**Annual Report for the BYM Working Group on Welcoming Trans and Nonbinary Friends, June 2025**

Over the past year, the BYM Working Group on Welcoming Trans and Nonbinary Friends has gathered regularly via zoom to share information, fellowship, and worship and to plan and provide programming at the request of Monthly Meetings.

Many Friends across our yearly meeting have experienced grief and fear over the past six months at the dismantling of legal protections and healthcare access for ourselves, our family members, and members of our monthly meetings, as well as the broader attacks on the public service, health, and justice work to which so many Friends in our region have devoted their professional lives. Our working group has endeavored to provide each other with information, strategies, and hope through this difficult winter and spring. Examples of how we have done so include:

* Sharing information about how monthly meetings are providing spaces and support for their members and attenders who are particularly at risk from the current federal administration. We are especially encouraged by how Friends Meeting of Washington provided space this spring for impacted people to gather for food, fellowship, and joy.
* Compiling minutes from BYM monthly meetings that speak to Friends’ welcome, valuing, and/or support for human and civil rights for trans and non-binary Friends. This compilation, which can be found [here](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ilmK8wII3o8bWs8QIoWbUXLhiRXgB3ZK3uGjwlhaSc0/edit?usp=sharing), is currently being used by several BYM meetings as they draft or update their own minutes. If you have a minute that’s not already here, you can submit it to us at transgender@bym-rsf.org.
* Providing a workshop at the request of Stony Run Friends Meeting on the policy situation facing trans and nonbinary Friends and how Meetings can support and welcome trans and nonbinary folks at this time.
* Learning from each other how to make more visible our meetings’ welcome of trans and nonbinary folks and other people who may be seeking support at this time. One fruit of this is that Richmond Friends Meeting designed a new page on their website modeled on Adelphi Friends Meeting’s collection of their leadings on peace and social justice issues.

We have been heartened by the ways that Friends across our yearly meeting have acted with courage, hope, and faithfulness as we seek and follow Spirit’s lead in these times. We ask that Friends consider ways they can support trans and nonbinary folks, as well as other people who are at particular risk right now. This might include supporting local or national healthcare or advocacy organizations, talking to your friends and family members, and offering spiritual support to trans folks in your community. Our liberation is bound together, and we hope we have been faithful in carrying that portion of the Truth that has been given to us.