

Returning Grantee Application: Pendle Hill

Summary

We are requesting \$30,000 from Friends Foundation for the Aging to engage older adults in online spiritual learning community through free online programming and resources, in collaboration with other Friends organizations.

Narrative

1. Has the identified problem changed?

We remain focused on the problem of overcoming older adults' relational and spiritual isolation.

2. Have your solution or goals changed?

Our primary solution also remains consistent – making accessible online programming to build spiritual learning community, grounded in Pendle Hill's core themes of faith and practice, prophetic witness, and creative exploration.

However, we propose to shift our focus away from paid online programming. Instead, we seek to focus more explicitly on making free online resources accessible through: (1) our own free online programming including the First Monday Lecture and our pamphlets reading group as entryways into Pendle Hill's spiritual learning community; (2) collaboratively lifting up the rich diversity of online programming being offered by other Friends around the world; and (3) making all of these resources accessible through publicity and active outreach.

This shift towards financially accessible programs is consistent with Pendle Hill's commitment to radical hospitality, and with FFA's values of service to diverse populations, leveraging of resources, and collaboration. It recognizes that, with the proliferation of online programming during the pandemic, we live in a moment of unprecedented online community resources, and seeks to live into our unique role in this context.

3. Will your efforts/actions to impact the problem change? Describe.

We will focus on providing a curriculum of our own free programming (including strategic invitations to speakers from aligned communities and organizations), and a dynamic, curated curriculum tool offering sortable resources of Friends' programming taking place around the world, through the lens of our key themes of faith and practice, prophetic witness, and creative exploration.

We also propose devoting significant resources to publicity and engagement of participants – both finding new ways of sharing about our opportunities in Friends' communities, and more interactive ways of inviting participants further into Pendle Hill community after a program ends.

4. Are there changes in funding or program implementation partners?

Pendle Hill will again be collaborating with Woodbrooke Study Centre. Woodbrooke has just announced their intention to transition away from their own physical location, opening new possibilities of how we may collaborate with them, especially around celebrations of George Fox's 400th birthday. Collaborations with Barclay Press, the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Friends General Conference (FGC), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative (QREC) continue to deepen, and we would partner closely with these organizations, as well as yearly and monthly Meetings in building our dynamic collaborative curriculum. The Quaker Coalition for Uprooting Racism also continues to be a key partner, and we would plan to continue to lift up racial justice programming throughout the Quaker world. We also plan to place renewed focus on collaborating with other FFA grantees, and would

hope to strategically collaborate with these FFA partners in strategizing around content and outreach for our programs.

5. How will you know if your actions are having an impact?

Pendle Hill will evaluate our programming through participant evaluations for each workshop or program. We will measure the number of older adults attending our online programs and assess feedback received from older adults on program format, accessibility, and degree to which it meets their spiritual and educational needs. Other metrics include number of first-time older adult participants and geographic diversity of participants. We also intend to track the number of people who view our collection of free resources, and request feedback from users.

6. How will you sustain the program after the grant period?

We plan to explore innovative collaborations with partners – including Meetings, retirement communities, and content providers, to sustain the collaborative curriculum tool.

Project Budget and Request

As explained above, we seek funding for three initiatives that serve the common theme of inviting participants, particularly older adults, into spiritual learning community through online resources. *First*, we seek funding for Pendle Hill’s own online programming, including (a) our First Monday Lecture Series and (b) our reading group. The First Monday Lecture Series is a longstanding tradition of Pendle Hill, inviting thought leaders, traveling ministers, and organizational partners to share ways Spirit is alive in their work through an interactive presentation. Registration for these Zoom programs generally exceeds 100, and many more participants view the recordings on [YouTube](#). Our reading group invites F/friends into Spirit-led learning, as our pamphlets editor and coordinator facilitates conversations engaging our historic and contemporary pamphlets. We will continue to invite participants to donate to Pendle Hill in order to supplement the sustainability of these programs.

Second, we seek funding for a complimentary resource that would focus on making accessible both Pendle Hill’s online live and recorded programming, and the immense variety of aligned program around the country and the world. We would focus this resource specifically on programs that speak to Pendle Hill’s core themes of faith and practice, prophetic witness, and creative exploration. We would plan to consult with other FFA grantees, as well as other aligned organizations, in the construction of this resource.

Third, these resources are only useful if they are known and referred to as a resource. We would propose to focus outreach specifically to Quaker retirement communities and other FFA grantees and their partners, in addition to outreach to Meetings and other Friends institutions. We propose to rely both on the production and dissemination of publicity materials, as well as the fostering of interpersonal connections, focusing on our outreach and publicity as a core component of building our spiritual learning community.

Online Spiritual Learning Community – Expenses

1. Free Online Pendle Hill Programming

a. First Monday Expenses

Honoraria for leaders	\$ 2,750	11 1st Mondays
Direct staff support	\$ 4,000	
IT and Registrar support	\$ 1,800	
Administrative overhead	\$ 1,710	
<i>First Monday Total</i>	\$ 10,260	

b. Reading Group Expenses

6 reading groups, 2 staff

Direct staff support	\$ 3,000
IT and Registrar support	\$ 1,100
Administrative overhead	\$ 820
<i>Reading Group Total</i>	\$ 4,920

2. Collaborative Curriculum Tool

Education staff time - curation and collaboration	\$ 8,000
Administrative overhead	\$ 1,600
<i>Collaborative Curriculum Total</i>	\$ 9,600

3. Outreach & Engagement

Staff Time	\$ 8,000
Publicity	\$ 8,000
<i>Total Outreach & Engagement</i>	\$ 16,000

Total Expenses **\$ 40,780**

Online Spiritual Learning Community - Income

FFA Grant	\$ 30,000
Donations	\$ 3,000
Pendle Hill Subsidy	\$ 7,780
Total Income	\$ 40,780