

# Wildflower Social Action Committee 2009 Plan

## **Wildflower Mission Statement**

Wildflower Church is a deliberately inclusive, open-minded religious community in the Unitarian Universalist tradition. We joyfully nurture one another in our lifelong spiritual journeys, and we commit to transforming ourselves and the world around us through acts of compassion, love and social justice.

## **Wildflower Social Action Mission**

To encourage the transformation of ourselves as Wildflower members, the service area, and the world around us, through effective educational, community service, and advocacy programs that express our values of compassion, love and social justice.

## **Social Action Goals for 2009**

### **Goal Area One:**

Ongoing community service, involving many Wildflower members in these activities.

Planned Activities:

- A. Second Offering – 12 monthly offerings
- B. Involvement of Children/Youth – Develop one Social Action Project in conjunction with the Director, Children's RE
- C. Keep Austin Beautiful – Sponsor two 'clean up' days for designated area on Manchaca
- D. Food packets – Prepare and sell food packets six times
- E. Local Basic Needs Coalition – Continuous participation in supporting Basic Needs Coalition activities
- F. South-east Austin Food Pantry Alliance – Continuous support of Alliance activities including designation of recipient of Great Weigh-in food collection
- G. Recycling of batteries, etc. - continuous
- H. Collection of Food Donations – continuous
- I. Christmas offering – designate recipient of annual Christmas offering
- J. Special offerings – sponsor special offerings, as needed, in support of disaster relief
- K. Hands on Housing – participate in two hands on housing projects
- L. Participate in local fundraising efforts and service events, such as CROP Walk.

**Goal Area Two:**

Participate in advocacy with local, state, and national social policy coalitions, involving many Wildflower members.

## Planned Activities:

- A. Assist Wildflower Austin Interfaith Planning Team
  - 1. Assist in turnout at at least 2 major events
  - 2. Assist in educating congregation about Austin Interfaith policy initiatives twice during the year.
- B. Letter-writing and legislative visits on global Warming/sustainability.
  - 1. Hold two letter-writing tables after church on the global warming/sustainability issue
  - 2. Meet with at least two legislators during the year on a topic such as global warming issues.
- C. Support legislative initiatives as issues emerge – e.g., supporting GLBT rights or policies for homeless through a letter writing table or having a Forum that includes a follow-up action on the issue.

**Goal Area Three:**

Conduct educational activities, including a monthly forum after church services, so that Wildflowers are empowered to live in a way that reflects our commitment to compassion, justice, and sustainability.

- A. Maintain the Social Action Table at Social Action Sunday each month
- B. Have at least 10 monthly Social Action Forums
- C. Fact sheets at Social Action Table on at least 3 times a month
- D. Fact sheets on the Sustainability Table at least twice a month and ongoing education through newsletter, etc.
- E. Have at least one further action on the Super Cooler Program
- F. Educational activities in peacemaking and collaborative decision-making
- G. Explore possible participation in the New Sanctuary Movement
- H. Sponsor Peace/Justice Movie nights 10 times

**Goal Area Four:**

Develop and communicate Wildflower positions on issues on a regular basis to the wider community, through the media, educational programs, visits to other churches, etc.

- A. Participation in AAIM
- B. Participation in Policy Coalitions