



## IFPB Delegates Find Power in Regional Networks Ohio Group Paves the Way for Others Around the Country!

In the past five years, the number of people who have joined Interfaith Peace-Builders delegations has doubled. As the organization grows exponentially, we are responding to the good work of so many delegates by taking new steps to foster **IFPB regional networks**.

Regional networks facilitate delegate-to-delegate contact and lead new opportunities for delegates to pursue education and advocacy for peace and justice in Palestine/Israel. They are about strengthening the IFPB community, and do so by better connecting groups of delegates to share experience and skills, and to further the education and advocacy work which IFPB delegations inspire.

As IFPB regional networks spring up around the country, we hope that each will recruit potential delegates, help support them on return, and help us identify resources to make it all possible. **Most importantly, delegates can use the networks to learn from each other and share experiences, skills, and organizing strategies.**

The development of regional networks has already begun! In addition to germinations in Virginia, New England, and Los Angeles, there is a flourishing network in Ohio which began meeting and working together in 2010. The Ohio regional network has accumulated a great deal of experience from which others can learn.

There are **19** IFPB delegates active in the Ohio network, including **6** who joined IFPB delegations in 2011. The group has organized presentations for returning delegates, hosted speakers from Palestine, and supported delegates' work in local communities throughout the state.

**We asked a few of the Ohio activists to give us their impressions of the regional network:**

**Gloria Brown, 2011 African Heritage Delegation participant**  
*Streetsboro, Ohio*

*"Meeting, networking, and sharing with other IFPB delegates are critical pieces. I was very disturbed by what I saw and heard on the delegation. The Ohio regional group helped to meet, network, and to be in conversation with others who had seen the "unsanitized" version of Israel and Palestine. This is a good way to get ideas about new projects to support nonviolent peace efforts in the area."*

**Mary Ann Kerr, 2007 Delegation participant and former member of IFPB Board of Directors**  
*Cleveland, Ohio*

*"The group meetings are re-invigorating and stimulate promotion of ongoing activity in the peacemaking field, plus we get involved in each other's activities. We are fortunate that our group includes so many active and creative people who like to get together. We share a lot of energy, humor, and learn from each other. Some members travel more than two hours to attend our meetings!"*



Members of IFPB's Ohio regional network with IFPB Program Coordinator Mike Daly and Nasser Abu Farha of the Palestine Fair Trade Association (both standing to left), at a talk they organized at Oberlin College in Fall 2010.

**Interested in Helping to Bring Together IFPB Delegates and Allies in Your Area?**  
Contact us and we'll put you in touch with delegates in your region : [mdaly@ifpb.org](mailto:mdaly@ifpb.org)

# Ohio Delegates Share Experiences with Regional Network. . .

*(continued from front)*

**Jo Hollingsworth, 2011 IFPB Delegation participant**  
Fostoria, Ohio

*"The IFPB regional group in Ohio is an important asset to this delegate. I started meeting with them before I went on my delegation and learned a lot from the different individuals. . . I hope the regional group serves as a focus for information on Israel-Palestine. . . There are few people familiar with this issue in our area. So email contacts with the national IFPB and regional IFPB are important in developing a sense of community."*

*Nasser Abu Farha speaks at Oberlin College (2010)*



**Gloria Brown, 2011 African Heritage Delegation participant**  
Streetsboro, Ohio

*"I look forward to the expansion of the regional group. . . We need to recruit others so that stories are told throughout the region resulting in a tremendous education for audiences. . . Being in regular contact with others who have been on delegations helps to keep my experiences alive. Recently, I lobbied for the divestment resolution at the National Meeting of Black Methodists for Church Renewal. The body voted unanimously to endorse the divestment resolution to give it "muscle" at the United Methodist Church General Conference."*

*IFPB Ohio regional group at an October 2011 meeting. Pictured are: Christine Heggie, Jo Hollingsworth, Gloria Brown, Jim Bailey, Jacquie Talbott, Ruth Tracy, Kazim Ali, Doug Kerr, Marco Wilkinson, and Elizabeth Lavalle*

**Doug Kerr, 2007 Delegation participant and member of IFPB Board of Directors**  
Cleveland, Ohio

*"As the group evolves, we expect to engage more together in advocacy activities. . . We would also like our group to facilitate fundraising throughout Ohio. We had a major fundraiser in Cleveland in the fall of 2010 and are now planning another in the spring or summer of 2012. We would like to support each other in having smaller events within our various communities."*

It is quite clear from the impressions above that the Ohio Regional Network has only just begun its work. **As IFPB delegates in Ohio continue to build their community, we'll be working on building similar organizing hubs around the country.**

Imagine what we could accomplish with a strong and vibrant community of Interfaith Peace-Builders regional networks spread across the continent! We could host speakers from Palestine/Israel, organize advocacy campaigns, and more. Email IFPB Program Coordinator, Mike Daly, today to learn more: [mdaly@ifpb.org](mailto:mdaly@ifpb.org)



## IFPB Board of Directors Meets in Washington, DC

The first weekend of February was all work and (almost) no play for IFPB as the Board and Staff met together in Washington for our annual meeting. We said hello to new Board Members Hanan Idilbi, Darryl Jordan and Cathy Sultan; and goodbye to those leaving the Board, including Ilise Cohen, Mara Kronenfeld, and Mary Ann Kerr. We also remembered fondly the many contributions of Scott Kennedy to our work and identity. And we **did** have fun too: board members met past and future IFPB delegates at a house party.

It was an inspirational weekend, in which we collectively laid out a path for the organization in the coming years. It was an amazing weekend full of honesty, love, and community.

*IFPB Board and Staff. From right to left: (front) Richard Moss, Shakeel Syed; (middle) Sandra Mackie, Barbara Wien, Mark Johnson, Emily Siegel, Jacob Pace, Mary Ann Kerr; (back) Hanan Idilbi, Allie Perry, Cathy Sultan, Ilise Cohen, Gerald Lenoir, Darryl Jordan, Rami Natsheh, Doug Kerr; (not pictured) Mike Daly.*



Top: IFPB Delegates present at Occupy AIPAC Summit and Mobilization, (right to left): Rev. Avery Blakeney, Rev. Carolyn Boyd, Sterling Pack, Rev. Heber Brown III, and Felicia Eaves. Bottom: Scenes from the mobilization.

# IFPB Delegates Say: “Injustice Anywhere Is a Threat to Justice Everywhere”

## Palestine and the African American Experience Event Draws Hundreds at Occupy AIPAC Summit and Mobilization

On March 2-6, hundreds converged on Washington to stand against war and occupation. Organized by our friends at CODEPINK, the **Occupy AIPAC** summit and mobilization raised a voice of opposition to violent policies pursued by the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee and its allies.

As a co-sponsor of the event, Interfaith Peace-Builders organized a unique panel featuring participants on IFPB’s 2011 African Heritage Delegation to Palestine/Israel and other African American delegates. Speakers highlighted the importance of solidarity with Palestinians resisting Israeli occupation and colonization, and problematized AIPAC’s recruitment of African American clergy and students at Historically Black Colleges.

**IFPB’s 2<sup>nd</sup> African Heritage Delegation is planned for October 21 – November 3, 2012**  
For more information see [www.ifpb.org/africanheritage](http://www.ifpb.org/africanheritage)

## Students and Youth Benefit from IFPB Scholarships

### 10 Awarded Grants to Join Summer Delegations

In 2011 nearly 1 in 3 IFPB delegates were under the age of 30. In 2010, young people made up nearly 40% of all delegates. IFPB has always looked to cultivate young leadership, and has done so, in one way, through scholarships allowing young people to join IFPB delegations.

As part of these efforts, we have awarded scholarships to 10 students and youth who will be joining one of our two summer delegations. In total, IFPB will grant nearly **\$5,000** in financial aid for individuals on the two delegations. **You can support these efforts by donating to scholarships at [www.ifpb.org/donation](http://www.ifpb.org/donation).**

## Announcing the Scott Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund

Scott Kennedy, the Chair of Interfaith Peace-Builders Board and one of the founders of our program, passed away on November 19, 2011. He left many things as a legacy to his long years of work for peace and justice in Palestine/Israel.

Scott’s advocacy included tireless efforts to bring as many people as possible to meet with Palestinian and Israeli peace-builders. He often raised money to bring young and low-income activists on the delegations he led.

In honor of Scott’s efforts, Interfaith Peace-Builders is rechristening our scholarship fund in his honor, so that we can continue the important work that he pioneered.



**DONATE TO THE SCOTT KENNEDY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND TODAY**  
write “Kennedy Scholarships” in check memo line or click the link for “scholarships” at [www.ifpb.org/donation](http://www.ifpb.org/donation)

# For the Cost of One Falafel Sandwich, You Could Make a World of Difference!

\$5 a Month Is All It Takes to Build This Movement!

*A personal note:*

I'm not sure how many times I've headed out my front door, turned left, and wandered into the *Sunrise Deli* down the street from my home in San Francisco. *Sunrise* is owned by a Palestinian family from Jerusalem and makes the best falafel outside of Palestine (in my opinion). The family now has restaurants in Berkeley and closer to downtown, but the one on Irving at 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue is the original, and that's where I make my pilgrimage.

In the morning I might order several falafel and a piece of ka'ak (the delicious sesame ring bread that is unique to the Jerusalem region); in the afternoon, I order a falafel sandwich. Whatever I choose, I usually pay no more than \$5 (plus tip).

All of us, almost every day, spend at least \$5 for lunch. But what would happen if each of us reading this newsletter donated just \$5 a month to Interfaith Peace-Builders?

With just \$5 a month we could build our work in new and important ways. For instance, we could send more youth and community leaders to Palestine/Israel; we could develop additional regional networks of IFPB delegates and train them in activism and advocacy skills; we could bring speakers from Palestine/Israel to communities across the country; we could invest more in the movement we are building here in North America to bring peace and justice to Palestine/Israel; and more!

You are an essential piece of this work. All it takes is the cost of one falafel sandwich each month.

Let's eat!



*Actual falafel sandwich from Sunrise Deli (which I actually consumed after taking this photo):*



**Make Your Monthly Donation to Sustain our Work Today!**

Check the box in the enclosed envelope or select "I want to make a recurring donation" at

**[www.ifpb.org/donation](http://www.ifpb.org/donation)**

## TRAVEL TO ISRAEL/PALESTINE WITH INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS

### UPCOMING DELEGATIONS

- **July 14 – July 27, 2012**  
*Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders: Ramadan in Palestine!*  
**Led by Maia Carter Hallward and Diana Buttu**
- **October 21 – November 3, 2012**  
*Trees of Peace: Olive Harvest Delegation*  
**Led by Andy Clarno and Cindy Corrie**
- **October 21 – November 3, 2012**  
*2012 African Heritage Delegation (for individuals of African descent and heritage)*  
**Led by Darryl Jordan and tba**
- **November 3 – November 11, 2012**  
*Delegation to the Gaza Strip (tentative!)*



**Now is the time to go!** Find out why so many credit an IFPB delegation with changing their life!  
**Get the latest on upcoming delegations at [ifpb.org/delegations/upcoming.html](http://ifpb.org/delegations/upcoming.html)**