

July 2011

Dear Friend of the LI Alliance,

In October, we will mark ten years of war in Afghanistan – a war that has claimed thousands of lives – a war that is costing \$12 Billion a month. The announced withdrawal of US soldiers ignores the fact that 20,000 or more soldiers will remain for many years to come.

As part of our ongoing efforts to stop the war, the Long Island Alliance together with our peace partners in Nassau and Suffolk, is planning a week of action, beginning with an **October 3<sup>rd</sup> program with journalist and activist Chris Hedges at Hofstra University, and concluding with actions at congressional offices and leafleting at supermarkets and railroad stations on October 7<sup>th</sup>.**

Because of our commitment to bridge generations of peace activists on LI, the Alliance has hired **a new staff person, David Rada, as a student and youth organizer to coordinate joint actions on college campuses** on October 6. David is a recent Hofstra graduate and will reach out to young people using facebook and social media.

Over so many years, **your sustained support has been very important to the Alliance's work** to end war and to reorder our national priorities. **We ask you to contribute now as your donation will be matched by an anonymous donor.** Please give as much as you can at this time so that together we can continue our work to cut the military budget and move those dollars to create jobs, rebuild our infrastructure and invest in our children.

We are pleased to report that after 25 years the LI Alliance is going virtual. For the last two years, we have relied less and less on having a physical office with so much work being done now through the internet and social media. The Alliance will continue our educational programs at Hofstra University and at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock (UUCSR). We are grateful for their support and hospitality. This transition will reduce costs, increase our use of social media and make more effective use of our staff and resources. We will continue to maintain our website ([www.longislandpeace.org](http://www.longislandpeace.org)) and to send mailings and email alerts to our members. We will use at Hofstra and UUCSR as venues for STOPWAR meetings and other programs. Margaret Melkonian will continue to serve pro bono as Executive Director.

This fall, the Hofstra lecture series will present several prominent speakers, including:

- Economist **Max Wolff** at 11:15 a.m. on September 14 at 11:15 a.m.
  - Professor **Richard Falk** on *International Law and 21<sup>st</sup> Century War* with commentary by Howard Dean and Ed Rollings at 12:40 p.m. on September 22.
  - Author **Chris Hedges** on *Nonviolence and Civil Disobedience* at 6 pm on October 3.
  - Wall Street Journalist, **Anand Gopal** on *Afghanistan – America's Longest War* at 11: 15 a.m. on October 6.
- All programs take place at the Leo A. Guthart Theater in the Axinn Library.

We also invite you to join the LI Alliance, Great neck SANE/Peace Action and other LI peace groups at the **66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Wednesday, August 3 at UUCSR at 7pm.** The keynote speaker is award-winning journalist, **Amy Goodman, *Democracy Now*.**

With your support, and with the collaboration of our peace partners, the Alliance has sustained an important and visible peace presence on Long Island. Together our work over the last year has included the LI Move the Money Campaign to cut military spending, visits and stopbys at congressional offices to end the Afghan War and accelerate the pace of withdrawal, petition campaigns to end the war and leafleting at public places. The Alliance is most pleased with the participation of young people in these efforts and plans to build on those efforts in a vigorous outreach project this fall.

**Thank you for your support.** As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "We go farther faster when we go together." Never has your involvement been more important to our work to change the direction of America's foreign policy and to end war.

Sincerely,

Andrea Libresco, President

Margaret Melkonian, Executive Director

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**IT TIME TO END WAR AND TO CREATE JOBS**

**Your contribution is tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to LI Alliance and send to:  
LI Alliance, P.O. Box 301, Garden City, NY 11530. Tel. 516-741-4360**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ \$200    \_\_\_\_\_ \$500    \_\_\_\_\_ \$75    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Other

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Tel:**

**Email:\***

**\*We do not share email contact information. More and more we communicate by email and on our website.**

**Comments, Suggestions, Issues of Most Concern to you:**

*The Long Island Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives is a non-profit educational, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, founded in 1985, to provide information and to encourage dialogue about U.S. peace and national security issues and America's role in the world. Our work focuses on promoting citizen education, responsibility and action for determining national priorities and policies about peace, war and nuclear disarmament. [www.longislandpeace.org](http://www.longislandpeace.org)*