



Dear Community Partner:

As many of you know, the University of Louisville began a Peace Studies program in 2011, and an undergraduate certificate was approved in 2012. Twenty-five students have completed the program already! Students in *any* department, college, or major who are interested in these intertwined issues that so deeply affect our future and that of our neighbors, children, and grandchildren can now obtain an undergraduate certificate in Peace, Justice, & Conflict Transformation.

We invite you to join us on Sept. 11, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to help U of L students become acquainted with the work of your organization. We will make tables available outside the Red Barn for community partners who wish to seize this opportunity to tell our students how their organizations are dedicated to peace, justice, and a better future for all. You are welcome to distribute literature, share displays, explain your work, and solicit volunteers. We want students to know about the extraordinary resources and dedication that exist off campus within organizations like yours. We want them to be engaged in our community.

We also want students to enhance their education and to develop their sense of responsibility as citizens. As a colleague, Barbara Burns, once said so eloquently:

Imagine that U of L is a university in which all students know about social change, peace, sustainability, conflict mediation, Anne Braden, and Muhammad Ali and that they see from the start of their education how they can embrace community engagement by combining learning with action.

Colleague Jim Johnson, of Fellowship of Reconciliation and Aim Higher, and Peace Studies intern Cornelius Sanford are helping to organize our community partners for this day. They will follow up this email with a phone call to answer your questions and confirm, we hope, your participation.

Thank you for considering this opportunity. I hope you believe, like me, that working together makes all of us stronger.

Sincerely,
Russell Vandembroucke
Director, Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation program