

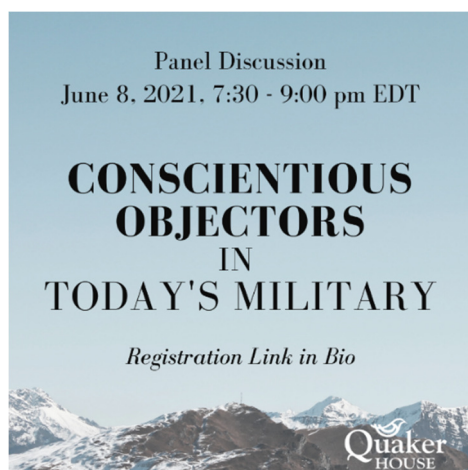
July 2020 – July 2021

Dear Friends of Friends Church of North Carolina,



When we reported to you last, the United States was just beginning to grasp the effects of COVID-19 on our communities and on the way we operate. While it has been a difficult year, we are also grateful that we were well positioned to continue our work. I am joyously looking forward to meeting with you again very soon at our beloved Quaker Lake Camp site!

GI Rights Hotline and Network: Steve and Lenore, our two counselors to the GI Rights Network, each have over 20 years of experience taking calls from anywhere service members are stationed in the world. Their work and dedication continue to make Quaker House's participation in the Network a critical part of that organization. In addition to continuing to maintain and update the internal web site which counselors across the country use as a reference on these varied types of calls for assistance, Steve is the Treasurer of the GIRN Board, Lenore chairs the Council, and I also serve on the Board. Realizing that the Network was in great need of more trained volunteer counselors, Lenore and Steve designed and led a nine-week training course, in which Quaker House board member Christine Black and I also took part. The new potential volunteers are currently in the practical phase of training, shadowing calls with more experienced counselors, including with Lenore and Steve.



In early June, we presented a panel discussion entitled "Conscientious Objectors in Today's Military." This panel brought together five young adults who were in the military, had a crystallization of conscience, understanding that they could not morally continue in their military careers, had reached out to the GI Rights Hotline for assistance, and were in various stages of their application process to leave the military. This process is difficult, it usually lasts approximately one year (or longer), and suddenly throws the applicant into a position of isolation and difficult interpersonal relationships with their coworkers and often their family and religious leaders. The depth of personal introspection and discernment that post-military-enlistment conscientious objectors must go through inspires awe, appreciation, and similar personal

searching. We are so grateful that these five were willing to share their experiences publicly all at the same time. The recording of this discussion is currently in the editing phase and will be released soon for anyone to view.

From June 1, 2010, to May 31, 2021, Steve and Lenore answered an average of **245 unique calls/month for a total 2,948 calls.**

Mission: Quaker House is a manifestation of the Friends' Peace Testimony. Based in Fayetteville, NC, home of Ft. Bragg, Quaker House provides counseling and support to service members who are questioning their role in the military; educates them, their families, and the public about military issues; and advocates for a more peaceful world.

Hotline Call Volume

Total Calls (updated June 2021)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Jan	268	273	289	288	315	+	258	219	210	131	204	156	226	232
Feb	240	275	303	277	362	+	273	257	168*	140	166	179	170	197
Mar	315	298	291	293	287	+290	312	211	160	172	220	163	196	193
Apr	222*	219	295	331	287	+181	296	251	272	227	174	157	149	233
May	236	244	236	253	#	314	262	203	261	201	165	192	114	160
June		331	234	305	#	366	282	165	240	190	217	208	113	181
July		204*	203*	229	#	405	322	246	228	197	193	206	122	136
Aug		277	206	223	228	354	289*	145*	262	249	217	132*	148	159
Sep		316	268	245	261	271	360	236	236	136*	173*	184	114*	222
Oct		217	270	292	287	273	250	265	182	181	222	130	89	159
Nov		193*	251	199	224	303	262	244	194	197	176	217	133	122
Dec		129*	146*	186	155	191	204	217	170	167	136	91	126	159
Total.		2976	2992	3121	2406	2948	3370	2659	2585	2188	2263	2015	1700	2153
Avg.		248	249	260	267	290	280	222	215	182	193	168	142	179

*vacation taken this month

+sabbatical during these months

#-incomplete call data (file recovery problem)

Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Moral Injury Counseling: We continue our one-on-one mental health counseling program for military active duty and veteran service members and their families at Quaker House with Joanna, a licensed clinical social worker. When COVID-19 became an issue, she was able to continue seeing clients over a HIPAA-compliant platform for teletherapy. As staff has become vaccinated and CDC recommendations have relaxed, clients currently have the choice of coming in person to Quaker House (which many appreciate) or continuing teletherapy (also appreciated). Joanna has spent **2,743 hours with clients** over the past seven years, all at no cost to them, thanks to your support. We continue to receive referrals from the GI Rights Hotline, community organizations, and Ft. Bragg Victim Advocates.

In more lighthearted news, please watch for forthcoming news of the inaugural Quaker House Virtual 5K Peace Race in October! This will be an opportunity to create your own route going past places that have significance to you for peace and justice efforts, to either walk or run and perhaps participate in together as a Meeting. It will be a fundraiser to help us continue and possibly expand our work, but we want everyone to participate as they are able, building community, appreciating and recognizing your local peace and justice history, and sharing your photos.



We look forward to continuing to work together with you towards peace and healing in the coming year, and may we all be blessed with health.

Kindra Bradley

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***Our quarterly newsletter has both paper and electronic formats.
Let me know if you would like to be on the mailing list for either one, or both!***