

Speaker Bios

Bruce Reilly (FICPM Steering Committee)

Bruce is a member of Direct Action for Rights & Equality since the inception of its Behind the Walls prison committee in 1999, a writer for www.Unprison.com, and currently serving as the Interim Coordinator for the Criminal Justice Funders & Activists Network. He is beginning Tulane Law School in August.

Tina Reynolds (WORTH)

Tina is Co-Founder and Chair of Women on the Rise Telling HerStory. WORTH is an association of empowered formerly and currently incarcerated women. Through mutual support, leadership development, organizing and storytelling, WORTH transforms the lives of women who have been directly impacted by incarceration, on a personal and policy level. Reynolds has received a Master in Social Work from Hunter College. She is currently an adjunct professor at York, CUNY.

Joseph Jazz Hayden

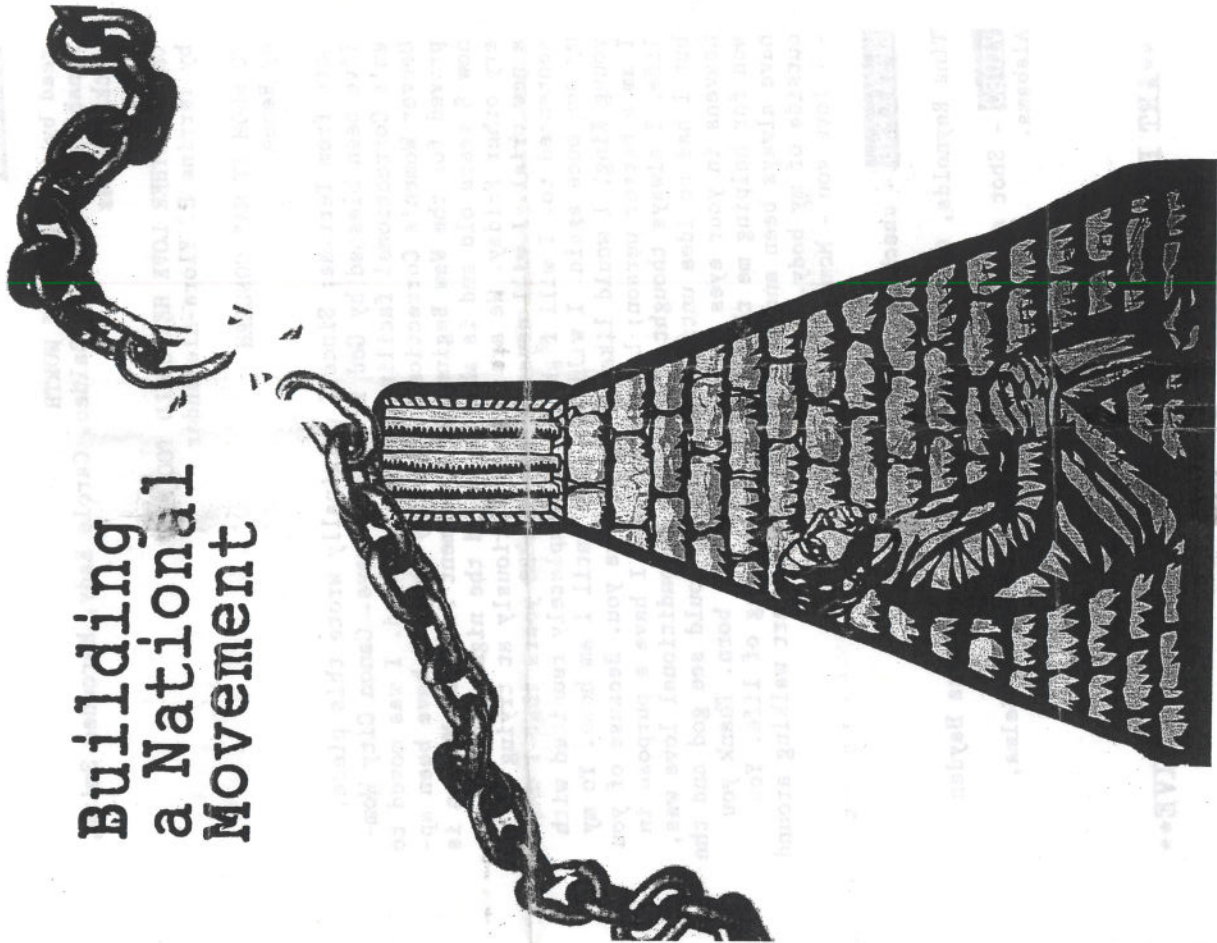
Mr. Hayden was born and raised in Harlem, NY. He received a bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from SUNY, New Paltz, and a Master's Degree in Professional Studies from the New York Theological Seminary. He is considered to be, among prisoners and advocates, one of the leading experts on the issue in New York State. Still Here Harlem Productions Inc., a new media company, is the brainchild of Mr. Hayden. Mr. Hayden is presently working with the Riverside Church Prison Ministry to organize a national movement to end the New Jim Crow.

Gabriel Sayegh

Gabriel directs the New York office of the Drug Policy Alliance. The office brings together community organizing groups, human service agencies, and researchers to advance drug policies which are guided by science, compassion, health and human rights. Recent successes in New York include expanding access to syringes to reduce the transmission of blood borne illnesses and real reform of the Rockefeller Drug Laws. He lives in Crown Heights, Brooklyn.

the FORMERLY INCARCERATED and CONVICTED PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

Building a National Movement



PROGRAM:

WELCOME.....Dinah Adames (WORTH)

READINGS

read by the women of WORTH
Dinah Adames, Devika Baldeo, Carole Eady, Mercedes Smith,
Jackie Velez

CAN A MOTHER LOVE HER CHILD TOO MUCH
by Terrina E. Flora-Alexander

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
by Renee

note from Terrina: Since I originally wrote this piece, I've been blessed by God in so many ways. Canon City Women's Correctional facility has been closed. I was moved to Denver Women's Correctional Facility where I have been approved for the New Beginnings Apartment Program. My son is now 8 years old and is able to spend the night with me every other Friday. We are working furiously at trying to get a new trial. I will never accept the 28 years that I was sentenced to. I will fight to be completely reunited with my son once again. I will not stop until I am home. To my young King, I would like to say I love you. Because of you I am a better person; because of you, I have a purpose in life. I always thought I knew what unconditional love was, but I had no idea until I held you. I could see god and the heavens in your eyes the moment you were born. Thank you son for helping me to see the true meaning of life. You have always been and will always be my heart walking around outside of my body.
- I love you - Momma

SPEAKERS - check out bios for more info

Tina Reynolds, Gabriel Sayegh, Bruce Reilly, Jazz Hayden

VIDEO - Shot at the FICPM inaugural meeting in Selma, Alabama.

****ART DONATED BY THE JUST SEEDS COLLECTIVE****
www.justseeds.org

FORMERLY INCARCERATED AND CONVICTED PEOPLES MOVEMENT

Answering a Clarion Call

The FICPM represents the answer to a clarion call. This is a call that speaks to us in our own voice; clear, loud and urgent. A voice that speaks to our identity and emanates from the soul, ringing true both in the head and the heart. Our objective is a collective one, continuing in that vein, as we gathered fifty people from across the nation to engage in a conversation about the need to build a Formerly Incarcerated and Convicted People's Movement. We understand and declare very clearly: the criminal justice system does NOT work. It is no more than a destructive force in our communities now and for future generations.

At our inaugural meetings in Selma and Montgomery Alabama, fifty formerly incarcerated and convicted organizers came with a dedication and commitment stating that this was our time. We were not deterred by our inability to raise the entire budget to fly, feed and house people in Alabama for three days, nor were the few dozen supporters who found their own means to be present for this historic moment. As activists, we have been to our share of conferences and rallies, yet before many of us left our homes, we knew this invitation was different. We recognize that now is the time.

Special thanks: Deborah Gray, Vikki Law, Molly Fair, Kevin Caplicki, Lindsey Schneider, Michael (LaunchPad)