

- **War is Not the Answer: It's Time for a Permanent Ceasefire**  
To Whom It May Concern -  
After barely a week of a ceasefire that saw hostages released and desperately needed humanitarian aid flow into Gaza, war and violence have returned unabated. Rockets and bombs once again fill the air. Aid will no doubt slow to a trickle. And hostages will remain exactly where they are.
- It need not be this way. There was positive momentum building toward a permanent ceasefire, something everyone must agree is urgently needed.
- The ceasefire negotiations, aid deliveries, and release of hostages show the power of dialogue. Weapons did not bring them about. Far from. If Israel and the Palestinians want peace – real lasting peace – they need to talk to one another. Not shoot at each other.
- More war is not the answer. In truth, there is no military solution to this crisis. We thank Senator Durbin for calling for a ceasefire. It's critical that our Representatives and Senator Duckworth publicly call for a ceasefire to finally bring an end to the violence. Only once the shooting stops for good can we address the political solution to the conflict. Without that, there is only more war in the future.
- Sincerely,
- Oak Park Friends Meeting
- Oak Park, IL
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