I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Alyssa Nelson has ably fulfilled the role of Youth Program Coordinator (YPC) for a year now. She is guided and supported by the Supervisory Committee clerked by Kate Watkins (Santa Monica). Members this year include teens Marie Vastola (Live Oak/Monterey Peninsula) and Clare Griese (La Jolla), and Young Adult Friend, Cara Arcuni (Palo Alto). Other adult members are Elizabeth Boardman (Davis), Lanny Jay (Redwood Forest), Mary Klein (Palo Alto), Steve Leeds (San Francisco), and Jim Summers (La Jolla). This committee meets twice a month by conference call and twice a year in person; Alyssa meets weekly with her program supervisor, Mary Klein, and as needed with the administrative supervisor, Elizabeth Boardman. Another Friend much appreciated for his deep involvement in administration of the program is Ed Flowers, Treasurer of PYM, who carries out payroll, maintains our insurances, works with Alyssa to track expenses, and keeps us apprised of availability of funds.

This spring and summer, our committee undertook a formal evaluation of the program, including of the Coordinator’s work and of our committee’s effectiveness in supporting her. A summary of findings constitutes the first part of this report; the feedback has helped us know what Friends see to be working well and some concrete suggestions for improvement that we are already beginning to implement.
Next we have listed what we have accomplished and learned during this past year and our plans for the next, such as continuing the successful trainings for adult allies and initiating a Spring Break Workcamp in Visalia. Included in the appendices are the quarterly Epistles that give more detailed accounts of Alyssa’s visits to Meetings, work with committees of various sorts, several kinds of activities with teens, and the many ways she has fostered communication and interaction amongst teens and between generations. In another appendix, you will find a list of the five articles Alyssa has written for Western Friend magazine and another article by our committee that was published in Friends Journal.

This report also includes a proposed minute to clarify the end-date of the pilot period for the Youth Program Coordinator initiative as September 30, 2013. We had brought this request to Representative Committee in March, which approved a minute included herein for referral to the Annual Session. Assuming that such a minute is approved at the Annual Session, our committee will proceed with our workplan and conduct a final evaluation in the coming year. We also request guidance on where, how, and when PYM’s discernment will happen regarding the future of the youth program and the coordinator position.

This report will be posted on the PYM website and also be available in the form of a binder for perusal during the week of our annual session. Please use the blank pages at the back of the binder to jot your concerns and commendations, or feel free to contact any of us directly.

II. INTERIM EVALUATION SUMMARY

To help focus our planning for the program’s third full year, the YPC Supervisory Committee conducted an interim evaluation in Spring/Summer 2012. This report provides a summary of what we learned through individual interviews, queries sent to Meetings and Worships Groups, and two internal committee Meetings for Worship on the Occasion of Business for the purpose of program evaluation. Because the queries and interview questions were open-ended, we did not do any statistical analysis; numbers presented in this report are merely descriptive of our qualitative data.

We invited all Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups throughout California and Nevada (a total of 43 communities, 30 in CPQM and 13 in SCQM) to consider a set of queries that we provided about the program, and to report their observations to us. (See Appendix C for the email that was sent to Meetings and Worship Groups.) Twenty-four (24) communities responded, 17 from CPQM and 7 from SCQM). Although 19 communities did not respond, we have a sense that we received reasonably diverse responses that may reflect the range of experiences and opinions throughout PYM because we have heard similar informal comments from Friends from some of those other Meetings.
The queries we provided asked Friends to consider how well the youth program and the coordinator are meeting the goals we have set for ourselves:

- *What is your experience of the YPC program? What do you like about it, and what changes would you like to see?*
- *What is your experience with the work of the program’s Coordinator? Of the program’s Supervisory Committee? What do you like about that work, and what changes would you like to see?*

In addition to seeking reflections from Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups, we conducted interviews with 21 individual Friends to explore their experiences with and reactions to the YPC initiative so far. Our goal was to talk with a cross-section of PYM, representing CPQM and SCQM, teens through adults, parents, and Friends in leadership positions (especially of the Quarterly and Yearly teen program committees) and Friends who serve in the background; we also reached out to some Friends who had previously expressed concerns about the YPC program. The resulting individual interviews captured ideas from 3 CPQM teens, 3 SCQM teens, 1 CPQM Young Friend, 11 CPQM adults, and 3 SCQM adults, including 6 parents of pre-teens and/or teens.

Our committee reviewed all the responses and met in worship to discern common themes and to take note of helpful suggestions. Five themes stand out:

First, we feel deeply moved by the sense of longing throughout PYM for our community to extend our faith more broadly among young people. This was expressed indirectly through multiple somewhat frustrated observations that many Monthly Meetings have virtually no young people in them: 17 of the 24 respondent Meetings mentioned this. The longing to extend Quakerism more broadly among young people was also expressed directly by Friends through comments like these: “Any support for our youth supports Quakers as a whole.” “We lose our teens if we don’t give them an opportunity like this. We won’t have them and keep them if we don’t have content.” And a Meeting with no children said they have “struggled to pay their assessments to cover the YPC program, but they understand that it benefits them indirectly if it keeps the Quaker Way alive.” There were calls for the YPC to give more support to Monthly Meetings to help them become capable of meeting youths’ needs at the local level, as well as recognitions that regional events play an important role in developing peer groups and Quaker identity.

Second, we heard that Friends believe the YPC program has a role to play in helping our adults learn to support our teens more effectively. Of 21 individual interviews, 11 Friends touched on this theme – 6 to note ways that our program has succeeded in this area, 1 to note difficulties in this area, and 4 to express mixed reactions. Positive
comments include these: “The FAP trainings . . . instill pride and confidence in the importance of the FAP role.” “In past years, PYM has had to scour around looking for FAPs. This year we had too many people wanting to be FAPs.” And, “There has been a little bit of a climate change in that . . . people in PYM as a whole and committees . . . are considering intergenerational accessibility of agendas and activities.” Observations that noted the challenges we face in helping adults work with teens, include these: “[Committee] conference calls are still pretty adult-driven.” “The adult community is not sure what its relationship with teens should be or what it wants it to be.” And, “There needs to be more discussion with adults about how we need to change certain patterns in our Meetings, about what’s comfortable, to be inclusive of teens.”

Third, meetings are concerned about the cost of this program. Of the 24 Meetings that provided comments, 9 mentioned that the increased annual assessment to PYM due to the expense of the YPC program was difficult for their Meetings to afford. At the same time, 8 of these mentioned that they believe the value of the YPC initiative is worth the financial sacrifice. We are heartened and thankful to hear from the Treasurer that as of July 31st, “Monthly Meeting Revenue of $115,515 is very close to the budget of $118,001.”

Fourth, the YPC program has struggled somewhat to get the word out about its existence, its offerings, its challenges, and its successes, although we have used diverse outreach methods such as email, direct phone calls, mailings, the PYM website, Facebook, and Western Friend. Even though 5 Meetings and 5 individuals mentioned improvements that they see the YPC program is bringing to overall communications throughout PYM, on balance communications remain a challenge. Of the 24 Meetings that responded, 12 reported a sense of feeling uninformed about the YPC program. Our committee feels somewhat amused and somewhat frustrated by comments from several meetings similar to this one, “We did read [the YPC Epistle] in Meeting today. . . . However, we note that while this is the 6th epistle that has been written, to our group memory, it’s only the first we have actually read as a group. No one that was here today recalls seeing any previous epistles, even though they’re all posted to the PYM website.”

Such challenges of perception and communication are reflected in the following ‘case-study.’ There was a concern expressed that in one instance the Coordinator had put energy into an event that was already being organized; “they didn’t need the help; she should have put energy where people were struggling more.” This feedback helps us to think about how we communicate what we are doing. While our committee wholeheartedly agrees that we need to be selective about how we utilize our limited resources, we note that Alyssa in fact played a limited, consulting role in the organization of that event, and that Friends from the group that received the assistance
reported (unprompted by us) that they very much appreciated the help and that it made a big difference for them.

“Alyssa’s support for our teen retreat meant our reach was much further. She helped bring word of mouth and website coordination to reach other teens and adults. She helped us find the right person to join us as a guest presenter, someone who was available and able to work with teens…. It’s great having somebody who communicates throughout PYM, who can tell everyone what’s going on. As teens, we plan things, we are responsible to tell our friends what’s going on. It was great to know someone was telling all of California that we’re doing a retreat. Before we would have a retreat for us and our friends, now we were putting on a retreat that we were inviting all of CA to…. As an adult supporter of our teen program, this helps me feel more comfortable about my failings…. People are not asking for MORE in terms of activities. It’s the spark of connection that we want.”

In this case, although it may have looked like the Coordinator was deeply involved in the event, in fact she provided neither project management nor organization, rather consultation to the adult and teen organizers and help with advertising the event widely via her network. Meanwhile, most of her effort went into planning a training for adults that ran parallel to the teen event and included a joint lunch for the adult allies and teens to discuss what makes for good adult-teen relationships. Later in the year, Alyssa provided similar consultation to another Meeting to organize a teen retreat; based on these two experiences, she intends to work with those Friends to draft advices and a planning template for Meetings that want to host regional or local events for teens. In short, we learned from this case that at times it might seem that the Coordinator is doing more than she actually is, and that therefore it seems indeed effective to have the YPC role be as a resource, catalyst, and interpreter as we stated in last year’s report.

Fifth and finally, we see virtually universal approval among Friends in PYM for the quality of work that Alyssa Nelson is doing on our behalf, and some regret that there is not enough of her to go around. Some Meetings are still waiting for her to visit them for the first time, while others (including both Meetings with and without teens or children) have enjoyed visits from the Coordinator as a chance to get to know more about the youth program as well as to consider the state of their Meetings and visions for the future. Some of these Meetings wish that she could come back sooner than will be possible. And some Friends wonder if the YPC job is too big for any one person to accomplish successfully. With those reservations noted, the numerous rave reviews for Alyssa’s work include: “She is very easy to work with and good at details.” “We’re struck by Alyssa’s openness and flexibility and her relationship with the teens.” “JYM’ers can talk with Alyssa easily on everything from logistical planning to emotional issues.” “Her ability to unify the teens from every part of the state has been discussed and admired.”
“She is good working with a group to draw them deeper into Quakerism and what they want their program to be.” “Alyssa is dynamite.”

The results of our evaluation suggest that while we do have plenty of room (and ideas!) for improvement, we are making good progress toward our goals and objectives (Appendix A) and in key areas such as those mentioned in last year’s annual report:

- **Find unity among Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) teens and adults about how to create an even-more open, loving, trusting, safe, and inclusive community.**
- **Create stronger systems and institutional memory so that JYM can run more smoothly year-to-year.**
- **Organize more Friendly Adult Presence (FAP) and adult ally workshops on an ongoing basis so that more adults can feel prepared, welcome, and supported to build loving, appropriate adult-youth relationships. And so the ‘usual suspects’ have more people to share the work with.**
- **Find and bring back the young adults who have drifted off or left, to nurture stronger ties among Young Adult Friends and older Friends.**
- **Nurture Friends through the transitions that come with growing up and moving into, through, and out of our various age-based affinity groups.**
- **Build upon what we have already in our local, quarterly, and yearly meetings, and our Quaker organizations, to coordinate them better and find ways to have more service and fellowship that attract and keep us engaged.**
- **Create the container – the intentional space – to attend to one another.**

In closing this evaluation summary, the YPC Supervisory Committee thanks all the Friends who participated in this interim program evaluation, and we also thank Friends for the many specific constructive criticisms and suggestions that they offered as ways to improve this program. We plan to implement many of these suggestions and invite all Friends in PYM to continue sharing your insights with us throughout the year ahead.

**III. ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEARNING FROM THIS YEAR**

Since the program's inception, Alyssa and former-Coordinator Sarah Beutel have visited a combined 26 meetings and worship groups (10 of 13 in SCQM, 16 of 30 in CPQM). Some meetings have been visited twice (once by each Coordinator). This year, Alyssa visited 9 of 13 in SCQM and 13 of 30 in CPQM, for a total of 22 Meetings visited in 11 months. These visits to Meetings have been foundational to developing skills and relationships among Friends throughout our geographically large Yearly Meeting. This year, capacity- and community-building have also been supported by Alyssa’s active participation in all 5 Quarterly Meeting gatherings; 3 Quaker Center workshops; 1 youth camp; and 2 Adult Ally/FAP trainings; and through regular contact with teen, young adult, and senior Friends through email, phone, video conference, and in-person meetings.
Last year we reported on our evolving vision of the role of the Youth Program Coordinator as a resource, an interpreter, and a catalyst, rather than as an event planner or a program manager. The many accomplishments of this year reflect that this approach seems to be working, although Alyssa is certainly also managing this program and its multiple projects. With feedback and reflection on each activity, we continue to learn what works, and we are constantly making adjustments. Some highlights from this year, organized per category of our goals (though not aligned precisely with the enumerated objectives), include the following accomplishments of the Coordinator and this Committee:

1) **Supporting Teens (Goal 1)**
   a) Consulted to support 2 teen retreats at 2 Meetings (Palo Alto and Orange Grove).
   b) Helped Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) revamp its Respectful Relationships / sexuality education curriculum, based on the “Our Whole Lives” training Alyssa attended in January 2012 (utilizing some acclaimed curriculum created by the Unitarian Universalist Association and the United Church of Christ).
   c) Added 2 new teens to our committee.
   d) Acted as a resource, mentor, and advocate for teens in leadership positions in Quarterly and Yearly Meeting committees and programs.
   e) Deepened relationships with individual teens, and reached out to teens and families who have not previously been involved in Quarterly or Yearly gatherings.
   f) Encouraged teen intervisitation at each other’s Quarterly Meetings, and helped with travel and registration logistics.
   g) Encouraged the initiation of a new tradition of each Quarter’s teen program sending its epistle to the other Quarter.

2) **Supporting Young Adults (Goal 2)**
   a) We had set this goal aside temporarily to focus on figuring out the teen and adult ally pieces. In June 2012 we decided that we now have the capacity to start addressing this goal.
   b) The Coordinator is supporting the Young Adult Friends Co-Clerks in planning for the 2012 Annual Session and also working jointly with them and the JYM Committee to revamp the Respectful Relationships module.
   c) Alyssa will be co-facilitating our upcoming workshop at Quaker Center with one of the Young Adult Friends Co-Clerks.

3) **Developing and Supporting Adult Allies (Goal 3)**
   a) Conducted 2 workshops for Adult Allies / FAPs, 1 in Southern California (Santa Monica) and one in the North (Palo Alto).
   b) Will lead the FAP Orientation at Annual Gathering for JYM and be onsite as a resource to FAPs and JYM adult committee members.
c) Acted as a resource for adult allies in leadership positions who are working with youth in Quarterly and Yearly Meeting committees and programs (e.g., committee clerks, presiding clerks, committee members, FAPs).

d) Gave guidance on how to engage youth in participatory ways to adults who are planning presentations to JYM and other gatherings of teens.

e) Consulting on an ongoing basis with PYM’s Peace and Social Order Committee (all of whom have been adults this year) to help them meet their goal of learning about the interests of younger Friends in issues of service and work for justice, and to find ways to bring youth into the work of their committee.

4) Intergenerational “Spirit of Mutual Learning” (Goal 4)

a) Distributed copies of FGC’s “Build It! A Toolkit for Nurturing Intergenerational Spiritual Community” to almost every Monthly Meeting and Worship group in CA and NV.

b) Created advices and queries for planning intergenerational events, published in Western Friend.

c) Helped find a skilled facilitator to lead activities and discussion about racial justice at a teen retreat, making a connection with the subsequent workshop on Racial Justice at Quaker Center.

d) Helped Quaker Center with its inaugural Peace Action Camp focused on learning non-violent direct action for high-schoolers.

e) Organized a pre-PYM gathering for Friends interested in service, activism, and community with Friends of all ages. “Seeking Spirit All Together: Intergenerational Faith, Fun, and Fellowship” is a workshop at Quaker Center held the weekend before the PYM Annual Session, with 24 registered participants (4 teens, 1 young adult, 19 older adults) representing multiple PYM Committees (Children’s Religious Education, Junior Yearly Meeting, Peace & Social Order, Unity with Nature, Young Adult Friends) and organizations (AFSC, El Salvador Service-Learning Trip, FCLCA, FCNL, Quaker Center, Woolman Semester), and both Quarters. [Outcome still to be seen and reported at the annual session, due to this written report being submitted before the workshop.]

f) Supported the JYM, SCQM, and CPQM teen program committees (made up of teens and adults) by attending planning meetings/calls and working with certain sub-committees.

i) Until Spring Quarter, Alyssa and SCQM planners had not worked closely together. She then helped organize a teen overnight at the otherwise 1-day Spring Quarterly Meeting, including a service project with Inland Valley Friends Meeting.

ii) Piloted a planning template with CPQM teen committee that is going into its second iteration. Will share with SCQM.
g) Supported CPQM planning committee to have more (and more effective) intergenerational plenary sessions.

h) Have continued to learn how to effectively include teens and young adults on our committee, and are sharing that learning with others (such as Peace & Social Order) as we go along.

i) Creating systems and templates for intergenerational and teen events to streamline planning processes and make it easier for the volunteer committees as their membership continually turns over.

5) Communications (Goal 5)
   a) Wrote 4 epistles, distributed throughout CA and NV via email, the PYM website, Facebook, and hard copy.
   b) Published 6 articles: 5 in Western Friend and 1 in Friends Journal. (See Appendix B.)
   c) Advertised teen and intergenerational events in additional ways to the organizers’ usual outreach methods or networks (via epistles, email, website, Facebook, direct contact).
   d) Recruited a volunteer in almost every Monthly Meeting and Worship group in CA and NV, and many related committees, to be liaisons with our committee.
   e) Working with PYM Webmaster on improving e-communications, including improving website layout and content as well as beginning to create improved contact databases.
   f) Visited 22 Meetings and Worship Groups in 11 months, holding hundreds of group and on-one-one conversations.

6) Administrative systems (Goal 6)
   a) With the active participation of PYM’s Treasurer on financial matters, administrative systems are finally in place and running smoothly for the most part. Because of this, we have more time and energy to devote directly to program areas and projects.
   b) The committee meets regularly, and Alyssa meets regularly with her direct program supervisor (Mary Klein) and as needed with her administrative supervisor (Elizabeth Boardman).
   c) Updated our Committee’s Goals and Objectives document, Appendix A.

IV. PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR

Based on what we have accomplished and learned so far during this experimental program, and drawing on the constructive suggestions given in the interim evaluation and other feedback sources, for the next year we will be emphasizing four main areas as we continue to work toward the goals and objectives we have set (see Appendix A):
1. **Continue and expand the projects and activities that have been effective and well-received so far:**
   a. Support Monthly Meetings to build up their capacity to serve local teens and young adults on an ongoing basis and as well as through special events such as retreats and intergenerational activities that invite participants from the rest of PYM or area clusters.
   b. Support Monthly Meetings to become better at reaching out to teens and young adults to encourage and help them (financially and logistically) to attend regional events, such as Quarterly and Yearly Meeting sessions, camps and trips, special programs (such as Woolman Semester and the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage), and Quaker Center workshops.
   c. Support Quarterly Meetings’ teen programs and JYM to have systems in place so that their planning committees can have more energy and resources to devote to developing their programs rather than reinventing the basic gathering each time, and to conducting even more safe and fun gatherings. This will allow them, for example, to develop, lead, or participate in more profound service projects or learning about the Quaker Way.
   d. Find and disseminate additional ways to address the barriers of cost and transportation that prevent some teens and young adults from being able to participate in events.
   e. Organize additional Adult Ally / FAP trainings in both South and North to continue to help adults find their niches as allies and to develop a bigger pool of adults willing and skilled to serve as Friendly Adult Presences at teen events.
   f. Continue to explore ways to make intergenerational worship-sharing more effective (as we have repeatedly seen that sometimes the younger Friends are reluctant to speak or find that the queries don’t speak to their condition).
   g. Find additional ways for youth to give input into the PYM Youth Program.

2. **Help PYM build an infrastructure, coherence, and an overarching focus for “how to be Quakers in the world” through all-ages service, advocacy, and work for social and environmental justice and peace. This includes teaching and learning about Quakerism and engaging in “deeper questions and topics,” as requested in the program evaluation.**
   a. Build on what comes out of the “Seeking Spirit All Together” workshop at Quaker Center, Aug 10-12, 2012.
      i. Possibly propose a service or activism theme or project(s) for the whole Yearly Meeting to work on together.
      ii. Carry out a Spring Break Workcamp in Visalia.
iii. Connect Peace Action Camp, other Quaker Camps, and Meeting activities with the service/activism theme.

iv. Hold lobby days and activities with FCLCA and FCNL (locally and/or in the capital).

b. Continue to support Peace & Social Order’s goal of including younger Friends in their work.

c. Develop a working relationship with Unity with Nature Committee.

3. **Extend the Coordinator and Committee’s resources to serve young adult Friends (as stated in the original proposal), now that we have built effective ways to work with teen Friends and adult allies.**

a. Connect with young adults who are attending the Annual Session, listen their needs, and start to co-create a plan.

b. We are looking to add another California/Nevada-based young adult to our committee now that our current representatives of this age range are going out of state for school.

c. Support Meetings to reach out to local college students and to stay in touch with Friends who have left for college/work/life.

4. **Improve communications and relationships, including increasing the visibility of our committee’s role.**

a. Support Monthly Meetings to host regional events. Orange Grove wants to do it again, and other Friends have suggested additional locations.

b. Continue to publish epistles and articles and seek ways to make Friends more aware of them.

c. Continue to improve our section of the PYM website and more effectively use our Facebook page.

d. Finish visiting Meetings and Worship Groups that haven’t been visited yet.

e. Develop stronger systems and infrastructure (such as advices, queries, and templates for planning events) for the Quarterly gatherings, JYM, teen retreats, and other intergenerational events.

f. Support the SCQM Youth Planning Committee as it reforms itself.

We are excited to see how Way opens in 2013!

V. **PROPOSED MINUTE REGARDING TIMELINE OF PILOT PERIOD**

At its Annual Session 2009, PYM approved a three-year experiment to employ a Youth Program Coordinator (YPC). Although the budget year started on October 1, 2009, the initiative had no employee or program expenses and no programming until April 1, 2010. So this “three year experiment” might be said to end on March 31, 2013. However, RepCom 2012 approved a minute – for consideration at the upcoming Annual Gathering 2012 – to extend the experiment through September 2013:
RepCom Minute 2012: To allow for a full evaluation and understanding of the experiment of funding a Youth Program Coordinator for Pacific Yearly Meeting, we recommend to the Annual Session 2012 of Pacific Yearly Meeting that the calendaring of the three year Youth Program Coordinator position start in April 2010 and end at the conclusion of the fiscal year 2013 (9/30/2013). Approved.

This extension would allow the YPC to fully support youth participation in Annual Session 2013, would allow PYM to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and discernment about the program’s future between Annual Sessions 2012 and 2013, and would allow a few weeks of transition or wind-up activities after Annual Gathering 2013, depending on whether PYM decides to maintain the program, revamp it, or lay it down.

Assuming that such a minute is approved at the 2012 Annual Session, our committee will conduct a final evaluation in the coming year. We also request guidance about where, how, and when PYM’s discernment will happen.

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we thank the many Friends of many ages who have worked with us to think big and try some new things.

Submitted by the Youth Program Coordinator & Supervisory Committee
Kate Watkins, Clerk
Alyssa Nelson, Coordinator
APPENDIX A:
Goals & Objectives of the Program
(Version: revised and approved by YPCSC, 7 December 2011)
Available at: http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/2011/pym-docs/ypc-goals-objectives-rev-12-7-11/

APPENDIX B:
Publications List, with Links to PYM Website

1. Epistles from 2010-2011 and 2011-2012
http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/category/yearly-meeting-docs/ypc/

2. Articles prepared for Western Friend by the YPC
   a. December 2011: Build It! Toolkit, and Intergenerational Plenary Dialogue Activity at College Park’s Fall Quarter
   b. March 2012: Being an Ally to Youth, with Advices and Queries on Planning Intergenerational Events
   c. April/May 2012: “Our Whole Lives” Sexuality Education and JYM’s Respectful Relationships Curriculum
   e. July/August 2012: The JYM Bookbag and an Interview with Tom Farley

3. Article in Friends Journal by Mary Klein and the YPCSC
   a. April 2012: Crossing the Monkey Bridge Together (in theme issue on “Membership and the Generation Gap”)

4. Prior Reports
   b. Annual Session 2011: http://www.pacificyearlymeeting.org/category/yearly-meeting-docs/ypc/
   c. RepCom 2011: Attachment #11 in the minutes:
   d. Annual Session 2010: (Verbal reports in Plenary I and VIII)
March 18, 2012
[Reminder sent April 17, 2012]

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Pacific Yearly Meeting’s Youth Program Coordinator (YPC) initiative, I request that members of your Monthly Meeting discuss the following queries (also attached) and submit your reflections to me by Wednesday, May 16, 2012:

- What is your experience of the YPC program? What do you like about it, and what changes would you like to see?
- What is your experience with the work of the program’s Coordinator? Of the program’s Supervisory Committee? What do you like about that work, and what changes would you like to see?

Please discuss these queries in whatever contexts best suit your meeting — during monthly Meeting for Business, in an adult education session, during a First Day School committee meeting, etc. Your responses will inform our annual program evaluation. Attention by Monthly Meetings to this evaluation is especially important now, because our three-year “YPC experiment” will soon enter its final year.

**BACKGROUND:**
At its Annual Session 2009, PYM approved a three-year experiment to employ a Youth Program Coordinator (YPC). Although the budget year started on October 1, 2009, the initiative had no employee or program expenses and no programming until April 1, 2010. So this “three year experiment” might be said to end on March 31, 2013. However, RepCom 2012 approved a minute – for consideration at the upcoming Annual Gathering 2012 – to extend the experiment through September 2013:

**RepCom Minute 2012:** To allow for a full evaluation and understanding of the experiment of funding a Youth Program Coordinator for Pacific Yearly Meeting, we recommend to the Annual Session 2012 of Pacific Yearly Meeting that the calendaring of
the three year Youth Program Coordinator position start in April 2010 and end at the conclusion of the fiscal year 2013 (9/30/2013). Approved.

This extension would allow the YPC to fully support youth participation in Annual Session 2013, would allow PYM to conduct a comprehensive evaluation and discernment about the program’s future between Annual Sessions 2012 and 2013, and would allow a few weeks of transition or wind-up activities after Annual Gathering 2013, depending on whether PYM decides to maintain the program, revamp it, or lay it down. Again, please send your reflections on the above queries by Wednesday, May 16, 2012, to: [email or mail]

Your input will help shape our work-plan for the third and final pilot year of the Youth Program Coordinator initiative. In 2013, we will ask you to participate again in an evaluation of this program and to join us in discerning the outcomes of the program and directions for the future.

If you have any questions about this evaluation, please contact me. [email or phone]

Thank you,
Mary Klein
Palo Alto Monthly Meeting
PYM Youth Program Coordinator Supervisory Committee