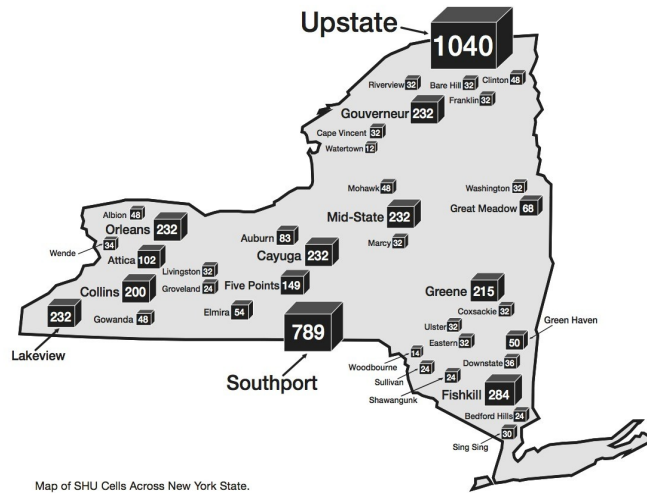


The goal of the Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement (CAIC) is sweeping reform of New York's use of solitary confinement and other forms of extreme isolation in state prisons and local jails.

People in isolated confinement are restricted to their cells for 22 to 24 hours a day without meaningful human contact, programming, or therapy. This practice is ineffective, counterproductive, unsafe, and inhumane. People detained in these conditions deteriorate psychologically, physically, and socially. Despite these facts, New York utilizes isolated confinement at rates well above the national average.

CAIC brings together advocates, formerly incarcerated persons, family members of currently incarcerated people, concerned community members, lawyers, and individuals in the human rights, health, and faith communities throughout New York State. We invite individuals and organizations to join CAIC's ongoing efforts.

Map of Extreme Isolation Beds Across New York State



Map of SHU Cells Across New York State.

*DOCCS Daily Population Capacity Report - 06/11/12, obtained through FOIL and on file with the NYCLU.

For more information on the Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement, visit our website at www.nycaic.org.

To join the Campaign, subscribe to our listserv by emailing ny_caic-subscribe@lists.riseup.net. All are welcome!

To share your stories and the stories of your loved ones in solitary, send an email to: MySHUExperience@gmail.com OR write to Desiray Smith and Donna Currao at PO Box 908, Roosevelt, NY 11575.



@NYCAIC



NEW YORK CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ISOLATED CONFINEMENT

N. Y. C. A. I. C.

CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ISOLATED CONFINEMENT

in New York's Prisons and Jails



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE CHANGE ...

People in solitary confinement are buried deep in the prison system, out of sight of the public. CAIC believes that telling their stories is one of the first steps toward change. Send your stories to Desiray Smith and Donna Currao at: MySHUExperience@gmail.com or PO Box 908, Roosevelt, NY, 11575.



Principles of CAIC:

- I. New York must adopt clear and objective criteria to ensure the limited and legitimate uses of separation, such as a last-resort response to a designated level of imminent violence or threats to safety and security.
- II. New York must dramatically reduce the length of time anyone spends separated.
- III. New York must automatically exclude certain vulnerable people from isolated confinement, including young people and people with significant physical, mental, and cognitive disabilities.
- IV. New York must fundamentally transform the nature of any separation of incarcerated persons, provide intensive therapeutic responses to problematic behavior, treat all incarcerated persons with humanity and dignity, offer meaningful human interaction for those separated, and make available individualized treatment and meaningful programming when people are separated.
- V. New York must provide all incarcerated persons with an effective mechanism for obtaining transfer from separation to the general prison population and provide meaningful support to help people transition back into the general population and our communities.
- VI. New York must enhance transparency, fairness, and accountability in the operation of any form of separation and in the procedures that result in people being separated.

NEW YORK CAMPAIGN FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ISOLATED CONFINEMENT

“MY NAME IS DESIRAY SMITH. MY FIANCE HAS BEEN IN THE BOX 10 YEARS AND COUNTING. HAVE YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER EVER BEEN A VICTIM OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT? LET YOUR STORY BE HEARD AND HELP THOUSANDS LIKE YOU.”

WWW.NYCAIC.ORG

“HI, MY NAME IS DONNA CURRAO.

“First and foremost...I'd like to thank you so much for your interest in our campaign. I'm passionate about this cause for many reasons. I initially got involved because my husband has been incarcerated for over 16 years and has been in solitary confinement for over 2 years and still has another 4 years left of solitary to do before he is released back into population.

“I've personally seen the struggles, the depression, the anxiety, the mental illness, and the severe effects of what solitary confinement did not only to my husband, but to the many others who don't have a voice or family to fight for them. So I'm here to be a voice for our loved ones who don't have the support because they have been forgotten. Their stories, feelings, raw emotions, and very lives are at the core of our movement. I would like to help make a difference in their lives so that they may come into society and start out the best they can be.

“I hope you'll join us as family members or friends and help us to fight this worthy cause. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, by telling us your stories and having your loved ones share their stories as well, to give a voice to this cause. The impact in this movement will come from the family members and loved ones of the incarcerated. I want to put a face to this serious injustice to our families. Please contact us!”

“EXTREME ISOLATION IS TORTURE... Solitary confinement hurts the family structure in many ways. By uniting family members, lawyers, non-profits, and religious groups, we are on the frontline of change in New York State to abolish the inhumane conditions of extreme isolation. I returned from years in solitary while in NYS DOCCS. It will take us, the people, to make the change for those we love who need our help.”

— FIVE MUALIMMAK, formerly incarcerated