

Religious Education & Youth Work Resource Friends help our community thrive by providing support in the areas of religious education for families, children, and youth. Meetings sometimes ask for advice on how to structure First Day School, on starting a youth program for a specific age group, on ways of deepening relationship and spirit in multigenerational settings, etc.

Through the teaching ministry, Resource Friends in Religious Education and Youth Work offer informational tools and spirit-led experiential opportunities to facilitate learning, deepening of practice, and preparing Quaker communities for the essential work of teaching the Quaker Way to new generations.

The Vision for Resource Friends in the practice area of *Religious Education and Youth Work* is

- to affirm that youth religious education is vital to the future of Quakerism.
- to nurture leadership and mentorship in youth religious education ministry in local meetings, quarters, and the yearly meeting.
- to listen for the continuing revelation of where our youth are today and what they need in their “spiritual toolboxes” as young Friends.
- to facilitate local meetings re-envisioning authentic forms and formats for religious education and youth programs, including content resources.
- to advocate for the needs of parents and families in meeting life.
- to center equity, accessibility, and the inclusion of all voices in this work.
- to present resources about child and youth development, including making space for learning differences.
- to connect people and develop relationships in a growing community of practice.
- to collaborate with other Resource Friends practice areas in a way that models how we learn from and support one another across ministries.
- to share joy in this work!

**With gratitude to the RE and Youth Work Visioning Circle
Melissa McCourt, Amy Owsley, Greta Rech, Stacy Schanno, Marty Smith, David Wakeley**