

Chena Ridge Friends Meeting

Fairbanks, Alaska

Approved in a called meeting for business March 10, 2024

Chena Ridge Friends Meeting unites in calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Israel/Hamas War. Our Quaker commitment to nonviolence calls us to speak out against the horrific attacks on Israelis by Hamas and the devastating retaliation by Israel against the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) has a long history in Israel and Palestine, and we have heard from Friends there who have witnessed the devastation in Gaza: the increasing number of Palestinians, most of them innocent women and children, who have been killed or seriously wounded from Israeli bombs and gunfire; the destruction of homes and critical infrastructure, including hospitals; and the banning of humanitarian aid that is causing starvation among those who have survived the bombings.

We join AFSC and the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) as well as many Quaker Meetings across the United States in urging the United States government to:

- *Push for immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages and prisoners of war;
- *Discontinue the transfer of U.S. weapons and military assistance to Israel;
- *Increase funding for humanitarian aid in Gaza;
- *Provide funding and other assistance for rebuilding safe and just communities;
- *Support locally-led peace building efforts to bring long term justice and peace.