

Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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Newsletters

We've got a new look! Learn about the recent educational events through Rethinking Racism, read an update about our immigration program and YES during an uncertain time with DACA, about how recent immigration policy changes are impacting human trafficking survivors and all the ways the winds of change are blowing regarding the death penalty. Click the image below to load the PDF.



Rethinking Racism - Discovering a New World

By Andrea Koverman, SC - Program Manager



Tamaya Dennard, President Pro Tem of Cincinnati City Council presents at Rethinking Racism

The Rethinking Racism team wrapped up a series of events addressing the racist practice of displacing communities of color in the name of progress, inspired by the recent decision to build an FCC stadium in the West End despite objections from that community. 220 participants learned the history of and current context for this unjust racialized development strategy from local leaders and politicians. In the second gathering, participants connected with organizations that can assist them in their own efforts to become less vulnerable to gentrification and unwanted development.

Rethinking Racism plans its next event as the observance of Columbus Day approaches. On October 8th, attendees will participate in

an adapted role play developed by the Zinn Education Project called, "The People vs. Columbus." The experience will highlight the negative impacts of Columbus, recognize wrongs done to the native peoples of the Americas, and honor their culture instead. These aspects include Columbus's role in the extinction of the Taino people, his promotion of slavery and the system of empire that enabled colonization and oppression of Indigenous people.

As we continue to look at the hard truths of our racist practice of claiming the land of people of color both in the history of the establishment of our country and in our current context, we remain committed to working to dismantle institutionalized and systemic racism. A future in which all people are treated justly and equitably is the "New World" we are all longing to discover.

Uncertain But Resolute

By Samantha Searls - Program Manager

For the immigration program, this has been a summer of uncertainty, anticipation and transition. Our YES leaders have stepped up, diligently working to sift through information and news reports to keep its members and the community properly informed.

The fate of DACA currently rests with the resolution of four federal court cases. Three of them have ruled that the government must accept DACA renewals and soon, new applicants. A fourth case, brought by Texas, challenges the other courts and questions the legality of DACA, aiming to end the program permanently. Only time will tell which of these cases will be heard by the Supreme Court, leaving DACA recipients in limbo for several

more months to learn their fate.

Amidst such uncertainty and anticipation, the arrival of Sandra Ramirez, IJPC's new Immigration Program Organizer, was welcomed by all. Daughter of Guatemalan immigrants, Sandra is all too familiar with navigating a complicated, uncertain world.

Growing up, Sandra was bullied because of the language she spoke and the food she brought to school for lunch. Sandra grew up fast; helping her parents navigate a world with limited English skills, witnessing how her parents were mistreated at work, and losing her brother to deportation last year.

Sandra's story is a story of resilience, one that is much needed in this period of uncertainty. With Sandra by their side, expect to see YES lead the community through whatever comes their way.



Sandra Ramirez, IJPC's Immigration Program Organizer

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The Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center educates and advocates for peace, challenges unjust local, national and global systems, and promotes the creation of a nonviolent society. IJPC is supported by faith-based organizations and individuals who work together to educate around justice issues, take collaborative action and do public witness. We address local, national and international concerns focusing on the death penalty, immigration, human trafficking and peace and nonviolence.