

## **Report to Adelphi Quaker Meeting from the Outreach Dream Team – Overview**

### **What Do We Want to Keep?**

1. The vitality of outreach work that has characterized AFM since it's foundation.
2. We did not come to unity around maintaining funding of local and Quaker groups. Some members wanted to continue the funding as is and others considered diverting the money to the new Outreach projects.

### **What Do We Want to Create?**

1. Four focus areas or “Go Forth” groups for Adelphi Meeting’s Outreach Activities in order to give ourselves the opportunity to do more good in the world. We propose asking those from Meeting who are interested to congregate and plan a project together. Listed below are the four focus area determined by the results of the survey we circulated of people’s interests. (Please see the detailed description in the report)

1. Local—within driving distance of Meeting.
2. International
3. Green/Environmental
4. Youth Project This money will be spent by the Young Friends, not on youth. It is to give Young Friends a chance to have a go at trying to make the world a better place as well as stimulate thought, discussion and grapple with ethical and spiritual decisions.

2. Make Adelphi Meeting outreach projects more primary in our charitable giving:

Develop a sense of outreach mission in our community.

Raise awareness of what we’re doing, to encourage increased support.

Encourage partnering with other organizations to increase our impact on and connectedness to the wider world.

## **What Structures are Needed?**

1. The Outreach Dream Team did not come to unity about this question. Three alternatives were discussed. One, ask Peace and Social Concerns Committee if they had any interest in housing this project. Two, create a new standing committee. Three, have an ad hoc or temporary committee manage the work. In this last option, the ad hoc group would do only the initial organizing and funds distribution, leaving the projects to be managed by the people who choose to participate.
  
2. Provide seed money (\$3K) for each of the four outreach projects as a catalyst for Meeting-wide involvement in projects that people are lead to do. This \$12,000.000 would become a line item in the annual budget. Neither the Outreach committee nor people involved in the projects raise this money. This financial commitment reflects the importance Meeting places on outreach activities in the world. The Outreach group—under whatever name or structure is chosen--would decide which projects receive the seed money. RE committee members could work with Young Friends in helping them determine their project(s) and manage the money.
  
3. Create guidelines for the implementation of the four projects such as the following:
  - The project funds support the Outreach projects and do not support our existing groups.
  - There must be a group of people and not just one individual who is working on the project.
  - The project group works toward consensus.
  - The project groups partner (if possible) with other existing organizations.
  - Recommend multi-generational project groups either within Meeting or within partnering organizations if feasible.
  - Groups report their progress to the planning/coordinating body 1 to 2 times per year.
  - The Outreach committee, however structured, renews projects on an annual basis.

4. Half of the seed money could be given in May to the projects that are ready to start. The remaining money can be given in the fall. One idea of a possible funding structure was that, after this initial start up year, project ideas would be submitted in the fall for a decision in December and financial support starting in January of the following year. This sequence of events could be adapted for flexibility of projects or other factors.

### **What do We Want to Let Go Of Or Do Differently?**

Have stronger communication between committees and more coordination where needed on projects

Have Religious Education committee members involved in helping the young friends with submitting outreach proposals and managing their funds.

Doing it all ourselves.

Continuing a project forever.

Have Meeting hire a part-time staff person whose partial responsibilities could include working with the outreach projects as: grant writer or aid in coordination, implementation, communication, logistics, researcher, etc.