

# AFSC Midwest Digest – June 2023

Stories of work from around the region

## MEET THE TEAM

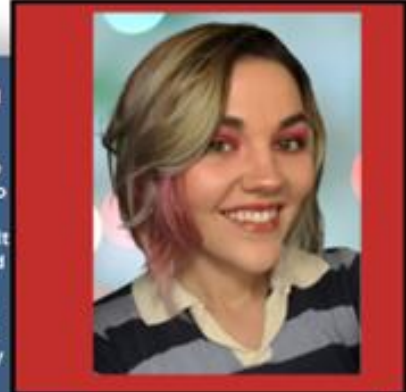


**BRYNNE**

My name is Brynne Crockett and I am excited to be continuing my work with AFSC family as the Director of the Healing Justice Program in the Twin Cities. I have been doing youth work since I was a youth myself, community building is important to me and helping young people navigate through it is my passion. I have used my artistic talents to uplift the voices and stories of the young people I have encountered during this journey through music and organizing. Having mentorship at a young age helped cultivate my talents and shape my insight on community, so being able to mentor and provide the same services for youth and staff is important to me.

A Minneapolis native focused on empowering individuals to be successful in their endeavors. He is a dedicated family man and strongly believes in cultivating relationships that support the growth and development of individuals to strengthen community wealth and opportunity better. He believes in paying it forward as so many folks have supported him in his personal and professional growth. Prescott has a special heart for youth and has since dedicated his time and experience to serve as a Community Leader on the Minnesota Community Healing Team.

**PRESCOTT**



**MADDY**

Hey everyone!  
Super excited to be here and to hopefully meet many of you during my time as the Youth intern with YUIR. I remember my first engagement with YUIR during Freedom School. The experiences I had there opened my eyes to so much about the world around me and inspired me to continue learning about what it means to be an effective ally. I am honored to have the opportunity to be a part of this amazing team! Young people have my heart because of the way they tell it like it is.

### Twin Cities Program helps youth make systemic change

S.A.F.E. is a program designed with youth in mind. We work to support youth, educators, and other community members in further developing their understanding of race, racism and institutions as we navigate systematic change together. We do this by building the capacity of ourselves and those alongside us in organizing, restorative practices, coalition building, and thought leadership.

We are passionate about our mission and young people. We will be in Minneapolis North Community High School during lunch hours and after school to grow alongside the students who wish to engage with us. We hope you'll find inspiration to learn more about yourself, the world, and how you can navigate it by way of your own unique gifts. Get to know about our team by clicking on our [link tree](#).

S.A.F.E. is hosting a [poetry contest](#) for North students through June 14. Expressing yourself through written or spoken word is a way to tap into your personal truths. Allowing people into the intricacies of your mind - past, present, future - affords people the opportunity to get to you know you and your passions in an intimate way.

## St. Louis youth study abolition organizing

From [Facebook](#): The AFSC team in St. Louis is reading abolitionist and organizer Mariame Kaba's book [We Do This Till We Free Us](#). We will be sharing highlights from each part of her book over the coming weeks. Enjoy the first two series entitled "So You're Thinking About Becoming An Abolitionist" and "There Are No Perfect Victims." The team is very pleased to welcome [Alex Jones](#) (they/them) as the new Organizing Fellow. Originally from Newark, they study Africana Studies at Wash U.

## Trainings provide tools to Think Twice Before Calling the Police

Chicago Peacebuilding, along with other programs in AFSC's national Community Safety Beyond Policing project, held a series of four webinars and trainings in May to give attendees tools to Think Twice Before Calling the Police. Click ["See more Think Twice videos"](#) for the full list of all four recordings—then [take the Think Twice pledge](#).

## Mixer and town hall to promote Second Look legislation in Michigan

From [Twitter](#): People who serve the most time in prison are the ones who make our communities better and stronger upon returning home. Two events this month in Detroit will bring people together in support of Second Look legislation pending in Michigan. A coalition mixer on June 9 will include music, games, networking and story sharing. State Sen. Stephanie Chang and Rep. Jimmie Wilson, Jr will give an overview of the legislation. A town hall will be held for the community on June 16.

## Short takes

The Midwest Region is delighted to announce the appointment of Jasmine Green as the new Regional Finance and Office Associate effective July 10....Check out the latest news from AFSC's [West Region](#)....AFSC Northeast Ohio alum Greg Coleridge has co-authored a [book on corporate corruption](#)....AFSC alums in Iowa share their latest [movement update](#)....Register now for the next No Way to Treat a Child [webinar](#) on June 20 and learn about AFSC's new work for [Apartheid-Free Communities](#)....Catch a few [photos](#) from last weekend's Great Plains Yearly Meeting in Wichita.

## Grateful for your support

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