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Peacebuilder Fundraiser Guide

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Introduction

Thank you for joining our **global movement for peace**. Palestinian children dare to dream. They dream of peace — and with it, the freedom to play, the chance to heal, the courage to hope. At House of Hope, those dreams take root in classrooms of love and safety, where peace is nurtured every day.

Last year, your support sustained Peace and Justice Education in our classrooms and with families — and brought to life our beloved music video, *Our Rights as Children*, dreamed by our students and co-founder Manar Wahhab.

This year, we rise again. Palestinian children and families face worsening hardship in the West Bank, living daily under the weight of the Occupation — yet together, we are building a circle of Peace Builders, Palestinians, Americans, and Europeans, united to raise **\$40,000** so children can heal from trauma and imagine a more just future.

Together, we proclaim: peace has a face, and that face is ours.

How to Use This Guide

The purpose of this guide is simple: to make your outreach easy, clear, and effective. When you invite your friends, family, or community to give, the most powerful tool you have is your brief personal message. This guide will support you in crafting and sharing that message.

Inside you'll find:

- Templates you can copy and paste into WhatsApp, social media, or email.
- **Tips** for keeping your message short and heartfelt.
- Real quotes and stories from teachers, students, and parents to inspire or strengthen your message.
- Quick answers (Q&A) so you can respond with confidence when people ask about House of Hope.

Fundraiser Tips

Here are a few quick tips to help you succeed as a Peace Builder fundraiser:

1. Know the big goal.

This campaign is more than a fundraiser — it's a movement. Together, we will show the world that peace has a face, and that face is ours. Our fundraising goal is to raise \$40,000:

- \$30,000 for Peace and Justice Education in House of Hope classrooms
- \$10,000 to expand our Family Peace and Justice Education Program to two additional schools
- 2. Every dollar you raise brings us closer. You might set a personal goal of \$250, \$500, or \$1,000 whatever feels right for you.

3. Share in different places.

Post on Facebook or Instagram once a week, send at least one short email, and text a few friends personally on WhatsApp. Personal outreach makes the biggest difference.

4. Thank your donors.

Always thank people right away. A quick text, a tagged post, or a short message means a great deal and encourages others to give.

5. Stay connected.

You're not doing this alone. Join our private **Signal group** for encouragement and ideas, or reach out anytime to Supporting Hope's Executive Director, Thea, at **tlavin@supportinghouseofhope.org**.

6. Keep the timing in mind.

Our 10-day 'I Am a Peace Builder' fundraiser runs from **December 2nd, Giving Tuesday, through December 11th,** with a special spotlight on Women's Giving Tuesday on December 9th.

How to Ask for a Donation

The #1 reason people give is because *someone they know asks them to*. Your words have the power to open hearts and move people to act. A short, personal message — just a few sentences about why peace matters to you and why you support House of Hope — can be the spark that inspires a gift. Keep it simple, keep it real, and always end with a clear invitation: "Will you join me with a donation?"

Examples You Can Use

Template 1:

Hi friends 💕,

Peace is so important to me — especially now, when so many *Palestinian children* are growing up surrounded by Occupation and war. As one House of Hope teacher says: "Our children need more than ABCs — they need love, attention, and to know that they matter."

House of Hope is a Palestinian-founded and led school, where visionary peace builders are raising the next generation with love and nonviolence. I'm fundraising so more children and families can receive peace and justice education. Will you join me with a gift today? Every donation makes a difference.

[insert donation link]

Template 2:

Peace isn't just an idea — it's something we can teach and live. That's why I support *Palestinian children* at House of Hope, a Palestinian-founded and led school in the West Bank. As the House of Hope founder says: "Nonviolence is the path of the soul."

House of Hope's visionary peace workers are planting seeds of healing and dignity through trauma-informed education. This year, I'm fundraising so more children can experience the right to peace, not just the absence of war.

Please join me by donating through my fundraiser: [insert donation link]

Template 3:

Subject: Help me support Palestinian children's right to peace 🖤

Dear friends,

Peace matters deeply to me — and I believe every *Palestinian child* deserves the chance to grow up safe, loved, and free. That's why I'm raising funds for House of Hope Vision School in the West Bank.

House of Hope is *Palestinian-founded and led* by visionary peace builders who believe nonviolence can transform lives. As one House of Hope teacher says: "When children feel safe, they can finally be children again — laughing, learning, and playing."

Your donation will help provide this safe space and bring peace and justice education to more Palestinian children and families.

Please give today through my fundraiser: [insert donation link]

With gratitude, [Your Name]

Template 4:

Peace is so important to me — especially now, when so many *Palestinian children* are growing up surrounded by Occupation and war. House of Hope, a Palestinian-founded and led school, is raising the next generation with love and nonviolence. As one teacher says: "When children feel safe, they can finally be children again — laughing, learning, and playing."

I'm fundraising so more children and families can receive peace and justice education. Will you join me with a gift today? **/
[insert donation link]

Y Super-Short Plug-and-Play Messages

- "Childhood is not a privilege; it is a right. Join me in supporting House of Hope: [insert your Raisely link]"
- "Peace begins in the classroom. Help me support House of Hope: [insert your Raisely link]"
- "Even under Occupation, children dare to dream of peace. Stand with me and House of Hope: [insert your Raisely link]"

House of Hope Voices

At House of Hope, peace is not just an idea — it is lived every day in our classrooms, our playgrounds, and our community. Teachers, parents, and students carry the vision of nonviolence in their words and in their work. Their voices testify to the hope that grows even under Occupation.

You are welcome to borrow these quotes in your own messages — to share the spirit of House of Hope and remind others why this movement matters.

"House of Hope is more than a school — it is a sanctuary of healing, hope, and possibility in the heart of the West Bank."

— Milad Vosgueritchian, Co-Founder, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

"Nonviolence is the path of the soul."

— Milad Vosqueritchian, Co-Founder, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

"Our mission is to plant seeds of nonviolence in children so that peace can grow in this place of Occupation."

— Milad Vosgueritchian, Co-Founder, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

"When children feel safe, they can finally be children again — laughing, learning, and playing."

— Samar Halabia, Elementary Teacher, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

"Our children need more than ABCs — they need love, attention, and to know that they matter."

— Raghda Ayoub, Kindergarten Teacher, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

- "Through music and stories, our children discover their voices voices that say, 'We are children, and we have rights."
- Manar Wahhab, Co-Founder, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten
- "Our children have the right to live in freedom and dignity."
- Khitam Abdul Hamid, Social Worker, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten
- "Despite what our children see outside in these difficult circumstances, we try to give them hope for a better tomorrow. No to violence. Yes to love and peace."
- Jamila Jafal, Primary School Director, House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten

Peace Leader Phrases & Quotes You Can Borrow

"Nonviolence is the path of the soul." — Milad Vosgueritchian

"Children don't get traumatized because they get hurt. They get traumatized because they are alone in the hurt." — **Gabor Maté**

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." — **Nelson Mandela**

"Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education." — Martin Luther King Jr.

Q&A: Quick Facts About House of Hope

Q: What is House of Hope?

House of Hope Vision School and Kindergarten is a Palestinian-founded school in the West Bank that offers trauma-informed, holistic education for children living under the Occupation. It is the only school in the region built on the principles of nonviolence.

Q: Who are the students at House of Hope?

Each year about 90–100 Palestinian children attend our kindergarten and primary school (grades 1–4). Most live in poverty and grow up surrounded by the Occupation and daily stress, but here they find safety, healing, and the chance to learn in dignity.

Q: What makes House of Hope different from other schools?

We provide **trauma-informed education** rooted in Palestinian heritage, Waldorf teaching methods, and peace and justice principles. Students pledge nonviolence every morning, and every lesson is designed to help them heal, grow, and thrive.

Q: What is Peace and Justice Education?

Peace and Justice Education at House of Hope is our trauma-informed curriculum that blends social-emotional learning, **emotional regulation**, **Nonviolent Communication (NVC)**, and rights-based civic education so children can learn — and live — nonviolently.

In practice, students:

- Build emotional regulation skills: naming feelings, body awareness check-ins, breathing/grounding exercises, and calming routines.
- Practice Nonviolent Communication (observations, feelings, needs, requests), peer mediation, conflict de-escalation, and restorative circles.
- Learn about human and children's rights, democracy, environmental care, and active citizenship.
- Heal and express through creative arts (music/choir, storytelling, movement, drawing, woodcarving) rooted in Palestinian culture.
- Make a daily pledge of nonviolence and apply these habits at school, at home, and in the community.

Students gain academic skills **and** the practical tools to relate with empathy, resolve conflict without harm, and help build a more just peace.

Q: What is trauma-informed education?

Trauma-informed education recognizes that many students carry the emotional and psychological impact of the Occupation and loss. At House of Hope, it shapes how we teach: we create safe, compassionate classrooms; help students regulate emotions; and build resilience so children can fully engage in learning and healing.

Q: Why should I care about Palestinian children?

Because every child deserves safety, freedom, and peace. Supporting Palestinian children's healing helps create more resilient families and, ultimately, a more peaceful society for everyone.

Q: How does music fit into House of Hope's education?

Music is central to how we help children heal and regulate emotions. Students sing daily, take part in music lessons, and perform in our One Love Student Choir. We've even partnered with Berklee College of Music to create Palestine Beats, giving youth an outlet to turn trauma into creativity.

Q: Where do donations go?

Donations go to the House of Hope Peace and Justice Education Fund. They directly support

classroom teaching, family education programs, and trauma-informed teacher training. Contributions cover teacher salaries, school operations, and essential resources to sustain this work.

Q: Are donations tax-deductible?

Yes! Donations are processed through **Supporting Hope**, our U.S. nonprofit partner (Tax ID 81-2842786). You'll receive a receipt for your records, and many employers will also match your gift.

Q: Where can I donate?

You can give online through our campaign via your Raisely link

If you prefer to give by check, please make it payable to **Supporting Hope** and mail it to:

Supporting Hope P.O. Box 551 Danville, KY 40423

All gifts are tax-deductible and directly support House of Hope Vision School & Kindergarten.