

LifeCalls Report to CPMM

This annual report of the Spiritual Accountability Group (SAG) of LifeCalls: A Ministry to Foster Faithfulness is submitted by Mona Cardell, Shan Cretin, Lola Georg, and Kevin Taylor.

We met 9 times with Viv Hawkins since our last report to Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting (CPMM), dated August 2014 presented to CPMM's September 2014 meeting for business. We have found our service to be spiritually fulfilling. Viv has found our counsel and assistance exceptionally helpful in carrying out this ministry and remains grateful to CPMM for this accountability structure.

At its September 2014 meeting for business, CPMM approved for two years the LifeCalls minute of religious service and various privileges including LifeCalls solicitation of CPMM membership annually, CPMM continuing to receive funds on behalf of LifeCalls, CPMM confirming its support of grant applications on behalf of LifeCalls, and CPMM hosting LifeCalls program use of Friends Center space.

Our plans for the coming year include continued support for the ongoing areas of focus of this ministry, especially start-up of Releasing Ministry Alliance. We will also explore with Viv whether her work regarding racism among Friends is part of LifeCalls ministry.

Requests for Support of LifeCalls

1. We ask individual CPMM members to learn about and promote Releasing Ministry Alliance.
 - a. Please familiarize yourself with Releasing Ministry Alliance by viewing the video "Introducing Releasing Ministry Alliance" and visiting releasingministry.org/campaign
 - b. Share with and refer others (in-person and via social media) to the Releasing Ministry Alliance. We need people carrying ministries, those supporting them, and funding.
 - c. Consider contributing to the Releasing Ministry Alliance start-up campaign and advise Viv of any potential funding sources.
2. In the Spirit of Releasing Ministry Alliance, the LifeCalls SAG and minister encourage CPMM to allocate funds to ministries carried by members of CPMM.

Ministry

Releasing Ministry Alliance

With assistance of the CPMM appointed Spiritual Accountability Group, progress has been steady. The campaign to publicize and crowdfund start-up funds has been active since May 2015. Viv has sent 12 e-newsletters to a list of 400+ people, featuring 20 ministries and Releasing Ministry Alliance progress reports. Various individuals and groups, especially featured ministries, have spread the message to their constituencies. Website design and institutional infrastructure establishment continue. A Releasing Ministry Facebook group of 216 members is administered by Viv and actively posted to by her and other members. The "Introducing Releasing Ministry Alliance" video and various other publicity materials were produced and distributed via social media, Quaker publications, and meetings.

Releasing Ministry Alliance has raised a total of \$10,000 (as of the last report from CPMM dated July, 30 2015) toward the \$16,000 goal. Of that, \$5,000 was awarded by the Lyman Fund directly to the New York Yearly Meeting Friend who is doing the web development. We pray a \$1,000 grant from Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting opens way for other similar contributions. A GoFundMe campaign has been active since April 2015.

Plans for the coming year:

- Complete the start-up fundraising and publicity campaign.
- Obtain 501(c)3 status, complete web applications, and establish administrative structures.
- Launch fully functioning services with 15+ participating ministries in first year.

Spiritual accountability

Viv has long known that spiritual accountability is critical to faithful ministries. This past year, she has actively engaged in a program to train as a spiritual director. Offered by the Sisters of Mercy (Cranaleith Center, Philadelphia), this program focus on supporting people on the margins. The formal study and the cohort of participants, many of whom are women religious, helps Viv learn more about spiritual accountability in practical, applied ways. She intends to leverage this experience further as she continues to write and teach on peer mutual spiritual accountability.

Plans for the coming year:

- Complete spiritual direction formation program (November 2016).
- Practice and, possibly teach or write, on peer mutual spiritual direction.

India Connections

While all bodies of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PhYM) have been laid down due to the restructure, India Friends Working Group (IFWG), one such body, continues to remain active. Viv is a member of this group which supports Indian Friends, plans a November 2015 delegation of U.S. Friends to India, and supports a relationship between Unami Friends Meeting and residents of Bhimkothi, a rural indigenous village.

Plans for the coming year:

- Provide advice to the delegation coordinator; consider a 2016 trip with Lola Georg to India.
- Maintain relationships with some Indian Friends, Ekta Parishad, IFWG, and related parties.

Minister

Viv continues to work full-time while carrying this ministry. Viv is heartened by the growing support for Releasing Ministry Alliance. She hopes to see that support translate more fully into concrete assistance as mentioned in the request section above. One continuing frustration for the minister has been working through the bureaucracy to endorse minutes and the frequency with which it is required by CPMM's practice of approving minutes of religious service for one or two years at a time.

Plans for the coming year:

- Prune and balance commitments to sustain steady progress with Releasing Ministry Alliance.

Administration

The LifeCalls minute of religious service was, in September 2014, approved by CPMM for 2 years and endorsed by Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting (PQM) later that month; it was approved for endorsement by PhYM in April 2015. As of now, we are still working on obtaining the paperwork.

Another minute, one of support of Releasing Ministry Alliance, was approved by Philadelphia Quarter and endorsed by these monthly meetings: Central Philadelphia, Chestnut Hill, Germantown, Green Street, Frankford. At the suggestion of CPMM's Committee on Gifts and Leadings, that minute was brought to PhYM. The clerks of PQM and the LifeCalls SAG presented to PhYM Interim Meeting in April 2015. Additional questions were taken up at the May 2015 PhYM Interim Meeting. There was active interest in the ministry. However, the PhYM clerk thought PhYM should not endorse a minute of a project under the care of a monthly meeting.

Contributions to Releasing Ministry Alliance have been received by CPMM, including funds raised through the GoFundMe campaign.

Financial report

The following report is based on July 15, 2015 financial reports received from CPMM.

Fiscal Year (CPMM)	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
Carry-over from prior year	2,505	3,378	1,864	2,614	6,188
<i>Income to the ministry</i>					
Individual contributions	2,275	1,570	750	4,851	2,337
<i>Reimbursed expenses of the ministry</i>					
Travel	317	803		100	
Education	624	480			
Conference fees	816	1,553		1,017	1,100
Printing	12	36			
Supplies	45	212		160	
Video production					665
Total Expenses (compensated)	1,815	3,084		1,277	1,765
Balance of LifeCalls funds held by CPMM	3,378	1,864	2,614	6,188	6,760

Submitted by Mona Cardell, Shan Cretin, Lola Georg, and Kevin Taylor, Spiritual Accountability Group for LifeCalls Ministry and Viv Hawkins