

about the iraq water project

In 1999, United States' Veterans for Peace (VFP) members created the Iraq Water Project (IWP) in response to the ongoing crisis in Iraq, which stems from the first Gulf War and the destructive sanctions imposed by the United Nations. In the beginning, the IWP focused on rebuilding the water treatment plants wrecked by war, economic sanctions, and continued bombing by the United States. In the following years, six water treatment plants were rebuilt in some of the most damaged areas of Iraq.

The primary goal of the IWP has always been to save lives. The second original goal was to educate Americans about the horrible effects a decade of sanctions had on ordinary Iraq citizens and to push for the stop of these sanctions against Iraq. The total cost of delivering a unit is about \$1,500 and an Iraqi coordinator in Amman,



about us

Michigan Peaceworks is a grassroots organization dedicated to peace, democracy, civil rights, and civil liberties. To that end, we undertake education and action on local and state levels to influence U.S. foreign and domestic policy. [From website: michiganpeaceworks.com]

Veterans For Peace, founded in 1985, is a non-governmental organization (NGO) represented at the UN. The national office is located in Saint Louis, MO but their national membership is comprised of men and women veterans of all eras and duty stations including from the Spanish Civil War (1936-39), World War II, the Korean, Vietnam, Gulf and current Iraq wars as well as other conflicts. They "draw on our personal experiences and perspectives gained as veterans to raise public awareness of the true costs and consequences of militarism and war - and to seek peaceful, effective alternatives." [From website: www.veteransforpeaces.org]

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iraq water project ann arbor





Jordan arranges the delivery and purchase of the units. This entire operation entails many risks, mainly related to transport over Iraq's dangerous roadways. However, it is of great public health importance to provide clean water to prevent to spread of water-borne and other communicable diseases. [From website: <http://www.iraqwaterproject.org/>]

Michigan Peaceworks is excited to collaborate with VFP to make this an active project in Southeast Michigan. It has been over five years since the invasion of Iraq in early 2003. In that time, the Iraqi people have had to endure a multitude of hardships. Now is the time to reach out and help replace some of the basic needs that have been taken away from the Iraqi people and their families.

water statistics

- Only 1 in 3 Iraqi children under the age of five has access to safe drinking water.
- The mortality rate for children under 5 is 41 per 1000 live births
- 2 out of 3 deaths in children under the age of 5 are due to diarrhea and acute respiratory infections.
- Iraq remains on the list of the 60 countries in the world with the highest infant, under-five and maternal mortality rates
- A steep increase in the number of cholera cases is reported from Baghdad
- There are 4,569 laboratory-confirmed cases of cholera.
- Cases of cholera in Baghdad are mainly reported from the high-risk areas in the four most disadvantaged districts in Baghdad (Sadder City, Me'dain; Baladiat and Al-Resafa).

war statistics

Taxpayers in Ann Arbor, Michigan will pay \$207.3 million for total Iraq war spending approved to date. For the same amount of money, the following could have been provided:

- 291,390 Homes with Renewable Electricity for One Year
- or**
- 155,031 Children with Health Care for One Year
- or**
- 21,321 Scholarships for University Students for One Year

want to get involved?

There are plenty of ways to help this cause:

- Volunteer with Michigan Peaceworks
- Host a house party to help fundraise for the IWP
- Donate money to the IWP by contacting Michigan Peaceworks at 734-761-5922.

