

## **Pendle Hill Conversation 2.18.22**

People present: Edward Wang, Frances Kreimer (Education Director), Susan

Project: Online programming

What problem was being addressed? Pandemic closing of in-person programs, exclusion of aging adults and people with accessibility challenges.

What actions have been implemented? Collaboration with Woodbrooke on how to implement hybrid meetings. 70 enrolled, 44 from outside midAtlantic region, 60% 60+. Completed several other programs including Way of Clearness and Aiming For Justice. Working on collaborations with AFSC and FCNL in justice work. The Residential Student program is being revived this Spring.

Positives included attendance, particularly among those who likely would not attend in person, which opened up new attention to multiple accessibility factors(not just physical). Continuing collaboration with Woodbrooke is also a positive. Early experience in virtual programming helped do a quick pivot back to virtual when pandemic numbers went up again.

Negatives included Zoom fatigue and challenges with people unfamiliar with technology. It was a surprise how much staff time was needed for tech support.

They hope to continue to explore ways to be more inclusive, add to program library, add new technologies such as audiobooks and podcasts. A QVS fellow is working on creating study guides for lectures and pamphlets so that other groups can access them for continued learning. It was noted that the plan going forward should be in alignment with staff resources and funding. It was also noted that this level of capacity building would not have been possible without the FFA grant.

We also discussed the idea of conducting a conversation with Quaker organizations about how they currently serve aging adults, collaboration opportunities, and visions for going forward. Who is doing similar or complimentary work? Should aging be separate from other programs? Should there be a central library? As we break down accessibility barriers, what other barriers lie beneath?

Diversity, Justice & Beloved Community efforts include reworking queries and looking at content and scholarship funds. What does "reparations" mean at Pendle Hill?

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