



Policy Location:	GSSJ - 3	Created: 6/3/2018
Title:	Sanctuary Steering Committee	Revised: 1/12/2025
Policy Owner:	Social Justice Shared Ministry Team	
Associated Documents:	GSSJ – 1 Social Justice Team Policy; GSFS – 12 Immigration Justice Fund; GSSJ – 5 Sanctuary Church	
Last Reviewed:		

Policy

Function:

The purpose of the Sanctuary Steering Committee is to coordinate and manage the logistics of supporting and providing sanctuary to undocumented immigrants as they seek legal solutions to their immigration status.

PLEASE NOTE January 2025:

The First Unitarian Universalist Church is not equipped to provide long-term on-site sanctuary for immigrants at risk for immediate deportation due to the lack of adequate structural resources for these individuals. We can only provide immediate short-term assistance and will work with individuals and families to provide other resources, including legal counsel and immediate needs (food, clothing, etc.).

Duties:

Consistent with the GSSJ – 5 Sanctuary Church Policy, the Sanctuary Steering Committee will:

1. Coordinate with area organizations who work toward racial and economic equity in the state of Minnesota, to identify sanctuary churches that we can support.
2. Volunteers will be trained prior to working with anyone seeking sanctuary in our church.
3. Identify the on-going, annual resources (such as annual organizational donations and the daily necessities needed to support a guest).
4. Recruit and organize volunteers to support sanctuary churches and/or to host sanctuary guests in our church.
5. Coordinate with area organizations to identify undocumented immigrants seeking sanctuary in our church.
6. Review and ensure compliance with the GSSJ - 5 Sanctuary Church Policy, as well as provide oversight and suggest alterations as needed.

Organization:

1. The Sanctuary Steering Committee will be composed of at least five members and will report to the Board of Directors.



MANUAL OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES, & GUIDELINES

2. In addition to the five members, the Social Justice Shared Ministry Team are ad-hoc, non-voting members.