



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

RACIAL JUSTICE UPDATE



Oresa-Napper-Williams, Founder and CEO of Not Another Child, Inc. speaks about the impact of gun violence at kNOw Justice

Here (11/16)

Dear Friend,

I want to begin by congratulating Commissioner Jennifer Jones Austin, Executive Director Harold Miller and the entire Racial Justice Commission of New York for drafting and promoting [three racial justice ballot initiatives](#). Around 70% of New Yorkers voted to say yes to making New York

a more racially just city. As a Racial Justice Commission Community Partner, ICNY wishes to thank each one of you who pledged and flipped your ballot.

Last Wednesday, ICNY partnered with the JC Flowers Foundation and Exodus Transitional Community for “kNOw Justice Here: The Impact of Gun Violence on the Black and Brown Community.” This was a powerful event that featured Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg and two powerful panels featuring advocates, violence interrupters, impacted community members, youth, academics and faith leaders.

As we continue in the work of anti-gun violence advocacy, we’d like to invite you to join us for **“Building Peace in Parkchester: An Anti-Gun Violence Training and Community Walk.”** The event will take place on **Tuesday, December 6th at 5:30pm at the Parkchester Public Library.**

The Interfaith Center continues to stand in solidarity with individuals impacted by the painful reality of life on Rikers Island. We hold the 18 individuals who have died on Rikers Island this year in our prayers. And as an interfaith community we pray with our hearts and with our feet. We stand with our partners at the [Close Rikers Campaign](#) in calling for the City to “decarcerate, defend, divest and redistribute.” Stay tuned for more ways you can join us in our movement to close Rikers.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Dominique Atchison
Director for Racial Justice Initiatives

Share Your Story!! One of the best ways for us to begin to "do justice and love mercy" is to share our stories and truly listen to the stories of our neighbors. It is in that spirit that we invite you to share your story. What has been your journey of seeking justice as a person of faith in New York City? We'd like to share you story in upcoming ICNY newsletters. Please contact me dominique@interfaithcenter.org for more details.

ICNY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS





Building Peace in Parkchester

An Interfaith Anti-Gun Violence
Training and Community Walk

Tuesday, December 6th at 5:30pm

Parkchester Public Library



ICNY
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NYC Public Safety and Anti-Gun Violence

Building Peace in Parkchester: An Interfaith Anti-Gun Violence Training and Community Walk

Tuesday, December 6: 5:30 PM EST Parkchester Public Library (1985 Westchester Ave, The Bronx, NY 10462)

Join the Interfaith Center, Garden of Gethsemane Ministries and the Buddhist Council of New York for: **Building Peace in Parkchester: An Interfaith Anti-Gun Violence Training and Community Walk**. Hear from faith and community leaders who have dedicated their ministry to the work of peace and ending gun violence. Learn how you can engage in the work of anti-gun violence. This training and community walk is made possible by generous support from Council Member Amanda Farias.

The event will be **IN PERSON** at the Parkchester Public Library. The event is open to the community, all are welcome.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dominique Atchison

Dominique@interfaithcenter.org

Housing Now



FAITH COMMUNITIES' CALL TO ACTION

Thursday, December 15th, 2022

40th Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat

Time: 9am–2pm on zoom | 4pm–6pm in person

Register here: <https://interfaithcenter.org/mmr40/>



40th Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer Retreat for Social Justice

Housing Now: Faith Communities' Call to Action

Thursday, Dec 15: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM on Zoom & 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM in person

Religious and civic leaders are invited to join the **Interfaith Center of New York** and the **Office of New York City Comptroller Brad Lander** for a conference supporting diverse New York faith communities as they address the city's decades-long housing crisis. The community cosponsors for this conference are [Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc.](#), [Interfaith Assembly on Housing and Homelessness](#), [New York State Council of Churches](#) and [Chhaya CDC](#).

For many decades, the New York metropolitan area has suffered from an increasing shortage of affordable housing. The Covid-19 pandemic and the upsurge in migrant arrivals have only increased the need for housing. Market-rate rents in New York City are increasing faster than in any large city in the country, leaving low-income New Yorkers faced with rising rents they cannot afford.

Faith leaders and communities are playing important roles in addressing this crisis. Faith-based organizations and congregations are responding to skyrocketing housing prices with protests and policy proposals, as well as by building new affordable housing and offering temporary housing for those in need. This conference will highlight concrete steps faith leaders can take to address the affordable housing crisis in their local communities and beyond.

The conference will feature a keynote address from [Brad Lander](#), New York City Comptroller. The online conference will be followed by a tour of an affordable housing site and a community conversation at [Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement](#). Please [click here](#) for registration and conference schedule.

The conference is open to all religious and civic leaders. It will be held on Zoom -- **registered participants will receive the Zoom link after registering**. The affordable housing tour and community conversation will begin at **4:00 pm sharp**. Please meet us in front of Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement at [256 West 153rd Street, New York, NY 10039](#).

Questions about the conference? Please contact Hanadi Doleh, ICNY's Director of Community Partnerships, at hanadi@interfaithcenter.org.

[Click Here to Register](#)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



DECEMBER 8TH AT 9AM

STEPS OF CITY HALL

(ENTER AT BROADWAY & MURRAY ST.)



SCAN QR CODE TO RSVP
TO RALLY AND/ OR TESTIFY



bit.ly/fc4h-dec8

FAIR CHANCE FOR HOUSING



NYC Housing Equity

Fair Chance for Housing Rally and City Council Hearing

Thursday, December 8: 9:00 AM EST

Steps of City Hall (Enter at Broadway and Murray Street)

On December 8th, 2022, the New York City Council Committee on Civil and Human Rights will hold a hearing in City Hall on the proposed Fair Chance for Housing Act. Join the Fair Chance for Housing Rally on the steps of City Hall to rally for the Fair Chance for Housing Act! Where attendees will urge that the City pass the Fair Chance for Housing Act to end discrimination against people with conviction records and ensure that everyone has a place to call home.

As you know, the passage of this bill would ensure that a person, no matter their past, has an equal chance at accessing safe and stable homes by making it an unlawful discriminatory practice for housing providers to do criminal background checks, to inquire about arrest or conviction record information, or to deny or take adverse action on the basis of an arrest or conviction record, with very limited exceptions.

[Click Here to Register](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**URBAN
JUSTICE
CENTER**

Mental Health
Project

**The Mental Health Project
wants to interview
people with personal experience
of NYC's mental health and
criminal legal systems**

We are putting together recommendations for reducing the number of people with mental health concerns in NYC jails.

People with lived experience navigating the mental health and criminal legal systems know what needs to be changed. If you have this experience and want to be interviewed for our report, please reach out to Jamala at **(646) 602-5649** or **jwallace@urbanjustice.org**

We are offering a **\$50 gift card** for all participant interviews.

Mental Health in NYC Jails

The Urban Justice Center's *Mental Health Project*

The Mental Health Project wants to interview people with personal experience of NYC's mental health and criminal legal systems.

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If you have this experience and want to be interviewed for our report, please reach out to Jamala at (646) 602-5649 or jwallace@urbanjustice.org. The Urban Justice Center is also offering a \$50 gift card for all participant interviews.

[Click Here to Contact the Urban Justice Center](#)

Join The New 3 R's

Come along and learn in our Workshops teaching
Black History!

Contact: compassion@thenew3rs.org



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AMIRA
Co-Chair



the
new
3RS



Co-Chair
Youth Responsive
Philanthropy Giving Circle

'The New 3 R's is a safe and diverse space for us to discuss America's history & Black history.



Visit



thenew3rs.org
instagram.com/thenew3rs
twitter.com/thenew3rs



Youth Philanthropy: Promoting Racial Justice

When people think of philanthropists they think of Oprah Winfrey or Rockefeller. My friends and I are also philanthropists! We give grants to Black organizations around the world. Join us and stand up for Black lives!

Youth Education Program

The New 3 R's

By using stories of social justice to dismantle racism, The New 3Rs unlocks civic and compassionate leadership at school, at home, and at work. They offer programs and resources to educate and empower children, parents, educators, and workplace leaders through a lens of racial justice and racial awareness.

The New 3Rs, through the arts teaches Pre-K to 12 children, civics, African Diaspora Influences Around the World and the intersectionality of the social justice areas: animal rights, ageism, class, disabilities, environment, famine, gender, health disparities, race and religion. The children co-create a Youth Responsive Philanthropy Giving Circle, with the support of FJC and WISE award grants to the greatest needs nationally and internationally; thus, creating a More Civic and Compassionate Society ... one child at time.

For more information you can visit the website thenew3rs.org or you can email

compassion@thenew3rs.org.

[Click Here to Contact the New 3 R's](#)

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) works to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.

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