



EUPHRATES
A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF
VISIONARIES





“There is a river”...

DESPITE HEADLINES OF WAR, VIOLENCE, AND CONFLICT,

there is another story...
of a community of visionaries
around the world building peace.

A COMMUNITY IS BUILT ON CONNECTION.

**Connection =
SHARING OUR STORY,
LISTENING, DIALOGUE.**

From our ‘Visionary of the Year’,
pioneer peacebuilders Libby and Len Traubman, who have
nearly 30 years of experience in facilitating dialogues, to
the “listening tour” we conducted this summer in India and
Egypt and on-line with our 30 Chapters, we are
deepening the power of connection and
community to energize and continue
this work that is so needed in our
world today.

**Contributions from individual donors sustain
this growing network of global visionaries.**

CHAPTER 1

A GLOBAL NETWORK



LOCATIONS

ARK OF CHAPTERS



YOUR CHAPTERS IN ACTION

PEACEBUILDING AT THE GRASSROOTS

CHOOSING LOVE OVER HATRED

**“The first law of nature
is to love.”**

Victor Garpulee, Chapter Leader

It would have been easy to pursue revenge and to harbor hatred after losing his brother in Liberia’s civil war. However, Victor Garpulee did not follow that path. His love for people had the upper hand, and he chose instead to promote peace in his community by educating youth. If we wish to experience peace, he believes we must “build together as brothers and sisters.” At the end of the day, “we are people, and we are interconnected,” Victor says, and “...together we can make it better.”

MONROVIA, LIBERIA



1 in 17 people died in Liberia’s civil war, one of Africa’s bloodiest, from 1989-1996.

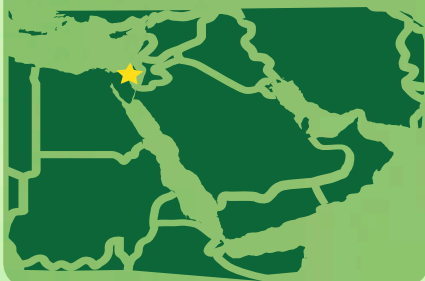


BUILDING PEACE THROUGH COLLABORATION

HEBRON, PALESTINE



Hebron is a flashpoint city due to a small orthodox Jewish population living amidst the largest Palestinian city in the West Bank.



“Our membership in the Euphrates Chapters gives us more courage to work at an international level. We exchange our success stories and our pain with other Chapters and learn from their wisdom. We look forward to more direct cooperations together.”

Tareq al-Tamimi, Chapter Leader

As founder of Volunteering for Peace in Palestine, a non-profit organization dedicated to interfaith and intercultural bridge building among Palestinian youth, Tareq al-Tamimi has committed his life to peace-building. To celebrate this year’s International Day of Peace, VFP in Palestine organized a roundtable discussion, where those involved discussed what peace looks like. Many yearned to live at least one day in real peace. Tareq sees the importance of collaboration in order to achieve this goal and values his membership in Euphrates.

TAKING RISKS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

“This is a big mission. We must take big risks. It’s because we believe in this and know it will help people. We must give the young people the chance for a different life.”

Abdul Ismail, Chapter Leader

Peacebuilding is not an easy feat. Often it requires sacrifice and moral courage, but those involved are mission-driven and deeply committed. Abdul Ismail has chosen to promote peace through the use of education in an area where ISIS is aggressively recruiting young people. Describing the danger of ignorance, he says, “Our community in general does not know about the West. We only know about it through media and Hollywood movies, which show the West as a land of gangs, drugs and violence. Our community believes the Christian West hates the Muslims, and no good comes from this belief. Simply

KHARTOUM, SUDAN



Sudan has a history of religious tensions between Christians and Muslims, which led to a split into two countries in 2011.



put, our community in general does not know the West. This is why ISIS has the chance to recruit innocent young people.” Abdul believes that addressing these misconceptions will aid in the effort to halt terrorism, and he is committed to this mission for peace.

BRIDGING DIVIDES IN RURAL AMERICA

“I am amazed that in our few short years of existence in Redding, we are making inroads in community awareness and stimulating an increasing openness to dialogue. I am learning that every activity our Chapter does has a cumulative impact in ways we don’t always appreciate until later.”

Beth Thompson, Chapter Leader

This small city in northern California is now the seat of the Euphrates Institute’s headquarters as well as a local Chapter. Redding has its fair share of local issues that need peacebuilding, from the red-blue political tensions that plague the country to the lack of diversity and global awareness typical of a rural population. To counter this, local Chapter members strive to put

REDDING, CALIFORNIA



Eat much? In 2016 California grew over a third of America’s vegetables and two-thirds of its fruits and nuts. And the water that supplies those farms comes primarily from the Redding area.



a human face on the ‘Other,’ through hosting presentations by Muslim exchange students, Middle East film screenings and dialogue workshops.

BELONGING TO A GLOBAL FAMILY

“I have experienced personal transformation through interacting with our global family. Local leaders from across continents share their struggles, challenges and achievements.”

Sohini Jana, Chapter Leader

KOLKATA, INDIA



While India's dominant religion is Hinduism, it is also home to the world's third largest Muslim population.



Sohini and her chapter in Kolkata are changemakers in their community, from launching a well-received social media campaign during the U.N. Interfaith Harmony Week to introducing peacebuilding skills to young students at schools in their area. Sohini credits being part of Euphrates as helping her realize for the first time that she can make a difference.

“I am immensely grateful to the Euphrates family for teaching me skills I will cherish all my life,” she said recently. “The art of deep listening and community-building through dialogue has opened up for me a range of ways to connect and be a changemaker in my community.”



VISIONARY OF THE YEAR 2017

LISTENING IS AT THE HEART OF PEACEBUILDING

LEN & LIBBY TRAUBMAN

Pioneers of Grassroots Peacebuilding

Founders of the Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue

**“Who are you?
Tell me your story.”**

Len and Libby Traubman have devoted their lives to asking this question, listening deeply and compassionately to the response, and encouraging others to do the same. They believe strongly in the importance of listening to one another’s stories, even to those of our so-called enemies.

Their journey spans decades. In 1969, seeing the image of Earth from outer space for the first time, they were awestruck by the idea that “We are One,”



all sharing the same planet, which inspired them to “think globally, act locally.” They helped found the successful Beyond War Movement, “insisting that all conflict be resolved without violence—no bombing, and for us no spanking.” In the 1980s, amidst the Cold War,



they were invited on a trip to the Soviet Union where they learned that “conflict resolution begins with first knowing the other human being.”

Len and Libby later founded the Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue, which began 25 years ago and is still going strong, with more than 600 meetings to date. With their own community of Muslims, Jews and Christians in San Mateo, California, the couple hosted the Bay-Area Dinner Dialogue for 420 Palestinians and Jews. In partnership with Camp Tawonga, a Jewish summer camp near Yosemite, they co-created the

first Palestinian-Jewish Family Peacemaker camp, bringing together youth and adults from over fifty towns in Israel and Palestine.

Believing in the innate interconnectedness we have with one another, Len and Libby see the purpose of dialogue as helping the participants feel and experience this oneness. Try it out for yourself. Live after Len and Libby’s model. Practice the act of listening. Give a voice to the so-called “Other.” Hear their story. Doing this naturally has a ripple effect, and it supports the vision so many of us have - to see a world at peace.

“Listening is a great act of love.”



THANK YOU

You have enabled this community of visionaries to grow and deepen. Euphrates is entirely funded by your contributions, large and small. You are the reason our visionaries can feel connected to each other across the world, derive information and inspiration from our Euphrates family, and build peace and create change in over ten countries.

Your investment is helping our Chapter leader in Sudan provide youth with an alternative to ISIS, our high school Chapter in Flint, Michigan build bridges with local mosques, and our Chapter in the Ivory Coast, West Africa educate hundreds of youth about turning “the ‘Other’ into a brother”.

In this time of raging headlines of violence, conflict and dis-connection, Euphrates is showing there is another story, another way—one of connection and unity across religions, countries and races.

In the midst of the war zone, there is a river...of peace.

We are deeply grateful for your life-changing support of this community.

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July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

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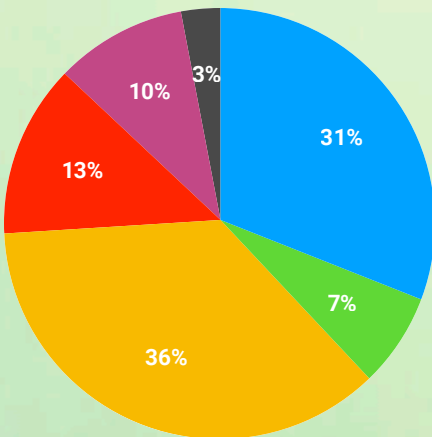
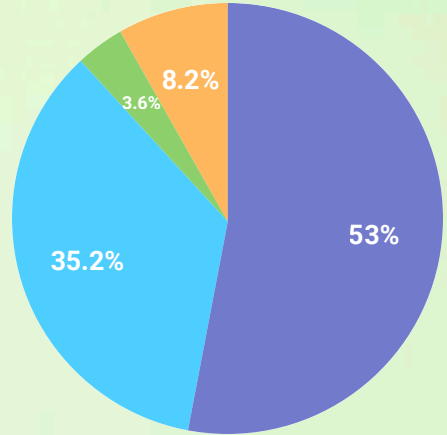
Noelani Del Rosario-Sabet
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FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Total Sources of Funds: \$178,429.88

- Individual Contributions
- Fee for Services
- Merchandise Sales
- In-Kind & Pro Bono Contributions



Total Expenses : \$178,291.37

- Chapters
- Visionary of the Year
- Travel/Study
- Media/Publications
- Management/General
- Fundraising

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