

Sharing the Collection Program

Chairperson: Bob Dinan

Committee members: Janet Duncan, Casey Jackson, Glenn Kime, Fran Lyman

Sharing the Collection gives all of us an opportunity to provide financial assistance to the non-profit service organizations that are doing important work in Washtenaw County.

From May 1, 2018, through April 30, 2019, our monthly collection has supported twelve different community organizations, totally \$31,101, compared with \$24,089 for the previous twelve-month period. On average, each recipient received a donation of \$2,392, with the largest monthly donation being \$3,511 and the smallest \$1,283.

So far in 2019, we have collected and shared \$11,942 compared with \$9,617 for the first four months of 2018.

The organizations supported in the twelve months ended April 30, 2019:

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| Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley |
| Summer Camp Scholarships |
| Avalon Nonprofit Housing |
| Children's Literacy Network (once in 2018, again in 2019) |
| SOS Community Services |
| Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) |
| IHN/Alpha House |
| Re-member.org (second collection Sunday in November) |
| Community Action Network |
| Friends in Deed |
| National Alliance on Mental Illness in Washtenaw County |
| Michigan UU Social Justice Network (MUUSJN) |

New initiative:

- At the suggestion of Reverend Manish and Glen Thomas and with the support of Carolyn Madden and Connie McGuire of the Social Justice Council, we have started to incorporate a representative of the recipient organization in the collection portion of the service. "Putting a face to the organization" - in the form of a three-minute presentation from an executive, a board member, or even a beneficiary of the social service - has helped the congregation to better appreciate how their contributions are making a difference in the community.

Future plans:

- Continued monthly support of one community organization, exploring the feasibility of adding an occasional second collection.
- Solicitation of applications for support in 2020 (October-November)