



Dear NJISJ Friends, Partners and Supporters,

I want to thank each of you for all your efforts to engage with the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice to improve the lives of urban residents in our state. At this time of year we often take a moment to reflect on our accomplishments and rededicate ourselves to the challenges ahead in the coming year. At NJISJ we are proud of our history, humbled by the amazing partnerships we have developed and inspired by colleagues who keep us grounded in the reality of the importance of this work and press us to move forward with an understanding of what is at stake. So it is in the spirit of the holiday season that we reach out to you to say "Thank you for being a friend to the Institute" and we look forward to facing the challenges of 2012 together. Those who wish to support the work being done at NJISJ can do so [here](#).

Sincerely,

Cornell William Brooks  
President & CEO  
New Jersey Institute for Social Justice

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# Why?

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice



*Mayor Cory Booker meets NJISJ legal interns researching innovative solutions to urban poverty.*



*Harold Wirth, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, and keynote Speaker Peter Cocozzello of Advance Realty congratulate NJISJ WomenBuild graduates preparing for higher wage work.*



*Proud father and daughter celebrate his graduation from our workforce development program.*



NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE  
FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

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## Because...

- **Initiating legislative change requires courage.** NJISJ, a "social justice think and do tank," led the effort to pass three landmark NJ bills that promote public safety and prepare people to compete for work.
- **Investing in our children creates strong communities.** NJISJ worked to bring the state's first Youth Court to Newark— supporting children becoming responsible citizens and engaged students.
- **Increasing meaningful green job opportunities with living wages changes lives.** Our Workforce Development graduates are learning to make our communities greener while acquiring valuable environmental certifications that lead to higher wages in high demand jobs—like industrial site clean-up.
- **Innovative employment programs put underemployed women to work.** Graduates of our award-winning WomenBuild program are finding higher paying jobs in the construction industry.
- **Internships promote social change through public service.** As of 2011 we have had 65 young professionals gain valuable experience as we nurture the next generation of civic leaders to serve New Jersey.
- **Injustice is unacceptable.** "Social justice should be the underlying goal of all humanity." Alan V. Lowenstein, NJISJ Founder

How can I make a difference?

## Join us...Support Social Justice

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, and the entire NJISJ community, we thank you...

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**Cornell William Brooks, Esq.**  
*President and CEO, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice*



*The Institute's Workforce Development and Training program was honored by the New Jersey Black Issues Convention with its Community Change Award.*

New Jersey Labor Commissioner Harold J. Wirths commended the recent graduates of the WomenBuild program.

*- Department of Labor and Workforce Development*

New Jersey Institute for Social Justice helped leverage support from the U.S. Department of Justice for New Jersey's first Youth Court.

*- Youth Success Center of Newark*

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, a Newark-based research and advocacy organization, will host a second screening/panel of its documentary film on gangs and youth.

*- Star Ledger*

NJISJ works with Second Chance Campaign to push reentry legislation that serves as "a model for the rest of the nation."

*- New York Times*

The Institute works to save money and protect public safety with landmark legislation.

*- Star Ledger*

Executive Director Cornell William Brooks, Esq. testifies at statehouse about cost effective ways to prepare incarcerated individuals for work and responsibility.

*- Star Ledger*



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For more information,  
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[www.njisj.org](http://www.njisj.org)



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