



Franciscan Friars

# Office for Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation

*Serving Holy Name Province*

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## **JPIC Animation**

*Holy Name Province*

*New York, City, USA—Provincial Headquarters*

Building process of how Holy Name Province (HNP) is where it is today

- History of charity and mission
- Three major priorities drive the planning of the HNP
  1. Fraternity
  2. Partnership
  3. Justice
    - Direct Service (Charity)
    - Education for justice action
    - Advocacy for systemic change

### **Chapter 1999**

Franciscans Speaking Out

1. Debt Relief
  2. Death Penalty
  3. Immigration
  4. Globalization
- Increase the role of the JPIC Animator
    - Institutionalized JPIC in each ministry

### **September 11, 2001**

- Brought the world to HNP in a new way
- Response to terror and a re-introduction to our Franciscan Tradition—Francis and the Sultan

### **Chapter 2002**

- Resolution for an All Province Assembly on Globalization in 2004—we were able to name the reality of what was going in our ministries (employment, trade, migration, terrorism...)
- Ministry planning with a strong JPIC commitment (3 priorities of the HNP)

### **Chapter 2005**

- Focusing the lens of globalization—three resolutions
  1. Peacemaking Province Campaign
  2. Twinning between all ministries
  3. Community investment
- Passed statement calling for the timely withdrawal from Iraq

### **Conference Action of English Speaking Conference**

This has been a key way for us to get a more amplified and nuanced voice to our activity particularly around advocacy and justice education.

#### *A. Common projects with the Capuchin and Conventual Franciscan JPIC of North America*

1. Make US An Instrument of Peace: A Franciscan Reflection on the National Security Strategy of the United States (2002)
2. Building a more Evangelical World: Economics (2004)
3. A Call to Communion with Creation (2005)
4. Migration of People (upcoming in 2006)

*B. Franciscan Family Sign on Letters for the Feast of St. Francis*

2005--To U.S. Congress and President Bush's Administration to withdraw from Iraq  
2006—will be focus on U.S. immigration and border security policy

*C. Organized Advocacy Efforts*—2005 and 2006 support and participation in Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice [www.advocacydays.org](http://www.advocacydays.org)

**Structure of JPIC in Holy Name Province**

- 1) JPIC Directorate of 7 friars, 3 lay partners and myself as animator chaired by a friar on the Provincial Council
- 2) Each ministry has at least one person designated as a JPIC Local Contact (we have 43 total)
  - Regular contact between JPIC Animator
  - JPIC Local Contacts are: friars, lay staff and/or volunteer lay persons
  - JPIC Local Contact has regular communication and input to local friar community
- 3) In each ministry we are now developing stronger committees for education and advocacy support

**How HNP works to Animate—Deepening and Broadening**

- 1) Increase knowledge/interaction with Franciscan Tradition, Catholic Social Thought and Issue analysis
- 2) Provide vehicles and models for engagement in issues
- 3) Develop structures to amplify voice and impact—people need to see the changes
- 4) Develop a strong personal relationship of trust with the friars and their communities—my agenda is their agenda
- 5) Focus on a few issues to have greater impact in total

**Lessons Learned**

- Imperative of initial visible and vocal support from Provincial Minister
- Time and support for the animator to be in each ministry—strong relationships
- Build the local structures from where they are at, not where we think they should be
- Strong and active partnership with laity—friars and laity carry each other
- Limited number of issues and alerts
- Communication structures are somewhat weak—web, provincial planning
- We need other provinces and branches of the family as well as others religious and secular organizations to be effective in current global context

**On-going Challenges**

- Busyness of Friars' ministerial demands and decreasing number of friars
- Welcoming and integrating new migrant populations into our ministries
- Lager Catholic Church trend of turning inward
- Still a tendency to “go it alone” as ministry and as province
- Developing the institutional structure to move to the next step in our history
- Developing a greater connection to the Franciscan Spiritual Tradition

*Respectfully Submitted, February 3, 2006*

*Russell Testa, JPIC Animator for Holy Name Province*