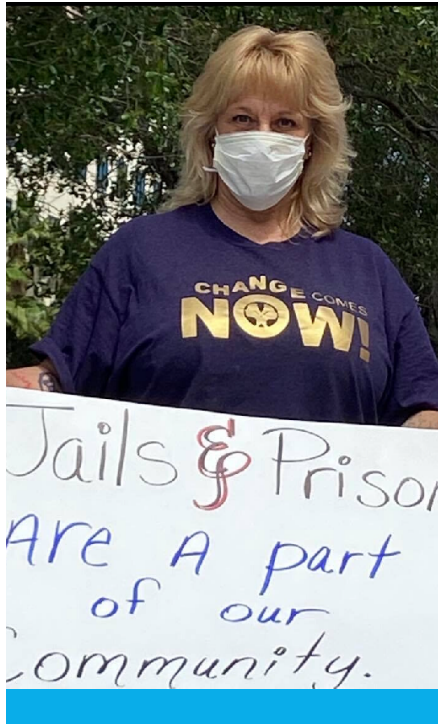


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Since our last newsletter, the world has been afflicted with COVID-19. Months later there are still many unanswered questions, the only thing we do know is that 'Social Distancing' CANNOT be done in jails and in prisons. This has been the recent focus of Change Comes Now. We teamed up with Florida Cares and FAMM to do Social Distance protesting in Palm Beach, Broward and Orange county with the hope that people would be released from jail and citations or a Notice to Appear would take the place of arrest. There was some progress, but as long as there is still someone sitting in a jail or prison, there is still work to do. Change Comes Now was also a part of a Social Distancing protest in Tallahassee. In our cars covered with posters, we circled headquarters of the Department of Corrections in attempt to put pressure on Mark Inch to begin using Compassionate Release. It seems the Governor wants no action taken until Secretary Inch deems it necessary. The push for Compassionate Release continues as do campaigns to pressure the Governor to use Parole and Clemency as a way to depopulate the prisons. This is an ongoing fight for CHANGE and will stop only when CHANGE comes.





Zoom meetings have become the way of the world. It is a safe way to have a meeting and see everyone. Zoom is how we have our Board of Directors meetings and it will be how we have meetings for 'Participatory Defense', the 'Closing Lowell Campaign', and the 'Women's Circle'. As the state of Florida slowly reopens, the importance of safety remains.

The massive event planned for June 1st has been rescheduled for September 1st. This event will consist of people from the 67 counties in Florida as well as two dozen other states and 4 other countries participating in a simultaneous protest at a courthouse for one hour. The world must be a safe place for everyone participating.

Staff Accountability, Body Cameras on **ALL** staff and an Independent Abuse Reporting Committee, **are still goals** Change Comes Now carries close to the heart. However, the crisis occurring within the prisons has taken the forefront on importance. At press time there are 287 sisters @ Homestead Correctional that have tested positive for COVID-19 with 10 new tests pending.

Change Comes Now made 3 trips to Homestead Correctional in the month of May. Formerly incarcerated women Tyra Amos, Crystal Chapa, Lyric Tye, Johanna 'Whisper' Cruz and I, filled our cars and rented Uhauls to make the trip. To date we have delivered the following: 2,940 rolls of toilet paper 1,470 bars of Dial antibacterial soap 79

Gallons of bleach

12 plastic chairs for women housed in the Ford building 32

32oz. bottles of ethanol alcohol for staff

10,000 gloves

2,150 disposable medical masks 750

puzzle books

1- 40" non smart TV for the Infirmary

100 PPE face shields for staff

1,000 PPE booties for staff

We are continuing to collect donations so we can continue to assist with the pandemic taking hold of Homestead.



We would like to welcome Johanna 'Whisper' Cruz to the Board of Directors as our beloved April Henderson has a young child and mommy time fills her days.

#FREEHER

