

Regional Bahá'í Council of the Northeastern States

Connecticut • Maine • Massachusetts • New Hampshire • New Jersey • New York

Pennsylvania • Rhode Island • Vermont

October 12, 2020

To Spiritual Assemblies, registered groups, cluster agencies, and individual believers

Dear Friends,

As we anticipate the start of the two remaining cycles of the current Five Year Plan, we are delighted to report on the advancement of clusters in the Northeast region. This reminds us of the May 9, 2020 message of the Universal House of Justice:

“When we expressed our desire to see five thousand intensive programmes of growth established by the end of this Five Year Plan, we were keenly aware of the magnitude of the undertaking this implied, but the condition of the world demanded it. We called for the work of strengthening programmes of growth to accelerate everywhere. We were gratified to see how the supporters of the Cause were galvanized into action, exerting unprecedented levels of effort.”

In the Northeast, we began this Plan with thirteen clusters with goals to establish intensive programs of growth. Ten have so far achieved that goal: North Jersey, Erie (PA), New Haven (CT), Upper Valley (VT/NH), Poughkeepsie (NY), Harrisburg (PA), Jamestown/Olean (NY), South Jersey, Northern NY State, and Altoona/State College (PA).

Three clusters remain with goals to establish intensive programs of growth. They are Litchfield (CT), Scranton (PA), and Northern Catskills (NY).

In the Northeast, we experienced the acceleration of programs of growth in many clusters, including so far six that achieved the goal of reaching the third milestone of growth where they have 100 or more core activities. The clusters that have advanced to the third milestone are New York City, Boston, Rochester, Long Island, Philadelphia Area, and Westchester.

There are also clusters that are gaining strength and moving steadily toward the achievement of sufficient intensification of their programs of growth to reach the third milestone, possibly during the remaining months of this Five Year Plan.

While wanting to let you know about these significant achievements, the Regional Baha'í Council also asks that your prayers join ours that all clusters will intensify their programs of growth and that the friends throughout the region will be sustained in their efforts to continue to make great strides in their service to the Cause of the Blessed Beauty.

With much love and gratitude,

Regional Baha'í Council of the Northeastern States

Marie McNair, Secretary