



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

**THERE'S ENOUGH
VIOLENCE IN
THE WORLD.
WE'RE WAGING
PEACE INSTEAD.**

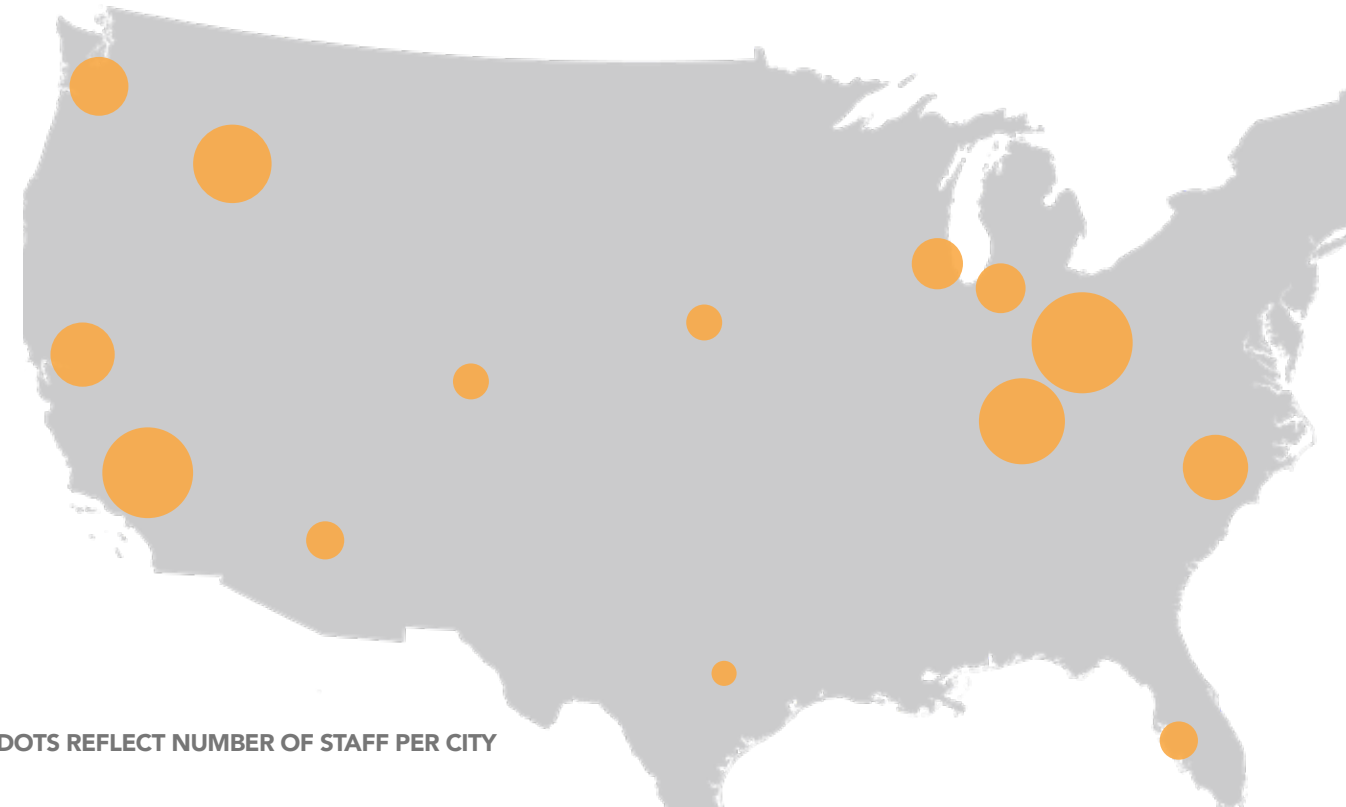


OUR WORK LOCATIONS

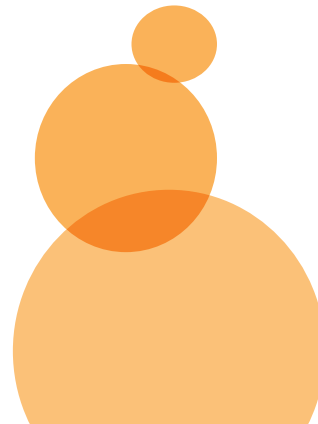


OUR GOAL IS TO CREATE LOCAL MOVEMENTS OF CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS AROUND THE WORLD LIVING IN PEACE AND WORKING TOGETHER WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS TO CREATE SAFE, JUST, AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES.

TOGETHER, MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS MAKE UP MORE THAN HALF THE WORLD'S POPULATION. WITHOUT PEACE BETWEEN THESE TWO GROUPS, THERE'S LITTLE HOPE FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD.



DOTS REFLECT NUMBER OF STAFF PER CITY



2017 EVENTS OVERVIEW

338 EVENTS
HELD



8000
PEOPLE REACHED

236 EVENTS HELD
PROGRAM EVENTS **3277** PEOPLE REACHED

102 TRAININGS & SPEAKING
EVENTS HELD **4723** PEOPLE REACHED



COMMUNITIES OF RECONCILIATION

28
EVENTS

570
PEOPLE

4
CITIES

ONGOING MEETINGS BETWEEN A COMMITTED GROUP OF MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS

"I hate Muslims," Bob said to two of our staff in Wisconsin. He had heard that they had worked in a Muslim country and that they were offering opportunities to meet Muslims from the city.

Around that time, the church hosted a Muslim-Christian panel discussion, and Bob signed up. "Well, I say I'm a follower of Jesus and that I hate Muslims. These two things cannot go together, so I'd better show up and figure this out if I intend to keep following Jesus."

A dinner group soon formed between Muslims and Christians from that event. Stories and meals were shared and turns were taken hosting one another. Then Bob opened up one night after dinner to a Muslim participant: "I have to tell you something. Before I came to this group, I hated Muslims and I wanted nothing to do with them... Now, I love you."



LISTENING EVENTS

14
EVENTS

453
PEOPLE

6
CITIES

EVENTS HOSTED AT A MOSQUE OR CHURCH FOR ATTENDEES TO LEARN ABOUT TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES OF THE OTHER FAITH'S COMMUNITY

Christian and Muslim teenagers gathered in Indiana for food, games, and peer discussion about the similarities and differences between their respective faiths. Conversations ranged from whether or not faith is part of their identity or something that can be changed, to whether religion has been a force for good or evil in the world.

*"Today was very eye-opening for me. I've never felt so safe to ask questions, talk about, and interact with people of my own faith and other faiths. I realized how similar we all are, even though we appear so different on the outside."
- Madison, 16*

"I feel like my eyes have opened to make a lot more friends who are different than me." - Alyson, 15



PEACE FEASTS

20
EVENTS

**MEALS BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS,
INCLUDING AN EDUCATIONAL CULTURAL
PRESENTATION OR EXPERIENCE**

528
PEOPLE

The Light of Nations Christian School in Indonesia brought 30 elementary students to our Indonesia team's Peace Generation facility to learn about Islam. Some of the Christian students knew absolutely nothing about Islam despite living in a city that is 98% Muslim, but others knew Arabic phrases even our volunteers didn't know.

8
CITIES

In this, the largest Muslim country in the world, we're seeing Christian youth opening up and getting to know their Muslim neighbors, and Muslim Indonesians beginning to establish personal connections with their Christian neighbors. We are indeed seeing the beginnings of a new Peace Generation.



WELCOMING REFUGEES

41
EVENTS

**PARTNERING WITH, LEARNING FROM, AND SERVING
REFUGEES IN OUR CITIES IN THE U.S. AND AROUND
THE WORLD**

624
PEOPLE

After a dinner hosted in Columbus to help community members get to know their Afghan neighbors, a Muslim participant said,

8
CITIES

"I'm really happy to find this love, care, and support from American people. That love helped me to continue my life in a new country despite all the difficulties and made me feel that I'm surrounded by friends and family. You have no idea what this love means to us (immigrants), and we will always appreciate that. Thank you Peace Catalyst for spreading love and peace."



TRAININGS

102
EVENTS

4723
PEOPLE

15
CITIES

FORMAL TRAINING EVENTS AND OTHER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS TO EQUIP PEOPLE TO BECOME PEACEMAKERS AND BETTER ENGAGE WITH THOSE OF OTHER FAITHS

In Sandpoint, Idaho our staff showed up to give a training on refugee resettlement only to find that the event had been taken over by protestors shouting things like “speak American!” and spewing vitriol against Muslims. Those who earnestly came to learn were outnumbered and shouted down, and the opportunity for fruitful conversation was quickly squelched.

However, as a result of the hatred on display in this meeting, a local church decided to reaffirm its commitment to stand up against prejudice and hatred, and this seemingly ill-fated training actually became a catalyst for peace.

[READ THE STORY HERE](#)



SHOWING SUPPORT FOR MUSLIMS IN IDAHO

SERVICE PROJECTS

8
EVENTS

PROJECTS COORDINATED BETWEEN MUSLIMS AND CHRISTIANS FOR THE GOOD OF THEIR COMMUNITY

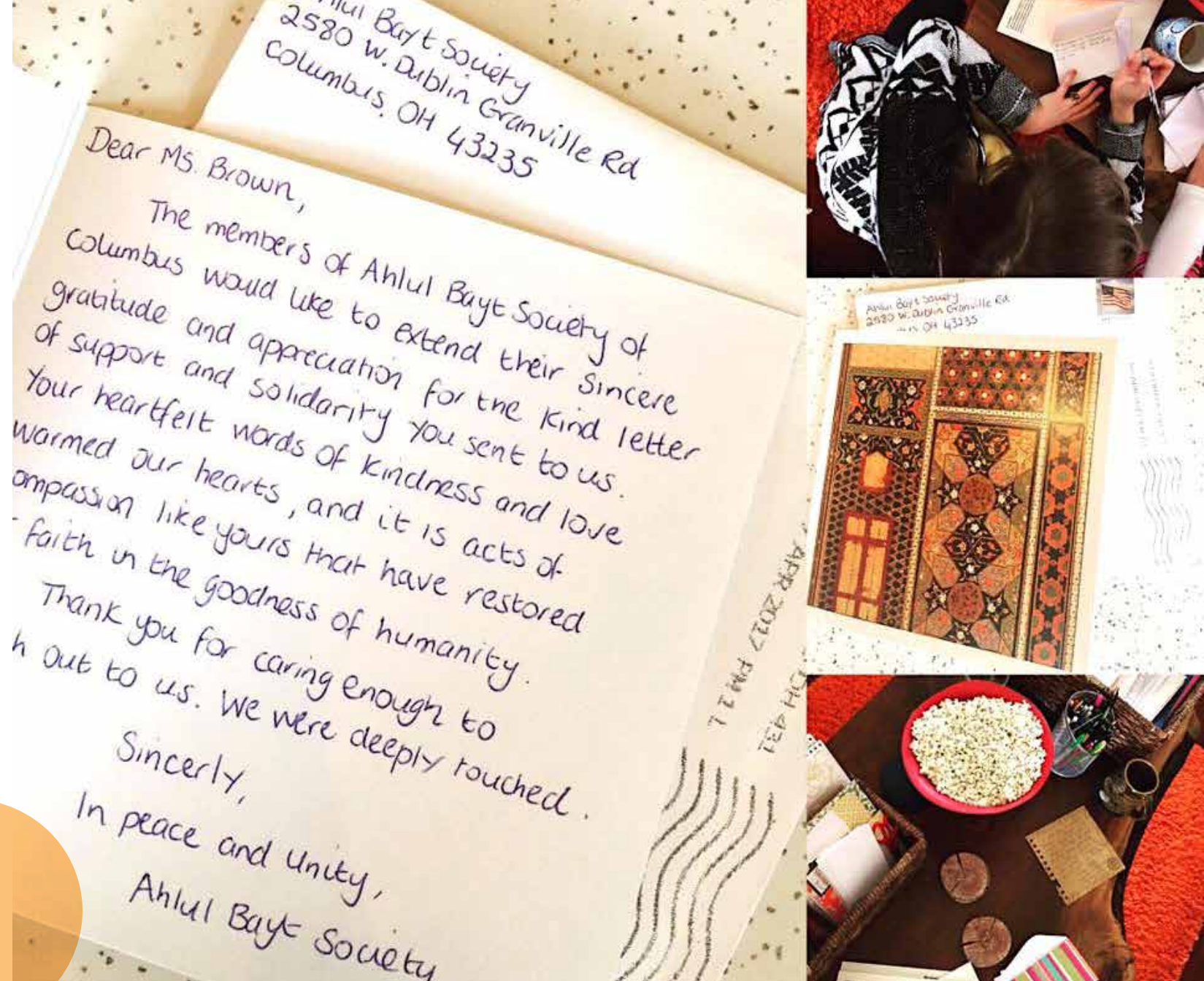
A group of peacemakers in Ohio wrote notes to every Mosque and Jewish Synagogue we could find in the Columbus area.

One of the mosques we wrote to, the Ahlul Bayt Society of Columbus, had undergone years of renovation and preparation only to suffer an act of vandalism on their front doors just days before opening. After they received our note in the mail, they responded with one of their own:

"It is acts of compassion like yours that has restored our faith in the goodness of humanity. Thank you for caring enough to reach out to us."

470
PEOPLE

6
CITIES



HOLY BOOK STUDIES & MOSQUE VISITS

105
EVENTS

255
PEOPLE

10
CITIES

GATHERINGS DESIGNED TO BUILD BRIDGES OF TRUTH AND COMMON GROUND, ANSWERING MISCONCEPTIONS AND DISCUSSING OUR THEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES IN A PEACEFUL MANNER

Iftar dinners (the daily evening meal at which Muslims break the day's fast during Ramadan) is one of the most common times to visit the mosque. Each year we partner with local Islamic Centers and personal friends to organize many of these events, at which Christians can share a meal with their Muslim neighbors, learn about Ramadan, or simply connect and make new friendships.



PHOTO: JERRY MCBROOM

SPECIAL PROJECTS



Muslim and Christian peacemakers in Columbus, Ohio partnered with photographer Nick Fancher to show what real friendship between Christians and Muslims looks like. The photos and stories were featured in 614 Magazine.

[READ THE STORY HERE](#)





In April we co-sponsored the nationwide Interfaith March for Peace & Justice and were asked to sponsor the 2018 event across multiple cities in the U.S.



PEACEFUL PRESENCE EVENTS

In our increasingly antagonistic national climate, Peace Catalyst staff and fellow peacemakers showed up to be a peaceful presence in contrast to the hate.



In September our Ohio team mobilized around 30 people to be a peaceful presence at a local mosque where aggressive street preachers harassed community members attending Friday prayers.

[READ THE STORIES HERE](#) AND [HERE](#)



PEACE CATALYST INTERNATIONAL

Peace Catalyst President Rick Love took peacemaking to one of the worst conflict zones in the world: Israel/Palestine. He taught at Bethlehem Bible College to a class of Palestinian Christians, and one student responded by saying, "I grew up in the church and know hundreds of Bible verses. But I have never heard peacemaking taught with such clarity."

Peace Catalyst staff also traveled to Jordan and, in partnership with Islamic Help in Amman, distributed food, clothing, and heating fuel to 1200 Syrian refugees on the Jordanian border.

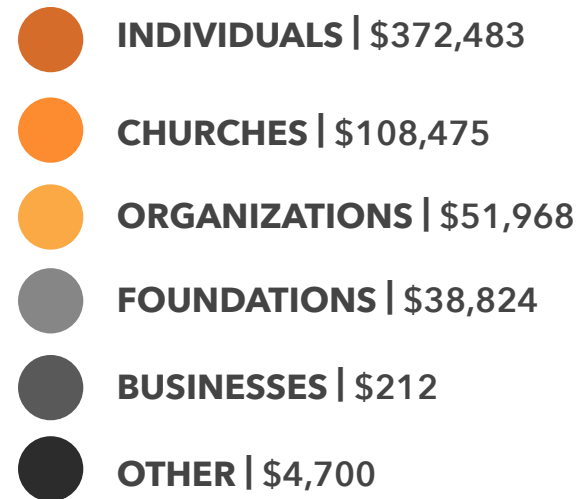
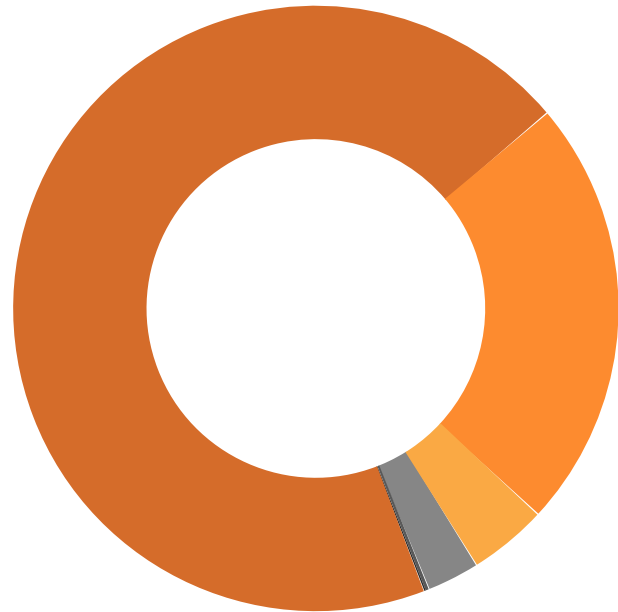
This year we launched our long-term peacemaking presence in Bosnia & Herzegovina with peacemaking staff members permanently established in the region. The country's population is comprised of Muslim and Christian ethnic groups with a history of tensions, violent conflict, war, and genocide. We've formed meaningful connections with survivors of the violence, imams, and local peacemaking leaders and have been partnering with local efforts to build understanding between ethnic groups and promote non-violence.



Our overseas peacemaking work also includes Indonesia, and in August of this year our stateside peacemaker Thomas Davis traveled to Indonesia to partner with our Indonesia-based team as well as to connect with existing peacemakers and pioneer new relationships in the country. These connections included Governor Irfan Prayitno, university students seeking to start a peacemaking movement in their city, and a major Indonesian Islamic network.



REVENUE FINANCIALS



EXPENSE FINANCIALS

