

NURTURE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ADVANCE REPORT May 2015

The Youth Committee (in collaboration with the Powell House Youth Program Directors) this year has made progress in engaging YM Friends of all ages in conversations and hands-on practice around creating multi-generational faith communities. The Youth Weekend in the fall of 2014 was well attended and brought new ideas. In March, the Youth Institute was able to train some Friends in Faith & Play (a storytelling First Day School practice) and offered workshops on a number of topics of interest to those working with youth and others to create strong spiritually supportive meeting communities. A Nurture weekend planned for the fall of 2015 will continue the focus on integrating children into the spiritual life of the meeting.

Programming to encourage youth to participate in Spring and Fall Sessions needs more attention. We plan to work with Youth Committee, JYM Committee, yearly meeting leadership and Sessions Committee to strengthen the planning so as to increase the relevance of the activities and therefore attendance.

At Summer Sessions 2014 drug and alcohol abuse was significantly reduced. It seems that JYMers and young adults took responsibility for making this happen. We will work to continue this trend.

The Resource Library is now under the care of Bulls Head-Oswego Meeting, and is being catalogued. Over the coming year, NCC will be working to make this resource more accessible to monthly meetings.

By the time this report is published, NCC will have responded to a minute from Brooklyn Meeting asking for further consideration of NYYM's support of FUM while the personnel policy discriminating against non-celibate LGBT volunteers and staff remains in place. While NCC is in sympathy with the concern, we feel that Brooklyn would need to bring their minute to NY Quarterly Meeting for further seasoning.

It has been determined that the financial resources in the Young Friends In Residence (YFIR) Fund came largely from New York Yearly Meeting, and NCC has let the NYYM Treasurer know that, because no similar program is contemplated in the near future, these funds should revert back to NYYM.

The NCC web page still needs work – another challenge for the coming year!

Deborah Wood, Clerk