Reports from Quaker Organizations

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2020 Report to Yearly Meetings

“Quaker lobbying is a form of ministry to the nation. By treating elected officials with integrity, FCNL seeks to open their hearts to other perspectives and... reach beyond self-interest.” – Margery Post Abbott, *A Theological Perspective on Quaker Lobbying*

Our faith and practice as Quakers calls us to work for the peaceful, just, equitable, and sustainable world we seek. Since 1943, the Friends Committee on National Legislation has carried on this witness of the Spirit through action on Capitol Hill. Here are just some of the highlights of this year’s work, made possible by your advocacy, engagement, and financial support.

Influencing Federal Policy to Advance the World We Seek

It is a challenging time to work for peace and justice in Washington, DC. We are faced with an administration that is dismantling protections for families, immigrants, our planet, and even our democracy itself and a Congress that is deeply divided. Despite these challenges, FCNL’s approach for Quaker advocacy is making a difference.

As a non-partisan organization, FCNL works with all members of Congress to claim their constitutional authority on decisions of war and peace and their authority over appropriations of the federal budget as well as on other vital issues that promote justice and peace. Find out more at [fcnl.org/impact](http://fcnl.org/impact).

• **Help for Native American Crime Victims.** Responding to FCNL’s advocacy, Congress set aside a record amount – five percent, or $132 million – from the Crime Victims Fund for tribal use. This funding, part of appropriations legislation passed in December 2019, will help improve services for victims of crime in Native American communities.

• **Research on Gun Violence Epidemic Resumes.** Reversing years of prohibitions, FCNL has advocated for funding for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on the public health impact of gun violence. in late 2019 Congress approved $25 million for the CDC and the National Institutes of Health to conduct vital research on gun violence as a public health crisis. We continue to press the Senate to take up H.R. 8, the bill passed by the House to require universal background checks, an initiative that over 90% of the American electorate supports.

William Penn House: Hospitality and Advocacy on Capitol Hill

On September 1, 2019, the FCNL Education Fund assumed responsibility for ownership and operations of the William Penn House, a Capitol Hill guest house that shares a more than 50-year history with FCNL.

Following the completion of necessary repairs to the 102-year-old building this summer, we anticipate reopening the House in the fall of 2020 for group rentals. The House offers Friends and friends a venue for education and advocacy training in a highly desirable location. We look forward to welcoming you to Washington, DC later this year!
Our Strong Community

The many Friends who work with FCNL enriches all that we do.

- FCNL’s Advocacy Teams include 1,500 people in more than 120 teams across the country who are committed to use their power as constituents to make change in Washington. Both Friends and others participate in this vital grassroots approach to advocacy. Their work this year led to successful votes to repeal war authorization legislation.

- Organizers in our youth Advocacy Corps spend nine months training, building relationships, and advocating in their communities on one of FCNL’s priority issues. This year they have focused on gun violence prevention.

- FCNL’s Young Adult Program offers four popular opportunities. Advocacy Corps Members spend nine months training, building relationships, and advocating in their communities on one of FCNL’s priority issues. This year’s priority: gun violence prevention. Young Fellows are program assistants in policy, communications and Quaker outreach who work as members of FCNL’s full-time staff for 11 months. Our Young Fellows recruit in colleges and universities for Spring Lobby Weekend, Summer Interns, and Advocacy Corps.

- Through the Friend in Washington program, seasoned Friends volunteer on a short-term basis on specific projects and contribute to the spiritual richness of FCNL. This year we welcomed DeAnne Butterfield (Intermountain Yearly Meeting), Michelle Caughey (Pacific Yearly Meeting), and Marge and Carl Abbott (North Pacific Yearly Meeting).

Annual Meeting: Discerning FCNL’s Policy Statement and By-Laws Changes

FCNL has a new Policy Statement, The World We Seek—thanks to the discernment of Friends across the country. The engagement of Friends’ meetings and churches in the creation of our policy statement and in helping set our legislative priorities is essential to FCNL.

In 2019, FCNL revised our Policy Statement, which was approved by our General Committee in November, 2019. This Policy Statement states our concerns and our vision on a range of complex issues and will guide FCNL’s position on legislation for years to come.

Thank you to the more than 120 Friends meetings, churches, and individuals who participated in discernment on FCNL’s Policy Statement. It is available at fcnl.org/updates/policystatement.

The General Committee also changed our bylaws regarding membership. The new provision states the General Committee’s service requires that those serving “must be members of the Religious Society of Friends or otherwise demonstrate a history of connection with and commitment to the Religious Society of Friends.”

This change allows broader inclusion in FCNL’s governance for those who have not established formal membership but who have a strong connection to the Religious Society of Friends.

In the year ahead, we look forward to your participation with FCNL, in your community and in Washington, D.C., as we work for a world free of war and the threat of war, a society with equity and justice for all, a community where every person’s potential may be fulfilled, and an earth restored.
To our Intermountain Yearly Meeting Friends:

Please welcome Anthony Wier, Jeff Pudlo, Larissa Gil Sanhueza, and Sergio Mata-Cisneros as they visit the 2020 Intermountain Yearly Meeting. We are excited that they will have ample opportunities to hear your concerns and leadings while sharing in worship, holding your business meeting in the Light, and leading workshops, June 18-21. They are happy to share in faith and community with you.

Anthony is the director of FCNL’s work on nuclear weapons policy and is the key team leader working on our efforts to rein in Pentagon spending. Anthony worked for ten years for Congress and the State Department on nuclear nonproliferation issues and international security policy. He will be leading an interest group on his area of expertise with Jeff, the former Program Assistant for Nuclear Disarmament and Pentagon Spending.

As the coordinator for FCNL’s Advocacy Corps, Larissa manages 20 young adult organizers around the country that lobby on one legislative issue every year. Larissa also oversees recruitment for our Spring Lobby Weekend, a four-day lobbying and educational event. She will be leading an interest group on the Advocacy Corps for IMYM SYF with Sergio, the former Program Assistant for Young Adult Programs. Now at Bread for the World working on foreign policy issues, he is visiting IMYM as a volunteer and Friend from New Mexico.

We at FCNL seek to strengthen our connection to Friends Meetings and Churches around the country and find areas where FCNL can offer opportunities for action on issues concerning Friends. We are supporting this virtual “travel” in the tradition of Friends’ intervisitation with hope to stir our spirits and open opportunities for understanding one another’s experiences of how the Spirit is working in the world toward peace and justice.

We send you greetings, hold you in our prayers, and trust that God will bless your time together in loving community.

In peace,

Ron Ferguson
Clerk, FCNL General Committee
Pastor, Winchester Friends Church (IN)
Dear Friends,

Impact reports are a look back at an organization’s successes, challenges, and stewardship. At this time, the novel coronavirus pandemic has asked us all to pause, live very consciously in the present, and carry our faith into a reimagined future.

A new landscape is being born, and we are all being called to listen deeply and to be the hands and feet of Spirit living faithfully.

Last year, FGC settled into deep listening. We asked Friends to share in person and through surveys your thoughts on the Gathering, on becoming an anti-racist faith community, on nurturing spiritual vitality. Together we envisioned a vibrant future for the Religious Society of Friends.

We still hold that vibrant future.

We are in a time of change, and what we learned in 2019 will be important in how we move forward. For example, last year FGC collaborated with 7 yearly meetings in the Welcoming Friend Project. We heard from some meetings that people are walking in the door, but not staying. We embarked to understand why and create inclusive approaches, especially focused on welcoming people of color, families, young adults, and LGBTQ+ folks.

The Welcoming Friend Project asked how do we fully embrace that of God in everyone, and shared learnings at two yearly meetings, a Gathering workshop, and an eRetreat. We plan to make the eRetreat freely accessible as a Spiritual Deepening Library topic. At a time when the world needs strong community, welcoming is Spirit working through us.

Our partnerships with yearly meetings are even more crucial with the need for increased resource sharing. That is one reason why we are thrilled to announce that Pacific Yearly Meeting (PacYM) has directly affiliated with FGC! We appreciate the faithful discernment PacYM undertook in making this decision. FGC’s services extend to their 50 local meetings with over 1200 Friends in California, Hawai‘i, Nevada, and Mexico.

We are grateful to FGC committees, staff, and volunteers who work so hard and with such joy in deepening our connections as a large spiritual community. Donors, foundations, and meetings, your generosity continues to be critical to our ministries and the Friends we serve.

We are all stewards of Quaker faith. Now more than ever, we need to listen deeply as a community. Spirit is nudging. Let us live into faithfulness together.

In the Spirit,

Barry Crossno 
General Secretary

Frank Barch 
Presiding Clerk

“We love FGC, and the organization as a whole is very important to our family. The engendered community is beautiful, diverse, thoughtful, hardworking, and one we very much want our children to know.” 
Indiana Friend
The quadrants of green dotted with hammocks and tents on the Grinnell College campus created an intimate container for the 2019 Gathering.

The 842 attendees found nourishing community supported by grounding workshops and inspiring plenaries. Folksinger and Quaker, John McCutcheon lifted voices in song. It was a transformational Gathering with Spirit energizing elders and youth.

The High School Program’s Monday Meeting for Business had a rocky start. The high school clerks and Nurturing Ministries team met the next day. They talked about each clerk’s gifts and how to be supportive to one another and be in service to Spirit and their community.

The Wednesday Meeting for Business was transformative. Many adults present said they witnessed a gathered and profound meeting—greater than adult business meetings they had attended. A program volunteer of 19 years remarked how the clerks’ growth “was nothing short of a Quaker miracle.”

In another part of the campus, 18 Adult Young Friends were transformed during their Pre-Gathering anti-racism training. Keira Wilson of Baltimore Yearly Meeting shared, “I felt like I had a room full of peer-advocates. This would be the kind of workshop I would suggest for any group or meeting, in part because it asks us to step out of our insider language and behaviors that Quaker communities build up as “practice” and asks us to question our values and behaviors.”

The Gathering holds as many stories of transformation as attendees. As one adult workshop participant wrote: “I will be a more peaceful, a better listener because of it and more understanding of others.”

Over 2000 Friends responded to FGC’s market research survey on the Gathering which examined barriers to attendance to ensure long-term vitality. 2019’s lower attendance numbers echoed the survey’s responses that cost is one of the primary barriers.

FGC is now taking a strategic approach to increase participation especially among youth, young adults and families, and is exploring ways to consistently reduce attendance costs. In 2019, one generous donor deeply invested in the Gathering, especially for families, made a contribution that allowed almost 100 youth to attend without registration fees.

The Gathering plays a significant role in creating spiritual community for youth and Adult Young Friends. As Anne Pomeroy (NYYM) shared, “Junior Gathering is a lifeline for teens. The relationships our youth develop there will be with them long into the future.”

Mary Linda McKinney opens space and enters with her own vulnerability when facilitating a Spiritual Deepening eRetreat. A spiritual director and Board member of the School of the Spirit, Mary Linda enjoys seeing “participants bring their full selves and talk from the depth of their experiences.”

“Some have never attended a Quaker meeting but have done tons of reading. They are hungry for what they are seeking,” Mary Linda observes. “Their participation is a gift to everyone in the eRetreat.”

Mary Linda was especially moved during the Aging, Death, and Dying eRetreat. “The stories were shared with such tenderness and self-reflection. In listening, I was brought to a far deeper place with the life I hold.”

FGC revamped our online Spiritual Deepening Library. With materials on six topics of Quaker interest, the Library offers curated resources to support grounding, sharing, and practicing. We added time commitments to the exercises and a children’s section. With some activities taking as little as five minutes, Library patrons found support for personal spiritual practice and small group activities. To encourage the Library’s use, FGC removed the paywall so anyone can access it for free.

Spiritual Deepening eRetreats relaunched on a new e-learning platform. FGC added tutorials and technical support. We created new eRetreats: Aging, Death, and Dying through a Quaker Lens and Weaving a Wider Welcome for meetings. With increased engagement and thoughtful sharing on discussion boards, eRetreats flourished as a resource for individuals, meetings, and newcomers looking to build meaningful connections in a digital space.

www.FGCquaker.org/SDlibrary
www.FGCquaker.org/eretreats

Special thanks to the Friends Foundation for the Aging and individual donors who have made these achievements possible.
A California Friend originally from Mexico shared her experiences with FGC and our Ministry on Racism. This is her story.

I attended the FGC Pre-Gathering for Friends of Color and their Families for the first time in 2019. I encourage people of color to attend. It was an event where I felt safe, able to share experiences, and found building relationships with others very empowering. I felt reassured. In this space, I didn’t feel alone, lost or helpless. I could share my stories and not be questioned or have to justify my experiences. I was with people who could listen without filters.

During the Gathering, I was in a group that was talking about white supremacy and how Quakers are not white supremacists. The conversation was happening as if I, as a person of color, wasn’t in the room. I could not handle the dialogue. It triggered my anxiety and PTSD. A white ally saw what was happening and intervened.

It’s important to understand that even when it’s not intentional, conversations can still cause pain and trauma. It’s very alienating and a good example of how I was submissive in a situation where I needed to be verbal and create a sense of awareness for the rest of the group. Returning to a space with other Friends of color to process empowered me.

Quakers are challenged by what is race related. We need to be in conversation on how to handle it. FGC offers opportunities for Friends of color to connect, to define what we want to do as group, and became a resource to one another.

I've been asked “how do I get more diversity in my meeting?” The question Quakers need to ask is what does it mean to have more diversity? We need to change the rules of the whole institution to become more accessible. When you are innovating the way you do things, then you become more inclusive. You end up having more diversity not because you want to change numbers but because you are inviting. FGC is providing guidance and options to help meetings in this.
FGC 2019 SNAPSHOT

QUAKER FINDER VISITS 68,000
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS 10,839
QUAKERBOOKS VISITORS 20,114

A big thank you to our volunteers who contributed $18,378 in unreimbursed expenses in FY 2019! Thank you to the yearly and monthly meetings, individual donors, and foundations who contribute to make FGC programming possible.

FGC BY THE NUMBERS

Read our audited financials and financial story from 2004 to 2019 at www.FGCquaker.org/finances

BALANCE SHEET

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GATHERING

| 681 | TOTAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS |
| 122 | FIRST TIME ATTENDEES |
| 106 | ADULT YOUNG FRIEND ATTENDEES |

MINISTRY ON RACISM

| 51 | WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE ATTENDEES |
| 10 | PRE-GATHERING RETREAT FIRST TIME ATTENDEES |
| 11 | YEARLY MEETINGS REPRESENTED AT PRE-GATHERING |

SPiritual deepening program

| 151 | E-RETREAT PARTICIPANTS |
| 2780 | NEWCOMERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN AN E-RETREAT |

Cost to use the Spiritual Deepening Library $0

2019 FUNDING SOURCES

- FGC Gathering $611,093
- Ministry on Racism & Implementation Cte $125,850
- Bookstore & Publications $120,560
- Other Ministries & Communications $139,276
- Spiritual Deepening & Religious Ed $138,473
- Administration & Governance $457,972
- Development $293,396

**TOTAL USES** $1,886,620
Quaker Press released two books available through QuakerBooks. “The Kendal Sparrow,” a historical novel about Elizabeth Fletcher, one of the young adults whose spiritual activism fired the early Quaker movement, and Brian Drayton’s updated and expanded “On Living with a Concern for Gospel Ministry; 2nd Edition.”

“She saw a key open a door in the blackness, a nameless force tearing into her. What he’d experienced was available to them all.” Excerpt from “The Kendal Sparrow” by Barbara Schell Lauteke.

QuakerBooks’ online bookstore, QuakerBooks.org, began the shift to an inventory more focused on Friends and their concerns, especially books not easily obtained elsewhere. In reducing inventory, QuakerBooks lowered overhead expenses. We made improvements in website design which made shopping and checkout easier. Finally, yearly meetings helped energize QuakerBooks sales, from hosting numerous book tables to sales from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s new “Faith and Practice.”

Christian and Interfaith Relations Committee (CIRC): As FGC’s voice within the World Council of Churches, the Parliament of World Religion, and other ecumenical bodies, CIRC brings Quaker perspective to interfaith discussions on equity and justice.

Friends Meeting House Fund (FMHF): In partnership with Everence financial services, FMHF helps Quaker meetings and churches with grants and loan options to become more accessible and sustainable.

FGC Communications: Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, in monthly and weekly e-newsletters, and your mailbox. Whether on the web or in print, FGC is always seeking fresh ways to connect with Friends and meetings in life-enhancing ways.

Quaker Cloud: Supports 141 meetings in creating a welcoming web presence for newcomers, sharing meeting events and projects with the public, and private archiving of committee minutes.

What a person loves is revealed in a bequest. In 2019, FGC was blessed by gifts made through wills with one in particular for QuakerBooks. Being entrusted with a person’s last wishes is a humbling responsibility, one FGC will carry forward in our commitment to nurturing Friends on their spiritual journeys.

LOOKING AHEAD

After considerable discernment, FGC decided that we could not safely hold the 2020 in-person Gathering in the wake of the novel coronavirus pandemic.

A Gathering working group is creating a 2020 Virtual Gathering experience that can provide spiritual sustenance to all Gathering attendees, including youth, high schoolers, young adults, FLGBTQC community, and Friends of Color. The working group is also looking at ways to include those with limited or no internet access.

With the postponement of the April Retreat for Friends of Color in the West and the 2020 Pre-Gathering, the Ministry on Racism is planning for two fall retreats and offering Friends of Color and their Families weekly virtual gatherings for worship.

While we mourn this loss of in-person fellowship, we see an opportunity to explore innovative ways of connecting Quaker community. At this time of great anxiety, the work of nurturing spiritual journeys is more important than ever.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Over 135 Friends from 16 affiliate yearly meetings and 14 directly affiliated monthly meetings make up Central Committee, FGC’s guiding body. Central Committee brings Spirit-led insight to governance decisions and strengthens connections among yearly meetings.

MAKE AN IMPACT. VOLUNTEER.

Central Committee members serve a vital role through service on FGC subcommittees. If you have a calling to make an impact, consider joining a subcommittee. Whatever your availability and interest, you can make a difference. Find out more at www.FGCquaker.org/servfriends.
THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING FGC

About our logo
Dandelions with their yellow florets transforming into a fluff of seeds represent the wishes of Friends for love and peace to spread and take root in the world.
Dear Friends,

We are so grateful for the support and community of IMYM Friends, now more than ever. Attached please find the following:

- Mountain Friends Camp newsletter describing our (wonderful!) 10th summer season in 2019, and
- February 2020 Report to Representatives Committee
- Original 2020 Budget

As many of you have heard already, our board of directors decided in late April after much heart-felt discussion and discernment, to cancel plans for all in-person camp programs this summer. Our first priority is the health and well-being of our campers and their families, our staff, our host community at Collins Lake Ranch, and the larger regional community. The risks and uncertainties of this pandemic are beyond what our camp staff and Collins Lake Ranch are equipped to prepare for and handle this summer, especially given the necessary lead time and work to prepare for camp between May-June with so many rapidly changing local and national regulations and public health conditions. In order to preserve funds, the board decided (with my participation and consent) to reduce the compensation and responsibilities for the remaining five months of our fiscal year (May-September) to 10% of the original contract for myself as Executive Director.

With the decision to cancel “camp as we know it” came a clear sense of responsibility to do what we can to further our mission and help our campers through these unprecedented challenges. In order to continue offer opportunities for our campers to connect and build community, we have already held to “zoom camp gatherings” the first was a Creativity Night, and the second a “town-hall” style meeting to discuss the changes to camp. We are now preparing to offer a “community camp at home” season in July, more details below. The pivot to virtual and mail subscription camp season has been challenging. We’ve had a good response from staff interested in participating, but as of 6/13 have only signed up a handful of campers, so please help spread the word and encourage kids (9-15) to give it a try!

In the meantime, we are continuing to work with Charlene Weir on an evaluation for IMYM, with some major delays due to all of our uncertainties around camp this year. Charlene is preparing a survey for 2017-2020 campers, parents, staff, and board members, and will conduct some short interviews with participants this summer via zoom.

We also continue to rely on and appreciate your donations, from IMYM and Quaker Meetings as well as individual donors. The remainder of this year will likely be challenging financially, with our camper fee revenue and donations since early spring dramatically down and only some of the costs of our camp and organization able to be avoided or deferred. Our aim is to extend our focus, resources, and plans to include preparing for the 2021 camp season. If at all possible, we’ll be back together at Collins Lake Ranch next year. The Board invites you to continue to hold Mountain Friends Camp in the light, as we discern our plans for the future, relying on the strength of our vibrant Quaker and wider community. We want you to know that we are in this time together, learning new ways to take good care of each other, and discovering our way forward, with gratitude, hope, and trust!

Anastacia Ebi, Mountain Friends Camp Director, on behalf of the Mountain Friends Camp Board
Mountain Friends Camp 2020: Community Camp at Home

We are glad to announce registration is open for our newly reimagined 2020 sessions, Community Camp at Home! While camp will look very different this summer, our creative staff are committed to making an engaging, fun and spirited Mountain Friends Camp experience for our campers. Although we can’t be together in person, we are still a community and we can still have camp!

You’ll receive materials and full instructions for a week of awesome camp activities via the BUDDY BOX, a subscription box filled with ‘hands-on’ projects and prompts that can be done alone, with family or friends, and/or combined with our daily (Mon-Fri) VIRTUAL CAMP SESSIONS. We encourage everyone who can to sign up for virtual sessions as well, you’ll enjoy a daily interactive zoom session with lots of games, sharing and listening, doing activities and crafts together, and of course building community and having fun with camp friends new and old! You’ll be assigned to a “pod” with your own camp counselors, just like every summer, and have other activities with the whole camp or campers choice. Every Friday we’ll have a special evening session, PJs welcome!

Three separate and engaging boxes will be available to correspond with the three weeks of virtual summer camp, campers are welcome to signup for 1, 2, or 3 sessions. Details and registration on our website, https://mountainfriendscamp.org/parents/ and I'm always happy to chat and answer questions. See you at camp!

2020 Dates:

Week 1: July 6-10
Week 2: July 13-17
Week 3: July 20-24

Weekly Schedule: Monday -Thursday 1 pm- 3 pm (Mountain Time) zoom camp activities, Friday 1-2 plus a special 6-7:30 evening campfire/creativity night.

Fees: Sliding Scale

- $50 - $100 per week, virtual + buddy box
- $25 - $50 buddy box only

Donations always welcome!

Deadline: Please sign up ASAP, and no later than June 26.

Learn more and Register: Mountainfriendscamp.org
"MFC is an amazing place, a home away from home. It is a sanctuary for all ages and genders." - Camper

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your incredible support of Mountain Friends Camp! We are so grateful for everyone who supported us by donating money or supplies, coming to camp, sending a loved one to MFC, hosting us, or holding us in the Light. You all made this summer possible, and we are lucky to have you in our corner. Special thanks to all who gave to our $10,000 for 10 Years of MFC matching challenge this summer!

This newsletter features several stories and photos from this summer at camp. You can find more pictures on Shutterfly (password: SPICES), and follow us on Facebook for news and photos year-round. Please keep in touch, and tell your friends about MFC.
“MFC is a place where you can truly be yourself. I liked the food, lake time, and small groups/group activities the best.” --Camper

A Summer of Swimming
This summer, we had a swimming program for the first time! Campers took a swim test to determine whether they could swim safely without a life jacket. During our first camp session, we had a waterfront director who helped us to establish safe swimming norms and practices. Swimming was a very popular Camper's Choice activity during both sessions. Campers enjoyed exploring the different lake temperatures, uncovering seaweed and rocks, and playing water games. During one Camper's Choice, a determined group of staff and campers swam all the way across the lake! The swimming program was an amazing addition to our camp, and we are looking forward to continuing it in the future.
“MFC is a safe haven for so many people, and for that we will be forever grateful.” --Camper

A Recipe for Equality
by Heather, John Carlo, Madysen, and Luc

150 grams of SHARING
2 cups of INCLUDING
5 pounds of UNDERSTANDING
1 really big spoonful of LOVE
a pinch of TRUTHFULNESS
"I feel more open to sharing my feelings and feel closer to nature" - Camper

Outstanding Overnight Trips

Overnight trips are a foundational and exciting part of Mountain Friends Camp. During the first session, we sent a group out for a trip to Serpent Lake. Rather than carrying backpacks all the way, the campers set up camp near the trailhead and went on a challenging day hike. Campers built their endurance and learned outdoor skills. All of us, especially campers with limited cold weather experience, were excited to reach the snow line.

During the second session, everyone had an opportunity to have a camping experience. One group traveled to the national forest, read a camper account below! The remaining campers and staff stayed behind for an overnight next to the lake. Both groups enjoyed delicious s'mores, star-gazing, and sleeping out
in nature with amazing camp friends.

A Hike to the Waterfall
By Beverley and Samuel
We packed our stuff at camp and drove to the National Forest for a sleepover. We cooked burgers and s'mores on a campfire. We slept in a big grassy place with tall trees all around. There was a shelter that someone had built out of wood. We put up our shelters and tarps on the ground. There were a lot of stars and Orion saw an owl. The next day, the rest of the camp came and we drove together on a bumpy road to the trail and then we hiked to the waterfall. Beverly saw a bobcat while she was waiting for us to catch up! The waterfall was 50 ft high, noisy, and cool. We got wet because everyone was hot. But it was really fun!
"I learned how to work together with people and to stick up for people." - Camper

Excellent Evening Programs

This summer, we had two new and unique evening program activities. During the first session, we had the opportunity to learn a little American Sign Language (ASL) and fingerspelling. Our medic, Adrian, taught us the difference between ASL and fingerspelling; while fingerspelling is a way to spell English words nonverbally, ASL is its own language and has its own grammatical rules. We started the session by trying to communicate silently, and practiced signing in pairs. Some campers were so enthused by the session that they tried to communicate through ASL and fingerspelling even after it was over.

Our second innovative evening program was a full-camp roleplay over the course of two nights. Before the first night, each participant chose a
superpower and a tragic weakness. Many campers were very creative with their characters. For instance, one camper chose to be a dog character whose superpower was the ability to disorient people and move objects through the strength of its bark. On the first night, each person chose a costume from our, and we were divided into groups. Each mission directors led their group through a different mission to aid our takedown of the evil Doctor Disaster. We coordinated with our teammates and used our strengths to solve creative puzzles. At the end of the first evening program, we learned that one of our mission directors, Director Dan, was actually Doctor Disaster and had been leading us astray! The next evening, we returned for another set of challenges. Once each group had successfully completed their puzzle, we learned that this mission had been our superhero training, and Doctor Disaster had been Director Dan all along.

**Mora Fiestas Parade**

Mora, New Mexico is the nearest town to Collins Lake Ranch, and we are always excited to find new opportunities to interact with the Mora community. This summer, we were invited to participate in the Mora Fiestas Parade. Mora Fiestas is a series of events to celebrate Mora’s cultural heritage. Our host, Steve, laid out hay bales on a trailer to create the foundations for our float. A committed group of campers and staff worked together to decorate the float with peace flags and camp-made signs. We placed colorful tablecloths and sleeping pads on the hay bales to make them comfortable to sit on. On the day of the parade, the trailer was hitched to the back of our camp van. Campers dressed up in old-fashioned American clothes from our costume bins, and staff members wore their Mountain Friends Camp t-shirts. At the parade, campers rode inside of the float, while staff members walked next to the float and passed out candy. We sang camp songs all along the way. Overall, it was a successful event and a wonderful way to connect to the Mora community. Thank you to the leaders of the Mora Fiestas Parade for inviting us!
"MFC is a safe haven for so many people, and for that we will be forever grateful." - Camper

Thank You for 10 Years of MFC!
This summer was an amazing time of growth and new experiences at Mountain Friends Camp. It would be remiss to discuss change at camp without mentioning Desmond, our camp director Ana’s baby. Desmond turned 8 months old at camp, and is the youngest kid that we have ever had at MFC. He was a popular presence at meal circles and honorary director on Backwards Day.

In addition to growing our camp family, we increased our camp’s degree of organization by hiring a full-time program director, returning staff member and former camper Adriana. Over the past ten years, we have grown from having a single week-long camp session with 10 campers to having three camper weeks and a total of 29 campers this summer, our largest group in several years. We are glad for our board and supports as MFC builds new support systems to allow our campers and staff to thrive.
I am excited to see how our camp will continue to grow over the next ten years, and to welcome the next generation of MFC campers! If you would like to help to make the upcoming years of camp possible, please consider making a donation to support us.

With gratitude,
Ana Ebi, director

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Our mailing address is:
2455 Race St, Denver, CO 80205
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Previous Fiscal Year Budget</th>
<th>Previous Fiscal Year Actual</th>
<th>Current Fiscal Year Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10/1/18 – 9/30/19</td>
<td>10/1/18 – 9/30/19</td>
<td>10/1/19 - 9/30/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>099</td>
<td>Beginning cash balance</td>
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<td>$6,186.74</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Camper fees from families</td>
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<td>$13,915.00</td>
<td>$16,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Other fees--</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Camper Assistance Fund Income (Restricted to specific campers, from Meetings &amp; individuals)</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$1,850.00</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal Earned Income &amp; Fees</strong></td>
<td>$24,700</td>
<td>$15,765.00</td>
<td>$18,500</td>
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<td>140</td>
<td>IMYM Budget support</td>
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<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td>Monthly Meetings/Regional Meetings</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
<td>$5,525.00</td>
<td>$5,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$15,500</td>
<td>$25,479.06</td>
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<td>170</td>
<td>Grant Income</td>
<td>$7,200</td>
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<td>$6,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>Camper Assistance Fund Income (Temporarily Restricted—not yet allocated to a camper)(Dave Wells marathon/Brianna Memorial)</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,234.81</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal Donations &amp; Grants</strong></td>
<td>$43,700</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Executive Director Contractor expenses and fee</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
<td>$31,800</td>
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<td>210</td>
<td>Camp Counselors &amp; Cooks Salary</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$10,062.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Gusto fees, Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>$1,700</td>
<td>$2,156.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>212</td>
<td>Other Stipends</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,590.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>215</td>
<td>Training, background checks</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,524.14</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal Staff Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$44,700</td>
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<td>220</td>
<td>Travel (and board meeting costs)</td>
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<td>230</td>
<td>Communications</td>
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<td>Fees</td>
<td>$140</td>
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<td>241</td>
<td>PayPal fees and taxes</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$122.44</td>
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<td>242</td>
<td>CampDoc/DocNetwork fees</td>
<td>$850</td>
<td>$1,315.96</td>
<td>$1,150</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal Planning &amp; Development</strong></td>
<td>$3,950</td>
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<td>250</td>
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<td>270</td>
<td>Supplies</td>
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<td>$1,262.50</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
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<td>280</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
<td>$4,131.21</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>290</td>
<td>Site Fees &amp; Expenses</td>
<td>$8,600</td>
<td>$9,000.00</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>295</td>
<td>Travel &amp; Communications at camp</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$599.97</td>
<td>$600</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal On-Site Costs</strong></td>
<td>$19,750</td>
<td>$18,754.33</td>
<td>$20,200</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$68,400</td>
<td>$68,250.20</td>
<td>$72,935</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addition to/subtraction from net assets</td>
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<td>$3,253.67</td>
<td>$4,065</td>
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<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>Cash balance</td>
<td>$6,187</td>
<td>$9,440.41</td>
<td>$13,505</td>
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</table>
Report to Intermountain Yearly Meeting

By Dick Grossman, IMYM Observer, Quaker Earthcare Witness

In 2018 IMYM recommended a 3-year exploration of affiliation with Quaker Earthcare Witness in IMYM Minute 20180615(a). It was suggested that I and another person (who has since left the IMYM region) be observers tasked with reporting back to IMYM annually. Two concerns were mentioned in the minute: QEW’s rejection of nuclear power as a way of generating electric power, and whether QEW’s decision making follows Quaker process.

I apologize for not attending IMYM last year, although I did submit a written report. My wife and I were in a head-on car crash on June 7, 2019. Although I had relatively minor injuries and recovered rapidly, she is still recovering from her injuries. I am delighted that there is another observer, Bob Schroeder of Tempe Monthly Meeting. He attended his first QEW meeting this spring.

Let me speak to the two areas of concern first. QEW has not reconsidered its minute on nuclear power nor do I remember any serious discussion of the subject in the past few years. I have had an opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of nuclear power generation with one of the people in IMYM who feels that all sources of energy that don’t emit carbon are necessary. At this point I think we respectfully disagree on the subject, but agree that this one topic should not be a reason for limiting affiliation with North America’s premier Quaker environmental organization.

It is difficult for me to be objective about the second concern expressed in the IMYM. Although I have been a member of the Religious Society of Friends since 1952 and went to a Friends school for 14 years, I have learned more about the Quaker decision-making process during my 20 years association with QEW than previously. My belief is that QEW follows our process well. I am hampered in answering to this concern because I do not know what prompted it.

For those who aren’t familiar with the organization, “Quaker Earthcare Witness is a network of North American Friends (Quakers) and other like-minded people who are taking spirit-led action to address the ecological and social crises of the world, emphasizing Quaker process and testimonies.” Recently we have been collaborating with other Quaker organizations, including: FCNL, QUNO and QIF to develop a strong Quaker voice and actions on living in right relationship.

We have made a priority to support youth-led organizations that are working on climate change. Another priority is environmental justice. One of our concerns is that, as is the case with many Quaker organizations, our average age is in the grey-hair range.

Despite the age of many of the members of QEW, we are making good progress. We have secured funding to improve the website so it will be an excellent resource for Friends. We found that Zoom worked well for our spring meeting and will use it again in the fall. For years we have been concerned our travel to meetings increases our carbon footprints. Perhaps we will decide to hold some of our meetings virtually in the future.

I would be happy to try to answer any questions about QEW, but suggest exploring the website www.quakerearthcare.org for more information about the work of the organization.

Friends everywhere are becoming more concerned about the care of our planet, of the wonderful web of life that is part of Creation, and our only home. My conclusion is that affiliation between Quaker Earthcare Witness and the Intermountain Yearly Meeting would be beneficial to Friends and to Earth.
Western Friend Report to Intermountain Yearly Meeting 2020

SUMMARY

*Western Friend* continues to play a vital role in strengthening connections among Friends throughout the West. The sudden prevention of Friends’ traditional in-person worship and fellowship, due to stay-at-home orders in the time of COVID-19, underscores the importance of keeping a media-production infrastructure at-the-ready, which can respond to the demands of the day. Like many challenging times that Friends have faced over the decades as “Publishers of Truth,” Friends in the current moment are able to rely upon investments made by Friends who came before them. In this case, *Western Friend* is able to rely on contributions made since 1929 in the media-production resources that are now the magazine, book publisher, website, eNewsletter, and videoconferencing platform of *Western Friend*.

REPORT

FY 2019 Financials

*Western Friends* continues to remain financially stable. A summary of our FY2019 financial report is attached as an appendix on page 3 below. The *Western Friend* board is formalizing a reserves policy that *Western Friend* has already followed successfully for the past several years – that is, our goal is to maintain six-months-worth of operating expenses in a Board-Restricted Reserve Fund (held by Friends Fiduciary) and to maintain a “buffer” Fund Balance in our credit union account that is equivalent to four-months-worth of operating expenses. At the same time, the board has set itself the goal of raising the editor’s salary incrementally over the next few years until it “competitive.” By that, the board means to aim toward a salary goal that is based on data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the job category of “editor,” and more specifically, to aim toward an average of the median salaries in the top seven Western metropolitan areas served by the three yearly meetings that support *Western Friend*. The board is developing new fund-raising strategies to support that plan.

Magazine

*Western Friend* (westernfriend.org/magazine) continues to produce and distribute a magazine six times a year, which reflects the deep conversations and reflections of Friends in the West about topics that concern us today. From July 2019 through June 2020, we published 74 articles, commentaries, poems, and reviews in our print publication – as well as dozens of letters in our “Community Forum” and 36 new additions to our Online Library (westernfriend.org/library). During the year ahead, Friends are invited to contribute works concerning any of the following themes: Teachers, Rules, Vision, Relevance, Tricks, Debt, Tribes, and Science.

The vast majority of subscriptions to *Western Friend* are obtained through “group subscriptions,” organized within individual monthly meetings. Merely five subscribers are enough to count as a “group,” which provides a huge assist to *Western Friend’s* operations, and earns for the group’s members a small discount on the prices of their magazines. Please, if you can help organize a “group subscription” in your own meeting, please contact: editor@westernfriend.org.

Books

*Western Friend* continues to fulfill orders for the books that we publish, most notably the three books of *Faith and Practice* written by “our three” yearly meetings – Intermountain, North Pacific, and Pacific. We provide bulk discounts to Quaker meetings. Go to our website to learn more (westernfriend.org/books).
Website

*Western Friend*’s website serves as an information hub for all our activities (westernfriend.org). In addition to the website’s role in our magazine and book distribution (discussed above), the website also supports a range of other online services that we offer to the *Western Friend* community.

**Extra Extra Western Friend**

Produced weekly during the stay-at-home period of the COVID-19 pandemic, this “occasional” eNewsletter has become especially appreciated by our readers, who are seeking the insights of other Friends as they try to discern “the Quaker Way” through turbulent times. We were fortunate to have had this light-weight publication already in place when the pandemic hit, allowing Friends to communicate with each other more quickly than is possible through *Western Friend*’s print magazine. Past issues of *Extra Extra* are available on our website, and it’s free to sign up to receive it (westernfriend.org/extra-extra-western-friend).

**Online Worship**

Similarly, we were fortunate to have had a dedicated web page already in place when the pandemic hit, on which we have been listing online worship options for several years. This listing has expanded greatly since March 2020! Consider adding your meeting’s online worship to this listing, if you haven’t already. (westernfriend.org/quaker-worship-and-fellowship-online)

**Community Directory**

As best as we can, we maintain a “current” listing of key contact information for “every” monthly meeting and worship group affiliated with IMYM, NPYM, and PacYM. Let us know if you see anything in this list that needs correcting: (https://westernfriend.org/community).

**Memorial Minutes**

After each summer’s set of annual sessions, we collect all the memorial minutes that monthly meetings have shared with their yearly meetings that summer, and we publish all those memorials on our website (https://westernfriend.org/memorials). These minutes are searchable by name, date of death, and meeting. All monthly meetings in IMYM, NPYM, and PacYM are invited to submit memorial minutes directly to *Western Friend* for online publication.

**Governance**

The Board of Directors of *Western Friend* consists of three members appointed by each of three yearly meetings, resulting in a board of nine members. As of June 2020, those members are:

- Jim Anderson, Chico Meeting, PacYM (Clerk)
- Sakre Edson, Eugene Meeting, NPYM (Assistant Clerk)
- Fred Koster, Albuquerque Meeting (Treasurer)
- Nancy Wilkinson, Strawberry Creek Meeting, PacYM (Recording Clerk)
- Claire Gorfinkel, Orange Grove Meeting, PacYM
- Mary Hansen, Bellingham Meeting, NPYM
- Nancy Marshall, Phoenix Meeting, IMYM
- Charlene Weir, Salt Lake City Meeting, IMYM
- Open seat (NPYM)
## Western Friend Summary Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2019
(10/1/2018–9/30/2019)

### Western Friend - FY2019 Financial Statement

**Balance Sheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equity - Operations</td>
<td>$47,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity - Reserves (Friends Fiduciary)</td>
<td>$58,493</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liabilities (asseste set aside for)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$114,734</strong></td>
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**Profit and Loss Statement**

**Income**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>$34,059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$8,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from individuals</td>
<td>$21,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions from monthly meetings</td>
<td>$6,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yearly meeting support</td>
<td>$29,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book sales</td>
<td>$5,544</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$105,149</strong></td>
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**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary and benefits</td>
<td>$53,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and registrations</td>
<td>$8,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office rent &amp; expenses</td>
<td>$9,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracted services for admin.</td>
<td>$5,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracted services for web</td>
<td>$6,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication expenses</td>
<td>$17,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board expenses</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$102,641</strong></td>
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**Net Ordinary income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized gain (loss)</td>
<td>($164)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,344</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**INCOME FY2019**

- Subscriptions, $34,059
- Yearly meeting support, $29,000
- Book sales, $5,544
- Advertising, $8,212
- Contributions from monthly meetings, $6,495
- Contributions from individuals, $21,839

**EXPENSES FY2019**

- Salary and benefits, $53,968
- Board expenses, $1,000
- Publication expenses, $17,400
- Contracted services for web, $6,623
- Contracted services for admin., $5,641
- Office rent & expenses, $9,772
- Travel and registrations, $8,237