



Annual Report May 2019-April 2020

TRAVELING MINISTRY CORPS

From May to December 2019, the Traveling Ministry Corps reached more Friends right where they live. As one meeting clerk wrote to us, “It seems (and I have great hope that this is true) that it has breathed some living Spirit where Friends had lost faith.”

In August, Maria Virginia Jalire, from the Junta Anual Amigos Central in Bolivia, preached at a youth conference and visited Friends in El Salvador and Guatemala. Later that month, Enrique Jovel, from El Salvador Yearly Meeting, returned the favor beginning with a youth conference with Amigos Central in La Paz, Bolivia. The following month, Minga Claggett-Borne and Greg Woods separately ministered among Friends in Colorado, USA.

In January 2020, the South American training was held in Tacna, Peru for four new members of the TMC. These young adult Friends are letting their lights shine! The North American training, which was held in Massachusetts at the beginning of March, included two new ministers, both seasoned Friends. The Central American training, which was to be in El Salvador but was delayed first due to visa difficulties and later due to the pandemic, happened virtually later in the year.



TMC Training in Tacna, Peru

COVID-19: New Ways To Bring Friends Together

Beginning mid-March, our staff began working from home. We answer the phone and email during regular working hours and collect mail once a week from the office. Because so much of our work was done remotely before, the transition has been relatively smooth. Thanks to the work of our many outstanding volunteers who *are* the World Committee, our work continues to move forward on many fronts. For example, our investment subcommittee took the lead in moving more of our invested funds to funds that actively invest in green technologies. As COVID-19 spread across the Americas, we rapidly adjusted our program to connect with our body of representatives, our committee leadership, and our committees. We provided resources related to COVID-19 and moved worship and annual sessions online. The Traveling Ministry Corps changed its plans radically, to support and connect at a distance. Our leadership made the necessary changes to office operations and to react to changes in our financial situation.

In April, the Section hosted two Zoom meetings for **yearly meeting representatives**. More than 50 participants shared their time and wisdom during a very productive North American online gathering. A similar gathering for Spanish-speaking reps provided the opportunity for 30 Latin American Friends in six countries to connect, without visas, without airlines, without borders. It was inspiring for everyone who participated.

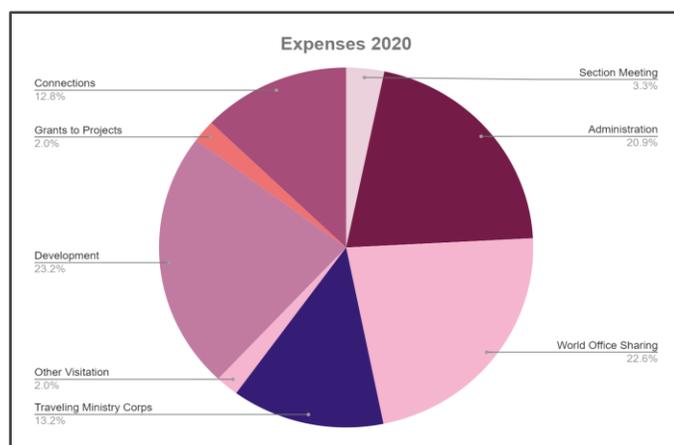
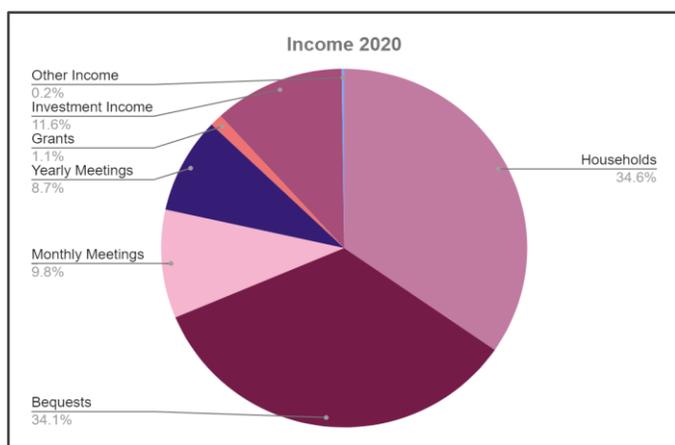
FINANCES

Fiscal Year 2020

at 4/30/20

Contributions	\$ 411,591	Assets	\$ 1,731,984
Grants	5,200	Liabilities	191,026
Other income	1,063	Net Assets	1,540,958
Investment income	54,717		
Total ordinary income:	\$ 472,571		
Programs in the Americas	150,248		
Accrued Obligations to the World Office	95,800		
Administration	94,633		
Fundraising	102,171		
Total ordinary expense:	\$442,852		
Net income	\$ 29,721		

Due to several bequests and other planned gifts, these numbers reflect significant one-time transfers to the World Office and EMES in accord with our revenue sharing agreements. Due to the timing of these statements, the unrealized investment losses stood at \$86,663 for a total change in net assets of \$-56,942 on April 30, 2020. Stock market volatility is expected to continue throughout 2020. The entire audited financial statements are available at fwccamericas.org/donate.



Your prayers, your donations, your involvement have advanced our work to strengthen the Quakers the world needs – like you. Thanks to you, we have strengthened our infrastructure with a talented team and our financials are in better shape than they have been in a long time.

Robin Mohr, Executive Secretary

WEAVE A LEGACY SOCIETY LAUNCHED!

The **Weave A Legacy Society** is a group of special individuals who have made a planned gift or a bequest to ensure the future of FWCC as it continues to foster fellowship among all branches of Friends.



Thank you to the following **Founding Members** whose farsighted generosity has gotten this Society off to a great start. We are grateful to each of them for serving as a beacon to others.

Anonymous (North Pacific YM)
Anna and Keith Baker
Asia and Lee Bennett
Elizabeth Cazden
Rosemary K. Coffey
Nancy Craft
Bob Fetter
Margaret Fraser
Ann Hardt
Patricia Hunt
Gayle Matson
Geeta Jyothi McGahey
Elizabeth Wold Mertic (*dec.*)

Florence Yarnall Fullerton
Liz and Tom Gates
LauraNell Obaugh
Ruth Hyde Paine
James R. Perkins
Joseph G. Roberts
William Z. Shetter and Janette K. Shetter
Nancy Wallace (*dec.*) and David Shiner
Beverly Kirk Shull
Christine H. and Gene Snyder
Rev. Dr. Philip Stalions
Jan Vogel Tappan
Alice Vedova

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENT FLOURISHES

The fourth annual joint meeting of the Representative Engagement and Nominating committees was extra blessed this year to be held in Monterrey, Mexico, at the Friends Church of San Nicolas de los Garza. We shared the joy and inspiration we feel from being involved in the Friends World Committee and committed ourselves to help new Friends get more engaged with the worldwide family of Friends.

Our regional coordinators are actively engaging local representatives, most clearly shown by the four regional gatherings, which have included opportunities for worship and fellowship, training of new representatives, informational sessions, and planning for future activities in the regions. These gatherings have happened in the Southeast region, in Central America, in South America, and in the Northwest region.

Sharing historic Quaker values today! was the theme for the Southeast Regional Gathering, in Miami, Florida, February 6-9, 2020. Approximately 14 Representatives plus other local Friends gathered over three days at Iglesia de los Amigos and the Miami Friends Meeting.

New Staff in the Section of the Americas Office



On July 15, 2019, Nancy Martino, Advancement Manager, began in this newly created position that is being funded by some prescient planned gifts. Nancy's energy, creativity, and more than 30 years of nonprofit experience as a director of development, executive director, and independent consultant has already helped strengthen all aspects of FWCC's fundraising program.

GOVERNANCE

Our many committees, program groups, and working groups continued to do excellent work on our behalf. The contributions of these 150 gifted Friends are crucial and often invisible in the work of the Section. However, the presence of the Holy Spirit in our time together is one of the immeasurable signs of faithful service.



Robin Mohr, Executive Secretary, who is a trustee of the FWCC World Office, participated in the **FWCC Central Executive Committee** meeting. At the end of June 2019 they met at Camp NeeKauNis, on the shores of Lake Huron in Canadian Yearly Meeting. Visit fwcc.world to learn more about all of the good work happening among Friends around the world.

Our **Section of the Americas Executive Committee** met in Wichita, Kansas in September 2019. They came together from 14 yearly meetings, from North Pacific to Unión Boliviana, in three countries. Due to COVID-19, the Executive Committee met online in the middle of March 2020. All of our Section Committee Clerks met at the end of March to check in and make plans for the coming months. We are also continuing to find new ways of being and building community in an age where long-distance travel will become exceptional, and not routine.

Officers of the Section of the Americas for 2019-20

Clerk:	David Shiner, <i>Illinois YM</i>
Assistant Clerk:	Benigno Sánchez-Eppler, <i>New England YM</i>
Recording Clerk:	M. Foote Lund, <i>Ohio Valley YM</i>
Assistant Recording Clerk:	Charles Kleymeyer, <i>Baltimore YM</i>
Treasurer:	Beverly Kirk Shull, <i>Ohio YM</i>
Assistant Treasurer:	Nancy Wallace (<i>dec.</i>), <i>Illinois YM</i>