

JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEE REPORT, JUNE 2017

Submitted by Jennifer Dickie, Clerk

Child care Programs at SAYMA

In September, 2016 the JYM committee proposed an expansion to the current child care program at SAYMA for 2017. This proposal responded to the concern that the existing JYM program mixed child care with Junior Yearly Meeting, that the age span was too large to fully implement JYM programming with one coordinator, and parents of young children found that options for child care were very limited at SAYMA. Our research found that Friend's yearly meetings around the country offer Junior Yearly Meeting exclusively for school aged children and many have additional child care options for younger children including infants in some cases.

The JYM committee's proposal for expanded child care program included splitting up the infants, toddlers and school aged children into separate programs and spaces. A Playcare program with a coordinator and assistant would care for 2-5 year old children, and volunteer babysitting would be made available to families with infants. The JYM program would continue to serve school aged children, rising 1st graders through rising 7th graders and continue with a coordinator and assistant. The proposal was accepted by the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee and will be implemented at SAYMA 2017.

In the spring of 2017 the JYM committee hired coordinators for the Playcare and JYM programs and they in turn hired assistants. With the help of the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee we established a location for the new Playcare program.

Childcare Workers Stipend

The JYM committee worked with the Yearly Meeting Planning Committee to assess the stipends paid to coordinators to ensure they were fair and competitive with other similar positions. The total amount paid for stipends in each child care program remains very similar to last year, but with the change that SAYMA will pay the JYM and Playcare coordinators and assistants each directly a set amount, rather than relying on the coordinator to apportion his/her stipend with the assistants as was the practice in years past.

Job Descriptions

The JYM committee updated the job descriptions for the JYM coordinator, and created a job description for the Playcare coordinator.

Electronic Accessibility

An application for each coordinator position and the requirements and job descriptions were made available electronically through the SAYMA.org website. Additionally text and photos describing the new playcare program and babysitting options at SAYMA were added to a new tab at SAYMA.org called *children* to accompany the already existing tabs for *teens* and *young adults*.