

## Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation – October 2012 Update

“And, what do you think, my dear Sisters (and Associates)? – St. Vincent de Paul

**Celebrate! Spread the good news! Pray!**



**October 18 Creativity for Peace** cosponsored event with CMSV and SC PJIC Office. Students from Dr. Kristin Lawler’s Sociology Class, Riverdale residents, Sisters Wilda Asfour, Rose Bianco, Theresa Capria and others were present. Rula, a Palestinian living in Israel, Adi, a Israeli Jew and Diana, a Palestinian Arab, (between Wilda and Rose) shared their stories and reminded us that

minds and hearts are opened in the listening to the stories – our own and others. Sisters Eileen Storey and Elizabeth Earley were there in spirit.

**Chairs of four Threshold Groups met on Wednesday, October 17:** Srs. Regina Murphy and Mary Donagher (Global Poverty); Sr. Mary Ellen O’Boyle (Human Trafficking); Sr. Eileen Judge (Immigration); and Sr. Carol DeAngelo (Creation’s Transformative Energy). CTE co-chair, Sr. Claire Regan, was unable to be on a phone conference. Sr. Jane had asked Carol through the PJIC Office to gather these chairs because of similarities. We all agreed to continue the conversation as we identify commonalities and seek ways to collaborate and integrate.

**Sr. Caroljean Willie, our NGO representative at the United Nations, has offered four ways to connect the global and the local:**

- ❖ **Resource Person** – Cj is available; let her know how she can help!
- ❖ **Issues that SCNY are interested in** – Cj requested a list of issues so she can make connections. Assembly 2011 and the Threshold Groups give a good idea of issues SCNY are committed to, so Carol emailed Cj names of our Threshold Groups and contact information of chairs.
- ❖ **Best Practices** here in New York area – Cj wants to know of best practices. She would interview those involved and bring best practice to the UN to share it globally.

- ❖ **Eradication of Poverty Questionnaire** – Carol sent information to several ministries asking if they would fill out a questionnaire. Results will be compiled into a report for the Human Rights Council for June 2013. The theme of the report is “The human rights approach to participation of persons living in poverty in decisions that affect their lives.”

**Hub Café Conversations** – Four colleagues, passionate about faith, peace, justice and environment met at Le Gras on October 11. They are interested in gathering periodically to deepen their spirituality and offer support to each other. If interested, contact Sr. Carol.

**Interested joining a Muslim-Jewish-Catholic Women’s Group?** Coordinated by the Interfaith Center of New York, the group meets monthly in the NYC area. Members share their personal faith journey, religious beliefs and seek to find common ground. Topics we have explored are: forgiveness, faith beliefs, traditions and practices. Membership is flexible. Sisters Carol and Julie Cutter, DC, Executive Director of Federation, are members.

**November Conversations at Retirement Houses** – During November, there will be an opportunity for those sisters interested in meeting with Carol to discuss their questions, input and ideas on how they see the Office and ministries of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation.

**Recent events we, Sisters/Associates/Colleagues and Congregation, participated in:**

- ❖ **A Fair and Reasonable Budget** – Over 20 Sisters of Charity, Associates and colleagues of SCNY joined with approximately 150 – 200 other people in the September 24, 2012 Nuns on the Ferry event that publicized and called for a fair and reasonable budget that would provide a safety net for those on the margin. For more information, especially as we prepare to vote in November, some websites that may be helpful are: [www.faithfulbudget.org](http://www.faithfulbudget.org); [www.commongood2012.org](http://www.commongood2012.org); google and read “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”, a document of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- ❖ **Leadership of the Whole and Moving Towards The Common Good** – Thank you to Sister Simone Campbell, Executive Director of Network, to the SCNY Leadership Team and all those who planned and participated in the October 13 Congregation Day. Simone’s question “What breaks my/our hearts?”; her insights on subsidiarity, solidarity and collaboration; her explanation of critical national issues, especially of the growing economic inequality in the USA, broadened and deepened my understanding of the work of peace, justice and integrity of creation.

*Carol DeAngelo, October 23, 2012*