

Press Release

Local Minister Chosen to Lead Reproductive Justice Working Group at Berkeley Law
For Immediate Release

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Berkeley, CA.... The Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (CRRJ) has appointed Reverend Darcy Baxter to lead its Reproductive Justice Working Group. Baxter is Director of Family Ministry at Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church in Hayward and sits on the national Unitarian Universalist Reproductive Justice Advisory Council. She participated in the working group throughout the 2012-13 academic year and will take the helm as facilitator for the spring 2014 term.

“Darcy is the natural choice for this leadership role, given her nuanced understanding of the reproductive justice framework and movement, including issues of race, class, and gender,” said CRRJ Executive Director Jill E. Adams. “She is an engaging public speaker and humble facilitator who will enable a truly collaborative learning process among diverse people drawing from various bodies of knowledge and lived experience.”

Baxter brings years of community service, teaching experience, and valuable connections to her role as working group facilitator. She currently serves as San Francisco Bay Area Regional Organizer for the California Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, board member of the Abortion Conversation Project, and participant in the Center for American Progress’ Faith and Reproductive Justice Leadership Institute. Baxter views her leadership of the working group as a natural step in her ministry and advocacy, saying, “For too long, the movement of reproductive rights, health, and justice has been painfully fractured, with fissures running along lines of religion and secularism; academia and advocacy; race, ethnicity, and class. My ministry has been dedicated to tending to these divisions, in ways parallel to CRRJ’s innovative bridging work. I am honored to be part of the CRRJ team and to create a space where we can explore and embody reproductive justice.”

The Reproductive Justice Working Group meets twice a month to explore scholarship and recent developments in the field. Baxter will facilitate this gathering of faculty, students, activists, and community members who gather to deepen their understanding of reproductive justice and to develop ways to integrate it into their research and practice. The group meets on campus and is co-sponsored by UC Berkeley’s Center on Race & Gender. For

CRRJ supports reproductive rights and justice policy solutions by connecting people and ideas across the academic-advocate divide. It fosters scholarship, bolsters advocacy efforts, and influences public opinion through innovative research, teaching, and convenings.

