

Regional Bahá'í Council of the Atlantic States

Delaware · District of Columbia · Maryland · North Carolina · Virginia

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February 28, 2017

Dearly loved co-worker:

The Regional Bahá'í Council wishes to share its profound gratitude for your contributions to the Regional Fund since May 1, 2016. Your continuing or increased support will greatly assist the Council to help sustain the more than forty individuals throughout the region who are sacrificially serving the Cause as period of service volunteers or as homefront pioneers.

One hundred fourteen years ago, in Yazd, rampaging mobs killed several believers. In one instance, they surrounded and killed Haji Mirza Halabi-Saz. The crowd likewise dishonored his wife and beat her unconscious, leaving his children crying by their beaten bodies. The only person who showed compassion was a woman of ill repute named Rúbábih, who carried Haji Mirza's injured wife on her back and shepherded the crying children to her home to feed and heal them. Poet Roger White wrote of her: "Let's not be astonished that it is she who descends, gathers the children, carries the victim on her back to house and heal her: Outcasts, one remembers, have nothing to lose; have, in every age, come highly recommended."

Daily we witness the conflicts and prejudices of our time. The antidote to these ills is the love and communion with others that we experience in neighborhoods and in our daily relationships when we act out of love for God and for our fellow human beings. In opening our hearts to caring, human decency is enlarged. Even a Rúbábih becomes the receiver and giver of compassion and comes to know *"He Who forgiveth even the most grievous of sins."*

Please accept the profound gratitude of the Regional Council for the offerings you have placed at the feet of Bahá'u'lláh.

With deepest love and affection,



William P. Collins
Treasurer

"To give and to be generous are attributes of Mine; well is it with him that adorneth himself with My virtues." — Bahá'u'lláh