



Seeds of Peace: Peacebuilding Stories

We are all aware of the world's violence. Studies suggest that humans have an innate bias to pay attention to extreme or violent stories, and there is no shortage of these.

Yet all around us internal and inter-personal conflicts are being transformed in positive ways. Potential violence is regularly avoided thanks to skilful dedication. Many wars do not happen.

These are the stories we wish to uphold - ones showing the practical uses, by regular people, of the skills required for a culture of peacebuilding. At any time, individually and collectively, we are led toward or away from peace. This means that peacebuilding is important everywhere, as a creative and ongoing process. Let's celebrate it!

CFSC is requesting stories of positive peace actions you've taken individually or within your Meetings. It could be something as "small" as organising a community activity or as big as directly saving someone's life through active nonviolence. When submitting your story we encourage you to answer the following questions:

- What happened?
- Where and when did this happen?
- Who was involved?
- What was the conflict, challenge, or issue which needed to be addressed?
- What nonviolent techniques were used and why?
- If there was a clear result, what was it? If there was no clear result, what do you think might happen eventually?
- Why is this story important to you? Did you realize something from it?

We ask that stories be 400 words or less if possible. We would also love to have pictures of the people or places involved in the story if you have permission to share them. Send to matt@quakerservice.ca or mail in to the CFSC office 60 Lowther Ave, Toronto, ON M5R 1C7.

Stories will be shared by CFSC through one or more of: our print and digital newsletter *Quaker Concern*, our monthly E-Newsletter, our social media, and our website. Please note that stories may be edited to fit the style and word length of the medium where they will be shared.

Let's all be inspired by the Seeds of Peace!