



Highlights of 2018 MUUSJN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Received major funding from the Economic Justice Alliance of Michigan (EJAM) that supports MUUSJN justice priorities of reproductive justice, racial justice, LGBTQ rights, immigration reform, economic justice, environment/water rights and civic engagement.
- Published action alerts and won policy battles: helped block cuts in Planned Parenthood funding, expanded funding for CHIP and SNAP, increased disaster aid for Puerto Rico. Alerts encouraged attendance at events such as World Water Day and Pay Equity Day.
- Organized a workshop (attended by 70) on "Conscience and Religious Freedom", a threat to both women's and LGBTQ rights. This workshop included an opportunity to submit testimony on Pres. Trump's new religious liberty "civil rights" policy that allows religion to be used to discriminate.
- Received a grant from the Clean Energy, Clean Michigan campaign. It negotiated with Michigan utilities to commit to a 25% increase in their clean energy portfolio by 2030.
- Received a UU Funding program grant and a Buck Dinner grant to promote coordination between Michigan's Women's and LGBTQ Rights movements. With these funds, MUUSJN co-sponsored a Planned Parenthood national convention and an LGBTQ Rights conference. It formed a Task Force that is submitting issue recommendations to Governor elect Gretchen Whitmer.
- MUUSJN successfully urged Governor Snyder to not oppose a Michigan Human Rights Commission interpretation that Michigan civil rights law also protects rights of LGBTQ communities. The Governor's Attorney General vigorously opposed this position.
- Organized a Challenging Racism workshop attended by UU's from several congregations at the Community UU's of Brighton. Sold 100 of MUUSJN's Interfaith Challenging Racism toolkits to the United Church of Christ of Michigan. We are reaching out to engage the Jewish community.
- MUUSJN informed and encouraged UU's across Michigan to participate in the Poor People's Campaign. This involved rallies and protests in Lansing, Detroit and Washington D.C.
- MUUSJN was part of an EJAM team of organizations that collected over 4,000 signatures to help put the Earned Paid Sick Time and the One Fair Wage proposals on the 2018 ballot. However, both ballot issues were adopted by the legislature to keep them off the ballot. MUUSJN is mobilizing its network to oppose efforts to gut these laws during the "lame duck" session.
- As a member of the People's Water Board and its Faith Outreach Committee, MUUSJN helped organize a clergy/faith leader press conference on October 4th that attracted over 250 people. It demanded an end to water shutoff's and the establishment of a water affordability plan.
- The Network participated in a coalition calling for the shutdown of the Line 5 pipeline that creates risk of polluting the Great Lakes. Members of several UU congregations participated in a MUUSJN Environmental Justice Task Force organized by Jennifer Teed.
- UU congregations were encouraged to participate in Get Out The Vote (GOTV) activities in 2018, contributing to a record Michigan voter turnout and a "Blue Wave". An NPR news article about MUUSJN's GOTV efforts was covered by 15 radio stations.
- Advocated for legislation to restore DACA protections for immigrant youth and urged UU's to participate in demonstrations protesting the separation of children from their families.
- Regularly posted calls for action on two UU Facebook pages and its website: www.uujustice.org.