

Restorative Justice UUAA Annual Report (May 2021)

Restorative Justice UUAA (RJUUAA) has 17 members from our congregation and we meet every 4th Wednesday of the month.

Highlights of the past year:

- Continued our support for the women at the Huron Valley Correctional Facility by sending books and materials for their wellbeing and reflection and by engaging mentors from our congregation and beyond to write to the women during this very challenging time.
- Discussed the potential for joining with Prison Books for a coordinated effort to get materials into the prisons.
- Offered a Congregational Life meeting with Quianadenae with approximately 15 participants to present the goals and mission of our role in the congregation.
- Established an institutional membership of the National Association of Community and Restorative Justice (NACRJ) which included five memberships. Two of us are individual members. <https://nacri.org/>
- Through NACRJ, RJAA applied for a mini grant of \$4,500 to support returning citizens (formerly incarcerated) to participate in the restorative justice training offered through the Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) in the spring and fall. The grant supports stipends for 10 participants and support for the DRC training
- April 23, RJUUAA organized (co-sponsored with MUUSJIN) a panel discussion of the film, "Prison Within" . The panel includes director, producer and returning citizens involved in the making of the film. Viewing of the film is possible via <https://theprisonwithin.org/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=78c49de7-4a7d-4550-b7f2-6df4213756ae>
- May/June RJUUAA will sponsor a book discussion on Reuben Miller's (former UM social work professor, currently Univ. of Chicago) book, *Halfway Home*.
- Established a realm presence

Submitted: Co Chairs, Kathy Friedrichs and Carolyn Madden