

Partnerships for Policy Change



Friends Committee
on National Legislation

annual report 2009 | 2010

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WE SEEK A world free of war and the threat of war

WE SEEK A society with equity and justice for all

WE SEEK A community where every person's potential may be fulfilled

WE SEEK An earth restored

cover photo: Matt Southworth (center, front row) FCNL Legislative Program Assistant and Iraq war veteran, with students from Wilmington College attending FCNL's Spring Lobby Day.



A Partnership that Works

By Joe Volk, Executive Secretary

FCNL has a partnership with you that works. Our success as a Quaker lobby in the public interest depends on collaborative action—between our lobbyists in Washington, DC and you, our supporters across our country who fund FCNL’s work and who contact their legislators at key times. This partnership works.

Our partnership has been especially important this year. The specific legislative victories you will read about in this report would not be possible without the support of tens of thousands of people like you across the country. You have also helped us lay the groundwork for effective legislative campaigns on votes yet to come.

You have helped us generate dozens of local press and op-ed pieces on the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START)—media attention that will be critical when the treaty comes up for a Senate vote. Our partners are collaborating with state and local groups as part of FCNL’s Our Nation’s Checkbook campaign and are beginning to bring together local coalitions focused on the peaceful prevention of deadly conflict.

This annual report also tells the story of FCNL’s vibrant partnerships with our colleague organizations here in our nation’s capital. In particular, FCNL’s change strategy brought together a new coalition to address global warming and support the bipartisan CLEAR Act (Carbon Limits and Energy for America’s

Renewal)—a real step forward in the search for fair and effective climate legislation.

FCNL is blessed by the spiritual grounding for our work which grows from the Friends Churches and Monthly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends. Governed by our General Committee, FCNL draws on the volunteer time and energy of more than 200 people from all branches of the Religious Society of Friends. We also continue to work through a nationwide network of more than 700 FCNL Contacts in local meetings and churches.

We at FCNL seek to live our lives in tune with a governed universe and to be at one with the force of truth and the power of love. The roots of our religious practice run deep into our Abrahamic tradition and, today, these roots find nourishment from the variety of religious experiences of the many peoples of the world with whom we live and work.

This annual report highlights FCNL programs and operations. I encourage you to visit our website, www.fcnl.org, for a more detailed picture of our advocacy and community-based action.

Thank you for your partnership with us. It works.



Executive Secretary Joe Volk





FCNL General Committee
Clerk Dorsey Green

Looking Back and Looking Forward

By Dorsey Green, Clerk of the FCNL General Committee

What jumps out at me in this report is that, even after a series of careful and necessary cutbacks in expenditures and staff in 2008 and early 2009, we were, in fiscal year 2010, able to have

a significant impact on public policy in Washington. I am amazed at everything that our staff and volunteer community around the country have accomplished!

The bottom line is that FCNL's daily operations are strong.

The financial cutbacks do have consequences, and Joe Volk has challenged FCNL's supporters to consider increasing our giving by an average of 25 percent for the next three years, if possible. Although some of our supporters have had to cut back on their support for FCNL, others have been able to respond to Joe's challenge with increasing financial support. Thanks to all of you for giving what you can to support FCNL's work.

Your support and lobbying are what allow FCNL to maintain program work to reform health care, ratify nuclear disarmament treaties, advocate to cut military spending through the *Our Nation's Checkbook* campaign, prevent war with Iran, advocate for health care for Native Americans, reform our immigration system, and much more. Many legislative opportunities remain, such as the CLEAR Act on global warming, that need our continued attention and action now.

Two years ago, Joe announced that he would retire in March 2011. The Executive Committee, which will bring a recommendation for a new Executive Secretary to the FCNL Annual Meeting in November, appointed a Search Committee in 2009. We will have time in the coming months to celebrate Joe's twenty years of service and the strong, vibrant organization that he has been a part of creating. We are thankful that our organization is in a strong position to welcome his successor.

Again, thank you for your contributions of time, energy, and dollars which make FCNL's work possible.



Building Partnerships to Prevent War

People sometimes ask us “how can you influence government policy without delivering blocks of votes or big money?” Part of FCNL’s answer last year was that we convey good information, policy analysis, and recommendations to key members of Congress, their staff, and officials in the Executive Branch. That’s lobbying. Our regular meetings with them and with leaders of other civil society organizations help to bolster political will to address the Peaceful Prevention of Deadly Conflict (PPDC).

Building Coalitions for Genocide Prevention:

Although individually no one group is strong enough to change government policy, the one-year-old Prevention and Protection Working Group that FCNL helped to establish and now coordinates has already achieved a great deal. This coalition, made up of a dozen human rights, humanitarian, and conflict resolution groups, has already issued a briefing book that defines its common lobbying agenda. As a direct result of these efforts, a bipartisan resolution was introduced in early August 2010, (S.Con. Res. 71) calling on the United States to improve its capability to peacefully prevent genocide and mass atrocities. We will partner with FCNL’s nationwide network to build support for this effort in the coming year.

Increasing Funding for Programs that Work:

In 2009, FCNL’s Bridget Moix was one of a very small group of people lobbying for the creation of a Complex Crises Fund (CCF) for the State Department

and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The CCF would provide civilian agencies with much-needed flexible funding to help prevent and mitigate violent conflict.

In 2010 President Obama asked Congress for \$100 million for the CCF, which would have doubled its available funding. Yet, as congressional staff began looking for spending cuts, one of their first actions was to try to reduce funding for this poorly understood peaceful prevention effort. In the next year, FCNL will work to secure adequate funding for the CCF.

Quaker Cooperation to Prevent Violence in

Kenya: FCNL helped initiate monthly conference calls with several Quaker organizations working in Kenya to consider how to prevent violence before Kenya’s 2012 elections. These calls have made it possible for FCNL staff to bring “on the ground” information about Kenya to congressional staff, administration officials, and our FCNL network.



Compiled by a working group which FCNL chairs, this briefing booklet on civilian capacities to prevent war can be used in its entirety or as individual flyers on specific capacities including diplomacy, development, early warning, international action and security assistance. Use this resource for your own benefit and share it with your community or even your members of Congress during your next lobby visit. Available at fcnl.org/ppdc



FCNL's policy brief *Kenya: Temporary Ceasefire or Lasting Peace?* has been widely distributed to key people in the administration and Congress. (available at fcnl.org/kenya).

Educating Our Network: The peaceful prevention of deadly conflict—that's a mouthful! As part of our effort to explain that mouthful, our lead lobbyist on this issue, Bridget Moix, began a nationwide campaign to move communities to start talking about how to prevent war through peaceful means.

We know that by strengthening U.S. capabilities in three areas—diplomacy, development, and international cooperation—the United States could shift its foreign policy away from late military reaction to crises and toward early, peaceful prevention by civilians. That change would save lives and treasure.

Local peacemakers around the country participated in monthly conference calls, and we expanded the Peace Toolbox on the FCNL website. Biweekly Prevent War emails also helped to inform and educate our network and invite them to take specific actions.



Kara Newell,
Reedwood Friends Church,
Portland, OR

KARA NEWELL has devoted her life and career to nonprofit work and the Quaker peace testimony. She believes that working for peace and the preservation of life is an essential mission. “When Joe Volk asked us to consider increasing our annual gift to FCNL by 25%, I knew I wanted to respond,” Kara said. “FCNL is effective because it is very clear about its purpose. FCNL is focused on bringing a Quaker perspective to Washington and influencing national legislation, and it does not stray from the goal. I’m glad that we can provide more support when it’s needed.”

You can make a secure online donation to FCNL at fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



War is Not the Answer: FCNL Peace Campaigns

Congress shapes foreign policy, for good or ill, by the resolutions it introduces, the debates it holds, and the votes it takes. Surprisingly, the vote count isn't always a good indication of congressional influence.

FCNL's program focuses on the four interrelated conflicts in the greater Middle East in which the United States is directly involved: the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, the cold war with Iran, and the Israel-Palestine conflict. All of the conflicts are complex, and ending violence will be difficult. Yet, intensive regional diplomacy that includes all parties in negotiations, without preconditions or ultimatums, is one step that could help resolve the conflicts.

From going on record to advocate an exit strategy from Iraq to successfully modifying harsh sanctions against the Iranian people, FCNL worked with champions in Congress on a series of possible "next steps" to build opposition to the U.S. wars and to promote peaceful resolutions to ongoing conflicts.

BUILDING OPPOSITION TO THE U.S. WAR IN AFGHANISTAN



Just before adjourning for a recess in July 2010, 162 members of the House of Representatives voted to require the Obama administration to prepare an exit strategy from Afghanistan, including a timetable to bring U.S. troops home. Although 162 votes is not sufficient to pass legislation, these representatives moved the U.S. closer to ending its war.

For Congress and for FCNL that vote clearly signaled increasing opposition to the war. A year ago, 138 members of the House voted for a less stringent measure.



Our FCNL lobbyists in Washington and our network of partners around the country have a constructive plan for U.S. success:

- **Begin a withdrawal** of U.S. troops;
- **Halt offensive operations** against the Taliban and focus on political reconciliation among all Afghan groups;
- **Engage Afghanistan's neighbors**, including Iran and Pakistan, to promote reconciliation and regional security;
- **Channel U.S. development aid** through select Afghan ministries and multilateral organizations.

Although we have not yet persuaded the administration and Congress to support this strategy, we expanded the number of members of Congress who openly question the president's war strategy. Our next step will be to ensure that President Barack Obama has the support to keep his commitment to begin the withdrawal of U.S. military forces from Afghanistan in July 2011.

OUT OF IRAQ

FCNL lobbying was a key factor in the congressional recognition of the U.S.-Iraq withdrawal agreement. In October 2009 President Obama signed legislation that formally recognizes the bilateral agreement signed by the United States and Iraq in November 2008. This agreement committed the United States to withdraw all military forces from Iraq by December 31, 2011.

Congress has required the administration to report every three months on the progress of its withdrawal of U.S. troops, contractors, and equipment from Iraq. For the first time since the U.S. invasion in 2003, Congress has passed legislation to affirm that U.S. commitment to leaving Iraq by a specific date.



Jim Fine, right, with former Foreign Policy Program Assistant Kate Gould.

It's well worth remembering that, with one exception, opponents of the Iraq war lost every vote on the Iraq war in Congress. Yet those failed votes were an important part of the political process that forced none other than the Bush administration to sign an agreement with Iraq to withdraw all U.S. forces from the country by the end of 2011.

Jim Fine, Legislative Secretary for Foreign Policy
(through August 2010)



PREVENTING A U.S. WAR WITH IRAN

President Obama took office having a clear understanding of the history of missed opportunities in U.S. relations with Iran and a strong commitment to shift from “regime change” to diplomatic negotiations. Unfortunately, this policy has not yet produced results. During the past two years, Congress has sought to further isolate and punish Iran, and the Obama administration has sought—and failed—to straddle “regime change” and coercive diplomacy.

By the middle of 2010 the angry rhetoric in both the United States and Iran had escalated. In Iran, violence and repression during the 2009 elections and continuing political tensions made international negotiations difficult. In the United States, the lead-up to the 2010 mid-term elections caused the White House to shift the focus to sanctions. FCNL opposed and successfully worked with allies to limit the damage done by new sanctions legislation passed by Congress.

By the summer our lobbyist reported that Congress was preparing new legislation that would offer implicit support for a military attack on Iran. FCNL’s work to prevent war and to build peace will continue.

**WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER.
PEACE IS POSSIBLE
THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS.**

EASE GAZA SUFFERING— YOUR ACTIONS MATTER

Reps Signing on to Gaza Letter Nearly Double

In January, more than two thousand FCNL constituents responded to our action alert asking U.S. representatives to sign a letter to President Obama about the suffering of civilians in Gaza. When we first alerted you, only 28 representatives had signed the letter; within days of our alert, when the letter was sent to the president, 54 representatives had signed on. Your letters made a difference. You can find out more about Gaza here: fcnl.org/middle_east



Nuclear Disarmament: Ratifying the Treaties

We went into this year with high hopes for nuclear disarmament. In April 2009 President Barack Obama called for a world free of nuclear weapons. To our disappointment the congressional schedule and the political process on Capitol Hill slowed progress toward ratification of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia. Even so, the work of our FCNL Quaker Nuclear Disarmament Program made progress.

As the world celebrated the president's courage in calling for nuclear abolition, FCNL's David Culp was carefully and strategically planning how to get the 67 Senate votes necessary to ratify the New START treaty. The vision of a world free of nuclear weapons becomes reality only through smart, hard work. After counting votes and drafting a strategy memo and briefing document, David set up an email list to facilitate communication among those focused on persuading the Senate

to ratify both the New START and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

RATIFYING NEW START

The first surprise was that we would have to work very hard at all to achieve Senate ratification of the New START, a treaty that will further reduce the number of deployed nuclear weapons in U.S. and Russian arsenals. The treaty has the support of key national political leaders, including both Richard Lugar (IN) and John Kerry (MA) in the Senate, and many politicians and activists expected the treaty to fly through the ratification process. Yet scheduling a Senate vote and finding the needed two-thirds majority (67 votes) for treaty ratification has been difficult in this contentious political environment.

Fortunately, thanks to the support of the Ploughshares Fund, an anonymous donor, and many other individual

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
306 SHOB
Washington, DC 20510-1401

Dear Senator Lugar,

As bi-partisan Quakers, we are writing to offer our support for your efforts to to secure ratification of a new, verifiable START agreement this year. . . . In our view, the treaty offers an opportunity to make the United States safer from the threat of nuclear weapons and to take a small step back from the increasingly partisan atmosphere. As part of this effort, we would like to help organize a series of public forums and other events at which you could discuss your bipartisan efforts to control the spread of nuclear weapons. We would work to secure bipartisan participation in these events.

Morris M. Mills
Ladoga, IN

Douglas C. Bennett
Richmond, IN

J. Stanley Banker
Indianapolis, IN

Douglas M. Kinsler
Carmel, IN



donors, FCNL was able to expand its lobbying work by hiring field organizers in key states. Those organizers have been meeting with business leaders, professors, college presidents, and other influential leaders in these states. Although our original plan had been to focus this effort on mobilizing support for Senate ratification of CTBT, the focus shifted when ratification of the New START ran into political trouble. We also used the funds to gain additional support from other groups and local coalitions working for Senate ratification.

Our work on the New START follows a pattern that will be familiar to FCNL supporters: FCNL's careful analysis and focused lobbying in Washington allows us to inform our network and the networks of many other groups about the particular strategy that can make progress for nuclear disarmament.

FCNL's efforts led to:

- Media coverage and newspaper editorials in many key states;
- Meetings between bipartisan delegations of local leaders and individual senators and their staff members;
- Lobbying by faith leaders, lawyers, doctors, and other local influential voices.

As this report went to press, the Senate had not yet acted to ratify the New START.

We at FCNL have long asserted that a world free of nuclear weapons will be a safer and more secure world. The combination of President Obama's

commitment to nuclear disarmament and the growing public support for efforts to first limit and ultimately eliminate nuclear weapons provides us with a historic opportunity to make the vision reality. Nuclear disarmament will continue as an FCNL focus until we make our world free of nuclear weapons. Your support makes this work possible.

JuneauEmpire.com

Tuesday May 18, 2010

Quaker envoy seeks arms reduction support

Friends lobbyist visits Alaska to drum up backing for ratification

Hearings on a nuclear arms treaty ratification will begin in the United States Senate today, and an advocate of the New START treaty has already been in Alaska seeking support for it.

A key vote on the treaty ratification may come from Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said David Culp, a lobbyist on behalf of the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Culp spoke in Juneau recently, and visited with the Empire as he sought to win support from Murkowski.

TENNESSEAN.COM

July 21, 2010, Editorial

Nuclear treaty jeopardized by politics

As the U.S. Senate holds hearings on a new nuclear arms treaty with Russia, opponents are using outdated, Cold War arguments to try to derail the pact.

The Portland Press Herald

August 4, 2010

Our View: Senate should back Russian nuke treaty

The agreement has strong bipartisan support from foreign policy experts of both parties... Maine's Sens. Susan Collins and Olympia Snowe should use their well-honed bipartisan instincts and find common ground on this issue for the good of the nation.



Constructive Action Against Global Warming

Human-caused global warming is a huge threat not only to the United States but to the world. Congress began this year focused on addressing this problem through a “cap and trade” approach—a complex and, in our view, ineffective system that seeks to control greenhouse gas pollution through a stock-market like trading system in pollution “credits.” In the end, polluting industries get millions more dollars, while consumers pay the price.

FCNL promoted a different, bipartisan proposal that would set up a sustainable structure for curbing greenhouse gas emissions and compensate most consumers for the increase in energy cost. Our successful lobbying means that the Carbon Limits and Energy for America’s Renewal (CLEAR) Act will be a central part of the sustainable energy discussion when Congress returns to this issue next year.

In mid-2009 the House passed a 1,400-page “cap and trade” bill, H.R. 2454. Many thought the Senate would

quickly follow suit. We at FCNL viewed the House bill as a step in the wrong direction that would lull the nation into complacency while doing little to answer the threat of global warming.

FCNL’s lobby team worked with senators to point out the problems of the “cap and trade” approach and to focus their attention on more effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. Ultimately, the Senate failed to act on the House bill and proposed its own bill, the American Power Act, which lacked bipartisan support and remained grounded in the “cap and trade” approach. It also included incentives for nuclear power and offshore drilling that FCNL could not support.

CONSTRUCTING EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION

Rather than supporting these flawed bills and hoping they could be fixed down the road, FCNL worked with interfaith and environmental groups to promote alternative solutions to the global warming

For several years **HOLLISTER KNOWLTON** has tripled the value of her annual gift to FCNL through the generous matching gift program of her former employer (she’s retired). “It’s a simple way to give more, and I’m so pleased that these extra funds can support the critical work FCNL is doing on environmental and peace and justice issues that I care so deeply about.”

Find out more about matching gifts at
www.fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



Hollister Knowlton,
Chestnut Hills Friends
Meeting, Philadelphia, PA



problem. We developed a set of principles for fair and effective legislation on global warming and held fast to our witness that legislation that met those principles can be passed. We took the lead in talking with Senate offices about our concerns with the “cap and trade” approach and about our alternative proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

A BIPARTISAN PARTNERSHIP: NEW SENATE LEGISLATION EMERGED

When Sen. Maria Cantwell (WA) first began working on the CLEAR Act our FCNL constituents encouraged Sen. Susan Collins (ME) to become an original co-sponsor so that the bill could be introduced as a bipartisan measure. Bipartisan support didn’t assure passage, but it made this bill the major piece of legislation that had support from both political parties. FCNL lobbyists worked tirelessly to promote the bill on the Hill, to other organizations, and to the public.

Congress will fail to pass sustainable energy legislation this year. From our perspective, however, the Cantwell-Collins CLEAR Act makes a real step forward, and it can be built on in the next Congress. The CLEAR Act meets most of FCNL’s principles, and, in our estimation, it is the strongest legislation that the Senate can pass at this time. Although the legislation is not perfect, it sets up a sustainable structure for curbing greenhouse gases that can be turned up as political will grows.

THE EPA AND THE CLEAN AIR ACT

In the absence of comprehensive legislation to mitigate global warming, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Clean Air Act are the only tools the United States has to protect our climate from catastrophic disruption. While Congress stalls, the EPA is taking action.

In June, FCNL joined other groups to lobby successfully against Senator Lisa Murkowski’s (AK) resolution to prevent the EPA from regulating greenhouse gas pollution from cars and trucks. FCNL is keeping a careful eye out for other threats to curb the EPA’s power to address global warming.



Susan Collins, ME



Maria Cantwell, WA

We Seek an Earth Restored.

The Washington Post

(from editorial supporting the CLEAR Act, 2/10/2010)

Is there no alternative between simple do-nothingism and House complexity? In fact, there is. An alternative proposal increasingly capturing interest on Capitol Hill is the CLEAR Act, sponsored by Sens. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine).



Working Together for Humane Immigration Reform

The need for a national conversation on how to repair our broken immigration system was dramatically highlighted this year. Arizona enacted draconian anti-immigrant legislation, which prompted other state initiatives which could threaten the civil rights of everyone in this country. Courts weighed in, ruling parts of the law unconstitutional.

We at FCNL oppose the Arizona law and have joined those calling for its repeal. The real problem, though, is Congress. The Arizona law grew from the anger and frustration created by the failure of Congress to fix the broken U.S. immigration system.

FCNL's lobby team played a lead role in promoting legislation to reunify families and in organizing lobbying efforts from many different faith communities. Working with the Interfaith Immigration Coalition, FCNL helped to build support for the strong comprehensive immigration reform legislation introduced by Rep. Luis Gutierrez (IL), and we worked to strengthen the weaker legislation introduced in the Senate.

FCNL lobbyists also focused on legislation to bring families together, such as the Reuniting Families Act (S. 1085/H.R. 2709). By making family unity a top priority, Congress can alleviate pressure on U.S. borders, enable immigrants to enter the country legally, and help develop strong families and vibrant communities.



FCNL Program Assistant Rebecca Sheff, center, at a press conference in support of the Uniting American Families Act, co-sponsored by Rep. Mike Honda (CA), rear.

In a time when vicious hate speech can be heard in some media outlets, fundamental human compassion is bringing people together in search of immigration reform. FCNL staff

“We should modernize our laws to facilitate legal immigration so that we keep families together and individuals do not have to twist themselves in knots to conform to our outdated laws.”

-Rep. Luis Gutierrez (IL)





By making family unity a top priority Congress can alleviate pressure on U.S. borders, enable immigrants to use legal channels of immigration, and help foster the development of strong individuals and vibrant communities.

Photo courtesy of Latin American Studies

coordinated numerous coalition lobby visits and oversaw the scheduling for 450 participants lobbying on immigration as part of the annual Ecumenical Advocacy Days conference held in March. Prospects for immigration reform during this Congress are slim, but FCNL will continue to work with Congress and the administration for bipartisan legislation that would restore the U.S. tradition of welcoming immigrants and provide humane solutions to our broken immigration system.

HAITIAN CRISIS

In response to the economic crisis in Haiti, FCNL lobbied in 2009 for Temporary Protected Status for Haitians in the United States, which would halt deportations and permit Haitians to live and work

here temporarily. The need for this status became even more urgent after the devastating January earthquake. An FCNL action alert asking constituents to contact President Barack Obama on this issue generated more than 4,500 letters; we also generated support from the Interfaith Immigration Coalition for letters to the president and to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. Temporary Protected Status was subsequently granted for Haitians immigrants.

We, as people of faith, are called not only to resist unjust laws and to work to change them, but to take the initiative to act in accordance with higher laws. We call upon Friends everywhere to urge our elected representatives to immediate action on humane immigration reform. We call upon ourselves to act with integrity in response to these challenges and we rededicate ourselves to loving our neighbors, to doing justice, and to walking humbly in the spirit of love.

From Intermountain Yearly Meeting
(Quaker) minute on Immigration,
June 2010



Native Americans: Congress Begins to Honor the Promises

Working together with Native American communities, this year FCNL realized two of our long-term legislative goals and solidified a stronger working relationship with the Executive Branch.

INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT RE-AUTHORIZED**

American Indians, Alaska Natives, and their allies achieved a historic victory when Congress passed legislation to bring modern health care practices to Indian Country. The national health insurance reform legislation that became law in March included a provision re-authorizing the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. This legislation authorizes Indian Health Services and expands and improves on the health care services offered for Indians both in rural areas and cities. This legislation will bring modern health care services that have not been previously available, including hospice and expanded community clinics.

** In order to receive government funds, a program (or department or agency) must be *authorized* by Congress. Congress must describe what the money is for, how the program is to operate, who qualifies for grants or loans under the program, and so on. Most programs are re-authorized every three to five years.

FCNL lobbied to pass the original Indian Health Care legislation in the 1970s and, for more than ten years, has lobbied to improve access to and availability of health care services for Native Americans.



President Obama signs the Tribal Law and Order Act, which takes steps to improve public safety across Indian Country, where the average crime rate is 2.5 times the national average.

Upi.com photo

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY IN INDIAN COUNTRY

For years, Native American efforts to improve public safety in Indian Country have been hampered by a patchwork of conflicting local authorities and poor training. In July 2010, the United States took an important step toward addressing this problem when Congress passed and the president signed the Tribal Law and Order Act. The legislation will improve public safety in Indian Country and provide new tools to address the safety of women. FCNL coordinated lobby visits with our colleagues in other faith groups to support passage of this act.



COBELL SETTLEMENT: IS THE WAIT OVER?

The federal government's mismanagement of individual Indian trust funds is one of the greatest scandals of the last century. Estimates of the amount of money effectively stolen by bureaucratic mismanagement can reach \$100 billion. The 14-year-old case was settled in 2009 for a total of \$3.4 billion. Typically settlements of legal claims against the federal government do not require that appropriations be specifically authorized by Congress. In this case, government attorneys wrote into the settlement agreement that Congress would need to approve a special authorization.

At this writing, the House had included the settlement in its jobs bill (H.R. 4213), but the Senate has not yet approved it.

In May, FCNL lobbyists coordinated a meeting with Kimberley Teehee, White House senior policy advisor for Native American affairs, for our colleagues from faith organizations with concerns about Native American issues. The

meeting provided Teehee with a broader understanding of the positive involvement of faith groups working with native peoples and shared contact information for future work together.



FCNL supports legislation to streamline energy development and make it more accessible to tribes. The Indian Energy Promotion and Parity Act would make it easier for tribes to initiate new energy projects and to keep a higher percentage of the profits from those projects in tribal hands.



Cush Anthony,
North Yarmouth, ME

CUSH ANTHONY is a Unitarian who has contributed to FCNL every year for more than 20 years. He thinks that FCNL has the strongest and clearest voice in Washington for changing U.S. foreign policy. Cush, a retired lawyer and mediator and former Maine state legislator, also appreciates FCNL's remarkable ability to translate religious concerns into policy positions.

You can make a secure online donation to FCNL at fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



Our Nation's Checkbook Campaign A Strong Grassroots Partnership

The public discussion about federal deficits finally includes serious consideration of cuts in military spending. The growth in military spending during the last decade, the costs of two wars, the squeeze on state spending budgets as a result of the economic crisis, and the need for further investment in the domestic economy have persuaded some members of Congress, the administration, and even some within the military to call for cuts in what our nation spends on guns, military bases, and deployment of forces around the world. Many local government officials, state elected officials, and ordinary people are also questioning how much this nation spends on the Pentagon.

FCNL's *Our Nation's Checkbook* campaign combines careful, persuasive lobbying of Congress and coalition-building in Washington with strategic efforts in particular states and congressional districts. We make the idea of rebalancing our nation's checkbook concrete by asking Congress: hasn't the time come to hold budget committee hearings on how the federal budget could shift money from the Pentagon to diplomacy, green jobs, and human needs?

FCNL lobbyists took to the road to mobilize action. They connected local organizers with national partners and resources and provided support for local education and advocacy efforts. They worked in specific states whose members of Congress lead on budget and spending decisions. Among several accomplishments, in Iowa, our organizer personally delivered a letter from nearly 100 organizations and individuals to Sen. Chuck Grassley. After a follow-up conference call, Sen. Grassley sent his own letter to the chair of the Senate budget committee asking for hearings.

FCNL is no longer a voice in the wilderness on these issues. Some members of Congress are finally focusing on the cold reality that military spending is not making our nation more secure. Rep. Alan Grayson (FL) introduced the War is Making You Poor Act (H.R.5353). Rep. Barney Frank (MA) convened a study group that prepared a detailed plan to cut \$960 billion from the Pentagon budget over the next ten years.



“For the first time since I came to Washington in 1981, I see real opportunities to cut the Pentagon budget. When Congress makes budget cuts, for the first time, Pentagon spending is on the table.”

— Ruth Flower, FCNL Associate Executive Secretary



LOBBYING ON JOBS AND POVERTY

Throughout the year FCNL staff lobbied on issues ranging from Gulf Coast Recovery to “wage theft” to emergency funding for unemployment insurance, and for assistance to states with rising health care and education costs. All of these important concerns would be easier to meet if the Pentagon budget could be brought under control.



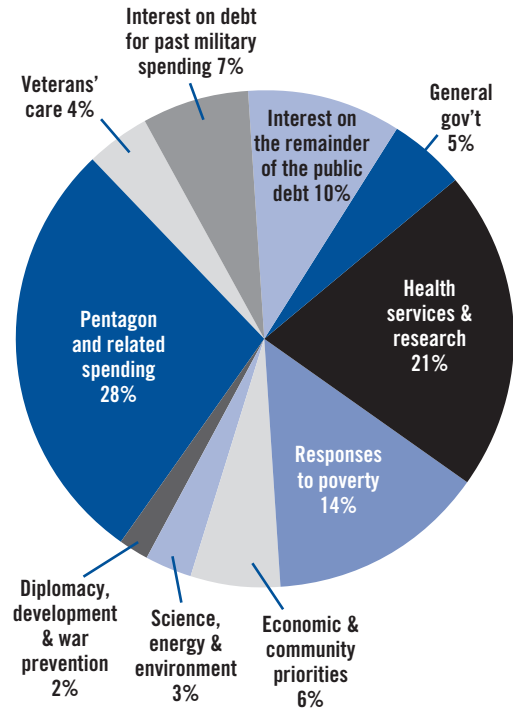
FEDERAL BUDGET PIE

FCNL supporters Tom Ewell and Cathy Whitmire shared a “federal budget pie” with their representative Rick Larson (WA) and other friends and neighbors at their home in Washington in April. The “budget pie” consisted of a real pie covered over with a paper “pie graph” of the discretionary portion of the federal budget for Fiscal Year 2009. Tom noted: We paused, when “the military” slice was served to one of our guests, to ask her to explain how she felt about claiming nearly half of the pie for herself!

The exercise lightened the atmosphere but also focused the following hour-long discussion on the topic at hand—the disproportionate amount of our nation’s checkbook spent on the military at the expense of “real” national security.

FY 2011 FEDERAL BUDGET PROPOSAL

Percent of Federal Funds



FCNL’s annual budget analysis shows that even with huge investments in the domestic economy during 2009, the amount spent on the military was greater than all of the bailouts and stimulus packages combined.

The New York Times

February 2010

...Congress now gets to poke, prod and, we hope, seriously debate the budget and the defense review. It must start with another post-cold-war notion: The country cannot afford to write the Pentagon a blank check. And that means that Congress will have to spend less time listening to defense lobbyists and more time thinking about the country’s real strategic needs....



Health Insurance Reform

The angry rhetoric and vitriol of the congressional debate on health care troubled us in Washington and many people in the FCNL community around the country. Working with experts from within our community and beyond, FCNL's Associate Executive Secretary Ruth Flower sought, throughout the debate, to cut through the noise about health care and to offer sound, fact-based analysis of what the congressional proposals on health care reform would accomplish.

Many of our supporters were disappointed that the final legislation signed into law did not do more. Others, including those of us at FCNL, saw the value in the positive reforms in our health insurance system that the final bill brought.

Throughout the debate, Ruth provided charts comparing the different proposals and tried to answer the

concerns of Friends and others within our community, always in a calm and centered voice. At one point during the heated debate in the summer of 2009, FCNL encouraged constituents to attend town hall meetings with specific questions about health care in one hand and flowers in the other. The effect was immediate, and several members of Congress thanked FCNL constituents for this approach, even if they did not agree with the proposals being offered.

In all, six bills were under consideration at one time or another. The contents of the bills were complex, and their consequences will be far reaching. The final bill passed on very close votes, after a lot of work by FCNL constituents and many, many others. Although the bill was never revolutionary, in the end, our judgment was that its reforms would help millions of people and open the way toward more reform.



Deborah Fink, Ames
Friends Meeting, Ames, IA

FCNL figures prominently in will of both my husband A.M. Fink and me.

Our concern for posterity filters through our concern for the welfare and happiness of our children and—especially—our beloved grandchildren. The effects of whatever we can provide them personally are dwarfed by the benefits coming to them through peace, public education and health care, care for the earth, and social justice. FCNL is our investment in their future.

A.M. AND DEBORAH FINK

Find out more about including FCNL in your will at www.fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



The health insurance reform legislation provides access to health care for 32 million more people than the previous system. It reduces the federal debt by \$138 billion over the next ten years and by more than a trillion dollars over the following decade. It sets up a competitive insurance marketplace that should control costs for those who do not now have access to health care insurance.

YOUR QUICK GUIDE TO THE HEALTH CARE DEBATE



FCNL constituents wrote more than 20,000 letters to Congress on health care last year, using resources from our website Quick Guide, which was continually updated as the legislation evolved.

FCNL's first Executive Secretary, E. Raymond Wilson, used to deliver flowers to members of Congress from time to time to show his appreciation for their commitment and work. In August 2009 we took a page out of his lobby book when the health care debate was raging in town halls across the country, and encouraged supporters to deliver their own flowers.

Why a flower? Because every member of Congress, regardless of what she or he believes, deserves our thanks for trying to tackle health insurance reform.

As public debates degenerated to shouting matches, made up scare

stories, and a few ill-informed media headlines, FCNL encouraged constituents to take a calm message of support for civil debate and practical health care reform to their legislators.



Summer FCNL volunteer Marilyn Neale brought flowers to congressional offices.



Engaging Friends



Joshua DuBois

ANNUAL MEETING UNITES FRIENDS

Each November about 200 Quakers, representing different branches and organizations of the Religious Society of Friends, gather in Washington DC for the FCNL Annual Meeting. We come together for skill building, designing strategies, inspiration and worshipful discernment.



Sayyid M. Syeed

In 2009, we engaged hearts and minds as we heard from Joshua DuBois, who heads the White House Office of Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and Sayyid M. Syeed, the National Director for the Office of Interfaith and

Community Alliances at the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). Friends also approved a visionary *Epistle Encouraging Quaker Engagement with American Muslims* (fcnl.org/muslim-epistle).

INDIANA YEARLY MEETING AND WESTERN YEARLY MEETING ADVOCATE NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

Friends from two Yearly Meetings in Indiana undertook a major effort during the past year to urge their elected officials to seek a world free of nuclear weapons. Their senator, Richard Lugar, has significant influence on this issue, and this Congress presents an opportunity to advocate for arms control because of the president's commitment to nuclear disarmament.

and Sayyid M. Syeed, the National Director for the Office of Interfaith and



Young Friends agree: War is Not the Answer!

FCNL Program Assistant Lizzie Biddle (front row, left) joined 70 Young Friends from 23 Yearly Meetings and every branch of Friends who gathered for a spring weekend conference entitled: Bearing Witness to the Word Among Us: Witness, Testimony, and Transformation.



Their letter noted in part: Soon after its formation in England over 350 years ago, the Religious Society of Friends publicly declared its conviction that wars and preparations for wars was inconsistent with the spirit and teachings of Christ. It remains our spiritual conviction that rather than ending the threat of wars, the development and holding of nuclear weapons has left the world a riskier more dangerous place.

The Yearly Meetings have been encouraging local churches and meetings to write as church bodies to ask their senators to move us toward a world free of nuclear weapons.



U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES FORUM IN NORTH CAROLINA

In April, Friends at Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting in North Carolina co-sponsored a forum with their candidates for U.S. Senate, attended by a crowd of more than 100. Six candidates seeking nomination attended, from the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian parties.

Friends used FCNL's *2010 Questions for the Candidates* brochure, www.fcnl.org/q&a2010 to guide some of the discussion. Forums like this present an opportunity to energize the discussion about various issues surrounding peace and justice work and engage with candidates for office during their campaign, when they "listen louder" to the issues of concern to their constituents.

GRETCHEN HALL helps sustain FCNL with her monthly gift. "All through the decades," says Gretchen, "FCNL has stayed true to its lobbying purpose and has been faithful in witnessing to the priorities chosen by Friends. At the same time, the staff and grass-roots activists have an incredible capacity to find opportunities where we can jump in and make a difference right now. I love knowing that my contribution is helping FCNL each month of the year."



Gretchen Hall,
Alexandria Friends
Meeting, Alexandria, VA

You can become an FCNL Sustainer and your donation will be automatically deducted from your bank account or charged to your credit card. Find out more at www.fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



Grassroots Partnerships for Legislative Action

The FCNL Campaigns team connects our Washington, DC lobbyists with thousands of donors and activists in every state and congressional district in our country.



FCNL staff member Stephen Donahoe travelled to key states and congressional districts to organize the *Our Nation's Checkbook* campaign

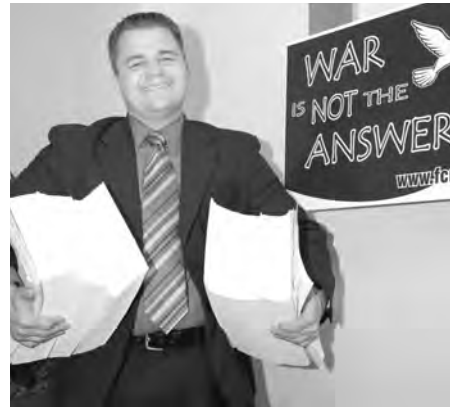
Reading this report, you are probably already one of the tens of thousands of people who receive our weekly action alerts (If you're not, sign up today on our website fcnl.org/email).

FCNL provides you with actions you can take to help move federal policy toward the world we seek. We develop and distribute resources that help you to lobby your members of Congress and support your work in your community.

We aren't all things to all people—and we shouldn't be! FCNL legislative strategy focuses on our General Committee's legislative priorities (see page 26) and is driven by specific legislative opportunities.

Are you looking for ways to involve more of your community in your work for peace and social justice?

- You can join in a regular conference call with FCNL staff to work on the *Our Nation's Checkbook* campaign.
- You can email FCNL's monthly Native American Legislative Update or weekly action alert to others who share your concerns for advocacy.
- You can set up an FCNL display or FCNL letter-writing table at your church, meeting, or community center.



Afghanistan: Your Petitions Delivered to Congress

Thousands of people said to Congress that "War Is Not the Answer" in Afghanistan by signing FCNL's petition. They asked Congress for an exit strategy. As new legislation for an exit strategy was introduced by Rep. Jim McGovern (MA), FCNL's Matt Southworth began delivering petitions to congressional offices.

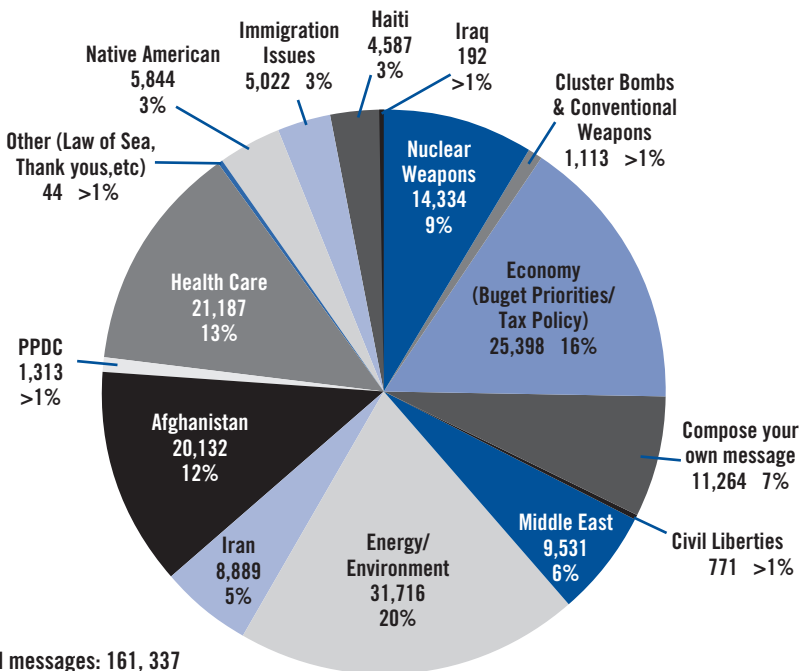


CLIMB THE LADDER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH YOUR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!

Change is possible, and you can make it happen through FCNL. Our 14 lobbyists are on the Hill every day advancing policy change. Your action and lobbying supports and enables their work.

No matter how much time you have, you can get involved and help advance peace, justice, and good government in Washington, DC. FCNL's Grassroots Toolkit (fcnl.org/toolkit) helps to hone your lobbying skills, whether you lobby by email, phone, or in person, gives suggestions for reaching out to the local media, and more.

TOTAL MESSAGES TO CONGRESS: JULY 1, 2009 TO JUNE 30, 2010



Legislative Priorities for the 111th Congress

Approved by FCNL's General Committee, November 15, 2008

In establishing these priorities for the 111th Congress, we are encouraged by the past successes of FCNL's efforts to influence federal policy and by the strong community of Friends and other like-minded people engaged in this work.

At this historic and hopeful moment, FCNL selects the following priorities for our legislative work and public education during the 111th Congress.

I. We seek a world free of war and the threat

of war: Build U.S. government capacity for peaceful prevention and resolution of deadly conflict. Actively support the United Nations and multilateral problem solving, including respect for international law and treaties.

Promote arms control, disarmament, and nuclear nonproliferation. Seek U.S. ratification of and compliance with bans on nuclear testing, cluster munitions, and landmines.

Work for demilitarization of U.S. foreign policy and aid programs. Urge reductions in the overall military budget and in worldwide U.S. military operations. Emphasize joint aid, civilian peacebuilding, and regional diplomacy, especially in relation to Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. Promote fulfillment of U.S. moral and legal obligations for reconstruction.

Press for the removal of U.S. bases and combat forces from Iraq.

II. We seek a society with equity and justice

for all: Support the restoration of full civil liberties and habeas corpus protections for all persons. Oppose torture and secret prisons. Promote human rights around the world especially through international institutions and law.

Support immigration reform that respects the rights and dignity of all immigrants; demonstrates compassion for families; protects children, asylum seekers, and



Liz Yeats, Austin Friends Meeting, Austin, TX

“Our family gives what we can to FCNL each year,” says long-time supporter **LIZ YEATS**. “We do that because we want to be part of the effort to fulfill the the FCNL mission but don’t live in a place where we can have much effect on our national elected officials. Although we’re no longer organizing for peace and justice full time, contributing financially helps us to be part of the ministry that FCNL enables.”

You can make a secure online donation to FCNL at fcnl.org/give or call 1-800-630-1330



other vulnerable persons; realistically addresses the need for foreign workers both temporary and permanent; and provides practical pathways to legal residency and citizenship. Urge Congress to demilitarize U.S. borders.

Promote and preserve tribal sovereignty of indigenous peoples within the United States. Support legislation that respects their rights, promotes their well-being, honors treaty commitments, and fosters understanding.

III. We seek a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled: Support the government's constitutional role "to promote the general welfare" by urging Congress to provide adequate resources for human security and the public good. Support programs to alleviate poverty and address pressing human and community needs, such as food, housing, education, and opportunities for meaningful employment. In particular, we call for equitable access to health care.

IV. We seek an Earth restored: Support bold and immediate measures to counter global climate change and assist threatened human populations at home and abroad. Promote deep, quick, and fair reductions in U.S. greenhouse gas emissions through regulation and incentives for energy conservation and efficiency, accelerated development and use of renewable energy resources,

sustainable agriculture, public transportation, and other effective means.

Support establishment of and compliance with multilateral environmental agreements that promote equity and sustainability.

As way opens, FCNL will continue Friends' long-standing witness for rights of conscience, an end to institutional racism, criminal justice reform that includes principles of restorative justice and abolition of the death penalty, and a just and lasting peace in the Middle East through equitable treatment of Israelis, Palestinians, and their neighbors.

As we work to find solutions to these complex problems, Friends continue to seek Divine guidance, renewed strength, and hope.

SETTING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Hundreds of Quakers in more than 240 churches and meetings around the country participated in FCNL's collaborative process for setting FCNL's legislative priorities for the upcoming 112th Congress (2011–2012). Our Policy Committee will present the proposed priorities to FCNL's General Committee at its Annual Meeting in November 2010 for spirit-led discernment, revision, and approval.



Consolidating Our Financial Future

As the report in your hands demonstrates, our 2010 fiscal year (July 2009 to June 2010) was a time of many new program opportunities and successes. This period was also a time to strengthen our financial base and prepare FCNL for the program opportunities of the next year.

FCNL's network of some 10,000 individual donors and hundreds of Quaker meetings and churches increased their donations this year. The generous support of several foundations also led to higher contributed income than in the prior year. On the expense side FCNL concluded a planned, three-year transition in response to the global financial slowdown: we reduced expenditures from about \$4.6 million in the 2008 fiscal year to the \$3 million level you see recorded for the 2010 fiscal year.

In fiscal year 2009 unrestricted revenue was about \$700,000 less than expenses, and we drew on reserves to cover this shortfall. By fiscal year 2010, unrestricted revenue was approximately \$4 million and expenses were nearly \$1 million less than that revenue. Two-thirds of the revenue gain in 2010 was the recovery of some of the value of investments. The prudent decision not to spend this investment gain was part of our planned, three-year consolidation of our financial position.

Thanks in large part to careful financial management and strong support of our contributors, FCNL's finances have been and remain solid. Looking forward, FCNL's General Committee has budgeted income and expenses at about \$3.3 million in fiscal year 2011 and hopes to continue steady growth in the coming years to take advantage of the program opportunities we see.

FOUNDATIONS AND QUAKER FUNDS THAT SUPPORTED THE FCNL EDUCATION FUND OR FCNL IN FY 2010

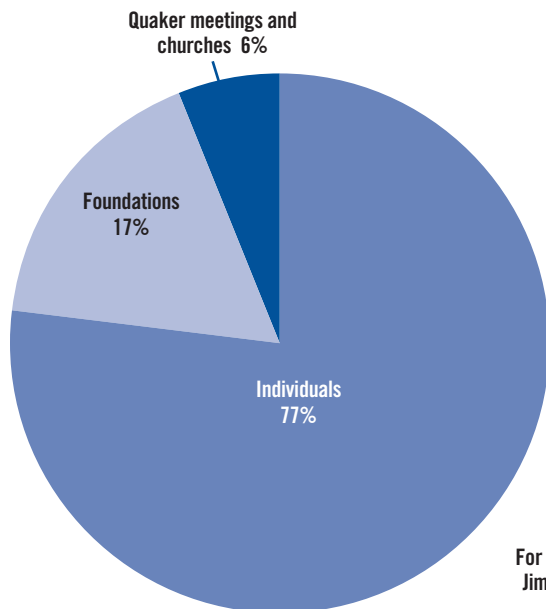
Anonymous	D'Olier Foundation	The Lippincott Foundation	Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust
Obadiah Brown Benevolent Fund	Diana Fund	J & L Foundation	Nuclear Threat Initiative
Colombe Foundation	H.C. Gemmer Family Christian Foundation	Sara Bowers Committee of Kennett Monthly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends	Ploughshares Fund
Compton Foundation	Lindley Murray Fund of New York Yearly Meeting		United Methodist Church, Women's Division
Connect U.S. Fund			



	2009 Combined	2010 FCNL	2010 Ed Fund	2010 Combined
UNRESTRICTED REVENUE				
Contributions	2,375,356	1,171,761	1,408,302	2,580,063
Bequests	327,760	139,553	411,951	551,504
Other Income	75,697	60,492	8,534	69,026
Net Investment Income	(149,846)	79,439	545,686	625,125
Net Assets Released	171,346	117,500	63,397	180,897
Total	2,800,263	1,568,745	2,437,870	4,006,615
EXPENSES				
Program	2,336,015	1,286,913	750,636	2,037,549
Administration	514,052	198,633	224,870	423,503
Development	660,380	294,759	255,020	549,779
Total	3,510,447	1,780,305	1,230,526	3,010,831

NOTES: Investment losses, both realized and unrealized, are shown as a negative number (in parentheses) under Unrestricted Revenue, even if the underlying securities have not been sold and may recover in value. Development expenses include costs of program interpretation materials and activities. "Combined" column nets out interorganization payments. Full audited financial statements available upon request.

SOURCES OF CONTRIBUTED INCOME—PERCENTAGES



For more information contact
Jim Cason at 800-630-1330.



AFFILIATED YEARLY MEETINGS AND OTHER QUAKER GROUPS

Alaska Friends Conference	North Carolina Yearly Meeting—Conservative	Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends
Baltimore Yearly Meeting	North Carolina Yearly Meeting—FUM	Western Yearly Meeting
Great Plains Yearly Meeting	North Pacific Yearly Meeting	Wilmington Yearly Meeting
Illinois Yearly Meeting	Northern Yearly Meeting	American Friends Service Committee
Indiana Yearly Meeting	Ohio Yearly Meeting—Conservative	Friends Committee on Legislation (California)
Intermountain Yearly Meeting	Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting	Friends Committee on Legislation (Indiana)
Iowa Yearly Meeting—Conservative	Pacific Yearly Meeting	Quaker Earthcare Witness
Iowa Yearly Meeting—FUM	Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	Friends General Conference
Lake Erie Yearly Meeting	South Central Yearly Meeting	Friends United Meeting
Missouri Valley Conference	Southeastern Yearly Meeting	United Society of Friends Women
New England Yearly Meeting	Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association	
New York Yearly Meeting		

IN MEMORIAM

Dan Smith, FCNL's long-time Senior Fellow on Military Affairs, died in August 2010 after a long illness. Dan came to FCNL from The Center for Defense Information in 2002. He was a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and completed a distinguished military career—one that began with the U.S. war in Vietnam and concluded with the first U.S. Gulf War in Iraq—at the rank of colonel. Defense intelligence was his specialty.

Dan loved this country, and he hated war. He had experienced war and learned that war is not the answer. His careful gathering of information, his thoughtful analysis, and the wisdom of his policy recommendations combined to enhance our safety and security, if only those in power heard what he had to say.

Many in the news media, Congress, and the Executive Branch did hear what Dan had to say. They read his blog, "The Quakers' Colonel," and some called him to consult. FCNL constituents sent Dan's essays to members of their congressional delegations and to their newspaper editorial writers. Dan was a policy wonk who loved to empower the lay person at the community base. He fit well into our FCNL community.

He knew the power of love to transform individuals and the world, and he sought to align himself and his work with that power which takes away the occasion of all war.

The way opened for Dan Smith and FCNL to work together for close to a decade to advance two basic ideas: first, war is not the answer, and, second, peace is possible through peaceful means. He will be dearly missed.



Thanks and Good Luck, Intern Class of 2010



This year FCNL program assistants (interns) worked on issues ranging from comprehensive immigration reform to an exit strategy from Afghanistan, from health care access for Native American Indians and Alaska Natives to the Peaceful Prevention of Deadly Conflict. They helped build support for the CLEAR Act, the New START treaty, and *Our Nation's Checkbook* campaign. They wrote action alerts, policy briefs, newsletter articles, and blogged about it all on the FCNL Intern blog *Of Peace and Politics* (<http://ofpeaceandpolitics.wordpress.com>)

These nine young adults had other opportunities unique to Washington, DC. Many of them attended an official welcoming ceremony at the White House, war protests, and an immigration march on the Washington Mall. Some were able to travel and meet people interested in FCNL's work—from Ohio to Colorado, North Carolina to Missouri.

l-r: Leif Carlson, Lacey Maurer, Katrina Schwartz, Rebecca Sheff, Inez Steigerwald, Kim MacVaugh, Matt Southworth, Lizzie Biddle, Rachael Jeffers

TALK WITH US!

FCNL wants to hear from you on our blogs, in comments responding to our emails, and on our Facebook page. 2C, the FCNL staff blog, features the latest staff reflections from our corner of 2nd and C Streets, NE. *Of Peace and Politics* has FCNL intern takes on life and work in DC. There's plenty of room for your comments—so please join our conversation.

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* as of June 30, 2010



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