# Friends Retirement Plan

Practice Friends values within your benefits program



Employees make organizations come alive. One of the best benefits you can offer your staff members is a meaningful retirement plan, allowing them to prepare for their long-term future.

The *Friends Retirement Plan* is this kind of valuable benefit. The plan is open to organizations, churches and meetings associated with the Society of Friends.

In cooperation with the broader Friends community, your organization can benefit from:

- Ease of administration
- Affordable costs
- Stewardship-oriented investments
- Mutual aid among Friends

The *Friends Retireament Plan* provides your organization with a retirement program that best reflects Quaker values.

The plan has been established as a church plan, providing cost efficiency, highly competitive features and significant flexibility to participating employers. And the plan allows you to practice mutual aid, allowing small and large organizations, including meetings and churches, to share costs.

#### **Investment management**

The Friends Retirement Plan features an independent qualitative and quantitative screening process to allow your organization to choose from topperforming funds while avoiding those that might take unmitigated risk. Plan choices allow employees to incorporate a socially oriented investing approach, including company screening.

#### **Record keeping and administration**

*Friends Retirement Plan* has teamed with a seasoned record-keeping partner to offer fully bundled services for the plan sponsor and participants. Easy access to plan information and quick answers to your questions are keys to ensuring plan continuity.



### **Plan sponsor communication**

Timely and accurate information is critical to the success of your plan. The plan's partner, Everence<sup>®</sup>, can perform the following services:

- Hold implementation and transition meetings.
- Conduct an annual review for your senior management, board of directors or committees.
- Provide one point of contact.
- Provide ongoing consulting services.

## **Communication with participants**

Everence is there from the first enrollment meeting through a participant's retirement life cycle, even helping individuals and families with financial goals. For participants, Everence can:

- Conduct enrollment and education meetings.
- Offer one-on-one meetings, which also can be part of the enrollment process.

## **Fiduciary assistance**

Employers are often expected to shoulder most, if not all, of the fiduciary responsibility for their retirement plans. The plan trustee, Friends United Meeting, carries the fiduciary responsibility for the plan. Everence helps the Trustee fulfill those responsibilities by monitoring the investment options offered to participants and recommending changes when appropriate.

# Church plan benefits

*Friends Retirement Plan* is a 403(b) church plan. As such, it can offer significant long-term value for your organization and staff, especially for pastors who are eligible to treat distributions from the plan as a housing allowance. Church plans are not subject to the reporting requirements of ERISA, which should save time and costs for your organization.

# About the plan

Friends United Meeting (FUM) is the trustee and plan sponsor for the *Friends Retirement Plan*. FUM created the original retirement plan in 1969. Today, FUM is offering the plan broadly to meetings, churches and organizations associated with any of the Friends communities in the U.S.

Plan partner Everence<sup>®</sup> was founded in 1945 by the Mennonite Church to concentrate on issues relating to financial stewardship. Today, Everence is a full-service financial organization serving many Mennonite/Anabaptist and like-minded communities.

#### Learn more

Take the first step by contacting Everence or visiting the plan online.

#### **Everence Retirement Services**

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