

## Care and Counsel, Annual Report, 2020-2021

The Care and Counsel committee consists of members of the Religious Society of Friends. It is responsible for the oversight of pastoral care of each Meeting member and attender and is concerned with each one's well-being. In its work, the committee is mindful of the need for privacy and confidentiality.

Bonnie Raphael completed two three-year terms on the committee, and we expressed our appreciation for her service. Two other Friends, Pat Mann and Jim Palmer, requested to leave the committee. We wished them well and expressed gratitude for their service. Two new members joined the committee: Bonnie Ludlow and Gwynne Pomeroy. Along with Bonnie and Gwynne, the committee is composed of Julia Cleaver, Lynn Drake, Jasmine McKewen, Ann Miller (co-clerk), Leslie Rountree, and Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk). Chris Stanley, clerk of Meeting, attends in an ex-officio status, for which we are appreciative. There is one vacancy on the committee. We regret the lack of gender and ethnic diversity on our committee.

The committee has met the challenges of caring for the community during the continuing pandemic as best we can. We maintain regular contact with numerous Friends experiencing the pain of bereavement, illness and changes in life circumstances. We have attended to interpersonal hurts of Friends related to doing the work of the Meeting in committees. We have responded to requests for several clearness and support committees, three of which are ongoing. For clearness and support committees that have been laid down, we've let Friends know that we are there for them if they would like to reconvene the committee or speak individually with committee members. We've participated in the clearness committee for membership for Karen Jessee and are prepared to participate in the committee for Alisha Abrams.

We assisted Greg Neal in the interment service for his wife, Robin Neal, who passed away during the height of the pandemic on August 1, 2020. Robin was interred in the Memorial Garden on July 18, 2021 with approximately twelve family members and friends in attendance. A memorial minute was read in meeting for worship with attention to business and entered into the Memorial Book. Robin's name was added to the Memorial Plaque and location of the burial site added to the Memorial Garden map.

The committee is involved in the production of a new Meeting directory. Along with Publications and Communications and Ministry and Worship, we presented a proposal to the October 17 MWAB to allocate funds to publish paper booklet copies, which was approved. We are in the final stages of proofing information to be sent to A Better Image, who will publish the directory. We feel that an updated paper directory is particularly needed during this time of separation due to the pandemic. We're grateful for the support of the Meeting and Friends who have joined us in this effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk), Julia Cleaver, Lynn Drake, Bonnie Ludlow, Jasmine McKewen, Ann Miller (co-clerk), Gwynne Pomeroy and Leslie Rountree

