



Opportunities to Advocate in Your Community!

CAMPAIGN FOR

YOUTH  JUSTICE

BECAUSE THE CONSEQUENCES AREN'T MINOR

Overview



- Brief History of YJAM
- YJAM 2019 – A.C.T. to End Racism
- What You Can Do

2008 - Tracy McClard, in Missouri, organizes a 5k run in memory of her son Jonathan, who had committed suicide in an adult jail...

YJAM - HISTORY



October 26, 2008

1ST ANNUAL 5K RUN

CAMPAIGN FOR

YOUTH JUSTICE

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TOP TEN REASONS TO KEEP KIDS OUT OF ADULT JAILS

- Increased recidivism rate
- Lack of rehabilitation services
- Risk of sexual abuse from adult inmates
- Risk of physical abuse from adult inmates and staff
- Increased risk of anxiety, paranoia, and other mental disorders
- Common 23-hour lock-down and isolation
- Lack of access to mental health services
- Mentoring by hardened criminals
- Lack of educational access
- 36X higher risk of suicide

McClard
& Sons
PIANO TUNING

Cape GLASS & TINTING
573-332-8020

2015 - YJAM proclamation by President Obama ...



NATIONAL YOUTH JUSTICE AWARENESS MONTH, 2015

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

All our Nation's children deserve the chance to fulfill their greatest potential, and nothing should limit the scope of their futures. But all too often, our juvenile and criminal justice systems weigh our young people down so heavily that they cannot reach their piece of the American dream. When that happens, America is deprived of immeasurable possibility. This month, we rededicate ourselves to preventing youth from entering the juvenile and criminal justice systems and recommit to building a country where all our daughters and sons can grow, flourish, and take our Nation to new and greater heights.

Involvement in the justice system—even as a minor, and even if it does not result in a finding of guilt, delinquency, or conviction—can significantly impede a person's ability to pursue a higher education, obtain a loan, find employment, or secure quality housing. Many who become involved in the juvenile justice system have experienced foster care or grown up in environments where violence and drugs were pervasive and opportunities were absent. Some studies have found that many youth in juvenile justice facilities have had a mental or substance use disorder in their young lives. These children are our

2016 - Youth Justice Awareness Month became Youth Justice ACTION Month, to reflect the greater activity and momentum we were generating ...

As of this year **over 100 pieces of legislation** have been passed, in 39 states!



Despite our progress:

- 1:10 incarcerated youth still sleeps in adult jail/facility EVERY NIGHT

And Racial Disparities have either not improved, or gotten worse:

- Black youth make up 14% of youth population and 51% of youth waived to adult court by judges
- Tribal youth are 1.84 times more likely than white youth to receive an adult sentence
- Less than half the states break down youth in adult court by race and/or ethnicity

2019 - This year
the YJAM theme is
A.C.T. to End
Racism ...

- Awaken
- Confront
- Transform

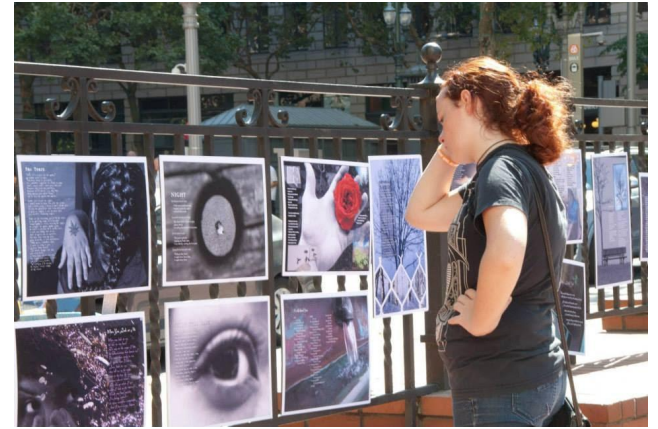


As a centerpiece for this theme, we are promoting screenings of the Netflix film series “***When They See Us***”, which powerfully illustrates the injustices at the nexus of racism and youth justice...

We have created a helpful **Discussion Guide** for each episode of the film available at: cfyj.org/yjam/resources ...



YJAM participants organize all types of events - community discussions, art exhibits, poetry slams, fun runs, etc.



This year, we are organizing several actions for and during YJAM:

- Pledge to A.C.T. to End Racism
- Card design contest
- Oct. 1-15 PREA action
- Oct. 29 JJDPA jail removal Day of Action



Take the Pledge to A.C.T. to End Racism with CFYJ

 Campaign for Youth Justice



I believe that for all children to thrive, I must commit to anti-racism work that involves addressing both internal and external racial and ethnic bias within myself, my community, our institutions, and our collective values.

A.C.T. to End Racism

We invite you to Awaken. Confront. Transform. to End Racism. Join us in advancing a fairer, more just legal system.

 Allow Campaign for Youth Justice to contact me about important future issues

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15% **78 people took action**

<http://cfyj.org/yjam/blog/item/peace-justice-holiday-card-design-contest>

Card design contest - we're asking young people and those who have been impacted by harsh laws that sentence youth to adult time to help design the Campaign for Youth Justice's (CFYJ) annual holiday card encompassing the theme of "*Peace & Justice.*"



Oct. 1-15: PREA Action ...

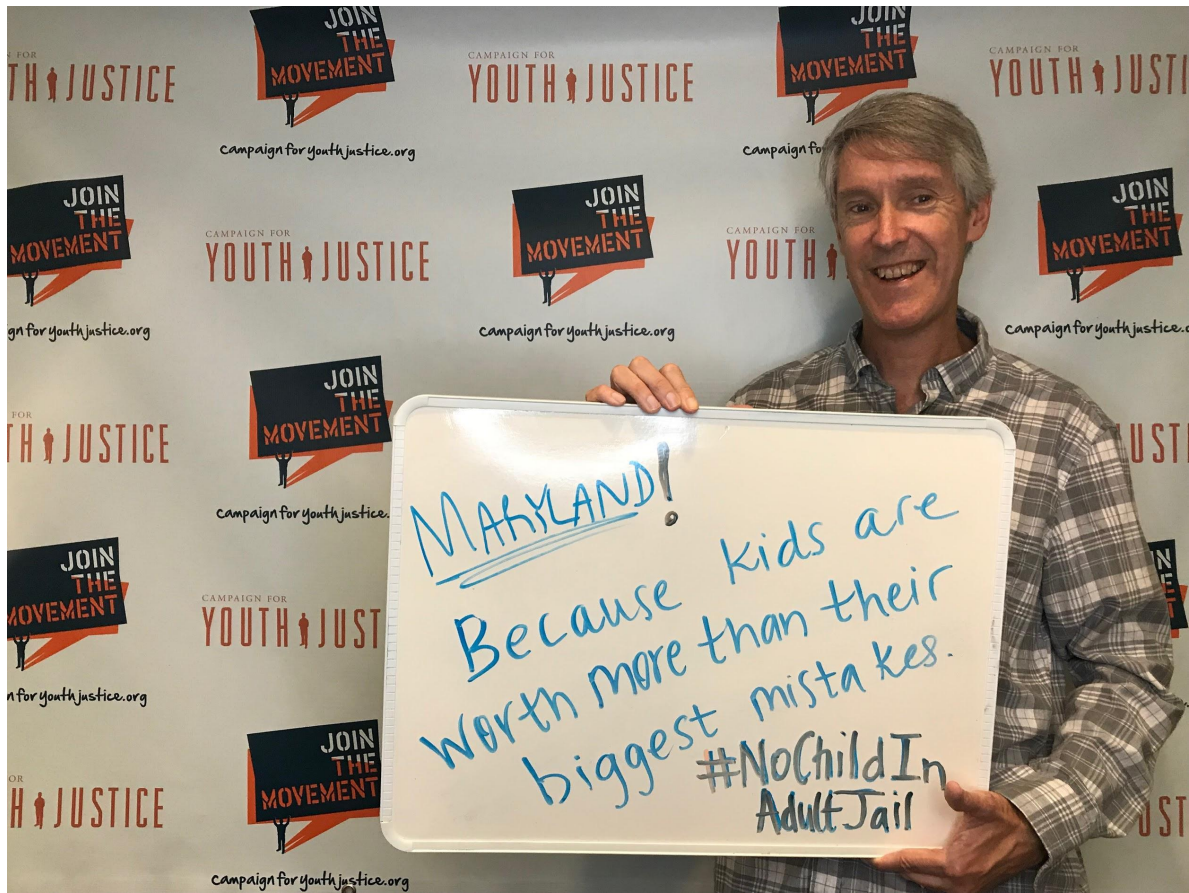
The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) includes a “Youthful Inmate Standard” that requires children under 18 to, at the least, be sight and sound separated from adults.

We will urge folks to **contact their state’s Governor on Twitter**, calling for them to certify their state’s compliance with PREA by October 15th.

Oct. 29 Day of Action: [#NoChildInAdultJail](#)

Federal law will require all children to be out of adult jails by the end of 2021.

On October 29, we will be encouraging everyone to use the hashtag [#NoChildInAdultJail](#) to post a photo or video with the message that their state, city, or county, must remove all children from adult jails.



We will also be producing content each week that you can help us share, including blogs, polls, podcasts, and information about the **over 100 legislative wins** we have had since 2008.

In keeping with our theme, we will focus especially:

During Week 2 (Oct. 7-13): Awaken (Research, Stories & Facts)

During Week 3 (Oct. 14-20): Confront (Tools & Advocacy Strategies)

During Week 4 (Oct. 21-27): Transform (Practices, Policies, Values)

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Sign and Share the **Pledge** to A.C.T. to End Racism
- Participate in the **Card design contest**, the **PREA action**, and the **Oct. 29 Day of Action**
- Participate online using our Social Media Toolkit: <http://bit.ly/2kl5Ydk>
- Host or participate in an **event** (film screening, panel discussion or other community event)
- **Write a blog** for the Campaign for Youth Justice

cfyj.org/yjam/resources

Resources

Event Planning

- [Event Planning Guide](#)
- [YJAM: Strategies on Hosting a Successful YJAM Event](#)
- [YJAM Fundraising](#)

Film Screenings

- [How to Host a Film Screening](#)
- [Childhood Interrupted \(Film | Discussion Guide\)](#)
- [Stickup Kid \(Film | Discussion Questions\)](#)
- [Time: The Kalief Browder Story \(Available on Netflix\)](#)
- [Raised In The System](#)
- [When They See Us](#)

YJAM Resolutions

- [FAQ on YJAM Resolutions & Proclamations](#)
- [Guide to Passing a YJAM Resolution](#)
- [Editable Draft YJAM Resolution](#)

YJAM – WHAT CAN YOU DO?

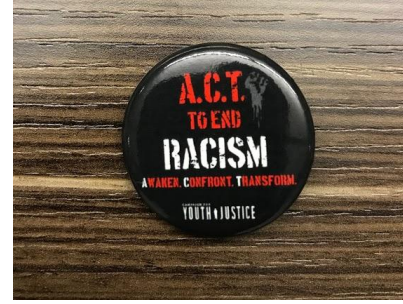
We can provide event organizers with Fact Sheets, support with media outreach, and Swag:



CFYJ wristbands



Join the Movement buttons



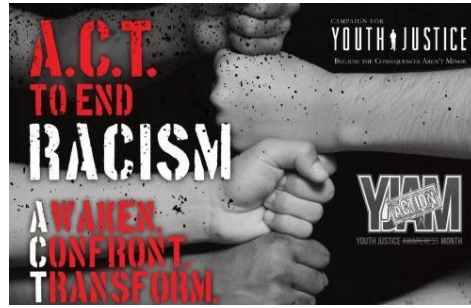
A.C.T. buttons



CFYJ bags



CFYJ webcam covers



YJAM palm-cards

YJAM – WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We also have t-shirts for event organizers who have been impacted by the justice system ...

These shirts were design and printed by impacted young people in Richmond, Virginia ...



YJAM – WHAT CAN YOU DO?

October is Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM)



YJAM 2019 is Coming!

The Campaign for Youth Justice declared October to be National Youth Justice Action Month (YJAM). Since 2009, YJAM has grown every year. YJAM aims to provide people across the country with an opportunity to develop action-oriented events in their communities. We hope to see you in October!

[Sign Up Now](#)

[Read more](#)

Questions

**For more information, answers to questions, etc.,
contact:**

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