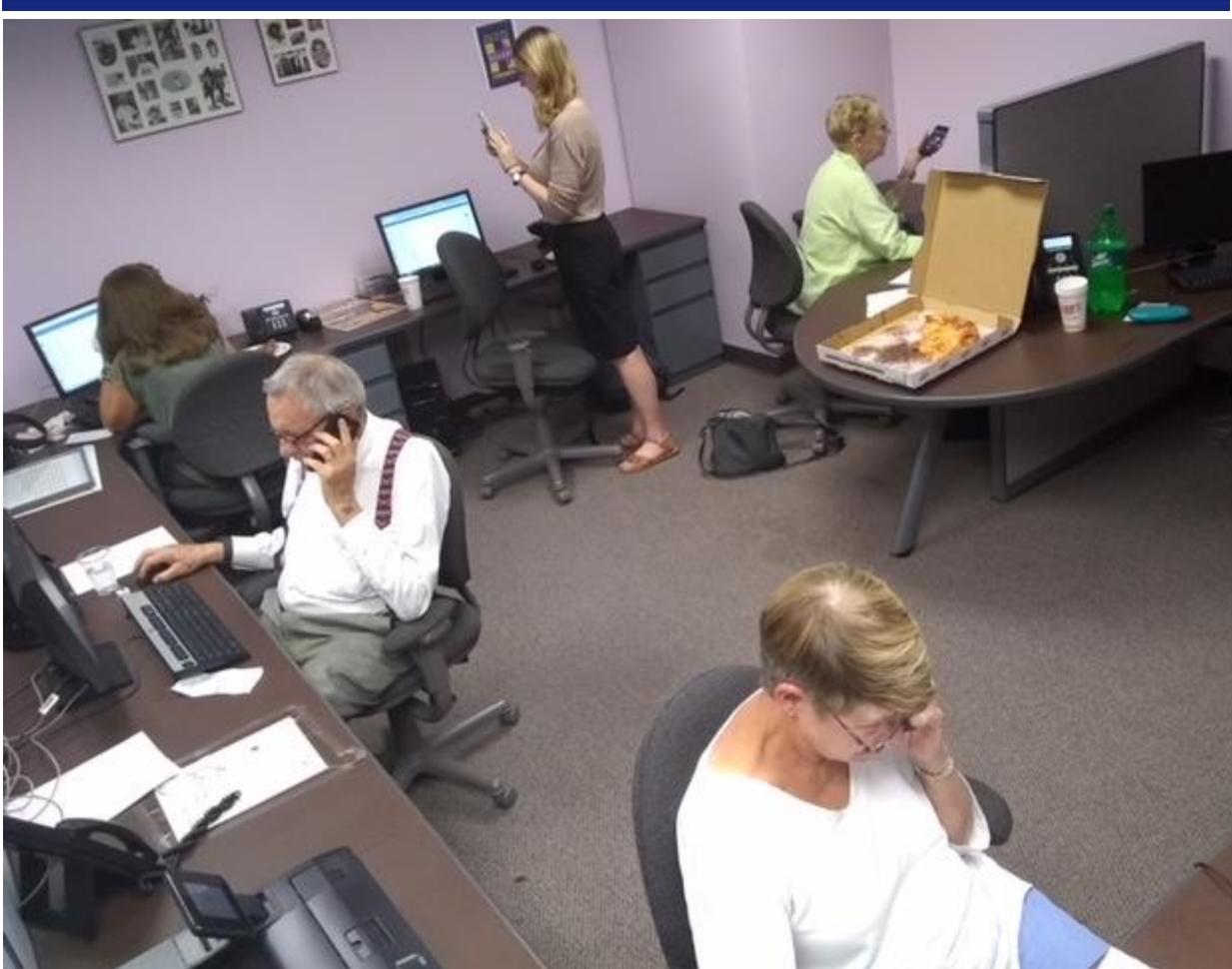




RocACTS



Criminal Justice Task Force

Solitary Confinement is one of the most egregious punishments we inflict on individuals to date that is fully legal under New York State law and it disproportionately affects people of color. The United Nations in their [report](#) on solitary confinement considered any solitary confinement that lasted more than 15 days to be torture - and yet in New York State prisons there are people who have spent the last 17 years in constant isolation.

This practice has not proven effective at rehabilitating people and from many accounts has caused mental deterioration, suicide, and paranoia in inmates. Countries without solitary confinement boast low rates of recidivism and focus their attention on rehabilitating inmates with an aim towards teaching them empathy, forgiveness and how to manage a work/life balance so they are released as productive and capable members of society - with social programs that help with re-entry that are implemented at the beginning of their incarceration and continue through their release.

This week Roc/ACTS held a phonebank to support ending the use of Solitary Confinement and visited State Senator Joe Robach's staff to share stories of affected people and encourage his office to review legislation around this issue. A huge thanks to those who participated!

Next Meeting: [Our Criminal Justice Task Force meets every 2nd Monday, at the Sufi Center, 494 East Ave. at 6:00 pm.](#)



Education Task Force

Childcare has gained media attraction in recent months as parents are faced with impossible decisions as hundreds of centers close - leaving parents with no childcare options. [One recent article](#) about two parents facing arrest for leaving their young children, 6 and 8, to take care of their one month old at the mall while they went to their jobs, in the same mall, just feet away, strikes at the heart of how unfair a system we live in that even a family with income from both parents cannot afford childcare for their children. When you consider the hundreds of thousands of single income families trying to pay for childcare, it becomes clear that we do not have a family centered system built on helping parents keep their jobs and take care of their children.

Affordably quality childcare would have allowed these parents to go to work and given their children a safe and positive learning environment in the process. As [centers close at shocking rates](#) it is more important than ever that we continue to push for increased subsidies and common sense reform to our subsidy system that would allow all people to have access to quality childcare at little to no cost.



Sacred Conversations

Our issue campaigns are all addressing issues of racial and economic equity. We continue to focus on deepening our consciousness about the ways our society reproduces white supremacy and the impact it has on ourselves. If your congregation would like to participate in a Sacred Conversation on Race + ACTION please [contact Wilma Campbell](#)



Structural Racism

As an organization that does not want to perpetuate Structural Racism by ignoring racism within Roc/ACTS, we are working internally to address racism by looking at and changing our policies, practices and procedures. Our Structural Racism committee is looking at the ways that Roc/ACTS can address our own structural racism and implement best practices within - while our Task Forces address Structural Racism in Rochester and Monroe County.

Member Congregations/Organizations Announcements

Juneteenth: Speak to Council, Police Accountability Board

Please join our Alliance in Speak to Council June 19th about Police Accountability in Rochester. If you are interested in speaking directly to council you must call to reserve a space: (585) 428-7421.

Whether or not you're able to get on the list, please come to support: **30 Church St. 6:30 pm.**