

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

February 9, 2018

To All Local Spiritual Assemblies and Registered Groups

Dear beloved Co-workers in the Cause of God,

The National Spiritual Assembly rejoices in the achievements made in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Blessed Beauty's birth, which the Universal House of Justice calls the "single greatest worldwide opportunity there has ever been for connecting hearts to Bahá'u'lláh." In its December 8, 2017 letter, however, the National Spiritual Assembly notes that our efforts are not done.

"Wonderful as those days were, their ultimate success will not be judged by what we did, but by what we now do. This year by no means represented the zenith of our potential as promulgators of this Cause. Rather, it fortified us for bolder and more effective teaching efforts in the years ahead. Our ardent prayer is that the spirit of teaching will so suffuse our individual and collective lives as to make of us a continually growing and invincible force for the creation of a society founded on principles of divine justice."

Friends, we must continue the momentum that we have gained through our largest teaching undertakings to date. Funds are needed to continue support for our 12 Regional Bahá'í Councils, develop community building capacity at the regional and local level, publish and distribute the Holy Writings to a greater number of souls, reach receptive souls through social media, and, of course, defend our sisters and brothers in Iran - just to name a few of the community building endeavors the National Fund supports.

Institutional support for the National Fund, in particular contributions from Local Spiritual Assemblies, is crucial to the winning of the goal. Your achievements towards that end, as an institution, are invaluable and have been greatly cherished by the National Spiritual Assembly. We also know that just as important as winning the goal, is how we win the goal.

The Universal House of Justice in an earlier Ridván message stated that "the financial needs of the Cause should be met by universal participation in giving and urges national and local spiritual assemblies to pursue this goal with vigor and imagination, recalling to the friends the plea of the beloved Guardian to every believer 'unhesitatingly to place, each according to his circumstances, his share on the altar of Bahá'í sacrifice.'"

We urge your esteemed institution to pursue the goal of universal Fund participation with "vigor and imagination." For some communities that may involve a community fundraiser, a bake sale conducted by young believers, or a prayer campaign or whatever your circumstances allow. We are encouraged by the inspiring stories of sacrifice and unity and news of upcoming plans for fundraisers from several communities already.

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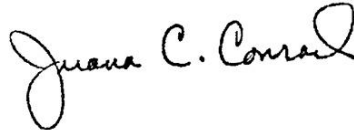
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As you know, the National Fund goal is \$36 million to be received by April 30, 2018. At the time of the writing of this letter, we still need nearly \$11.2 million in three short months. If each institution and individual participates, at whatever level they are able, we are assured of divine blessings and assistance.

We eagerly await word of how the friends, encouraged by your Assembly, unite to win the goals before us as a community.

The National Spiritual Assembly lovingly offers prayers in the Mother Temple of the West for the assured success of all of your deeds in service to His Mighty Cause.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juana C. Conrad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Juana C. Conrad  
Treasurer