

## LOCATION

The Institute is in the city of Holguín in eastern Cuba. Holguin has direct flights from many cities in Latin America and several in North America. Persons arriving by air in Havana or Santiago de Cuba can reach Holguin by coach. Some courses will be offered at the Cuba Yearly Meeting facility in nearby Gibara. Both locations provide accommodation and meals.



## ABOUT CUBA YEARLY MEETING

The Institute is under the care of Cuba Yearly Meeting of Friends. The yearly meeting (est. 1927) has nine monthly meetings, eight in Holguin and Las Tunas provinces and one in Havana. Quakers in Cuba have been welcoming visitors for many years. The yearly meeting actively participates international Quaker organizations, including Friends United Meeting and FWCC, and in the Cuban Council of

Churches and the Latin American Council of Churches. It has links with other peace networks such as the Alternatives to Violence Program.

The Institute has received assistance from the American Friends Service Committee, and welcomes opportunities to collaborate with other Quaker institutions. It expects to draw initially on instructors from outside Cuba.

## BUDGET AND SOURCES OF INCOME

Participants will be expected to pay a portion of the costs of their courses. The Institute will, however, need outside funding to cover travel expenses for non-Cuban instructors and to provide scholarships and travel support. Channels are available for tax-deductible contributions from US donors and for handling non-US bank transfers.

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*Let us try, then,  
what Love  
can do...*

*- William Penn*



**Instituto Cuáquero Cubano de Paz.**



## GOAL

The overall goal of the program is to contribute to the development of a culture of peace within Latin America, by creating a learning community of peacemakers who implement practical actions to reduce violence in their communities.

The two principal objectives of the Peace institute are to train community leaders and others in the transformation of conflict, and to help strengthen Quaker peacebuilding and service through a deeper understanding of Quaker history, theology and testimonies.

The Institute has adopted the following educational philosophy:

*Our Institute is creative and practical community based on respect and acceptance, with space for reflection to contribute to peacemaking and to the search for ways to transform conflicts in Latin America. This educational program is based on inclusive Quaker spirituality and values.*

## PROGRAMS AND COURSES

The institute will offer a variety of programs and courses to promote conflict transformation and more effective Quaker service in Latin America in the twenty-first century. Individual courses and longer programs will be offered under the dual headings of peacebuilding and Quaker studies, but we see these as complementary. There will also be opportunities for independent study, conferences, and public lectures, and newsletter will be published to share the ongoing experiences of participants. Certification by an accrediting institution may be available in the future. The Institute envisages an ongoing process of self-evaluation to ensure that the program remains relevant and effective for the needs of participants and their communities.

### Peace Building

The program is designed to develop critical skills for understanding and analyzing the causes of conflict, as well as practical tools for transforming conflicts within communities. Courses are appropriate for those already working in a professional or pastoral capacity, as well as those who desire to become active peacebuilders.

## Quaker Studies

**Intensive** and short courses in Quaker history, theology, process and practice provide Quaker training for effective service in Latin America. Some courses are directed at seminary students, offered for several weeks during the year. Others are for leaders, pastors and ministers who wish to deepen their understanding of these topics. Others who desire to learn more about individual topics may also take one or more of these courses.

## TARGET GROUPS

The direct participants of this project will be Quaker pastors, leaders and other individuals who wish to take up or expand their service and peace work in their communities and regions in Latin America. The Institute's benefits will extend further as participants engage in new work in their home communities.

Although the Institute will be grounded in Quaker values, it will be open to all, Christian and non-Christian. The program will model the Quaker testimony of equality, including women and men as equally as possible in all employment and training opportunities, and will include gender issues in the curriculum of both training streams.