

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE CHARTER
(Effective Date: December 17, 1996)

I. NAME OF COMMITTEE: Social Action Committee

II. GUIDING RATIONALE:

As a religious community that places a strong emphasis on the importance of service to others, we have a responsibility to provide varied opportunities for our members to become better informed about social justice issues and to participate in activities that positively affect the lives of others.

III. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of the Social Action Committee (SAC) is to assist the members and friends of our church community in expressing their religious convictions through support of various social causes and service projects aimed at bettering the lives around us. We strive to accomplish this by:

A. Serving as the umbrella organization that supports our congregational service activities, which include Beacon House Community Ministry, Shepherd's Table, Action in Montgomery (AIM), Colesville Council of Community Congregations (C4), So Others Might Eat (SOME), and the Unitarian Universalist Affordable Housing Corporation (UUAHC);

B. Welcoming and encouraging member and youth participation in social action projects at all levels of commitment;

C. Honoring the many ways in which our members give of their time and resources to serve others.

IV. MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENTS, AND TERMS OF SERVICE:

A. The SAC is headed by a Chair appointed by the Vice President of Programs and approved by the Board of Trustees. The Chair serves a two-year term.

B. The SAC is responsible for appointing a committee liaison to the UUCSS Worship Service Committee and a representative to the UU Service Committee.

C. SAC meetings are open to all members and friends of the church community.

V. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:

The SAC meets at least ten times per year.

VI. SPECIFIC TASKS AND REPORTING SCHEDULE:

- A. Publicize upcoming committee-sponsored activities and encourage participation via the Uniter, Program Council Meetings, and inserts in the Orders of Service;
- B. The Chair or other representative from the SAC attends the monthly Program Council meetings;
- C. Annually submit a grassroots budget that highlights and provides rationale for SAC budget priorities and expected expenditures;
- D. Work in coordination with the Worship Services Committee to provide the annual Rowe Lecture and summer SAC worship services;
- E. Provide necessary support to coordinators of congregational service activities;
- F. Prepare an Annual Report of the SAC's activities for the congregation.

VII. RESOURCES:

UUA Congregational Handbook