

**Friends Committee on North Carolina Legislation (FCNCL)**  
**Report to PFYM Annual Meeting**  
**March 28, 2020**

FCNCL focused on four goals: (i) creating an FCNCL infrastructure; (ii) discerning Quaker-value-based policy priorities; (iii) crafting communication paths for alerts when advocacy opportunities arose; (iv) developing a network of alert recipients.

- **Organization and Infrastructure.**
  - On October 5, 2019 33 General Committee representatives from 13 Monthly Meetings met; Policy, Communication, and Nominating Committees were created.
  - Our Executive Committee includes: Vernie Davis and Helene Hilger, co-clerks; Deborah Britton, Recording Clerk, Susan Davis, Assistant Recording Clerk; Katherine Metzger and Pam Schwingl, Policy Committee co-clerks; Andrew Leslie and Christine Ashley, Communications Committee co-clerks; Dorothy Mason, Nominating Committee clerk; Zana Cranfill, Treasurer, and Marian Beane, PFYM liaison.
  - By-laws were approved in January 2020
  - In February 2020 we completed all steps to accept donations and make payments. Incorporated with the NC Secretary of State, we registered our TIN with the IRS and are a 501-c-4 nonprofit.
- **Outreach.** Yearly Meetings (PFYM, PFF, SAYMA, NCYM (Conservative), NC Friends Churches and NC Fellowship of Friends) and individual meetings were invited to participate and, most accepted. NC Friends Churches, who will discern if they will participate in FCNCL later.
  - Guilford QLSP is represented, and outreach continues to other NC Quaker organizations.
  - Meetings and individuals with interest but little capacity for active involvement are included in communications as requested. A Membership Committee will be convened in the near future.
- **Policy Priorities Discernment and Dissemination.** All participating Monthly meetings were asked to help with discernment to guide our advocacy work in 2020.
  - Friends from nine North Carolina Quaker meetings and organizations submitted leadings and concerns for potential advocacy.
  - The priorities discerned are: (i) electoral reform (independent commission to eliminate gerrymandering, voting rights); (ii) access to quality healthcare (Medicaid expansion and reproductive rights); (iii) environmental protection measures (conservation, air and water quality, environmental justice, and addressing the climate crisis); and (iv) criminal justice reform (end to ICE raids and ending the death penalty).
- **Communication.** We have an email address and a website ([fcncl.org](http://fcncl.org)) with a digital form for Action Alerts sign-up.
  - Over 50 participants receive Action Alerts, and new Alert recipients are being solicited.
  - A protocol for sending out alerts was developed that ensures oversight but fast action.
  - Action Alerts are also distributed via whole-meeting email groups, and others will be encouraged to use this or other methods to build our list of recipients.
- **Anti-Racism Minute.** We approved an anti-racism minute and committed to ask ourselves in committee decisions and in General Committee the query: “How does this decision support FCNCL in its goal to transform into an actively anti-racist faith community and in supporting anti-racism policies and regulations in state government?” as decisions are contemplated.
- **Lobbying Visits.** Visits to NC legislators are conducted to help us get briefings on likely legislature actions, and a “leave-behind” FCNCL handout was created to inform legislators about our work.