

2022
Care & Counsel Annual Report
Susi Hoskins, Clerk

Care & Counsel is responsible for the care of meeting members. A report is given at each meeting for business, with confidential information protected.

Ongoing care includes visiting, calling, and loaning Care Quilts to people who are experiencing illness or loss, sending cards at sad and joyful times, and coordinating other care (transportation, meals) when needed on a limited basis. C&C makes every effort to maintain contact with those who are in greater need or who are unable to attend worship and to connect members and attenders with community resources as needed. These efforts have been especially important during the pandemic when everyone was isolated, and hybrid meetings helped maintain connections, especially with those at a distance or with mobility challenges. At the same time, there are several people who have not connected during this time. C&C also manages the Friends in Need fund which may provide some assistance to those in financial crisis.

In addition, Care & Counsel hosts the “welcome back” brunch in September and “homecoming” on Christmas eve when 21-year-olds are recognized with Hicks prints (purchased and framed by C&C). Invitations are sent to all young adults encouraging them to attend. This year an additional outreach was made in the Spring to college-age young adults. At age 21 they are listed separately in the directory and get their own mailings. C&C continues to explore membership with Associate Members but defaults to adult membership at age 21. Notes are sent to all members who have not been seen in the past year near year’s end. Flowers are presented to families with new babies and home-based older adults at Easter and graduates are recognized at the end of the school year with cards.

Care & Counsel is also responsible for the membership process, nurturing interest and appointing clearness committees for applicants, as well as care of weddings under the care of the Meeting. We also help Friends initiate clearness or support committees when requested.

In 2022 there were 2 weddings, Manchanda and Kinnel. 41 cards were sent, including 14 to this year’s graduates. 54 notes were sent to young adults last November and 148 notes were sent to inactive members in January. (2022: 35 young adults and 180+ inactive adults) At least 8 care quilts were shared (some were offered and declined for various reasons), 4 babies and 11 home-based flowers were delivered. There are two applications for membership and we have several new active attenders. There were 2 requests for transfer out from people who moved away. Currently, we have 5 requests for membership.