

2020 Annual Report Legacy Gift Committee

After four years of supporting a broad range of Friends' ministry, the Legacy Gift Committee paused the fall grant cycle of the NEYM Future Fund to discern how best to allocate the remaining \$50,000+. We continued to make grants from the NEYM Witness and Ministry Fund in spring 2020.

During this pause, we considered a number of concerns that arose during the past four years.

How should we respond to repeat applications for funding? In the fall 2020 cycle of the Future Fund, we intend to prioritize Friends and Meetings that haven't applied for a Legacy Grant.

We engaged deeply with the role of monthly meetings in providing oversight of ministry and how we can support and encourage Friends to provide both spiritual and financial care. Strengthening our Quaker oversight processes and connections has been an unanticipated benefit of the Legacy funding program.

Building on work begun last year, we considered the broader question of what it means to support ministry, including appropriate compensation for grantees. We know that many things influence what's needed to be released to engage in ministry including personal or family financial resources, geographical location, and community support. We feel more comfortable asking an applicant how they came to value their time. And we've heard some very moving answers.

We also spent time planning a workshop "A Call to Radical Faithfulness: What Do We Need to Be Released?" for the spring Living Faith gathering. *And then the pandemic hit and everything changed.*

Personal visits with applicants and their oversight committees have been a vital part of our work as funders. Our committee had already used Zoom, so the shift to virtual visits was not difficult for us but we do miss our in-person meetings both with applicants and as a committee.

As a funding program, we endeavor to listen to the movement of the Spirit through our applicants, our meetings and the Yearly Meeting, as well as our relationship to the wider world. For example, in 2018 we began a Time-Sensitive Application process to offer funding for activities that fell outside our regular deadlines. We have continued this process with \$10,000 set aside for this purpose ([Click here](#)).

Recognizing the urgent crisis of racism and COVID-19, we added a second funding round for the Witness and Ministry Fund with funds left over from the spring cycle. The deadline is August 15, 2020 ([Click here](#)).

Since fall 2015, the Committee has awarded \$517,000 from the NEYM Future Fund. We began making grants from the Witness and Ministry Fund in spring 2018 and have awarded \$71,988 to date.

Finally, after four plus years of co-clerking this committee Suzanna and Jean began planning for a transition to new leadership. It has been an honor and a gift to shepherd this program that has nurtured Friends ministry and witness in so many ways. We know that NEYM will be in good hands with the new co-clerks Sue Rockwood and Mary Link, faithful members of the Committee.

Faithfully, Suzanna Schell & Jean McCandless, co-clerks