

### ***“Walk with me.....”***

I arrive every morning at 7:30am. In truth, I am filled with anticipation and hope... hope that I might help soothe the stress and anxiety of JUMP clients who started lining up long before my arrival.

As I approach the building and greet everyone I immediately sense the anxiety and stress begin to dissipate from the crowd. I purposefully take my time, making sure I look each of the waiting clients in the eye as I deliver a nod of acknowledgement and respect which ever so soothingly whispers, “I see you, I see you, I see you...”

Lately, my walk through the waiting crowd has been downright neighborly! Walking through the crowd I ask questions like “How are you doing?” “How is your mother...is she better?” “Gordon is that you? It’s been awhile! Oh my goodness, what happened? You’ve lost your leg, that’s why we’ve not seen you! How did that happen?” I generally end by saying something to the group like “I’ll be back down at 8:30am to let everyone in to sign up.” When I do return, I ask “Is everybody clear about your order in line?”

Once everyone is signed in, the real sense of community and hospitably begin over a cup of coffee, a healthy snack and meaningful dialogue. These conversations take place among extended family which include; clients, volunteers and staff, each and all contributing to one thing...a sense of community and belonging. The JUMP community is a kindred one, much like any family which at its best is a source of pride, strength and caring; JUMP is a

place where those present can open their hearts to provide thoughtfulness, comfort and understanding to each other.

Last year, 2233 families visited JUMP in search of essential needs. JUMP has become visionary in its capability to deal with present circumstances and see what can be. Clients, staff and volunteers awaken day after day to deal what is: the unspeakable reality of some among us who are not able to afford food, rent, child care, medical care or transportation to work. The extended family at JUMP helps clients maintain a strong sense of community to safeguard against the harsh realities of poverty.

***...JUMP community is a kindred one, much like any family which at its best is a source of pride, strength and caring...***

As an illustration of this fact, on one recent morning, after signing everyone in, I asked one client if he still lived on lower Church Street. He replied that he did not. This client had several physical disabilities including difficulty standing as well as continuous tremors in both limbs; he seemed to be only one step away from permanently needing a wheelchair. I felt he was a perfect fit for our Home Bound Program. When asked for his new address he admitted that it was now the “Battery Park Band Stand”. Astonished, I acknowledged what a shame it was that a man in such poor health had to sleep on



cement outside, on a stage for the world to see. However, he further shared that he had been recently approved for Section 8 housing and might have his own apartment next month. Obviously his JUMP extended family remains hopeful that he is successful at getting housing before the winter weather arrives.

As an end to my story I want to let you know that Gordon returned to JUMP a few months later. When I saw him I said “Gordon I did not recognize you standing up...you have a new leg! You’ve always been in the wheelchair! Oh my goodness, I am so happy for you!” I realized as he stood there beaming with happiness that Gordon did not come to JUMP that day to receive assistance. Instead, he stopped by to share the good news with his JUMP extended family, to have someone to talk to and to celebrate “what can be”.

***Thank you for your continuous support...because together we can make a difference!***

—Wanda Hines  
[director@jumpvt.org](mailto:director@jumpvt.org)

## A Message from the JUMP Board President: Beth Dreibelbis

### Gardening with JUMP Beth...

I was working in my yard today, cleaning the beds, thinking about the past growing season and planning for the next. I used to have a huge garden that required many hours of work. Over the years things changed as our ability to garden changed. I love gardening but it is just not feasible anymore. I can get fresh, local veggies by going to a farm stand. Different but workable.

While gardening, I started thinking about JUMP and its changes this Fall. We have held "The Best JUMP Supper" for several years and have loved doing it. Supporters and clients got to eat together and sample lots of food from our faith communities. The supper also

raised about \$3000 each year. We will not be having a supper this year. The workers can't do the work this year so we've decided to make a change.

In place of the supper, we are putting energy into the "Gifts that Give" fair at Contois Auditorium on Nov. 29. We will be selling handmade knitted items, JUMP soup gift jars, notecards, and more. Our hope is to raise the \$3000 at this fair. Different but workable.

Things change...but JUMP continues to help people navigate their journey of living with poverty.

We need your help. Our committees, board of directors, and volunteers all

need new faces, new energy, and new ideas as we grow and change.

The supporters in our JUMP faith communities, in all the businesses and groups who help financially can help by giving us new ideas for fundraising, for JUMP events to help get our name and mission out into the community, and for marketing and branding ideas.

Change happens, but change is just an opportunity to improve. Come and join us!



Beth Dreibelbis

## Under the Spotlight: First Congregational Church of Burlington by Lucy Samara



1st Congregational Church

In 1988 homelessness was increasing and local food shelves and meal programs were experiencing more demand for services. Burlington clergy and their congregations were challenged by daily requests for help as people in crisis did their best to stay housed. How could the clergy keep pace with referrals to new community services as they struggled to decide how to effectively and fairly distribute limited resources to a community with so many needs? Frustrated by working in isolation, the Burlington clergy gathered to ponder the potential of collaborating. JUMP was born out of the needs of our community and the faithful response of area congregations who opted to work together to make the care they offered more effective and thoughtful.

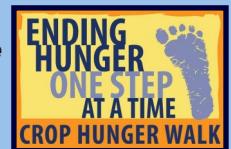
First Congregational Church of Burlington, United Church of Christ (FCCB) was one of the founding congregations that got JUMP off the ground. From the first leap of faith that JUMP would work to meet individual and community needs, the congregation has been supporting JUMP with time, talent and a multitude of key resources.

Since 1989, JUMP's Office, Drop-In Center, storage space, parking and utilities have all been donated by FCCB. Clergy, staff and parishioners have served faithfully on the JUMP Board of Directors, in the Drop-In Center, on Committees and as sponsors and participants in a wide array of JUMP fund raising events. Their Mission Fund makes a significant annual allocation to JUMP, the congregation invites a special offering, and many in the congregation donate food, toiletries and cleaning supplies. Annually, FCCB's thrift store, the Possibility Shop, donates \$10,000 in vouchers that provide clothing and household goods to hundreds of households receiving services from JUMP.

Director of Outreach Ministries at FCCB, Lucy Samara, shares the congregation's enthusiasm and gratitude for JUMP saying, "We are so grateful to have the opportunity to work closely with more than twenty area faith communities in fulfilling JUMP's important mission to adults and children in need in Vermont. Through this enduring collaboration, thousands have been assisted effectively with care and we have all grown in what has become an effective interfaith partnership for good. What a great caring community JUMP offers!"

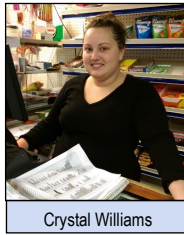
## CROP HUNGER WALK STEPS UP for JUMP

Special thanks to all of the CROP Hunger Walk participants, sponsors and organizers who stepped up this fall and walked the walk to benefit JUMP, global hunger relief efforts and the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf. Like all of the more than 2,000 CROP Hunger Walks held across the U.S. each year, our Burlington CROP Hunger Walk funds are dedicated to global (75%) and local (25%) hunger relief. The amount dedicated to JUMP has made a difference in supporting JUMP's outreach to those in need. In 2015, nearly 100 households will receive much needed food vouchers from JUMP as a result of the CROP Hunger Walk and for that we are grateful!



## JR's Corner Store

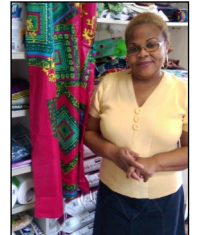
Sheryl Sartelle and Crystal Williams own and operate JR's Corner Store at 144 North Street. In their sixth year of business, they describe the store as a "mini grocery"; they try to help their clients make good food choices when they come in with their vouchers. Rather than filling up their baskets with snacks, Crystal likes to guide clients to choose heartier foods that will actually provide some nutrition. Of their association with JUMP, Sheryl and Crystal say "It is not about the money we get from the JUMP vouchers, but rather the notion of giving back to our community".



Crystal Williams

## Mawuhi African Market

Pat Bannerman, who came from Ghana West Africa in 1983, has owned Mawuhi African Market at 160 N. Winooski Avenue for eight years. Pat carries authentic Caribbean and African food like smoked fish and special vegetables that can't be found anywhere else in the city. Pat began her association with JUMP after being open only a year and states she has been very grateful to have been one of the stores chosen by JUMP for the voucher program.



Pat Bannerman; Owner

## RUN for JUMP raises awareness

**"Plenty of Running, Walking, Friends, Neighbors, Family, Community, Post Celebration and Food!"**

On September 26th, a large group of engaged citizens gathered to participate in the **18th Annual Run for JUMP**. Their enthusiasm and the beautiful fall morning helped to raise \$14,500. This money will provide JUMP voucher assistance to roughly 6,000 individuals dealing with difficult economic conditions.

To all who supported the RUN, the staff and Board at JUMP say a heartfelt thank you; we are deeply grateful for your participation in this event. Because of community-minded individuals like you we can make a difference in the lives of our clients.



**Congratulations to the top female and male runners –**  
 Nina LaRosa and Wondu Summa  
 \*\*\*Records broken this year, by Wondu Summa (5K male),  
 Fisher Munson-Wamken (1K male) and Nylah Mitchell (1K female)

**THANK YOU RUN Sponsors:** **Underwriters:** Gravel and Shea, Northfield Savings Bank, O'Brien Brothers Agency Inc. **Gold Sponsors:** City Market, Dealer.Com, Gadue's Dry Cleaning. **Sponsors:** August First, Blodgett, Watts, Volk and Sussman, P.C., Essex Pediatrics, Handy's Service Center, Midas of S. Burlington, Riverside Beverage, Zabby & Elf's Stone Soup. **Raffle and Food:** Bagel Café and Deli, Ben and Jerry's, Fleet Feet Sports, Flynn Theatre Tickets, Hair Forte, Hopkins Book Store, Hotel Vermont, Leonardo's Pizza, Leunig's Bistro, Magnolia Bistro, McCaffrey's Sunoco, Patt Orr/Fly By Night Designs, Subway, UVM Royall Tyler Theatre and Zachary's Pizza. **Post Run Event Sponsors:** McKenzie Country Classic, Rhino Foods, Burlington School Food Project, Boy and Girls Club, J&M Groceries, Price Chopper and Hannafords

## Volunteer Betsy Emerson receives award!

This fall, Volunteer BETSY EMERSON was honored with a 2015 United Way of Chittenden County Building Block Volunteer Award for service to JUMP at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts in Burlington.

For seven years, Betsy, a retired Clinical Social Worker has been an outstanding volunteer with JUMP. She has proven to be considerate, generous and accommodating to all who seek services.

Betsy is intuitively able to assess need and provide immediate solutions which often result in a promising referral. She is the first to recognize personal crisis and to advocate for JUMP to provide necessary additional support to alleviate a problem. Most often, her approach helps clients move forward in an improved emotional state of confidence.

All of us at JUMP are proud to have Betsy's many accomplished talents.

—Congratulations Betsy!!!



Martha Maksym; United Way Executive Director and Betsy Emerson

## Gifts That Give

The second Annual **Gifts That Give** Fair will take place Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at Contois Auditorium in downtown Burlington VT. The event is from 11:00am – 2:00pm.



**What better way to honor someone you love than to give them a gift the gives to others?** Sixteen local non-profit organizations will participate in the collaborative community event. Please come by and support **JUMP** as well as some of the other great work being done in the greater Burlington area and beyond. When you buy one a gift from **Gifts That Give**, you are "planting seeds of hope".

38 South Winooski Avenue, Burlington, Vermont

## Creating Caring Community...

### JUMP Board of Directors

Beth Dreibelbis, President  
Ginger Hobbs, Past President  
Woody Fulton, Treasurer  
Linda Gross, Secretary  
Lise Bornstein-Malter  
David Clark  
Andy Farrington  
Keith Pillsbury  
Ron Pynn  
Richard Robinson  
Carolyn Rushford

### JUMP Staff

Wanda Hines; Director  
Mary Stannard-Carter; Direct Service/Bookkeeping



...a proven, consistent resource for Vermont households facing the challenges of poverty.



### Flying knitting needles under the magical fingers of the Pillsbury Seniors at Harborview/Allenwood Community! *By Barbara Stearns; JUMP Volunteer*

Every Monday afternoon ten Pillsbury Seniors women knit stylish hats, vibrant mittens, striking scarves, unique baby bibs, rainbow-like dish cloths and cowls (close fitting scarves with button closure). They collect their weekly projects, help each other with difficult patterns and share their creative ideas.

However, this mid-October the ladies displayed an especially colorful assortment of their articles... a knitter's paradise that drew many spectators who made donations for their lovely items. The donations received from the knitter's paradise were beyond the ladies' expectations. This year the Pillsbury Seniors were very proud to help JUMP support families in need. And JUMP was thrilled to receive a \$700 check from the donations made for all those beautiful items!



"Flying Knitting Needles" Members

Thank you Eleanor, Michelina, Barbara, Audrey, Helen, Marylou, Evonne, Carol, Harriet and Bea. ***You ladies are awesome!!***

### Client sends heartfelt thank you card:

"To the very good people at JUMP ...This is a small note to give a big thanks for all you do every day for so many. When I come to JUMP I feel safe, secure, cared about. The help you give my family makes a real difference in our home. New tooth brushes, nutritious meals, books to read together. A hand-up through a few hand-me downs. A smile on a tough day. Prayers for our health and success. I am grateful to live in a state, a country where people & programs like this exist. May God Bless and keep each of you!"

—Love and Peace, A Thankful Mom



### Birthday Girl ask for Personal Hygiene Items for JUMP

On Daniella D'Agostino's 4th Birthday, instead of gifts, she asked for personal hygiene items to help JUMP families. As a result, Daniella and her mother, who are members of the Williston Federated Church, dropped off 33 toothbrushes, 24 tubes of toothpaste and 18 bars of soap to JUMP.

-Happy Belated Birthday Daniella, and thank you so much!



**Thank you Supporting FAITH COMMUNITIES:** All Saints Episcopal Ch., Ascension Lutheran Ch., Burlington Shambhala Center, Catholic Daughters of America, Charlotte Congregational church, Christ Church Presbyterian, College Street Congregational Ch., Dormition Greek Orthodox Ch., Essex Center United Methodist Ch., Faith United Methodist Church of So. Burl., First Baptist Church of Burl., First Congregational Church of Burl., First Congregational Church of Essex Jct., First Congregational Church of Shel., First United Methodist Church of Burl., First Unitarian Universalist Society, Grace United Methodist Ch, Malletts Bay Congregational Ch., No. Avenue Alliance Ch., Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Religious Society of Friends, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, St. James Episcopal Ch., St. Paul's Cathedral Church, Shelburne United Methodist Ch., Trinity Episcopal Church Shel., United Church of Underhill, Unity Church of VT, Williston Federated Ch., Winooski United Methodist Ch.