

Save the Date

**14th Annual Run for JUMP
Saturday, September 24, 2011
Burlington Waterfront**

Last year 80 participants ran or walked, raising a record \$12,000 for JUMP.

As the date approaches, look for more information at www.jumpvt.org and in your mail.

Questions or suggestions? Contact Event Coordinator Suzie Crews at slcrews1@msn.com.



**Plan to Come!
to JUMP's
"Best Congregational
Supper Ever"
Saturday November 5, 2011
Stay tuned for details**

**Champlain Valley CROP Walk
Sunday, October 16, 2011
First Congregational Church,
Burlington**

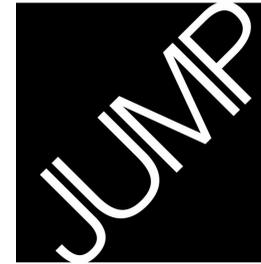
Proceeds benefit international relief, JUMP, and the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf



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JOINT
URBAN
MINISTRY
PROJECT

**SPRING
2011
NEWSLETTER**

**2010
ANNUAL
REPORT**

EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE
FOR ALL
VERMONTERS

55
HOUSEHOLDS
A
WEEK

INTERFAITH
COMPASSION
IN
ACTION



Opening Doors

A message from the Board President

On my JUMP days I often arrive in Burlington before JUMP opens. My 40-mile drive brings me through glorious Vermont landscapes, but arriving at the parking lot and heading for coffee while waiting for open doors often means walking by half-a-dozen neighbors waiting in the cold. These folks arrive early to be in line for vouchers to get: gasoline so their husbands can go to night-shift jobs at Fletcher Allen; a co-pay to buy medicine for a sick child; or maybe a warm welcome and a chance to tell their story to someone with the time to listen.

It is a privilege to be keepers of the charge of helping individuals and member congregations assist our neighbors and friends in these essential ways. The many members of our congregations who volunteer for JUMP, not only in the daily work of our drop-in center but also stuffing envelopes, making calls, compiling budgets, buying cases of supplies and performing the many tasks needed to stay open year-round, understand that we all share the mission of making life a little bit better for JUMP families and individuals.

As you read our 2010 annual report, imagine if you will the folks who come a bit too late and are not among the eleven applicants we can help each day, imagine that JUMP could help more families, or schedule for working families, or have more time for people with complicated problems, and never run out of spiritual-help books, feminine-hygiene supplies, or money to partner with another agency to leverage a shut-off heating/electric bill into continued service. Imagine that your congregation is a leader in helping our struggling neighbors.

Blessings, Lynn Douglas

Interfaith Compassion

A message from the Co-Directors

Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive. The Dalai Lama

Webster's Dictionary defines compassion as "selfless tenderness directed towards the suffering of others." Whatever our faith tradition - Jewish, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Unitarian Universalist, you name it - compassion is our common path and practice. Responding with selfless tenderness to our shared human suffering is how we help each other.

Before any of us can succeed at work, tend to our family's needs or even to our own needs, we need to be safe and warm, we need to be fed, and we need to know that someone cares. 20% of the children of Burlington live below poverty level and cannot count on being safe, warm and fed. JUMP is an interfaith response to this reality - it's a place where friends, family and neighbors can go when these most basic human needs are at risk.

One of the 400 people JUMP served in January was a very young woman who confided that she deals with chronic and almost paralyzing anxiety. The volunteer sitting with her mentioned that her daughter is going through something very similar. A moment of shared tenderness flickered between the two. The young woman had come for food and a bus pass. She left with something extra - the glow of having had a genuine and tender connection with another human being. This is the heart of our interfaith ministry.

Carol Snow & Jean Palmer

Carol Snow & Jean Palmer



Supporting Congregations & Volunteers 2010: Thank You!

JUMP volunteers come from our supporting congregations and serve on the Board of Directors, committees, or as a daily volunteer at our drop-in center. Please contact your JUMP representative or the drop-in center for more information. All Saints Episcopal Church, South Burlington

Ascension Lutheran Church, South Burlington
Beth and Doug Dreibelbis

Burlington Shambhala Center, Burlington

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Burlington

Ven. Catherine Cooke
Betsy Emerson
Gail Ernevad
Mark Gadue
Carol Lutz
Kathy Mihok
Rick Robinson

Charlotte Congregational Church, Charlotte

Rev. Will Burhans
Norm Riggs
Nancy Pricer

Christ Church Presbyterian, Burlington

Ron McGarvey
Ann Owen
Bronwyn Rider
Fenn Rider
Valerie Visconti

College Street Congregational Church, Burlington

Lee Butler
Anne Kreisel
Ron Pynn
Barbara Stearns
Claire Willis

Dormition Greek Orthodox Church, Burlington

Essex Center United Methodist Church, Essex Center

Faith United Methodist Church, South Burlington

First Baptist Church, Burlington

Nancy Danforth
Rev. David O'Brien

First Congregational Church, Burlington

Mary Lou Adsit
Alice Barlow
Brenda Black
Suzie Crews
Rev. Richard Crocker
Judy Doerner
Nancy Parker
Lucy Samara
Bernice Wesseling

First Congregational Church, Essex Junction

Tom Helmstutler
Carolyn Rushford
Carolyn Toof

First Unitarian Universalist Society, Burlington

Deanna Anderson
Rita Bortz
Lynn Douglas
Woody Fulton
Merl Grossmeyer
Barbara Heeter
Ginger Hobbs
C.C. McKeegney
Kathy Magil
Mary Silverman
Susie Taylor
Ellen Wollensack

First United Methodist Church, Burlington

Kathy Babits
Sue Bowley
Ann Cahill
Charlie Cahill
Joyce Darling
June Elmore
Barbara Gail
Pat Howard
Lindy Millington
Barbara Nadeau
Janet Powlus
Joe Soper
Margaret Welch

Grace United Methodist Church, Essex Junction

Jericho United Methodist Church, Jericho

Malletts Bay Congregational Church, Colchester

Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington

Lorin Duckman

Religious Society of Friends Meeting, Burlington

Shelburne United Methodist Church, Shelburne

Chris Kapsalis
Chip Wright
Jo Wright

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Colchester

St. James Episcopal Church, Essex Junction

Pat Hechmer
Shirley Ziemer

Trinity Episcopal Church, Shelburne

United Church of Underhill, Underhill

Unity Church of Vermont, Essex Junction

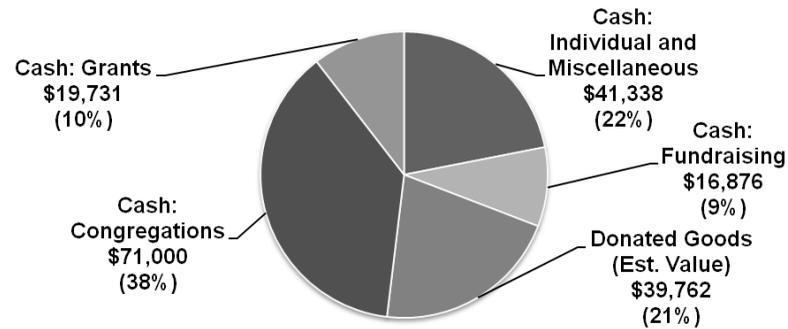
Carol Chase

Williston Federated Church, Williston

Carol Burbank

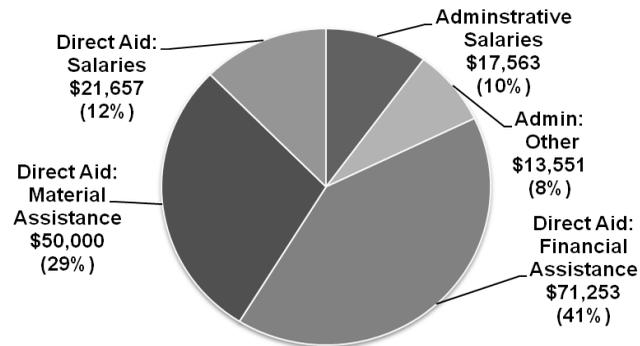


2010 Sources of Support

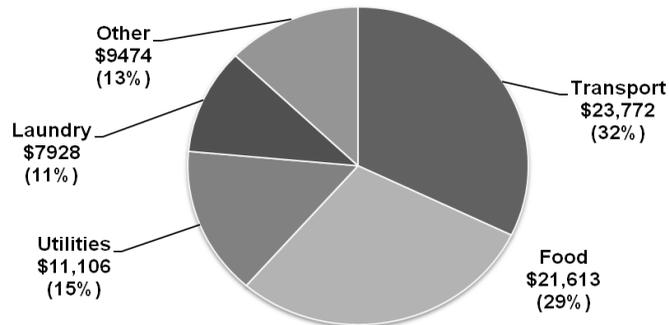


Note: Figures do not include the value for 2010 of donated volunteer time (estimated at \$50,000), office space and support (estimated at \$30,000), or accounting services (estimated at \$4,000).

2010 Use of Support



2010 Use of Financial Assistance



Note: "Other" includes medications, birth certificates, state identification cards, Opportunities Credit Union memberships, smoking cessation program fees, and bicycles, among other benefits.

Spring for the Chittenden/Feinstein Challenge Campaign!



The Chittenden/Feinstein Challenge for JUMP arrives annually like an early sign of spring. Donations to the Campaign bring hope and the financial "jump start" needed for JUMP to be able to effectively assist the 4,100 clients - 55 households each week - that we expect this year. Your gift to JUMP really counts, as many days we assist the maximum our budget allows, eleven households a day. To fully fund the highly valued direct assistance available at JUMP much support is needed from individual donors.

The staff and volunteers at JUMP work together to respond to the needs of clients like Alina, a Burundian mother of four children whose husband died several years ago. She has been in Vermont for a while and is working at Fletcher Allen in the housekeeping department. This is considered one of the best jobs in town for people with limited education. The pay is decent and the benefits are excellent. Alina makes too much money to get food stamps, but not enough to stand on her own financially so she visits JUMP every 3 months for vouchers for food, thrift shopping, and gas for the car, along with toiletries, healthy foods for her kitchen cupboards, and cleaning supplies. Her youngest was with her and our volunteers had a lot of fun playing with him while Alina waited. He took a new story book home from JUMP.

Donations to the Chittenden/Feinstein Campaign are needed to fund JUMP's 2011 budget, providing key emergency assistance in response to increasing client

needs. Local donors, individuals and businesses from Chittenden County have pledged nearly \$10,000 to JUMP to form a fund that will match donations (dollar for dollar) received between March 1st and April 30th. Additionally, the Feinstein Foundation offers \$1,000,000 in matching funds to be shared among 2000 anti-hunger agencies nationwide, including JUMP. You can invest in our community, helping neighbors in need such as Alina, with a gift that will be matched.

Please donate to JUMP by sending your gift in the enclosed envelope, or online at our website, www.jumpvt.org (go to the "Donate" page and use the PayPal button). If we haven't heard from you, JUMP volunteers will be calling supporters of JUMP during our early April phonathon. Please consider a generous donation to JUMP!



**Pass
It
Forward**

Last fall a woman dropped by JUMP one day, saying, "You helped me when I really needed help... thank you. Someone else can use this now." She handed us a one-hundred-dollar bill peeking out of both ends of a folded note saying, "I am doing fine now." A simple note, a gracious gesture, a most appreciated donation.

Poverty Rates are Shocking JUMP Takes it Personally: Meeting Real People Struggling in our Lopsided Economy

One in seven families is living below the poverty line, including 20% of our children. Statistics confirm the daily reality we see at JUMP: Vermont families struggling to take care of children, pay bills and stay housed.

Rob Meehan, Executive Director at the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf, states that “37% of our households could not afford enough food last month. Nearly 69,000 Vermonters live in food-insecure households.” COTS Executive Director Rita Markley reflects on changes over the decade: “We began 2000 with a prosperity almost unimaginable today; there were state and federal surpluses; unemployment was at a twenty-year low.”

Fewer job opportunities and more households applying for social services have created a new economic environment. Winter fuel assistance was reduced this year because as more qualified for grants, limited aid was distributed to more households. Vermont State Housing Authority reports that access to housing subsidies is down and waiting lists for affordable housing are now years long. Living with a tight budget takes ingenuity, perseverance and some luck. Hoping the car doesn't break down, or that illness doesn't keep you home from a job without sick pay benefits, constitutes the “luck” factor in the budgets of many who come to JUMP.

Nationally, interfaith collaboratives are asking for community support to assist households with strained budgets. Like JUMP, they provide practical assistance with food, laundry services, utilities, trans-

portation; they give information, hospitality and referrals, while offering emotional and spiritual support. Many sources document just how well churches, synagogues, and mosques are working together to provide unprecedented levels of assistance.

Central in every world faith, compassion is the crossroads of these interfaith collaborations. At JUMP, compassion forms the bonds of our interfaith mission as our supporting faith communities work together to reach out to people in need, responding in ways at once meaningful and personal. JUMP Co-Director Carol Snow favors “asking each other and our clients, ‘How do YOU feel? What is this situation like for YOU?’ ‘What could JUMP do for you that would help?’” She believes that “we need to admit that our individual notions about ‘poverty’ and ‘homelessness’ are limited by our particular vantage point. I think our special role at JUMP is what we label ‘spiritual care.’ How do we care for the spirits of our clients and of each other? Surely, it is grounded in dignified and authentic encounters.”

JUMP relies on a vibrant and generous faith community for volunteer support, material donations and financial contributions. Individual and community support is needed to keep JUMP strong and responding daily to the needs of Vermont households. We are grateful for the interfaith and community support of JUMP's mission, carried out person-to-person with care and compassion, one authentic encounter at a time. - **Lucy Samara, JUMP Communications Committee Chair**

JUMP 2010 Annual Report

In 2010 JUMP assisted over 4100 people in nearly 1400 households; these households included over 1500 children. Our data show that 47% of JUMP households include children; 46% are single adults – many who identify themselves as isolated with no family or friends. To accomplish this mission, JUMP depends on its supporting congregations and their many members, on volunteers and vendors, on non-profit partners and funders. We offer thanks to the many people and organizations that make our work possible.

Special thanks to the following 2010 JUMP partners

Vendors that accepted JUMP vouchers:

- City Market
- Gaslight Laundry
- Greer's Laundry
- Handy's (S. Winooski Ave.)
- Himalayan Market
- Finelli's Deli
- JRs Grocery
- King St. Laundry
- Lakeside Pharmacy
- Laundromat 99
- Mawuhi African Market
- North Winooski Avenue Laundromat
- Pearl Street Laundromat
- Price Chopper
- Shopping Bag
- Thai Phat Market
- Bike Recycle Vermont

Non-profit stores that provided free or reduced-price vouchers to JUMP clients:

- Every Monday Thrift Shop (First United Methodist Church, Burlington)
- Goodwill Industries of Northern New England
- The Possibility Shop (First Congregational Church, Burlington)
- ReSource

Organizations that awarded grants to JUMP:

- Shelburne Charlotte Hinesburg Interfaith Projects (SCHIP)
- Merchants Bank
- Golub Foundation (Price Chopper)
- Presbytery of Northern New England (through Christ Church Presbyterian)
- The Women's Alliance of First Unitarian Universalist Society, Burlington
- Ben & Jerry's Foundation
- Employees Community Action Council of General Dynamics
- Fanny Allen Corporation

Additional community partners:

- Cathedral Square Corporation, for donated accounting services
- Opportunities Credit Union, for accepting JUMP vouchers for new memberships
- Evelyn Sikorski, for accepting JUMP vouchers for tobacco cessation treatment



**Co-Directors
Jean and
Carol say
“Thanks!”**

Sustainability Academy Kids Get in the Mix



A cup of navy beans and one of red beans, a quarter of a cup of dried peas and half a cup of rice - all carefully measured

and poured into a zip-lock bag. Measuring spoons are employed next, as spices and bouillon powder are mixed to form the flavor packet... and finally, the recipe label is firmly affixed to the sealed plastic bag and the soup mix is ready for distribution at JUMP. In completing their unit on social justice and the community, Ms. King's second- and third-grade class at Burlington's Sustainability Academy at Lawrence Barnes Elementary School prepared forty bags of soup mix for JUMP households. With donated supplies, the students were thoughtful as they measured, mixed and packaged the soup. Their class social justice philosophy, "Everyone should have all of what they need and some of what they want," motivated their involvement in JUMP. The "soup mix project" reinforced the lesson that everyone deserves healthy food, and dried beans make a delicious, protein-filled, warming soup.

A week after their soup-packaging day, the class walked over to the JUMP Drop-In

Center to deliver the soup. A tour, a thank you from JUMP staff and volunteers, and a very happy bunch of kids were ready for the hike back to school. The class is planning more chapters in their soup-mix story for JUMP. Well done! - **Lucy Samara**

BLUEBIRD TAVERN

Bluebird Tavern Sings a JUMP Song!

The Bluebird Tavern on Riverside Avenue in Burlington is known for using local ingredients to create wonderful organic meals. It is no surprise that their philanthropic interests are homegrown too. A February 2011 "Community Night" for JUMP at the Bluebird Tavern was a big success and a lot of fun. As a result of the event, the Bluebird Tavern donated \$430 in support of our "Soup Mix Project." Thank you Bluebird Tavern and all of our Community Night diners for helping the Soup Mix Project fly!

Welcome Burlington Shambhala Center!

The Center is fostering a strong and growing connection with JUMP. Several members are putting their meditation into action by training to become JUMP volunteers. The Center is keeping a steady supply of shampoo coming our way and also made a generous donation of books to our interfaith bookshelf. Thank you Shambhala!



JUMP Got Better in 2010

We've decorated our office with **interfaith flags** and they've been both a strong statement of JUMP's intention to serve all equally and a source of much comment and conversation. They create a colorful and welcoming backdrop for meetings with clients.



**Buddhist
Wheel of
Dharma**

Our partnership with **Opportunities Credit Union** is going strong. Credit Union staff come to JUMP 2 mornings per week and generally open 1-3 new savings accounts each day using a \$10 voucher from JUMP. We're delighted to be connecting our clients with a place which offers needed banking services and financial education



**Christian
Celtic Cross**

Some JUMP clients ask for the staff to pray with them or for them as part of their meeting. We're happy to do so and Carol created a lovely **prayer book** to help out. It includes prayers from all the major religions and even some poems. We keep a copy at the director's desk and one on the information table for clients to look at and even add their own prayers.



Hindu Om



Because spiritual care is such an important aspect of JUMP's mission, we now offer clients free **books for spiritual/emotional support**. These include titles from all the major religions — as well as Bibles, daily devotionals and 12-step-recovery-oriented books.



**Pagan
Goddess**

We're giving clients vouchers for transportation to work and school through our partnership with **Bike Recycle Vermont**. A 25 dollar voucher buys a refurbished bike, lock, and helmet.



**Islamic
Crescent Moon
and Star**

Every month we send an e-news update to our 27 supporting congregations, filled with JUMP news of the month and client stories. Some places post it on a bulletin board, others include it in their newsletter or order of service. It's called **JUMP Scene** — look for it at your congregation!



**Jewish Star
of David**

JUMP starts 2011 piloting a new initiative to make utility assistance part of the daily options for direct assistance. This new approach is being applauded by many households that have yearned for utility support to prevent the threat of a shut-off. Elderly and/or disabled adults on fixed incomes share that utility bills are a predictable, monthly stressor and that assistance from JUMP is needed and much appreciated.

