



Support Our Peacebuilding Efforts

Learn how your gift can help bring peace to major conflicts around the world by changing the attitude of a generation:

<https://friendships4peace.org>

Send your check to: **Creating Friendships for Peace**
1320 19th Street NW, Suite800,
Washington DC 20036



How can you help?

Host a Pair of Teens in July

By opening your home this summer to a pair of teens who have grown up in countries divided by conflict, your hospitality will provide a haven where they can reconcile differences and develop trust and mutual respect for their former enemies. And most of all, they develop lifelong friendships that will be transformative for each other, their families, and their communities back home, providing hope for their country's future.

CFP teens and their hosts also develop close relationships. The hosts become a "second family" to their teens and aid their development as future leaders and peacebuilders. Whether you have an empty nest, a young, active family, or teens, hosting CFP teen pairs will be an unforgettable experience for your family and life-changing for your pair of teens.

Qualified hosts can provide:

- ❖ A demonstrated commitment to making a difference in the world for peace
- ❖ A safe, neutral home for the teens to build a friendship
- ❖ A room for the pair to share alone
- ❖ Daylong adult supervision
- ❖ A willingness to continue the relationship with their teens

Do you qualify?

For more information, please contact:

or
info@friendships4peace.org

**PEOPLE UNITED
IN COUNTRIES
DIVIDED**



**Creating
Friendships for
Peace** develops friendship, trust
and respect between both sides of a conflict.

WWW.FRIENDSHIPS4PEACE.ORG

Cyprus Friendship Program

The Cyprus Friendship Program is a two-year peacebuilding and leadership training program for Cypriot teens. In the first year, selected teens participate in an immersive weeklong overnight camp on the island led by CFP'S Greek-speaking and Turkish-speaking Cypriot Coordinators. This camp experience begins a reconciliation process that teaches high schoolers 15-17 how to reach across differences while strengthening conflict resolution skills and team building. By learning the advanced skill of understanding another perspective, teens begin their lifelong journey of coming together as friends for new understanding and healing. In the second year, teens are selected for the U.S. program consisting of home stays with American families. The curriculum includes advanced conflict resolution training, instruction in effective communication and other related skills. Opportunities for participation in community service and environmental awareness projects expose the teens to the benefits of working together to solve problems that affect both sides of a conflict. Since the program began in 2009, CFP has graduated over 1,300 teens and is responsible for thousands of friendships among the teens, their families and their friends.



Two pairs of CFP teens with Elders Jimmy Carter, Desmond Tutu, and Lahkdar Brahimi during their December 2009 visit to Cyprus to promote peace. They are featured together in the documentary *Cyprus: Digging the Past in Search of the Future*. In the 2011 film, Tutu describes these young people:

“They have grown to accept one another in a way that seems to be an image of what in fact is possible in this country.”

Creating Friendships for Peace

is a volunteer, grassroots organization whose mission is to promote and strengthen friendships between teens from divided communities and to extend those friendships to their families and friends. The friendships are nurtured through home stays with American families. Each family hosts two teens – one from each side of a conflict. The teen pair share a room and learn about each other, understanding their different perspectives and realizing that friendships can develop despite significant political and cultural differences. In a home environment, an atmosphere is created that allows for mutual respect and understanding – a key ingredient for peace.

CFP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in the United States. Our volunteers were active in Northern Ireland from 1981 until 2007, hosting 2,000 teens. We have been active in Cyprus since 2009 and Israel/Palestine since 2018. By bringing teens together from all the conflict areas in which CFP is active, we provide opportunities for dialogue and learning from each other.

CFP's goal
to build friendships, mutual respect
and understanding to promote peace.

- Teenagers age 15-17 are paired, one from each side of a conflict
- The teens form friendships, meeting each others' families and friends, and developing broader perspectives on the conflicts faced by their homelands. Their cross partition friendships usually extend to their families and friends.
- The teens develop peacebuilding and leadership skills to use now and throughout their lives.
- Alumni stay connected through volunteer help in CFP and alumni activities.



Middle East Friendship Program

During the current violence in Israel, CFP is working alongside In-Country Coordinators to provide specialized programming to all teens courageous enough to apply to CFP. In the U.S., selected Hebrew-speaking and Arabic-speaking teen pairs have a customized program combining group experiences with hosting by American families. Those not selected for the U.S. program are provided a Year 1 camp experience outside of Israel. Both special programs facilitate constructive dialogue and promote leadership skills while understanding the special traumas of the current political situation.



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