



Canadian Friends Service Committee E-Newsletter

January, 2014

CFSC Annual Appeal – help still needed!

THANK YOU to all those who have given in support of a world where peace and justice prevail! As of December 31st, CFSC is down \$21,000 in donations compared to last year, which is a bit daunting. It is too late to get a tax receipt dated 2013, but that doesn't mean your gift is any less important or necessary. If you haven't given yet – please consider making a gift: <http://bit.ly/Appeal2013>

Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth

In December, the Canadian Friends Service Committee endorsed the *Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth* developed by a national coalition of organizations facilitated by the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO). Based on an extensive review of research, the *Joint Statement* provides an overview of the developmental outcomes associated with physical punishment and concludes that:

- the physical punishment of children and youth only poses risks to their development and plays no useful role in the upbringing of children and youth; and
- parents and other caregivers should be strongly encouraged to choose approaches to discipline that don't rely on physical punishment.



Silvia Wettstein – Partnership and Advocacy, CHEO; Ron Ensom – Coalition on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth; Sacha and Tasmin Rajotte, Canadian Friends Service Committee.

Reflecting on our own testimonies of faith, we find physical punishment of children and youth to be incompatible with our belief that there is that of God in every person and with our rejection of violence as acceptable behaviour. By endorsing this statement we indicate our confidence in its review of research on physical punishment, the conclusions drawn from the review and our support for the recommendations contained therein.

Read the *Joint Statement* at: <http://www.cheo.on.ca/en/physicalpunishment>

Read CFSC's endorsement letter: <http://bit.ly/1iaQgiQ>

Let Them Stay Week – 10 years of US Iraq War C.O.s in Canada



This month marks the 10-year anniversary since the first U.S. Iraq war resisters, Jeremy Hinzman and family, arrived in Canada. To mark this anniversary, and build support for soldiers who made the conscientious decision that they could not participate in the war in Iraq, the War Resisters Support Campaign is launching **Let Them Stay Week 2014** from **January 12-19**. The Campaign will be promoting contacting your MP to "let them stay", writing letters,

making phone calls and organizing community events across Canada. For more information, visit www.resisters.ca and <http://resisters.ca/take-action/>

Kim Rivera released from prison!

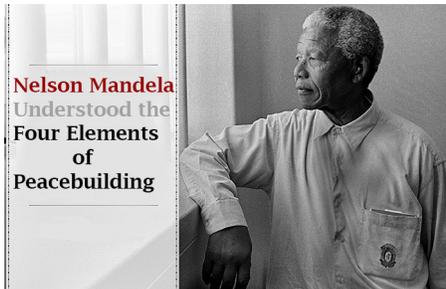
At long last, Kimberly Rivera was released from prison in December. Kim served 10 months in US military prisons for her conscientious objection to the Iraq War. While in prison, she gave birth to a son, Matthew – she was denied clemency for an early release (two weeks) to have the baby and to not be separated from him. Kim’s husband Mario said, “Kim is officially released and here with me. God bless all of you for your help and support. Love you all.” More information: <http://couragetoresist.org/kimberly-rivera/1012-rivera-released.html>

Court rules that babies belong with their mothers

CFSC’s Quakers Fostering Justice program committee is working to heal the negative effects of the criminal justice system on children. They’ve shared the excellent news that the Supreme Court of British Columbia ruled in *Inglis et al v. The Minister of Public Safety* that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the right of a mother to care for her baby.

This means the recent cancellation of the Mothers and Babies in Prison program at the Alouette Correctional Centre for Women in Maple Ridge, BC was unconstitutional, as it separates babies from their mothers at a critically formative period and interferes with their bonding. For more information: <http://www.cbc.ca/m/touch/canada/story/1.2466516>

Mandela understood four elements of peacebuilding



Our Friend and recently retired staff Gianne Broughton has shared some insights about Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela’s use of all four elements of peacebuilding in South Africa.

“What are the four elements and why are they important for peace?” you ask? Well read more about Mandela’s expert use of the four elements and see! Which elements do *you* use to build peace? Visit: <http://quakerservice.ca/news/nelson-mandela-understood-four-elements-peacebuilding/>

Want more examples of the four elements of peacebuilding in practice? Why not read the booklet: <http://bit.ly/4ElementsofPeace>. Contact us with questions, comments or to order print copies.

QUNO New York - Program Assistant positions available

The Quaker United Nations Office in New York funds two Program Assistants (PAs) each year to serve from the beginning of August through the end of August the following year (13 months). These are entry-level positions for recent college graduates who are interested in international affairs and the UN, and who have a commitment to Friends (Quaker) principles of peace, non-violence, and equality. The positions provide those individuals selected with an informal extension to their education in international issues. Additionally, PAs gain the practical experience of assisting QUNO New York staff with program and administrative tasks. Past PAs have used their experience to continue on to graduate studies and careers in international affairs and other related areas.

There is a detailed application process; the **application deadline is February 7th**. For information, visit: <http://quno.org/new-york-programme-assistant-application-2014>. Questions? Email qunony@afsc.org Rachel Singleton-Polster (Vancouver Island MM), who has served at CFSC as an intern and interim staff, is currently serving as a Program Assistant.

Applications are now open for the Geneva Summer School

The Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in Geneva, Switzerland offers a Summer School that introduces young people to the work of the United Nations as seen through the programs of QUNO. The next summer school will be July 6 – 18, 2014. **Application deadline: February 3, 2014.** For more information, visit: <http://www.quno.org/geneva-summer-school>

Participants range in age from 20-26; applicants from outside the EU/Switzerland will need a visa; QUNO assists with visa applications though cannot guarantee success. Participation fee is 630 pounds (est. \$1,120), which covers program, meals, accommodation (not travel). Suggestions on seeking financial help will be provided to those accepted; applicants are encouraged to seek funds from their Meetings (and can apply for CFSC Individual Grant – email cfsc@quakerservice.ca)

Thanks for the Spirit in the Life of Frank Miles



We give thanks for the life of Frank Miles, former General Secretary of Canadian Yearly Meeting, who died at age 90 on December 25th, 2013 in Hanover, NH. During World War II, Frank served as a conscientious objector in the Civilian Public Service (CPS) in the USA and, within three weeks of being released, Frank went to China to serve with the Friends Ambulance Unit (1946-1950). Frank's work brought him and his family to Canada in 1974.

In 1993, he and other Friends who served in the Friends Ambulance Unit gave the Sunderland P. Gardner Lecture – CFSC is working towards uploading video of this event for viewing (stay tuned). The testimonies of the lives of these Friends who served in the FAU are moving, and deserve a new and wider audience.



Practical assistance, policy dialogue, research, and education - CFSC works for a world where peace and justice prevail.

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