LARRP February 2024 Newsletter

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!

THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL REENTRY PARTNERSHIP

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This newsletter is packed with information. When you get to the place where it says "Message clipped" make sure to click "View entire message"

LARRP is Hiring!



Network Development Manager

We are seeking a dynamic and highly motivated individual to join our team as a Full-Time Network Development Manager. In this role, you will play a pivotal role in organizing and strategizing communication channels within our network. The ideal candidate will have a strong understanding of LARRP and reentry network dynamics, excellent communication skills, and the ability to facilitate collaboration among various committees.

More Info
Apply

Social Media Specialist

We are seeking a dynamic and highly motivated individual to join our team as a Part-Time Social Media Consultant. In this role, you will play a crucial part in shaping our organization's online presence and ommunication strategies. The ideal candidate will have a strong understanding of social media dynamics, excellent content creation skills, and the ability to enhance collaboration among various teams.

More Info
Apply

LARRP Meetings

Integrated Health Committee

February 5, 2024,
2:00 pm

Registar Integrated Health

LARRP GENERAL MEETING

February 15, 2024,
10:00 - 11:30 am

REGISTER - General Meeting

Community Safety Committee

February 14, 2024,
1:00-2:00 pm

presentation by Dr. Shawn Silverstein, Director of the HOPICS Trauma Recovery Center.

Register Community Safety

Joint Employment and Education Committee

February 21, 2024,
2:00pm-3:30pm

The Employment and Education Committees are coming together for a joint meeting, marking a significant collaboration aimed at enhancing our collective impact.

REGISTER Joint Meeting Employment & Educatioin

Housing Committee

March 14, 2024
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Register Housing

Education Committee

March 7, 2024
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Register Education

Make sure to Register for these Meetings so you can get on the list for Meeting Reminders, and Updates!!!

LARRP Presents
Community Based Public Safety Trainings



Community-based Public Safety Workshops

LARRP is proud to partner with our long-standing

community-based organization, The Amity Foundation, in presenting a 8-week 2-hour long workshop training on Community-based Public Safety (CBPS).

We need relevant laws that are truly rehabilitative and the appropriate level of support that genuinely repairs the harm of the Prison Industrial Complex. But we also need to address the acute and upstream drivers that have left so many of our community members exposed to perpetrate violence or be victims of that violence.

Through all the workshops, there is one clear theme: the capacity for all of us to become agents in community peacebuilding and healing through a comprehensive and robust preventative plan for violence. This is a significant criminal justice reform strategy that deserves awareness and implementation.

Overview of Training:

• All sessions will be interactive and encourage dialogue and audience participation.
• Participants will engage in group discussions and role-playing exercises to help them process real-life examples.
• Each session will end with the opportunity for a recap of key points, a summary of takeaways, and reflections from participants.
• Additional readings, activities, or assignments may be provided so that participants can deepen their understanding and apply their learning.

Our goal is to inform and train partner organizations on what CBPS (Community based Public Safety) is, how to apply it to their respective work, and how to customize a community safety strategy that addresses the needs of their constituents. These workshops intend to promote the idea that criminal justice reform is a multi-pronged effort.

• Participants will be able to provide anonymous feedback through an online survey. Feedback will be used to inform future sessions. ***More Info***

Register

La Maida - General Meeting Presentation

LARRP Teams Up with La Maida Project for Leaders Training Academy!



Together, we're tackling the mental health crisis by fostering connections to self, community, and purpose. Our four-session program will guide participants through the La Maida Project's foundational pillars, empowering them with actionable steps for personal and collective change. We are excited that the LEADERS will have this transformative journey towards healing and emergence!

To discover more about the ***La Maida Project***, you can hear their remarkable Executive Director, Kelly Benshoof, discuss it during our recent general meeting or view the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Presentation

Policy Action Alert and Updates



Policy Update

As we enter 2024, we are using this time to gather community feedback and listen to our network partners about their priorities in the new legislative year. We have been working to secure bill support positions and working with our key stakeholders to select which bills we will be co-sponsoring and uplifting within the reentry space.

We always want to hear from you, the folks and organizations on the front line, we welcome your vital

feedback in this space. If you or your organization are working on state bills, we would love to hear about them from you. If you have any updates you would like to bring to the LARRP network, please let us know by emailing ***Charles@lareentry.org***.

Action Alerts

BUDGET SURVEY

LA Mayor Budget Survey

We need folks to complete and share the People's Budget survey. This is the first time that an LA mayor has requested the results to inform their budgeting. We also recognize that many Los Angeles stakeholders have been pushed out of the City. Everyone with a stake should complete the survey: whether you live, work, go to school, church, own property, or organize in LA.
SURVEY

On February 9, from 9am to 12pm, the **State Assembly Select Committee on Retail Theft and Assembly Public Safety Committee** will be holding a joint hearing at the West Hollywood City Council Chambers. They held a hearing in December in Sacramento and this time are focusing on "exploring solutions that work." While a lot of the panic about retail theft is driven by false, exaggerated claims, we also know that people pulled into the system

for charges like shoplifting are often doing so because of poverty, unmet treatment needs, and for survival. These are people who often can benefit from the types of services provided through our network. Unfortunately, **a lot of the conversation in the legislature is around criminalizing and adding harsher penalties for theft or**

We want to hear from you- please fill out this brief *survey* so we know what to prioritize in 2024

rolling back important reforms that fund reentry work like Proposition 47. Check *here* for how you can give public comment in support of services, not criminalization, and contact *Csimonich@vera.org* for support with talking points.

Committee Meeting Updates



LARRP Community Safety Committee

The inaugural Community Safety Committee (CSC) was an incredible success. Thanks to the leadership of the L.A. County Dept. of Public Health - Office of Violence Prevention; Ms. Andrea Welsing, Ms. Kelly Fisher, Ms. Hanna Denyer, Ms. Isabelle Sternfeld, Ms. Charlotte Robinson-Perkins, and the entire DPH-OVP team for their partnership, support, and passion to serveand for an incredible presentation.

Our next CSC meeting will be on 2/14/24 at 1 pm. We will have a presentation by Dr. Shawn Silverstein, Director of the HOPICS Trauma Recovery Center.



Joint Education and Employment Committee Meeting

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you all! The Employment and Education Committees are coming together for a joint meeting, marking a significant collaboration aimed at enhancing our collective impact.

Scheduled for February 21st 2:00pm please use the employment link to register ***click here***, this special session will provide a unique opportunity for members from both committees to exchange insights, share best practices, and explore innovative strategies at the intersection of employment and education initiatives. As we continue our mission to empower individuals through comprehensive support systems, this collaborative effort underscores our commitment to fostering holistic pathways to success.

We encourage all members to mark their calendars and join us for what promises to be a dynamic and enriching discussion. Stay tuned for further details!

LARRP In the Community



L.A. County Board of Supervisors OK Exploration of a Faith-Based and Community Partnerships Office

LARRP Executive Director Troy Vaughn works with other faith leaders Supervisors Barger and Ha Barger and Hahn to introduce a ***motion*** that is going to be transformative for the role faith can play in combating the issues our communities face. The motion passed unanimously on January 23, 2024.

“Faith-based entities are essential and trusted partners that can quickly help the County reach those who are most in need,” said Supervisor Kathryn Barger. “I’m convinced that when we work together, the County is able to support and uplift communities more efficiently. This is about standing shoulder to shoulder with the organizations that are already serving their communities and working smarter.”





LARRP, in collaboration with the ***D.O.O.R.S. Community Reentry Center***, is in full effect, sharing the amazing resources D.O.O.R.S. has to offer at fairs throughout Los Angeles County. On Tuesday, January 23rd, we were at the New Year New Me Expungement Clinic & Resource Fair hosted at the ***Dollarhide Community Center in Compto***n. So many members of the community were supported in receiving expungements and follow-up services to make sure they were fully supported.

The D.O.O.R.S. Community Reentry Center has supportive services, events, and workshops coming up this year for our clients and broader communities. The D.O.O.R.S. CRC- Los Angeles and the ***D.O.O.R.S.- Antelope Valley*** are ready to service the greater Los Angeles County. Do not hesitate to reach out and get services for yourself or your clients at the DOORS one-stop service that offers housing, education, employment, DMH, case management, and much more in one location. See our updated Fact sheet with additional details on the services and contact information.



Partner Events





Let's Talk about Justice with Los Angeles County Superior Court Candidates

Tuesday, February 6 · 6:30 - 8:30pm PST
2408 North Wilmington Avenue Compton, CA 90222

A New Way of Life Reentry Project will be hosting a LA County Superior Court Judge's Candidate Forum!

REGISTER



UNITE-LA's Spring Open House

Tuesday, February 6th at noon via zoom

The Open House is designed specifically for UNITE-LA's current and future partners serving L.A.'s youth and young adults 16-35 who are looking to learn and expand their offerings. Join us to learn about UNITE-LA's upcoming career pathway, job skills training, internship and job opportunities, Cash for College workshops and more.

Register



Probation Oversight Commission Meeting Schedule

The Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission is a body that advises the Probation Department and the Board of Supervisors on progress towards systemic reform. Therefore, we encourage you as a member of the public to pre-register to attend our meetings by visiting our ***website***.
Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each



Restorative Reentry, FREE Stakeholder Meeting

Various dates: 1/29 - 3/5

The FREE Initiative, a groundbreaking response to the pressing challenges of mass incarceration in the United States, invites key stakeholders to a focused meeting to gather valuable input and insights. This meeting aims to leverage the collective wisdom and perspectives of diverse stakeholders to refine and enhance the FREE program's effectiveness.

Register



Career Fair - Empowering Futures Together

February 16, 2024, 11am - 3pm
722 N La Brea Ave, Inglewood, 90302



Amity Foundation's 2nd Annual Brunch

month from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted and can be accessed ***here.***

February 8, 2024
March 14, 2024

March 16, 2024, 11:00 AM

We are delighted to invite you to join us for Amity Foundation's 2nd Annual Brunch. This event promises to be a splendid day of endless fun and entertainment, featuring both live and silent auction with lots of exiting items available for bid. Come be a part of this incredible celebration as we support Amity's mission of empowering underprivilege communities to improve health, and promote environmental, social and economic justice.

Sign up for the event and learn more.

Featured Jobs and Opportunities



PATH (Providing Access and Transforming Health) Round 3 Opened January 15

Capacity and Infrastructure Transition, Expansion, and Development (CITED) Round 3 application window.

The PATH CITED initiative provides funding to build the capacity and infrastructure of on-the-ground partners, including community-based organizations, public hospitals, county agencies, Tribes, and others, to successfully participate in Medi-Cal.
The deadline to apply for CITED Round 3 funding is February 15, 2024.

- CITED Round 3 Informational Session January 12, 9 a.m. PT ***advance registration required***
- How to Make Your Grant Application Stronger Part 1 January 16, 10 a.m. PT ***advance registration required***
- How to Make Your Grant Application Stronger Part 2 January 23, 10 a.m. PT ***advance registration required***
-

CITED Round 3 Office Hours:

Chrysalis

Director of Business Development & Community Engagement

The Director of Business Development & Community Engagement is responsible for leading both employer hiring partnerships and community referral partnerships across the communities Chrysalis serves in Southern California. Through the Direct Hire program, the Director will develop strategic partnerships with private businesses, non-profits, and government organizations, with a focus on providing connections to job opportunities for Chrysalis clients.

More Info

CITED Round 3 Office Hours:
Office hours will be held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 12 PM PST from January 22 - February 12. ***REGISTER***
PATH CITED Round 3 ***application outline***

Featured News Article

Tragically we must feature this article about the deaths in LA County jails, and hope that this year we can put an end to this horror!



Forty-eight people have died in LA County jails since the start of 2023.

Davis Vanguard, January 20, 2024, By Sam McCann

In the first two weeks of the new year, three more people have died in Los Angeles County jails. Their deaths continue a deadly trend; 48 people have died in the system's custody since the start of 2023. That staggering number far exceeds that of New York City Department of Correction (NYC DOC) facilities, where the rising number of deaths at the Rikers Island jail complex has led to a mounting crisis that has received nationwide attention.

Read More

More News



Democrats and Republicans find middle ground on California's Prop. 1 to fund mental health care

LA Times, By Taryn Luna, Jan. 31, 2024

Gov. Gavin Newsom has an unusual ally in his Proposition 1 ballot measure to boost funding for mental health: an outspoken Donald Trump supporter and Kern County lawmaker who co-chaired the committee that led the failed 2021 recall effort against the governor.

Read More

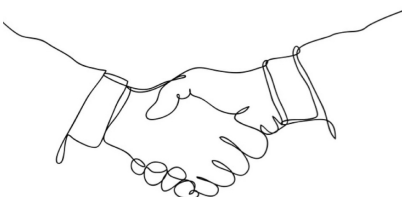


DOJ Calls on States To Eliminate Juvenile System Fines and Fees

The Imprint, By Sara Tiano 1/17/2024

Describing people trapped "in a cycle of poverty and punishment that can be nearly impossible to escape," federal justice officials are calling on states to eliminate fines and fees that parents have to pay when their children get in trouble with the law.

READ MORE





Mayor Bass' Progress On Homelessness, In 6 Charts

By Brianna Lee and Nick Gerda, Updated Jan 25, 2024

Here's how Mayor Bass did on her campaign promises on homelessness during her first year in office.

Read More



Non-Police Crisis Response Programs Have Been Working. Here's How.

The Appeal, Meg O'Connor, Jan 24, 2024
After decades of protests over police violence, many cities have created non-police crisis response teams. These unarmed first responders typically answer 911 calls for people having mental health crises. Here's how they work.
Read More



LASD Whistleblower Takes Her Case To Trial, While Villanueva Testifies That Deputy Gangs Don't Exist, & Sheriff Luna Says There's A New Deputy Gang

Witness LA January 17, 2024 by Celeste Fremon

Wednesday, civil rights attorney, Alan Romero presented closing arguments in the whistleblower lawsuit brought by LASD Captain Angela Walton, against the County of Los Angeles, and former LA County sheriff Alex Villanueva.

Read More

8 LA Probation Staff Removed From Duty For Overseeing "Fight Clubs," As Probation Chief Outsources Internal Affairs Investigations

Witness LA, January 11, 2024 by Celeste Fremon

On Wednesday, January 10, Viera Rosa placed the eight peace officers on "ordered absence," until further notice. "Sharing this information publicly is an important step forward in my commitment to bring new leadership, transparency, and accountability to the Probation Department," said Chief Viera Rosa.

Read More

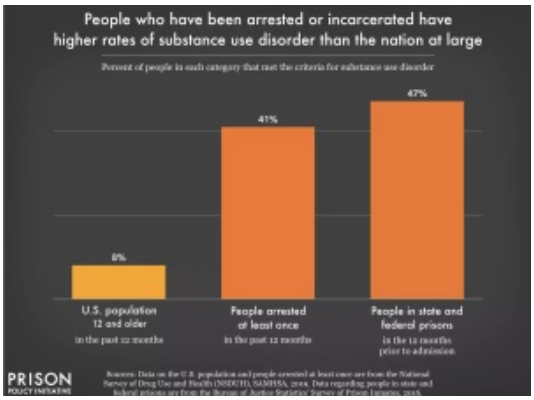


Safety and Justice Leader: Despite 'Vested Interest,' Naysayers Claims False – Prop 47, Other Criminal Justice Reforms Working, Saving Tax Dollars, Lives

Davis vanguard, by staff, January 09, 2024

SAN JOSE, CA – There's been an "ongoing effort by those with a vested interest in protecting the old, failed approaches of our criminal justice system to spread disinformation about the impact reforms to that broken system have had," but it's false, said Tinisch Hollins, executive director of Californians for Safety and Justice, which co-authored Proposition 47 in 2014.
Read More

Reports



Addicted to punishment: Jails and prisons punish drug use far more than they treat it

Prison Policy Initiative, by Emily Widra, January 30, 2024

Despite the common refrain that jails and prisons are "de facto treatment facilities," most prioritize punitive mail scanning policies and strict visitation rules that fail to prevent drugs from entering facilities while providing little to no access to treatment and healthcare.

Jails and prisons are often described as de facto mental health and substance abuse treatment providers, and corrections officials increasingly frame their missions around offering healthcare. But the reality is quite the opposite: people with serious health needs are warehoused with severely inadequate healthcare and limited treatment options. Instead, jails and prisons rely heavily on punishment, while the most effective and evidence-based forms of healthcare are often the least available.

This tension points to a crucial flaw in our nation's reliance on criminalization: these institutions were never intended to be – and can never function as – healthcare providers. Efforts to reverse engineer them as such have proven ineffective, harmful, and financially wasteful, substituting medical best practices with moralizing and surveillance

Read More





As California closes prisons, the cost of locking someone up hits new record at $132,860

Cal Matters, By Kristen Hwang And Nigel Duara, Jan. 23, 2024

The cost of imprisoning one person in California has increased by more than 90% in the past decade, reaching a record-breaking $132,860 annually, according to state finance documents. That's nearly twice as expensive as the annual undergraduate tuition — $66,640 — at the University of Southern California, the most costly private university in the state.
California's spending per inmate jumped steeply during the COVID-19 pandemic and it continued to increase despite recent cost-cutting moves, including Gov. Gavin Newsom's recent move to close three state prisons.
Read More or Listen



Dignity Principles
A Guide to Ensure the Humane Treatment of

A Matter of Time

Vera Institute, January 2024

The Case for Shortening Criminal Debt Collection Statutes of Limitations, a 50-State Survey

Read the Report

People in U.S. Carceral Settings

Vera Publication, January 2024

This set of principles serve as a guide to a field that is ever-changing. As the field changes, the principles will continue to adjust, taking into consideration the ways in which humanity and the needs within prisons also evolve.

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