

Rochester Zen Center Mission Statement

The Rochester Zen Center is a New York not-for-profit religious corporation incorporated under Article 10 of the New York Religious Corporations Law. The Center's mission statement is located in three places (from most general to most specific): Paragraph 8 of the Certificate of Incorporation, Article I of the By-laws, and a Mission Statement adopted by the Center's Board of Trustees at its meeting on October 13, 1990.

Paragraph eight of the Center's Certificate of Incorporation:

8. The purpose of this corporation is to operate as a Zen Buddhist religious organization; this purpose may be set forth in greater detail in the corporation's by-laws.

Article I of the Center's By-laws:

ARTICLE I. PURPOSES

The purposes of the Rochester Zen Center (the "Center"), which is incorporated as a Zen Buddhist religious organization under Article 10 of the New York Religious Corporations Law, are as follows:

1. to foster the teachings of Zen Buddhism, as adapted to Western cultural forms and traditions;
2. to provide training in the disciplines, practices, and devotions of Zen Buddhism;
3. to provide suitable surroundings, instruction, and support for the teaching and practice of Zen Buddhism; and
4. to train and develop instructors and fully qualified teachers of Zen Buddhism, both lay and ordained.

In consultation with the Abbot, the Board of Trustees may, from time to time, adopt Mission Statements setting forth the Center's purposes in greater detail.

Mission Statement adopted by the Center's Board of Trustees:

Within the context of these primary purposes [set forth in Article I of the By-laws], the Center will provide, whenever resources are available, the following:

1. activities and programs for Sangha children and families;
2. assistance as a religious resource to the general community through involvement in social, educational, religious, and other appropriate local activities; [and]
3. guidance and support for its affiliate centers.