

## **Policy on BYM Representative Travel (Last update – May 5, 2024)**

The BYM Nominating Committee nominates persons to serve as BYM representatives to a number of organizations. BYM policy is to pay as funds allow for travel costs of BYM representatives for these purposes:

- To serve on Friends General Conference's governing body, the FGC Central Committee
- To participate as a BYM representative at meetings of Friend United Meeting (FUM)
- To participate as a BYM representative at meetings of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)
- To serve as nominated representatives to other outside organizations

There is a line item in the Operating Budget for Representative Travel. This line item is funded every year based on expected travel costs for the year. The Nominating Committee will advise the Stewardship & Finance Committee when a year's total travel costs for all representatives are expected to exceed \$5,000, such as in a year where BYM representatives will participate in an overseas meeting.

When BYM representatives plan travel for the above purposes:

- Representatives should submit their travel budgets as soon as possible to the General Secretary. This will allow for adequate planning and budgeting for the travel fund.
- Funds will be given based on several factors, including cost of travel, applicant's financial need, type of gathering and access to non-BYM funding.
- Pilot this approach and re-evaluate the policy in 2 years. It is not certain how much travel will cost each year and travel costs will vary year-to-year.

Payment of travel costs should not be an obstacle for service. The goal is to cover the full cost of representative travel as the budget allows. Here are the policies for reimbursement from the Yearly Meeting:

- Representative Travel expenses include registration, lodging, transportation, and food. Representatives are invited to seek modest arrangements. Conferences often offer housing options or suggestions that could serve as a guide for reasonable costs.
- Friends are also encouraged to ask for support from their local meetings and other sources.
- The policy will be implemented by the General Secretary.