Empowering Hope in the Darkness—Patricia Mathes Cane, PhD, Capacitar Founder/Director

At our recent training in Northern Wales a friend shared the following quote from Rebecca Solnit’s book *Hope in the Dark*: “Hope is not a lottery ticket you can sit on the sofa and clutch, feeling lucky. It is an axe you break down doors with in an emergency. Hope should shove you out the door, because it will take everything you have to steer the future away from endless war, from the annihilation of the earth’s treasures and the grinding down of the poor and marginal. To hope is to give yourself to the future—and that commitment to the future is what makes the present inhabitable.”

In Capacitar’s collaborations with groups around the world, we find so much hope in the darkness of our current global reality. During recent trainings in The Philippines, South Korea, Argentina, Haiti, Afghanistan, Japan, the Middle East, the US/Mexico border and other areas, we worked with grassroots groups whose vision and mission inspire us with hope. With few resources, and often facing challenges of war, violence, poverty and disasters, many people are committed to do what they can to take action, empower each other and bring healing and hope to their families and communities. In so many places where corrupt and blind leaders appear to be in control, the power of grassroots people is emerging. In the words of Margaret Meade: “We are continually faced with great opportunities which are brilliantly disguised as unsolvable problems.” “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

**Haiti:** Capacitar Haiti men and women doing Salute to the Sun on the beach near Les Cayes where last year’s hurricane devastated the area.

**Argentina:** Training collaboration at Los Cerezos, Neuquén, with Pat Cane

**South Korea:** Training with the Center for Nonviolent Communication

**The Philippines:** Lucena training participants with Joan Condon
During 2017, Capacitar offered trainings to over 3,000 people in 25 countries in the USA, Canada, Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Haiti, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, Israel, Palestine, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Japan, The Philippines, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, DR Congo, Uganda and South Sudan. Welcome to the Capacitar global network!

**Afghanistan:** Capacitar collaboration with Afghan Peace Volunteers and Borderfree Community in Kabul

**Palestine:** Beit Jala training

**Japan:** Capacitar Japan team, advisors and translators at the Tokyo training

**Israel:** Capacitar Middle East training

**England:** Capacitar training at St. Antony Priory in Durham

**Scotland:** Capacitar Scotland Network gathering at The Bield in Perth
Guatemala: Acupressure for health promoters

Guatemala: Training at the Barbara Ford Peace Center for Mayans working to heal gender violence in Quiché

Lebanon: Workshop at a migrant center in Beirut

Mexico: Training for community leaders and human rights workers in Ciudad Juárez

California: Training at La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara

Texas: El Paso training for those working in detention centers, with refugees and at the border

Panama: Advanced training for Capacitar Panama network

Texas: San Antonio training for participants working with refugees and community groups
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CAPACITAR Calendar—2018

2018

• Jan 9-12 Guatemala Trainings, Centro de Paz Hma Barbara Ford, Quiché
• Jan 19-20 Oakland Tr 1, Atherton, California
• Feb 3-4 Edinburgh Tr 3, Edinburgh Univ. Chaplaincy • Feb 5 Scotland Advanced, The Bield, Perth
• Feb 8 Training for Refugee Accompaniment, Glencre, Ireland
• Feb 10-11 Advanced Training 1, Dublin, Ireland
• Feb 14-22 Workshops & Counseling, Afghan Peace Volunteers, Kabul, Afghanistan
• Mar 5-11 Tr 1, La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara, California
• Mar 14-15 Tr 1, Beirut, Lebanon
• Mar 17 AUW Presentation • Mar Capacitar Trainings in The Philippines
• Mar 23-25 Advanced Training Tucson, Arizona
• Apr 5-8 Japan Trainings, Tokyo, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Okinawa
• Apr 22-27 Panama Trainings
• Apr 23-27 Guatemala Trainings, Centro de Paz Hma Barbara Ford, Quiché
• May 12-13 Edinburgh Tr 4, Edinburgh University Chaplaincy, Scotland
• May 12-13 Durham Tr 1, St. Antony Priory, Durham, England
• May 15-16 Noddda Training, Penmanmawr, Northern Wales
• May 18-19 Oakland Tr 2, Atherton, California
• May 19-20 Capacitar Scotland 10th Anniversary Celebration, Perth, Scotland
• May 25-26 Capacitar Mideast Network, Kudarim, Upper Galilee, Israel
• May 29 Training for Counselors & Teachers, Jenin • May 30 Ramallah Training, Palestine
• Jun 1-2 Beit Jala Tr 1, Bethlehem, Palestine
• Jun 9-10 Advanced Training 2, Dublin, Ireland
• Jun 16 Durham Advanced Training, St. Antony Priory, Durham, England
• Jun 23-24 Tr 1, Tr 2, Toronto, Canada
• Jun 30 Capacitar Juarez 10th Anniversary Celebration, Juarez, Mexico
• Jul 1, Capacitar en la Frontera 10th Anniversary Celebration, El Paso, Texas
• Jul 6-12 Tr 2, La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara, CA
• Jul 14-15 Aachen Tr 1, Aachen, Germany
• Aug 5-8 Capacitar International 30th Anniversary Celebration, LCDM Santa Barbara, CA
• Aug 20-24 Guatemala Trainings, Centro de Paz Hma Barbara Ford, Quiché
• Sep 1-2 Aachen Tr 2, Aachen, Germany
• Sep 7-9 Tr 3, La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara, CA
• Sep 15-16 Toronto Tr 2, Toronto, Canada
• Sep 21-22 Oakland Tr 3, Atherton, California
• Sep 27-Oct 14 Japan Trainings in Tokyo, Yamanashi, Sendai, Ishinomaki, Okinawa
• Oct 18-25 Workshops & Counseling, Afghan Peace Volunteers, Kabul, Afghanistan
• Oct 29-30 Tr 2, Beirut, Lebanon
• Nov 3-4 Durham Tr 2, Durham, Northern England
• Nov 5-6 Guatemala Trainings, Centro de Paz Hma Barbara Ford, Quiché
• Nov 16-17 Oakland Tr 4, Atherton, California
• Nov 16-17 Capacitar Mideast Network, Kudarim, Upper Galilee, Israel
• Nov 20 Training for Counselors & Teachers, Jenin • Nov 21 Ramallah Training, Palestine
• Nov 23-24 Beit Jala Tr 2, Bethlehem, Palestine
• Dec 1-2 Ireland Tr 1, Dublin, Ireland
• Dec 7-9 Tr 4, La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara, CA

2019 Trainings


2018: May 12-13 Nov 3-4 2019: Mar 9-10 Jun 22-23


2018: May 18-19, 2016, The Bield, Perth

2018: May 19-20, 2018, The Bield, Perth

2018: Jun 30 El Paso July 1

2018: Aug 6-8, 2018, La Casa de Maria, S Barbara, CA

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Rhea Emmer, CSA • Joan Condon • Pat Cane • Janette Garret • Heidi Perkins • Lisa Peppers • Brenda Scott • Chris K

Gifts Made In Memory of
Martha & Andrew Rebmann • Tom Condon • Sr. Benedica Underwood

CEUs 2018 Training: Mar 9-11 July 6-8 Sep 7-9 Dec 7-9

San Francisco Bay Area. Atherton, CA. Oakland. Sr. Patty Creedon pcreedon@rcscj.org
2018 Training: Jan 19-20 May 16-19 Sep 21-22 Nov 16-17

Toronto, Canada. Emmanuel College, Kimberley Penner. kim.penner@mail.utoronto.ca

England. Durham St Antony Priory capacitar.durham@gmail.com
2018 Training: May 12-13 Nov 3-4 2019: Mar 9-10 Jun 22-23

2018: May 18-19, 2016, The Bield, Perth

2018: May 19-20, 2018, The Bield, Perth

2018: Jun 30 El Paso July 1

2018: Aug 6-8, 2018, La Casa de Maria, S Barbara, CA
November, 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you from Afghanistan as we finish two weeks with the Afghan Peace Volunteers in Kabul. It is an inspiration to work with the Afghan youth who are committed to peace and nonviolence in the midst of 16 years of ongoing war. These youth are the future of their country and have never known a time of peace. As Capacitar we are committed to accompany groups working in places of war, violence, poverty and disaster.

Will you help us with this healing work so needed in our world? Your support will empower Capacitar to do the following:

• New 4-module trainings in 2018-2019 in Lebanon, Germany and The Philippines
• Trainings for those working with refugees and the detained in the US, Europe and the Middle East
• Multicultural Wellness Trainings in 15 countries in the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East
• Outreach workshops for women's groups and nonviolent peace groups in the Middle East and Afghanistan
• Trauma Healing & Leadership Trainings in DR Congo, South Sudan and Haiti
• Work with Human Rights Defenders in Mexico, Central America and other world areas
• Work with refugee communities and detention centers through Capacitar en la Frontera at the US/Mexico border
• Workshops to heal gender violence in Japan, Mexico, Guatemala, Panama and other countries
• Publication and translation of the Capacitar for Children Manual in Japanese, Hebrew and Arabic
• Translation and publication of the Refugee Accompaniment Manual in Spanish, Arabic and French.

We cannot do this work of healing and transformation without you! We are deeply grateful for your generous donations and prayerful support. Together we are committed to the mission of healing ourselves and healing our world.

With peace and blessings,

Pat Cane
Capacitar International Founder/Director

Afghanistan: Capacitar training for Afghan Peace Volunteers and the Borderfree Community in Kabul