

2021.07.01 – 2022.06.30 Circles of Care Ministries Report

“Outreach and Justice”

We thank God for all those who have been engaged in Circles of Care ministries; from the membership of Sanctuary UCC as well as thousands of community members and hours invested in our effort to “*feed those who are hungry, clothe those who are naked, and spread love and justice to all.*”

The following report reflects our financial and spiritual mission efforts.

Sanctuary UCC is a 5 for 5 UCC Church and has donated through our mission tithe to:

- SNEUCC Proportional Giving (formerly referred to as Our Church’s Wider Mission/One Mission Fund in the amount of \$2,259.94;
- Metropolitan Boston Association (MBA Association Dues) in the amount of \$ 200.00;
- Neighbors in Need (NIN) in the amount of \$ 169.50;
- The Christmas Fund in the amount of \$ 169.49;
- Strengthen the Church in the amount of \$ 169.49; and
- One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) in the amount of \$ 169.50.

Sanctuary Discretionary Mission Grants further reflect our commitment to a minimum of 10% of our revenue to outward facing mission.

- This year **discretionary grants in the amount of \$790.98** are to be determined by the Annual Meeting. In previous years these resources were awarded to community groups serving our BIPOC neighbors - in recognition of Juneteenth and in the spirit of making reparations (WMCC, Royall House, and NAACP)
- Sanctuary also donated an annual budgeted gift of 500.00 to City Mission, Boston.
- Sanctuary also raised money and distributed \$ 700.00 of holiday gifts cards for Medford Teens living in Medford Housing for the fourth year; and \$675.00 of Stop and Shop gift cards for holiday meals.

Sanctuary’s Fiduciary and Administrative Support of Mission Organizations continued as we facilitated and supported Safe Medford, Medford Overcoming Addiction, and Mobilize Medford (which also benefits our budget through a percentage of fundraising retained).

Sanctuary’s Food Ministries

- **Bread of Life – Backpack Foods** with the leadership of Julie Roberts and Charlene Carle and the support of many members and friends, we deliver a carload of “backpack ready” foods each month for the BOL people to pack and distribute to the client that typically came for a meal three times a week.
- **Bread of Life Meals – bi-monthly meals** (even numbered months) are made at Hillside and delivered and served at BOL! Pleasant Street Grant funds are used to support these meals alongside our partners at Hillside.
- **Outdoor Church Sandwiches** – City of Cambridge has continued to work with restaurants to provide meals to those served by Outdoor Church. We hope to return to the sandwich making project when needed.
- **Meals for Medford** – the joint program of fundraising and meal packing with Tufts FOCUS was restarted summer 2021. Sanctuary received grants and raised funds to pack and distribute 20,000 shelf-stable servings which were distributed through the micropantries and other food distribution sites;
- **Medford Food Security**
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- Pastor's Discretionary Fund has been used to purchase 700.00 of additional Store Cards for those in need.
- Received grant for and distributed (20) \$ 50.00 Wegman's Thanksgiving Meal Gift Cards via Rotary
- The Medford Micro Pantry Mission installed (2) new pantries in collaboration with the CCSR at Medford High School. The mission now numbers 19 pantries; and the pantries regularly rotate food daily.
 - Our social and web based micro pantry mission helps to guide and support all who are involved in the mission;
 - Our food mission also included (with the help of Hillside's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive) a huge Thanksgiving food pantry and over one-hundred \$25.00 stop and shop gift cards distributed at the holidays and beyond;
 - Free Organic Summer Vegetable distribution through Plough and Stars partnership;
 - Rev. Wendy serves on the Medford Food Security Task force which is working to develop a Food Policy Council as a permanent organization to consider equity and access in food security for our city.
 - The Micropantry Mission serves as a model for researchers and other communities and we have shared our story and experience with numerous other cities and faith communities.

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