



**Capital District Coalition
Against Apartheid
and Racism**
Box 3002 - Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203
A Project of the Social Justice Center

August 13, 1991

Dear Friend and Supporter,

As you may know, on September 21, 1991 CD CAAR celebrates its' 10 year anniversary. As a special friend of CD CAAR we invite you to make brief comments regarding the work of our organization in the past decade. Your comments (²⁵ words or less) will be printed in our commemoration journal and other appropriate materials.

Over the years, in one way or another, you have helped us to continue the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and racism here at home. We ask you now to reflect on our work and its' impact. We have inclosed our brochure and a leaflet promoting the anniversary celebration for your review.

Please return your written comments to our post office box by August 30, 1991. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Vera Michelson

Vera Michelson

Merton Simpson

Merton Simpson

Get involved in the struggle to end apartheid and racism. HOW?

Come to monthly meetings - held on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Albany Public Library, Washington Avenue, Albany, N.Y. from 7 to 9 p.m. Become a member of CD-CAAR.

Yearly dues are only \$5.00 (more is better!). Your dues will entitle you to receive the monthly newsletter.

Volunteer your skills. (518)434-4037 for information.

Send check to:

**Capital District Coalition Against
Apartheid and Racism**

Box 3002 Pine Hills Station, Albany, N.Y. 12203

Name: _____

Address: _____

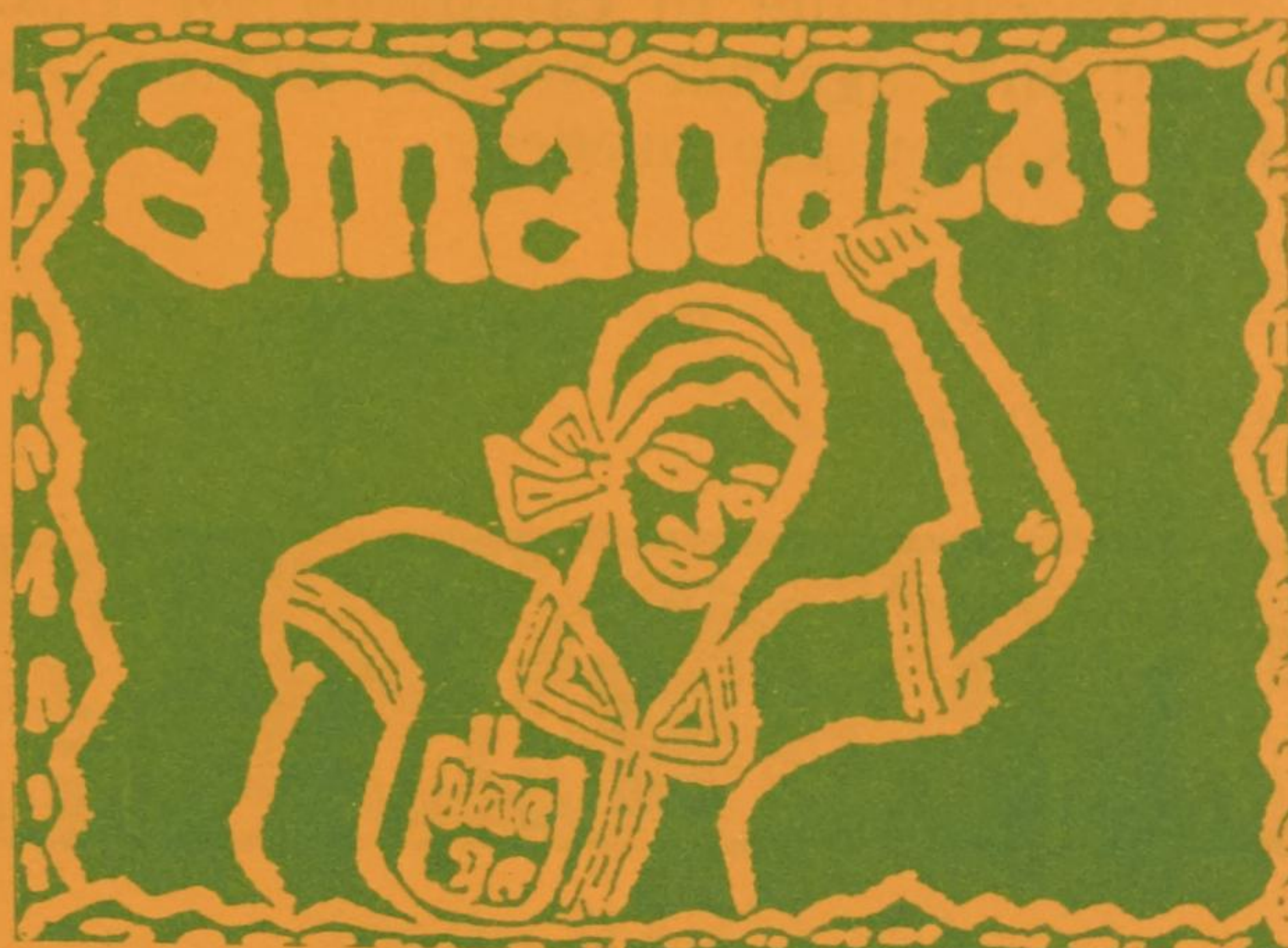
Telephone: _____

**If you have any special skills you can contribute,
please indicate:**





Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism



*"An injury to one
is an injury to all"*

Box 3002 Pine Hills Station
Albany, New York 12203

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"Apartheid is a crime against humanity."
United Nations



Who We Are

The Capital District Coalition Against Apartheid and Racism (CD-CAAR) is a grass roots organization made up of people from labor, student, religious, civil rights and community groups. We work to bring justice to Southern Africa and the United States by being part of the struggle against

- * apartheid in South Africa
- * the chaos and destruction created by the apartheid regime throughout Southern Africa
- * racism in the United States

and by

- * opposing U.S. policies which perpetuate and strengthen domestic and international racism

Brief History

Apartheid came to Albany, New York in 1981 when the South African apartheid rugby team, the Springboks, played at Blecker Stadium on September 22nd. CD-CAAR was formed when more than forty Capital District community groups and hundreds of concerned individuals came together to oppose the appearance of this team in Albany.

"...our country will never be prosperous or free until all our people live in brotherhood, enjoying equal rights and opportunities."

Freedom Charter of
South Africa

After the Springboks the Struggle Continues

CD-CAAR...

- *organized boycotts of South African products being sold in the Capital District.

- *provided leadership in the New York State divestment campaign.

- *participated in the Free South Africa civil disobedience campaign.

- *worked with SWAPO for Namibian independence.

- *campaigned for Nelson Mandela's release.

- *holds public forums addressing the problems facing the people of South Africa in their struggle for a non-racial, democratic, one person, one vote country.

- *actively supports the resolutions of the United Nations which call for the total isolation of South Africa from the world community in sports, culture, economics and trade.

(CD-CAAR obtained statements from the Temptations and from Chick Corea that they would never return to entertain in apartheid South Africa. We have staged actions against South African tennis players who participate in the annual OTB tours.)

- *participates in conferences and hearings held by the United Nations.



We stand in solidarity with the African National Congress and the people of South Africa as they enter the final stages of the liberation struggle.

We support the governments of Namibia, Mozambique and Angola in their continuing struggle against South African destabilization of the region.

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CD-CAAR...

- *publishes a monthly newsletter which contains articles about Southern Africa, domestic racism and other related issues not covered in the mainstream press.

- *works with the American Committee on Africa's "Vote Sanctions" campaign.

- *organizes petitioning, letter writing and lobbying campaigns directed to the U.S. Congress and the New York State Legislature.

We continue to campaign for U.S. sanctions against South Africa as long as they are needed.

"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."

Frederick

Douglass



CD-CAAR also...

- *collected damages from a major lawsuit brought against federal, state and local officials arising from police harassment.

- *at the time of the death of Jesse Davis, campaigned for a community police relations board. We actively participated on a compromise community police relations board, but resigned when the board was not given adequate power to investigate instances of police abuse.

- *produced a pamphlet, "Police Abuse: What to Do," distributed throughout the community and available upon request.

- *conducts forums on the issues of police abuse and racist violence.

- *organizes demonstrations against police abuse, the Klan and other forms of racist activity.

We continue the call for an independent civilian review board of the Albany police.

The Steering Committee

Vera Michelson, Co-Chair; Merton Simpson, Co-Chair; Eileen Kawola, Newsletter Editor; Roli Varma, Treasurer; Anita Thayer; Mark Mishler; Pat Trowers-Johnson; James Bouldin; Mabel Leon; Mike Riddick; Deborah Maxwell.

Our Affiliations

CD-CAAR is a member of the Social Justice Center of Albany, the Center for Law and Justice, Inc. and the Reinhold Niebuhr Lecture Series at Siena College. We are a member of the Northeast Southern Africa Solidarity Network and of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

"During my lifetime, I have dedicated myself to this struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

Nelson Mandela, Rivonia Trial Speech

