

Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP)

What: The Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP) is an interfaith group from more than 25 churches 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 January and July. January bags are tailored to refugees.
- Includes a monetary donation to JUMP in its annual operating budget.

Who: Beth Dreibelbis is the coordinator and board member of JUMP.

How: Ascension needs to continue to provide a steady supply of shampoo weekly as well as books regularly. In July and January, food bags need to be provided.

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

Ascension does extraordinarily well at providing shampoo, books, and food bags. JUMP can also use volunteers. Any volunteers that Ascension can provide would make a significant difference.

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