

## **Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP)**

**What:** The Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP) is an interfaith group of about 30 faith communities serving the poor and “needy neighbors” in the Burlington area. Help can be food, clothing, cleaning supplies or a listening, helping shoulder to cry on. JUMP works with many other area social groups to coordinate efforts to help fill the needs of any who come to JUMP. JUMP is currently helping the rising numbers of refugees coming into Burlington.

JUMP operates five days a week for three hours in the morning and serves about 55 families/clients a week, providing food, cleaning supplies, personal hygiene items and vouchers for food, laundry and gasoline. JUMP also provides trained volunteers and a minister to listen, help solve problems, and provide additional assistance within the community.

**When:** Ascension serves JUMP in several ways at different times:

- Supplies shampoo all year and new and used books regularly.
- Collects food bags in June for distribution in July.
- Supports a fall dinner fundraiser.
- Includes a monetary donation to JUMP in its annual operating budget.

**Who:** Beth Dreibelbis serves as the coordinator of JUMP for Ascension and is also on the JUMP board.

**How:** Ascension needs to continue to provide a steady supply of shampoo weekly as well as books regularly. For the month of July, food bags need to be provided.

JUMP is also included as a line item in the local benevolence category of Ascension’s operating budget.

In addition, Ascension members can participate in the Run for JUMP in September and the fall dinner fundraiser in October. Volunteers are welcome at any time of year.

Website: <http://www.jumpvt.org/>