Since the last Board meeting September 9th, UUSJ has engaged in the following:

Leadership Activity:

Advocacy, the cornerstones being:

1. We maintained our **Hill Day Visit Program (Advocacy Corps.)**, making visits on Healthcare, Faithful-Budget, Clean Dream Act and Taxes as well as multiple supplemental visits; and,
2. We helped mobilize or support a UU presence at **Marches/Rallies/events** such as DACA, DREAMers, Temporary Protected Status (TPS), the Muslim ban vigils, also the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, and Clean Dream Act Rally
3. We continued our **webinar and briefing series** building off our Healthcare conference and held two sessions, each in collaboration with UUJEC, one on *Reversing Inequality* one on *Tax Reform*. Note, these represent a departure from healthcare as a central focus of our collaboration with UUJEC.

Outreach, the cornerstones being:

* We sustained communication with **UUA and UUSC** regarding our pivot to Advocacy. With the UUA this was done via email, with UUSC a meeting.
* We held our **8th Awards Ceremony** on Oct.29th at Cedar Lane
* **“House Visits”:** We held a UUSJ event at River Road and scheduled a meeting at Fredrick.

Management Activity:

Our **Board Composition** has seen several changes. **Don Henderson** of Paint Branch has joined us, replacing Janet Overton. **Martha Neuman** of All Souls has joined replacing Brendan Orsinger. **Peter Bishop** of WES has joined us, replacing Nancy Sorden. **Jack Lebowitz** of River Road, an active participant in our environmental programs, replaces Loretta Garcia. **Dave Feser** of Bull Run has joined replacing Frances Barlas. Long-time UUSJ volunteer **David Strauss** joins as alternate for Rockville. We thank them and welcome their input on both challenges and opportunities.

Nevertheless, **our leadership needs remain paramount.**

The **Executive Committee** continues to without a Vice-Chair, and needs a new Treasurer. We also need a newFinancial Volunteer. The Core Group has been functioning in lieu of a complete and operational Executive Committee. We are blessed to have **Lavona Grow**, **Bill Alsmeyer-Johnson,** and **John Gubbings** continue to participate. We deeply value the contributions of **Martha Ades** and **Bob Denniston**. We need new participants and referrals to folks with specific skills.

Since the last meeting, I have collaborated with the various compositional bodies of UUSJ and, we have:

1. Endeavored to improve our profile and visibility among UU funding organizations such as **UUFP** and UUA
2. Continued the **UUJEC** collaboration and scheduled a mid December concept development call to explore another conference (date uncertain).
3. Met with **UUSC** staff to discuss organizational postures and agendas

Needed actions remain:

* Continued recruitment of **Executive Committee** candidates; and,
* Re-constitution of all our **Standing Committees** (Development & Membership; Finance; and, Nominating).
* Sorting out of our **Outreach and Networking** needs; and,

Advocacy & Related Activity:

We continue to have **Lavona Grow** in the lead as Advocacy Oversight Committee, Chair and contracting with **Anna Rhee** on our Advocacy work. In this area we have:

1. Continued building the UUSJ presence on Capitol Hill through the Advocacy Corps. However, of note, it appears that **UUSC** has returned to engaging the Hill, especially via Committee Staff.
2. Held a UUSJ Green Activists Quarterly Meeting and raised the issue of an Advocacy focus for the group.
3. Continued engaging on Immigration. The focus here continues to be clarifying advocacy priorities, beyond the Dream Act, and engaging in UU Sanctuary collaboration across the region.
4. Held interactions on Escalating Economic Inequity (EEI), focus on Taxes

Needed actions include:

* Developing deeper volunteer support for Advocacy Corps
* Moving our three (3) Issue Priority groups to a deeper Advocacy posture.
* Standardization across of our Issue Priority groups and Advocacy Corps.

Operational Activity:

We continue to lean upon our Staff, Contractors and Core Group plus other dedicated volunteers to get UUSJ operational duties done. Nevertheless we have:

1. Steered home our **8th Awards Ceremony** on October 29th at Cedar Lane
2. Initiated a series of **giving campaigns**, they are: **Combined Federal Campaign** (**#17271)**. Building upon previous efforts we sent a formal “Kick-off” email that went to all addresses in our database. Follow-ups are being contemplated. **Holiday Messaging**. Which started with a Thanksgiving message, and will include a Holiday and New Year’s message, perhaps others. **#GivingTuesday** Pilot, allowing us to test the waters on viral giving. **Amazon Smile**, allowing us to benefit from diligent UUSJ shoppers.
3. Continue refining our tracking of Lobbying and Grassroots Lobbying activity

Needed actions include:

* Visiting each congregation that hasn’t had a UUSJ visit or strategizing on the best way to engage said congregations through the board; and,
* Continued outreach and networking to UU funders and players; and,
* Planning a special match request in support of the UUFP grant and
* Finalizing our End of Year Appeal. workhorse of our individual fundraising

Forward Looking:

Now is the season to focus on Development & Membership issues. That means:

1. Sharing leads and finding leads to network into relationship with funders
2. Convening a Development & Membership working group to plan

Planning continues:

* To revamp our organizational materials; and,
* To find needed financial resources

Feasibility queries continue regarding:

* A more formalized relationship with the CUUSAN, the Coalition of Unitarian Universalist State Action Networks.