

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 9.21.2021

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/
 - General email: info@riseandresist.org
 - Press email: media@riseandresist.org
 - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
-

Facilitators: Cherie & Karin **Notes:** Sandy

Good News! Recall of Gov Newsom failed.

Title 42 exclusion—ACLU sued the Federal Government so they would stop using Title 42 as a way to exclude those seeking asylum. The Biden administration has 14 days to stop using it for families. It will still be allowed for adults without kids under Covid rules. The Biden administration is going to appeals court to fight it. They are currently using Title 42 against Haitian immigrants in TX.

Less is More—Good news is that Governor Hochul signed Less is More which limits mandatory detention for parole violations. The Rikers situation continues to be untenable with horrendous conditions. Many guards are not working so there's a big backlog in services. Limited access to food and medical care. Prisoners are locked in solitary for days to control them. There have been many suicide attempts.

Signing the Less is More act resulted in the release of several hundred people, but it doesn't go into effect until 2022. NY incarcerates people for parole violations at a higher rate than any other state.

Report backs:

9.16—Immigration Action—Staten Island Ferry Terminal

Good demonstration last Thursday. It was well-received. Many liked the Welcome Afghan refugee signs. They were received on a bipartisan basis. Several passersby took photos.

Sept. 30 is the next one. May update signage for any changes in Title 42. One woman thanked the group. She was from Afghanistan; had been here for a while.

9.17--Enough is Enough—An Xr Action in Two parts—CD and March coinciding with the 10th anniversary of Occupy Wall Street

CD in the Morning

Incredible event; well done. More than 30 people were arrested. There was a march and a die in at three banks—Citi, Chase, B of A

At Citibank, 6 people were blocking the turnstile entrance where employees enter. Were there for 4-1/2 to 5 hours. Employees had to go through the freight entrance. Employees saw them coming down the escalator. Giant banner dropped. Brought in a small sailboat with people locked inside. Cops had to drill in and saw to get the people out. A complex action with a lot of different elements.

March in the Late Morning/Early Afternoon

March began at NYPL with a rally and speakers including—a little girl who was amazing. From NYPL to the UN; marched to where CDs were taking place. B of A had already moved people from the structure. 4 die ins were part of the march; we marched in the street. Ranged from 60 to over 100 at different points. Very good imagery.

Good news coverage—Reuters, Democracy Now and others.

9.17--Stand Up for Voting Rights—Federal Hall/26 Wall St. at 11 am

This was a small (~30 people) demonstration that was theatrical, colorful with some great speakers. Speakers included Grace Meng, Congresswoman from Queens, Jumaane Williams, NYC Public Advocate, and Susan Lerner, ED of NY Common Cause with Jawanza Williams of Vocal NY acting as MC. There were 2 or 3 news outlets taking photos and videos of the event. It was a spirited pitch to get the job done for voting rights.

9.17--Say Their Names—96th St. and Broadway at 5 pm

Gratified at the number of people. People didn't stay away because of the prior week's issues. Wanted to have an observer on each side of the street—Karin and Alex were the main observers this week. The group connected beforehand to center themselves. The space was held and it was a calm experience. We are moving toward becoming a performance space and will need to examine that but for now it's good.

9.17--Chuck the Filibuster Chalking across from 9 PPW at 6:30 am

A small group of 5 RARers met across the street from Schumer's apartment building and wrote CHUCK THE FILIBUSTER in the bike lane in huge letters spanning 100 feet. Still there after the weekend, albeit a bit faded this morning/Tuesday. Need to do more to get pics on social media. Schumer was there while we were doing it so we think he knows about it. Something we can do fairly cheaply in about 45 minutes. Could be a technique for other issues. Need to get the best shot of it on RaR's twitter account. It's up on INBK's twitter.

9.20--Vaccine Access Demo near the UN at noon

Anticipated about 50 but had somewhere between 50 to 100 people. Everything was closed off; police barricades everywhere. Couldn't get into Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. Gathered on the sidewalk instead. Started with a couple of speakers. Held tombstones. Held a Public Citizen banner which spanned 2nd Ave. And did a die-in. The banner said

“Millions are dying. Vaccinate the world now”. Many showed up from international health groups. Several RaR marshalled. Short, sweet, successful, got photo ops. Wanted to put out a narrative before Biden spoke at the UN.

One critique of this action—Marshals were there to block traffic but the banner should have been right in front of the traffic, no on the other side of the street. This was not a good use of marshals.

Multiple news outlets covered the action. I’m going to post a few we’ve spotted so far, but if you notice any other coverage, please send them to me: aerubin13@gmail.com
<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2021/09/20/campaigners-biden-stop-acting-big-pharma-puppet-and-help-vaccinate-world>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10010959/Protestors-gather-outside-United-Nations-demand-end-vaccine-apartheid.html>

Pre-coverage in the Times before the action started, covering the failure of COVAX and HealthGap/the action:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/20/us/politics/biden-covid-19-vaccines.html?referringSource=articleShare>

Here’s a link to the letter the coalition we are in spearheaded and we signed as well:
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/09/19/us/politics/covid-vaccine-letter-biden.html?referringSource=articleShare>

From the NYT article: “On Monday, activists staged a demonstration near the U.N. headquarters in New York calling on Mr. Biden to “end vaccine apartheid.” A coalition of nearly 60 human rights and other advocacy groups sent Mr. Biden a letter urging him to back a \$25 billion investment that would produce eight billion doses within a year — and to ask Congress to include a specific line item for it in the \$3.5 trillion “Build Back Better” budget legislation that lawmakers are now considering.

9.21--Fox Truth Tuesdays at 48th St. and Sixth Ave. at 9 am

People keep showing up. Some folks who saw us last week came back. We arranged ourselves in front of the building so all entrants had to walk between two of us to get to the doors. We couldn’t be ignored. Plus, we had cowbells.

Next week the climate group is taking the lead for Truth Tuesdays.

Bill Hartman led a Fox action in Philadelphia.

Upcoming Actions:

9.24--Fridays for the Future—3 pm at City Hall - 3 to 6 pm. Sept. 24

March from City hall park to Battery Park. Speakers at Battery park from 4:30 to 6 pm.

About 15 RaR marshals participating

9.25--RAR Potluck Picnic from 11 am to 4 pm at Pier 63 at 23rd St.

Health Care Committee Action Update

Have done 7 or 8 Beds not Bodybags actions

These actions highlight the healthcare disparities based on race, class, region

Got to know council members and activists; want to take a pause and rethink our purpose. We have looked at the remains of Peninsula hospital in Rockaway. It looks like a burnt-out parking lot; has possibilities but is very isolated. We will be thinking about strategy for a bit.

Non-RAR Announcements:

9.22--Rikers demo about the Crisis at Rikers at 11 am at City Hall

9.27—Office of Mental Health Meeting—Monday, 10 am

Meeting is about access to recovery; facilitated by I. Justice. Other networks are in the group and other non-profits. Speaking with the office of mental health which is NY state. Helping reshape or replace or enhance part of the Medicaid and Medicare mental health benefits.

9.30 to 10.4--Film Festival—Justice on Trial

Virtual festival from CA; since 2013. 10 films; documentaries and dramas; tickets through eventbrite; pay what you want. justiceontrialfilmfestival.net

10.7—War Resisters' League—Noon walk from NYPL to Times Square Recruiting Station

This is a march to end American forever-wars. It will be a solemn walk west along 42 street. Many peace groups are endorsing this action.

Endorsement? YES

10.2--Women's March--Sat. 2 pm Wash Sq Park

10.11 to 10.15--People against fossil fuels action—large action in DC.

Organized by a coalition of different climate groups. Everyday there will be a mass CD to really push governmental action on climate. Xr will have a bus going down.

Link: <https://peoplesfossilfuels.org/>

RISE AND RESIST