

**New York Yearly Meeting
Monthly Meeting Partners Project
Application Questions**

Thank you for applying to participate in the NYYM Monthly Meeting Partners Project. If selected, your local meeting or worship group will become one of two communities involved in the project from 2016-19. During that time, NYYM staff, especially the Children & Youth Field Secretary, will work intensively with you. We hope to learn as much as we can over the next three years about effective new modes and methods of outreach to, and inclusion of, children and families, while also helping your local Quaker meeting to deepen in Spirit and grow as a multiage community.

Please send your responses to the questions below to Melinda Wenner Bradley, Children & Youth Field Secretary, 4 East Woods Lane, Oyster Bay, NY 11771. Christopher Sammond, General Secretary, and Melinda will discern the initial sites for the Partner Project. Whether or not this project is a good fit with your meeting community at this time, the Yearly Meeting hopes to support your work with children and families, and as the Children and Youth Field Secretary, I'm happy to serve as a resource to you.

Local Meeting, or Worship Group:

Your Present Condition:

1. Are there families with children attending your meeting?
2. What does the meeting currently offer children and youth on First Day?
(child care? religious education? youth program?)
3. If you offer FDS, what has been the meeting's experience of supporting that program in the last year?
4. In what other ways are parents and children involved in meeting life?
5. What level of awareness do you think your local community has of your meeting now?
6. What do you feel you have to offer newcomers to the meeting?
7. Are there particular joys or strengths your meeting is experiencing?

8. Are there challenges that your meeting is facing?
9. How do you sense the Light working among you at this time?
10. Where would this program fit in the life of your meeting? Have you already made significant commitments to other programs or witness work as a meeting that require time, physical or spiritual energy?
11. Does your meeting as a whole understand the commitment of time and energy you will be contributing to this project, and have the resources to meet that commitment?
12. What was your experience of the discernment process, coming to clearness to apply?

Preparing for the Future:

13. What would a multigenerational meeting community look like? What are your hopes?
14. Can you anticipate ways that being a more fully multigenerational community would change your meeting life? Would some of them be uncomfortable or problematical?
15. Are there ways we can help each other to prepare for those shifts and changes?
16. Are there particular kinds of support that you would like to ask of NYYM staff for Children & Youth, and Young Adult Friends?
17. What kind of process might you envision to name Friends in your meeting to serve on a working group that supports the Partner Project?