Dear Friends,

April 2020

With the global pandemic affecting everyone in the world in one way or another, we experience the suffering of loss -- loss of life and livelihood, food access and medical care, and the usual ways we come together in our humanity. We are adapting, some better than others, where governments and systems serve people in widely varying degrees. Context matters – in terms of ways food is accessed, how medical systems get and can afford supplies, and the stability and benevolence of governments. In this regard, we are all dependent on each other.

As you consider where to help, the Africa Section has written the attached letter, asking Friends to give to Quaker hospitals and clinics. This is a collaboration between Friends World Committee Africa Section, Friends United Meeting, and Friends Church Kenya. Evangelical Friends were also consulted. This initiative will serve African Friends across Quaker traditions, in countries where hospital support will be invaluable. Please give as you are able.

You can give through the FWCC World Office in London or through the FUM offices in Indiana in the USA. To give through FWCC, you can go to our website to the donate page http://fwcc.world/about-fwcc/donate and can donate through CAF if you are in the UK or through Pay Pal. It will do the currency exchange automatically. Please write into the Reference section that it is for ‘Africa Section COVID-19’, and please follow up with a short email to Elaine at elaineb@fwcc.world so we can ensure your gift is correctly attributed. You can alternatively send a check made out to FWCC with a note indicating it is for ‘Africa Section COVID-19’. Mail to: FWCC, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, United Kingdom.

You can give to the FUM COVID-19 Solidarity Fund by going to their web site donate page: https://donorbox.org/covid-19-solidarity-fund. It serves many needs, so please designate your gift for ‘Africa COVID-19’. Alternatively you can mail a check made out to FUM, with a note that it is for ‘Africa Collaborative COVID-19’ within the Solidarity Fund. Or you can mail a check to: FUM, 101 Quaker Hill Dr, Richmond, IN 47374.

Our needs are great across the world. Let us help one another up with a tender hand, and live with the generosity of spirit we saw in Jesus. Give as you are able, and share this with those who are looking for a way to support people around the world.

So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we shall reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. Galatians 6: 9-10

Stay safe, be grateful, be a good neighbour, and know the strength of your prayers.

In loving Friendship

Gretchen Castle
General Secretary