

WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID

“Thank you for coming into our class. . . I found that listening is the most intelligent way to get your point across.” —*PeaceJam student at Santa Fe High School*

“This Initiative is critical. Peace is so much harder than war. To survive now, we must study its economics, learn its signals, teach its techniques, open the heart of it, and raise the species to a whole new level of discipline, courage and awareness. There is no way we can say no.” —*Craig Barnes, international negotiator, writer, lawyer*

“The ultimate measure of effectiveness [of the DPI Dialogues] is the reduction of violence in the City. We can measure their success by the absence of confrontation, lack of violence, and prevention of injuries or deaths involved in the events associated with the topics of discussion.” —*Former Santa Fe Chief of Police Beverly Lennen on “The Best Practices in Community Policing,” National Conference of Mayors*

JOIN US

Please help us create a culture of peace. Come to our meetings on the first Friday of the month and participate in our special events.

DPI is supported by private donations, grants, workshops, and the sale of media productions. For further information call (505) 438-9693 .

Department of Peace Initiative
Santa Fe, New Mexico



DPI was founded by Mary Lou Cook and Chris Griscom and inspired by Congressman Dennis Kucinich.

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of PEACE
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www.thedepartmentofpeacenm.org

IN EXPLORING THE MEANING OF PEACE

Peace is a human interactive phenomenon that is beyond one single principle.

Every human being has a different response to the word 'peace'. Our response can be defined by our history, culture, life experience, and values.

Peace is not only a world issue, but also one that affects our communities and neighborhoods. Obstacles to peace can be the same locally and globally.

The concept of peace often embraces paradox.

Peace is not the absence of conflict but the ability to resolve conflict without violence.

Peace is a more complex process than violence.

Peace is not a passive approach, but a dynamic, bold engagement that recognizes the value of all cultures, religions, and ethnicities.

Peace results when we seek and value all perspectives in dialogue, even if we are not in agreement.

Pursuit of peace, like pursuit of happiness implies a journey, not a destination.

Peace is a work in progress. In our exploration, we have discovered that peace is all of the above and much more. . . .



DPI's logo is an ancient symbol found throughout the world and used most recently by the Russian artist Nicholas Roerich to symbolize an International Pact for the Preservation of Culture.

DEPARTMENT OF PEACE INITIATIVE

Founded in November 2002, the Department of Peace Initiative (DPI) is an organization committed to finding and maintaining a high ground of humanity, respect, hope, and safety for our citizens, and for future generations.

The DPI advocates PEACE as an organizing principle, and to that end we are working to establish a New Mexico Office of Peace.

WHY A NEW MEXICO OFFICE OF PEACE

Enhance the understanding, appreciation, and benefits of peace studies, principles and practices;

Coordinate and support existing resources and facilitate training in conflict resolution, mediation, dialogue and other peacemaking skills throughout the state;

Study, track and research the relationship between the use of diplomatic methods and the reduction of violence;

Promote an open forum to address controversial issues, using established methods of resolution;

Advocate economic and social justice as essential avenues to peace;

Foster better understanding between diverse communities through exchange of rich cultural traditions, and the visual and performing arts;

Create a central clearinghouse for written and electronic materials pertaining to all aspects of peacemaking.

INITIATIVES

Government Relations

New Mexico Legislature:

2003—Senate Memorial 22 and House Memorial 39 passed, laying the groundwork for a bill to establish a New Mexico Office of Peace.

2005—HB280 passed the House to establish a New Mexico Office of Peace.

DPI plans to submit the Office of Peace bill until it passes both the House and Senate.

Dialogue Circles

Dialogues with Law Enforcement: collaborations with the Santa Fe Chief of Police and County Sheriff, City of Santa Fe, and Santa Fe School District resulting in public dialogues between school administrators, students, activists and law enforcement officers.

Dialogues with Youth: collaboration with Santa Fe Public Schools to develop and implement facilitated dialogues between groups of students in conflict.

Dialogues in Depth: presentation and facilitation of a specially designed series of dialogues in private homes on issues of war and peace.

Education Programs

Diverse approaches to peacemaking, i.e., Iroquois Way of Peace, Compassionate Touch: Postwar Bosnia, PTSD and Our Veterans.

Community Relations

Networking to share and act upon strategies of peacemaking:

- ◆ Public events
- ◆ Collaboration with communities, school districts, law enforcement, and government entities
- ◆ Outreach to the 33 counties of New Mexico