

Upcoming Community Events Summer 2016

"The Fifth Season: A Biography of a Palestinian Teacher"

A film screening and discussion facilitated
by the film's creator, Shadi Habib Allah

Tuesday, June 28
6-7:00 PM

3 Williams Way, Durham, NH

Friendly Toast Community Fundraiser

20% of revenue from sales during this time will go towards
Friends Forever's programs

Thursday, July 21
113 Congress St, Portsmouth, NH
4-8:00 PM

5K Peace Walk

Join our Illinois volunteers and young people for a
community walk from the local temple to the mosque!

Saturday, July 23
102 Robinhood Ln, Bloomington, IL
6--8:00 PM

For more information on our community events, or to RSVP, contact
Chelsea at cfitton@friendsforeverusa.org or (603)397-5301

Thank you Liberty Mutual!

This May, Friends Forever participated in Liberty Mutual's "Serve
with Liberty" day (photo to right). Each year Liberty Mutual
encourages their employees to volunteer at local nonprofits in their
community. Thirty volunteers from Liberty Mutual offices around New
England spent the day at Friends Forever's campus raking leaves,
planting flowers and trees, assembling picnic tables, painting walls,
stuffing envelopes, and more!

If your company is interested in organizing a similar service day with
Friends Forever or hosting a delegation from this year's programs,
contact Chelsea at (603)397-5301 or cfitton@friendsforeverusa.org.



Reflections from our Alumni Ambassadors:

After helping to facilitate the training of this year's participants, we
asked our alumni to reflect on their experiences. Here is what two
of our alumni had to say :

*"When we got back home, I was proud to my friends. In the
middle of the hard time in Israel and when everything is
getting sensitive, a group of a few alumni, Jews and Arabs,
are guiding and leading a seminar for younger Arabs and
Jews who believe that peace is possible."*

*"As I see it, Friends Forever's one year program is a window
full of opportunities, and if you feel connected to this program
you should continue being involved. In one year you can
learn a lot, feel a lot and get to know each other, but you
need more time to make a real change in your community or
even in yourself. Making a change through Friends Forever
can be great, and that is why I wanted to stay involved after I
finished the one year program."*



A special thank you to
Charlie Bourdages and the
team at Site Structures
Landscape, for making our
Serve with Liberty day
possible!

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(603)397-5301
www.friendsforeverusa.org

Please visit <http://www.friendsforeverusa.org/#/donate/>
Sign up for monthly online donations today!



FRIENDS FOREVER

World Peace... Grown Locally

*Without fear, we are able to see more clearly our connections to others. Without fear, we have more room for
understanding and compassion. Without fear, we are truly free*
— Thich Nhat Hanh

Fear keeps us hunkered down in our small social circles. Fear stops us from embracing change. Fear creates a feeling in us that
we are under attack at all time. Fear is a powerful drive in our evolution and it is being constantly manipulated to direct our behaviors
on the individual, national, and global levels. We all feel fear and we must accept it as a part of being human. But for every reason we
have to feel fear there are many more reasons to feel hope. To feel joy. To know that for every act of senseless violence and terror,
there are hundreds of inspiring acts of kindness and empathy that will be the foundation for peace in the future. Inside the newsletter
you will see some of these "headlines" and we share these with you not to promote Friends Forever but to promote hope. To let you
know that despair and apathy are not an answer. To let you know that for those of you that believe that as individuals every day we
have the responsibility to make the world a better place....YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Whether it is the amazing young leaders we work with from around the world or those of you who donate and volunteer to make sure
they can continue their efforts, Friends Forever has been providing everyone who encounters it with hope. We will keep sending these
stories of our youth and their successes both small and large as long as the powers that be continue their barrage of fear inducing
messages that they pump out to us on a daily basis. Just as we all learned how to fear, we all can also learn how not to fear. Let's
learn together. Peace.

Stephen Martineau
CEO

Guy K. Buesing Fund for Friends Forever. Inc

After his passing, Guy Buesing's family wanted to continue his
legacy of supporting Friends Forever by creating an endowment
fund in his name, at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.
The fund will go towards providing scholarships for future
participants. The family established the fund with the hope that
other donors will also contribute to it over time and increase
Friend Forever's long-term sustainability. We wish to express our
sincere thanks to the family for their vision and support.

To contribute to the Guy K. Buesing Fund for Friends Forever,
Inc. at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation go to:
www.nhcf.org and click on "Give" in the upper right-hand
corner of the website. Click on "Support a Specific Fund" and
enter the Fund Name (Guy K. Buesing Fund for Friends
Forever, Inc.) where you'll be prompted to complete your gift. If
you prefer to make your gift by check, please mail a check
payable to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to 37
Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301. In the memo line please
indicate that it is for the Guy K. Buesing Fund for Friends
Forever, Inc. Gifts to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation are tax
deductible to the full extent permitted by law. For more information contact
Steve at (603)397-5301.



Guy was a founding board member of Friends Forever and
member of the Portsmouth Rotary Club. His family speaks
fondly of Guy's memories with Friends Forever and how one of
his favorite things to do was to sit back and listen to a group
simply make music together....

Positive headlines you won't see on CNN...



Jewish and Palestinian Israeli youth prepare for a lifetime of peace.

Last month alumni from our Israel program helped Friends Forever staff run a two day seminar for this summer's participants. The goal of the seminar was to prepare our 2016 delegations for the remainder of their program. While each group has been working together for the last few months, this was the first time all thirty students of this year's program came together.

During the seminar staff led workshops around speech writing and expectations of their time in the United States, while Friends Forever alumni used their skills to run ice breakers and dialogue sessions with the new delegations. This year's teachers also participated in the seminar. After reviewing their responsibilities for the remainder of the program, each pair of teachers facilitated a debrief session and video identity workshop for their group. Each delegation also designed their own team name, logo, and slogan as part of their Group Building Phase.



U.S. communities to host international peace program for forty youth leaders from cultures in conflict.

Next month Friends Forever will be hosting three delegations from Israel and one delegation from Northern Ireland. The delegations will be traveling to New England and Illinois communities for the Skill Building Phase, a two week training designed to prepare them for their work back home. Each team will participate in roughly 45 activities focused around the concepts of **strengthening communication, broadening perspective, identifying resilience, practicing empathy, and achieving impact.**

Session 1: Israel and Northern Ireland
June 30- July 15
New England

Session 2: Israel
July 16- July 31
New England, Illinois

If you'd like to be involved with this summer's programs, contact Sam at srush@friendsforeverusa.org



Hundreds gather to celebrate three decades of conflict resolution in Northern Ireland.

In May, Friends Forever brought a delegation of board members and volunteers to Northern Ireland to celebrate our 30th Anniversary. Each day consisted of visits to the communities we work with and historical site seeing. Alumni from each of our partner youth clubs organized an afternoon of activities for our group. They took us on walking tours of their neighborhoods, spoke about the work they have been doing since returned from the U.S., and showed us a glimpse of what it is like growing up in Northern Ireland.

Towards the end of our trip we hosted a celebration for 300 alumni and their families at Stormont Parliament Building in Belfast. Decades of the Friends Forever family came together to reconnect and reflect on their experiences since joining our programs. The night was a great success with presentations from alumni and leaders that created a sense of hope and inspiration to continue working towards a peaceful future through community building.

If you'd like keep up to date with what our groups are doing while they are in the United States, or to view more great work by our alumni, follow us on social media!

Facebook.com/FRIENDSFOREVER.ORG
[@friendforeverus](https://www.facebook.com/friendforeverus)