



# Orientation Toolkit for FOSNA Hubs

An Introduction & Suggested Formation Timeline

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## Becoming a Hub

Subject to apartheid, dispossession, and genocide, and threatened with the erasure of their society, culture, and history, the indigenous Palestinian people of the Holy Land have never found themselves or their survival more at risk. All of this, meanwhile, is underwritten by illegitimate theologies and belief systems which serve to provide ideological cover for extremist violence and Palestinian dispossession.

Given the massive imbalance of power and settler-colonial violence inherent to the crisis, any just resolution requires a fundamental change in the actions and behaviors of both Israel and the international community, in particular the United States.

With an overabundance of misinformation, moneyed interests, and political corruption, little political will or ability exists among those with the power to help resolve the issue or alleviate Palestinian suffering. What's required, therefore, is a sea change in

international attitudes and the mobilization of morally courageous and informed collectives like your new FOSNA Hub.

**With the absence of a viable political solution, we must call on the remaining avenues for advocacy, awareness raising, and the pursuit of a just peace: YOU!**

As our colleagues, friends, and family in Palestine resiliently stand against expulsion, persecution, and erasure, your work within your local grassroots community in the form of a FOSNA hub is of the utmost importance for the pursuit of a just peace and the preservation of an indigenous Palestinian presence in Palestine. FOSNA is here to stand with and assist you in this struggle.

## Phase 1 - Planting (Beginning Your Hub)

Introduce yourself to us.

- Identify a team of at least 5 to “plant” your hub. Discuss administrative details amongst your seed group. (Need support? Here’s some [structure and encouragement](#).)
- Meet with our [National Field Organizer](#) to introduce yourselves. We’ll be looking for things like group name, region(s) included in your group, contact people, meeting details, and websites or social media you want to link us up with.
  - This is also the phase where you will identify if you are a [chapter or a regional affiliate](#).
- Early actions we suggest you take at this stage include:
  - Following [Sabeel](#) and [FOSNA](#) newsletters.
  - Joining [Kumi Now!](#) Rise Up for Justice weekly actions.
  - Attending [Sabeel Thursday Bible Study](#) as a group.
  - Praying together the weekly Sabeel [Wave of Prayer](#).
  - Sending a representative to our monthly FOSNA [Regional Leadership Gatherings](#).
  - Encouraging members of your network to join the Clergy and Seminary Action Council ([CSAC](#)).
  - Studying the [Kairos Palestine document](#) or Rev. Munther Isaac’s [Call to the Church](#) as a nascent group.

## Phase 2 - Potting (Activating Your Hub)

Plant yourself in your local community.

- Identify and develop **interfaith collaborations** and partnerships that challenge the Zionist narratives in your local community. Local or national [denominational groups](#) (traditionally known as “PINs”) can often support you in this work.

- Plan a **direct action** with your hub using ideas from FOSNA's [Direct Action Database](#).
  - Looking for a helpful guide on keeping safe while taking prophetic action for Palestine? Check out the Catalyst Project's [A Troublemakers' Guide: Principles for Racial Justice Activists In the Face of State Repression](#).
- Host a community-wide **educational event** using FOSNA's [Countering Christian Zionism](#) Toolkit, FOSNA's [Guide to Difficult Conversations about Christian Zionism](#), resources from FOSNA's Institute for the Study of Christian Zionism (ISCZ), or one of the many [Books & Articles](#) FOSNA recommends for study.
- Develop a local campaign to [contact your representatives](#) with the help of some of [our movement partners](#).
  - Notable campaigns include [No Way to Treat a Child](#), [Arms Embargo](#), and [Ceasefire Now](#).
- Launch a campaign in your town, church, school board, or other local community to be an **Apartheid Free Community**. The [Apartheid-Free Network](#) is a coalition of communities who pledge to work together to end Israeli apartheid. FOSNA is an apartheid-free signatory and supports AFC closely in making the world apartheid-free.
- "[Preach Palestine](#)" in your local community. **Use liturgies that mention Palestine** and that name undoing the occupation of Palestine as a part of our gospel call to seek the liberation of all people.
  - [Advent](#) / [Lent](#) / [General Prayers](#) / [World Communion Sunday](#) / [Hymnal Insert about the use of the word "Israel" in worship](#)

### Phase 3 - Propagating (Mobilizing Your Hub)

Grow your impact and propagate your work.

- Build solidarity through economic power. Join the [global boycott Chevron campaign](#) or build upon your Apartheid Free Community work learnings and launch a **divestment campaign** in your local community through a [municipal](#) or [City Council](#) campaign.
  - Need support with a campaign? Sign up for [AFSC's BDS office hours](#) and read up on Sabeel's Morally Responsible Investment stance: [Sabeel](#) / [Kumi Now](#).
- Fundraising is organizing! Grow your impact by **fundraising for the cause**.
  - **Support FOSNA.** The Palestinian people have been languishing for years under an oppressive and illegal apartheid regime, one that has used the Bible as justification for a racist political ideology. Help us liberate Christian theology from those who misuse it to justify oppression and dispossession by fundraising for our national network. Contact our Development Director ([johnnoble@fosna.org](mailto:johnnoble@fosna.org)) to arrange a campaign.

- **Support a local student group.** We know that students often face the harshest obstacles when organizing for Palestine. We also know that FOSNA chapters can be a huge support to students on the ground. Connect with a local student group to see what resources they need to accomplish the important work only they can do in their institutions.
- **Support Palestinians on the ground.** FOSNA has a close relationship with a Palestinian olive oil farmer in Bil'in. If your chapter would like to sell olive oil, contact our National Field Organizer ([addiedomske@fosna.org](mailto:addiedomske@fosna.org)) for commitment information on how to sell olive oil in your community.
- Host a **regional conference**. Invite Palestinian speakers to join and invite your partners to host with you. Here's a [Regional Conferences](#) checklist to get you started! Be in touch with our National Field Organizer ([addiedomske@fosna.org](mailto:addiedomske@fosna.org)) for support.
- Strengthen your network through a **Solidarity Delegation** to Palestine. If you're interested in witnessing the occupation firsthand, join a FOSNA/Sabeel delegation. We'll make sure you see the real story. You'll meet with Palestinians and Jewish Israelis engaged in nonviolent resistance, visit refugee camps, witness life under occupation, and connect with other delegates for advocacy work upon return. We have trips leaving every month.
  - [FOSNA/Sabeel Witness & Solidarity Delegations](#)
  - Other trip experiences:
    - [Unarmed Civilian Protection \(UCP\)](#)
    - Authentic Pilgrimages
      - [YMCA/YWCA Join Advocacy](#) / [Siraj](#) / [Wi'am](#) / [Tree of Life](#) / [Eyewitness Palestine](#) / [CPT](#) / [Green Olive](#) / [Pilgrims of Ibillin](#)
    - International Conferences
      - [Sabeel International Conference](#) / [Christ at the Checkpoint](#) / [Dar al-Kalima Conferences](#)
    - Field Education/Practica/Internships + [Volunteer w/ Sabeel](#)
  - More trusted travel resources:
    - [Come & See Handbook](#) / [Code of Conduct](#) / [Alternative Tourism Group](#) / [BDS Ethical Tourism](#) / [USCPR Travel Resources](#) / [PJN Travel Resources](#) / [UMKR Travel](#) / [EPF PIN](#) / [UCC PIN](#) / [MennoPIN](#) / [RCA Immersion](#) / [UUJME](#) / [DisciplesPIN](#) / [EAPPI](#) / [AFEDJ](#)

# The Work of FOSNA Hubs

## Why “Hubs”?

Our network is made up of both chapters (official wings of the FOSNA network) and regional groups who are official affiliates with FOSNA, but are their own entity. Both are vital to the work of FOSNA, and neither is better than the other as we hope to build a strong, grassroots movement of Christian voices for Palestine. We collectively call our groups “hubs” to include both our chapters and regional affiliates into one organizing umbrella. While this guide is mostly targeted toward forming a chapter, we offer it to our regional affiliates as a resource as well.

## What are FOSNA Hubs?

Chapters and Regional Affiliate Groups (collectively “[Hubs](#)”) are and have been central to the work of FOSNA since its inception. As a local base for community education, public advocacy, and direct action, our hubs across the country support, collaborate, and embody the vision of the international Sabeel movement.

It is an unfortunate truth that those of us crying out for justice in Palestine often feel like a lone voice in the wilderness, standing against an onslaught of:

- misinformation & misdirected anger
- complicit & apathetic institutions
- cynical accusations of antisemitism,
- an ongoing prevalence of destructive & bigoted ideologies, &
- an increasingly repressive environment for Palestine advocacy.

Yet, as friends of Sabeel we stand together in solidarity, secure in our calling as an unapologetic Christian Voice for Palestine. The challenges before us are great, but together we are rising up to the challenge!

- We are challenging the powers of oppression and domination that humiliate and suppress the Palestinian people;
- We are no longer leaving unchallenged destructive theologies, ideologies, and assumptions;
- We are helping Americans become aware of the realities of Israeli apartheid and the settler-colonial violence on which it is built;
- We proudly support the essential work of Sabeel in Palestine, in solidarity with all Palestinians steadfast in their demand for justice and truth.

FOSNA represents an international, grassroots movement of committed activists, advocates, academics, individuals of conscience, clergy and lay leaders, students, and a whole host of modern-day prophets speaking truth to power and striving together for liberation, justice, and peace in the Holy Land. With a passionate membership and

faithful constituency, we endeavor to maintain Christian Hope in the midst of an abysmal situation in Palestine.

In our mission to liberate religion from those who would use it to justify apartheid, dispossession, and genocide, we endeavor to engage the false theology of Christian Zionism; to challenge a lethargic church with concrete campaigns, education, and untiring advocacy; to confront a complicit administration with challenges to live up to its stated ideals; and to engage the community of activists with hope, commitment, solidarity, and coalition building.

And, none of this can be achieved without you.

## Getting to Know FOSNA and Sabeel

### Who is Sabeel?

**Sabeel is an international peace movement initiated and led by Palestinian Christians, who seek a just peace as defined by international law and existing United Nations resolutions. Sabeel strives for a spirituality based in [Liberation Theology](#), centering values of justice, peace, nonviolence, liberation, and reconciliation.**

Sabeel was founded in Jerusalem in 1989 by a collective of Palestinian Christians, both laity and clergy, women, and men, with the mission to reclaim theology from political and social misuse and advocating for liberation rooted in the teachings of Christ. Sabeel uses its platform to educate, network, and inspire local Christians through the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, fostering a commitment to liberation, justice, and peacebuilding. Sabeel envisions a society characterized by justice, equality, and nonviolence, achieved by nurturing the faith of the local indigenous church, addressing the root causes of injustice, discrimination, and violence. Supported by Friends of Sabeel, volunteers, and other stakeholders, Sabeel collaborates with a diversity of agents to foster a just, peaceful, inclusive, and equitable society in Palestine.

### Where did Sabeel come from?

The Sabeel movement grew out of a struggle to interpret scripture in light of the Palestinian experience under occupation. As local Christians studied together, they forged a Palestinian version of liberation theology, which upholds the Gospel call for freedom from political, social, and economic oppression.

The Rev. Naim Stifan Ateek, an Anglican pastor and indigenous Palestinian, worked with other Christian and Jewish theologians, clergy, and lay people to create an organization supporting this movement. In 1993 they agreed to call it Sabeel, drawing on an Arabic word, which means “the way” but can also signify a “spring” or “channel” of living water.

Sabeel today has two offices in East Jerusalem. It strives for a spirituality based on justice, peace, nonviolence, liberation, and reconciliation, and it promotes a more accurate awareness of Palestinian Christians.

## What is the Sabeel Movement?

Although Sabeel is a center and an organization, **Sabeel is inherently a movement.** This movement was born and centered in Palestine but is spread across the globe with what is known as the Friends of Sabeel. We currently have Friends of Sabeel in the USA, Canada, UK, Sweden, Netherlands, Australia, Japan, Germany, Norway, France, and many other friends who are not officially under Friends of Sabeel. Sabeel has an immense web of connections both internationally and locally which is increasingly growing.

**Mission:** To strive towards theological liberation through instilling the Christian faith in the daily lives of those who suffer under occupation, violence, injustice, and discrimination.

**Vision:** To see local Christians inspired by the life and teaching of Jesus Christ stand for the oppressed, work for justice, and engage in peace-building.

## Who is FOSNA?

**Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA) is a Christian ecumenical community in the U.S. that promotes the vision of Sabeel Jerusalem, joining Friends of Sabeel chapters around the world.** Based in the United States, FOSNA amplifies the voice/s of Palestinians by advocating in churches, communities, and public institutions for liberation, justice, and peace in Palestine and beyond.

## Our Values, Our Voice

- We advance Palestinian liberation.
- We recognize theology is a liberating force.
- We believe active engagement with the world is an integral element of faith.
- We are building a base of active support for Palestinian freedom in U.S. churches.
- We are accountable to and led by Palestinian communities in Palestine and the diaspora.
- We see the connections between struggles and center cross-movement work.

## FOSNA Supports

- The call of [Kairos Palestine](#) to end Palestinian suffering.
- An end to Israeli apartheid and the occupation of Palestine in accordance with international law and United Nations resolutions.
- Equal rights and access to resources, such as land and water, for all inhabitants of the region, based on principles of social, economic, and political justice.
- The right of return for all Palestinian refugees in accordance with [U.N. Resolution 194](#).
- An end to U.S. policies that support and perpetuate the occupation.
- Active engagement in the campaign for boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) against the Israeli Government and its apartheid regime.

## FOSNA Opposes

- Distortions of the Bible and theologies that lead to violence and prejudice
- All forms of bigotry, including racism, sexism, anti-Arab bigotry, anti-Semitism, and anti-Muslim (Islamophobic) bigotry, and [anti-Palestinian racism](#).

## Current FOSNA Hubs

***Note: this list is currently being updated to a [map form on our website](#). While we have 40 hubs total, we are in a survey process at the moment and will only be listing those with whom we have completed our re-connect survey. This list will be complete by early 2026.***

### The Northeast

- Rochester Witness for Palestine
- New Jersey FOSNA
- Philadelphia Christian-Jewish Allies for a Just Peace in Palestine/Israel
- Philadelphia Prayers for Peace Alliance
- Pittsburgh FOSNA
- New England FOSNA

### The South/Southeast

- Christians for Ceasefire and Just Peace (DC)
- Virginia Coalition for Human Rights



- Voices for Justice in Palestine NC
- Brevard FOSNA, NC
- Joining Hands for Justice (Atlanta, GA)
- FOSNA New Orleans
- Partners for Palestine (Florida)
- South Florida Friends of Sabeel

### **The Midwest**

- FOSNA Michigan (FOSNA-MI)
- Indiana Center for Middle East Peace
- Iowans for Palestine
- Iowa Christians for Palestine
- Citizens for Justice in the Middle East Kansas
- Chicago Area Friends – Chicago Faith Coalition on Middle East Policy
- Kairos West Michigan
- Northfielders for Justice in Palestine/Israel (MN)
- Nebraskans for Peace Palestinian Rights Task Force

### **The Southwest**

- Utahns for a Just Peace in Holy Land
- Arizona Church Advocates for the Middle East
- FOSCO (Friends of Sabeel Colorado)
- New Mexico Friends of Sabeel
- Dallas/Ft. Worth Friends of Sabeel
- Oklahoma

### **The PNW**

- Friends of Sabeel Northwest
- Kairos Puget Sound Coalition (WA)
- The Bishop's Committee for Justice and Peace in the Holy Land (WA)

### **California + Pacific Island/Territories**

- NorCal Sabeel
- Claremont FOSNA
- Silicon Valley FOSNA

- Friends of Sabeel Los Angeles
- Sacramento Friends of Sabeel
- Sacramento Regional Coalition for Palestinian Rights
- Hawaii Friends of Sabeel