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About Interfaith IMPACT of New York State

Interfaith IMPACT of New York State (IINYS), Inc. is a progressive statewide interfaith advocacy organization that focuses on advocating with the State Legislature, Executive Chamber and State agencies. We bring our vibrant, shared liberal religious values to the table when New York State public policy decisions are being made.

IINYS consists of congregations, clergy and individuals from progressive Protestant, Reform Jewish, Unitarian Universalist and other faith traditions. Together we work for the common good through progressive religious advocacy.

The Interfaith Impact of New York State Foundation, Inc. is a charitable organization. Its mission is to Inform and encourage progressive faith based participation in public dialogue.

What Moral Values Does IINYS Support?

- Health Care
 - Comprehensive reproductive health care, including age-appropriate sexuality education for teens (Healthy Teens Act)
 - Support for a Reproductive Health Act
 - Universal access to a sustainable, affordable, quality health care system
 - Human embryonic stem cell research
- LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) rights
 - Marriage equality for same-gender couples
 - Dignity for All Students Act
 - Gender Non-Discrimination Act
- Criminal Justice Reform
 - Eliminate the harsh Rockefeller-era drug laws
 - Emphasize restorative justice, education, and prison-to-community transition programs
 - Oppose the death penalty
- Economic Justice
 - Living wage
 - Farm worker rights
 - Increase the basic public assistance (welfare) grant
- Church-State Separation
- Responsible Stewardship of the Environment

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How does IINYS advocate?

- Legislative Advocacy Days. IINYS has an annual advocacy day in the spring. On May 19, 2008, we were joined by Reform Jewish Voice of NYS to amplify our combined voices as we met with legislators, policy analysts and counsel for the Assembly and Senate.
- Our members meet throughout the year with legislators, the Governor and his staff, and other policy makers.
- Present IINYS briefings and Conscience in Public Life forums in communities across the state.
- E-mail action alerts (also posted on www.interfaithimpactnys.org).
- Testify at legislative hearings and respond to requests for information from the Executive Chamber, legislative committees, etc.
- Participate in press conferences.
- Provide up-to-date position papers on key issues.
- Offer technical assistance with letter writing tables, forums, etc.
- Work with allied organizations such as Empire State Pride Agenda, Family Planning Advocates of NYS, St. Lawrence Unitarian Universalist District Social Justice Council, the NYS Council of Churches, Reform Jewish Voice of NYS, Faith and Hunger Network, good government groups, and many others.

More Information

We have all our recent position papers, newsletters and much more on line. Check out our web site at www.interfaithimpactnys.org or e-mail info@interfaithimpactnys.org with questions.

IINYS is supported primarily by member contributions along with grants from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), the New York State Convention of Universalists, and the Gilbert Spirit Fund. The Conscience in Public Life project of the Interfaith Impact of NYS Foundation is supported by grants from the Deblinger Foundation and the Fund for Unitarian Universalist Social Responsibility.

Please take this opportunity to join or make a donation today and receive our newsletter, e-mail alerts, updates, and other materials. You can [download, fill out, and mail a form \(.pdf version\)](#) or donate on-line at www.interfaithimpactnys.org and click on the "Donation" button. If you are interested in a congregational or justice committee membership or joining our clergy advisory board, please e-mail info@interfaithimpactnys.org or call 518-463-5652.