

Development Director
IM Report, 10/9/2021

Friends, here we are poised at the outset of the last quarter of this fiscal year, 2021. This timing gives us the opportunity to plan for what we wish to accomplish before the close of the year. The Development Committee is optimistic that the generosity of Friends to date places us in a favorable position to meet our financial goals by year's end.

The Yearly Meeting approved an annual 2021 fundraising goal of close to \$425,000. Through the end of September, Friends have made gifts in the amount of \$392,055 leaving all of us with the goal of raising \$33,000 before the year's end. Our fundraising efforts are a key component of our annual budget requirements because apportionments paid by local Meetings amount to 25% of the Yearly Meeting's annual budget. We are grateful for that support from Meetings!

Today, I'd like to share with you several generous challenge matches that can speed us toward our financial goals by 12/31/2021:

- Launching on Giving Tuesday, November 30, will be a challenge of \$35,000 matching gift dollars on a one to one basis under similar terms to recent prior years. If we meet this match, we will finish the year achieving our revenue goal.
- Presently a challenge in the amount of \$10,000 has been set to acquire our first hybrid camp vehicle. Hopefully, this Ford F-150 truck will be the first in a fleet of more energy-efficient transportation at camp. The cost of a hybrid truck is \$47,350, which we hope to raise with the help of the match.
- Lastly, but not least -please help us complete an anonymous challenge to raise \$5,000 that will name a latrine at Catoctin Quaker Camp in honor of Harry Scott and Lamar Matthew. Just think, you could pay tribute to these tireless and stalwart volunteers on your next visit to the Catoctin bathhouse.

These last two challenges, the hybrid vehicle and the latrine dedication are in effect right now and await your participation.

Why does it matter that you support your Yearly Meeting? It matters because BYM exists to promote the religious, charitable service, and educational interests of its members and constituent local Meetings. With over 50 worshipping communities, BYM nurtures a strong and vibrant Friends community across the Mid-Atlantic region. Together as members of the Yearly Meeting, we seek to grow in the life of the Spirit, to discern right action, and to bear witness in the world. BYM is part of a larger network of Yearly Meetings around the world, helping to connect individual Friends and Local Meetings to a range of national and

international Friends and service organizations. Through participating in BYM, Friends are challenged to expand their individual understandings of what it means to be a Friend, to be part of a Friends community, and to be a Friend in the world. *This is why your support matters.*

We encourage Friends who feel led to consider becoming a Sustaining Quaker with a monthly or quarterly gift. Perhaps consider whether a gift from a donor-advised fund, a required minimum distribution from an IRA, a gift of appreciated assets, or inclusion in your Will best suits your intentions. Remember, too, please the 100th anniversary of the camping program next year.

Soon we are to commemorate how Friends with Baltimore Yearly Meeting have adapted their practice while holding close to their faith for 350 years. Consider how few institutions in North America can trace their legacies back to the 17th century. Truly, this is a time for reflection and a time for visioning. Please become part of the exchange of ideas, the gathering to worship, and the interplay of learning and jubilation that awaits us all in the year ahead.