

# 2023 ARCH Grant Reapplication FFA

The issues that the ARCH Program is organized to address, and the essential methods we utilize to address those issues remain consistent with what we articulated in our [application](#) for funding for 2022. An ageist culture continues to impede access to the support needed to thrive later in our life's journey. The ARCH Program continues to cultivate a counter-culture in which sustainable relationships of mutual accompaniment among Friends increases our access to support and our thriving. With this consistent need and approach we are requesting \$70,000 in support of our overall program budget of \$145,763. This is an increase from our previous request, detailed below.

We continue to support older Friends, caregivers, and Quaker communities through workshops and learning opportunities, and through individual consultations, connection making, and resource referrals. Our community of practice and care continues to extend behind prison walls, and across the age spectrum.

While our efforts and actions remain essentially consistent, they are also constantly being reviewed, renewed, and reworked. In particular, our growing understanding of the pervasive influence of white supremacy culture on our society and in ourselves calls us to continue to seek out the ways that it shapes our expectations and assumptions about ourselves, each other, and our relationships to one another, particularly in the ways we grow older in community. This understanding calls us to change those ways to be more reflective of our recognition of our innate divinity in our cultural diversity. Those changes can sometimes be subtle or not so subtle changes in the language we use, the processes we utilize, and the ways that we assign value, among others.

This year our long anticipated experimental partnership with New England Yearly Meeting to extend the ARCH Program beyond our NYYM boundaries will be piloted. We anticipate that this collaboration will be of mutual benefit, as we share our learnings with NEYM Friends, we will also learn from their experiences, needs, and culture. 2023 will be our first full calendar year of our anticipated two year pilot. Details on this partnership can be found in their 2022 grant [application](#) to FFA.

The impact of cultivating a counter-culture is different from the impact of a specific intervention or particular method. The impact of cultural change can happen over multiple years or generations, and can be difficult to concretize or anticipate. It has taken 15 years to establish the ARCH Program. Looking back we can say that we have normalized conversations about growing older, advance directives, housing changes, aging while incarcerated, dementia, grief and loss, and the many changes that happen to our bodies and minds and relationships as we age. We have encouraged Friends to make the forming of care teams or support committees a normal activity of our meetings, and some have done so. Perhaps most importantly we have made a space for Friends to experience themselves as more than the diminishment of being "elderly" as we grow older, and to embrace who we are and who we are becoming even when

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we are not the same as we used to be. This internal change is perhaps the most difficult to measure. There's no baseline measurement, no incremental way to report progress. However we will continue to seek ways to share these impacts with FFA as part of an ongoing practice of self-reflection, seeking the promptings of Spirit, and responding to those we serve. We will continue to aim to offer a similar number of workshops, and reach a similar number of Friends in 2023 that we did in 2022. Those numbers are available in our [2021-2022 report](#).

Looking back over the last several years of budget numbers, we also note an incremental change. While our program budget continues to grow with inflation, our grant request has remained consistent. At this point the grant we receive from FFA accounts for a little less than half of our annual program budget. Even five years ago, this would have been difficult to imagine! So while we continue to rely on funding from FFA to sustain the ARCH Program in its current form, consistent support for this work has also manifested, and continues to slowly grow.

We are requesting an increase in funding from FFA this year, from 64,000 to 70,000, which is roughly a 10% increase. We have been requesting the same amount of support for the last four years without adjusting for inflation, even as we have consistently adjusted our personnel costs year over year to account for changes in the cost of living. For 2023 we are anticipating an eight percent cost of living increase for wages across the board for staff of NYYM, and this is included in our proposed program budget below. This is reflective of the current economic climate we find ourselves in. The salary line includes both the full-time director's salary and the part time wages for seven coordinators.

We are so grateful to the board and staff of FFA for your continued support. Our regular conversations and the relationship of accountability and shared mission helps keep us grounded in our sense of purpose and affirms the value of our work. Thank you.

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	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2022 Budget</b>	<b>2021 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>
<b>Funding Source</b>					
Grants (FFA, Other)	70,000	64,000	74,000	64,000	69,000
Contributions Aging Concerns	20,000	20,000	25,457	20,043	22,685
Products and Services Contributions	2,500	1,000	1,688	160	1,534
Total	92,500	85,000	101,145	84,203	93,219
<b>Expense</b>					
Staff Salary and Hourly Wages	95,919	88,806	88,769	87,625	72,045
Other Wage Expenses	10,052	9,307	5,799	7,131	5,079
Health Benefit	28,493	20,645	16,555	14,544	17,574
Pension	4,274	3,971	3,380	3,311	3,116
Travel and Administration	6,525	6,525	2,526	1,452	4,235
Workshops & Network Support	500	500	500	153	46
Total	145,763	129,754	117,528	114,216	102,096
<b>Funds</b>					
Aging Concerns Invested Trust	5,000	5,000	4,573	4,573	4,602
Balance From NYYM Operations	48,263	39,754	11,809	25,440	4,275