



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

META PEACE TEAM



MESSAGE FROM META PEACE TEAM

Greetings, Meta Peace Team (MPT) Peace Community!

Congratulations! Congratulations to all of our Core members, staff, trainers, volunteers, and treasured donors! In 2021, MPT broke new ground by strengthening our peace community, continuing to train future peacemakers, and placing peace teams despite the pandemic and social upheaval! MPT's success is because of YOU! So, we say again, congratulations and thank you!

This past year, Meta Peace Team placed multiple domestic peace teams and educated people on nonviolence. We increased our outreach and awareness in order for people around the world to see the power of nonviolence, including conducting the first virtual Shanti Sena Summit Meeting. The Summit spotlighted peacemakers and speakers from around the world and hosted attendees from 23 countries. We were very excited to network with so many other peace and justice organizations and with peacemakers from around the world.

This new year has started out violently, with the beginning of war in Ukraine as well as the continuation of conflicts in places like Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, and in our own communities. MPT is working with individuals on the ground in Ukraine and with other international peace organizations to monitor the situation in order to offer whatever assistance and support we are able. This includes our new offering of nonviolence training for humanitarian workers preparing to go into Ukraine and other conflict zones.

With violence and injustice around the world at the forefront of our conversations, Meta Peace Team continues to be dedicated to changing the collective mindset to one where violence is not the answer. Despite the challenges that continue to face us, MPT has a talented and committed group of Core Members, staff, and volunteers guiding our organization into the future. Together we move towards peace!

Melody Amst, Mary Hanna, + Lulu Nestor



Co-founders C. Peter Dougherty and Jasiu Milanowski, (1993)

THE MISSION OF META PEACE TEAM (MPT) IS TO BUILD A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD THROUGH ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE.

Meta Peace Team was founded by C. Peter Dougherty and Jasiu Milanowski in collaboration with a number of other peacemakers. MPT's vision is "a just world grounded in nonviolence and respect for the sacred interconnectedness of all life".

MPT seeks to create an alternative to militarism and violence through empowered peacemaking by educating and training the everyday citizen on the vision and practice of active nonviolence. Conflict and confrontation are healthy and inevitable, yet can occur with a mutual respect for human rights and dignity.

MPT only goes where it has been invited out of respect for the communities involved. Peace Teams are deployed domestically and internationally. MPT has placed Peace Teams all across the United States, Mexico (including at the U.S./ Mexico Border), in Palestine, the first nations Sovereign land throughout North America, Iraq, Haiti, Bosnia, Panama, El Salvador, and elsewhere around the world.

Thank You!

META PEACE TEAM LEADERSHIP

The success of Meta Peace Team is due to a group of committed volunteers known as MPT's Core Community. MPT's Core Community is, in essence, a Board of Directors, leading MPT with a consensus decision-making process. The Core Community models itself on how we want our Peace Teams to operate. Our primary focus is that we act as "community" with each other – A vision of how MPT would like to the world to operate.

Words can't express the appreciation owed to the members of the MPT Core Community for their service.

A special thank you to our retiring Core members, Patricia Valaer, Sheri Wander and Mark Zussman, for their many years of service on our Core Community. We deeply appreciate your dedication to Meta Peace Team.

2021 Core Community

Stephen Niamke

President/Hubs Coord.
Roanoke, VA

C. Peter Dougherty

Director/Co-founder
Lansing, MI

Mark Zussman (retired)

Director
Lansing, MI

Suzanne Camino

Vice-President
Ann Arbor, MI

Stephen Gasteyer

Director
East Lansing, MI

STAFF

Melody Arnst

Development Coordinator
Laingsburg, MI

Mary Ashley

Treasurer
Lansing, MI

Kim Redigan

Director
Dearborn Heights, MI

Mary L. Hanna

Operations and Training
Laingsburg, MI

Ellen Burkhardt, OP

Secretary
Mt. Clemens, MI

Patricia Valaer (retired)

Director
Lansing, MI

Lulu Nestor

Fundraising Coordinator
Ann Arbor, MI

Elliott Adams

Director
Sharon Springs, NY

Sheri Wander (retired)

Director
Ann Arbor, MI

INVESTING IN FUTURE PEACEMAKERS

2021 proved to be a challenging year, as it was for a majority of non-profit organizations. MPT trainings and meetings had traditionally been conducted live and in-person. MPT Core Community, trainers and staff collaborated and redesigned the Violence De-escalation Skills Training, Bystander Intervention Training, and requested specialized trainings, allowing them to be conducted virtually. MPT will continually strive to improve the virtual trainings and is excited about the doors it has opened, allowing us to train even more people in the skills of active, assertive nonviolence around the world.

In 2021, MPT conducted the following virtual trainings:

- **Bystander Intervention Skills Training**—
January 9
- **Violence De-escalation Skills Training**—
January 23-24
- **Bystander Intervention Skills Training**,
Nob Hill Community, Lansing, MI—March 2
- **Bystander Intervention Skills Training**,
Pax Christi USA (national) — May 1
- **Violence De-escalation Skills Training**—
July 17-18
- **Bystander Intervention Skills Training**,
Pax Christi USA (national) — October 2
- **Bystander Intervention Skills Training**,
Owensboro, KY—October 13
- **Violence De-escalation Skills Training**—
November 19-20

Additionally, International Team Trainings are being conducted with dedicated volunteers as part of their preparation for placement on an international peace team.

Training Committee

Elliott Adams
(New York)

Cindy Campbell
(New York)

Peter Dougherty
(Michigan)

Stephen Gasteyer
(Michigan)

Mary L. Hanna
(Michigan)

Stephen Niamke
(Virginia)

Kim Redigan
(Michigan)

Sheri Wander (retired)
(Michigan)

DOMESTIC PEACE TEAMS

MPT places Domestic Peace Teams where invited, within the U.S. borders. MPT never inserts itself. We only go where are invited by the community or the sponsor of an event, rally, etc. Our role at these events is to provide a peaceful presence, protecting human life and rights, and creating a space for productive conflict and its resolution.

In this time of COVID, there has been a decrease in the requests for peace team presence due to the number of events that shifted away from face-to-face gatherings. As Covid restrictions have begun to lift, MPT remains ready to place peace teams with face masks, face shields and personal-size hand sanitizers to keep our peace team volunteers safe.

During 2021, MPT placed the following Peace Teams:

- **Michigan's Poor People's Campaign Caravan for Peace**
organized by *Michigan's Poor People's Campaign* on January 9th, 2021
- **Michigan Poor People's Campaign News Conference** organized by the *Michigan Poor People's Campaign* on June 7th, 2021
- **With Love from Kalamazoo to Palestine Festival** organized by the *Kalamazoo Nonviolent Opponents of War (KNOW)* on July 31st, 2021
- **Mi Body, Mi Choice March** organized by *Women's March Michigan* on October 2nd, 2021

In addition to the Peace Teams listed above, MPT also received multiple requests to place some of our trained volunteers in an unofficial capacity to provide peaceful presence at events. While not full Peace Teams, these volunteers acted as conduits of nonviolence at these events.



“We had about 2,500 people here today and clearly the more help the better when it comes to safety, but what I found in working with the Meta Peace Team was that the knowledge and skill set that the volunteers had coming in gave me a lot of confidence in that we were going to be able to manage any chaos, any counter protesters and any interaction between counter protesters and protesters really effectively.”

Amy Wisner, Mi Body Mi Choice Organizer

“Please send a big thank you to the Meta Peace Team for a great job done being on hand and alert. I am so glad nothing untoward happened but even their presence was such a comfort.”

Maliha Razan Khan, the Kalamazoo Nonviolent Opponents of War



DOMESTIC PEACE TEAMS ENDORSEMENT COMMITTEE

Ellen Burkhardt (Michigan)

Kim Redigan (Michigan)

Peter Dougherty (Michigan)

Cassidy Versen (Michigan)

INTERNATIONAL PEACE TEAMS



2018 Peace Team with the head of "Women of Hebron"

COVID-19 has created significant challenges for traveling both domestically and abroad. Travel restrictions prevented MPT from placing our International Peace Teams throughout 2021. However, MPT International Team Committee (ITC) continues to work diligently to recruit, train and prepare International Peace Team members to deploy to Palestine and to the U.S./Mexico Border when it is safe to do so.

The ITC is actively recruiting and planning to place Teams in the Summer and Fall of 2022. Deployment of these teams is dependent upon current COVID-19 and travel restrictions.



2017 Peace Team

International Teams Committee

Elliott Adams

(New York)

Mary Ashley

(Michigan)

Peter Dougherty

(Michigan)

Fred Elmore

(Michigan)

Stephen Gasteyer

(Michigan)

Martha Larsen

(Michigan)

Lulu Nestor

(Michigan)

Linda Sartor

(California)

Annette Thomas

(Michigan)

Linda Tomala

(Michigan)

Paul Tukah

(Cameroon)

PEACE PARTNERS

MPT is proud to collaborate and align with other peace and justice organizations to collectively strive for a better, less violent, and more just world. Each peace and justice organization has their own area of expertise and it is through our joint cooperation that we are able to support our world, communities and each other with the common goal of peace.

Cure Violence Global
Fellowship of Reconciliation
International Solidarity Movement
Jewish Voice for Peace
Metta Center for Nonviolence
Nonviolent PeaceForce

Pace e Bene
Pax Christi USA
Pax Christi Michigan
Poor People's Campaign
Shanti Sena Network
Veterans for Peace

Peace Partner Sponsorships

During 2021, MPT sponsored the following:

- **What is Antisemitism?** - *Jewish Voices for Peace*
- **Palestine Freedom Rally**
- **"Justice has No Borders - Leave No One Behind" Mural Project**
- **Reconstruction Resolution Press Conference**
- **Against Israeli Arms Sales Coalition Letter**
- **For Goodness Sake: Music for the Nonviolent Future** - *Pace e Bene*
- **PeaceQuest**
- **Michigan Poor People's Campaign's 2021 Actions**
- **Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) Peacemaker Congress**
- **The United Nations Treaty Declaring Nuclear Weapons Illegal per International Law** - *Detroit Area Peace with Justice Network*



DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

In 2021, our focus was on the development of MPT's community and the expansion of our fundraising efforts. It is through the important work of MPT's peace makers that inspires and sparks others to join our community. And it is through the generosity and financial support of our wonderful donors that we are able to continue this extremely timely peace work.

MPT held a large Giving Tuesday campaign, raising over \$5,000, which gave us the opportunity to educate students in the skills of nonviolence. And, we hosted our largest virtual fundraiser ever, celebrating Fr. Peter Dougherty's **87** birthday!

We have worked diligently to become more connected with our MPT Community by increasing our social media presence, publishing opinion pieces, supporting our peace partners, revamping our website (due to be live early in 2022) and more. Please take a look at some of the powerful events we had this year!



Peter's Surprise Birthday Bash raised nearly \$20,000 - Look at how surprised he was! Thank you again to our amazing community for making this happen!

Giving Tuesday Campaign resulted in MPT being able to award 20 student scholarships! Thank you for making this campaign so successful!



MPT Events

- *Nonviolent Tools for Healing After the Election* with Julie Thomas-Beckett
- *Peace & Popcorn Series—In Peace with Trust* with Petra Daher
- *Peace & Popcorn Series—The Third Harmony* with Metta Center
- *Our Challenge: Breaking through Fear and Hate to Forge a New Way* with Fr. Peter Dougherty
- *What's Really Happening at the U.S./Mexico Border* with Kim Redigan
- *Alternative Holiday Sale*
- *MPT Virtual Holiday Party*

PRESENTATIONS FOR NONVIOLENCE

Educating on Nonviolence

- Bystander Intervention Presentation for Nonviolent Peace Force
- Bystander Intervention - Radio Interview with Metta Center for Nonviolence
- Unarmed Civilian Protection Interview with the Aberystwyth University in Wales
- MPT Trainings on De-escalation Presentation with the MSU Special Committee on University-East Lansing Community Relations
- Monthly Skills Practice Sponsored by Meta Peace Team/Metta Center for Nonviolence
- Nonviolent Tools for Everyday People to Deescalate Tension - for the East Lansing Educational Foundation; the Holt Rotary; and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing
- MPT Nonviolence and Social Protest Discussion with the MSU Social Movements and Collective Identities Class
- Sharing of Peace Stories with Pace e Bene
- Nonviolence Presentation for the City of Roanoke's Council
- The Fierce Urgency of Now: Why Dr. King's Beyond Vietnam: Breaking the Silence is a Text for Our Time - Pax Chrisei Michigan
- Relating Across the Divide - for the Gesu Parish Nonviolence Series
- In Peace We Trust - screening with the U of D Jesuit High School

Educating on the U.S./Mexico Border

- A View from the Southern Border for the Detroit Women's Forum
- Update from MPT on the Deported Veterans in Tijuana for Veterans for Peace Metro Detroit Chapter and the UAW Local 600
- Update from the Border for Huntington Woods and the Michigan Poor People's Campaign



Thank you to all of our MPT presenters for spreading the word of Nonviolence this year. Whether through an event above or through important conversations within their own communities, each action creates an opportunity for individuals to decide to actively choose nonviolence.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all of our valued volunteers! All of our work, from Peace Teams to trainings, relies on incredible individuals who volunteer their time to make the world a more peaceful place.

And a very special thank you to our Office Team volunteers that work so diligently daily!



Mary Ashley & Ellen Burkhardt
Alternative Holiday Sale



Mary Ashley, Pat Valaer & Peter Dougherty
Office Team Volunteers



With Love from Kalamazoo to
Palestine Festival Peace Team

HUBS

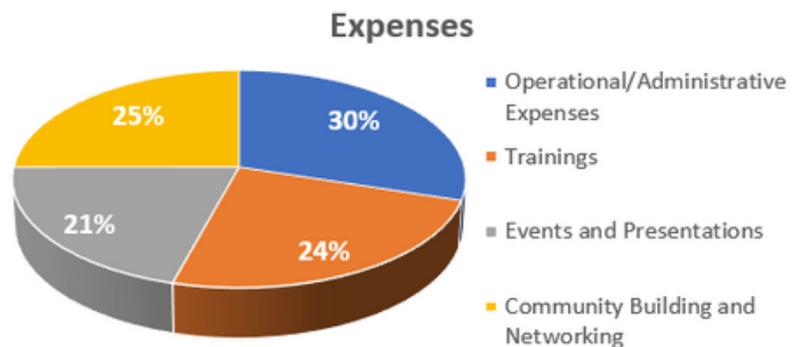
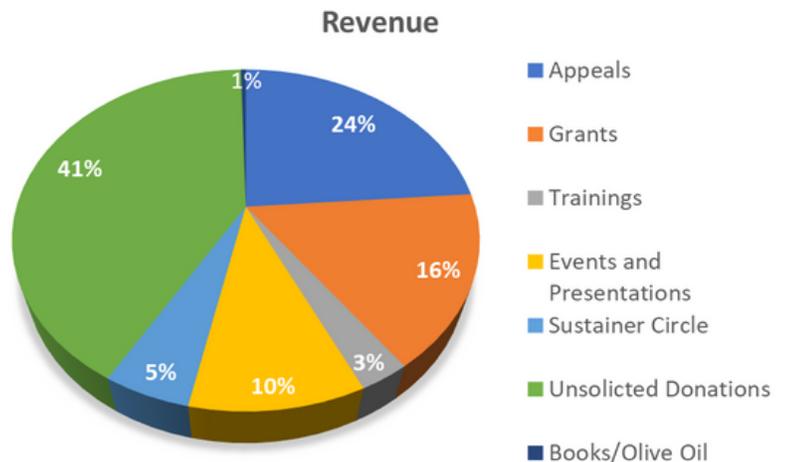
MPT continues to expand our dedicated volunteer base, known as "Hubs." Trained Hub volunteers meet virtually to practice skills and network with other volunteers, to ensure readiness when a peace team in their locale is requested. For additional information on Hubs or Hub development, please contact the MPT office at (517) 489-2607.

- **Lansing, Michigan/Home Office**
- **MPT-Detroit (Michigan)**
- **MPT-Northern Michigan**
- **MPT-Roanoke (Virginia)**
- **MPT-Bay Area (Northern California)**
- **MPT-US/Mexico Border (San Diego, California)**
- **MPT-Upstate New York**



2021 FINANCIALS

Revenue	
Appeals	\$53,903.48
Grants	\$37,107.50
Trainings	\$6,675.24
Events and Presentations	\$23,088.45
Sustainer Circle	\$11,475.00
Donations	\$93,597.12
Books/Olive Oil	\$925.00
Total	\$226,771.79
Expenses	
Operational/Administrative	\$61,496.78
Trainings	\$50,181.35
Events and Presentations	\$42,670.79
Community Building and Networking	\$51,506.41
Total	\$205,855.33



MPT's programming includes Trainings, Events and Presentations, and Community Building and Networking. Approximately 70% of MPT's expenses go toward offering direct programming.

Because of the on-going issues with Covid-19 and repercussions to our economy, 2021 was a trying year financially for MPT, as it was with many nonprofit organizations. We are committed to continuing to place peace teams, providing nonviolence training and keeping our programming fees as inexpensive as possible even with the ever rising costs. Throughout the COVID-19 outbreak, MPT has not raised training or programming fees. We continue to seek grants and other revenue sources to offset continually rising expenses. We are excited to report that in 2021, we were successful in being awarded two grants and the PPP loan, which helped MPT maintain its operations.

MPT works diligently to keep all expenses as low as possible in order to make our donor gifts go as far as possible. We rely on our volunteers and donors who do this out of their passion for peace. MPT is proud that we can deliver high quality training, teams, and the challenge to violence that we do on a budget under \$230,000.

A GIFT TO MATCH YOUR GOALS

The most common donations that MPT receives are outright gifts, such as cash or a check, which provide immediate benefit to MPT. However, many times people would like to contribute a more sizable donation, but aren't able to commit cash funds due to family obligations or current economic uncertainty.

These individuals are looking for long term options, known as "planned giving", making this type of gift will provide MPT with long-range, planned success.

Consider making MPT part of your legacy by evaluating options to make a meaningful contribution.

To contribute your gift quickly and easily:

You can write a check or use a credit card today and anytime in the future.

Benefit: A charitable income tax deduction and the satisfaction of making a gift of immediate impact to MPT.

To defer the gift as an after life legacy:

You can name MPT as a beneficiary in your will.

Benefit: Full control of your assets during your lifetime with a meaningful donation after life that is fully exempt of estate taxes.

To receive guaranteed, fixed income from your gift that is partially tax-free:

You can create a charitable gift annuity.

Benefit: A guaranteed income for life, current and future savings on income taxes and possible reduction or elimination of capital gains tax.

To create a hedge against future inflation from your gift:

You can create charitable remainder unitrust.

Benefit: Variable income payments, a charitable income tax deduction and possible reduction of estate taxes.

To secure a fixed life income from your gift while avoiding market risks:

You can create a charitable remainder annuity trust.

Benefit: Fixed income payments, a charitable income tax deduction and often a boost to your rate of return.

To avoid capital gains tax on the sale of an asset you will use to fund your gift:

You can contribute long-term appreciated securities or other property.

Benefit: A charitable income tax deduction, no capital gains tax on the sale of the asset and immediate impact to MPT.

To make a large gift with little cost to you:

You can purchase a life insurance policy, name Meta Peace Team as the owner of the policy. This provides a substantial deferred gift with modest annual payments that may provide additional tax benefits.

When your goal is make a lasting gift to a charitable organization, we hope Meta Peace Team is on the top of your list. Why not plan today to leave a legacy that lasts beyond your time on earth?

Meta Peace Team is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) and as such all donations to MPT are deductible for income tax purposes to the extent permitted under federal tax law and you have several unique choices.

To learn more about which type of Meta Peace Team gift would best suit your situation, consult your financial planner or tax advisor when making legal and financial decisions such as these.





Meta Peace Team

Nonviolence: The Next Great Revolution