



ORGANIZING FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

As organizers building a better world with justice for all people, we know that times of great social crisis must be transformed into moments of great possibility. Inspired by generations of resilient organizers, the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR) national organizing and advocacy staff created this toolkit for local Palestinian rights organizers wrestling with the challenges of this moment.

In this toolkit, you will find resources to care for your communities, build people power using digital tools, and connect struggles from the U.S. to Palestine. We welcome your additions: contact@uscpr.org

Many individuals and organizations put together indispensable resources listed here, among them [350](#), [All Things Not Considered by Ileana Hagenah](#), [Equality Labs](#), [Irresistible \(fkw Healing Justice Podcast\)](#), [Jewish Voice for Peace \(JVP\)](#), [MASA Organizing](#), [PowerLabs](#), [War Resisters League](#), and [Win Without War](#).

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1. ORGANIZING IN OUR COMMUNITIES & COVID-19

In this time of instability, community organizers are meeting big challenges with even bigger solutions. The resources below cover organizing in this moment and connecting with other organizers, and articulate demands to defend our communities. In particular, you can boost the demands and connect them to [a vision of justice for all, from the U.S. to Palestine](#).

READ: TOP THREE RESOURCES

- ❖ [Coronavirus Resource Kit](#)
- ❖ [Actions & Mobilizations: Plan Now to Adapt to Coronavirus Safely](#)
- ❖ [Digital Resilience in the Time of Coronavirus](#) (Equality Labs)

WATCH & APPLY: DIGITAL EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ [VIDEO: Campaigning During Corona](#) (Movement School)
- ❖ [Weekly Ongoing Digital Events for Cultural Workers & Community Organizers](#) (Highlander Center)
- ❖ [Repeatedly Offered Course: Transitioning to Remote Teams & Organizing with "Physical Distance"](#) (Social Movement Technologies)
- ❖ GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
 - [Paycheck Protection Program](#) (Small Business Administration, U.S. government); application support available from [Proteus Fund](#)
 - [COVID-19 Mutual Aid Crisis Fund Grant Opportunity](#) (Social Justice Fund)
 - [Organizers & Mutual Aid Projects Across the Country](#) (Emergent Fund People's Bailouts)

CONNECT: PLATFORMS TO LINK WITH ORGANIZERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

- ❖ [FACEBOOK GROUP: People's Coronavirus Response](#)
- ❖ [SLACK: COVID-19 Response Community](#)



- ❖ [LISTSERV: For Online Facilitators](#)
- ❖ [MUTUAL AID ANYWHERE: Pod Mapping for Mutual Aid](#)
- ❖ [MUTUAL AID IN YOUR COMMUNITY: Extensive list of networks & guides](#)

BOOST: ORGANIZING DEMANDS ON COVID-19

- ❖ OVERALL
 - [Demands from Grassroots Organizers Concerning COVID-19](#)
 - [Statement on COVID-19 and Community Demands](#) (Bay Rising)
- ❖ PUBLIC HEALTH
 - [Open Letter from Public Health Experts and Scholars](#)
- ❖ WORKER JUSTICE
 - [Open Letter to Local Leaders re Worker Protections](#) (Partnership for Working Families)
- ❖ MIGRANT JUSTICE
 - [Demands for Government to Release All People in Immigration Detention](#) (Undocublack)
 - [Demand ICE Halt ALL Operations and Let Our People Go](#) (United We Dream)
 - [Impact of Key Provisions of COVID-19 Relief Bills on Immigrant Communities](#) (National Immigration Law Center)
 - [Postpone the DACA Decision During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (United We Dream)
- ❖ JUSTICE FOR CAREGIVERS
 - [AiJen Poo, NDWA: What Do Caregivers Need?](#) (*The New York Times*)
- ❖ JUSTICE FOR PRISONERS
 - [Humane Outbreak Response Platform](#) (coalition of 70+ organizations)
 - [COVID-19 Statement of Demands](#) (No New Jails DC)
 - [Examples of Policies That Can Spread Viral Pandemic in Prisons and Jails](#) (Prison Policy Initiative)
 - [Fact Sheet and Policy Demands for Jails and Prisons](#) (The Justice Collaborative)
- ❖ RACIAL JUSTICE & CHALLENGING MILITARISM
 - [Denounce Anti-Asian Racism around COVID-19](#) (National Council of Asian Pacific Americans)
 - [Preventing Xenophobia and Anti-Asian Racism](#) (National Council of Asian Pacific Americans)



- [Coronavirus/COVID-19 Resources to Stand Against Racism](#) (Asian Americans Advancing Justice)
- [Lift Sanctions on Iran](#) (The Intercept)

2. CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES: TIPS & TOOLS FOR STAYING SOCIAL DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING

With new technology and existing community-building practices, we can bridge physical distance to continue deepening the powerful community roots that allow our movements to thrive. Use this moment to invest even more deeply in community connections, care, and healing.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS

- ❖ [PODCAST: Coronavirus: Wisdom from a Social Justice Lens](#) (Irresistible fka Healing Justice)
- ❖ FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH CHRONIC ILLNESS & DISABILITY
 - [COVID-19 Prep for People Living with Chronic Illness](#) (Peoples Hub)
 - [Resources on COVID-19 and Practices Centering People with Chronic Illnesses and Disability](#) (Irresistible (fka Healing Justice) Podcast)
 - [Donate to this effort](#)
- ❖ MULTILINGUAL RESOURCES
 - [Know the Symptoms of Social Distancing Graphic in Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, Portugese, German, Turkish, Italian, Farsi, and Greek](#)
- ❖ FOR AAPI COMMUNITIES
 - [Community Care During COVID-19: A Message To and From AAPIs](#)
- ❖ FOR MUSLIM COMMUNITIES
 - [Resources for Muslim, Arab, and South Asian Organizers](#) (MASA Organizing Network)
 - [COVID, Inequality, and Social Justice: The Untold Story](#) (CAIR)
 - [Nightly Facebook Live broadcasts](#) at 8:00 PM EST
- ❖ FOR SIKH COMMUNITIES
 - [COVID-19 Response and Resources](#) (Sikh Coalition)
- ❖ FOR JEWISH COMMUNITIES
 - [Fight for the Health of Your Community: Seder Readings for Passover 5780](#) (Rabbi Brant Rosen)
- ❖ FOR UNDOCUMENTED COMMUNITIES



- [COVID-19 Recursos para Comunidades Indocumentadas / Resources for Undocumented Communities](#)
- ❖ FOR UNHOUSED PEOPLE
 - [Recommendations to Support the Health of People Experiencing Homelessness During the Coronavirus State of Emergency](#) (Street Sheet)
- ❖ FOR DRUG USERS
 - [Safer Drug Use During the COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
- ❖ FOR SURVIVORS
 - [Resources and Information for Survivors](#) (Futures Without Violence)
 - [Survivors and the Workplace](#) (Workplaces Respond)
 - [Domestic Violence Resources on the Response to the Coronavirus](#) (National Network to End Domestic Violence)
- ❖ FOR KIDS
 - [Coronavirus Comic for Kids](#) (Culture Strike)

COMMUNITY CARE & MENTAL HEALTH

- ❖ [COVID Collective Care Resource Kit](#)
- ❖ [COVID-19/At-Home Mental Health Resource List](#)
- ❖ [Care for Your Coronavirus Anxiety Tools](#)
- ❖ [Strengthening Our Spirits to Resist and Thrive in These Times](#) (Finding Steady Ground)

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Consider hosting community events over video call to keep up morale, stay connected, and build the connective people power we need! Making this connection most meaningful and sustaining usually means making new memories together, rather than just catching up or reminiscing. Suggested activities are below!

- ❖ [Community Building During the Coronavirus](#) (Indivisible)
- ❖ Make digital entertainment a group video activity
 - [Netflix Watch Parties](#)
 - [Watch or listen together with Watch 2Gether](#)
 - [Broadway Plays & Musicals online](#)



➤ [12 Famous Museums Offer Virtual Tours](#)

- ❖ Creating text or call check-in routines
- ❖ Writing new 20-second hand washing songs or rituals together
- ❖ Doing video dance-offs, where you send videos back and forth
- ❖ Reading plays or screenplays together via video or phone
- ❖ Organizing community poetry writing, digital rap battles, virtual concerts, and/or open mics
- ❖ Cooking or baking together over video call for a virtual potluck
- ❖ Organizing digital reading groups, skill-shares, or teach-ins
- ❖ [Seizing the opportunity of home quarantine](#) with these suggestions of individual activities

3. HOW TO BUILD PEOPLE POWER DIGITALLY DURING COVID-19

Despite being unable to meet in person, our organizing is still vital. The need for real interventions and alternatives to the status quo are clearer than ever. The following software tools, trainings on remote work and online facilitation, and suggested organizing tools will help us transition from in-person to virtual organizing. With these, you can host digital gatherings, meetings, and trainings.

**** See software options for staying connected at the end of this document.***

RESOURCES ON PALESTINIAN RIGHTS ORGANIZING DURING COVID-19

- ❖ [National SJP is hosting Virtual Israeli Apartheid Week](#) (see more on Apartheid Week [here](#))
- ❖ [Calling for Collective Responses to COVID-19](#) (Scientists of the Palestinian Youth Movement)
- ❖ [Social Justice in a Time of Social Distancing](#) (Design Studio for Social Interventions)

HOSTING DIGITAL EVENTS & TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE COLLABORATION

- ❖ [Caring Across Distance: Some Things to Consider Before Hosting Movement Gatherings](#)
- ❖ [Zoom: Best Practices for Hosting a Digital Event](#)
- ❖ [Facilitating Online Meetings & Trainings](#) (tips from grassroots activists)
- ❖ [How to Change a Physical Event to a Virtual Conference](#)
- ❖ Trainings to improve your remote organizing skills:
 - [Training for Change's Free Trainings in Online Facilitation](#) (in March, register soon!)
 - [Trainings on Online Meetings and Effective Collaboration](#) (350.org)
 - [Trainings from Organization United for Respect](#) (a series of trainings on online facilitation—including working from home with kids)

VIRTUAL ORGANIZING TACTICS

- ❖ [Mapping Our Social Change Roles in Times of Crisis](#)



- ❖ [Good overall resource on organizing tactics](#)
- ❖ [Peer-to-peer texting](#)
- ❖ [Virtual phone banks](#)
- ❖ Write-ins to newspapers
- ❖ Call-ins to radio shows
- ❖ Social media actions: Posting photos, using hashtags, and tagging people
- ❖ Relational organizing: Create phone trees or nodes
- ❖ Skills shares around organizing or mutual aid
- ❖ Online town halls
- ❖ Zoom call actions: People log on and check in with each other, do an action (e.g. call five people you know) and then come back to report and brainstorm
- ❖ [Digital Lobby Day](#) with big virtual asks: Song videos, visual petitions, video with shared background

INSPIRATION: DIGITAL POLITICAL EDUCATION & ORGANIZING FROM THE PAST

- ❖ [Digital SNCC Gateway Project](#)
- ❖ [Because We've Read Digital Bookclub](#)
- ❖ [Southern Movement Virtual Organizing Intensive](#)

4. POLITICAL ANALYSIS & IDEAS FOR OUR ORGANIZING: INVEST-DIVEST, HEALTH CARE, PALESTINE & U.S. MILITARY FUNDING TO ISRAEL

The current crisis has sharply revealed the contours of the harm people are working to mitigate and prevent daily. As we formulate our organizing responses to a global pandemic, we have the chance to translate this crisis into divesting from militarism and investing in community needs—so we can build a more just world for all, from the U.S. to Palestine.

DIVESTING FROM MILITARISM & INVESTING IN COMMUNITY NEEDS

- ❖ [Where Your Tax Money Really Goes](#) (War Resisters League)
- ❖ [Map of U.S. Military Funding to Israel](#): Find your state/county/city's contribution (USCPR)
- ❖ [Farhad Manjoo: Everyone's A Socialist in a Pandemic](#) (*The New York Times*)
- ❖ [National COVID-19 Messaging Document](#) (Race Class Narrative)

FIGHTING ABLEISM & RACISM: LEARNING FROM DISABLED & BIPOC COMMUNITIES

- ❖ [Resources on COVID-19 and Practices Centering People with Chronic Illnesses and Disability](#) (Irresistible (formerly Healing Justice) Podcast)
- ❖ [Maddy Ruvolo: Quarantine, Living with Chronic Illness, & Ableism](#) ([sign up for newsletter](#))
- ❖ [Alice Wong: Coronavirus and the Disability Community](#)
- ❖ [Walela Nehanda: I'm Immune Compromised & High Risk COVID-19, Mutual Aid is What's Saving My Life](#) (Medium)
- ❖ [Ten Equity Implications of the COVID Outbreak in the U.S.](#) (NAACP)
- ❖ [Ensuring Racial Equity When Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (Center for the Study of Racism, Social Justice & Health)
- ❖ [Sean Illing and Natalia Molina: Why Pandemics Activate Xenophobia](#) (Vox)



RESOURCES ON COVID-19 IMPACTS IN PALESTINE

- ❖ [Fact Sheet: Coronavirus Under Israeli Apartheid](#) (BDS National Committee)
- ❖ ["If We Can Overcome Coronavirus, We Can Overcome the Occupation"](#) (+972 Magazine)
- ❖ [Coronavirus Outbreak in the Time of Apartheid](#) (*Al Jazeera*)
- ❖ [Coronavirus: Palestinian Inmates Fear for Their Lives in Filthy and Crowded Israeli Jails](#) (*Middle East Eye*)
- ❖ [Updates on the Coronavirus Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory](#) (World Health Organization)
- ❖ [Palestinian Workers Face Difficult Choice Between Livelihood and Isolation](#) (*Middle East Eye*)
- ❖ [No, Life During the Coronavirus Isn't Like Gaza](#) (Nada Elia, *Mondoweiss*)
 - [Steven Salaita on Comparisons to Palestine](#)
- ❖ [COVID-19 Restrictions Offer Window Into Palestinian Experience](#) (Human Rights Watch)
- ❖ [Lessons From the First Palestinian Intifada](#) (*In These Times*)



5. SOFTWARE FOR STAYING CONNECTED

| VIDEO CHAT TOOLS | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------|
| TOOL (HOW-TO GUIDE LINKED) | COST + HOW MANY PEOPLE | ACCESSIBILITY/ FEATURES | SECURE? (ENCRYPTED) | MOBILE/ DESKTOP |
| GOOGLE HANGOUTS <i>chats/video meetings</i> | Free! Up to 10 ppl on video | Must have a Gmail account to host or join a call. Can screen share. | Secured, but not encrypted | Both |
| HANGOUTS MEET <i>(business version of Google Hangouts)</i> | Requires G-Suite account. Additional features free thru July 1. Up to 250 ppl per call, livestream up to 100,000 viewers | Non-Gmail users can join. Can screen share + present a Google presentation. Has captions for accessibility. | Secured, but not encrypted | Both |
| ZOOM MEETINGS <i>video meetings/events</i> Illustrated guide to use Zoom by Naomi Weintraub | Subscription + up to 500 ppl (Zoom free accounts only work for 40 minute calls; unlimited calls cost \$15/month) | Can screen share, create polls and breakout rooms | Yes, encrypted | Both |
| SKYPE <i>video calls</i> | Free! Up to 50 ppl | Record calls + video captions | Yes | Both |
| MICROSOFT TEAMS <i>available for free because of COVID-19</i> | Free! Up to 250 ppl | Screen sharing, has a joint workspace with Office 365 | Yes, encrypted | Both |
| FREECONFERENCECALL <i>phone/video calls</i> | Free! Phone calls Up to 1,000 ppl, video up to 25 ppl | Screen sharing and breakout rooms available | Yes, encrypted | Either/or |
| CISCO WEBEX <i>additional features because of COVID</i> | Free! Up to 100 ppl in a video call | Screen sharing and call-in for audio, Q&A and polling features | Yes, encrypted. | Both |
| LOGMEIN/GOTO MEETING <i>available for free because of COVID-19</i> | Free for certain non-profits. Up to 250 people | Recording, screen sharing, conference calling | Yes, encrypted. | Both |
| FACETIME <i>video calls only on iPhone/Macs</i> | Free! Up to 32 ppl on video | Easy for non-tech savvy, Animoji, stickers, live photos | Yes | Both |



| CHAT/MESSAGING TOOLS | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>FACEBOOK MESSENGER <i>fun/informal video chats</i></p> | Free! Up to 50 ppl, 6 onscreen at a time | Can create polls. Can use filters and stickers during video chat, can send voice + video messages | No | Both |
| <p>WHATSAPP <i>chats/voice notes/video calls</i></p> | Free! Up to 4 ppl on video, Up to 256 in a group | Can send longer voice messages, can share files and photos | Yes, encrypted | Both, but desktop version does not support video calls |
| <p>GOOGLE DUO <i>simple, high-quality video calling</i></p> | Free! Up to 8 ppl on video | High quality video, can leave video messages, see live video preview of callers (if enabled), | Yes, encrypted | Both, desktop version via Chrome |
| <p>SLACK <i>messaging app that's good for keeping multiple projects in place</i></p> | Paid. Up to 15 ppl in a video call, many more can join each channel | Can link in Google Docs, create different project threads | Secured, but not encrypted | Both |
| <p>MARCO POLO <i>sending video messages</i></p> | Free! | Videos save. Filters + voice effects + text | No | Mobile |