

Where The Money Went

As announced in the Association Sunday promotional materials last fall, half of this year's total has helped to increase awareness of Unitarian Universalism through our [national awareness campaign](#), which included the *Time* magazine ads. Approximately one quarter of the funds will support our [Diversity of Ministry Initiative](#). And approximately one quarter will be [sent to our districts](#) for projects that will help your congregation and others share our liberal religion with those who seek it. Because of some specific designated gifts, the actual breakdown of the dollar amounts are \$706,346.34 to the national awareness campaign, \$333,840.73 to districts, and \$372,505.62 to the Diversity of Ministry Initiative.

More About Diversity of Ministry

After decades of commitment, we have only thirty-one ministers of color and Latina/o, Hispanic, and multiracial ministers serving our congregations and only forty-nine ministers of color in fellowship with the Association. In the same period, our ministry has moved from a handful to a majority of female ministers. The “why” of that disparity is complex, but its reality is unavoidable. Many ministers of color have decided to leave us.

In late 2006 members of the Diversity of Ministry Team (DOMT) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) began a process to develop healthy, sustainable ministries with ministers of color and Latina/o, Hispanic, and multiracial clergy and to support seminarians during their formation.

For the last two years, the Initiative has provided a fully funded retreat for religious professionals of color. Ministers, candidates for ministry and religious educators have all participated. We are working to additionally launch a Collegial Study and Support System starting in January 2009. Over the past year we have provided support for several individual ministers in doing consultation work with their congregations where challenges existed. We have also provided extensive education opportunities in our first wave congregations.

For more information, please contact the Rev. Alicia Forde, Program Coordinator for Multicultural Congregations in the Identity-Based Ministries staff group, at aforde@uua.org.