



RIPPLES OF HOPE

CASE STUDY: NORTH AMERICA (USA and CANADA)

In many communities, a growing climate of intolerance and fear drives neighbors away from each other. But, working in over 75 communities across North America, URI Cooperation Circles are bringing together people from across traditions to create social change. URI helps them meet these and other challenges by supporting and empowering communities of peace, justice and healing, and helping to build a greater collective impact.



URI staff, volunteers and members conduct workshops on intergenerational peacebuilding to support grassroots activists and increase their local impact.

URI helps facilitate conversations and host capacity-building trainings to support people of different traditions, cultures and ages work side by side for the benefit their communities.



When Chief Arvol Looking Horse called for interfaith leaders to come to Standing Rock, URI produced a video to accompany his invitation and shared it as part of our #TangibleHope campaign. The video reached hundreds of thousands through social media and the URI global network. As a result, URI was able to deliver 1,000 prayers from people in 56 countries to the water protectors.

URI amplifies our Cooperation Circles' voices, allowing them to reach an international audience through our traditional, online and social media channels.

URI funds regional offices, providing staff to support Cooperation Circles at the local level.



Sari Heidenreich (center), Regional Coordinator for URI in North America, visits one of the roughly 75 Cooperation Circles in the US and Canada to deliver URI materials and support the connection of local programs to the global community.

URI hosts regional events and assemblies where groups working toward shared goals can help each other and combine efforts.



In 2017, URI will host two zonal gatherings - one in Florida and one in British Columbia - to create networking and sharing opportunities for URI peacebuilders working in common geographic areas. In 2018, we will host a Regional Assembly in Washington, DC for all URI members from the US and Canada.