



# ***Friends of Peacebuilders***

## **AN INVITATION TO JOIN IN PARTNERSHIP**

**WE INVITE YOU** to be a friend to peacebuilding workers in the Philippines. They are women and men who have committed themselves to build bridges of peaceful relationships between people groups involved in various conflicts.

**WE INVITE YOU** to support them with prayers and finances to bring the Peace of Christ in their land.

**WE INVITE YOU** to encourage them as they establish a network of Peace and Reconciliation Communities made up of people who are committed to follow Jesus Christ—the Prince of Peace.



**WE INVITE YOU** to envision with them a land where spiritual, physical and social healing is experienced. They dream of a land where various ethno-cultural groups live and work together towards harmony and lasting peace, where worldviews, value systems, and customs are freely expressed in the context of a multi-cultural society.

### **THESE PEACEBUILDERS ARE TRAINED IN STRATEGIC PEACEBUILDING**

They offer a kind of peacebuilding that encompasses, generates, and sustains the full array of processes, approaches, and stages needed to transform conflict toward more sustainable, peaceful relationships. It includes conflict transformation, governance and policymaking, restorative and transitional justice, environmental protection, human rights, civilian and military peacekeeping, peace education, activism and advocacy, trauma healing, and social-economic development.

### **THESE PEACEBUILDERS FOCUS ON RECONCILIATION**

Reconciliation is the central component of peacebuilding. They encourage, inform, equip and accompany conflicting parties who are willing to go on a journey from conflict situation to the resolution of issues to rebuilding of relationships.

### **THESE PEACEBUILDERS ARE TRAINED COMMUNITY BUILDERS**

Based on Anabaptist Theology, these peacebuilders are trained in community leadership. They are trained to train other leaders who would form Peace and Reconciliation Communities. They are trained to develop these PAR Communities into a national network. This network, in turn, would help establish more PAR Communities.



## **YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT WILL BE USED...**

### **TO ADVANCE BIBLICAL PEACEBUILDING AND TRANSFORMATION**

- :: Harmony with **God**. *Spiritual Transformation*
- :: Harmony with our **Being**. *Psycho-Social Transformation*
- :: Harmony with **Others**. *Social-Political Transformation*
- :: Harmony with the **Creation**. *Economic-Ecological Transformation*

### **TO SUPPORT A COMMUNITY OF PEACEBUILDING OPERATIVES**

- :: **They are a peacebuilding community.**  
They seek to demonstrate in their own lives and in their relationships the kind of harmonious and transformational peace they're hoping for
- :: **They are peacebuilding operatives.**  
They devote the same discipline and self-sacrifice to non-violent peacemaking that armies devote to war.



### **TO MULTIPLY SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND RECONCILIATION COMMUNITIES**

- :: To *train* and multiply effective Peace and Reconciliation Team **Leaders** for the global realities of the 21st Century
- :: To *support* the leaders in organizing and nurturing their respective Peace and Reconciliation **Teams** of volunteers in local conflict zones
- :: To *establish* contextually-relevant Peace and Reconciliation **Communities** as home for local Peace and Reconciliation Teams
- :: To *develop* a **Network** of Peace and Reconciliation Communities that would work together to train more leaders, to organize more teams, and to establish more communities who follow Jesus Christ in all aspects of life—spiritual, psycho-social, socio-political and economic-ecological.





## **BETWEEN FRIENDS...**

### **THE PEACEBUILDERS COMMUNITY IN MINDANAO WILL COMMIT...**

:: to send you quarterly newsletters of their peacebuilding activities in the Philippines

:: to be transparent with their operations and management of the resources you have entrusted them based on biblical principles, sound ethical values and world-class financial reporting standards

:: to relate with you personally, if you wish; you will be connected with a full-time peacebuilding field worker with whom you can interact as a friend—this interpersonal relationship is so needed by these field workers for their encouragement

:: to invite you to join them in the field, if you wish to experience the adventure of peacebuilding in an armed conflict area; you will be given excellent theoretical and practical skills training

:: to pray for you as a friend on a regular basis as part of their global community



### **PEACEBUILDERS COMMUNITY INVITES YOU TO COMMIT...**

:: to support them financially on a regular basis as they raise C\$30,000 a year; they need 30 individuals who would partner with them on a regular basis

:: to pray for them regularly, and if you are willing, to relate with them as a friend; they really need lots of encouragement as they work alone on the field most of the time

:: to participate in an annual gathering of Friends of Peacebuilders—to celebrate, to hear updates, to electronically interact with fieldworkers in real time, to share hearts and minds as we enhance our vision of advancing Jesus' gospel of peace in this world



## VALUES THAT GOVERN THE USE OF YOUR RESOURCES...

- 1. Love.** We will love all people unconditionally and we will practice selfless love to the point of offering our lives to the people with whom we are called to live and to serve. This is exemplified in the humble life of Jesus of Nazareth whom we follow in response to His sacrificial love.
  - 2. Truth.** By God's grace, we will not lie. As witnesses to the truth we have experienced in Jesus Christ, we will initiate transparent and honest interaction with all the people concerned as we relate with them and as we formulate and implement our policies.
  - 3. Justice.** As justice is an attribute of God, our tasks will be implemented in accordance with what is just and equitable among all people concerned.
  - 4. Forgiveness.** Using the energies available to us through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will absorb the violence committed against us so that our lives may be used as servants to stop the cycle of violence within us and around us.
  - 5. Peace.** We will seek harmony and reconciliation with the Creator, with our Being, with Others, and with the Creation. We believe in solving problems through non-violence. By God's grace and mercy, we will not use weapons to hurt or to kill people as a means to accomplish our dreams, mission, and objectives.
  - 6. Voluntary Service.** The backbone of our community will be the voluntary efforts of our team members as they offer their time, or their skills, or their financial resources for the cause of peace.
  - 7. Respect.** As fellow-beings created in the image of God, we work with all people, respecting the differences in our worldviews, in our value systems, and in our behavior patterns. As fellow stewards of our planet, we will respect traditional ways of preserving our natural environment.
  - 8. Patience.** The work of peacebuilding in each context is a long-term process. Though we will seek wisdom from the lessons learned from other contexts, we will not be presumptuous to use them as "quick-fix solutions" to a specific conflict-situation we are facing. We will always consult patiently with the people with whom we are called to love and to serve.
  - 9. Mutual Learning.** Because all truth is God's truth, we will seek to be both a learner and a teacher when we work with other people. We recognize that modern knowledge can be harmonized with traditional wisdom from many cultures, and that this harmonized learning will enrich our mutual growth and development.
  - 10. Accountability.** We will submit ongoing reports to all the people concerned—sponsors, clients, volunteers, staff—as we manage the resources entrusted to us.
- 

## YES, I WANT TO BECOME A SUPPORTING PARTNER

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER  EMAIL

**Please return this portion to:**

**GERD BARTEL  
6250 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Delta, BC V4K 4S5  
Telephone: 604 946 9384  
Email: gerd@telus.net**