

THE INTERFAITH NETWORK ON DRONE WARFARE

Plans for August 1, 2018-February 1, 2021

The Peace Action Education Fund in Princeton, NJ created the Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare (INDW) in 2015 to enable people and institutions of faith to study and take appropriate steps to work for change in U.S. drone warfare policies. Since then, the INDW held a national conference for religious leaders on drone warfare at Princeton Theological Seminary, co-sponsored 13 regional conferences on drone warfare, produced five 30-minute films on drone warfare for congregations, and promoted their use across the country. The films can be viewed at www.interfaithdronenetwork.org.

The INDW received another grant from the Open Society Foundations for the next phase of its work. The goal for the Interfaith Network on Drone Warfare for August 1, 2018-February 1, 2021 is to recruit 60 people of faith to be organizers in 30 regions who will make a commitment until February 1, 2021 to educate both institutions and individuals of faith in order to build public awareness about the use of lethal drones in targeted killings and to more effectively advocate for a change in U.S. lethal drone policies with Members of Congress.

A National Project Committee, consisting of representatives of denominational bodies, faith groups and religious organizations concerned about drone warfare, will provide leadership to this effort. It will meet every other month between August 2018 and September 2019 and by the time the Committee has concluded its work on September 30, 2019, it will have set in motion programs to achieve its goal by February 2021. It will undertake several tasks as well as provide advice to the INDW staff on several of its efforts.

Those tasks for which the National Project Committee will be responsible will include:

1. Choosing the location of the 30 regions across the country from which we will recruit two organizers. The committee will draft the criteria for choosing the 30 locations.
2. Members of the National Project Committee and INDW staff will recruit two people of faith from each of 30 geographic areas across the United States who will make a commitment until February 1, 2021. The two organizers from each region do not need to be from the same faith group.
3. Members of the National Project Committee will urge their national offices of denominations and religious organizations to find ways to support the organizers from their denomination or faith group that make this commitment.
4. Work with INDW staff to plan a three-day national conference which will be held at Princeton Theological Seminary on September 27 – 29, 2019 which will train and equip the 60 organizers and the members of the National Project Committee.
5. Members of the National Project Committee will find funding to underwrite their own attendance at the conference. Members of the National Project Committee will also explore the possibility of providing funding to ensure that those recruited

from their denomination as part of the group of 60 are able to attend the conference in case the money provided the grant is not sufficient to cover their travel expenses.

The National Project Committee will also advise the staff on such tasks as:

1. Working with Ecumenical Advocacy Days, a national conference held for the Christian community in Washington, DC in April 2019, to increase the knowledge of attendees about drone warfare.
2. The Peace Action Education Fund (PAEF) will convene the organizers by holding regular conference calls from October 1, 2019 until February 1, 2021 and will create other methods for supporting the 60 organizers. The National Project Committee will advise the PAEF about these conference calls and other methods of supporting the group of 60.