

SAYMA Finance Committee Report for Sessions June 14 and June 22, 2025

The Finance Committee is thankful to SAYMA monthly meetings for timely assessments and donations from SAYMA individuals in FY 2025. As the treasurer has noted, we expect to finish the year in the black with a small surplus.

The Racial Conflict Transformation (RCT) program is in its 3rd year. Last year we reported that we were reaching out to 4 Yearly Meetings, New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New England, with a request for grants for the RCT program. New York informed us that their funds were only for Meetings under their care. Baltimore and New England asked for more information, however, neither has followed up with a reply. We did not hear from Philadelphia. Donations from individuals and participant registration fees funded the program, which continues into early fall of 2025. The fourth year is in the planning stages.

Saturday, June 14, during the first Meeting for Business for 2025 YM sessions is when the Fiscal Year 2026 budget is presented for the first reading. The proposed 2026 budget and a letter from me were sent in early May to the Monthly Meeting Clerks, Treasurers, and Representatives asking for comments before the end of May. I received no comments or questions. If your Meeting did not receive this information, please share the names, emails and/or phone numbers with the SAYMA Administrative Assistant Rob Collins so that the list is correct.

The second reading will be at SAYMA sessions in Berea, on Sunday June 22. Questions and comments about the proposed budget may be shared at an **open hybrid meeting** with the Finance committee on Saturday, June 21, at lunch, in the side room, Hutchins, which is a large room for people to bring in their lunches for “eating while meeting.”

Background info

1. For several years, the annual budgets have intentionally been spending down the undesignated funds line which had approximately \$35,000.
2. For FY 2026, we have depleted the Undesignated funds.
3. The FY 2026 budget has a negative balance in Undesignated funds of about \$10,000. We will need to draw those funds from our Reserves.
4. How to manage this deficit budget:
 - a. **Assessments** – the rate for assessments increased for FY 2025. Currently we do not know what each MM will be contributing as only 2/3 of the fiscal year has been completed. Consequently, we do not yet have an accurate figure for the total of the 2026 Assessment income – our primary source of budget funds.

b. **Donations to the General Fund** by individuals and Meetings

c. **Decreasing budgeted allotments**

5. **About 90% of the assessments go toward employee salaries.**

6. **Nearly 50% of the budget supports the future of SAYMA, i.e., the SAYF and Junior Yearly Meeting programs.**

7. **The General Funds category supports the SAYF program** which includes the annual SAYF allotment, the program coordinator salary, FICA, payroll costs, and volunteer background checks. **SAYMA joyfully supports the SAYFers!**

8. SAYMA Young Adult Friends are currently supported by funds from a grant from the Kenworthy family.

9. Travel costs have increased for Wider Quaker Organizations (WQO) representatives. SAYMA needs our representatives to attend WQO meetings and to share information with us about Friends' activities in the world.

The Finance committee welcomes **contributions by check, credit card (through SQUARE), Zelle, and by stock**, in an account with the Quaker-led organization, Friends Fiduciary. We chose Friends Fiduciary because of their strong commitment to "investing with values: rigorously screened investments in unity with Friends beliefs in peace, social justice, and the environment." (You can read about this company online, friendsfiduciary.org.) Donation information is on the SAYMA website. **Contact the Treasurer (saymatreasurer@gmail.com) if you wish to use Zelle or you have stock to contribute.**

Many thanks to the Finance committee members, the Treasurers, the SAYMA clerk and assistant clerk, for your attention and care for the well-being of SAYMA. **Thanks, also, for our Monthly Meetings, without whom SAYMA would not exist.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen terHorst Morris, SAYMA clerk (Atlanta Monthly Meeting)

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Finance Committee members: Daryl Bergquist (Birmingham), SAYMA Treasurer ex officio; Kendall Ivie (West Knoxville), SAYMA assistant treasurer ex officio; Margaret Farmer, (Asheville), SAYMA assistant clerk, ex officio; Tribal Raine, (Paul Cuffee Worship Group); Stacey Sharer, (Atlanta)