

Food Certificate Program Distributions to Local Charities in FY 2017



At the Meetinghouse on Sunday mornings, the Fellowship's Social Action Committee sells grocery store gift certificates to raise funds for charities serving needy and vulnerable people on the Upper Cape. Five stores -- Stop & Shop, Shaw's, Roche Brothers, Windfall and Jack in the Beanstalk -- sell us their gift certificates at a discount. We re-sell them at face value to UUFF members and friends, who use them to grocery shop at no extra cost. IT'S A WIN, WIN!

The net proceeds of certificate sales, plus any tax-deductible donations to the program, are contributed to organizations selected by the Committee. In FY 2017, which ended on June 30, we sold nearly \$77,000 worth of certificates (yielding over \$3,800 in net proceeds), received \$2,651 in donations, and distributed \$5,550 to twelve charities: Carriage House (\$1,400); South Coastal Counties Legal Services (\$750); Falmouth Service Center (\$700); Bourne Food Pantry (\$400); Sandwich Food Pantry (\$400); Independence House (\$400); Belonging to Each Other (\$350); Silent Spring Institute (\$300); Friends of Fairwinds (\$300); Around the Table (\$200); THRIVE (Cape & Island Gay & Straight Youth Alliance house) (\$200); and Habitat for Humanity Cape Cod (\$150). Several of the foregoing also received UUFF Share-The-Plate support and/or funds raised at special events like the Rachel Carson Harvest Dinner.

With regret, we discontinued Food Certificate Program support in FY 2017 for Cape Cod Shelter and Domestic Violence Services (formerly Cape Cod Center for Women), which has lost its State funding and closed its North Falmouth shelter. The State plans to fund a new shelter to be operated by Independence House. The Committee will consider whether to increase support for Independence House in FY2018.

When you buy certificates or donate to the Food Certificate Program, you "put a heart in your cart". If you did either or both in FY 2017, THANK YOU. Please continue to do so, or begin doing so, in FY 2018. For donations, remember to write the word "donation" on the memo line of your check payable to UUFF/SAC.

If you would like to help us sell certificates, to take part in selecting the organizations we support, or to serve as liaison to one or more of them, please let us know. Your involvement will benefit and be deeply appreciated by those organizations and the people they serve.

The Social Action Committee