

## TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERS

### Dakota H, Current JOY member

My experience in JOY was absolutely amazing. While working in JOY, I've had the opportunity to provoke change in my community. I've gotten to participate in many different activities to raise awareness for farmworkers and racism.

### Veronica C, Current JOY member

"JOY has helped me become a little more open and think of new ways to do things. I have learned of things I normally wouldn't know. I have learned what the members of JOY have been through and this group accepted my differences and made me feel welcome when I first joined."

### Sharon J, Current JOY member

"JOY has helped me understand how diverse other communities are. I met new amazing people that were open and accepting to their differences. This group opened my eyes to the Hispanic community and other cultures."



## GET INVOLVED!



To join or learn more about JOY, please contact JOY's coordinator:

Gabriela Quintanilla at

[gabriela.rmm@gmail.com](mailto:gabriela.rmm@gmail.com) or 845-428-0359

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community." - Cesar Chavez



RURAL MIGRANT MINISTRY

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[www.ruralmigrantministry.org](http://www.ruralmigrantministry.org)



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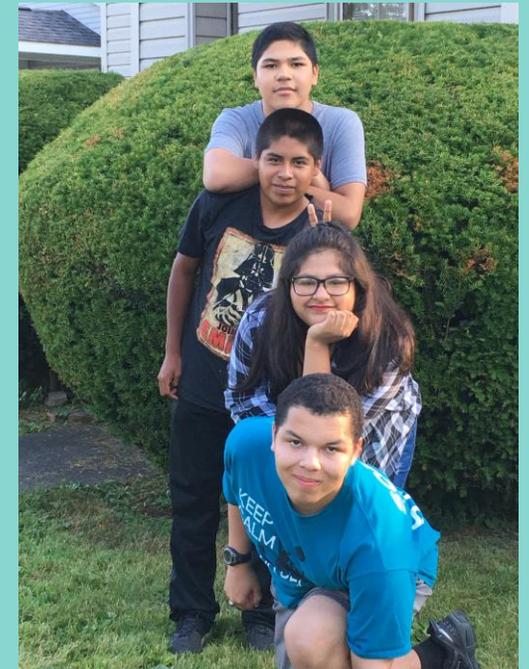
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## RURAL & MIGRANT MINISTRY'S JOY



JUSTICE ORGANIZATION OF YOUTH



We are a group of high-school students from different backgrounds and communities who welcome our differences. JOY meets every Friday to discuss social justice issues in our communities and instill change through the performing arts. These issues are important to us because we want migrant workers and their children to have a voice in order to advocate for their beliefs and create a better future.





## MISSION STATEMENT

Rural & Migrant Ministry's youth empowerment group, JOY is made up of high-school students who are looking to make a positive change in their communities. We come from different cultural backgrounds which help us understand other youth in our communities, and how we feel as minorities, in a rural setting that can be so isolated. At the beginning of every year, we pick three committees for three main topics, one of which is usually farmworkers' rights. For example, JOY chose racism in schools, racial profiling, and farmworker rights last year. These issues are important to us because we want migrant workers and their children to have a voice and feel part of the community. With these places to turn to, people will have the courage to stand up for their beliefs to advance society towards a better future. We strive for justice through performing arts in order to create systemic change. **Performing arts encompasses everything from theater and spoken word to music.**

- Meet every Friday from 6-8:30 pm (Dinner is provided!)
- Write and perform plays, such as a Theater of the Oppressed play focusing on Racism and Farmworker Rights presented at the Harvesting Justice Symposium in Rochester
- **Participate in an end-of--year educational, fun trip**
- **Tour colleges on college tours, such as SUNY Brockport**
- Hosted film screenings, such as *Precious Knowledge* (on modern Civil Rights) and *After I Pick The Fruit: The Lives of Farmworker Women*
- Hosted a fundraiser featuring the film *After I Pick The Fruit: The Lives of Farmworker Women*



- Desire to create change in the community and in ourselves
- Be creative and have fun!
- Be positive and give affirmations
- Safe space, no judgement
- Majority rules (democracy)
- Step up, step back
- Encourage and hold each other accountable

