer who goes undercover to overthrow the U.S. Gov’t. At Highland H.S., 4700 Coal Ave SE. Organized by All African People’s Revolutionary Party-NM. More info: aaprpnewmexico@gmail.com, fb.com/aaprpbq

Saturday, July 13, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by Lawrence Wilkerson: “U.S. Empire & Latin America” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org

Saturday, July 13, 10am-2pm
Gun buy-back, no questions asked, at Cesar Chavez Community Center, 7505 Kathryn Ave. SE. Organizers pay residents $75 for handguns, shotguns and rifles, and $100 for assault rifles. Residents are required to transport weapons in the trunk of their vehicle. No ammunition in guns allowed, and weapons must be operable. cabq.gov/council/find-your-councilor/district-6/events/gun-buy-back-event.

Sunday, July 14, Noon-4 pm
Screening & discussion of the film, Nuclear Nation, at El Morro Theater, 207 W. Coal Ave. in Gallup, NM. More info: kanopy.com/product/nuclear-nation or email sgordon@swuraniumimpacts.org

Monday, July 15, 6:15-7:45 pm
ABQ Citizen’s Climate Lobby monthly meeting at Erna Fergusson Library, 3700 San Mateo NE (btw Comanche & Montgomery on the East side of San Mateo). More info: citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/NM_Albuquerque or lisas.ccl@gmail.com to confirm date and location.

Tuesday, July 16, 10-11:30a
In SNAP to Healthier Food, will assist with providing those who receive SNAP benefits information on the Double Up Food Bucks (DUBF) Program and what foods are included in the program and where recipients can utilize their benefits, to help stretch their dollar. At the P&J; for more info, email monique@abqpeaceandjustice.org.
Wednesday, July 17, 6-9pm
**PAJOLA Potluck:** Groups and community-based organizations throughout ABQ are organizing for climate justice, social justice, to demilitarize and to decolonize. Stop by the P&J at any time throughout, to network and share info about your organization, share food and stories, and strengthen intersectional movement-building. To RSVP: bit.ly/2FreN2a.

Thursday, July 18, 6-8p
Support and witness as Monisha Rios (U.S. Army veteran) and Monique Salhab (U.S.A.F. & Army veteran) discuss **Decolonizing Our Work: A Veteran’s Perspective.** Hear how both women became social activists and mindfully process their own healing around colonization and moral Injury, at the P&J. For more info: 268-9557, monique@peaceandjustice.org.

Friday, July 19, 10am-4pm
Join activists and healers at the P&J for a practice-based **Intro to Organic Intelligence** with Robin Craig, developing sustainable resiliency for self and community. 10am-1pm: experiential introduction; 1pm-4pm: more practice. Requested donation: $25 for the morning, $45 all day (scholarships available, and no one turned away for lack of funds). More info: organicintelligence.org, RSVP via berkley.carnine@gmail.com

Saturday, July 20, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by **Stephen Bezruchka: “Inequality Kills”** on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org

Friday, July 19, 6-8pm
**P&J Movie Night** screen Episode 1 of *When They See Us*, the story of the Central Park 5, young black men who were targeted by the police, the judiciary system, the media, and people throughout the country. Followed by a discussion about organizing for racial justice. Free to all, light refreshments available and donations welcome, at the P&J. More info: 268-9557.

Wednesday, July 24, 6-9 pm
**P&J Community Meeting:** Whether you've been organizing for peace and justice for decades, are curious about getting involved, or just live in the neighborhood, here’s a chance to share food, meet like-minded people, and strengthen the movement. At the P&J; RSVP via bit.ly/2RscPna

Saturday, July 27, 10-11:30am
**Basic Activist Digital Security 101** for community activists wanting to learn the basics about protecting their digital devices. Class size is limited to eight (8) - if a wait list develops, this workshop will be offered again. Folks will be asked to bring their laptops with them. At the P&J; RSVP at forms.gle/YW3L7mzfgXg6QozG8

Saturday, July 27, 2-4pm
**Community Conversation:** Youth in Sudan have risen up, only to be brutally repressed. War looms in Iran as the Trump Administration postures. Masses of Yemeni people die from hunger and bombs. We desperately need to organize and strengthen the anti-war and anti-imperialist movement in ABQ. Join us at the P&J to discuss what is happening, draw links to the NM economy, and build grassroots power.

Saturday, July 27, 6pm
Alternative Radio presents a lecture by **Shoshana Zuboff:** “Surveillance Capitalism” on KUNM 89.9FM, online at kunm.org/listen. Info: alternativeradio.org

Sunday, July 28th, 10a-5pm
ABQ and Santa Fe chapter members of Veterans For Peace (VFP) conduct an inter-chapter training on **How Do We Show Up and How Does It Matter?** Chapter members examine and deconstruct how internal colonization appears within VFP chapters nationally and locally. The goal is to help members develop awareness around this issue, while learning how to be present in non-veteran spaces examining issues of decolonization. This workshop is specifically for VFP members. More info: monique@abqpeaceandjustice.org

Sunday, July 28, 10am-1pm
**Picnic for Peace** at Santa Fe Botanical Gardens, 715 Camino Lejo in Santa Fe. Suggested donation: $40 in advance; $50 at the door. Advance: creativityforpeace.org. For details, email info@creativityforpeace.org, and see also the writeup on Page 2.

Tuesday, July 30, 1-5pm
NM Dept. of the Environment (NMED) and Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources (EMNRD) begin outreach efforts as work continues on the state’s first **methane reduction regulations** per Gov. Grisham’s executive order on climate change. This public stakeholder “engagement event” is at UNM School of Law, 1117 Stanford Dr. NE. More info available on the NMED and EMNRD websites as details are finalized, and see also fb.com/ConservationVotersNM, cvnm.org and riograndesierraclub.org

Save the Date:
August 3, 2-4pm
Be present at the annual **commemoration of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki**, in Los Alamos at Ashley Pond.
**Swing Community Dance**

…is up and running again at the Heights Community Center, every Tuesday evening! 1-2 volunteers are needed, and must be available 7-9:15pm. Contact: Desi Brown at desibrown50@gmail.com or 256-0668.

**Action Alert: Tell CYFD not to cut childcare assistance!**

All families need access to affordable childcare so they can make a living and pursue future career opportunities. But in a move that will prevent parents who are working or in school from getting much needed child care, the Children, Youth and Families Department proposed to cut eligibility to New Mexico’s Child Care Assistance Program and to continue to require families to pay an unaffordable share of costs. The regulation will hurt hard working New Mexico families by:

- Cutting eligibility to 160% FPL from 200%. This means less families will have access to childcare assistance, even though they are low income.
- Requiring low-income families to pay an unaffordable share of costs. Federal guidance found that childcare costs over 7% are not affordable for working families. CYFD’s proposal requires families to pay more than 10% of their income towards childcare and higher, depending on the size of a family.

Speak out at the public hearing: **Monday, July 8, 11am at Apodaca Hall, 1120 Paseo De Peralta in Santa Fe.**

**Help Keep PNM Accountable!**

On July 9, 2019, New Energy Economy will argue before the NM Supreme Court in support of the Jan. 2019 Public Regulation Commission (PRC) decision to open a case concerning PNM’s abandonment of the San Juan Generating Station (SJGS). To put it simply, SJGS is closing in 2022 and the PRC wanted to give parties a chance to start to address all of the complex issues that will arise as the coal plant closes - financial issues, replacement power for the 450+ megawatts of electricity being produced at San Juan, and cleanup costs.

Opposing the PRC and our position is PNM, who argues that the PRC didn’t have the authority to begin discussing the issues surrounding abandonment. In their filings, PNM tells the Court that “no compelling or exigent circumstances require PNM to immediately apply for abandonment” of the aging, uneconomic, and polluting coal plant. And, that they are “not presently relinquishing any rights in SJGS or its continued operation to serve retail customers”, despite making public statements and other PRC filings to the contrary.

PNM has already taken concrete steps to abandon its interests. But PNM doesn’t want the PRC regulating them, opening up a docket and requiring PNM to file an abandonment application.

In exchange for having no competition and being a monopoly, PNM agreed to be regulated. This is known as the regulatory compact. But PNM filed an “emergency” writ to the New Mexico Supreme Court stating that the PRC has no right to open up an abandonment docket and “force” PNM to file an application for abandonment. PNM even claims that they have a 1st Amendment right not to speak and the PRC is forcing them to speak. If this last argument were to win, it would essentially mark the end of regulation in the U.S.

When voters voted in a new PRC that vowed 1) not to be corrupt and 2) to protect consumers (instead of being a rubber stamp for the utilities), PNM realized that it had to make its case to the legislature because it was afraid of a prudence review before the new Commission, which might lay bare their practice of bilking ratepayers for their imprudent business decisions.

New Energy Economy will argue before the Supreme Court to protect the integrity of the PRC’s constitutionally-mandated duties, safeguard ratepayers from costly imprudent business practices, and allow a true and full assessment of the SJGS abandonment issues to move forward.

The struggle continues - be part of this next round and join New Energy Economy at the NM Supreme Court, 237 Don Gaspar Ave. in Santa Fe, on July 9, 8:30am. Argument commences at 9am sharp. More info: miles@newenergyeconomy.org.

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**Noticias**

**Writing to Change the World**

Creativity happens in community, and community inspires us to imagine a world in which all needs are met sustainably and nonviolently. That's why we'll be holding space to hone our writing craft together **every Tuesday, 10am-11:30am at the Peace Center**. Whether you need to carve out time to journal, have been dreaming of an essay or a story, or are close to completion of a project, this is a safe space to write with others who care about peace and justice.
Uranium Legacy Commemoration

The Red Water Pond Road Community on Navajo Nation will be hosting their 40th annual commemoration of the 1979 Uranium Tailings Spill that is the largest uranium tailings spill in the United States, Saturday, July 13, 7am-3pm. On July 16, 1979, an earthen dam that held liquid uranium waste broke, releasing 1,000 tons of solid radioactive mill waste and more than 90 million gallons of acidic and radioactive liquids into the Rio Puerco. The contaminants flowed downstream through Gallup, NM and across nine Navajo chapters and into Arizona. Several days after the spill, United Nuclear Corp. sent a handful of people out with shovels and buckets in an attempt to remediate the mess. To this day, there has been no reclamation and no study to see how far the contamination went and its impacts on local water systems and people’s health. United Nuclear Corporation has not been held accountable for the spill.

There will be a 7am walk to the spill site, 12 miles north of Red Rock State Park on State Hwy 566 near Church Rock, NM, to offer healing prayers. Following the walk people will gather under the shaded Arbor for food, community education, speeches, and a silent auction.

The North East Church Rock community are concerned about the uranium contamination that has poisoned Mother Earth, including our sacred waters, land, and livestock. This gathering provides a venue to discuss and educate everyone about the impacts of uranium mining and milling and about the ongoing work to remove uranium contaminated soil from the surrounding areas to protect our families and environment.

There will also be a screening & discussion of the film, Nuclear Nation, Sunday, July 14, Noon-4 pm at El Morro Theater, 207 W Coal Ave in Gallup, NM

More info: swuraniumimpacts.org, or contact Edith Hood, Red Water Pond Road Community Association via (505)713-4085 and Susan Gordon, coordinator, Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment, via (505) 577-8438, sgordon@swuraniumimpacts.org

Sally-Alice Thompson, age 95, Fasting Against Sanctions and Sieges (FASS)

Here is a statement from Sally-Alice regarding her Hunger Strike:

I am fasting because I empathize with the many hungry children of the world, so I am joining them in their suffering. I am outraged that our country is engaging in sanctions and sieges that result in starvation of babies and children. I am profoundly saddened that my government interferes in the affairs of other countries, refusing to acknowledge their sovereignty and to respect their dignity.

I especially grieve for the children. I grieve for the children of Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea, and Iran, who are suffering because of the illegal sanctions imposed on those sovereign nations. I grieve for the hungry children of Gaza and Yemen, children who are hungry because of my country’s support for immoral sieges that deliberately prevent food from entering the places where they live.

I am almost 96 years old. The short remainder of my life is inconsequential. The remainder of the lives of those children may be very important. If allowed to develop normally, who knows what they may become? Are we depriving the world of a future great composer? Or maybe a talented playwright? One can only speculate, because they’re dying of starvation. Those children have a right to live!

Permitting our country to continue down this road of genocide is completely unacceptable. So instead of asking, “Why doesn’t somebody do something about it?” I looked in the mirror and said, “You’re somebody, do something.”

I invite anyone who shares these feelings to join me in my fast, by skipping a meal or fasting for a day or longer. I would like to know and thank anyone who joins me. Please contact me at sally-aliceanddon@juno.com or (505) 260-8336. I hope this can start a movement to eliminate sanctions and sieges.
PAJOLA — Peace and Justice Organizations Linking Arms

350.org NM 350-6000
ABQ Friends Meeting (Quakers) 843-6450
ABQ Industrial Workers of the World 585-4499
ABQ Mennonite Church 254-1824
ABQ Nat'l Org for Women (NOW) 459-9860
ABQ Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 440-6688
Adults Abused As Children 264-8444
Alternative Radio 800-444-1977
Alternatives to Violence Project of No. NM avpnnm@yahoo.com
Animal Liberation ABQ Animal.Liberation.Albuquerque@gmail.com
Biotecture Planet Earth info@biotectureplanetearth.com
Calming Four Swing Dance 256-0668
Campaign Nonviolence New Mexico (714) 420-6771
Carnivores Anonymous 306-1533
CASHEW 268-6112
Center for Global Awareness drames@globalawareness.org
Citizen Action New Mexico dave@radfreenm.org
Civilian Medical Resources Network 750-2221
Coalition to Stop 30 Billion to Israel 898-4454
Colombia Solidarity Committee of NM 281-8422
Common Ground Rising ecimino10@gmail.com
Conservation Voters of NM Education Fund info@cvnm.org
Cottonwood Medicine Collective cottonwoodmedicine@gmail.com
D.O.P.E. Services dopeservicesnm@gmail.com
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Multicultural Council 994-2335
ECC St. Mary Magdalene Community 345-3677
First Unitarian Church, Social Justice Council 884-1801
Food and Water Watch ebravo@fwwatch.org
Good Food Distribution 315-4167
Friends of Sabeel 828-0546
Generation Justice 277-1831
Global One to One sarah.global1to1@gmail.com
Grandmothers Council 610-8258
Guild Cinema 255-1848
Gray Panthers of Greater Abq. 266-8823
Inscape Ministries (714) 420-6771
Jewish Voice for Peace ABQ abq@jvp.org
Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment 577-8438
Medicine Drum Circle 417-4704
Mindful NM quisuis@hotmail.com
NM Black History Organizing Committee 407-6784
NM Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice 307-2218
NM Interfaith Power and Light info@nm-ipl.org
NM Japanese American Citizen League 600-1549
NM Peace Choir kmayers@ix.netcon.com
NM Women's Global Pathways 435-5741
New Energy Economy info@newenergyeconomy.org
Notable Healing notablehealing@gmail.com
People for Peace 986-8676
Power Through Peace power thrupeace@gmail.com
Rio Grande Sierra Club, Central Group 243-7767
Santa Feans for Justice in Palestine/Israel (505) 995-9866
Santuario de Karuna 803-9903
Showing Up for Racial Justice—ABQ suria@abq.org
SouthWest Organizing Project (SWOP) 247-8832
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 881-9626
St. Oscar Romero Catholic Community 352-4061
St. Tim’s Lutheran Church 255-8001
Stop the War Machine 268-9557
SW Hypnotherapists Examining Board 877-2766
The Water Groups 242-5511
Transgender Resource Center of NM 200-9086
Trinity House Catholic Worker 842-5697
United Voices for Refugee Rights (UVRR) 362-8301
UNM Latin American & Iberian Institute iaai@unm.edu
UNM Peace & Global Justice Studies 277-4912
UNM Sustainability Studies Program 277-3325
Veterans for Peace 720-4939

Become a Member or Renew your Annual ACP&J Membership

Name ___________________________________ Today’s Date_____________________
Address __________________________________ City/State/Zip_____________________
Phone___________________ Email_________________________________________

Membership: New Renewal

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Please send my monthly newsletter via: email _____ snail mail_____

ACPJ is a 501(c)3 organization, and your donation, above the cost of membership, is fully tax-deductible.

Mail to: ACPJ, 202 Harvard SE, ABQ NM 87106, pay your membership on the website via PayPal — ABQPeaceAndJustice.org, or bring it in person - we love to visit with you!

Would you be interested in volunteering with us? ___________________________________________

What talents and/or skills could you offer ACP&J? __________________________________________

via PayPal

Mail to: ACPJ, 202 Harvard SE, ABQ, NM 87106, pay your membership on the website

Become a Member or Renew your Annual ACP&J Membership

Name ___________________________________ Today’s Date_____________________
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Would you be interested in volunteering with us? __________________________________________

What talents and/or skills could you offer ACP&J? __________________________________________
Building Community Space
By Jiva Manske, Interim Co-Director

These days, the chairs in the Peace Hall sit in a circle, ready for folks to share stories, build plans, talk about issues, or even just take a break from the summer heat in a safe place. Most days, the circle sits empty and the room is quiet throughout the day. Sometimes community members drop in to say hello or get a drink of water, hang out and use the wifi or read a book from our library, or join events. By the evening, the space often wakes up, alive with meetings, study groups, and workshops.

Now, as much as any other time over the last 36 years, we need more energy, we need more organizing, and we need more community. As the US government postures for war in Iran, props up fascists from Latin America to Europe and beyond, spreads fear throughout immigrant communities, and continues to double down on racist, misogynistic, destructive policies, we need safe spaces to build together. We need organizing spaces that lift up leadership and create vision and purpose. We need dynamic spaces that create learning and strengthen relationships. We need healing spaces to build resilience to continue to resist. We need accountable space to address harm, stop abuse, and engage conflict in ways that keep our movements whole.

The Peace and Justice Center can be this kind of space, if each of us works to make it happen. Every day, each of us has choices to make, and this month we’re asking you to choose to build community with us. That can certainly look like attending meetings and events on the calendar, or it can look like emailing martha@abqpeaceandjustice.org about volunteering a couple hours a week. It could look like donating fresh local food, plants to enliven the space, or printer paper to keep the office stocked.

Beyond that, it can look like stopping by any time and hanging out for awhile. Better yet, bring friends and host an impromptu dialogue about what’s happening in the world. Organize a teach-in, a dialogue, or a meeting. Imagine if every day, the Peace Hall was full of people building community.

That circle of chairs is ready for you, and we hope to see you soon.