



AFSC Midwest Digest – July 2025

Stories of work from around the region



Visioning event inspires people inside, outside of prison

In May, the AFSC Michigan Criminal Justice Program hosted a Vision Board event in collaboration with women inside the Huron Valley Correctional Facility. Those who attended took part in making their own vision boards, as well as collaborating on the over 170 individual vision boards meant for each woman registered for the partner event inside prison.

Our partners inside prison celebrated their Visions at the end of May and early June in various ways throughout the prison. This included receiving an individual vision board made for them by those who attended the event and AFSC staff, as well as a vision board booklet for inspirational messages and images to help them realize their visions. This event was an incredible success and generated immense positivity for these women. Read [more](#).



A billboard currently up in Chicago

Youth workshop in Chicago aims to divest in policing, invest in communities

On July 7, AFSC Chi Peace and partners are hosting a [youth budget roundtable](#) to help youth practice how to talk about Public Health and Safety demands, why we need them, and creative tactics to get the city to listen to young people. Youth are part of a campaign to reallocate \$300 million in “ghost cops” and overtime abuse into community resources that actually keep people save. Follow on [Instagram](#).



At the [“No Kings” rally in Winona, MN](#) on June 14

Minnesota news

From the [Twin Cities Friends Meeting](#) (TCFM) newsletter for June 2025: “After 13 years in the metro area, AFSC’s Twin Cities Healing Justice program will be laid down on July 31. The decision was reached after numerous discussions with local and organizational stakeholders, who ultimately agreed that this was the best course of action. TCFM has been a longtime supporter of AFSC and the program.” Sharon Goens-Bradley, Regional Director of the Midwest Region, shared information about the closure and answered questions at TCFM’s June 14 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. AFSC thanks staffers Prescott Jones and Maddy Foss for their service and wishes them all the best in their future endeavors.



Quakers march for Pride in Des Moines.

Iowa updates

In June, members of the Des Moines Valley Friends Meeting and AFSC staff joined thousands of others in [marching for Pride](#) through downtown Des Moines. Friends hosted a literature table and engaged community members in conversations....Here's the latest [resistance update](#) from AFSC alums with Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice.... Save the Children Advocacy Network is hosting an [advocacy summit](#) in Des Moines on July 26.

Short takes

AFSC alum Rabbi Brant Rosen shares this [panel discussion](#) on religion and ethics in a time of war....The "big bill" currently back in the US House is filled with hundreds of billions in waste, [writes](#) Brett Heinz of AFSC....[Tell Congress](#) to stop jailing families and separating loved ones....AFSC's migration justice yard signs are now available – [order yours today](#).

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AFSC Mission Statement: *Guided by the Quaker belief in the divine light of each person, AFSC works with people of all faiths and backgrounds to challenge unjust systems and promote lasting peace.*