

Safe Harbor at UUCGT this winter

This is a proposal to have UUCGT host one week of Safe Harbor in our building this winter (probably in early November).

Why do this?

- If we want to be part of Safe Harbor, we have to be willing to “do it all”, not just serve meals.
- This would prepare us to be a full participant when the new Safe Harbor building is open
- Opportunity for hands on ministry. Taking a step beyond “checkbook” ministry
- Our experience has been that most volunteers (95%) consider this a very positive experience and want to do it the next year.
- Sounds daunting, but 15 churches did it last year, many of them for two weeks. Some of them are smaller in number than our congregation.

What would be required?

- Suspend most activities (except Sunday Services) for one week
- Commitment from Program Council and Board to support and encourage congregational involvement
- Education of congregation to help get past reluctance to do more than serve dinners
- Form a seasonal committee to organize the effort.
- Recruit two people to be co-chairs with Mike and Sandra and lead the effort in future years
- Recruit at least two partner churches to take volunteer responsibility for two or three of the days during the week. The Jewish Congregation, Unity Church, The Pagan group, or another small church on the Peninsula are possibilities
- Requires about 18 volunteers each day plus set up and clean up volunteers at beginning of week and end of week. A Safe Harbor week is from Saturday evening until the following Saturday morning.

What spaces would be used?

- Sanctuary for men’s sleeping area
- Two classroom’s for women’s sleeping area
- Social Hall and Kitchen for meals and socializing in the evening until lights out
- Front entrance for check in of guests
- Alcove (causeway) for TV until lights out
- Sound room or closet off of Social Hall for storage of meds and supplies (off limits to guests)
- Offices, Library and Nursery would NOT be used and off limits to guests.