

**2011-2012**



# New York State Prisoner Justice Network Directory



**New York State Prisoner Justice Network**

**33 Central Avenue**

**Albany, New York 12210**

**518/434-4037**

**[www.nysprisonerjustice.org](http://www.nysprisonerjustice.org)**

Welcome to the Directory of the New York State Prisoner Justice Network!

The Directory represents the member organizations of the New York State Prisoner Justice Network.

The Network grew from the first-ever New York State Prisoner Justice Conference, held in Albany on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The Conference had nearly 200 attendees and was sponsored by more than 50 organizations representing all of New York's regions and a wide range of issues, ideologies, resources, approaches, experiences, and populations. Its theme was Connecting Regions, Issues, and Strategies, and its motto was "We are each others' best resources."

The conference had two purposes: (1) to bring together all these diverse organizations and individuals so they could share information, ideas, and energy and go back home strengthened to do their separate work; (2) to explore ways we could combine our strengths and work together to change New York's criminal justice system. The first was accomplished with great success, according to the overwhelmingly positive evaluations of those in attendance. The second has begun to be realized since the conference, as we build a network of activists, advocates, and organizations and put our collective strength into practice on the ground in challenging and changing New York's criminal justice system.

Ensuring the participation of people in prison was a priority for the conference organizers, and has continued to be a priority in building the Network. Through their letters, incarcerated people have contributed their ideas and input. Quotes were chosen from letters and made into posters on the walls of the conference hall so all those in attendance would remember the nearly 90,000 people who are incarcerated in the prisons and jails of New York State. Other quotes from prison letters are included in the Network's brochure and are posted at regional Network meetings. There is an ongoing commitment to include incarcerated people in all the activities of the Network. They are at the center of this work.

The goal of the NYS Prisoner Justice Network is to build a lasting statewide nexus of organizations, activists, incarcerated people, prison families, and communities to challenge the injustices of New York's criminal justice system. Multiple communication tools have been created to connect all the different participants: listserv, web site, postal mailing database (for those in prison and anyone without online access), Facebook page and Twitter.

Throughout 2010 and 2011, the Network grew through local and regional meetings where participants explored problems and solutions in working together and in confronting the power of the criminal justice system. The New York State Legislative Awareness Day for Prisoner Justice: More Justice, Less Prisons, in Albany on May 3, 2011 was one result of the year of regional meetings and statewide phone calls. Its key issues – parole reform, eliminating abusive use of isolation in Special Housing Units, and closing prisons – reflect priorities of member organizations, incarcerated people, and activists.

This directory is an important part of the Network's ability to move forward to change and challenge the injustices of the prison system. Please use it, share it, and make it a stepping stone to further participation in collective action for change and justice.

Let's work together to bring the light of justice and truth to bear on the wrongs of New York's Criminal (In)justice System.

With hope and respect,

The New York State Prisoner Justice Network

### **Albany Political Prisoner Support Committee**

33 Central Avenue

Albany, NY 12210

**Phone:** 518-434-4037

**Contact:** Naomi Jaffe, Member

**Email:** albanypoliticalprisonersupport@gmail.com

**Description:** The Albany Political Prisoner Support Committee works on campaigns for freedom for political prisoners in New York State; supports freedom for Pennsylvania Death Row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal; builds a movement for prison justice in New York; networks with other prison justice organizations; and spreads information about political prisoners and the prison justice movement.

### **All Things Harlem/ "Still Here" Harlem Productions, Inc.**

201 W. 138th Street, Ste. 1

New York, NY 10030

**Phone:** 212-234-0596

**Fax:** 212-234-0637

**Website:** www.allthingsharlem.com

**Contact Person:** Joseph "Jazz" Hayden

**Email:** info@allthingsharlem.com

**Description:** Vision: The timing is right for the creation of a national alternative to mainstream media; a network of grassroots new media companies to represent the voiceless at the base of the social structure in America.

Mission Statement: At a time when the power structure and corporate media have openly declared their concern exclusively for the rich, the powerful, and the middle class "Still Here" Harlem Productions is committed to build a new media production company to cover every aspect of the community life of the marginalized and voiceless in Harlem. To do this, "Still Here" Harlem Productions is committed to network with all other Harlem centered media companies to provide comprehensive coverage of the community and its interests. It is also our mission to develop a template that may be replicated wherever Harlems exist in America.

### **American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)**

15 Rutherford Place

New York, NY 10003

**Phone:** 212-598-0967

**Fax:** 212-529-4603

**Website:** www.afsc.org

**Contact Person:** Lewis Webb, Jr.

**Email:** lwebb@afsc.org

**Description:** AFSC's Healing Justice Program, connected to similar AFSC programs throughout the country, promotes regulations, policies, and practices in New York and New Jersey which would eliminate human rights abuses, and offers healing opportunities to restore wholeness to individuals and communities harmed by various criminal justice practices. We monitor and speak to conditions in prisons, track and provide education on criminal justice trends and multiple issues, and offer alternatives to specific practices.

### **Binghamton Justice Projects**

**Phone:** 917-340-0468

**Website:** www.justiceprojects.org

**Contact Person:** William Martin

**Email:** wgmartin@brinkster.net

**Description:** Binghamton Justice Projects brings together a wide variety of activities in the Binghamton, New York area that address the local, national and global incarceration and social justice crisis—and seek to advance alternative justice systems. Associated faculty, students, activists and organizations are engaged in a variety of projects from teaching volunteer courses in prisons and jails, to providing peer mentoring in youth facilities, working in health and related support services, to advancing research, teaching and publication on the construction of the global carceral and justice system.

### **Bronx Defenders**

860 Courtlandt Avenue

Bronx, NY 10451

**Phone:** 718-838-7878

**Fax:** 718-665-0100

**Website:** www.bronxdefenders.org

**Contact Person:** Kate Rubin

**Email:** kater@bronxdefenders.org

**Description:** The Bronx Defenders provides innovative, holistic defense to fight both the causes and consequences of involvement in the criminal justice system. Located in the heart of the South Bronx, we have learned our client population has a host of legal and social support needs. As holistic defenders we are committed to providing our clients with seamless access to services to meet those needs. Our interdisciplinary teams of criminal, civil,

and family defense lawyers, social workers, parent advocates, investigators, and community organizers work with clients and their families to identify and overcome the challenges they face. Whether addressing the root causes of their involvement in the criminal justice system such as addiction, mental illness, and joblessness or the collateral consequences of their criminal case, our goal is not just to succeed in court but to make a long-term difference in our clients' lives. We meet our clients in arraignments in Bronx Criminal Court and intake in Bronx Family Court. While we cannot represent walk-in clients, we do provide legal information and referrals Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm.

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#### **Campaign to End the Death Penalty**

St. Mary's Church, 521 W. 126th Street  
New York, NY 10025

**Phone:** 917-670-2658

**Website:** <http://nodeathpenalty.org>

**Contact Person:** Carolyn Stanford, Treasurer

**Email:** [nyc@nodeathpenalty.org](mailto:nyc@nodeathpenalty.org)

**Description:** The Campaign to End the Death Penalty (CEDP) is the only national membership-driven, chapter-based grassroots organization dedicated to the abolition of capital punishment in the United States. We work hand in hand with those who have experienced the horrors of death row firsthand--death row prisoners themselves and their family members--and work to ensure that their voices are at the forefront of our movement.

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#### **Center for Community Alternatives**

115 E. Jefferson Street Suite 300

Syracuse, NY 13202

**Phone:** 315-442-5638

**Fax:** 315-471-4924

**Website:** [www.communityalternatives.org](http://www.communityalternatives.org)

**Contact Person:** Patricia Warth, Co-Director

**Email:** [pwarth@communityalternatives.org](mailto:pwarth@communityalternatives.org)

**Description:** CCA promotes re-integrative justice and a reduced reliance on incarceration through services, advocacy, and policy development in the furtherance of civil and human rights. CCA has offices in Syracuse, Manhattan, and Brooklyn, as well as a recovery program in Rochester and a defense based advocacy program in Buffalo.

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#### **Center for Constitutional Rights**

666 Broadway, Floor 7

New York, NY 10012

**Phone:** 201-614-6461

**Website:** [www.ccrjustice.org](http://www.ccrjustice.org)

**Contact Person:** Annette Warren Dickerson

**Email:** [adickerson@ccrjustice.org](mailto:adickerson@ccrjustice.org)

**Description:** CCR is a non-profit legal and educational organization dedicated to advancing and protecting the rights guaranteed by the US Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Our most recent involvement in prisoners' rights issues in NYS was the challenge against the collect call system in NYS prisons. We are currently litigating against Communications Management Units (CMU)'s in Illinois and Indiana.

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#### **Center for Law and Justice, Inc.**

Pine West Plaza, Building 2, Washington Ave. Ext.  
Albany, NY 12205

**Phone:** 518-427-8361

**Fax:** 518-427-8362

**Website:** [www.cflj.org](http://www.cflj.org)

**Contact Person:** Dr. Alice Green, Executive Director

**Email:** [cflj@verizon.net](mailto:cflj@verizon.net)

**Description:** The Center for Law & Justice, Inc. serves individuals, families, and communities in the Capital District Region. Its mission is to support the fair and just treatment of all people throughout the civil and criminal justice systems and to reduce societal reliance upon incarceration. The Center provides the following services that strengthen communities and assist formerly incarcerated individuals in successfully transitioning into mainstream society:

- free criminal justice and legal resources
  - public education and bold leadership in identifying and seeking solutions to social problems
  - recommendations for policy and procedural changes to protect and promote the civil rights of all community residents
  - The Jeffrey Wood Re-Entry Center to promote strong families and communities through the provision of transitioning services, including: employment resources; educational advocacy; community service referrals; and legal guidance.
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**Citizen Action**

94 Central Avenue  
Albany, NY 12206

**Phone:** 518-465-4600

**Website:** [www.citizenactionny.org](http://www.citizenactionny.org)

**Contact Person:** Cleo Oliver

**Email:** [coliver@citizenactionny.org](mailto:coliver@citizenactionny.org)

**Description:** Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization taking on big issues that are at the center of transforming American society – issues like: quality education and after-school programs for all our kids; guaranteed quality, affordable health care; public financing of election campaigns; dismantling racism and promoting racial justice; a more progressive tax system; an end to the war in Iraq. We look for opportunities to accomplish big changes – not small, incremental reforms. We work to elect progressive candidates to office who are committed to these issues.

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**Citizens for Restorative Justice (CRJ)**

PO Box 581

New Paltz, NY 12561

**Phone:** 845-417-5497

**Contact Person:** Deb Bozydaj, President

**Email:** [crjparole@yahoo.com](mailto:crjparole@yahoo.com)

**Description:** CRJ is a statewide grassroots organization developed to help write legislation and to lobby for that legislation. We of CRJ are also members and board members of CURE-NY, support groups in the Hudson Valley, Prison Families of New York and other advocacy groups. We all have or have had loved ones incarcerated in NYSDOCS. We support a platform of prison reform, including but not limited to: Expanded Merit Time reform to include A-1 Violent Offenders, Expanded Work Release programs, 259i Parole reform, Geriatric Release for our elderly incarcerated persons, Medical Release for our sick incarcerated persons, among other reforms much needed in our prison system.

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**Coalition for Parole Restoration**

PO Box 1379

New York, NY 10013

**Phone:** 718-786-4174

**Fax:** 212-431-7276

**Website:** [www.parolecpr.org](http://www.parolecpr.org)

**Contact Person:** James Rivers, Program Assistant

**Email:** [parolecpr@yahoo.com](mailto:parolecpr@yahoo.com)

**Description:** Our mission is two-fold: to assist people in prison in obtaining parole release and to assist formerly incarcerated persons and their families with transition and re-entry.

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**Columbia Human Rights Law Review - A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual**

435 West 116th Street

New York, NY 10027

**Phone:** 212-854-1601

**Website:**

[http://www3.law.columbia.edu/hrlr/index\\_jlm.php](http://www3.law.columbia.edu/hrlr/index_jlm.php)

**Contact Person:** Zachary Weintraub, Editor-in-Chief

**Email:** [jl原因m.board.mail@gmail.com](mailto:jl原因m.board.mail@gmail.com)

**Description:** A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual (JLM) is a handbook of legal rights and procedures designed for use by people in prison. Since publication of the First Edition in 1978, tens of thousands of prisoners in institutions across the country have used A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual to exercise their legal rights. The JLM informs prisoners of their legal rights and instructs them about how to secure these rights through the judicial process, clearly explaining legal research techniques and how to read legal documents. The JLM is published by law students of the Columbia Human Rights Law Review. We are currently selling the 8th Edition of the JLM, and all chapters are available for free online.

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**Community Service Society NY**

105 East 22nd Street

New York, NY 10010-5495

**Phone:** 212-614-5306

**Fax:** 212-260- 6218

**Website:** [www.cssny.org](http://www.cssny.org)

**Contact Person:** Gabriel Torres Rivera

**Email:** [grivera@cssny.org](mailto:grivera@cssny.org)

**Description:** The Community Service Society of New York (CSS) is a 160-year-old institution that has been on the cutting edge of public policy innovations to support poor New Yorkers in their quest to be full participants in the civic life of the nation's largest city. CSS employs a variety of tools—advocacy, direct service, research and policy analysis, and strategic partnerships—to forge consensus on appropriate policy interventions to facilitate the economic mobility of low-income New Yorkers. Recognizing the direct

correlation between poverty and mass incarceration, a significant feature of CSS's work focuses on the successful reentry of formerly incarcerated individuals by promoting employment as a way out of poverty. To do so, it educates community-based organizations serving that population about the benefits available to employers who hire such individuals; the legal protections job-seekers enjoy against employment discrimination; and certificates that both remove statutory employment barriers and provide presumptive evidence of rehabilitation. CSS helps people get these certificates and understand their criminal record while providing legal advice and representation to individuals who are experiencing employment discrimination because of their criminal record.

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**Correctional Association of New York, The**

2090 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd. Suite 200  
New York, NY 10027

**Phone:** 212-254-5700

**Fax:** 212-473-2807

**Website:** <http://correctionalassociation.org>

**Contact Person:** Stacey Thompson, Coalition Associate

**Email:** [sthompson@correctionalassociation.org](mailto:sthompson@correctionalassociation.org)

**Description:** The Correctional Association of New York is an independent, non-profit organization founded by concerned citizens in 1844 and granted unique authority by the New York State Legislature to inspect prisons and to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature, the public and the press. Through monitoring, research, public education and policy recommendations, the Correctional Association strives to make the administration of justice in New York State more fair, efficient and humane. Currently, there are four working projects: the Public Policy Project, the Women in Prison Project, the Prison Visiting Project and the Juvenile Justice Project.

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**"CURE"—Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants**

Box 1314

Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

**Website:** [www.bestweb.net/~cureny](http://www.bestweb.net/~cureny)

**Contact Person:** Jim Murphy & Jou Pujals, Co-presidents

**Email:** [cureny@bestweb.net](mailto:cureny@bestweb.net)

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**Description:** To reduce crime and lift up society by uniting people in an effort to support those incarcerated and formerly incarcerated, as well as their families and communities.

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**Drug Policy Alliance**

70 West 36th Street 16th Floor

New York, NY 10018

**Phone:** 212-613-8020

**Website:** [www.drugpolicy.org](http://www.drugpolicy.org)

**Contact Person:** Gabriel Sayegh

**Email:** [nyc@drugpolicy.org](mailto:nyc@drugpolicy.org)

**Description:** The Drug Policy Alliance Network (DPA Network) is the nation's leading organization promoting policy alternatives to the drug war that are grounded in science, compassion, health and human rights. DPA was intimately involved in the campaign to reform the Rockefeller Drug Laws and is now leading efforts to implement the reforms—including the release of nearly 1,200 people from prison and ensuring that diversion (from prison) is utilized. Proper implementation could divert thousands of people a year from prison into alternatives to incarceration or probation.

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**Erie County Prisoners' Rights Coalition**

P. O. Box 332

Buffalo, NY 14209

**Phone:** 716- 510-7425

**Fax:** 716- 834-8438

**Website:**

[www.eriecountyprisonersrightscoalition.viviti.com/](http://www.eriecountyprisonersrightscoalition.viviti.com/)

**Contact Person:** Co-chairs: Karima Amin 716-834-8438 & Jordan Gerow 716-510-7425

**Email:** [eriecountyprisonersrights@gmail.com](mailto:eriecountyprisonersrights@gmail.com)

**Description:** The Erie County Prisoners Rights Coalition is a community action organization committed to calling attention to and ultimately ending the violations of inmates' civil, constitutional and human rights within the Erie County Holding Center and Correctional Facility. We recognize state and federal reports on the County's two prison facilities which document physical abuse, neglect, denial of necessary medical treatment, unsanitary conditions and dozens of violations of NYS Commission of Corrections Minimum Standards for Correctional Facilities. We demand that Erie County enact all recommendations included in the U.S. Justice Department report on their prisons; open up their prison system for an unfettered federal

investigation to occur; come into compliance with minimum state standards; remunerate the million dollars of "misallocated" commissary money they have taken from their prisoners; and reestablish a Community Advisory Board to oversee the prisons, so that this type of abuse does not reoccur.

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### **Families Rally for Emancipation and Empowerment**

Attn: Marion Rodriguez, PO Box 90  
Syracuse, NY 13201

**Phone:** 718-300-9576

**Website:** www.freefamilies.us

**Contact Person:** Marion Rodriguez, Steering Committee Member

**Email:** freefamiliesinc@gmail.com

**Description:** FREE! is a women-led, grassroots collective of people with incarcerated loved ones, empowering and mobilizing ourselves to create viable community alternatives to, and impact public policy around the destructive, profit-driven prison industry.

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### **Food Not Bombs-Albany**

**Phone:** 267-210-2069

**Website:** www.foodnotbombs.net

**Contact Person:** Abe Hmiel

**Email:** abehmiel@gmail.com

**Description:** Food Not Bombs is a loose-knit, volunteer run organization which grew out of the anti-nuke movement of the 70's and currently has over 400 chapters worldwide. We promote peace, community and sustainability by using surplus food that would otherwise go to waste and cooking up tasty, vegetarian and free meals for anyone who is hungry.

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### **Fortune Society, The**

29-76 Northern Boulevard  
Long Island City, NY 11101

**Phone:** 212-691-7554

**Fax:** 347-510-3451

**Website:** www.fortunesociety.org

**Contact Person:** Glenn E. Martin, Vice President of Development and Public Affairs

**Description:** The Fortune Society's mission is to support successful reentry from prison and promote alternatives to incarceration, thus strengthening the fabric of our communities.

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### **Free Mumia Abu-Jamal Coalition**

College Station, PO Box 16

New York, NY 10030

**Phone:** 212-927-2924

**Website:** www.freemumia.com

**Contact Person:** Suzanne Ross & Sundiata Sadiq, Co-Chairs

**Email:** suzannewross@aol.com

**Description:** We focus on: Mumia Abu-Jamal; other political prisoners; abolition of the death penalty; abolition of the prison industrial complex; police brutality and misconduct that leads to thousands of incarcerations; justice for those incarcerated: PAROLE OPPORTUNITIES.

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### **Furnace Collective, The**

84 Grand Street

Albany, NY 12202

**Phone:** 315-857-3702

**Contact Person:** Zach Swift

**Email:** swiftly.swifterson@gmail.com

**Description:** A collective community space on Grand St. dedicated to action-oriented, locally minded, empowering, sustainable events, projects and happenings.

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### **Grassroots Artists MovEment (G.A.ME)**

2427 Morris Avenue, 1st Floor

Bronx, NY 10468

**Phone:** 718-690-3393

**Fax:** 646-792-3323

**Website:** www.kickgame.com

**Contact Person:** Omowale Adewale, Executive Director

**Email:** crownedson@kickgame.com

**Description:** The mission of Grassroots Artists MovEment (G.A.ME) is to redirect Hip-Hop's resources back into the Black and Latino community. Using Hip-Hop's power we address youth incarceration, healthcare inequities, and the labor rights of artists.

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**Green Party of New York City**

**Phone:** 917-438-8252

**Website:** www.greenpartynyc.org and

www.facebook.com/gpnyc

**Contact Person:** Chris Archer

**Email:** info@greenpartynyc.org

**Description:** The Green Party of New York City is a political organization that promotes a more equitable society in our urban political ecosystem. We confront the two-party system and the corporate power behind it by linking the electoral process to struggles for peace, and environmental and social justice, especially for the under-resourced and the underserved. We base our action on political principles — the four pillars of our international movement — that truly reflect the needs of all. These include: Ecological Wisdom, Social Justice, Grassroots Democracy, and Nonviolence. Our purpose is to be the vehicle for electoral change, and to work in the courts and the streets to create a just and sustainable society. The Green Party of New York City is an association of local organizations based in the five boroughs. There are other Green groups throughout the state, as well as a state-level organization, the Green Party of New York State (GPNYS). GPNYS is an affiliate of the Green Party of the United States (GPUS).

**Immigrant Defense Project**

3 West 29th St. Suite 803

New York, NY 10001

**Phone:** 212-725-6485

**Fax:** 800-391-5713

**Website:** www.immigrantdefenseproject.org

**Contact Person:** Benita Jain, Co-Director

**Email:** bjain@immigrantdefenseproject.org

**Description:** The Immigrant Defense Project, formerly an initiative of the New York State Defenders Association, defends the legal, constitutional and human rights of immigrants facing criminal or deportation charges. We are the nation's first project founded to respond to the devastating 1996 immigration laws that placed hundreds of thousands of immigrants at risk of mandatory detention and deportation for virtually any interaction with the criminal justice system. IDP serves as a legal resource and training center for criminal defense attorneys, criminal justice and immigrant advocates,

and immigrants fighting criminal charges and deportation; supports community-based advocacy against unjust immigration laws and their aggressive enforcement; and promotes immigrant-protective impact litigation results by recruiting and mentoring pro bono attorneys to provide legal assistance to immigrants challenging their detention or deportation orders in federal court.

**Interfaith Coalition of Advocates for Reentry and Employment (ICARE)**

3041 Broadway, MB 37

New York, NY 10027

**Website:** www.nyicare.org

**Contact Person:** Rima Vesely-Flad, Founder

**Email:** info@nyicare.org

**Description:** The Interfaith Coalition of Advocates for Reentry and Employment (ICARE) was founded in October 2004 to organize a religious response to the crisis of recidivism in New York State. In the Restorative Justice tradition, people of faith affirm the intellectual and spiritual capacity of persons with criminal convictions, believing in the potential for rehabilitation and reconciliation. ICARE's commitment to Restorative Justice further takes into account the "Restoration of Rights" for formerly incarcerated persons. ICARE is advocating for the removal of barriers encountered by people reentering the community after prison. The ICARE coalition consists of communities of faith, direct service providers, and policy organizations.

**It Takes a Community**

99 Renwick Street

Newburgh, NY 12550

**Phone:** 845-562-4989

**Contact Person:** Denise Lowe CEO/Founder

**Email:** lowed53@yahoo.com

**Description:** It Takes A Community is a grass roots organization reaching out to the underserved women of diverse backgrounds in the Mid-Hudson area. It is our goal to reach out to all women who are intent on changing their lives, so that they can realize their potential and accomplish their dreams. It Takes A Community will provide a safe and positive environment to create caring, confident and productive women. Our motto is Women Helping Women.



**Jericho Movement**

PO Box 1272

New York, NY 10013

**Phone:** 718-325-4407

**Website:** [www.jerichony.org](http://www.jerichony.org)

**Contact Person:** Anne Lamb, NY Jericho

Administrator

**Email:** [nycjericho@gmail.com](mailto:nycjericho@gmail.com)

**Description:** The Jericho Movement for Recognition & Amnesty for all U.S. held Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War is a prisoner justice organization with the stated goal of winning release of all U.S. held PP's and POWs. We visit prisoners and provide material support to them and their families. We are also involved with the proposed reform of the NYS Parole Law with a coalition of groups and individuals.

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**Judicial Process Commission**

285 Ormond Street

Rochester, NY 14605

**Phone:** 585-255-2777

**Fax:** 585-255-2165

**Website:** [www.rocjpc.org](http://www.rocjpc.org)

**Contact Person:** Sue Porter, Coordinator

**Email:** [info@rocjpc.org](mailto:info@rocjpc.org)

**Description:** Grass roots nonprofit, 38 years of advocacy and service. Support services including: case management, legal services in collaboration with Monroe County Legal Assistance Center (Rap Sheets, Certificates of Relief and Certificates of Good Conduct and law suits), mentoring, Support Group, Public Policy advocacy. Second Chance Act grant to empower pregnant women and women with young children exiting the Monroe County Corr. Facility.

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**League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara**

1272 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14209

**Phone:** 716-884-3550

**Website:** [www.lwvbn.org](http://www.lwvbn.org)

**Contact Person:** Lenore Banks, State Issues Director

**Email:** [lwvbn@lwvbn.org](mailto:lwvbn@lwvbn.org)

**Description:** The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public

policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our policy concerns include issues in the criminal justice system. For example, in 1993 the League announced a Statement of Position on Alternatives to Incarceration that included the following: "Prisons and jails must be viewed as a scarce and expensive resource to be utilized only when necessary. The current system wastes time, money, and human resources. The LWNYS strongly supports the use of ATI for nonviolent offenders. There is a need for earlier, more effective intervention and, if applicable, treatment. Sanctions should be more innovative, constructive and less restrictive." Long before that, in 1975, the League called for improvements in pretrial procedures to assure the rights of defendants at every stage of a criminal proceeding, including the pre-arraignment period. The State League agreed to oppose the death penalty in New York State in 2005. And in 1998 the League began working with the New York State Defenders to improve legal representation for eligible individuals in the courts of New York State.

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**League of Women Voters NYS**

62 Grand Street

Albany, NY 12207

**Phone:** 518-465-4162

**Website:** <http://lwvny.org/>

**Contact Person:** Lenore Banks & Ann Brandon, Off-Board Specialists

**Email:** [lwvny@lwvny.org](mailto:lwvny@lwvny.org)

**Description:** The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our policy concerns include issues in the criminal justice system. For example, in 1993 the League announced a Statement of Position on Alternatives to Incarceration that included the following: "Prisons and jails must be viewed as a scarce and expensive resource to be utilized only when necessary. The current system wastes time, money, and human resources. The LWNYS strongly supports the use of ATI for nonviolent offenders. There is a need for earlier, more effective intervention and, if applicable, treatment. Sanctions should be more innovative, constructive and less restrictive." Long before that, in 1975, the League

called for improvements in pretrial procedures to assure the rights of defendants at every stage of a criminal proceeding, including the pre-arraignment period. In 1998, the League began working with the New York State Defenders to improve legal representation for eligible individuals in the courts of New York State. And in 2005, the State League agreed to oppose the death penalty in New York State.

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#### **Legal Action Works, Inc.**

908 Taylor Drive  
Vestal, NY 13850

**Phone:** 607-624-7365

**Fax:** 800-934-6790

**Website:** [www.legalactionworks.us](http://www.legalactionworks.us)

**Contact Person:** Dana Brown, Executive Director

**Email:** [dana@legalactionworks.us](mailto:dana@legalactionworks.us)

**Description:** Legal Action Works' mission is to exercise all methods of legal advocacy, training and outreach to empower low income people, provide access to the legal system and community resources, and preserve the dignity of clients. The mission is incorporated in our service provision as an empowerment philosophy. Legal Action Works' intent is to ensure access to justice for all clients regardless of immigration status, race, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

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#### **Legal Aid Society, The; Prisoners' Rights Project**

199 Water Street

New York, NY 10038

**Phone:** 212-577-3530

**Contact Person:** Caroline Hsu, Friends & Family of Philip M. Stern Equal Justice Works Fellow

**Email:** [cshsu@legal-aid.org](mailto:cshsu@legal-aid.org)

**Description:** The Prisoners' Rights Project of the Legal Aid Society seeks to remedy unconstitutional conditions and illegal practices in the New York City jails and New York State prisons through class-action or test case litigation. In addition, it replies to prisoner requests for assistance through the provision of self-help materials, and, on a very limited basis, through administrative advocacy. PRP's docket includes cases addressing brutality, deficient medical and mental health care, education, sexual abuse, and treatment of people with disabilities.

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#### **Malcolm X Grassroots Movement**

PO Box 47171

Brooklyn, NY 11247

**Phone:** 973-271-7579

**Website:** [www.mxgm.org](http://www.mxgm.org)

**Description:** The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement is an organization of Afrikans in America/New Afrikans whose mission is to defend the human rights of our people and promote self-determination in our community. Our relevant work includes our active membership on the New York Task Force on Political Prisoners (NYTFPP), a collective of attorneys, former political prisoners, politicians, activists, clergy, and political prisoners family members dedicated to providing legal, organizing and technical support to New York's incarcerated political activists. We additionally run Know Your Rights workshops to inform Afrikan people of their rights in interactions with law enforcement. We also run a People's Self-Defense Campaign focused on observing, documenting, and preventing incidents of police misconduct and brutality through educating and organizing our community and supporting survivors/victims of this misconduct.

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#### **Mental Health Alternatives to Solitary Confinement (MHASC)**

123 William Street, 16th Floor

New York, NY 10038

**Phone:** 646-602-5683

**Fax:** 212-533-4598

**Contact Person:** Alexandra Smith

**Email:** [asmith@urbanjustice.org](mailto:asmith@urbanjustice.org)

**Description:** MHASC is a coalition working to end the placement of people with psychiatric disabilities in solitary confinement.

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#### **Muslim Solidarity Committee**

1411 Indian Fields Road

Feura Bush, NY 12067

**Phone:** 518-439-1727

**Website:** <http://nepajac.org/msc>

**Contact Person:** Cathy Callan, MSC Member

**Email:** [callanca@gmail.com](mailto:callanca@gmail.com)

**Description:** The Muslim Solidarity Committee formed shortly after the trial and verdicts for Imam Yassin Aref and Mohammed Hossain. Having collectively looked at all the evidence presented by the United States Government against Aref and

Hossain, we stand in solidarity with these two men, their families and the Muslim population of the Capital Region and have every reason to believe that these two men are innocent of all charges brought against them, that they were caught up in a sting operation and framed solely because of who they are: two simple, practicing Muslim men from the Middle East. If you would like more information about the Muslim Solidarity Committee, please visit our website at: <http://nepajac.org/msc>

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#### **Nassau Inmate Advocacy Group**

PO Box 2202

Hempstead, NY 11550

**Phone:** 516-512-4977

**Website:** <http://www.nassau-inmate-advocacy-group.org>

**Contact Person:** Pat Dellatto NP, Executive Director

**Email:** [nassauinmates1@verizon.net](mailto:nassauinmates1@verizon.net) **Description:**

The Nassau Inmate Advocacy Group Mission Statement: To raise the awareness of providing proper medical care, fair legal representation and adequate food, water and shelter for inmates. That no inmate will be harassed by fellow inmates or correctional staff and be subjected to abuse for their HIV status or any other personal bias.

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#### **National Alliance on Mental Illness**

260 Washington Avenue

Albany, NY 12210

**Phone:** 518-462-2000

**Fax:** 518-462-0311

**Website:** <http://naminys.org>

**Contact Person:** Kathleen Holbrook

**Email:** [kathleen@naminys.org](mailto:kathleen@naminys.org)

**Description:** NAMI-NYS Criminal Justice Program offers a two day training that will benefit family members and folks working in the community with our citizens suffering with serious psychiatric disabilities. We help navigate families whose loved ones are caught up in the justice system, and NAMI-NYS provides support, education and legislative advocacy.

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#### **Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem**

317 Malcom X Boulevard, 10th Floor

New York, NY 10027

**Phone:** 212-876-5500

**Fax:** 212-876-5586

**Website:** [www.ndsny.org](http://www.ndsny.org)

**Description:** The Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem (NDS) is known nationally and internationally for its innovative, community-based, holistic public defense practice. Our dedicated staff is committed to providing the highest quality legal representation to residents of upper Manhattan. In contrast to traditional public defense practice, NDS clients are represented by a team that includes criminal and civil attorneys, social workers, investigators, paralegals, law school and social work interns, and pro bono attorneys. NDS deploys all of these resources in the aggressive defense of its clients. Additionally, through our Pre-Arrest Services, NDS can begin representing a client before there has been any contact with law enforcement, allowing us to better protect our client's rights. A core aspect of our holistic approach to public defense is a commitment to search for the underlying issues that bring our clients into contact with the criminal justice system, and providing comprehensive social service support to avoid or minimize future problems. And through our STATE program, NDS helps young adults develop the conflict resolution and leadership skills needed to minimize the occurrences of violence and arrest in their neighborhoods.

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#### **New York Civil Liberties Union (Capital District Chapter)**

90 State Street, Suite 518

Albany, NY 12207

**Phone:** 518-436-8594

**Fax:** 518-426-9341

**Website:** [www.nyclu.org/regions/capital-region](http://www.nyclu.org/regions/capital-region)

**Contact Person:** Melanie Trimble, Executive Director

**Email:** [mtrimble@nyclu.org](mailto:mtrimble@nyclu.org)

**Description:** We protect and defend the tenets of the US Constitution and Bill of Rights.

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**New Yorkers for Alternatives to the Death Penalty**

40 North Main Avenue  
Albany, NY 12203

**Phone:** 518-453-6797

**Fax:** 518-453-6792

**Website:** [www.nyadp.org](http://www.nyadp.org)

**Contact Person:** David Kaczynski, Executive Director & Marie Verzulli, Victim/Survivor Advocate

**Email:** [info@nyadp.org](mailto:info@nyadp.org)

**Description:** Advocating for violence prevention, opposing reinstatement of the death penalty and supporting innocence protection reforms, ensuring fair access to services for victims of crime, and pursuing a healing agenda through restorative justice and other positive practices involving the incarcerated and their families, crime victims and their families, mental health professionals, law enforcement, and community leaders.

**NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc.**

28 Essex Street  
Albany, NY 12206

**Phone:** 518-482-4222, x 308

**Fax:** 518-482-4248

**Website:** [www.nyscasa.org](http://www.nyscasa.org)

**Contact Person:** Chrys Ballerano, Building Connections: Sexual Assault & Mental Health Project Co-Director

**Email:** [cballerano@nyscasa.org](mailto:cballerano@nyscasa.org)

**Description:** It is the mission of the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault to end all forms of sexual violence and exploitation by advocating for the effective response to all people affected by sexual assault. We do this by providing technical support and assistance to rape crisis centers, working legislatively to improve public policy, and confronting societal denial of the impact of sexual violence through statewide outreach and education.

**NYS Defenders Justice Fund**

194 Washington Avenue Suite 500  
Albany, NY 12110

**Phone:** 518-465-0519

**Website:** <http://www.newyorkjusticefund.org>

**Contact Person:** Mardi Crawford, Communications Officer

**Email:** [mcrawford@newyorkjusticefund.org](mailto:mcrawford@newyorkjusticefund.org)

**Description:** The New York State Defenders Justice Fund advocates and organizes to improve the quality of public defense services in New York State and

nationally. We support alternatives to incarceration, a more just and equitable prison system, and improved reentry systems. The Justice Fund specifically seeks to end racial, ethnic, socio-economic, and other forms of discrimination.

**NYS Parole Reform Campaign**

PO Box 6355

Albany, NY 12206

**Description:** Our mission is to secure the passage of the Safe and Fair Evaluation (S.A.F.E.) Act, a legislative proposal to redefine the role of the NYS Parole Board so that it fairly evaluates parole applicants instead of punishing them.

**NYS Task Force on Political Prisoners**

c/o MXGM, PO Box 47171

Brooklyn, NY 11247

**Phone:** 718-254-8800 or 212-431-5360

**Website:** <http://mxgm.org/new-york-task-force-on-political-prisoners/>

**Contact Person:** Malcolm X Grassroots Movement or Laura Whitehorn

**Email:** [ny.pp@mxgm.org](mailto:ny.pp@mxgm.org) or  
[nytaskforce@yahoo.com](mailto:nytaskforce@yahoo.com)

**Description:** To build prison justice by winning release for the political prisoners in New York State prisons.

**Osborne Association, The**

809 Westchester Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10455

**Phone:** 718-707-2600

**Fax:** 718-707-3103

**Website:** [www.osborneny.org](http://www.osborneny.org)

**Contact Person:** Elizabeth Gaynes, Executive Director

**Email:** [info@osborne.org](mailto:info@osborne.org)

**Description:** The Osborne Association serves people affected by incarceration in NYC, Dutchess County, 15 prisons and Rikers Island, and is committed to the transformation of individuals, families, communities and the criminal justice system. We offer programs and services designed to: achieve economic independence, adopt healthy lifestyles, reconnect families, reduce reliance on incarceration, and strengthen communities.

**Prison Action Network**

P.O. Box 6355

Albany, NY 12206

**Phone:** 518-253-7533

**Website:** <http://prisonaction.blogspot.com>

**Contact Person:** Judith Brink

**Email:** [PrisonActionNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:PrisonActionNetwork@gmail.com)

**Description:** We are a non-incorporated all-volunteer organization whose mission is to bring together people who are incarcerated in NYS, formerly incarcerated people, people who have a loved one in a NYS prison, and concerned citizens, to work together to create a safer and more just community. We use our newsletter "Building Bridges" and events called Family Empowerment Days to bridge the physical distances between our member populations. PAN works with the Coalition for Fair Criminal Justice Policies to advocate for legislative reforms to create systemic change in the criminal justice system. Currently our primary focus is on reforming the policies of the NYS Board of Parole so parole release can no longer be denied based on the nature of the crime or the criminal history.

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**Prison Families Anonymous, Inc.**

PO Box 343

Central Islip, NY 11722

**Phone:** 631-943-0441

**Contact Person:** Barbara Allan

**Email:** [ballanpfa@gmail.com](mailto:ballanpfa@gmail.com)

**Description:** Prison Families Anonymous, Inc. is a support group for families who have a loved one involved in the juvenile or criminal system. Through this support, families and friends learn to cope with incarceration and the transition of family reunification. PFA has been in existence since 1974.

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**Prison Families of New York**

40 Main Street

Albany, NY 12203

**Phone:** 518-453- 6659

**Website:** [www.prisonfamiliesofnewyork.org](http://www.prisonfamiliesofnewyork.org)

**Description:** Training, policy development, advocacy on the issues of NYS prison families; family reunification and successful re-entry from prison.

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**Prison Policy Initiative**

PO Box 127, Northampton, MA 01061

**Website:** [www.prisonpolicy.org](http://www.prisonpolicy.org) and  
<http://PrisonersoftheCensus.org>

**Contact Person:** Peter Wagner, JD., Executive Director

**Description:** The non-profit, non-partisan Prison Policy Initiative documents the impact of mass incarceration on individuals, communities, and the national welfare. We produce accessible and innovative research to empower the public to participate in improving criminal justice policy. The Prison Policy Initiative is most well known for its Prisoners of the Census project, documenting the distortion in our democratic process caused by the Census Bureau counting people where they are confined, not where they come from.

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**Prisoners Are People Too**

PO Box 273

Buffalo, NY 14212

**Phone:** 716-834-8438

**Fax:** 716-842-2677

**Website:** <http://prp2.org>

**Contact Person:** Karima Amin, Executive Director

**Email:** [karima@prisonersarepeopletoo.org](mailto:karima@prisonersarepeopletoo.org)

**Description:** Prisoners Are People Too is an organization that strives to provide a forum for community education, action organizing, lobbying, referrals, community building, and networking with an eye toward criminal justice issues and issues of prison reform.

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**Prisoners' Legal Services of New York**

41 State Street, Suite 112

Albany, NY 12207

**Phone:** 518-438-8046

**Fax:** 518-438-6643

**Website:** [www.plsny.org](http://www.plsny.org)

**Contact Person:** Gavin Cook, Staff Attorney

**Email:** [gcook@plsny.org](mailto:gcook@plsny.org)

**Description:** Prisoners' Legal Services of New York is a not-for-profit legal services organization founded in 1976. PLS' mission is to provide administrative advocacy and high quality civil legal services to indigent prisoners in New York State prisons in cases where no other counsel is available.

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### **Public Policy and Education Fund**

94 Central Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

**Phone:** 518-465-4600

**Fax:** 518-465-2890

**Website:** www.ppefny.org

**Contact Person:** Cleo Oliver

**Email:** coliver@ppefny.org

**Description:** PPEF was founded in 1986 to address critical social, economic, racial and environmental issues facing low and moderate income New York State residents. Our areas of work have included health care, education, after-school programs, voter participation, economic development and consumer issues. PPEF uses many tools in its work, including grassroots organizing, research and policy development, public education on a wide range of policy issues, and community outreach. The Public Policy and Education Fund of New York (PPEF) is the not-for-profit research and public education affiliate of Citizen Action of New York.

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### **Reentry-NYC**

Cooper Station, PO Box 57

New York, NY 10276

**Phone:** 646-213-0077

**Fax:** 646-213-0077

**Website:** www.reentrynyc.org

**Contact Person:** Chaplain Alison Alpert, Program Director

**Email:** aba@reentrynyc.org

**Description:** Reentry NYC is a program designed to help New York City residents make a healthy transition from prison back to society at large. Reentry NYC fosters supportive spiritual communities for people returning from prisons.

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### **Resistance in Brooklyn**

309 Park Place

Brooklyn, NY 11238

**Phone:** 718-399-8366

**Fax:** c/o Matt Meyer/WRL, 212-228-6193

**Contact Person:** Matt Meyer and Meg Starr

**Email:** MMMSRNB@igc.org

**Description:** Since 1992, RnB has served as a local, anti-imperialist collective, focusing much work on support of political prisoners and prison abolition work.

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### **RIFT SUCCESS**

PO Box 704, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

**Phone:** 845-380-0612

**Website:** www.riftsuccess.com and

http://riftsuccess.ebs.com and

2ndchance@riftsuccess.com

**Contact Person:** Junior Sanchez

**Description:** RIFT SUCCESS is a recruiting firm based in New York whose purpose is to create employment and career opportunities for individuals who are finding it difficult to return to the workforce. Our focus is to merge their specific crafts and skills with organizations seeking them. We are a group of professionals with years of experience in the consulting, human resources, business, entrepreneurship, real estate, and staffing industries. Our 2nd Chance Division focuses solely on the ex-incarcerated individual to facilitate workforce reentry. We battle recidivism from within; armed with positive speakers, job coaches, consultants, activists, writers, and True SUCCESS stories, we provide the positive change necessary in the lives of currently incarcerated individuals and prepare them for the business world. All individuals who take part in our programs receive a certificate of completion and are provided lifetime job placement assistance once released.

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### **Rights for Imprisoned People with Psychiatric Disabilities ("RIPPD")**

123 William St. (16th fl)

New York, NY 10038

**Phone:** 646-260-6575

**Contact Person:** Lisa Ortega

**Email:** lortega@rippd.org

**Description:** RIPPD is a grassroots social justice, member led organization that fights for systematic change regarding the issues affecting those with mental illness in and out of the Criminal In-Justice System.

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### **Riverside Church Prison Ministry**

490 Riverside Drive

New York, NY 10027

**Phone:** 201-618-5104

**Fax:** 973-923-5123

**Website:** www.theriversidechurchny.org

**Contact Person:** Azie Guice, President

**Email:** azguice@yahoo.com

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**Description:** The Riverside Church Prison Ministry is an organization of volunteers that conducts advocacy and outreach programs on behalf of people in prison, their families and the community from which most come and to which most return. The volunteers lay people, community workers, students, family members and people formerly incarcerated work inside the prisons as well as on the outside worshipping, assisting families and sponsoring prison reform.

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#### **Rosenberg Fund for Children**

116 Pleasant Street Suite 348

Easthampton, MA 01027

**Phone:** 413-529-0063

**Fax:** 413-529-0802

**Website:** <http://www.rfc.org>

**Contact Person:** Jenn Meeropol, Grantmaking Coordinator

**Email:** [jenn@rfc.org](mailto:jenn@rfc.org)

**Description:** The Rosenberg Fund for Children provides for the educational and emotional needs of children whose parents have suffered because of their progressive activities and who, therefore, are no longer able to provide fully for their children. The RFC also provides grants for the educational and emotional needs of targeted activist youth. Since its founding in 1990, the RFC has awarded millions of dollars to benefit hundreds of children in the U.S. whose parents have been targeted because of their involvement in progressive movements including the struggles to preserve civil liberties, wage peace, safeguard the environment, combat racism and homophobia, and organize on behalf of workers, prisoners, immigrants and others whose human rights are under threat.

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#### **Social Justice Center of Albany**

33 Central Avenue

Albany, NY 12210

**Phone:** 518-434-4037

**Website:** <http://albanysocialjusticecenter.org>

**Contact Person:** Victorio Reyes, Director

**Email:** [info@albanysocialjusticecenter.org](mailto:info@albanysocialjusticecenter.org)

**Description:** The Social Justice Center is a grassroots community organization which, through its programming and projects, confronts the roots and structures of oppression. The Social Justice Center is committed to building strong community activism to

fight oppression by forming alliances and working in coalition with other groups. Through the Social Justice Center, we are working for a world in which international conflicts are settled without war, in which people treat each other with love, dignity, and justice. In our coming together, we strive to work in cooperative ways consistent with these beliefs and values. The Center helps us work for progressive social change through mutual support and collective action.

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#### **Social Responsibilities Council – First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany (“FUUSA”)**

405 Washington Avenue

Albany, NY 12206

**Phone:** 518-463-7135

**Website:** [www.albanyuu.org](http://www.albanyuu.org)

**Contact Person:** Judith Brink, Member, SRC

**Email:** [jbrink@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jbrink@nycap.rr.com)

**Description:** The Social Responsibilities Council (SRC) assists in guiding and coordinating the education and action of FUUSA concerning significant moral and ethical social issues. It also collaborates with other organizations in the community on common issues of social concern, often by issuing joint statements of support on such issues. Most recently, the SRC has assertively advocated for same-sex marriage, environmental stewardship and reproductive rights, and criminal justice and prison reform, among many other topics. It is an active arm of the congregation.

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#### **Southern Tier Advocacy and Mitigation Project (“S.T.A.M.P.”)**

119 East Buffalo Street

Ithaca, NY 14850

**Phone:** 607-227-2121

**Website:** <http://www.stamp-cny.org>

**Contact Person:** Leslie Jones, Executive Director

**Email:** [info@stamp-cny.org](mailto:info@stamp-cny.org)

**Description:** Southern Tier Advocacy & Mitigation Project, Incorporated (S.T.A.M.P.) is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community-based organization. S.T.A.M.P. challenges pollution, criminalization, exploitation, and incarceration by encouraging self-respect, empowerment, leadership, and self-determination among young people, adults, and families most affected by criminal justice and environmental policies. As an organization of

activists, S.T.A.M.P.'s volunteers witness the ways in which these life-threatening conditions disproportionately affect low-income people and communities of color. S.T.A.M.P. works to empower youth and adults to identify the issues which adversely impact their lives and actively challenge institutional imbalances which threaten their futures and the futures of the Seventh Generation.

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#### **Sweatfree SUNY Coalition**

1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222

**Phone:** 518-391-3837

**Contact Person:** Jackie Hayes, Member

**Email:** revolutionaryfever@gmail.com

**Description:** The Sweatfree SUNY Coalition aims to transform SUNY into a sweatfree system by tying together campus-based sweatfree initiatives with state-wide initiatives. We demand that SUNY sign onto the Designated Suppliers Program (DSP) and associate with the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC) to ensure that SUNY does not contract with or subsidize sweatshops.

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#### **Sylvia Rivera Law Project**

147 W 24th St., 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10011

**Phone:** 212-337-8550 (Toll Free: 1-866-930-3283)

**Fax:** 212-337-1972

**Website:** www.srlp.org

**Email:** info@srlp.org

**Description:** The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP) works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination, or violence. SRLP is a collective organization founded on the understanding that gender self-determination is inextricably intertwined with racial, social and economic justice. Therefore, we seek to increase the political voice and visibility of low-income people and people of color who are transgender, intersex, or gender non-conforming. SRLP works to improve access to respectful and affirming social, health, and legal services for our communities. We believe that in order to create meaningful political participation and leadership, we must have access to basic means of survival and safety from violence.

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#### **Urban Justice Center - Mental Health Project**

123 William Street, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**Phone:** 646-602-5644

**Fax:** 212-533-4598

**Website:** www.urbanjustice.org

**Contact Person:** Jennifer J. Parish, Director of Criminal Justice Advocacy

**Email:** jparish@urbanjustice.org

**Description:** The Mental Health Project of the Urban Justice Center advocates against the criminalization of mental illness through litigation, legislative advocacy, organizing, and education. We have brought class action litigation to force the government to provide appropriate reentry services for people with psychiatric disabilities released from jail and prison. We advocated for legislation to end the cruel practice of placing people with psychiatric disabilities in solitary confinement in the state prison system. We also work with mental health consumers and their families to establish alternatives to incarceration for those involved in the criminal justice system.

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