

# JUSTICE COUNCIL

**July/August Change for Change Offering** – Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign/Philadelphia Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign (APPHRC) website is: [PhillyAPP-HRC Senior Reintegration Project](#)

For the months of July and August, 2024, the Justice Council decided that our Change for Change recipient will be the **Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign - Philadelphia chapter**, or APP-HRC PHL.

APPHRC-PHL advocates and mitigates for the release of aging people in prison who have served 20, 30, 40, 50 years in prison. Oversight of this collaborative effort is under the Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign. The Philly chapter, based in NW Philly, offers trauma-informed counseling for older returning citizens and families, and provides fresh fruit & vegetables, winter coats and boots for grandkids, and clothing & computers by request, for this community. They also hold an annual Kwanzaa celebration and a couple of Black Women's Summits related to reparative justice, reparations, and other topics each year. Their website is: [Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign](#).

This is the group that organized the film and panel on Reparations: Pay Up and Get Out of the Way on May 17 that many of us attended, and also the 2nd Black Women's Summit on Reparative Justice all day on May 18 that a different group of our congregation participated in. As we were preparing for these events together, the APP-HRC PHL folks revealed that they were in need of office space. We discussed this at the Justice Council, who recommended to the Board that we **offer office space** for the group for the next year, and hopefully into the future, **without charging them** for the space or resources, **in the spirit of our Reparations work**, to help repair the harms from slavery and systemic racism that our congregation has contributed to, at least by not paying attention to it for many decades of our existence. **The Board voted unanimously to extend this offer**, and the process of moving in will start on Friday of this week. The group will be using the Board Room (on the 2nd floor of Hale, at the end of the hallway, closest to Stenton), usually 3 weekdays per week, from 9 or 10 until 2pm. They will probably also use Hale Lounge for occasional group meetings, and possibly the RE Office (Hale 2nd Floor, next to the Board Room, across from the main Sunday School room) for individual counseling sessions occasionally. The Board Room can be accessed from the street if we unlock the Garth (garden area near the Pantry), so people using the services of APP-HRC PHL can access them directly. We will expect to host their annual Kwanzaa service and a couple of Summits each year, and perhaps other occasional special activities, all scheduled through Desi. Please introduce yourself and welcome them if you meet in the halls!