

Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Cares and Concerns Committee (CCC)

Part of the Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship mission is to care for our MMUUF community in times of need. Members of the Cares & Concerns Committee (CCC) are laypersons, who coordinate outreach to meet individual needs, or refer issues to professionals.

The Steering Committee will appoint two to four individuals to the CCC. CCC members will be informed and trained about providing pastoral care to the Fellowship.

The following list of services is not inclusive, but makes the MMUUF community aware of types of services that might be requested, in times of need. The CCC may ask Fellowship members to provide assistance, depending on the circumstances. Requests and support can be confidential, if desired.

Possible areas of response include:

Practical Support:

Meals - Provide meals for those who are infirm or who may need a boost in the form of a meal.

Child Care - Care for children whose parents need a break or are temporarily unable to be present.

Help Around the House - Provide labor, skilled and otherwise, to those unable to meet the demands of domestic life.

Transportation - Provide transportation to those unable to drive or unable to attend MMUUF functions due to lack of a car or inability to drive under certain conditions.

Pastoral Care:

Note Cards - MMUUF cards sent to members and/or participants to offer condolences on behalf of the Fellowship, and offer to be in touch if the family so desires.

RE Connections - Alert RE teachers if a child is affected by a loss or challenge, so that teachers can be sensitive to the child's needs in RE class.

Home Visits - Visiting the elderly, the infirm, and anyone who would benefit from contact with a member of the Fellowship.

Hospital Visits - Visiting those connected with the Fellowship when they, or their loved ones, are in the hospital or in a care facility.

Hospice Visits - Visiting with people in the end of life, and supporting the family and friends who are providing hospice care.

Referral Services - Locating professional help to support people in the Fellowship who may need psychotherapy, spiritual support or engagement with medical service providers or public assistance agencies.

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MMUUF Emergency Fund

What is the Emergency Fund?

The Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (MMUUF) has established a fund that can be accessed by Fellowship Members and Friends for the purposes of emergency needs. Anyone may contribute directly to the fund, and the Steering Committee may earmark a portion of the budget to this fund based on the needs of the previous year.

Examples of emergency needs: utility bill payment, gas money, auto repair and other needs, without which the family will suffer an extreme circumstance such as loss of power, heat, employment.

Who Manages the Fund?

The Cares and Concerns Committee (CCC) is responsible to manage the Emergency Fund, as part of their overall role to coordinate assistance to individuals in need. The CCC is made up of MMUUF members appointed by the Steering Committee. CCC members are informed and trained about providing pastoral care to the Fellowship.

Process:

- Confidentiality is of the utmost importance to the Fellowship and all parties will work to maintain the confidentiality of the individual seeking assistance.
- The Member or Friend who needs to access these funds would contact a member of the PCC and make their request.
- A confidential meeting will be held with the individual making the request and the PCC member to discuss how the funds will be used, what the current need is and what services the family has already accessed or made applied for.
- The goal of the Fellowship is for these funds to be expedited within 48 hours.
- The PCC will be responsible to report to the Steering Committee when funds have been accessed.

Criteria:

- The Pastoral Care Committee is allowed to grant a gift of up to \$500, anything beyond that would need approval by the Steering Committee. The PCC member will preserve the applicant's anonymity.
- The person requesting the funds must also apply for any public services that they qualify for based on their income.
- This financial resource is intended to be accessed only once per calendar year by a member or friend.
- There is no expectation that these funds be repaid by the recipient.