



# FNVW

Friends for a NonViolent World

## E-Letter

July 2025

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### An Important Note From the Executive Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

I am writing to share an important update from the FNVW Board of Directors. After careful discernment, the Board has decided to move forward with the process of separating the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) from Friends for a NonViolent World (FNVW), with the intention of having two distinct, independent organizations.

While this decision has been made, the process of separation is only just beginning. The current FNVW Board remains the sole governing body of FNVW and will guide every step of this strategic transition in collaboration with the Reinvent Team and the AVP Team. Until the separation is finalized, FNVW will continue to operate without interruption. All programs, contracts, and initiatives, including AVP workshops and other activities, will carry on as usual until the separation is finalized.

Our staff is fully committed to advancing the mission and vision of FNVW during this time of change. We will continue to deliver impactful programming, nurture relationships in the community, and provide the administrative and programmatic support needed for all of our efforts to thrive.

We recognize that transitions bring both challenges and opportunities. We are confident that this process will allow both FNVW and AVP to grow in ways that strengthen our shared commitment to nonviolence, peace, and community building. We will keep you informed as things progress.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership in the work of building a more peaceful and nonviolent world.

In peace,

John Ewu, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Friends For A NonViolent World

### FNVW at St. Paul National Night Out 2025



AVP tabled at the St. Paul National Night Out on Aug 5 at the invite of Enrique Estrada, Community Engagement Specialist with the St. Paul Police Department. There was food, fun and festivities along with other community resources. We met folks from other community agencies and had some great conversations with those who stopped by our table. We look forward to some of these contacts leading to future workshops in schools and in the community!

### 4th Annual Festival of Rights & Community Block Party

FOURTH ANNUAL

# FESTIVAL OF RIGHTS

## & COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, August 23, 4-7 P.M.

**FREE EVENT**

at the Beautiful Laundrette  
625 Stryker Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN

Learn about our rights and community resources!  
Free grilled cheese sandwiches from All Square!

We're excited to share an upcoming community celebration you won't want to miss! The Festival of Rights is an end-of-summer gathering filled with joy, music, dancing, food, and connection. The street will be closed for the festivities, creating space for neighbors to come together and uplift one another.

**When:**  
Saturday, August 23  
4 pm to 7 pm

**Where:**  
Beautiful Laundrette,  
625 Stryker Avenue,  
St. Paul

The event features:

- Legal resources on housing, family, worker rights, voting rights, expungements, pardons, and more
- "Know Your Rights" trainings and updates on laws
- Wellbeing and family support resources
- Backpack giveaway for kids
- Live music, activities for youth, and delicious food
- Community organizations will be tabling to share ways families, youth, and individuals can get involved in local programs, activities, and groups. Last year, about 200 people attended this open-house-style event!

### MLK's Letter from Birmingham Jail: A Prophetic Guide to Power, Love, Protest, and Liberation

THE KING CENTER AND BLACK VOTERS MATTER PARTNER TO PRESENT NEW WORKSHOP:

## MLK'S 'LETTER FROM BIRMINGHAM JAIL':

A PROPHETIC GUIDE TO  
**POWER, LOVE, PROTEST, AND LIBERATION**

A blueprint for hope, resilience, and action that provides both historical context and practical tools to navigate the ongoing fight for justice.

**SATURDAY, AUG 23, 11AM ET**

STREAMING ON:

Register at [www.thekingcenter.org](http://www.thekingcenter.org)

Black Voters Matter and The King Center invite you to a powerful new series: MLK's Letter from Birmingham Jail: A Prophetic Guide to Power, Love, Protest, and Liberation.

This series will consist of BOTH in-person and in-person workshops created for change makers of all kinds: activists, students, faith leaders, organizers, educators, and anyone committed to the pursuit of justice. Rooted in the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement, each session blends rich historical context with real-world tools and strategies to equip you for today's urgent struggles. This is more than a learning experience, it's a call to action!

Upcoming:  
Saturday, August 23, 2025  
10:00AM Central Time Zone

All sessions are free and open to the public. Virtual events will be hosted online; hybrid events welcome both in-person and remote attendees. Register in advance to reserve your spot and receive event updates: <https://thekingcenter.org/events/>

### Minnesota Council of Nonprofits September Trainings

Any nonprofit professionals feeling nostalgic for back-to-school season? MCN has a roster of trainings this September for all you fundraisers, marketers, leaders, and anyone who considers themselves a lifelong learner. Check them out:

## September Trainings

- 9.3.25:** Collectively Healing: Breaking the Cycle of White Supremacy
- 9.4.25:** Succession and Transition Planning: How to Begin
- 9.9.25:** Practical Leadership 1.0



Find more trainings online at <https://minnesotanonprofits.org/events>. Remember, MCN members receive a discount on trainings!

## September Trainings

- 9.11.25:** Advocacy 101: Easy and Effective
- 9.18.25:** Beginning Grantwriting
- 9.25.25:** Cancel Culture and Bridging Toward Belonging

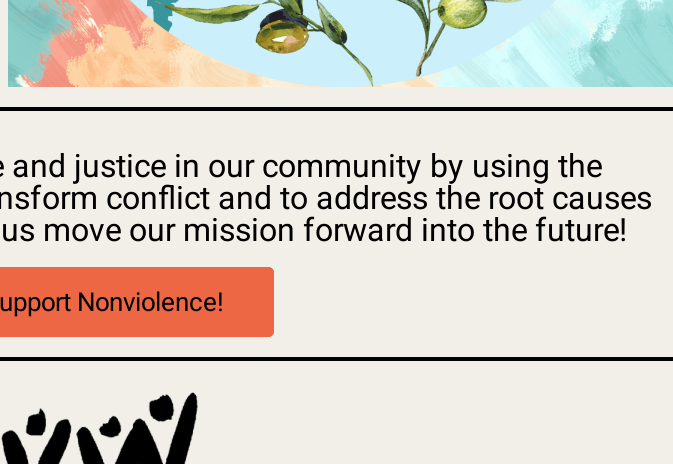


### Twelve Days Free from Violence – Sept 21 to Oct 2

Twin Cities Nonviolent invites community members, organizations, artists, and activists to take part in Twelve Days Free from Violence, a city-wide series of events promoting peace, justice, and connection.

From **September 21** (International Day of Peace) through **October 2** (International Day of Nonviolence), gatherings across the Twin Cities will highlight creative ways to build safer, more compassionate communities.

Opportunities include performances, workshops, vigils, and resource sharing. Learn more or get involved at [twincitiesnonviolent.org](http://twincitiesnonviolent.org).



FNVW works to promote and create peace and justice in our community by using the principles and practices of nonviolence to transform conflict and to address the root causes of violence. Your financial support will help us move our mission forward into the future!

Donate Today to Support Nonviolence!



Check out our full website [here](http://www.fnvw.org) for more information!