

**Report of the
CNY Solidarity Coalition
Coordinating Committee
For Period
January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**

CNY Solidarity Coalition
Year in Review
2024

This past year was filled with significant events and challenges for the progressive Central New York Community. CNY Solidarity played an important role in disseminating information through our newsletter and social media and participating in activities that addressed these challenges.

Here are a few of them in no particular order:

1. National and International issues – CNY Solidarity joined with other Indivisible groups in upstate New York to work to elect Democrats to local, state and Federal offices. We supported peace efforts and demonstrations related to the war in Gaza.

2. New York State Issues
As a member of NY Renews, CNY Solidarity continued to support efforts to pass critical legislation (e.g. NY Heat Act) to meet the goals of NY’s groundbreaking Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), fight against new nuclear reactors in NY, and supported the *Invest in Our New York* (IONY) project to reduce income inequity in NY.

3. Local Issues
 - a. Micron -The coming of Micron to CNY raised serious issues not only related to its impact on the area environment but on virtually every aspect of CNY life, including transportation, housing, and job equity. CNY Solidarity helped form a new coalition of environmental and sustainability organizations (SustainCNY) and partnered with a local and national organizations along with a labor union to advocate for good jobs that will provide family-sustaining wages and safe working conditions
 - b. Citizen Review Board - We supported efforts to prevent the take-over of the Citizen’s Review Board by the Common Council
 - c. Lead in Water – We supported the community’s demand for more investigation and transparency around the issue of lead in our drinking water

4. Directory project – We are working to update and improve the Directory page on our website

Section 1 Meetings and Events

CNY Solidarity Meetings 2024		
Date	Location	Topic
1/14/24	Zoom	Annual Meeting
2/11/24	In-Person	New York State's People's Climate Justice Budget
2/25/24	Zoom	Invest in Our New York
3/10/24	In-Person	Reports from affiliate organizations
3/24/24	In-Person	Onondaga Earth Corps; Micron
4/21/24	Zoom	Election 2024: Save Democracy: Defeat MAGA (Sarah Reeske)
5/5/24	In-Person	Discussion: Priorities for 2024
5/17/24	In-Person	NY22 Primary Candidate Forum
6/23/24	In-Person	Planning actions for November elections
8/11/24	In-Person	ERA Update; Stop Project 2025; Postcard writing
9/29/24	In-Person	Election action: Postcard writing; Committee updates
10/13/24	In-Person	Micron update
11/16/24	In-Person	Election Reflection
12/2/24	Zoom	Election: Where do we go from here; Committee breakouts

CNY Solidarity Events 2024		
Date	Role	Event
5/11/24	Co-Sponsor & Participant	Stop the Slumlords: Safe Housing for All Rally and March
7/25/24	Participant	Syracuse Arts and Crafts Festival (Shared SPC booth)
9/5/24	Co-Sponsor & Participant	Anti-Nuclear Demonstration at NY Energy Conference
9/22/24	Participant	Westcott St Fair
9/23/24	Co-Sponsor & Participant	Indigenous Peoples' Day Festival
10/1/24	Co-Sponsor & Participant	CNY Good Jobs Town Hall
12/7/24	Participant	Plowshares

Section 2 Organizational Affiliations

Primary CNY Solidarity Organizational Affiliations			
Organization Name	Relationship	Website	Facebook Page
Syracuse Cultural Workers	Supporter	https://syracuseculturalworkers.com/	SyracuseCulturalWorkers/
Syracuse Peace Council	Supporter	https://peacecouncil.net/	Syracusepeacecouncil1936/
Urban Jobs Task Force of Syracuse (UJTFS)	Member; Advisor to BOD	https://ujtfs.org	Syracuseurbanjobs/
Workers Center	Supporter	https://www.workerscny.org/	WorkersCNY/
Central New York Labor Federation	Supporter	https://cnylabor.org	CNYLabor/
Other Organizational Affiliations			
Alliance for Green Economy (AGREE)	Supporter	https://www.allianceforagreenconomy.org/	AGREENewyork/
GreeningUSA	Member; Advisor to BOD	https://greeningusa.org/	GreeningUSA/
New York Civil Liberties Union – Central NY Regional Office	Supporter	https://www.nyclu.org/about/regional-offices/central-new-york	
NY Renews	Member	https://www.nyrenews.org/	NYRenews/
Syracuse Immigrant and Refugee Defense Network	Supporter		SyracuseIRDN/
SustainCNY	Member	Under construction	

Section 3 Ongoing Projects

1. The Directory Project

Since 2017, there has been a Directory of Organizations on the CNY Solidarity website. It is found under the Resources main menu on the home page. (<https://cnysolidarity.org/directory>)



The purpose of the directory is to provide to the CNY community resources that advocate for or provide services to individuals with special needs and disadvantaged communities in Central New York. We do not endorse individual organizations on the list. We are presenting the list as a public service based on the stated missions and goals of the organizations listed.

The original list contained 84 entries, and it had not been updated since it was created. The Coordinating Committee decided to update the list for several reasons. It was not clear that all the organizations listed still existed or that information about the organizations on the list was still relevant. In addition, the Directory used tags to help people search for services or organizations (see below), and we felt that the tag list could also be updated.

• Advocacy (51)	• Arts & Culture (9)	• Civil Engagement (33)
• Community Organizations (14)	• Criminal Justice (8)	• Disabilities (5)
• Economic Justice (24)	• Education (38)	• Employment (5)
• Environment (11)	• Faith (9)	• Food Security (8)
• Health (20)	• Housing Security (16)	• Immigration (12)
• Legal Services (7)	• LGBTQIA+ (13)	• Peace (4)
• Poverty (14)	• Racial Justice (18)	• Reproductive Justice (4)
• Services (38)	• Social Justice (1)	

So, the tasks for the Coordinating Committee to update the Directory involved:

1. Confirming that the organization existed and updating information about the organization. This is ongoing and is being done by sending a Google form to the organization confirming, first, that they still want to be listed and then updating their information
2. Deleting organizations that no longer existed
3. Adding additional organizations to the Directory that did not appear in the original list
4. Revising and updating the Tag list to make it more specific and useful

We see the Directory as a valuable community resource. It is an ongoing project, and we welcome volunteers to help us follow up with organizations.

2. SustainCNY

When it was announced in early 2023 that Micron was planning to build a huge facility in Central New York, there were immediate concerns within the environmental/sustainability community about the possible adverse effects of this project on CNY's environment. It became clear to the Coordinating Committee that it would take an organized effort to have any chance of influencing the outcome of the project.

There are a significant number of environmental/sustainability organizations in CNY. However, they are small, volunteer-based organizations. Bringing them together into a functioning coalition would amplify their potential impact on the Micron project. CNY Solidarity took the lead in making this happen. We were already members of and advisors to GreeningUSA, a twenty-year old local sustainability organization. GreeningUSA bases its approach on a broad concept of sustainability called the 12 Traits (<https://greeningusa.org/2023/05/02/12-traits-of-sustainable-communities>), which is consistent with CNY Solidarity's mission and vision. We approached the GreeningUSA board about convening the coalition. They agreed. In January, 2024 a draft proposal for a sustainability coalition was drafted, and in April 2024, the SustainCNY Coalition was born. Currently there are 12 member organizations with a Steering Committee consisting of:

Alliance for a Green Economy
Climate Change Awareness and Action
CNY Solidarity Coalition
Energy 21
GreeningUSA
Moving People Transportation Coalition
Joe Heath's Law office (representing the Onondaga Nation)
Sierra Club, Central & Northern New York

CNY Solidarity is one of 4 members of the SustainCNY Admin Committee charged with managing the operations of the Coalition

There is a URL: SustainCNY.org, and the Coalition is working on creating a website

Members of the Coalition have had Letters to the Editor and Op-eds published in the local paper and have submitted environmental concerns comments to the Army Corps of Engineers at a March 2024 meeting in Clay.

3. Good Jobs Coalition

Another critical issue associated with the Micron project is the right to organize workers in the plant once the construction is completed. A national not for profit 501c3 organization, Jobs to Move America (<https://jobstomoveamerica.org/>) has partnered with a national electrical worker union, IUE-CWA (<https://www.iue-cwa.org/>) to organize in CNY to bring community benefits via an enforceable Community Benefits Agreement with Micron which will include a right to organize the Micron workforce. JMA and IUE-CWA have created a coalition of 35 local organizations, including CNY Solidarity and have produced a Good Jobs Platform as an organizing tool which lays out the demands for worker safety and equitable hiring ([Good Jobs Platform and Petition](#)). CNY Solidarity is one of 4 organizations in the Good Jobs Working Group, tasked with planning the Good Jobs campaign.

Section 4 Sign-on Letters

The Coordinating Committee receives requests to sign letters from other organizations. The letters are time sensitive, so the Coordinating Committee evaluates them and signs those that are consistent with CNY Solidarity’s mission

CNY Solidarity Coalition Letter Sign-Ons 2024			
Date	Sponsoring Organization	To	Topic
4/16/24	AGREE	NYS Public Service Commission	Letter advocating that 50% of the \$5B New Efficiency NY budget be allocated to LMI households and make programs easy to use
4/29/24	NYCLU	Mayor Ben Walsh	Letter opposing proposed take-over of the Citizen’s Review Board by the Common Council
7/22/24	CNY Solidarity, SPC, ACTS, SUN	Onondaga County Commissioner of Health	Letter requesting information about the <i>Lead it Go</i> program
8/29/2024	AGREE; Citizen Action	Governor Kathy Hochul	The letter opposes new nuclear facilities and spending in New York and emphasizes that recommitting to our climate goals is the only path to a safe, clean, affordable energy system
8/29/24	Citizen Action	Governor Kathy Hochul	A sign-on letter to Governor Hochul urging her to implement the mandates of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)
9/18/24	AGREE	NYS Public Service Commission	Letter opposing National Fuel Gas long-term plan arguing that it is in violation of the CLCPA
10/16/24	Families for Lead Freedom Now	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I Kathy Hochul, Governor, State of New York II Letitia James, Attorney General, State of New York III Dr. James V. McDonald Commissioner of Health, State of New York IV Ben Walsh, Mayor, City of Syracuse V Robert Brandt, Water Commissioner, City of Syracuse VI Dr. Kathryn Anderson, MD, Commissioner of Health, Onondaga County 	Response to lead in water issue in Syracuse.
10/2/24	Citizen Action	NYSERDA	Letter in “strong opposition to NYSERDA’s irresponsible promotion of new, unproven, untested, and highly radioactive and expensive nuclear energy technologies”

Section 5 Financial Report

Revenues				
	Donations Received		\$3,647.00	100.0%
Expenses				
	Donations made		\$2,887.00	79.2%
	General & Administrative			
	PO Box	\$294.00		8.1%
	Website fees	\$223.85		6.1%
	Action Network + RiseUp	\$194.56		5.3%
	Zoom subscription	\$159.90		4.4%
	PayPal fees	\$95.33		2.6%
	Checking account fees	\$15.00		0.4%
	Other expenses			
	Printing	\$341.59		9.4%
	PA System	\$290.92		8.0%
	Microphone rental	\$108.00		3.0%
	Membership Dues-UJFS	\$100.00		2.7%
	Banner printing	\$70.20		1.9%
	Westcott Street Fair	\$60.00		1.6%
	Plowshares	\$30.00		0.8%
	Total General and Administrative expenses		\$1,983.35	54.4%
	Total Expenses		\$4,870.35	
	Change in Net Assets		(\$1,223.35)	
	Net assets at beginning of the year		\$2,741.18	
	Net assets at the end of the year		\$1,517.83	

Solidarity Donations Made	2024
Total	-\$2,887.00
ActBlue*Indivisible	-\$112.00
Bishop Harrison	-\$550.00
Syracuse National Action Network	-\$300.00
Syracuse Immigrant and Refuge Defense Network (SIRDN)	-\$100.00
Syracuse Peace Council	-\$1,100.00
Spiritual Renewal (Meeting Room)	-\$75.00
Syracuse Cultural Workers	-\$250.00
Urban Jobs Task Force of Syracuse	-\$200.00
Workers Center	-\$200.00