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# Citizens for Peace Activities & Accomplishments 2017

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**Citizens for Peace  
2017 Activities & Accomplishments**

**Monthly Membership Meetings:  
Second Tuesday of each month: 7-9 pm at Unity of Livonia**

- Jan. 10: Presentation by Rev. C. Peter Dougherty on "The Power of Nonviolence to Transform Ourselves and Our World."  
Feb. 14: Presentation by Judy Lipscomb on "How to De-Stress and Face any Future Challenges with Ease."  
March 14: Presentation by Deborah Drennan, Executive Director of Freedom House on "Freedom House Detroit".  
April 11: Presentation by Dr. Fred Pearson, Head of Wayne State University's Center for Peace and Conflict Studies on "Peacemaking, Peacebuilding, and Peacekeeping".  
May 9: Presentation by Dr. Gail Presbey on "Gandhi and the South African Women of Nonviolence".  
June 13: Presentation by Robert Weir on "Civil Rights, Human Rights: The March Continues."  
July 11: Film, "Disturbing the Peace"!  
August 8: Film, "Dream On"!  
Sept. 12: Presentation by Dr. Saeed Khan on "Understanding Islam."  
Oct. 10: Presentation by Scott Nichols on "Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence."  
Nov. 14: 14th Anniversary Celebration  
Dec. 12: Holiday Veggie Potluck Party/Silent Auction

**Education Committee**

Members plan and implement programs: the Season for Nonviolence Random Acts of Kindness Campaign, and the postcard writing campaign to urge public officials to find safe storage for nuclear waste before building any more nuclear power plants. They also continue to work on the Nonviolence and Peacebuilding Bibliography and contact libraries about possible donations.

## **Peace Collections & Bibliography**

Since 2007, the Education Committee has been working on a Nonviolence and Peacebuilding Bibliography for children and adults. It now lists over 800 titles. Since June of 2007, there have been 3,201 downloads of the bibliography in over 100 countries. This bibliography is shared with public libraries, so they can select titles and the Citizens for Peace then donates the materials. So far Livonia Civic Center Library, Redford, Westland, Farmington Hills, Dearborn Heights and Commerce Township public libraries have added books to their collections about peace and nonviolence. Livonia, Westland and Redford public libraries have added a link to their homepage to the Citizens for Peace website, so their patrons can easily access the Bibliography. The latest donation was made to Marygrove University's Library to support their Masters of Social Justice Program. Through MelCat, Michigan's Electronic Library, these books are available to all Michigan residents.

## **Nuclear Waste Campaign**

There is an ongoing letter writing campaign, to stop the licensing of nuclear power plants until there is safe storage for the radioactive waste from 100 plus nuclear power plants in the U.S. In addition, members are actively writing their legislators to prevent the State of Michigan from being a site of disposal for low and medium levels of radioactive waste. More information can be found on the Citizens for Peace website on the Nuclear blog link found on the Home page.

## **Political Action Committee**

Members are getting signatures for a ballot proposal that when passed will end gerrymandered districts.

## **Fund Raising**

Buck Dinner Grant  
Annual Auction

## **Contact with Political Leaders**

Letters to Sen. Peters in support of the Iranian Nuclear Deal; meeting with Sen. Peters' staff to discuss a variety of peace initiatives with members of the Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network (DAPJN); sent numerous emails and made phone calls to elected officials and signed petitions on a variety of peace related topics.

## **Supporting Other Organizations – Attending Events**

April 1: Pax Christi Conference

April 30: Michigan Coalition for Human Rights (MCHR): Annual Dinner

Sept. 28: MCHR: Project: Safety Net

May 1: Peace Action (PA): presentation by Dan Zak, author of “Almighty”

Aug 6: PA: Hiroshima Remembrance: “Nuclear Disarmament: What is taking Us So Long?” with Sister Megan Rice

Oct. 7: PA: Peacebuilders Celebration

Sept. 24: Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence Concert

Oct. 14: League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County Auction

## **Anti-Bullying Program**

Citizens for Peace donates to the work of Kevin Szawala (a.k.a Mr. Peace), who brings a message of nonviolence, peace, respect, & kindness to youth (grades K-12) through hip-hop, poetry and song.

## **Special Events**

April 8: Film, “Gandhi’s Gift” premiere viewing with Cynthia Lukas, Co-Producer and Writer.

Aug. 19: Social Media Workshop with Sam Ingot, Deputy Communications Director of Progress Michigan

## **Tabling**

**This activity involves setting up a table at an event and passing out information and talking with people about the mission and activities of Citizens for Peace.**

April 1: Pax Christi Conference

April 8: Gandhi's Gift Premiere at the Library  
April 30: MCHR Annual Dinner  
Aug. 6: Hiroshima Remembrance: "Nuclear Disarmament: What is taking Us So Long?" with Sister Megan Rice.  
Sept. 24: Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence Concert  
Dec. 3: Care & Share Fair in Brighton  
Dec. 9: Holiday Mart at Swords Into Plowshares

## **Media Coverage**

### **Livonia Observer Newspaper**

Notices and press releases of all meetings and special events

## **Online Outreach**

Monthly newsletters sent using Constant Contact

Website: [www.citizens4peace.com](http://www.citizens4peace.com)

Facebook: CitizensforPeaceLivonia

## **Publication**

Get Involved Guide (to be updated in 2018)