



AFSC and its work in Zimbabwe

Promoting peaceful coexistence
and social cohesion

AFSC's strategic focus in Zimbabwe

Our fundamental goal is to build sustainable and peaceful communities in Zimbabwe.

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VALUES

Our work is premised on the Quaker belief that there is that of God in every person, leading us to respect the dignity and worth of all people.

OBJECTIVES

AFSC helps to foster peace, community cohesion, and resilience. In partnership with local organisations and the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, we work in communities in Harare, Bulawayo, Marondera, Goromonzi, and Binga.

Over the past 10 years, we have helped transform communities and structures by:

- Helping youth and women develop life skills and sustainable livelihoods.
- Supporting communities in advocacy efforts with their local authorities.
- Promoting post-conflict healing and reconciliation.

Our work has evolved to include research and dialogue on conflict-sensitive business approaches; enhancing the capacity of civil society groups and faith-based organisations to engage in conflict analysis and mediation; and improving the economic and social development of peri-urban communities through infrastructure development.

What is our impact?

AFSC contributes to healthier communities and improving social cohesion in politically volatile places.

More than 4,000 people have taken part in nonviolent conflict resolution trainings as a result of AFSC's train-the-trainer programs. Our work with partners has developed a critical mass of peacebuilders who spearhead conflict resolution and mediation efforts within their communities. The results of these efforts can be seen in the strong sense of community cohesion achieved in Hatcliffe Extension, Hopley Farm, and Enyandeni villages.

AFSC convenes stakeholders who wouldn't ordinarily meet to engage in peaceful dialogue.

Efforts to promote peace are more effective when stakeholders have spaces to share experiences. Through AFSC's Dialogue and Exchange Program, we coordinate several regional gatherings, bringing together academics, politicians, media practitioners, researchers, civil society organisations, churches, traditional leaders, youth, women, and many others. They have discussed topics such as trauma healing, foreign investment, and restorative justice. These convenings have led to policy briefs, press statements, and the creation of transnational networks, with one effort developing into a national campaign.

AFSC trains women and youth to advocate and influence local policy.

With support from AFSC, community members have successfully advocated for significant changes to enhance their social and economic well-being. In Hatcliffe and Hopley Farm, their efforts led local authorities to allocate land for small and medium business development. That allowed for the construction of two community workspaces in Hatcliffe and Hopley, which have helped more than 1,300 community members take part in vocational training programs, gain access to markets, and increase their income – all while fostering peaceful relationships and working for the good of the entire community.



“This facility is a centre of community life. Within these walls, unity can be created, solutions found, and conversations held that will change many lives. Community meetings can be held regardless of the weather, unlike the past when important meetings had to be canceled on account of weather conditions.”

– AFSC participant on the construction of the factory shell