NEW YORKERS UNITED FOR JUSTICE

New Yorkers United for Justice (NYUJ) is a diverse nonprofit advocacy coalition comprised of local and national groups led by two formerly incarcerated New Yorkers. NYUJ’s mission is to educate and empower New Yorkers to advance criminal justice reform, decarcerate, and end structural racism in the criminal justice system, while simultaneously enhancing public safety.

REFORM ISSUES

To reach NYUJ’s shared goal of criminal justice reform in the State of New York through urgent, mass decarceration, NYUJ supports action to address the following categories:

- Pretrial Reform
  - Prompt Access to Counsel
  - Elimination of Cash Bail/Reform of the overall Bail Process
  - Discovery Reform
  - Enforcement of the Right to a Speedy Trial
- Reforming Civil Asset Forfeiture
- Expungement of Low-Level Drug Offenses, Including Marijuana Sentences
- Probation and Parole Reform
- Robust use of Executive Clemency
- Reducing the Collateral Consequences of Arrest and Conviction

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Any policy that NYUJ supports should meet, or have been demonstrated to meet, the following criteria:

1. Has the most impact on achieving our mission of decarcerating and ending structural racism in the justice system.

2. Meets NYUJ's goal of significant overall decarceration, by:
   a. Breaking pathways to prison and jail: eliminating the ways that New Yorkers become unnecessarily incarcerated and supervised; or
   b. Drawing down New York's currently incarcerated and supervised population, through effective and humane means that minimize reliance upon incarceration to the maximum extent possible consistent with public safety; or
   c. Immediately addressing the recidivism crisis by transforming community supervision and post-incarceration conditions.

3. Avoids exclusion from reform broad categories of people based on conviction type, race, gender, socio-economic status, immigration status or any other inappropriate classification.

4. Utilizes the experiences of directly impacted people and communities to develop policy and strategy.