

## SCNY Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation Update – October 2015

*As we read about some of the issues and activities Sisters of Charity of New York and their colleagues addressed and were involved in this month, may our awareness lead us to take one action. No step is too small. Consider prayer, a visit to a website to learn more, a conversation with a friend or colleague on root causes, reaching out to hear another's story, a letter or call to a legislator on an issue that you care about.*



**Sisters of Charity of New York advocate for 35,000 Supportive Housing Units in NYS:** Sisters of Charity of New York involvement in homelessness and housing takes many forms. On October 23<sup>rd</sup> Sister Carol De Angelo joined with LEFSA, Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing and other coalitions working to end homelessness at the Campaign 4 NY / NY Housing Rally at the NYC Ethical Cultural Society.

About 500 people gathered to hear the testimony of homeless people seeking permanent housing, of NYS legislators supporting the campaign, of faith leaders speaking on behalf of people they know. Thanks to the collaboration of many groups, this movement to end housing is working for systemic change and WE ARE PART OF IT. In addition to SCNY and LEFSA, Fox House, St. Joseph's Medical Center, St. Vincent's-Harrison, and NY Foundling have signed on to the campaign. It was inspiring to be with this diverse group of people and a privilege to work with them. Marc Greenburg, Executive Director of IAHH, stands in back of seven LEFSA team members and volunteers.

**Task Forces need volunteers to advocate via email and phone calls! Responding to Advocacy Alerts is one way to use our citizen power, change structures and policy, and strengthen democracy. Consider being an Advocacy Alert Volunteer!** To volunteer or to get computer help, contact Sr. Carol De Angelo. Contact Task Force chairs for information on issues that are being addressed in the Task Forces:

**Global Poverty** - Sisters Mary Donagher and Regina Murphy

**Immigration** - Sr. Eileen Judge

**Stop Trafficking** - Sr. Mary Ellen O'Boyle

**Creation's Transformative Energy** - Sisters Carol De Angelo and Claire Regan



Figure 1 [www.franciscanaction.org](http://www.franciscanaction.org)

**The NY-GCCM (NY Global Catholic Climate Movement) Group**

and representatives of New York Archdiocese Catholic Charities met to explore ways to communicate and collaborate on education and implications of Laudato Si'. Sr. Carol is a member of the NY-GCCM group which networks with and shares information on the many events and activities happening around Laudato Si'.

**Reforming the Energy Vision (REV)**

New York State Public Commission has held hearings throughout New York State to update NYS residents on the progress of REV.

Major Changes are planned to update the energy grid and

how residents will receive electricity. The current electrical grid is old and wastes energy. Environmental groups and concerned citizens are advocating for clean safe renewable energy to be a major part of the electrical grid. Sr. Carol attended a hearing and submitted a statement urging that the Commissioners commit to a vision, plan and accountability steps that has NYS 100% carbon free by 2050 and 50% less carbon by 2030 – similar to what Sisters of Charity of New York and others have committed to by signing the Paris Pledge (from Interfaith Power and Light).

**Sign the Global Catholic Climate Movement Petition** – put name in search engine; click on petition to go to world leaders at the Paris Climate Summit and sign. LCWR and LCWR Region 2 Social Justice Planning Group are two of many groups recommending this action.

**Faith in Action Food Summit in Bronx.** On October 22 Sr. Carol De Angelo and graduate intern, Mindy Madigan, heard how faith leaders and groups in Bronx are working together with NYC Department of Health to improve health outcomes of Bronx residents. Bronx County ranks 62nd out of 62 NYS counties as worst in health outcomes. One statistic that was given: 50% of children in South Bronx are destined to get diabetes in their lifetime.

**CM SV Networking.** Emily Maturan, graduate intern, is exploring with Campus Ministry a possible People's Climate Pilgrimage (to coincide with Yeb Sano's Pilgrimage from Rome to Paris). Several professors have expressed interest connecting students with the work of PJIC Office and groups we collaborate with. Next semester one of the professors will incorporate the systemic change material on VinFam website in her new course. On November 17th the Model UN Club and PJIC Office will sponsor a symposium, *Global to Local: UN Sustainable Development Goals and Laudato Si' Applied Locally*, 4 pm in Benedicts, Founders Hall.

**Rockland PCMNY (Pax Christi Metro New York) Group** – New members are welcome. Call Sr. Ellen Rose O'Connell at 917-816-6446 for more information.

*Carol De Angelo, Director, SCNY PJIC Office, October 31, 2015*