

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2018 – 2019

There was one major change in the Social Justice Committee this year. The previously autonomous First Principle Project was welcomed back as part of the main branch. The members of the two branches were virtually identical and many of the projects overlapped, so this move seemed appropriate. We continue our dedication to the First Principle, belief in “the inherent worth and dignity of every person”.

One ongoing project is preparing 100 lunches for the first Tuesday of each month for MainSpring House Homeless Shelter in Brockton. Another is hosting a gathering each fall and spring for the GLBTA Pride group from Bridgewater State University. These give us an opportunity to understand more about the students’ lives and concerns, and to let them know about our welcoming congregation. We also work every Nov. to support the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee’s Guest at Your Table project and during the year on other UUSC projects.

Nine more films have been presented in the Black Lives Matter film series. This is co-sponsored by Bridgewater Citizens for Civility and Respect. We also join the BCCR for other programs such as their standouts and Bystander Training programs. In addition, both groups are supporting Cleonie Mainvielle, mother of a Bridgewater student, who is working to advance Diversity training in the Bridgewater schools.

In October we joined Kelly Brotzman of the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice to hold a successful Advocacy and Action Fair at Bridgewater State University. A large group of organizations had tables at the event to acquaint students and the general public with the many opportunities to work for justice.

We look forward to the formation of our next branch, the Welcoming Congregation Renewal Task Force, which will be organizing soon.

The SJC is charged with selecting the charities for the monthly Share the Plate collections. We choose area charities unless there is a need to respond to some major event. This is a list of the selections and amounts donated this year.

June 2018	\$148.00
July and Aug. 2018	\$391.92
Sept. 2018 Matthew 25:40	\$241.34
Oct. 2018 Brockton Interfaith Community	\$185.25
Nov. 2018 Guest at Your table (UUSC)	\$1,058.57
Dec. 2018 BAMSI and WIC	\$179.91
Plus many gifts of diapers and other goods for this program	
Jan. 2019 Comfort Zone Camp	\$257.00
Feb. 2019 Health Imperatives	\$285.00
March 2019 UU Mass Action	\$302.13
April and May 2019 Kids to Camp	Still collecting at this time. Last year was \$1,260.00!

Thank you for your generosity and support of so many of our programs.

Members: Pearl Cohen, Sean Cooper, Sonia D’Alarcao, Vernon Domingo, Janet Dye, Joanna Elsmore, Betty Gilson, Susan Holton, Susan Irish, Felix Matos, Rev. Rachel Tedesco, MaryKate Wells

