

Moving the World as It Is Toward the World as It Should Be

This diagram explains visually the social justice program that has evolved at Cedar Lane through the encouragement, sponsorship, and support of the current Social Justice Council and its predecessors. The activities that comprise the program, in which many Cedar Laners participate, stem from various sources: the leadership and initiative of self-organized **Task Forces** and **of groups in the church whose primary focus is not social justice**; the **direct service** and **advocacy** programs of organizations from the wider community; the leaders of **regional and national Unitarian Universalist entities**.

Independently Initiated Projects P -->

- *Alliance** supports 2 foster children.
- *Adult Programs and Sunday Forum have programs on social justice topics.
- *Partners Church Committee funds several college scholarships for young people in the community of our partner church in Transylvania (an ethnically Hungarian section of Romania and the birthplace of Unitarianism).
- *RE classes undertake social justice projects, such as support for Darfur and anti-torture campaigns.
- *Rev. Janules organized a Day of Service to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the church building.

Social Justice Council (SJC)

- *Members elected by the congregation for staggered 3-year terms.¹
- *The SJC is committed to affirming and promoting the seven UU principles and honoring the legacy of CLUUC's leadership in working for social justice in the wider community by encouraging members of the congregation to partner with it in translating that commitment into action.
- *The budget for the SJC (\$23,000 in 2008-09) is a line item in the church budget.
- *At the request of the BOT, the SJC is developing a process for continuing the 50/50 split and will coordinate the program.
- *Using funds from the Social Justice Gift Fund, which is financed by gifts to the church for social justice activities, the SJC offers a scholarship to Montgomery College to a graduate of Rockville High School.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

- *Promotes social justice & human rights worldwide,
- *SJC contributes \$1,000 to UUSC. \$

UU for Social Justice (UUSJ)

- *A support organization for UU congregations in Baltimore, suburban Maryland, DC, and northern Virginia. SJC contributes \$3,500 to UUSJ. \$ P

ADVOCACY

Action in Montgomery (AIM)

TASK FORCES

Environmental Task Force \$ P

DIRECT SERVICE

Beacon House (community center in NE DC)

CLUUC is a founding member of this organization of 30+ churches and a synagogue, which is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation. Small group meetings in individual congregations identify problems in the county needing attention. Committees study the selected issues, frame solutions, lobby county officials for their support, and get commitments of support at public meetings (actions). Successes include increased funding for affordable housing, provision of sidewalk on a narrow road used as access to public transportation, funding for long overdue renovations to community centers in historic African American communities. \$ P

Montgomery County Coalition for Alternatives to War (McCAW)

Maryland United for Peace and Justice

*Organized and implemented Green-In in 2008.

*Other activities: Rock Creek clean-up

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Task Force (LGBT)

“Living the Welcoming Congregation” initiative, lobbying MD legislators to support “Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protections,” networking with Equality Maryland around civil rights issues. \$ P

Global Task Force \$ P

*Alternative Giving

*Afghan Dinner and Auction: raised \$4,400 for couples literacy classes in Afghanistan

directed by a UU community minister) \$ P

Tutoring, school supplies, Christmas presents, OWL Out (taking Our Whole Lives to adolescents.)

Interfaith Works (formerly Community Ministry of Montgomery

Community-based transitional shelter: members and friends provide and serve food for one week in January to residents. SJC contributes \$1,500.00 to Interfaith Works. \$

Montgomery County Homeless Coalition

Small financial contribution \$ P.

Bethesda Men’s Shelter

Six members provide dinner for 15 men once a month. P

Martha’s Table

Monthly contributions of meat, vegetables, fruit, and other groceries plus washing and chopping vegetables for cooks at Martha’s Table to make into soup. P

Thanksgiving Baskets at All Souls

Congregation contributes food and senior high group takes food to All Souls and helps make baskets to distribute to needy families. P

Manna Food Center

Congregation and RE classes contribute food. Junior High group packs boxes several times yearly

for distribution to needy families **P**

¹ The current members of the Social Justice Council are Michael Benefiel, Betsy Devlin-Foltz, Marge Dimond, Karen Goozner, Nancy Janssen, Pat Karlsen, Connie Nissley, Annette Scarpitta, Catherine Scott, Alexander Shaw, Helen Strang, Rebecca White; Nancy Derr, BOT Liaison, Heather Janules, Ministerial Liaison. **\$ = from SJC budget P = work and/or goods** **December 2008**

** Alliance through its Social Responsibility Committee each year chooses agencies to support.
