How to Get Involved at the UU Urban Ministry!

Congregational Opportunities

1. Invite someone from the UU Urban Ministry to preach at your church
2. Take a collection for the UU Urban Ministry
3. Create a column in your church newsletter for regular UU Urban Ministry updates and announcements
4. If your congregation rotates its focus on social justice topics, make the UU Urban Ministry one of its foci.
   - We would be happy to join you and lead a conversation or a workshop!
5. Plan a fundraising, educational and/or awareness raising event at your church that incorporates information about one (or more) of our programs
   - Possible topics include: domestic violence, poverty, education, race, class, anti-racism/anti-oppression, the history of Roxbury, etc.
6. Hold a supply drive
   - Congregations have collected: toiletries and household goods for our domestic violence services, school supplies for Roxbury Youth Programs, and books for youth and survivors, in English and in Spanish.
7. Plan/host a trip or activity for Renewal House residents and their children
   - Folien Church Society invites renewal house residents to their East Village Fair in October and provides each resident with some spending money so they can buy food, crafts, etc.
   - First Congregational Parish, UU in Kingston throws a holiday party for Renewal House every December and hosts a picnic over the summer.
8. Sponsor a Beyond Shelter Event
   - First Parish UU of Medfield, First Church in Belmont, First Parish of Sudbury and others have supported these quarterly gatherings for current and former renewal house residents by providing lunch, gift bags, children’s activities, and/or educational programming.
9. Engage your youth in racial justice and service learning
   - Bring your youth group or Coming of Age class to the UU Urban Ministry for a day of learning, reflection, service, and more through the Seeing Me in the World racial justice curriculum. Learn more here.
Individual Volunteer Opportunities

10. Volunteer with the Roxbury Youth Programs
   - Tutor a high school student one afternoon a week.
   - Facilitate an Enrichment Workshop. We need volunteers to lead workshops on nutrition, health, interviewing skills, financial management, and other life skills.
   - Be a College Coach and work with one of our high school juniors or seniors applying for college.

11. Volunteer with Renewal House
   - Volunteer in the shelter answering the crisis line and helping out in the office.
   - Provide childcare so a resident can attend a counseling session or medical or legal appointment.

12. Volunteer with Believe in Success
   - Be a phone or in-person interviewer to help participants practice interview skills.
   - Act as a “personal shopper” to help a participant select an interview-ready outfit.
   - Serve on a career panel and share your challenges and successes in moving forward in your career, and more about the industry in which you work.

13. Attend a UUUM event
   - Sign up for our mailing list so you can stay up to date on what is going on at the UUUM and in our neighborhood.

14. Volunteer with Fair Foods
   - Every Saturday from 10:30 am – 2 pm, volunteers unload, package, and sell fresh produce to our Roxbury neighbors for $2 a bag.
   - Volunteers also provide healthy cooking demonstrations.

15. Volunteer to work in the UUUM garden
   - Plant, weed, water, harvest, and more! The produce goes to support our Roxbury Youth Program, Bethany House, and supplements the produce neighbors receive from Fair Foods.

16. Be a helping hand at Annual Meeting
   - Volunteers help us to put together delegate packets, mailings, and lunches for our Annual Meeting each May.

17. Be on our “please do call” list
   - Needs often arise last minute. We always need people we can call on for help with special events, mailings, data entry, etc.

18. Get in touch
   - If any of these UU Urban Ministry opportunities are of interest to you and/or your congregation, please contact our Director of Congregational and Volunteer Engagement:
     Marvin Venay
     617-318-6010, extension 214
     mvenay@uum.org

Also, remember to check out our website (www.uuum.org) for our online volunteer application and our upcoming events.