Resistance is the new operative word in these very politically charged times. This word may have even been co-opted by those we are trying resist!

The 2017 Voices of Resistance New England War Tax Resisters Gathering will focus on supportive environments for building resistance movements and working as resisters of all kinds. We are bringing all types of resisters together to share stories, experience and lessons learned, utilizing the focal point of war tax resistance.

The core program takes place at Goodell Hall at UMass, Amherst, on Friday night (11/3/17) and Saturday (11/4/17). We will address ways activists can survive economically while resisting. We will hear from local, regional and national activists about the resistance they are waging and how they are waging it, how they keep the momentum going, keep up the strength for the longer haul, and how they are connecting with likeminded movements. We are focusing particularly on the economic survival of resisters as students and as new graduates. Workshops and table materials will address student loans and debt, work for activists, and how war tax resistance fits into the mix. Opportunities for networking with activists locally and nationally will abound.

War tax resisters have been resisting wars, which are the greatest polluters of our planet due to the U.S. military being the largest user of fossil fuels, not to mention the human and ecological destruction resulting from war. These wars also eat up our tax dollars and monopolize the federal budget so that basic needs, such as education and health, cannot be met. Moreover, in order to market war to the U.S. populace and suppress dissent, our society has become militarized. Media promotes violence and the police exact it on people without retribution.

Without money and debt, the U.S. government cannot wage these wars, provide subsidies to the fossil fuel industry or promote violence. In fact, U.S. Treasury Secretary Mnuchin recently stated that tax revenues are lagging, so the debt ceiling needs to increase. Could it be that people’s lack of support of the U.S. budget means more and more people are finding ways to resist paying into this corrupt system? In fact, our resistance likely is having an impact. We will address ways to keep up the pressure and reduce the system’s access to blood money through nonviolence.
VOICES OF RESISTANCE GATHERING SCHEDULE

**Friday, November 3rd**
- 3:30-6:30pm Arrival and Registration at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 5:30pm Dinner at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 6:15pm Registration at & people go to Goodell Hall, UMass Amherst
- 7-9pm Goodell Hall "Fulfilling Lives While Fighting for Our Lives" A panel discussion with students and community organizers about how they are supporting themselves and each other while building revolutionary movements for change.

**Saturday, November 4th**
- 7:30-8:30am Breakfast at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 8:30-9am Transition to UMass Goodell Hall
- 9-9:15am Welcome
- 9:15-9:45am Introductions
- 9:45-10am Game
- 10am-12pm Morning program in Goodell Hall. Workshops, including Student Loans, Debt & Activism
- 12pm-1:30pm Lunch at Goodell Hall (Pack your own at Pioneer Valley Cohousing, bring your own, or buy lunch there.) Panel discussion: Social Justice in the Valley panel
- 1:30-3pm Workshops – Creating Your Own Story: War Tax Resistance 101, War Tax 102, & others

**Saturday (cont.)**
- 3-4:30pm Action in the community
- 4:30-5:30pm Free time/transition back to Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 5:30-6:30pm Dinner at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 7-9pm War Tax Resisters: Sharing Our Stories at Pioneer Valley Cohousing

**Sunday, November 5th**
- 8-9am Breakfast – Annual Gathering Planning Committee convenes, regional WTR reports at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 9am-12pm NWTRCC business meeting at Pioneer Valley Cohousing
- 1-3pm Counselor training at Pioneer Valley Cohousing

**Registration Form**

Name(s) ________________________________
Mailing address __________________________
City __________________ State ___ Zip _______
Phone __________________ E-mail _________________________

Enclosed is my deposit of $ ______ payable to WRL. Cost for the entire weekend, which includes 6 meals, is $60 per adult, sliding scale. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Accommodations
Housing will be at Co-Housing or in host homes. (Check those that apply):
- ___ I need housing for:
  - ___ Fri. ___ Sat. ___ Sun.
  - ___ I can sleep on a mat on the floor.
  - ___ Please reserve a bed for me.
  - ___ I will arrange my own housing or will not need it.
  - ___ I will bring a tent and sleep outside.

Number of adults attending: ________
Number of children attending: ________

Rideshare:
- ___ I need a ride from ____________________________
  - Date ___________ Time ___________
  - I can offer a ride from ____________________________
  - Date ___________ Time ___________

Plane/train/bus arrival time & location:
______________________________
______________________________

Meals: (Check as desired. All meals are vegetarian; let us know if you need gluten-free options.)

- ___ Fri. dinner ___ Sat. breakfast ___ Sat. lunch
- ___ Sat. dinner ___ Sun. breakfast ___ Sun. lunch

Please list any special needs pertaining to mobility, diet or health that we will need to know.

______________________________
______________________________

Return this form by October 15th to:
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