

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

We engaged **29 Groups** and **511 Guests** for lodging and programming and hosted **5 Events** totaling **240 Attendees** (137 in-person and 103 online).

Our groups engaged **19 workshops** including **7 lobby trainings** and composted **1,464 pounds** of food materials.

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Thank you!

Programming at Friends Place

A welcome result of intentional outreach and new offerings, Friends Place has seen a considerable increase in the number of groups participating in civic engagement programming. The robust list of opportunities now includes *Advocacy and the Arts* and *Digital Storytelling* workshops.

Fifteen groups participated in 19 workshops, including lobby trainings that resulted in seven lobby visits on various policy issues including: Native American Rights, Abortion Access, LGBTQ Rights, Climate Justice, and Gun Violence Prevention.



State College Friends School on their lobby day

Spring Lobby Weekend

In March, hundreds of young adults gathered for Spring Lobby Weekend—FCNL's young adult advocacy conference and day of action. Over 300 lobbied Congress to address the harmful legacy of the Indian Boarding School era.

Friends Place staff facilitated two Art for Social Change workshops where advocates learned about the best practices for creating art that supports protest and policy asks. Participants had the opportunity to then make posters and to collaborate on a banner displaying the ask regarding Indian Boarding Schools: Truth. Healing. Justice.



Spring Lobby Weekend 2024 participants on lobby day

Community Engagement Series

Continuing the monthly community engagement series, January featured a showing of Sabina Vajrača's film, *Sevap/Mitzvah*. FCNL Program Assistants Odeliya Matter, Sofia Guerra, and Bri Tollie led a discussion after the film to connect its themes- of taking risks to save the lives of others and showing solidarity across lines of difference- to FCNL's work for peace and justice today. February's offering titled *Advocating as Parents* focused on the writing and experience of guest speaker and author Cynthia Changyt Levin, welcoming families to consider what civic engagement looks like after taking on the role of parenting this to FCNL's work on the Child Tax Credit. March 30th marked the series' largest in-person attendance to-date, with 44 people gathering to build kites for peace before taking them to the Blossom Kite Festival on the National Mall.



FP Program Coordinator Olivia Delaplaine



Staff and attendees at *Advocating as Parents* in February



FCNL General Secretary, Bridget Moix

Friends Place at QYLC



Olivia Delaplaine, Aiyana Coard, and students at QYLC

In January, staff members Olivia and Jackson were joined by Aiyana Coard (Advocacy Corps '22-23 and Fly-In '23 alum) to present at the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference in Philadelphia, hosted by Chestnut Hill Friends Meeting. They conducted a lobby training, on the legislative ask for a Truth and Healing Commission on US Indian Boarding Schools, for 35 high school student leaders from George School, Friends Central School, William Penn Charter School, and Friends School of Baltimore.

YAP Alumni Gathering

FCNL's Young Adult Program hosted their inaugural alumni social at Friends Place and welcomed 30 alumni from past program assistant, Advocacy Corps, and internship cohorts. It served as a big reunion—joyful shouts and laughter could be heard from down the hall as attendees caught up with old friends. Attendees participated in a "Who's in the room?" art activity where they drew self portraits and wrote what FCNL work they did and what they are up to now. It was the first time in the space for many of the attendees and we heard lots of interest in coming back for future events.



Faith Williams, Jackson Malkus, Micah MacColl Nicholson, and Renad Uri

Upcoming Events

- April 24th:** Earth Week Community Event
- May 11th & 12th:** Capitol Hill Restoration Society House and Garden Tour
- May 16th:** Film Screening: *What I Want You to Know*
- June 7-10:** Continuing Revolution: Restorative Justice as Spiritual Practice
- June 27th:** Capitol Hill Community Event

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



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