



Dear Colleague in Peace,

Thank you for inquiring about International Cities of Peace. We are a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization dedicated to connecting, promoting, and encouraging Cities of Peace. Members of an Advisory Council of leaders from Cities of Peace organizations around the globe are creating an all-inclusive, non-polarizing network of citizens working to acknowledge and foster peace in their local communities.

VISION: To foster peace as a consensus value in Cities of Peace around the world.

MISSION: To network, encourage, document, and provide resources and information for leaders and organizations working to make peace a consensus value through global Cities of Peace initiatives.

First and foremost in this global endeavor toward creating a culture of peace is to reject violence and define ourselves as people of peace. The International Cities of Peace initiative is supporting communities that by history, resolution, proclamation, or simply citizen endeavors are working to self-define themselves as official Cities of Peace.

Attached is a Letter of Intent for individuals and organizations to acknowledge efforts to create a new, or foster a current, City of Peace. We hope you and at least one of your colleagues will sign the letter and return it to the address below.

On our website (www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org) there is a useful document, "Becoming a City of Peace," which has some ideas and models for creating an effective organization. If you need more support, please let us know. We hope you will keep all of us informed of your challenges and successes.

Again, thank you for your interest and for your peaceful nature. As colleagues in peace, we look forward to learning more about your individual and organizational efforts toward creating safety, prosperity, and quality of life in your community.

Sincerely and with respect,

**J. Fred Arment
Executive Director**



LETTER OF INTENT

**The undersigned, as independent citizens of (city) _____,
(country) _____ hereby acknowledge our intention to
help build a City of Peace.**

A City of Peace, as officially defined by International Cities of Peace, is a community that endeavors to make progress against violence and foster a culture of peace. A Culture of Peace is determined by the citizens of each community.

As a guideline, United Nations Resolution A/RES/52/13 defines a Culture of Peace as a set of values, attitudes, modes of behavior and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation among individuals, groups, and nations. For peace and non-violence to prevail, we endeavor to:

- Foster a culture of peace through education
- Promote sustainable economic and social development
 - Promote respect for all human rights
 - Ensure equality between women and men
 - Foster democratic participation
- Advance understanding, tolerance and solidarity
- Support participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge
 - Promote international peace and security

In addition to the UNESCO statement on a culture of peace, the Golden Rule (variously stated including “do for others as you would have them to do for you”) provides a universal statement for compassion and respect among a community’s diverse and nonviolent philosophies, religions, and personal creeds.

Dated: _____

Signatures:

Title and/or Organization, if applicable
