VISION
The Judicial Process Commission envisions a society with true justice and equality for all. We understand that in a just society, all institutions will be based on reconciliation and restoration, instead of retribution and violence.

MISSION
The JPC is a grass roots, nonprofit organization that challenges society to create a just nonviolent community which supports the right of all people to reach their fullest potential. We do this by:

• Providing support services for those involved in the criminal justice system
• Educating the public
• Advocating for changes in public policy.

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PAROLEES & PROBATIONERS: EMPLOYMENT, MENTORING & ADVOCACY

A total of approximately 400 parolees or probationers received direct services from JPC. A recent sampling of 168 customers over a 2 month period reveals an estimated 22% working, 10.8% in school, or in treatment, 22.6% are unemployed, 40.5% cannot be located, and 4.1% are in jail. AmeriCorps workers, JPC staff, mentors and students provide reentry support services.

Faith Community Adult Mentoring Project (FCAMP) thanks Rochester Area Community Foundation for a $20,000 grant. The collaborative includes Cephas, faith organizations, and representatives from the criminal justice system. Both mentors and Public Policy Group members are being asked to deepen their involvement. Additional training and support is provided to mentors every Monday night when workshops are offered. JPC is open until 8:00 PM Monday nights so that mentors that work during the day are able to gain the support they need. Funds were donated so that mentors and mentees could enjoy free meals at a local diner.

The Public Policy Group is building support for the pre and post case management proposal. Twenty-nine leaders here have endorsed the report “Gaps In Reentry Services” documenting the need for case management. Interfaith Coalition of Advocates for Reentry and Employment may take the proposal to the New York State legislature in 2007.
Reconciliation Network: Don’t Kill in Our Names (RecNet), in anticipation of the 10th anniversary of the reinstatement of New York’s death penalty on September 1, 2005, organized talks by Malcolm Bell and David Kaczynski, three book reviews at Writers and Books, the play *The Exonerated* at Brockport, an ad which ran at the Little Theater, and the planting of a Peace Tree at Mercy High School. RecNet holds vigils the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Hall of Justice on Exchange Boulevard. We encourage you to join us.

On September 6, 2005, the Court of Appeals, declared that the New York statute was coercive, and therefore unconstitutional, Gov. Pataki immediately asked the legislature to correct the flawed section of the law, that stated that if the jury was not unanimous for either death or life without the possibility of parole, the judge must sentence the offender to 20 to 25 to life with possibility of parole. Jurors, fearing the person might eventually be released, could opt for a death sentence. The Senate immediately passed a revised statute, while the Assembly held a series of five hearings at which 170 people testified. Two prominent committee chairps, Joseph Lentol and Helene Weinstein, who had previously been for the death penalty, changed their views. Speaker Silver refused to bring the bill to the floor for a vote.

After the murder of two police officers, Gov. Pataki again asked the legislature to amend the bill, limiting use of the death penalty for the killing of law enforcement officers and prison guards. No changes were recommended to correct the other defects in the statute which might render it unconstitutional, such as geographic and racial disparities in its application, the method of execution, or allowing innocent people to be sentenced to death. For example, three of the seven men sentenced to death in New York State were from Suffolk County which has a low rate of violent crime. A preliminary study in New York found that a person is twice as likely to face a death penalty trial if the victim is white. The question of whether lethal injection is cruel and inhumane is being determined in various states. The U.S. Supreme Court will review Florida’s lethal injection protocol. Nationwide, 123 death row inmates have been exonerated, 15 by DNA evidence. Since Gov. Pataki has drastically reduced funding for the Capital Defenders Office, there is a heightened chance that any new death sentence would be overturned due to ineffective counsel.

RecNet members serve as members of the Board of New Yorkers Against the Death Penalty and give talks on this issue. We urge you to contact your elected representatives to make your views known.
WHAT DIVIDES US WORKSHOP TEAM

The more awareness is spread in our community about diversity the more we are able to understand each other and build a stronger community. The Team used group discussion and two videos from Stir Fry Productions to explore white privilege and sexism with about 65 people. Mentors from the Faith Community Adult Mentoring Project and participants at Restart, Catholic Family Center, attended the free sessions.

Author and poet Genny Lim says this about the videos “the myth of Eden cracks open as its citizens share what it is like to be locked outside the garden. We watched gripped by their raw emotions, honesty and courage. Why is it so hard to hear?”

The videos from Stir Fry Productions are available to all without a fee by calling the JPC office. The Team provides workshops on racism and sexism at no charge.

FUNDING SOURCES

FOUNDATIONS
Rochester Area Community Foundation
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving

GROUPS
AIDS Rochester
Catholic Family Center
The Green Party
Local 381 Family Services
Pershing Securities Group
Rochester Fatherhood Resources Initiative

FAITH ORGANIZATIONS
American Baptist Churches/USA
Lake Avenue Memorial Baptist Church
Public Christian Mission of the Rochester Genesee Region

Presbytery of Genesee Valley
Bethany Presbyterian Church
Downtown United Presbyterian Church
Summerville Presbyterian Church

Roman Catholic
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rochester
Church of the Assumption
Resurrection
Sisters of Mercy
Sisters of St. Francis
Sisters of St. Joseph

Genesee Valley Association of the United Church of Christ
Irondequoit
Mountain Rise

Other Faith Organizations
First Unitarian Church
The Interfaith Alliance of Rochester
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Spiritus Christi
Temple Sinai

OTHER SOURCES
Individuals & Honoraria
**Justicia** newsletter 3,500
Reentry services 400
Youth Job Readiness & Life Skills Training - 12
Jail and prison correspondence 400
Presentations- 350
  Rochester Psychiatric Center, School Without
  Walls, Nazareth & Mercy HS, U of R
  Mountian Rise, Baber AME Church, Best
  Program, Rochester Works, Unity Health
  Employment Unit/MCDHS
What Divides Us Workshop 65
Active Mentors 24
Trained Mentors 60
Total 4,811

**2005 - 2006 COMMISSION MEMBERS**
Yolanda Asamoah-Wade, Chairperson  
Harry Murray  
Mary Boite  
Clare Regan  
Joyce Clark (2005)  
Jack Bradigan Spula, *Justicia* Editor  
Vivian Cook Johnson (2005)  
Fred Schaeffer  
Laurie Hamlin, Treasurer  
Mary Sullivan, RSM  
Robert H. Jones, MD  
Jacquie Whitfield (2005)  
Gail Mott, Secretary  
Louise Wu Richards

**STUDENTS**
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Tabitha Barber, AmeriCorps  
Janice Boyd, Monroe Community College  
Todd Brady, Consultant  
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James Caldwell, Mentor Coordinator  
Terasa Harris, Monroe Community College  
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Tamara Kendrick, Intern  
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Greg Latta, Intern  
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Kenneth Lewis, Monroe Community College  
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