



Report of the Friends Ending Gun Violence Collaborative of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

To the Program Committee of Quaker Life Council

The **Friends Ending Gun Violence Collaborative** is now up and running! With staff support from Claire Kinnel, we have designed and provided initial content to the webpage on the Yearly Meeting site.

The Collaborative now has twelve participants and has been meeting monthly via Zoom.

Partnering with **Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence**, we are encouraging Friends meetings to host a Memorial to the Lost to recognize those lives lost to gun violence. Upper Dublin Monthly Meeting has recently held a Memorial; Norristown Friends Meeting and Downingtown Friends Meeting hosted events in June. Our focus now is on Chester County and especially invite meetings there to host the Memorial. The purpose of the Memorial is to recognize lives lost, educate ourselves and our communities about the causes and solutions to gun violence, and raise awareness of the health crisis caused by Pennsylvania's lax gun laws.

The Collaborative has designed t-shirts for Friends to purchase to build a shared community of concern to end gun violence. The t-shirt order form will soon be available on the webpage.

We welcome other concerned Friends to join the Collaborative and help raise the visibility of this important issue in the Quaker community and beyond.

Martha B. Bryans, Co-Clerk

Pam Yaller, Co-Clerk

June 20, 2024