

MONITORING

The CA is one of only two organizations with a legislative mandate to monitor conditions inside prison walls. **By conducting regular prison monitoring visits** of NY state prisons, and using interviews, surveys, and data collection, we are able to gather critical information about the true conditions behind bars. Our findings are then reported to policymakers and the public to shed light on the problems and to promote effective and humane practices.

RESEARCH

The CA's prison monitoring reports **expose prison conditions**. This allows us to expertly inform, and often spearhead, efforts leading to significant **criminal justice policy reforms**, among them banning the shackling of incarcerated pregnant women; requiring the Department of Health to monitor HIV and hepatitis C care in New York State prisons and jails; and prohibiting the placement of those with severe mental illness in solitary confinement.

POLICY

In conjunction with our regular monitoring visits, the CA conducts intensive investigations of key, system-wide corrections issues and **issues reports** on our findings. Our **in-depth research** enables us to draw attention to needed changes and effectively **address broad policies and practices**—such as medical and mental healthcare for people in prison; the impact of long-term isolation on individuals in disciplinary confinement; and substance abuse treatment services in prison.

CANY CHANGE MODEL



ADVOCACY

The CA uses legislative, editorial, grassroots, and international human rights advocacy to advance our policy agenda for systemic, lasting and progressive change. These strategies are key elements of our campaigns: **Raise the Age** of criminal responsibility; **End Violence and Abuse** by prison guards and hold them accountable; **End Solitary Confinement** for all; provide **quality health care** in prison that meets community standards; and utilize diversion programs for **incarcerated survivors of domestic violence** instead of prison.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Currently and formerly incarcerated people, as well as youth, should and must be active participants and leaders in the **fight to change** the criminal justice policies that directly affect their lives. The CA's three leadership development programs - **ReConnect, Safe Passages, and the Advisory Board** - all offer training, tools, encouragement, support, and opportunities to strengthen their ability to be effective advocates for themselves and for broader change.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PUBLIC EDUCATION

The CA **informs and actively engages** the vast community of people who are directly affected and their families, allies, elected officials and policymakers, human rights defenders, artists, activists, and people of good conscience who believe in social justice. Through our coalitions, networks, panels, conferences, trainings, digital communications, publications, and social media outreach, we consistently expand our reach to the world we need to **make the change we want to see**.