



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



Friends Place on Capitol Hill is a welcoming space that offers hospitality centered in peace, civic education, and justice-based advocacy for learners and leaders of all ages.

Quarterly Metrics

Friends Place engaged **14 groups** and **291 guests** for lodging and programming and hosted **three events** totaling **1,906 attendees** (28 in-person and 168 online).

Two groups engaged **three workshops**, including one lobby training, and composted **1,208 pounds** of organic materials.

Interested in supporting Friends Place?

friendsplacedc.org/donate

Thank you!

FCNL's Annual Meeting



Photo by Tirrea Billings/FCNL

In November, the Friends Place team joined their fellow FCNL staff for the Quaker Public Policy Institute and Annual Meeting. From serving as greeters and driving advocates to lobby visits, to facilitating lobby trainings and workshops, the staff was delighted to spend several days in community with so many in the FCNL network.

Director Sarah Johnson offered a workshop during Annual Meeting titled Radical Hospitality and Quaker Witness in Washington: A Look at Three Years of Friends Place, which offered exciting updates about the first years of operations and is available to view on the [FCNL Youtube page](#).

Trick-or-Treat on East Capitol Street



Halloween was the busiest day of the year for visitors to the house and the staff passed out more than 1,000 candies, stickers, and small toys to the many trick-or-treaters who stopped by Friends Place.

There were many incredible costumes and the staff loved getting to speak with so many DC neighbors about Friends Place and FCNL.

The Friends Place trio also hosted FCNL's staff pumpkin carving event and did their best at creating some low-waste costumes and decorations with items already on hand or leftover from previous years. They look forward to decorating and hosting again in 2025!

Community Engagement Series

Friends Place was host to three hybrid events that served to share more about the experiences of those affected by the violence being carried out by Israel in Gaza. Event participants heard from Amira Musallam and Mel Duncan who shared their stories of resistance, resilience, and protection in the face of ongoing devastation.

October also brought the opportunity to hear about collective liberation in Palestine from Osama Iliwat and Rotem Levin from Salt of The Earth. They shared their different pathways to becoming peace activists in Palestine, and their vision for a just and secure future for Palestinians and Israelis.

The final community event of 2024 spotlighted UNRWA USA Advocacy Director Lein Soltan speaking about the importance of providing robust funding to sustain UNRWA's essential programs. Without this support, millions of Palestinians will face even harsher conditions—famine, a lack of basic healthcare, and the collapse of emergency services.



FCNL Campus Chapters

This fall, the Friends Place team helped launch four pilot chapters in partnership with Wilmington College, Earlham College, Friends School of Baltimore, and Sidwell Friends School. The team has been working closely with student leadership teams and faculty liaisons at each campus, sharing about FCNL's policy priorities, the ways to organize fellow students on campus and build a strong and sustainable club, and the tools needed to have successful lobby visits with their elected officials.



Upcoming Events

- Feb. 20th:** Poems for Peace (hybrid)
- Feb. 22nd-24th:** Friends Place Fly-In: Climate Justice (in-person)
- Mar. 22nd-25th:** FCNL's Spring Lobby Weekend (in-person)
- Mar. 29th:** Kite-building for Peace (in-person)

For more information and event registration, please visit friendsplacedc.org/events.
For programming and lodging requests, please visit the Friends Place website.
For other inquiries, please contact the Friends Place team via info@friendsplacedc.org.

