

2024 Annual Report

May 2023 - April 2024



Friends World Committee
for Consultation

SECTION OF THE AMERICAS

Comité Mundial de Consulta
de los Amigos

SECCIÓN DE LAS AMÉRICAS

For the Friends World Committee, 2024 was a year of “Living the Spirit of Ubuntu: Responding with Hope to God’s Call to Cherish Creation and One Another.” This was the theme of both the World Quaker Day and the Section Meeting. This originated from South Africa Yearly Meeting using this theme for the World Plenary in August 2024.



On World Quaker Day 2023, FWCC Americas held an online event with the theme of Living the Spirit of Ubuntu. Friends across the Americas traveled to visit a Quaker Meeting that is different than the one they regularly attend.

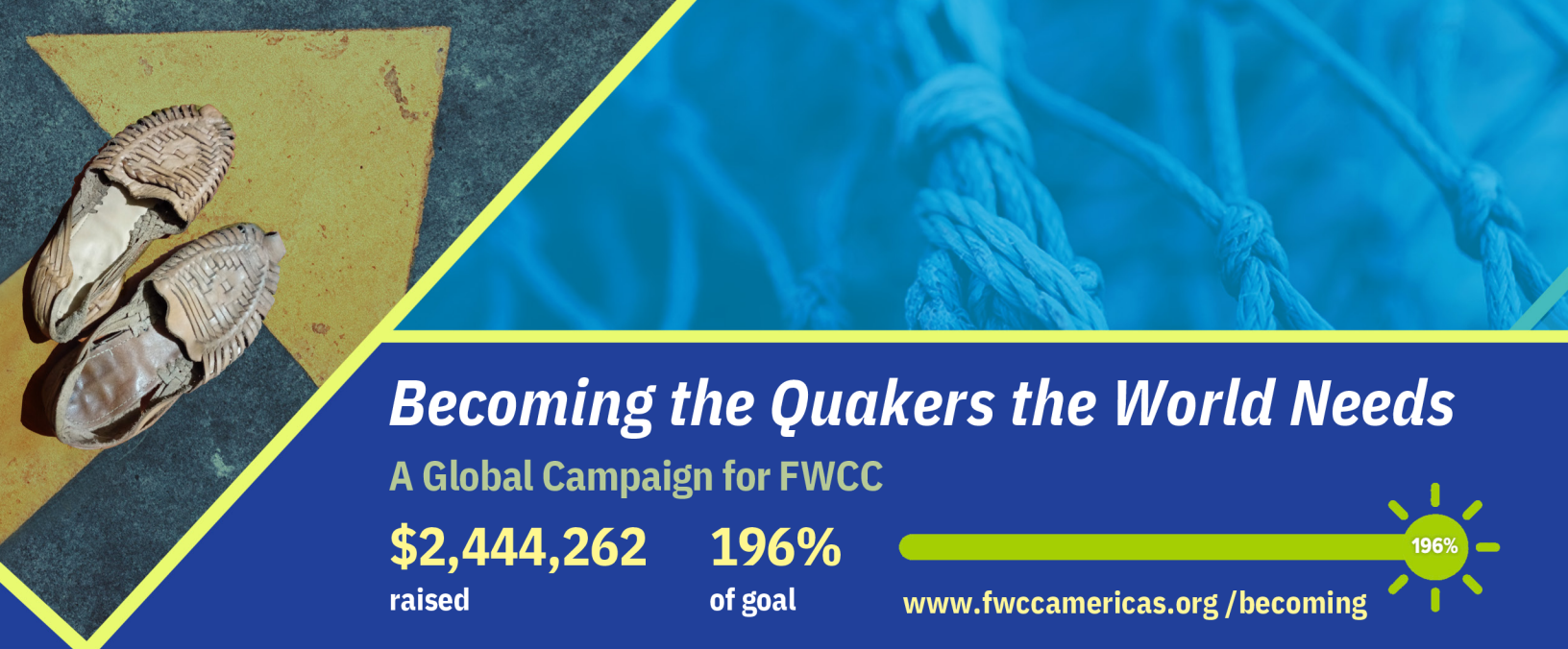
Hulda Muaka, Representative of Pacific Yearly Meeting and originally from Kenya, gave a talk about the meaning of ubuntu. She also shared her journey with FWCC since the World Plenary Meeting in Kabarak, Kenya in 2012. Hulda said, “Life is good when you're happy, but much better when others are happy because of you. Let us all cherish and practice the spirit of ubuntu for the good of all creation.”

2024 Online Section Meeting

The 2024 Section Meeting of the Americas was held virtually on March 16th, 2024. Over 100 Friends gathered together by telephone or Zoom. Participants from Bolivia to Alaska joined in Spanish or English. Thanks to funds raised during the recent global capital campaign, the Section was able to hold a pre-Section Meeting training for new and seasoned interpreters. FWCC Americas will be holding its 2025 hybrid section meeting online and in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Guided by preparatory Bible passages (Romans 12:4-5, Matthew 22:39), the Section Meeting included Meeting for Business and worship in the manner of programmed and unprogrammed Friends. Friends sang, prayed and shared answers in small groups to queries that focused on the theme of Ubuntu. The event is an opportunity to be with Friends who worship differently, which is a way to build pathways to peace.

In the following pages you'll find the summary of work that the Becoming the Quakers the World Needs global campaign has brought to fruition. We're hiring staff to run programs that will help seekers find Quaker meetings and churches around the world, revitalizing Quaker meetings in the Americas and helping Friends everywhere connect more easily with language translation.



Becoming the Quakers the World Needs

A Global Campaign for FWCC

\$2,444,262

raised

196%

of goal

www.fwccamericas.org/becoming



All This Work Made Possible by Friends Like You!



Quaker Connect
Conexión Cuáquera

The purpose of Quaker Connect is to reinvigorate the Quaker movement. Quaker Connect will impact local meetings and churches by creating online training tools and networks of mutual support across worship traditions, geography, age, and culture. Participants will innovate in their own congregations and engage with others in their local community. FWCC raised \$1.3 million to operate the program over 5 years. Learn more at QuakerConnect.org



World Plenary Travel & Digital Transformation Fund

The World Plenary Travel and Digital Transformation Fund will enable

Friends from every Yearly Meeting to participate in the World Plenary Meeting in August 2024. In addition to supporting travel to the event, this will address the Quaker 'digital divide' and build an infrastructure that supports the future of international Quakerism.

Part-time Peace & Justice Secretary for 5 Years

Starting in October 2023, Hezron Masitsa coordinates Quaker engagement around the issue of inequality and historical injustice from a spiritual perspective, promoting increased awareness and addressing the different ways these issues emerge across the world. He also supports the Quaker Sustainability Network and the work of the Quaker United Nations Committee.





Interactive Map & Directory

The new map is now available for Friends Meetings and Churches in the Americas! Check it out here: fwccdirectory.org

This online, interactive map, with statistics and stories and the locations of Quaker meetings and churches, is cloud-based and can be used on Quaker websites. A searchable directory is available to download selected regions and print-on-demand. FWCC raised \$180K for

map operations. We are currently updating the map to include all countries where Friends are present.

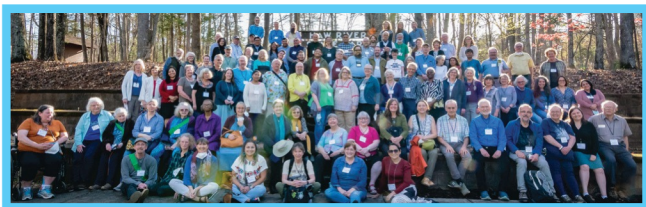
Interpreters Training & Glossary

Interpreters are not only necessary for large events like Section Meetings, but also for the ongoing work of committees to be online, interactive and multilingual as they meet frequently to do the work of the Section. Campaign funds will enable us to recruit new translators and interpreters on a regular basis and to develop an improved training program for interpreters, for FWCC and the wider Quaker community. FWCC raised \$180K for this fund. In 2024-2026, we are updating the Spanish-English glossary to all the languages Quakers speak—in the Americas and around the world.



Connecting Friends, crossing cultures, changing lives

Travel & Technology Quasi-Endowment Fund



The need to meet together has not changed in the last four years, or the last four decades. What has changed is the massive improvement in tools for virtual meetings to complement in-person meetings. However, access to travel and technology is not evenly distributed in the Section of the Americas. This fund ensures more equal access to all FWCC events, whether online or in person.

Consultations & Intervisitation

Consultations on topics of concern to Friends and the wider world will include a series of in-person and online gatherings; support knowledgeable and Spirit-filled traveling ministers to lead discussions in local meetings and churches; and generate print and digital publications.

Do you know a Quaker issue that could use a consultation session to help Quaker Meetings? Feel free to reach out to FWC!





World Plenary

Globally, 2024 was a year of preparation for the World Plenary, which is to be held in

August 2024. South Africa Yearly Meeting hosted and it will be the first-ever hybrid World Plenary. The theme is “Living in the Spirit of Ubuntu: Responding with hope to God's call to cherish creation and one another.”

Robin Mohr, Executive Secretary

It was also a year of transition. Robin Mohr has been Executive Secretary of the Section of the Americas for 13 years and in January 2024 she announced she will be leaving FWCC. Goodbye ceremonies were held throughout the year and a search committee was formed to appoint a new Executive Secretary.

Weave a Legacy

The Weave A Legacy Society recognizes and honors those individuals who have included a provision for the Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas in their estate plans. These planned gifts provide substantial future support for helping ensure that FWCC SoA remains a vital force for uniting Quakers across diverse cultures, languages and traditions for many years to come.

Anonymous (North Pacific Yearly Meeting)

Carl and Margery Post Abbott

Constance Archbald

Anna and Keith Baker

Asia and Lee Bennett

Beth Blackbird

Ellerie Brownfain

Gretchen Castle

Elizabeth Cazden

Rosemary K. Coffey

Nancy Craft

Margaret Fraser

Florence Yarnall Fullerton

Lucy Fullerton

Elizabeth Gates

Cathy Habschmidt

Ann Hardt

Patricia Hunt

Christel Jorgenson

Gayle Matson

Geeta Jyothi McGahey

Robin and Christopher Mohr

Glenn Morison

LauraNell Obaugh

Ruth Hyde Paine

James R. Perkins

Julie Peyton

Joseph G. Roberts

William Z. and Janette K. Shetter

David Shiner

Beverly Kirk Shull

Christine H. and Gene Snyder

Philip Stalions

Jan Vogel Tappan

Alice Vedova

Jonathan Vogel-Borne and

Minga Claggett-Borne

Financials

2024 was a year of great change and great success for FWCC. The proceeds of the global campaign are being used to create new programs and services for Friends globally. One of the truisms of fundraising is that we should anticipate lower donations to the general fund during a capital campaign. The below charts represent our financial position for 2024. The income does not include funds from the global campaign.

Total Ordinary Income: \$25,955

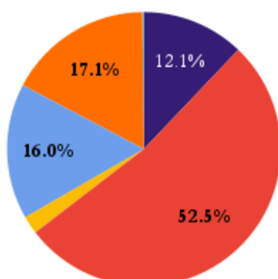
Total Ordinary Expense: \$31,842

Net Ordinary Income (-\$5,887)

Other Income \$15,241

Net Income \$9,354

- Investment
- Households
- Grants
- Monthly Meetings
- Yearly Meetings
- Other



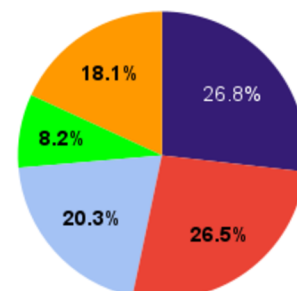
At 4/30/24

Assets: \$4,017,055

Liabilities: \$1,280,765

Net Assets:

- Programs
- Admin
- Development
- Section Meeting
- World Office Sharing



The most recent audited financial statements are available at <https://fwccamericas.org/donate>