

UUCV Social Justice Committee Procedures & Guidelines

The Social Justice Committee (SJC) is committed to living UUCV's mission inside and outside our walls. We strive to provide a variety of opportunities so everyone who chooses to get involved in social justice-related actions and activities can do so. The events in which we have participated are increasing our visibility and building relationships within our local community.

The SJC communicates monthly, either face-to-face or via email. Face-to-face meetings are held, as needed, on the third Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:00 in UUCV's Board room. Reservations for the Board room are arranged with the Church Administrator.

The ideal structure of the SJC consists of:

- A Chair who serves as the point of contact for the committee, coordinates the activities, informs the church administrator (and Board, as needed) of SJC activities, prepares the proposed budget, and provides information for the Annual Report;
- Committee members who take responsibility for the planning and running of each SJC activity;
- Congregation members who serve as liaison for UUCV missions that fall under the umbrella of SJC but are not solely the responsibility of the SJC, such as CARES and Mozambique Project.

Missions of the SJC include:

- Mozambique Bursary Project – The Mozambique Bursary Project currently falls under the SJC umbrella. Mozambique is run by its own steering committee and the funding for the project comes from donors, not the church budget. Deb Genet is the SJC liaison.
- Community CARES – UUCV has been involved with CARES for a number of year. We provide overnight shelter services for one month out of the year. Many volunteers from UUCV serve as evening “hosts” for the shelter, meaning they unlock the door, check to see that paper supplies are provided in the bathrooms, and set out pitchers of water for the guests.

While Community CARES fall under the SJC umbrella, the SJC does not have any responsibility for the shelter. Chris Kapp is UUCV's point of contact for CARES.

It is anticipated that UUCV will host the women and family shelter in April 2020.

- Change For The World (CFTW) – CFTW has been part of UUCV’s “caring for the world” for a long time. Members and friends of UUCV are asked to submit CFTW proposals for organizations that meeting the CFTW guidelines. Each quarter the SJC reviews the proposals and selects recipients for the upcoming quarter. The SJC point of contact for CFTW notifies the individual who nominated the organization. A short introduction is requested and announced by a member of the SJC or by the individual who nominated the organization. Cindy Good is the SJC liaison.
- Projects/Activities – Projects/activities vary year to year based upon the interest of the SJC and the congregation. Some activities have been done one time while others have become annual events. UUCV has participated in the following annual projects/activities for the past three years: Carlisle’s Annual MLK, Jr. Commemoration, Project SHARE’s Farm Stand, Central PA PRIDE Festival, United Way’s Day of Caring, National Public Lands Day, Mitten Tree, and Advocacy for various initiatives. The SJC also coordinates a variety of other activities throughout the year as the need arises.