

Israel Buffardi (he/him)

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EDUCATION

Harvard University

M.Div. 2019

Johnson & Wales University

B.S. Nutrition & A.S. Culinary Arts 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Minister, UU Church of Lancaster

Lancaster, PA, 2020-Present

Collaborate with staff, board, and community partners to embody and implement the mission and vision of the congregation; supervise staff; manage budget; lead worship; lead fundraising; develop and implement programming; advocate for justice and inclusion.

Assistant Minister For RE, UU Fellowship of Corvallis

Corvallis, OR, 2019-2020

Administered lifespan religious exploration program; led worship services; provided pastoral care; led interim work of revisioning process for RE programs; managed budget; recruited, trained and supervised RE staff and volunteers.

Ministerial Graduate Intern, North Parish North Andover

North Andover, MA, 2018-2019

Developed and facilitated adult RE programming; provided pastoral counseling; led worship; crafted and facilitated rituals; engaged in community outreach.

Ministerial Graduate Intern, Allen Avenue UU Church

Portland, ME, 2016-2017

Developed and facilitated children's and adult RE programming; provided pastoral counseling; led worship; collaborated with community partners to organize for immigrant and refugee advocacy.

Restorative Justice Facilitator, Restorative Justice Institute

Brunswick, ME, 2016-2017

Facilitated restorative justice process meetings and engaged in community outreach.

Direct Support Professional, PSL Services/STRIVE

Portland, ME, 2016-2017

Provided direct support and facilitated educational programs for young adults with disabilities.

Chaplain Intern, Central Maine Medical Center

Lewiston, ME, 2016

Provided pastoral care and counseling to patients and families in a hospital setting; completed a Clinical Pastoral Education program.

Arts and Justice Reform Graduate Intern, Maine Inside Out

Portland, ME, 2015-2016

Collaborated with incarcerated and formerly incarcerated youth to create and share original theatre; provided direct support and mentorship; engaged in outreach and advocated for prison reform.

FoodCorps Service Member, FoodCorps/AmeriCorps

Portland, ME, 2014-2015

Developed and facilitated nutrition and gardening programs for students; coordinated community outreach and market research for local Sustainable food Initiative; coordinated volunteers.

Human Resources Trainer, Coffee by Design

Portland, ME, 2013-2015

Developed and implemented training programs for an artisan coffee roasting company; provided customer service, marketing, and sales support.

Farm-to-Table Cooking Instructor, Freeport Adult Education

Freeport, ME, 2014

Facilitated adult cooking classes and discussions on farm-to-table cuisine.

Business Manager, Salumeria

Philadelphia, PA, 2012-2013

Oversaw operations for an artisan food market; supervised staff; facilitated collaborative vision.

COMMUNITY
ORGANIZING
& VOLUNTEERING

Healthcare Reform Advocate, Put People First PA Lancaster, PA 2020-Present
Engage community partners to advocate for universal healthcare; speak at rallies and events.

Election Justice Speaker, CASA Lancaster, PA 2020-Present
Engage community partners to advocate for voting rights; speak at rallies and events.

Communications Team, POWER Interfaith Collective Lancaster, PA 2020-Present
Engage community and faith-based partners to advocate for racial and social justice reform.

Board Member, Harvard UU Ministry for Students Cambridge, MA 2017-2019
Coordinated volunteers; planned student spiritual community programming.

Garden Leader, Harvard Divinity School Garden Cambridge, MA 2017-2019
Coordinated volunteers and managed the student garden; planned events.

Food & Gardening Program Volunteer, Cultivating Community Portland, ME 2014-15 & 2017
Assisted with gardening, cooking, and nutrition classes with students grades K-12.

Anti-Racism Organizer, Showing Up for Racial Justice Portland, ME 2015-2017
Co-founded local antiracism organization chapter; organized meetings and local events.

Master Gardener Volunteer, UMaine Cooperative Extension Southern ME, 2015-2016
Completed an intensive training in horticulture; served as a volunteer gardener and educator.

Community Dinner Organizer, First Parish, UU Portland, ME, 2014-2016
Coordinated outreach, development, and programming of meals for people experiencing food-insecurity.

Governing Board Member & Clerk, First Parish, UU Portland, ME, 2015-2016
Implemented and administrated non-profit governance; prepared reports on board business.

Writing Mentor/Facilitator, The Telling Room Portland, ME, 2014-2015
Co-facilitated writing workshops for immigrant and refugee students; assisted with outreach.

PRESENTATIONS &
PUBLICATIONS

ZEST Magazine Portland, ME, 2016
Co-wrote an article on intentional community, local food, cooking, and ritual.

Farm to Institution New England Summit Amherst, MA, 2015
Presented on community outreach strategies to support local food initiatives in schools.

Community Television Network's Community Kitchens Portland, ME, 2013
Featured on a community television show to highlight farm-to-table cuisine.

CREATIVE PROJECTS

Réflexions d'un Hédoniste Râleur- PortFringe Portland, ME, 2014
Wrote, directed, and performed an interactive, storytelling piece on food and mindfulness.

Transfiguration X5 Providence, RI, 2010
Co-founded an experimental theatre collaborative with a group of local artists and students.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (Native), French (Fluent), Italian (Conversant), Spanish (Beginner)