

Charge for Social Justice Action Committee (SJAC)

It's a time for greatness--not for greed. It's a time for idealism -- not ideology. It is a time not just for compassionate words, but compassionate action."

-Marian Wright Edelman, President, Children's Defense Fund

The role of the Social Justice Action Committee is to implement the Fellowship's social justice commitments.

The size of the SJAC will be determined by the interest of members and friends. Committee members are asked to make a commitment of at least one year and should be involved in one of the ongoing Fellowship programs named below. Committee members must familiarize themselves with the *Social Justice Empowerment Handbook* from the UUA. The UUFB Board of Directors will provide a liaison to the SJAC committee, who will represent the committee at Board meetings and will check in with SJAC at least quarterly.

Fellowship Social Justice Commitments

The Social Justice Action Committee is responsible for overseeing UUFB's on-going commitment to programs that align with our UUFB mission: Gallatin Valley Food Bank, Fork and Spoon, and Family Promise of Gallatin Valley. Volunteers carry out UUFB's responsibility to these congregationally approved commitments on a monthly basis. SJAC is responsible for determining the minimum number of coordinators needed and identifying the coordinator(s) for each of these programs. Each group will be encouraged to provide at least one annual Sunday service per year, and to provide relevant information and participation opportunities to the congregation utilizing the newsletter, service announcements, the bulletin boards, or after-service informational booths, etc. Volunteer coordinators carrying out these programs are to provide a report of their needs and successes to SJAC, twice per year. The SJAC will review these projects at least once a year to see if the program groups are on task and will recommend any changes to the project coordinator or the Board.

Special Offerings

Another responsibility of the Committee is to recommend which organizations will receive the special offering collected on the 2nd and 5th Sundays of the month. These organizations must align with our mission and may be local, national or international in scope. The 5th Sunday offering will be collected for emergency response. It will be tracked through bookkeeping and accumulated so the Fellowship has funds on hand to respond to an emergency such as an earthquake, tsunami, etc. at the time it happens.

Opportunities for Social Justice Witness

The SJAC also has an opportunity to recommend to the Board whether and how UUFB will join public observances and events. These might include recurring observances like Martin Luther King Day, Earth Day, Pride week, etc. as well as special events like the Women's March, March for Science, etc.

SJAC may bring suggestions for social justice action to the Board. Such actions might include a letter writing campaign; film showings with discussions; organizing a rally; speaking in public; and/or joining other groups in witness for justice. If such actions will represent UUFB (such as carrying the UUFB banner), they must be approved by the Board. (See policy on Social Witness).

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Approved, UUFB Board of Directors, May 26, 2020