

8 STEPS TO HOLD A POWERFUL VIGIL



LEARN MORE: [AFSC.ORG/CRISIS-GAZA](https://www.afsc.org/crisis-gaza)

1

MAKE A PLAN Clarify within your group your purpose and intended audience. Try and choose a highly visible location – both to the media and to your intended audience. Select a time at sunset or after dark so that any lighted signs or candles will make a visual impact. Check if permits or permissions are required for your chosen location.

2

CHOOSE YOUR VISUAL Think of your ideal visual impact. You could provide candles for people to hold or place in a shape. You could surround signs with the numbers of people killed or wounded with flowers. Make your plan with your chosen location (including where people will stand) in mind. Ask your community what supplies could be donated.

3

GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT Create a promotional graphic for social media and distribution within the community. Include the location, date, and time of the event. Tell people what they should bring.

4

PLAN A DIVERSE PROGRAM Plan a program that includes speeches, readings, prayers, poetry, and/or music. Invite speakers who can share stories about Gaza. Arrange for audio equipment if needed.

5

KEEP FOLKS SAFE Ensure the safety of participants by inviting a de-escalation team. Plan for emergency first-aid.

6

ATTRACT MEDIA ATTENTION Choose a media spokesperson responsible for getting in touch with the media, sharing a press release, and alerting media contacts on the day of the vigil. They should be comfortable conveying the message and tone of the vigil.

7

TAKE PHOTOS During the vigil, choose somebody to take and post photos to social media. If no professional media attend, share photos and a press release with media contacts after the vigil.

8

CALL FOLKS TO ACTION End your vigil with a call to action. Ask your attendees to call Congress and demand an arms embargo, attend a future event you are planning, or donate to a humanitarian relief effort.

