

Relief Committee Annual Report to New York Quarterly Meeting January 17, 2021 Via Zoom

In this time of Covid we wonder why the Relief Committee of New York Quarterly Meeting is such a mystery to our community.

In February and March we made three grants for assistance to two applicants and provided funds for ongoing assistance to one Friend, now deceased. After March, though, nobody applied to the Relief Committee until late in the year and that Friend ended up making other arrangements. We finally agreed on a statement for the website and submitted it to the Communications Committee; we recently updated our content so it is more catchy. We made modifications to our application process and are considering more. With the assistance of Quarterly Meeting counsel Brian Doherty, we put together a records retention policy and shared it with the Trustees.

The New York Quarterly Meeting Handbook requires the Relief Committee to meet four times per year. During 2020 Committee held consultations via e-mail until a technologically astute member joined us. After that we had four scheduled meetings. In place of as-needed meetings, we have decided to hold regularly scheduled Zoom meetings and consult via e-mail in the interim. Relief Committee meetings are now scheduled for the third Thursday of the month.

Usually the clerk sends an outreach letter to loan recipients during the spring. It seemed inappropriate this past year. In the spring we will have to discuss what we want to do about outreach letters in this time of Covid.

As a committee of the Quarterly Meeting with fiduciary responsibility, we carried out the following tasks:

1. Held our regular internal audit and presented the books to the Quarterly Meeting's auditor for review. The anonymity of fund recipients was maintained.
2. Returned excess funds of \$25,676.55 over the allocated \$36,620 to the Quarterly Meeting's Combined Trusts on January 19, 2020. Note: as has been the practice, these funds were added to the Relief Committee's endowment.
3. Received our annual distribution from the Quarterly Meeting's Combined Trusts of \$50,771 on October 27, 2020. At the request of various Quarterly Meeting clerks, we are considering distributing funds directly to the meetings in addition to considering requests from individual applicants. With this in mind, we will not be returning excess funds to the Quarterly Meeting (see #2 above) in the near term. We hope to come to a decision about distributing the 2020 distribution during our forthcoming meeting which is scheduled for January 21, 2021. We will report our decision to the April Quarterly Meeting.

We encourage monthly meetings to counsel members and regular attenders about the availability of either a Relief Committee loan or grant for emergency needs other than "business purposes, speculation or education." As noted above, information about the Relief Committee is now on the Quarterly Meeting's website.

Nancy Adelman, Jolene Festa, Julie Glynn, and Mark LaRiviere rotated off the committee while Ted Bongiovanni, Jessica Fleischer-Black, CJ Holm and Ronald Rieder joined us.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Bongiovanni (Brooklyn)
Andres Colapinto, Treasurer (Brooklyn)
Jessica Fleischer-Black (Brooklyn)
Bobby Gonzales (Fifteenth Street)
Nancy Hadley-Jaffe, Clerk (Fifteenth Street)
CJ Holm (Brooklyn)
Emmanuel (Manny) Mulindi (Manhattan Meeting)
Ronald Rieder (Morningside) (co-opted)
Report 2020A

Relief Committee