

January 30th, 2017

Dear Members of the BLUU Collective,

This past weekend the UUA Board reviewed our unanimous decision to affirm and fund the ministry you outlined at our October 2016 meeting. We want to reaffirm not only the Association's financial commitment but also our enthusiastic intention to work in close partnership with you and the UUA administration to help to bring your vision to life.

We are convinced the BLUU proposal is grounded in our Unitarian Universalist purposes and principles and that providing both the start-up funds and an initial endowment to address ongoing operating costs is both a timely and prudent use of our resources.

We are encouraged by your plan to use the March Convening to broaden and deepen the conversation by involving participants in the planning process. We recognize that it takes time to develop a sustainable organizational structure and want to support you in taking the time you need to do it right. We admire your intention to align your organizational structure with the principles and values outlined in your proposal.

Our understanding is that you are in conversation with UUA staff about the day-to-day management of the effort. As one who works very closely with UUA senior staff I want to assure you not only of their integrity but also of their passionate devotion to the values that undergird our aspirations.

We want to suggest that a planning team be established to help to guide and monitor the relationship between BLUU and the

Association. It should be small and agile. Might you be willing to designate 3-4 members of the Collective who with a like number of Board and Staff leaders would constitute the team?

In closing I want to say that the BLUU's ministry reflects and furthers the promise of Unitarian Universalism. Grounded in the vision outlined in the BLUU proposal and made real by the creativity and courage already at work the Board and I pledge to do our utmost to support your labor of love.

With deep respect,

Jim Key
UUA Moderator