

Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (BUUF)
St. Joseph, MI
Harvey Johnson

July 31, 2017

johnsonh4@michigan.gov

Dear Harvey and the Berrien UU Fellowship,

I am delighted to report that the review team has affirmed your application for Green Sanctuary Candidate status. Congratulations!

The team was very gratified to see that you installed a 6 KV solar array with an impressive 60% reduction in electrical energy use! In addition, your use of the five acre site is commendable, including demonstration of “green burial” practice, reduction of contracted mowing by use of rechargeable electric mowers, and selective gardening effort apparently reflecting native American practice (making sure not to misappropriate practices). All of these seem to be great projects.

In their review, the team noted that your outreach to the Benton Harbor community is highly significant, and the development of the Fresh Start Children’s Garden using BUUF volunteers in Benton Harbor is a major plus. They ask that you please keep track of the type and extent of participation as you go, and when you apply for Accreditation status, elaborate on those a bit to help the review team understand the quality of your relationships. Please also provide some stats to help the review team understand the dynamics of the Benton Harbor community and your relationship to it.

Much more can be said about your well-rounded plans. From recycling to the environmental justice film series, systematic window replacement to vegetarian options at all events and public info sessions on solar energy... all make for a very strong strategy for your congregation and community at large.

With thanks for your work in this critical ministry,

Karen

Rev Karen Brammer
Green Sanctuary Manager