

Affinity Group Guidelines

An **Affinity Group** is a member-led, special-interest group whose purpose and activities are consistent with the Mission and Ends of the UUCC, including the group's ability to create bonds among members and to provide a safe place for transformative experiences.

Leadership

The group should have a process for selecting/affirming leadership each year. The leaders must be pledging members of the UUCC.

Attendance

The leader provides "sign-in" attendance to the Professional Staff liaison. Groups should determine whether attendance is open or closed to additional participants.

Policies and Affiliations

Groups follow all UUCC policies including the Communication Policy and Alcohol Use Policy. Groups should receive agreement from their members/attendees and contact their staff liaison before affiliating with organizations outside of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Application process

Current or prospective groups apply annually after June 1 for affiliation with the UUCC by submitting the *Affinity Group Affiliation Request Form* to Alesia Hutto, Office Administrator. The request will then be reviewed, first, by the Team most closely aligned with the Group's goals and, subsequently, by the UUCC Professional Staff.

In addition to meeting the above criteria, the Teams will consider the following to evaluate the requests from the Affinity Groups:

- Do the attendance records from the past year demonstrate support from the members of the UUCC?
- Does the group reflect our need for balanced programming and/or does it provide a unique service for the congregation or larger community?
- What kind of resources does the group require from the staff, volunteers, the building, etc. on a regular basis?

The group leaders should be aware that room assignments may change depending on congregational needs.