

**2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT
IMMIGRATION ACTION COALITION (IAC)**

Submitted by: Cheryl Valentine

Goals of the IAC:

- To educate ourselves and our congregation about immigration issues
- To advocate for immigration policy reform
- To act in support of immigrants in our community.

Accomplishments May 2017 to April 2018

- Championed the idea of becoming a sanctuary congregation to UUAA through over two dozen educational opportunities including town hall meetings, presentations, films, handouts, articles, and a table in the social hall. The congregation voted overwhelming on October 22 to become a hosting sanctuary congregation.
- Worked with other local congregations to build support for sanctuary. Four IAC members have served on the steering committee for Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary (WCS) and 11 congregations in Washtenaw County have now declared themselves sanctuary congregations.
- Planned fund-raisers for sanctuary with other area congregations including a June 25 picnic raising \$5,500 and a Feb. 16 Latin Dance Party raising \$2500 for WCS.
- Advocated for Lourdes, a community member and mother of two school-aged girls Marched, wrote letters, made calls to stop her deportation. We were unsuccessful.
- Hosted a WCS Press Conference, *Love Your Neighbors*, Feb 14 that generated newspaper radio and TV coverage of the growing sanctuary movement.
- Formed the Sanctuary Hospitality Committee to ready the Marly Room for guests. Raised donations to purchase a small refrigerator and microwave.

Members: Over 90 members on Immigration Action List Serve. Members who wrote articles, advocated for change and planned and/or presented programs this year include: Cesilie Cordovilla, Joanna Courteau, Ruth Cassidy, Vicki Echegoyen, Melanie Harner, Lucia Heinold, Vey Valentine, Louise Kazarinoff, Mollison Morgan, Melanie Hagan, Edie Hough, Linda Sprankle, Carol Thomas, Marian Horowitz, Sandy Eyl, Laura Bollettino, Ryan McKendree, and Cheryl Valentine. We are deeply saddened by the loss of active IAC member Arlene Huff last November. She is missed.