

## Report To NCFE about the Survey of the Antiracism Working Group (3/8/2022)

At the December meeting of the North Carolina Fellowship of Friends (NCFE) Antiracism Working Group, members in attendance decided that it would be helpful to know how our Meetings were addressing racism/antiracism. We agreed that a survey could be used to assess where each Meeting as a body was with respect to becoming more antiracist. In addition, the survey could be used to ascertain where individual members and attenders are in their personal understanding of the antiracism work we are led to do, acknowledging that we are very passionate in our own commitment but we are not sure how widely that passion is shared in our Meetings. We also thought that the results might help us plan for future programs that might address particular needs.

The three sections in this anonymous survey included: 10 yes/no questions, six open-ended questions, and a checklist concerning what individuals were doing in their daily lives to address or show awareness of antiracism. We did ask that responders list their Meeting.

Responders from seven out of the 13 Meetings in NCFE completed the survey. Three of those Meetings met as a group and entered one response. We received a total of 52 responses, three of which represented a group response from three Meetings. The larger Meetings had the most responses.

### CONCLUSIONS:

- 1) We learned what other Meetings are thinking and doing, which is helpful to us corporately.
- 2) We gained insights about individual actions that might make a difference.
- 3) This was by no means a scientific survey. Relatively few individual Friends in NCFE (49) responded, and 3 responses came from Meetings as a whole.
- 4) The majority of Friends responding think anti-racism work is important and are working on it. A few Friends stated that they or their Meetings were not interested specifically in anti-racism thinking and actions.

Survey results were sent to participating Meetings. All received the graphs, and open-ended question results were sent to each Meeting which had individual responses.

At our February 24 meeting, our group discussed the survey results and also an article from *Friends Journal* on "Building White Racial Stamina" by Elizabeth Oppenheimer. We will meet two more times this spring. On March 24, we will be reviewing a draft minute that we may want to present to the Annual Gathering in August. We will also be discussing a worksheet on contradictions for white people in antiracism work. On April 28, we will be discussing the book *Nice Racism: How Progressive White People Perpetuate Racial Harm* by Robin DiAngelo. We will close the meeting with worship. Everyone from NCFE is welcome to join us for one or both of these meetings.