

BUILDING A MOVEMENT FOR PALESTINE ONE PERSON AT A TIME

INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDERS



15 YEARS OF TRANSFORMATION
15 YEARS OF BUILDING FOR JUSTICE

ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2015 - SEPTEMBER 2016



building a movement for Palestine
one person at a time

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it begins with them

IFPB's work is rooted in the efforts of those who struggle for justice in Palestine/Israel

A few of the many we've met in 15 years
(left to right, top to bottom): Yasser Arafat,
Jeff Halper, Jean Zaru, Bassem Tamimi,
Daoud Nassar, Ilyad Burnat, Issa Amro,

Sahar Francis,
Omar Barghouti,
and Said Rabieeh



photo: Micah Danney



photo: David Kerr



photo: Anthony Gilmas



photo: David Kerr



photo: David LaMotte



photo: Micah Danney



photo: Alie Perry



photo: Nicole Surasky



photo: Alie Perry

Transformation

a unique human journey

"Honestly," writes 2014 delegate Anne Champion, "my IFPB delegation changed my perspective on everything." In response to our recent survey, hundreds of delegates shared similar stories of **transformation** and **inspiration**.

For fifteen years, this has been the essence of Interfaith Peace-Builders. If you are lucky enough to have joined an IFPB delegation, you know the commitment we bring to the work.

Every IFPB delegation is a unique human journey. Each delegation is an experiment in building transnational solidarity based on real human connections. Every trip is real, honest, heartfelt, and genuine. For fifteen years, these have been the values that inform our work.

"I can't believe you do so much, with so little." We hear it all the time. The key is this: **We aren't alone. We have you!**

If you are reading this special 15th anniversary Annual Report, then **you are a critical part of IFPB.** You have helped us succeed over the past fifteen years, and you are instrumental to our success in the coming fifteen.

Thank you for standing with IFPB as we foster connections, build movements, and work for change. We must - every one of us - insist that Palestinians be free.



Photo: Jason D'Pace

Our Growing Movement

like the movement, IFPB is diverse

The Palestine solidarity movement is growing every day! More than numbers, we are making and renewing partnerships at the intersections of national and global resistance struggles. Look to movement spaces in Ferguson, Baltimore, Standing Rock, and the US-Mexico border, and you will find IFPB delegates.

As we build collective power, our diversity is our strength!

"[The IFPB Delegation] was the most transformational experience I have ever had. The exposure, the knowledge, the folks we spoke to, and the power I was exposed to, will mark my soul forever. It made my reality and movement for Black liberation clearer. I am committed to the Palestinian freedom movement and educating the masses on our connections in struggle"



- Tiffany Loftin, member of Indigenous and People of Color Delegation, and Program Coordinator in the Civil, Human, and Women's Rights Department at the AFL-CIO

who are IFPB delegates?

IFPB delegates are a diverse crew! Since 2010, over 1/3 of our delegates are People of Color and more than half are non-Christian identified.

Most striking, however, are the numbers of young people who join IFPB delegations! Millennials are the most diverse and fastest growing segment of the US population and make up 1/3 of IFPB delegates.

traditionalists

1900-1945

23%

baby boomers

1946-1964

31%

gen-x

1965-1979

13%

millennials

1980-2000

33%



"Joining the Indigenous and People of Color Delegation deepened my understanding of global political struggle; seeing, listening to, watching other oppressed people fight the same fight in a different language, in a different geography, also helped me understand more precisely my struggle for Black liberation."

– Shanelle Matthews, member of Indigenous and People of Color Delegation and Communications Director for Black Lives Matter

For 15 years, you have helped IFPB strategically advance intersectional work through diverse delegations, key partnerships, and targeted scholarships.

In 2016 we built on past success. This summer's Indigenous and People of Color Delegation was the largest we have sent and included grassroots organizers working on the front lines of critical movements in North America; we partnered with the Center for Constitutional Rights to put high-profile lawyers and legal scholars on the ground in Palestine; and, we strengthened partnerships with other leading organizations and formations.

With your help, IFPB is working harder than ever to build a more inclusive, effective, and powerful movement.

Members of the Indigenous and People of Color Delegation in Bil'in (photo: Carlton Mackey).



When IFPB was founded, everyone hoped Israel's occupation and human rights abuses would be past and gone long before 2016. But here we are. Looking back, you see a brief history of the movement in North America. IFPB has grown right along with the wider movement. As the movement has become more sophisticated, so has IFPB. We hope it will not take another 15 years before we reach our goal of liberation for the Palestinian people, justice, and peace in the Middle East., But if it does, we are ready.



2011

First African Heritage Delegation and first environmentally-themed delegation. Two more African Heritage delegations travel in subsequent years bringing 48 people face to face with Palestinian and Israeli peace-builders.

2014

Months before the Presbyterian Church votes on divestment, IFPB and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship dispatch 28 young church leaders on a special delegation. Delegates play key roles in advancing landmark divestment measures at the PCUSA General Assembly.



2009

The first of three Grassroots Advocacy Trainings brings 200 activists to DC for skills-building, planning, and advocacy on Capitol Hill.



2012

Civil rights veterans including Dorothy Cotton, Vincent Harding, and 21 others, travel on partnership delegation with Dorothy Cotton Institute. IFPB also leads our first delegation to enter the Gaza Strip since 2003.

2016

Almost 1,200 people have joined one of 60 IFPB delegations. First-ever Legal Practitioners' Delegation sends human rights advocates and scholars and Indigenous and People of Color Delegation continues strategic work to build intersectional power across movements.



Milestones

the first 15 years of IFPB



2001

The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) sends its first Interfaith Peace-Builders delegation just 3 months after the Second Intifada starts.

2005

A partnership delegation with FOR's Creating a Culture of Peace sends nonviolence trainers from the US to learn from Palestinian and Israeli activists, building IFPB's vision of collaborative work through partnerships.



2008

IFPB partners with AFSC's Third World Coalition to send 14 community leaders and organizers on our first People of Color Delegation. The delegation is the 3rd of 12 partnership delegations with AFSC to date.



2002-2004

IFPB's 4th delegation is among the first foreign groups to enter Jenin Refugee Camp after the Israeli massacre there. By 2004, IFPB has lead 11 formative delegations and our first 100 delegates to Palestine/Israel. We inaugurate our vision of collaborative work through partnership delegations and hire our first Education and Advocacy Coordinator - signaling a commitment to supporting delegates and maximizing their advocacy efforts.



2006

IFPB becomes an independent organization and survives our first year with FOR seeding and the generosity of new donors. The enduring commitment of IFPB's delegates and donors ensures that the work continues and grows!

Movement Building

A Transformative Approach

Last year, 96 delegates traveled with us. They came back to lead local campaigns, share their stories – and directly contribute to our grassroots movement supporting Palestinian freedom. Their interventions are timely and critical.

Here are stories of two of our over 1,150 former delegates:

Demanding Justice

Delegate Nadya Tannous' Journey from Questions to Action

By Christy Wise

Within her close-knit, mixed Palestinian family, Nadya Tannous' childhood was infused with Palestinian culture, traditions, and stories of the historical struggle for justice.

When Nadya joined an IFPB delegation in 2013, it had been 12 years since her previous visit to Palestine. On her delegation Nadya saw the inside of a Jewish settlement for the first time and was speechless. The contrast between the desert landscape outside the settlement and the lush green grass and huge swimming pools inside was shocking.



But she refused to be defeated by her experience. She acknowledged her feelings of despair and then told herself: It doesn't have to be this way.

"As a Palestinian woman, I want to strive for every possibility of rehabilitation and constructive expression that I can for the multi-faceted Palestinian community."

Your support allows IFPB to lead delegations that change lives and bolster the commitment of individuals to work for justice. Each delegate has her own story of transformation, commitment, and change. Once you see, you cannot unsee - and every IFPB delegate is deeply affected by the experience.

Finding Another Side to the Story and Taking Action

Mark Braverman's Journey | By Mary Ann Weston

Mark Braverman's 2006 IFPB delegation led him to a new career advocating for Palestinian justice. Mark was brought up in a close-knit Philadelphia Jewish community. Zionism was an integral part of his life. After college he spent a year on a kibbutz. But Mark was coming to question the Zionist narrative. So he joined an IFPB delegation.

Since then, his advocacy has been nonstop. He has written two books and many more sermons and articles. He helped found Friends of Tent of Nations North America, which supports the Tent of Nations project that IFPB has been visiting since 2004.

Currently Mark is program director of Kairos USA, a church-based movement in solidarity with Palestinians.



Going to East Jerusalem and the West Bank "tore me apart. . . . what really turned me around was meeting Palestinians. It went straight to my heart, my brain."

See more delegate stories at ifpb.org/stories

You Power IFPB

IFPB is a **people-powered project!** Support from generous individuals like you allowed us to lead 96 people on 4 delegations between October 2015 and October 2016. Your contributions also resourced our post-delegation support of these 96 and the more than 1,000 previous IFPB delegates.

IFPB's total expenses in Fiscal Year 2016 (July 2015 to June 2016) totaled \$539,532. Over 50% is for direct delegation services like airfare, hotels, and other essentials for delegations. A truer sense of what makes IFPB run is our operational budget of \$249,895. This sum makes possible our planning, support for delegations, delegate mentoring, and advocacy work.

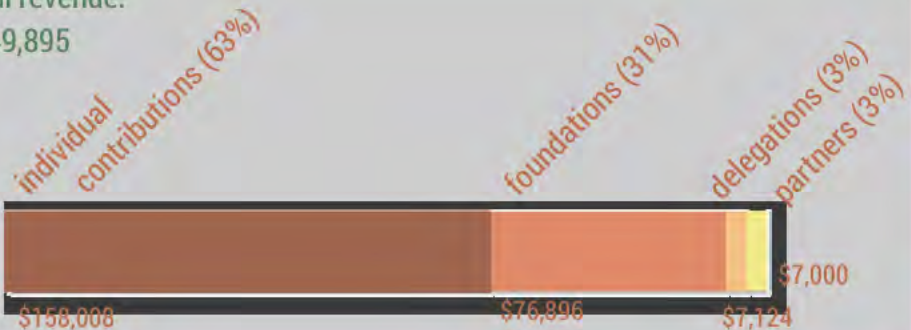


Almost 2/3 of our support comes from individuals, who donate at all levels from \$10/year to \$10,000/year. IFPB's average donation is approximately \$350 per person.



operational budget

total revenue:
\$249,895



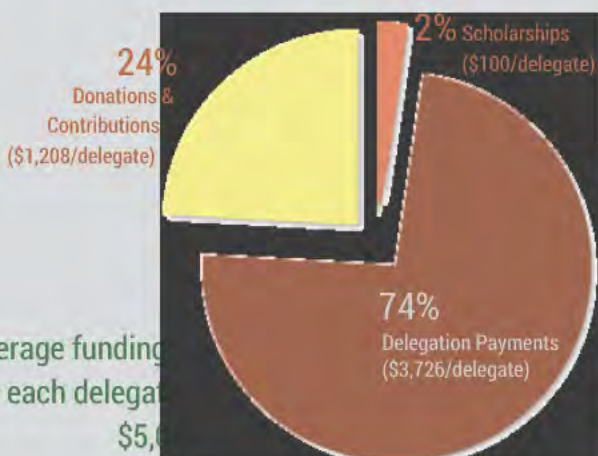
making your contributions count

Your contributions covered 24% of the true costs of each IFPB delegate (more than \$1,200 per delegate) in the past year!

How is that possible? The true cost to send one person, including preparation and post-trip support, adds up to an average cost of \$5,035. Delegates paid 74% of their costs and IFPB - with your donations and foundation funds - subsidized the rest.

We keep delegation prices as low as we can, and provide scholarship support to participants who could not otherwise travel. In the past year, we provided \$14,800 in scholarship support to 19 individuals.

**your contributions
subsidize each delegate:**



total average funding
for each delegate
\$5,035



bequests: a legacy for the future

IFPB is dedicated to working for justice in Palestine/Israel for as long as it takes. A bequest – a gift in your will – is a simple way you can leave a lasting legacy in support of this work. Sample language for a bequest is:

"I give, devise, and bequeath \$ _____ to Interfaith Peace-Builders (Tax ID#: 059-8184). Interfaith Peace-Builders may be contacted at 1628 16th St, NW, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 244-0821."

Contact Mike Daly (202-244-0821 x3 or mdaly@ifpb.org) to see more sample language and receive our Bequest Information and Interest form.

With Your Help we're not backing down

The Israeli government knows that the single most effective way to bring people into our justice movement is simply to have them see with their own eyes and connect with their hearts.

This year five of our delegates, all identified as Muslim (though one was not), were denied entry to Israel. Other delegates of color were interrogated but ultimately allowed to enter.



Although only 1% of IFPB delegates have been denied entry since 2002, we know it's always a possibility. While Muslim and Arab delegates have faced greater harassment, white and Jewish delegates have continued to enter with little difficulty. We find such blatant racism unacceptable.

We won't back down! **With your help**, we will continue to send safe, content-rich and politically accountable trips that inspire activists and leaders from all backgrounds.



Your support has allowed us, year after year, for 15 years to build a track record of delegation-based movement building.



Although four people of color were denied this year, 36 others entered successfully. Each was subsidized by IFPB supporters.

We pledge to maintain our commitment to organize diverse delegations with careful planning and training. What's more, IFPB's *Scott Kennedy Memorial Scholarship Fund* will ensure that more people of color and young activists can join IFPB delegations.



You make all of this - the connections, the transformations, and the ongoing engagement - possible. Thank you for your commitment to building a movement for justice.

"It's impossible to come away from the trip feeling neutral and apathetic. It will make an activist out of even the most reluctant participants."

– Alice Su, 2013 delegate currently working as journalist in the Middle East





2017 DELEGATIONS TO PALESTINE/ISRAEL

May 13 - May 26
October 28 - November 10

Please join us – and tell your friends!

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