

# Buddhist Peace Fellowship

## Talks & Trainings

Buddhist Peace Fellowship combines Buddhist wisdom and social justice for collective liberation. To truly alleviate suffering, it is not enough to cultivate inner transformation on a personal level. We are also called to actively participate in social movements that address oppression on a social scale. Together in community, through talks and trainings, we joyfully and lovingly develop our contributions toward racial, gender, economic, and environmental justice, while watering seeds of awakening within our own hearts and minds.

## TRAININGS

### COMPASSIONATE CONFRONTATION

#### **Dharma + Direct Action training**

2 days, \$3,000

Designed for groups that are ready to build nonviolent activist theory and technique while deepening relationship with each other, our weekend 2-day training builds concrete skills in political messaging, action planning, blockades, and de-escalation — all within a framework of practice in Buddhism and social movements. Activities can be tailored to fit your group's needs.

Funding supports preparation, travel and lodging for 2 BPF trainers. We ask a 10%, non-refundable deposit to begin planning for the training, and will share our recommended system of sliding scale registration fees.

#### **Dharma Talk**

1 hour, Dana-based when combined with 2-day

If you find yourself wanting a bit of a combo — digging into the 2-day training with a committed group, while also bringing new people into the conversation — some sanghas have found it helpful to schedule us for a dharma talk while we're in town for the 2-day training.

**(For topics, see TALKS menu)**

#### **Intro to Compassionate Confrontation**

3 hours, \$750

Good for groups that want to begin exploring possibilities for activism from a Buddhist perspective, our 3-hour evening training allows folks to explore the intersection of Buddhism with social and environmental justice movements. This tends to be great if you are hoping to bring a lot of new people into conversation, or as a stepping stone toward the skill building of a 2-day training.

Funding supports transportation and time for at least 1 BPF trainer.



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# TALKS

## BUDDHISM + SOCIAL JUSTICE

Our talks offer nourishment, historical analysis, and stretch toward engagement in spiritual community and academic settings. Topics include:

### **Refuge and Resistance**

*In a world of turmoil, how do we take refuge in contemplative practice while also resisting systemic oppression? Can Buddhist wisdom actually equip us to better engage with the wider, deeper social issues that give rise to collective suffering and a need for healing?*

### **Compassionate Confrontation for Transformative Social Justice**

*Practicing compassion doesn't mean being a pushover, or staying silent in the face of injustice. What happens when we combine Buddhist contemplative practices with activism and nonviolent tactics like blockades, sit-ins, and shut-downs?*

### **Eco-Dharma in an Age of Unrest**

*Climate change is causing a lot of concern, but also inspiring some amazing activism — including from Buddhists and other spiritual social justice organizers. What are some Buddhist, contemplative, and critical political superpowers we can use to defend the planet and its precious beings?*

### **The System Stinks: Buddhist Perspectives on Systemic Oppression and Liberation**

*What happens when we apply a Buddhist ethical lens to racism, sexism, ableism, war, sexual oppression, and economic exploitation? Based on our popular Buddhist social justice curricula, we explore Buddhist teachings on the Five Ethical Precepts and the Four Noble Truths using a social justice analysis, toward liberation for all beings.*

### **Block, Build, & Be: Key Strategies for a Life-Sustaining World**

*Blocking harm as it happens. Building new modes of organization. Being the kind of creature that fosters life. Explore how Buddhist practice supports us in all three of these core strategies laid out by Buddhist eco-philosopher Joanna Macy.*