

**Toward Right Relationship Project**  
**Second Quarter Report, FY 2016 (January 1 – March 31, 2016)**

Submitted May 11, 2016  
By Paula Palmer, Director

I was happy to return to Boulder County and the Boulder Friends Meeting after living at Pendle Hill from September through December, 2015. It was a joy to meet regularly again with the Indigenous Peoples Concerns Committee, my Spiritual Care Committee, and the Toward Right Relationship Oversight Committee, and to worship among Friends in my home meeting. The enriching experiences of my sojourn at Pendle Hill stay alive through continued correspondence, study, and prayer.

**Research on Quaker Indian Schools**

During this quarter I gathered together all the primary source materials I had collected from Friends Historical Library (Swarthmore College) and the Quaker Collection at Haverford College during my sojourn at Pendle Hill, Sept-Dec 2015. To report my research findings, I drafted a one-hour talk and created a powerpoint slide show. I pilot-tested the talk with two focus groups of Friends, who were very helpful in pointing out ways to improve the presentation. I scheduled presentations at Swarthmore College (April 13), Friends Committee on National Legislation (April 22), Friends House, Sandy Spring MD (April 22), the Native American Rights Fund (May 17), the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (May 19), Boulder Friends Meeting (May 22), and Intermountain Yearly Meeting (June 11). I also submitted a proposal to present the talk as an Interest Group at Friends General Conference (July 5) and as part of the afternoon programs sponsored by Quaker Earthcare Witness and AFSC at Friends General Conference.

During these months of preparing to give presentations on my research, my Spiritual Care Committee offered weekly telephone check-ins. Judy Huston served as my elder specifically in preparing for my first talk at Swarthmore College. Early in the quarter, I struggled for clarity and prayed for guidance to discern the boundaries of my responsibility as a researcher. With my Spiritual Care committee I asked, Do I have to write “the definitive book” on the Quaker Indian schools? How much is enough? These questions resolved when I recognized that my calling, at least for now, is not to write the definitive book on the Quaker Indian schools. My calling is to lay the truth about Quaker participation in the forced assimilation of Native children – to the extent that I have been able to perceive it – before Friends, and ask them to consider what this history means to us today. My research needs to be credible but not exhaustive. In my talks I can invite Friends and scholars to look more deeply into any number of different aspects of this history and to bring more truths forward. My main challenge is to present my research findings to Friends in such a way that it opens their minds and hearts to a fresh and Spirit-led exploration of what right relationship means for us in regard to the Native peoples of this land.

I kept this goal in mind as I developed my talk. I also realized that this understanding of my calling will guide my path forward in the coming months or years, as I look for ways of laying

my research and my query, “What does this history mean for us today?” before Friends throughout the country.

With the help of Dave Lohman, I created text for the website and updated the page for my research on the Quaker Indian schools: [www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-boarding-school-research](http://www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-boarding-school-research). I also created handouts with resources on the Indian boarding schools to be given to people who attend my presentations.

I met several times with the newly appointed Executive Officer of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition, Christine McCleave, and with board members Jerilyn DeCoteau and Elicia Goodsoldier. They invited me to present initial research findings with them during a panel discussion at Naropa University in February. I reported my research experience to Don Wharton and Brett Shelton of the Native American Rights Fund, which had contributed \$1500 toward my research expenses.

In January, I participated in a consultation at the Louisville Institute on the campus of the Presbyterian Seminary in Louisville KY, along with the other 2016 recipients of Pastoral Study Project Grants. This Louisville Institute grant covered my research expenses during this quarter and will also cover travel expenses to present my research findings at Friends General Conference and at a conference on Quakers and Native Americans which will be held in Philadelphia in November. The consultation was a wonderful opportunity to share research and dissemination goals and strategies with the other grantees. For me, it was an important opportunity to inform people in other denominations about the call from Native organizations for all denominations to conduct research on our roles during the era of the Indian boarding schools, and to contribute this research toward a truth, reconciliation, and healing process.

### **Toward Right Relationship Outreach and Workshops**

During this quarter, I facilitated the following Toward Right Relationship workshops:

- January 18: City of Boulder’s Martin Luther King Day celebration
- January 30: Boulder Community Church of Christ
- February 9: Naropa University
- March 13: Boulder Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

I also coached other TRR workshop facilitators who presented a total of eight workshops in Wisconsin, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Washington DC, and Kansas.

Amy Zuckerman, chairperson of the Boulder Human Relations Commission, invited me to serve on an ad hoc committee which will recommend to City Council establishment of an Indigenous Peoples Day holiday, October 12. Amy would like the Human Relations Commission and the City Council and City staff to experience the Toward Right Relationship workshop in conjunction with the inaugural celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day this fall.

I gave slide presentations on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to a Boulder Rotary Club, to the Boulder County United Nations Association, and to Unitarian Universalists in Lafayette CO.

The core TRR group of Jerilyn DeCoteau (Ojibwe/Cree), Dr. Doreen Martinez (Mescalero Apache), Ann Cairns, and Larry Bangs continued to discuss plans for expanding our work, primarily by training additional TRR workshop facilitators. We agreed to seek grant funds to support Native American facilitators taking the workshops into Native American communities.

**Financial Report (submitted by Toby Gallegos)  
Summary of Program Activities**

	Planned	Actual YTD
Workshops delivered	20	11 + 8 *
Facilitators trained	10	0
Presentations to Quaker organizations	unspecified	2
Grant proposals submitted	unspecified	2**

\*8 were presented by other trained facilitators

\*\* Sisters of Loretto; City of Lafayette CO

**Statement of Financial Activities**

	Actual FY16	Budget FY16	Over (Under) Budget	% of Budget
Beginning Balance, 10/1/15	7,007	7,007		
<b>Income</b>				
Individual donations	11,149	19,500	(8,352)	57.17%
Crowdsourcing	0	0	0	
Workshop host organization donations	1,415	10,600	(9,185)	13.35%
Boulder Meeting donations	0	500	(500)	0.00%
Grants	19,840	25,000	(5,160)	79.36%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>32,404</b>	<b>55,600</b>	<b>(23,197)</b>	<b>58.28%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Project Director Compensation	18,375	44,100	(25,725)	41.67%
Consultants	230	5,000	(4,770)	4.60%
Conference fees	0	1,500	(1,500)	0.00%
Supplies, printing, postage, other	233	1,000	(767)	23.32%
Travel	1,350	4,000	(2,650)	33.76%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>20,189</b>	<b>55,600</b>	<b>(35,411)</b>	<b>36.31%</b>

Net Operating Income	12,215	0
Fund Balance, 12/30/15	7,617	
Fund Balance, 3/31/16	19,222	
Fund Balance, 6/30/16	0	
Fund Balance, 9/30/16	0	7,007