




Unitarian Universalists  
for Social Justice

# Annual Report 2022-23

The background of the entire page is a photograph of the United States Capitol dome in Washington, D.C. The dome is a large, white, neoclassical structure with a prominent circular top. It is surrounded by a series of columns and arches. The sky is a clear, light blue. The dome is the central focus of the image, with the text and logo overlaid on it.

*Advancing just and equitable federal policy  
- aligned with UU values -  
through engagement, education, and advocacy*

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## Vision

A just, compassionate, and sustainable world community

## Mission

Advance equitable national policies and actions, aligned with UU values, through engagement, education, and advocacy

## Moral Owners

Unitarian Universalists, UU congregations, impacted communities and the organizations that support them

## Values

- We are effective and responsive
- We are faithful to our UU Principles
- We respect others

## Staff and Contractors

Pablo DeJesús, Executive Director

Paulette DeMers, Administrative Assistant

Anna Hooker, Contractor, Advocacy

Rev. Karen Lee Scrivo, Contractor, Communications

Ashley Egan, Contractor, Communications/Social Media

# Charlotte Jones Carroll, Chair

Each year brings more developments in UUSJ's transition to a national organization. Doing federal advocacy in line with UU values means engaging constituents from around the country who can speak to members of Congress about important legislation through our virtual meetings. This past year, we have reached out to more UUs nationwide to advocate for our four priority areas: democracy, immigration, environment, and economic justice. We have sponsored webinars and action alerts on these topics to raise awareness of issues and related legislation. We have recently added a communications assistant to engage social media users and initiated an in-person presence at General Assembly in June 2023.



We have also increased our partnerships with groups representing impacted people and our traditional faith partners so we can hear authentic concerns and understand how to unite our vision with theirs. It is important to speak truth to power as a single organization but also important to understand the strength of grassroots coalition movements. UUSJ strives to bring our federal advocacy skills to those movements and to center the communities with whom we are in a relationship in a common struggle for justice.

We hope the details in this FY22-23 Annual Report confirm these advances towards our strategic goals. Thank you for being part of this work.

# Pablo DeJesús, Executive Director

Above all, our members and volunteers want to see UUSJ acting in concert and coalition for strategic effect and positive impact. We have met that mandate. We are countering policies we dislike, advancing those we support. We are challenging or affirming narratives as needed. We are present when asked and asking how we can be present in solidarity and fellowship.

We have deepened our relationships and broadened our engagement tactics to do this work. Our continued shift has been meaningful for our primary wavelengths of engagement: education, witness, and advocacy. As a result, we have been experimenting with more diverse ways to lift UU values and voices and seeking to embody a learning organization.

We are engaging despite the fractured landscape of the last Congress and the gridlock of the current session. We want to do our part of the larger justice work as Unitarian Universalists rather than acting from a silo.

Our volunteers are proud of our accomplishments. We helped pass the Electoral Count Reform Act. We also helped pass the Water Resources Development Act. We fought off Senator Manchin's energy and pipeline permitting proposal three times. We brought on key Senate support for the Afgan Adjustment Act. We thwarted efforts to codify Title 42. We brought UU's attention to the matter of the Farm Bill.

We are doing and have done this work with our UU partners and beyond.

We are engaging for voting rights, DACA and Dreamers, Afghan stability, fair taxes, SNAP, a fossil-free future, and a climate-smart Farm Bill. We are present where the justice work calls us to be.

As we celebrate what we have accomplished last fiscal year, we relish the work before us in the next, and we ask you to join us in the work of the new program year. We express deep gratitude for your engagement and support.





# What We Have Accomplished

FY 22-23 brought new ways of engagement for UUSJ. We continue to grow towards effective and impactful federal engagement for Unitarian Universalists despite the complicating factors of a closely divided Senate, a formally split national legislature, a weak Speaker of the House, and a growing far-right legislative block.

When prudent, we add our power to positive effect, as in the case of the Electoral Count Reform Act and the Water Resources Development Act, which both passed in 2022. Clear victories. Clear accomplishments.



When the situation dictates, we hold the line for our principles, as in the case of the Manchin permitting deal, which we helped block three times during the fall of 2022. Although the permitting deal passed as part of the must-pass debt ceiling legislation in 2023, we had delayed the process and worked diligently to uphold our values. Senator Manchin could only pass his proposal by attaching it to the debt-ceiling measure—we had effectively stopped the proposal in every other legislative scenario.

Similarly, we were called to [comment in support](#) of additional regulatory protections for the healthcare privacy of people who can get pregnant. That is why we released a [Comment Alert](#) with sample language, so both individuals and congregations might submit supporting comments.

We uphold an inclusive democracy, which is why joined an [Amicus Brief](#) submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court by the Campaign Legal Center, with support from the Brennan Center For Justice in the case of North Carolina Moore vs. Harper. We believe in a better American democracy; that is why we continue to work for voting rights, as well as free and fair elections.

We strive to act in solidarity and allyship with the impacted and in concert with our coalition partners, as in the case of the Afghan Adjustment Act (AAA) and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). That is why we have been seeking support in the House for the AAA. We successfully brought a DACA Action of Immediate Witness at the 2023 General Assembly.



We champion transformation on key issues like the Farm Bill in light of the environment, something we hold dear. By bringing about a new faith-based awareness of the legislative processes involved in our agricultural sector and developing a consensus among progressive faith-based advocates, we effected changes within our coalitions, and the overall consensus-building process invaluable to a citizen-informed republic. We have helped catalyze this new understanding of the agriculture sector, the Farm Bill, and the climate crisis.

We help in all our endeavors to create a healthier society and democracy, which feeds our vision of a just, compassionate, and sustainable world community. We are doing this work together with our members and supporters and reaching out to more UUs. That is why we made a strong showing at GA.

The current political landscape and legislative gridlock mean we will be called to do this work for the foreseeable future. Our volunteers are committed to the deep work of advocacy: educating federal decision-makers, acting in coalition to lift our concern, sharpening the UU presence on federal matters, and sharing our power, our presence, with impacted communities as allies, in solidarity.



Your support—the clicks, calls, meetings, and witness—make this possible. We are proud of what we have done together. We have helped advance justice and worked to prevent terrible legislative proposals at the national level from passing. For example, we resisted codifying Title 42 because it would have harmed refugees and asylum seekers. We are doing that work in ways consistent with our faith and values as Unitarian Universalists.

We hope you feel as we do, called to continue the excellent work where such work remains to be done. We have a lot to do, and we need you. We know we are more impactful when we act together, as Unitarian Universalists, in coalition. Together, we accomplish more.

# Advancing UU Values Through Education

## July 12, 2022 -**Expert Opinion Briefing: Reform the Electoral Count Act with Cerin Lindgrensavage**

Cerin Lindgrensavage, Counsel at Protect Democracy, spoke with UUSJ about the importance of a bipartisan group of Senators that was working to correct flaws in the Electoral Count Act (ECA); the revised act would update, tighten, and clarify the ECA of 1887, which guides the casting and counting of electoral votes for the presidency. Reform of the ECA occurred with its passage later in 2022.



## Sept. 13, 2022 - **Voter Mobilization with Andrea Miller**

Andrea Miller, Founding Board Member of the Center for Common Ground (CCG) and Reclaim Our Vote, led a discussion of voting rights, the need for free and fair elections, and the importance of getting out the vote in key states for the November Election.

## Sept. 21, 2022 - **State of Our Democracy: Reforms To Renew And Strengthen It Going Forward, with Lee Drutman**

Lee Drutmen, Ph.D. presented ideas based in research on the reforms we need and proposed ways to renew and strengthen our democracy. Lee is a Senior Fellow in the Political Reform Program at New America.



## Nov. 16, 2022 - **Supreme Court, Moore v Harper with Lee Harper and Common Cause**

The North Carolina redistricting case would have made it even easier for state legislatures to suppress the vote, draw gerrymandered election districts, and subvert election results. Ms. Harper, lead plaintiff and UU of North Carolina, explained why she was called to sue the state of North Carolina and what adoption of the Independent Legislature Theory could mean for our democracy.

## Dec. 6, 2022 - **Advancing Social Justice in a Tough Political Environment with Rev. David Beckmann, President Emeritus, Bread for the World, and Coordinator, Circle of Protection**

Rev. Beckmann talked about how advocating with Congress is an effective way to push for social justice, the importance of making sure that people who are adversely affected by social injustice are heard. Rev. Beckmann also reflected upon the results of the November elections, and what that implied for advocacy during the 118th Congress.



## Dec. 13, 2022 - **State Of Our Democracy: Racial Oligarchy and Fiscal Conservatism, Ending the Anti-Tax Era with Vanessa Williams**

Vanessa Williams, Ph.D, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies, Brookings Institute, explained how taxes demonstrate the legitimacy of democratic control of the economy and why some political and economic actors cannot accept this fundamental concept. Also, how the cult of the “taxpayer” allows for racist attacks on that same democracy, on its progress towards more responsive governance..

## Jan. 17, 23, 31, 2023 - **Equity Mapping: Charting Liberation Pathways with Tammy Johnson**

Tammy Johnson, expert trainer and facilitator, spoke to equity mapping as a way to intentionally shift away from the oppressive norms in our organizations and its usefulness in strategies, collaborations, and personal development. This was a 3-session workshop series.



## Feb. 2, 2023 - **Reflection on Federal Matters with UUA President, Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick-Gray**

UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray led us in a review and reflection about the current moment and the need for decision-makers to recognize that progressive individuals of faith exist – and cannot be ignored as a social and political force.

## April 13, 2023 - **Expert Opinion Briefing: A Climate-Smart Farm Bill with Jim Walsh**

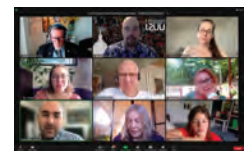
Jim Walsh, Policy Director of Food & Water Watch, led us in a presentation and question and answer session about using the Farm Bill to push the agriculture sector toward conservation, carbon emissions reductions, and protecting land, water, and biodiversity from degradation.



# Advancing UU Values Through Witness and Amplification

As UUSJ moves more deeply into our coalition work, we are asked more and more frequently to participate in various efforts or to amplify campaigns. Below is a sample of the more than 60 activities we supported with our solidarity and participation and/or amplification. It is an impressive mix of webinars, events, and promotion of policy content, as well as witness, petitions, and other advocacy engagements.

1. Defund Hate National Day of Advocacy September 2022
2. United We Dream: Petition: Biden (response to the final rule on DACA. DHS release)
3. Opportunity Agenda: Narrative Lab: Pushing back on Anti-Immigrant Narratives
4. Appalachian Resistance: Rally & Advocacy: September 2022
5. Green Faith: Faiths For Climate Justice: COP 27 Pressure Campaign
6. Human Rights Watch: Revive HR 40/S 40
7. Indigenous Environmental Network: Indigenous Peoples' Day (S.B 2919/H.B. 5473)
8. Taproot Earth: Public Comment: Five-Year Plan for Offshore Drilling
9. Green Faith: Big Shift Global March and Rally (DC) / Another World is Possible Festival (DC)
10. DFAD: Pressure Biden for EO requiring federal contractors to disclose political donations
11. Indigenous Environmental Network: Financing Issues and uplifting Indigenous Sovereignty
12. Solstice Initiative: Energy Justice Experts Break Down the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
13. PVFF: Public Comment: Gulf-Link Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement
14. Greenpeace: Fire Drill Friday, with Jane Fonda in D.C.
15. PVFF: Post-election action pack: Schumer-Manchin Dirty Deal (NDAA & Omnibus)
16. Poor People's Campaign, NCMR of NY: Poor People's State Of The State
17. Human Rights Watch & NAAC: Black History Month for HR 40/S.40 - Feb. Means Resilience
18. Environmental Defense Fund: Public Comment: EPA draft rule to cut methane and pollutants
19. NAACP: Demand Uniformed Police Reform
20. Understanding the Threat of white Christian Nationalism to American democracy today
21. Faithful Democracy: Petition: urge President Biden to issue EOs to strengthen our democracy
22. Defund Hate: Nat. Day Of Action, March 2023, Rally & Petition Push: Cut ICE & CBP funding
23. Farmers For Climate Action: Rally For Resistance
24. PVFF: The Willow Project: #StopWillow Rally at the White House March 2023
25. People over Petro Coalition: Petition: Train Derailment Response - OH and PA Take Action!
26. Stop Formosa Plastics In The Gulf Coast; Petitions to JP Morgan Chase and Biden
27. Stop Cop City: Defend the Atlanta Forest & Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights
28. Coalition on Human Needs: Report: As Extra Medicaid Aid Expires, Children Uninsured
29. Tax Policy Center: Report: Research Breaching The Debt Limit Risks Hurting Children
30. IIC: Public Comment Push On Biden Asylum Proposal; UUSJ's [formal comment](#) opposing
31. PVFF: The Willow Project: The President Can STILL Stop Willow
32. IIC: Migration & Refugee Service: Webinar Series – Root Causes of Migration
33. Reclaim our Democracy: Democracy: Its Value and for Whom? (webinar panel)
34. IIC: Opposing the Border Security and Enforcement Act of 2023 ([UUSJ statement](#))
35. WISC: Coalition of the Willing: #CareNotCuts – Rally and Letters to Congress
36. Americans For Tax Fairness: Biden Tax & Investment Budget vs. House Cuts
37. Human Rights Watch & NAAC: Ready for Juneteenth: House Res. 414 by Rep. Cori Bush
38. End the ERA of Fossil Fuels National Week of Action June 8-11
39. PPC: NCMR: June 2023 Moral Values Congress; Learning and Action
40. EOA: Congressional Advocacy Days, AAA, June 12-16; UUSJ in accompanier role





# Advancing UU Values Through Advocacy

Engaging our federal congressional members is an effective way to voice opinions on an issue and persuade them on policies. UUSJ members and friends have been advocating with Senators, House Members, the President, and other Federal decision-makers for over ten years, building upon our history of education and witness since 1999. We use expert opinion briefings and talking point papers to drive our pressure campaigns, action alerts, and *Write Here! Write Now!* letter writing campaigns.

**General Assembly:** This year, we made a strong showing at GA. We had a booth. We held a get to know UUSJ coffee hour. We gathered members of our Board. We proposed an Action of Immediate Witness for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA and Dreamers). UUSJ is working to meet UUs across the U.S. and connect them to our work engaging federal decision-makers. We are building power and improving awareness of our mission.



**Legislation:** Each year, UUSJ Staff and Action Teams determine the bills that will be highlighted based on upcoming federal work. A team will research the policy and how it follows UU principles, work with impacted communities, and develop an engagement strategy. We check with our coalition allies to be sure our understanding is aligned with the perspective of impacted communities.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that DACA is unlawful. Tell Congress to protect the Dreamers now!  
*Click image to take action!*



**Congressional Actions:** UUSJ Staff and Action Teams prepare background papers highlighting a given issue, including addressing the urgency and the UU grounding. An action alert is created online and includes a template letter for individuals to print and use to engage with their respective members of Congress. The template encourages the insertion of personal statements and stories to gain the attention of each Congressional office.

**Information and Education:** We use the background materials we collect or generate to educate ourselves as UUs about a policy issue.

**Virtual Briefings:** Virtual meetings with expert speakers often supplement educational materials. These may be before or after the interaction with a given legislative office.

**Publicizing:** Action alerts are publicized through our website, Facebook, Twitter, email campaigns, and, when possible, partner sites and outlets.

Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice  
UUSJ  
Advancing UU Values in the Public Square

FAITHFUL DEMOCRACY

Center for Common Ground

Expert Opinion Briefing - Voting Rights

Andrea Miller, Board of Directors, Center for Common Ground

Sister Quincy Howard, Faithful Democracy

Donna Scheidt, Democracy Activist, UU Church of Greensboro, NC

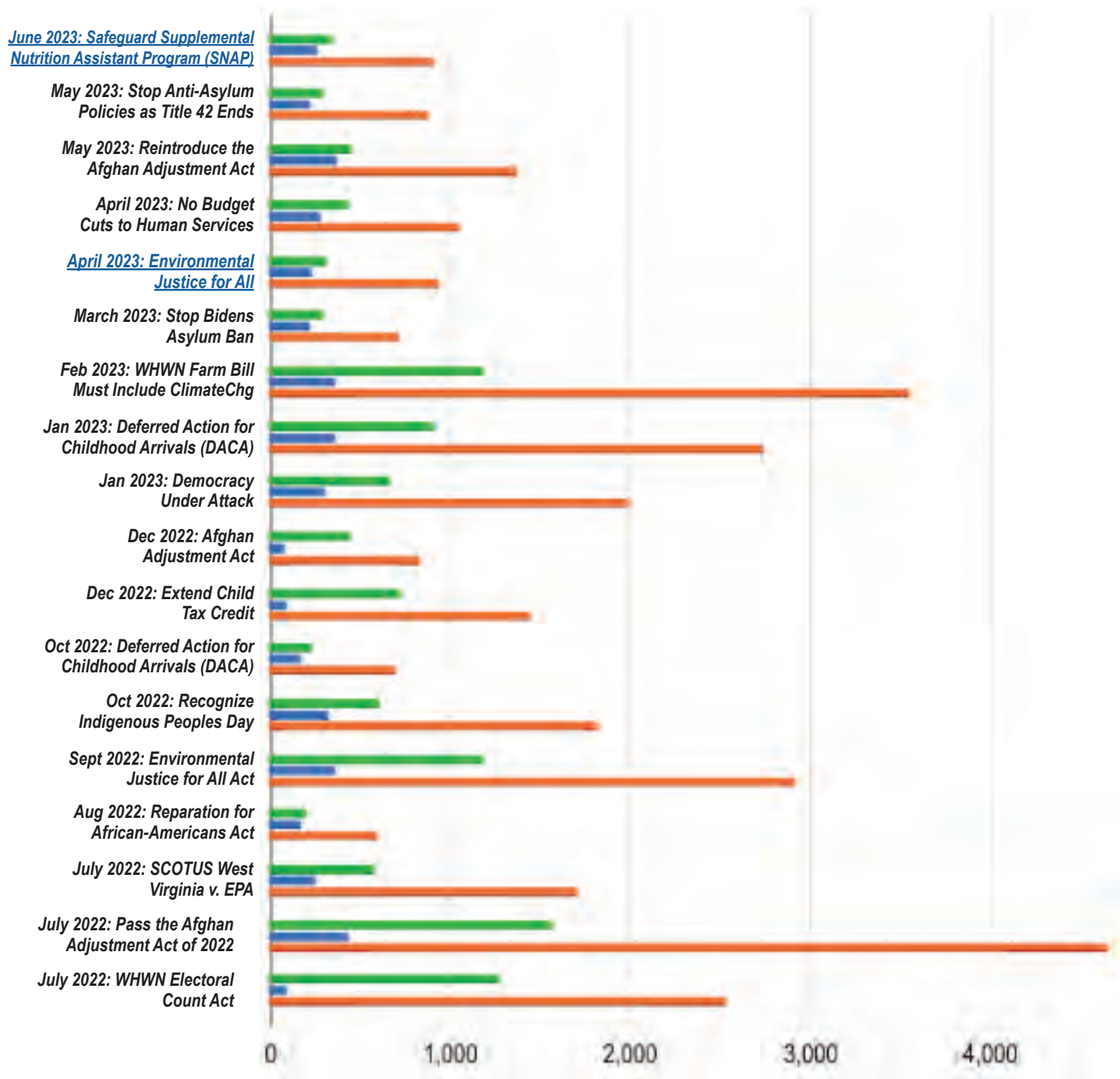
Fred Van Deusen, Democracy Advocate, First Parish in Concord, MA



**Legislator Interaction:** Along with the letter-writing campaigns and action alerts, our pressure campaigns often include virtual meetings with legislative staff. Virtual Zoom meetings allow constituents from across the United States to meet with the policy staff of their representative(s) to express beliefs, ask questions, hold people accountable, and request action.

# Action Alerts / WHWN Statistics

- # of Supporters Involved
- # of Legislators Reached
- # of Messages Sent





# 2022–23 Board Of Trustees



## **Rev. Peggy Clarke, New York, NY**

As a UU, Peggy was on the team that ultimately wrote Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice Statement of Conscience and went on to chair the UU Food Justice Committee. She was also part of the Environmental Justice Collaboratory and was a convener for the experimental Commit2Respond program. In 2014, Peggy was the prime organizer for UU involvement in the massive Climate March held in NYC and was an Observer Delegate at the Paris Climate Summit. In addition, she was a witness at Standing Rock, marched to free refugees at the Mexican border, and organized national UU involvement in the Climate Strike in 2019. Peggy is currently a founding board member for the new NY State Advocacy Network.



## **Johannes Favi, Chicago, IL**

Johannes has a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science and worked at Etisalat Benin before immigrating to the United States in 2013. In 2019, he was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and spent nearly a year in jail at Jerome Combs Detention Center in Kankakee, IL. Upon his release, Johannes continued participating in civil rights and social issues, mainly through the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants. He currently serves on the Board of Directors in this Chicago nonprofit organization. He is also part of Connect Kankakee, a local group of fierce advocates where he also serves as a board member. He is an ambassador for the newly created Midwest Immigration Bond Fund.



## **Vonna Heaton, Rockville, MD**

Vonna is a passionate and lifelong student and practitioner of Unitarian Universalist principles. She became a Unitarian Universalist and joined River Road UU Congregation in 2013 and proceeded to put her energy and passion to use by serving with several groups, including the Racial Justice Task Force, Action, Welcome Team, and Social Justice Review and Ministry Teams. Vonna also serves on the Board of a non-profit that is reshaping the local food system by reducing barriers to accessing nutrient-dense fresh produce for those experiencing food insecurity, promoting improved health outcomes through Food Is Medicine programs for low-income residents at risk of chronic diet-related diseases, and supporting local small-scale produce farmers through fair-price purchase programs.



## **Meleah Houseknecht, Minneapolis, MN**

Meleah is the founder and owner of Emergence Consulting, which provides capacity building to nonprofit clients. Most recently, she was the director of policy and systems change for Environmental Initiative. Meleah holds a master's degree in environmental management from the Yale School of the Environment and has nearly 20 years of experience engaging stakeholders in environmental policy development and implementation. In 2021, she began following her call to Unitarian Universalist ministry and is currently a student at United Theological Seminary in Unitarian Universalist studies and social transformation. She is co-chair of the Faithful Action Council at First Universalist Church of Minneapolis.



## **Charlotte Jones Carroll, Chevy Chase, MD**

Charlotte retired in 2000 after a career at the US Agency for International Development and the World Bank doing strategy, program, and budget work, including eight years as a manager. At the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation in suburban Maryland, she has worked on the Latin American task force and organized and co-chaired the Immigration and Refugee Justice Committee. Charlotte has served on the UUSJ Board as Secretary for two years and has served two terms as Chair of UUSJ. She has served on many other non-profit boards, including UUSC, River Road UUC, La Clinica del Pueblo, Centro Familia, and World Bank Children's Center. She also has served on numerous nominating committees, including at UUSC and RRUUC.



## **Norma Flores Lopez, El Paso, TX**

Norma is the Chief Programs Officer at Justice for Migrant Women. In addition to her years of experience as an advocate, Norma has invaluable firsthand experience with farmworker issues. Norma was the director of the Children in the Fields Campaign at the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Program. Norma graduated from the University of Texas Pan-American in Edinburg, TX, with a Bachelors in Communications and studied abroad at the Universidad de Salamanca in Spain. She also holds a Master of Public Policy degree from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia.



### **Dr. Serena Lowe, Washington, DC**

Serena has spent the past 25 years furthering public policies that promote the socio-economic advancement of low-income working families, individuals with disabilities, seniors, children, women, immigrants, and refugees. She is the Founder and Principal of AnereS Strategies LLC, a public policy and organizational management consulting firm. Serena completed a B.A. in International and Public Affairs at Westminster College, a one-year program at Cambridge University and the London School of Economics, two graduate degrees from George Washington University, and a Ph.D. in Public Administration from American University. Serena has been a board consultant on the UUSJ Board since 2020.



### **Chloe Emily Ockey, Rockville, MD**

Chloe moved to Maryland from California and now serves the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville as Director of Communications. Previously, Chloe served at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno. Her passion is bringing awareness to social justice issues through creative means such as videos, photography, music, and graphic design. She has also participated in multiple national UU programs and training from the UU College of Social Justice, the UUA, and more. Chloe earned her Associate in Communications Studies in the Spring of 2018 and has since been immersed in adoption advocacy, climate justice, and Young Adult program development.



### **Rev. Kristin Schmidt, Olney, MD**

Rev. Kristin grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland, and attended Cedar Lane UU Church. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in music from McDaniel College in Westminster, Maryland, in 2004, after which she spent six months working in England, where she heard the call to ministry. She served Cedar Lane as Membership Coordinator while earning a Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary, graduating in 2010. Since graduating, she has served congregations in Massachusetts, New Jersey, California, and now the UU Church of Silver Spring. She lives with her husband, four boys, a dog, and a cat in Olney, Maryland. In addition to ministry, she enjoys baking, singing, reading, hiking, and all things Star Trek.



### **Mariano J. Vera, Sarasota, FL**

Mariano is a Manatee Unitarian Universalist Fellowship member in Bradenton, Florida, where he chairs the Social Justice Committee. Mariano is a journalist and speaks Argentinian Sign Language (first language), Spanish, and English. He is currently producing a Latino radio show with specific themes (women singers and songwriters, gay, International Day of Peace, etc.). Mariano has belonged to Argentine social justice communities and worked with disadvantaged people in the US. He still works with progressive causes in his community. He grew up with Jesuit priests who emphasized social concern for the poor and political liberation for oppressed people.



### **Leon D. Winston, Santa Fe, NM**

Leon retired in 2020 as the Chief Operating Officer and Housing Director of Swords to Plowshares in San Francisco, CA. He worked on the housing, treatment, and income support needs of homeless and at-risk veterans for 25 years. He possesses a Master of Nonprofit Administration and Bachelor of Public Administration degrees from the University of San Francisco and certification in Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies from the University of California at Berkeley.

## 2023–24 Incoming Trustees



### **Dale Anderson, Sarasota, FL**

Dale is a retired physician, executive, and healthcare consultant who served as the President of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota (Florida) from 2019 to 2022. He was instrumental in instituting a Racial Justice Reading Program and created the Racial Justice Coordinating Team. Dale is one of the UU representatives to the Manasota Antiracism Coalition and the Sarasota Remembrance Project. He lives with his wife, Mary Montgomery, and has three grown children and grandchildren.



### **Rev. Latifah Griffin, Palm Beach, FL**

Rev. Griffin was raised in Chester, PA, and works as a therapist and minister. Her personal mission is to enlighten others to our interconnectedness as humans. Latifah was baptized in the Baptist tradition as a teenager and found a new spiritual community in the Unitarian Universalist tradition in 2018, as a member of First Unitarian Church of Wilmington. She was the Intern Minister at the Unitarian Society of Germantown and will serve the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Palm Beaches in 2023-2024.



### **Jean Pierce, Portland, OR**

Jean has been active in Social Justice in a variety of capacities and in 2008 retired after 34 years as a professor of educational psychology. As Social Justice chair of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva, Illinois she helped coordinate a series of programs for local, national, and international causes. For ten years, she served as chair of the League of Women Voters of Illinois Issues and Advocacy Committee. Jean recently moved to Portland where she anticipates making new connections with fellow UUs and League members.



### **Dan Schneider, Cincinnati, OH**

Dan grew up on a small farm in West Central Ohio and was the first person in his family to attend college. He graduated from Wittenberg University and has Masters degrees in both science and arts. Dan served in the Army in Vietnam, has taught American history, and was Director at the University of Cincinnati Clermont College. Dan and his wife attend the First Unitarian Church of Cincinnati where he has served as Co-Chair of the Social Justice Committee, the church Board of Trustees, and was Co-Chair of UU Justice Ohio.



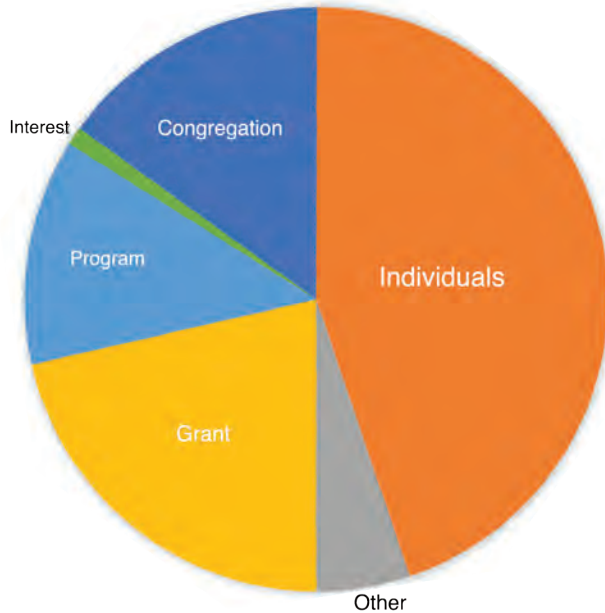
### **Sandra Wilmore, Springfield, VA**

Sandra grew up in the segregated South where she was informed of a sense of justice, the need for change, and commitment to constant evolution toward a better society. Her youth also informed her deep respect for the power of the law—Sandra's profession. For ten years Sandra was an attorney with a civil rights firm in DC and prior to that was an attorney in the Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission for thirty-two years.

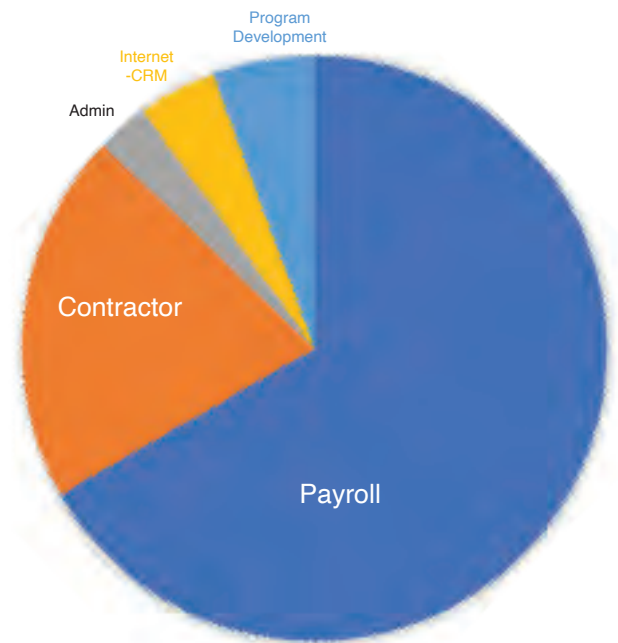


# Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Financials

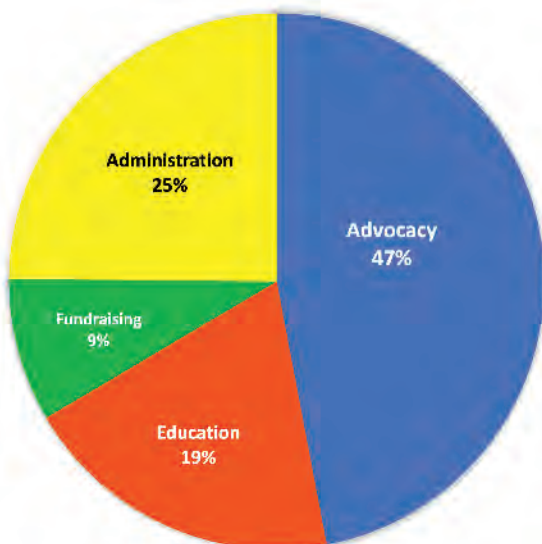
## Income \$107,475



## Expenses \$96,781



## Program Expenses \$66,295



# Contributors

## Congregations

Accotink UU Church	Adams, Shirley	Coury, Dr Michael	Francois, Emery
Baltimore, First Unitarian Church of	Adams, Roberta	Couts, Nancy	Frederick-Gray, Rev Susan
Bull Run UUs	Adams, James	Cowie, Ian	Freedman, Larry
Cedar Lane UU Church	Ades, Martha	Cox, Emily	Freeman, Kirk
Columbia, UU Congregation of	Albury, Kathy	Cramer, Paul	Frey, Dr Kathleen
Concord, First Parish in	Almstead, Gretchen	Crothers, Diane	Friedman, Leanne
Edmonds UU Congregation	Alonzo, Virginia	Culhane, Carol	Fulton, Sandra
Frederick, UU Congregation of	Alston, Marian	Culp, David	Galloway-Egge, Ann
Hendersonville, UU Fellowship of	Altman, Harriet	Cummings, Mary	Garcia-Sampson, Lisa
Reston, UU Church in	Amos, Pamela	D'Angelo, Dr Georganne	Garin, Nick
River Road UU Congregation	Anderson, Meredith	Daguiar, Caroline	Giddings, France
Rockville, UU Congregation of	Antoniewicz, Carol	Darling, Dr Marsha	Gilkey, Fred
Silver Spring, UU Church	Anzaldo, Dr Lauren	Darr, Betsy	Giordano, Tony
Towson UU Church	Ardizzone, Dr Leonisa	Dash, Jan	Glatz, Dr Kathleen
	Armstrong, Seth	Davis, James	Gnarra, Dr Irene
	Asche, Dr Jane	Dawson, Dr Stanley	Godinez, Judith
	Atkinson, Moya	Debus-Lopez, Karl	Goggin, Virginia
	Augustine, Michelle	DeLap, Linda	Gold, Donna
	Bainbridge, Lysbeth	Dely, Laura	Gonzales, Mary Ellen
	Ball, Beverly	Dempsey, James	Gonzalez-Campoy, Rebecca
	Bannor, Jane	Denniston, Bob	Grant, Cynthia
	Barratt, Marilou	deRegt, Jacomina	Grim, Evelyn
	Bartolomeo, Kathleen	Deroche, Claire	Grogan, Terry
	Battaglini, Linda	DeSousa, Teresa	Grow, Lavona
	Beals, Emily	Deutsch, Judith	Grubman, Cathy & Stewart
	Beasley, Dr Maurine	DiLavore, Dr Pamela	Gubbings, John
	Beck, Pat	Dillard, Pat	Guignon, Jeanne
	Beezley, Ann	Dimond, Margery	Hadley, Christopher
	Behenna, Pat	Donn, Marjory	Hall, Grace
	Bell, Curtis	Donor, Anonymous	Hallahan, Kathryn
	Bell-Stevens, Sharon	Dowling, Joyce	Hammons, Beverly
	Bellavance, Jean	Downs, David	Hardy, Melvin
	Beninson, Ilene	Drew, Barbara	Hargrave, Anna
	Benson, Mark	Duarte, Marean	Harrison, Janice
	Bisbee, Mary Alice	Dugan, Mary	Hathaway, Marilyn
	Bohland, Sally	Dwire, Janet	Hauck, Molly
	Bowler, Dr Suzanne	Dwyer-Morgan, Patricia	Havens, Phyllis
	Boyd, Gayle	Dybdahl, Ryan	Hayes, Richard
	Brainerd, Tim	Eagle, Maj-Britt	Hayes, William
	Brauch, Bill	Easton, Merle	Heaton, Vonna
	Bridges, Sissel	Eckstrand, Dr Stephen	Heier, Andrea
	Brown, Nancy	Eckstrand, Irene	Henigin, Linda
	Brown, Dennis	Edington, Dr Rose	Henz, Deborah
	Brown, Megan	Edwards, Maury	Herbert, Dr Emily
	Buffington, Lynn	Ellison, Dee	Higgins, Christina
	Burkhart, Dr Dick	Elms, Francesca	Higgins Hargrave, Meredith
	Caldiero, James & Dorothy	Emery, Timothy	Hill, Amanda
	Camp, Carole	Ernstthal, Mary Lynn	Hilscher, Randall
	Campbell, Dr Carla	Essig Marks, Mary Jo	Hilton, Bill
	Carpenter, Jordan & Nuala	Evans, Dr Dee	Hirtle, Dr Stephen
	Castiglia, Mary	Evans, Steven	Hitchcock, Dr Lucy
	Chacon, Corinne	Evansmore, Jean	Hooper, Penny
	Chastain, Suzan	Falk, Carol	Houseknecht, Meleah
	Chery, Donald	Faulkinberry, Patricia	Howerton, Devery
	Chimienti, Martha	Fischell, Sarah	Hughes, Dr Michael
	Clarke, Rev Peggy	Fitzke, Aileen	Hughes, Vince
	Clayton, Marilyn & Thomas	Flanigan, Maureen	Hurdis, Jim
	Cleland, Dr Janell	Floyd-Kennett, Elana	Hybl, Lois
	Clutter, Dr Barbara	Fontneau, Peter	Jackson, Jeff
	Cohen, Lenard	Foster, Dorothy	Jacob, Evelyn
	Cosca, Cecilia	Fowler, Kitty	Johnsen, Bob
	Cosgrove, Kathleen	Fox, Ann	Johnson, Alan

Johnson, Beth  
 Johnson, Ann  
 Jones, Rev Roger  
 Jones-Carroll, Charlotte  
 Juarin, Jimmie  
 Kaplan, Judith  
 Kappler, Denise  
 Karbner, Susan  
 Kaufmann, Karen  
 Keithan, Rev Rob  
 Kerrigan, Dr Warren  
 Kerrigan, Debbie  
 Khan, Nasreen  
 King, Dr Dan  
 Kitchenham, Margaret  
 Knuth, Sherri  
 Koechlin, Emily  
 Koechlin, Patrick  
 Koenig, Bonita  
 Koran, Nancy  
 Kraemer, Sherry  
 Kringer, Ed & Mary  
 Kubien LLC,  
 Kuczora, Carol  
 Kuller, Art  
 Ladd, Dianne  
 Ladner, Robert  
 Large, Jeanne  
 Lawless, Mary  
 Lawlor, Rev Daniel  
 Lebowitz, Dr Jack  
 Lenkerd, Dr Barbara  
 Lennon, Michael  
 Lester, Laura  
 Lindup, Allan  
 Little, Audrey  
 Loring, Linda  
 Lovell, Margaret  
 Lowe, Serena  
 Lowman, Terry  
 Ludden, David  
 Lyon, Susan  
 MacDonald, Ethel  
 Mackey, Melvin  
 MacKinnon, Bonnie Lynn  
 Maclane, Charles  
 Magee, Rhonda  
 Magnuson, Gary  
 Maney, Marilyn  
 Manning, Judy  
 Manning, Barbara & Charles  
 Manton, Judy  
 Maranville, Deborah  
 Marcus, Jill  
 Marlier, Yvonne  
 Marlin, Doris  
 Marr, Patricia  
 Martin, Virginia  
 Martinez, Anita  
 Masur, Dr Milton  
 Matheson, Ellen  
 Mathis, Don  
 Matthews, Dot  
 Maxwell, Ann  
 May, Stacey

Mayers, Dr Marilyn  
 McCarthy, Sean  
 McCarthy, Dr Bernice  
 McCully, Eileen  
 McDaniel, Carol  
 McGirr, Mike  
 McGrane, Connie  
 McGuire, Debra  
 McTighe, Dr Arthur  
 Miller, Dr Suzanne  
 Miller, Karen  
 Milner, Melanie  
 Milton, Donald  
 Misch, Peggy  
 Mitchell, Ken  
 Mix, Pamela  
 Moen, Daniel  
 Montgomery, Dr Claire  
 Moos, Merry  
 Morrison, Alma  
 Mulligan, Eugene  
 Mummert, Gary  
 Muntz, Kindra  
 Murphy-Keddell, Karen  
 Musson, Arthur  
 Myers, Janice  
 Nahas, Betsy  
 Nassif, Diane  
 Navarro, Sandra  
 Neal, Tawnya  
 Neiss, Charlie  
 Newhouse, William  
 Nobel, Dr Barry  
 Nolan, Holly  
 Nolden, Carol  
 Norris, Dr Jim  
 Nowak, Nancy  
 Ockey, Chloe Emily  
 Olive, Dr John  
 Olson, David Carl  
 Olson, Rev David Carl  
 OMeara, Maureen  
 Oort, Dr Abraham  
 Owen, Jean  
 Palmer, Joyce  
 Palmer, Karen  
 Paris, Patti  
 Parli, Rose  
 Perry, Ann  
 Peters, Barbara  
 Peters, Susan  
 Peterson, Dr John  
 Petrequin, Marc  
 Phillips, Patricia Anne  
 Piervincenzi, Laura  
 Piez, Eleanor  
 Pilette, Sterling  
 Pinson, Margery  
 Pollack, Joyce  
 Poppei, Jean  
 Powers, Jean  
 Prandi, Julie  
 Prenosil, Tamara  
 Priese, Katrina  
 Quirk, Constance

Ramsden, Lindi  
 Ratta, Greg  
 Raymond, Dr Eileen  
 Read, Dr Michael  
 Realini, Dr Jan  
 Reiher, Elizabeth  
 Rice, David  
 Richards, Mary  
 Rieder, Bruce  
 Ritenbaugh, Dr Cheryl  
 Robinson, Penny  
 Rock, Kenneth  
 Rodman, Barbara  
 Rohe, Shelly  
 Ronca-Washburn, Jane  
 Root, Dr Jane  
 Rosasco, Dr Gregory  
 Rossi, Sharon  
 Routhier, Scott  
 Row, Constance  
 Ruedi, Gayle  
 Russell-Jayne, Bruce  
 Sacksteder, Mary  
 Sand, Jessica  
 Sandstrom, Dr Cathy  
 Sapirman, Nadine  
 Schaeffer, Peggy  
 Scheid, Patricia  
 Scheidt, Donna  
 Schmidt, Rev Kristin  
 Schmiesing, Glen  
 Schmitz, Joseph  
 Schneider, Dan  
 Sciullo, James  
 Scott, Ursula  
 Scott, Catherine  
 Scrivo, Rev Karen  
 Seabrook, Sharon  
 Seiffert, Perry & Dianne  
 Serikaku, Steven  
 Shaklee, Margaret  
 Shepard, Patty  
 Sherman, Peggy  
 Shields, Robert  
 Shilling, Ken  
 Shilton, David & Mary  
 Skipper, Nancy  
 Skold, Karen  
 Sloan, Pat  
 Sloan Alday, Dr Caroline  
 Smith, Nancy  
 Smith, Darien  
 Smith, Priscilla  
 Smoker, James  
 Snell, Stephen  
 Snider, Virginia  
 Sorbello, Lorraine  
 Stableford, Christina  
 Stanojevich, Milo  
 Stayton, Kathleen  
 Stevens, Mimi  
 Stevenson, Katherine  
 Stewart, Valerie  
 Stiefel, Nancy  
 Stoller, Linda

Story, Dr Dale  
 Strauss, David  
 Swanton, Patricia  
 Taylor, Marilyn  
 Teall, Margaret  
 Teichert, Diane  
 Telford, Judith  
 Tharp, Aly  
 Thompson, Jan  
 Thompson, Mary Ann  
 Thompson, Linda  
 Thoryn, Michael  
 Tilton-Jones, Carrie  
 Toman, Margaret  
 Townsend, Rita  
 Troiano, David  
 Trumbore, Samuel  
 Tugendhat, Marcia  
 Ullius, Diane  
 Ulmschneider, Ann  
 Underwood, Dr Larry  
 Ungar, Arthur  
 Urban, Elizabeth Joan  
 VanBecelaere, Joan  
 VanBrunt, Terry  
 VanDeusen, Fred  
 Vandiver, Rev Deanna  
 Vansant, Jane  
 Walker, Molly  
 Walker, Carol  
 Warner, Nancy  
 Wasserman, Adam  
 Weaving, Diana  
 Wellington, Patricia  
 Wertz, Janet  
 West, Harper  
 Westwood, Ardis  
 Wheeler, Ken  
 White, Marsha  
 White, Jennifer  
 White, Bruce  
 Whiting, Carolyn  
 Wiggins, Hannah  
 Willard, Nikki  
 Winston, Leon  
 Woods, Denise  
 Woodward, Rosalind  
 Wray, Tanner  
 Wright, Sandra  
 Wyatt, Craig Dylan  
 Yost, Rev Connie  
 Young, carolyn  
 Yousef, Lenore  
 Zellmer, William  
 Zellmer, Rev Charlene  
 Zilber, Dr Suzanne



## A Brief History of UUSJ

During the 1980s, most Washington, DC area UU congregations worked together to launch and support the UU Affordable Housing Corporation (UUAHC). In 1998, the late Jack Edmondson, Executive Director of UUAHC, asked Rev. John Beuhrens, President of the UUA, to explore how the various Washington-based UU entities might cooperate more effectively through a coalition. After exploratory discussions, Rev. Buehrens embraced the idea, and after conducting meetings with area ministers and UU leaders, an organizing meeting was held in 1999 of 20 UU congregations and organizations. UUSJ was incorporated in April 2000.

Over the years, UUSJ moved from having a single-issue focus to multiple priorities. Since its inception, UUSJ has been educating about advocacy. In 2013, UUSJ launched a direct advocacy program to bring critical issues to the attention of public policymakers, given its strategic location in the Capital region. A letter-writing campaign (Write Here! Write Now!) was developed to elicit letters from constituents, and briefings were prepared to inform Advocacy Corps members of their scheduled meetings with Congressional staff. UUSJ has been staffed over the 20 years by a part-time Executive Director (currently Pablo DeJesus) and part-time administrative staff (currently Paulette DeMers).

## UUSJ at General Assembly 2023

