LARRP July 2024 Newsletter

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!



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In this Issue

100th General Meeting * LARRP Committee Meetings * Policy Updates * Inspiring Stories * LARRP Continues to Grow * LARRP Programs * June Recap * Featured Jobs and Opportunities * Partner Events * Reports * In the News *

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 Meetings

LARRP General Meeting
July 18, 2024
10:00 - 11:30am

Register General Meeting

Integrated Health Committee
August 5, 2024
2:00 - 3:00 pm

Register Integrated Health

AV LARRP
July 16, 2024
11:00 - 12:00 pm Every Third Tuesday

Join Meeting - AV LARRP

Employment Committee Meeting
August 21, 2024
2:00 - 3:30pm

Register Employment

Housing Committee
July 26, 2024
10:00 - 11:00am

Register Housing

Education Committee
September 5, 2024
3:30 - 4:30pm

Register Education

Celebrating LARRP's 100th General Meeting!



Can you believe we've hit the 100th General Meeting milestone? It feels like just yesterday when we started these gatherings…13 years ago, in an effort to convene and organize the reentry community to better serve our loved ones coming home. Every month, since August 2011, whether in person or online, an average of 100 reentry advocates and professionals gather on the 3rd Thursday, sharing critical reentry sector updates, hearing from state and local leaders, and networking amongst each other. LARRP General Meetings have grown into a cornerstone of our community, even earning mentions in the LA Times and other major media outlets.



We begin each General Meeting with moving personal testimony by a formerly incarcerated individual. These stories ground us in our purpose and remind us why we do what we do. They are a powerful testament to the resilience and strength within our community. For example, at our June meeting, our very own Program Coordinator, Betty Mills, shared her inspiring journey from battling substance abuse and incarceration to pursuing a PhD and leading the LEADERS Training Academy. Stories like Betty's showcase the incredible transformations happening within our community.

LARRP General Meetings always feature guest speakers, elected officials and other experts in relevant fields, who share valuable insights and key information on justice related laws, bills, programs, resources, and opportunities. In the June meeting, we learned about LAHSA's new Problem-Solving Strategies approach to housing instability, the Partners For Justice program that assigns client advocates to overstaffed Public Defenders, and the new Amity Foundation SSI 50+ Grant opportunity.

Our Executive Director and Co-Founder, Troy Vaughn, also provides updates from his extensive network, facilitating discussions on how we can better connect resources and agencies to maximize our impact. He opens the floor to our 100+ attendees, who often represent organizations, agencies, and programs, for an organic conversation.

We have come to see that these meetings are essential for our community. They provide the only space where a countywide network of reentry-focused non-profits, public agencies, and advocates come together. This unique gathering advances our mission to ensure that our reentry system effectively meets the needs of our agencies, communities, and the individuals we serve. There is no other place to get such comprehensive and crucial information about policy and programmatic developments in the reentry sector.

The true beauty of our General Meetings lies in you—the participants. The more voices we hear and the more knowledge we share, the stronger and more impactful our gatherings become. LARRP takes pride in being the connector, but it's the attendees and speakers who make these meetings truly invaluable.

We deeply appreciate every single one of you who has attended, shared, and contributed over the years. Your dedication and passion are what make our community so special. As we celebrate this milestone, we encourage even more of you to join us. Your presence and participation will help us continue to drive meaningful change in the reentry sector.

Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey. Together, we are making a difference. Here's to the next 100 meetings!

June General Meeting Guest Presentations

LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY — LAHSA

LAHSA

Problem-Solving for Non-HMIS Users 2 hour virtual training:
Problem-solving is a proactive program that helps people maintain their current housing or quickly find safe alternatives

PARTNERS FOR JUSTICE

Partners For Justice:

All services listed here

Partners for Justice offers customizable training for public

Amity Foundation
when people gather with good intent

Amity Foundation

SSI OLDER Adult Grant: Amity is in partnership to house eligible individuals 50+ to collaborate with efforts to

within their networks. This program aims to reshape the rehousing system's culture by engaging people at every service stage, using social networks or nominal financial assistance as solutions to homelessness. It helps people successfully find stable housing without using the rehousing system's permanent housing resources. Point of contact: Matthew Merritt **mmerritt@lahsa.org**

defense leadership, attorneys, social workers, advocates, navigators, investigators, and other staff and allies on how to transition to client-led, collaborative practices—both as individual practitioners and as an office.

Link to ***apply for the 2 year Advocate program,*** Point of contact: Cheyne Castroni ***castroni@partnersforjustice.org***

support justice-involved referrals to obtain SSI/SSDI income. Eligibility is based on a diagnosis and requires accompanying medical paperwork/documents; identifying those diagnoses. And or a SSI denial notice. Referrals with severe mental needs may be better serviced outside of this grant.
More Info contact Rosalyn DavisWise, "Roz" 323-401-6532, **rdaviswise@amityfdn.org**

Policy Updates

AB 1810 (Bryan) Update (Cosponsored by LARRP)



Menstrual Equity Bill Gains Momentum

We are excited to share that ***AB 1810***, our menstrual equity bill authored by Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, has been recognized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) as a top priority. Last week, the Board unanimously voted to elevate this bill in the county's statewide legislative efforts. Along with this support, the Board has instructed county staff to provide regular updates and reports on maintaining fair and equitable access to menstrual products for the county jail population. The addition of the BOS endorsement to our long list of supporters strengthens our fight for equality and dignity for those who menstruate and are incarcerated.

Other great news, AB 1810 (Bryan) has now cleared all if its committee votes, and we expect a Senate Floor vote after the Legislature returns from summer recess, which runs July 3-August 4, 2024. Your advocacy has been instrumental in garnering this level of support. As State Senators spend much more time in their home districts during their summer recess, it is a great time to call or even visit them. So please make time to contact your State Senator and urge them to vote yes on AB 1810 when it comes up for a floor vote.

Find your elected senator ***here***, and call or visit their office and deliver this message:

"***My name is [Your Name] and I am calling on behalf of LARRP (and your org) to remind you to vote yes on AB 1810 when it comes up for its Senate floor vote. This bill will help incarcerated individuals who menstruate access menstrual products safely and retain their dignity in the process. I urge you to support this bill."***

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to this important cause.

Bill 1810 info and Progress

Prop 47 Ballot Measure



Challenges Ahead

Despite its success, Prop 47 faces significant opposition. Critics from the 'tough on crime' faction argue against the leniency it provides, especially in light of sensationalized reports of violent crimes and high-profile shoplifting incidents. However, data and statements from business leaders indicate that crime rates, including property crimes, continue to trend downward. ***Multiple data analyses*** have shown that nationally, despite a spike in 2022, retail theft is down across the country since 2019. ***Shoplifting*** in California is down 8 percent from pre-pandemic levels. Where we do see increases in statewide data, it is felony commercial burglary (theft of more than $950 in goods), not shoplifting or petty theft. Yet, we now



Defending a Cornerstone of CA Justice Reform

While we often celebrate our policy reform successes at LARRP, we must now unite to defend one of the cornerstones of modern criminal justice reform in California: Proposition 47. Passed by California voters in 2014, Proposition 47, also known as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, brought about progressive and meaningful changes in how the state sentences and incarcerates individuals for low-level property and drug-related crimes.

The Impact of Proposition 47

Proposition 47 has proven to be transformative. ***Studies*** have consistently shown that by reducing petty and drug related non-violent crimes from felonies to misdemeanors, and by reinvesting those dollars into prevention and reentry programs, Prop 47 is reducing recidivism rates, reuniting families and rebuilding neighborhoods. It also helped the state come into compliance with the US Supreme Court Order requiring California to reduce its illegally overcrowded and inhumane prison system.

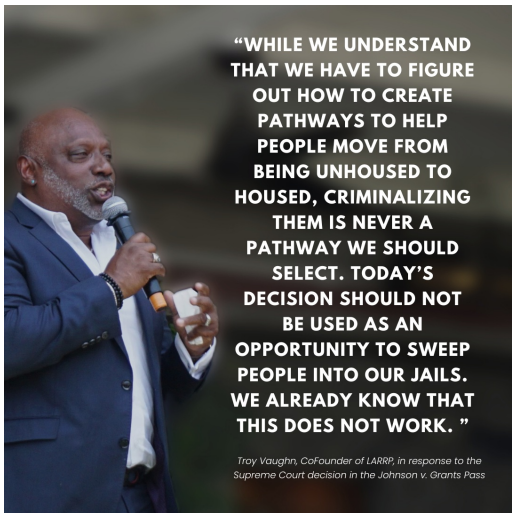
confront a statewide effort to repeal Prop 47 and revert to an outdated and punitive approach to criminal justice.



Our Call to Action

The reentry community and broader justice movement must act to defend Prop 47. Waiting for the fight to come to us is not an option. LARRP is joining a statewide coalition dedicated to protecting and promoting the benefits of Prop 47. We will need your help. Stay informed and engaged by following LARRP's social media page, website, newsletter, and committee meetings. Share our posts to spread awareness, and look for opportunities to participate in our efforts to uphold a progressive, compassionate justice system. Together, we can defend the gains made under Prop 47 and continue working towards a fairer, more just society.

Criminalization of Homelessness?



While the policy work you help us advocate for has a strong track record of success here in California, we closely monitor federal policy and legislative work as well to connect you to the most pressing and important work happening across the country. In this vein, the Supreme Court of the United States is expected to pass down its decision in the case Grant's Pass, Oregon V. Johnson, in which they will be handing down a ruling on the legality of criminalizing homelessness. This court case, while important across the county, is uniquely important to understand here in California.

We strongly disagree with the Court's 6-3 decision, and



Federal Sentencing Guidelines

Call for Public Testimony before July 15, 2024

In other national policy arenas, the U.S. Sentencing Commission wants to hear from you. Take action today urging them to reduce life imprisonment, end racial disparities, and make federal sentencing more fair and just.

The U.S. Sentencing Commission writes and updates the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which help shape the sentences imposed by judges in federal courts. Changes to the Sentencing Guidelines can play an important role in reducing mass incarceration. For instance, last year the Commission expanded the criteria for which individuals in federal prisons may receive compassionate release, giving many individuals a new hope of returning to their loved ones.

The Sentencing Commission revises the guidelines annually and this year, for the first time, it is inviting the

believe the decision unfairly and unjustly allows the criminalization of more than just homelessness, but also poverty and to many, bad luck. Justice Sotomayor wrote that this now forced unhoused folks to “stay awake or be arrested” in cities and states which pass these heinous laws, and that is no way to treat some of the most vulnerable and disenfranchised people in our nation.

We have seen pushes to criminalize homelessness here in California, including ***SB 1011***, which was introduced this year in Sacramento. While your hard work and advocacy helped us keep this bill from progressing, the court case could breathe new life into this horrible policy. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the court case and continue to stay engaged in the policy and advocacy work that helps keep dangerous legislation like this from becoming law.

public to play a greater role in shaping their priorities. Join the Sentencing Project effort to urge the Commission to end federal over-incarceration and reduce life imprisonment by taking action ***here***.

You can also help an incarcerated loved one weigh in. Use the comment portal to upload a letter with their thoughts or they can write directly to *United States Sentencing Commission, One Columbus Circle, N.E., Suite 2-500, Washington, D.C. 20002-8002, Attention: Public Affairs – Priorities Comment*.

The deadline for comments is July 15.

LA Housing Solutions Ballot Measure

Last week ***HOPICS***, LARRP Steering Committee Member, announced that the ***LA Housing Solutions Ballot Measure Coalition*** turned in nearly 450,000 signatures and the measure has officially qualified for the November ballot!

A shift from previous strategy, this initiative will dramatically scale up homelessness prevention efforts to reduce the number of people falling into homelessness, help hundreds of thousands of people get support they need, including emergency rental assistance and rentery resources, create thousands of new affordable homes, and will support affordable home-ownership.

The measure also prioritizes accountability, with 5 mandatory outcome goals with consequences if the goals aren’t met.



"We are grateful to everyone who helped get this important measure on the ballot. SSG/HOPICS is proud to be a part of this effort to ensure that we are able to continue and expand efforts in LA County to help get and keep people housed. In this economic and volatile environment it's critical that the LA Housing Solutions Ballot Measure passes to support some of our most vulnerable Angelinos through creation of more permanent housing, primary and behavioral health services for the unhoused, improved supports for people returning home, and help prevent people from becoming homeless among other things.” ***said LARRP Steering Committee member and HOPICS Director Veronica Lewis.***

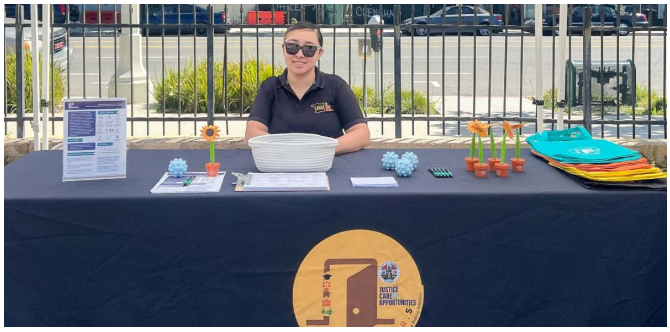
Seeking Your Inspiring Story

This month, LARRP’s communications team will spotlight the inspiring success stories of justice-impacted individuals and the organizations supporting their reentry with photos and video interviews. We invite you to share your experiences and achievements to celebrate and inspire our community, especially as we get closer to this year’s election. If you feel you or someone in your organization has a story to share, please ***click here.***



LARRP continues to grow and evolve this Summer

D.O.O.R.S. Receives NACo Achievement Award



We are proud to announce that D.O.O.R.S. has been honored with the NACo Achievement Award, recognizing innovative and effective County government programs that enhance services for residents. LARRP is privileged to be one of the seven community partners at the D.O.O.R.S. Community Reentry Center LA, providing essential supportive services to assist the reentry community and their families. If you need reentry resources, please join the LARRP DOORS orientation on Thursdays. To read the full press release of the NACo award, ***here***

DOORS Orientation Flyer

Bridging Gaps: New App for Justice-Impacted Individuals



The Los Angeles County Justice, Care and Opportunities Department is developing an innovative new app called CareConnect to connect justice-impacted individuals with essential services and resources. As a participant in CareConnect's design workshops, LARRP's Anthony Garcia offered strategic insights and expertise to ensure CareConnect is efficient and user-friendly. Drawing on his own justice-impacted experience, technology background, and role with the LEADERS Training Academy, Garcia contributed a unique perspective to improve access to housing, healthcare, and basic necessities. We eagerly anticipate the launch of this essential tool from JCOD!

LARRP Programs

UCLA BASH



Join Our Board of Advisors Stakeholders (BASH)

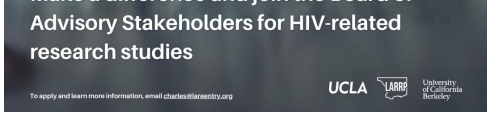
At LARRP, we're dedicated to shaping this research through the formation of a Board of Advisors Stakeholders (BASH). We are seeking individuals who are either professionals in these fields or directly affected by these issues to provide valuable insights and guidance for the project.

Who We're Looking For:

Residents or work experience of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Alameda Counties
Commitment to attend 5 compensated BASH meetings annually
A 2-year commitment to the program

Get Involved:

To learn more about this research project or interested in becoming a BASH advisor, please click below for more information if you are interested in getting involved.



LARRP is proud to collaborate with UCLA, UC Berkeley, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, The Bridging Group, Starting Over, and CalPEP on an innovative research study. This initiative focuses on encouraging individuals who are formerly incarcerated or at high risk for HIV/STI contraction or substance use disorders (SUD) to access regular treatment and preventative measures through a comprehensive, three-pronged approach.

Get Involved

Community-Based Safety and Violence Prevention Trainings



LARRP is proud to partner with The Amity Foundation to present an 8-week workshop on Community-based Public Safety (CBPS). This training aims to inform and equip partner organizations with the tools to apply CBPS to their work and develop customized community safety strategies. The workshops emphasize that criminal justice reform requires comprehensive efforts, including rehabilitative laws and support to address the root causes of violence. Join us to become agents of community peace building and healing through robust preventative plans for violence. This will be a back to back 2 hour long, 8 workshop series.

Join Us

Where was LARRP in June?

Take a look back at some moments from the JCOD Father's Day CARE celebration! Building connections and creating welcoming spaces for justice-impacted families to feel seen, valued, and surrounded by others who understand their journey is what successful reentry is all about. From ice cream trucks, face painting, and live music to games, free health screenings, job recruitment sessions, and legal services, every element contributed to our supportive community. We are truly grateful for all the fathers and father-figures who support and uplift our youth —it truly takes a village.

JCOD Father's Day





DOORS Pride Resource Fair

What an amazing Pride celebration at the D.O.O.R.S. Reentry Community Center last Thursday! LARRP was thrilled to host an incredible event filled with joy, community, and resources, featuring Disneyland tickets and gift card prizes, reentry resources, fun music, and games. A huge thank you to our D.O.O.R.S.'s partners for making this event unforgettable: Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, A New Way of Life Reentry Project, Five Keys Schools and Programs, Chrysalis, and the Los Angeles County Justice, Care and Opportunities Department.

Troy at the Juneteenth Legacy Brunch at Soho House

Our Executive Director and Co-Founder, Troy Vaughn, was honored to speak at the Juneteenth Legacy Brunch hosted at the Los Angeles Soho House. The event was a day full of celebration, community, and inspiration. It was an unforgettable gathering that emphasized the importance and beauty of Juneteenth and the ongoing pursuit of equality and justice..



LARRP Executive Director Troy Vaughn and LARRP Chair Doug Bond

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Holly Mitchell Juneteenth Celebration

We had a wonderful time attending Holly Mitchell's 4th Annual Juneteenth Festival in Carson. With dancing, drums, games, prizes, arts, resources, activities, food, live performances, and so much more, it was a beautiful, intentional, and meaningful celebration of culture and community.

Featured Jobs and Opportunities

Center for Living and Learning

Job Position: Residential Aid

People with a criminal record are encouraged to apply
Work Location: In person San

Community-Based Reentry Incubator Initiative

The Latino Coalition for Community Leadership is excited to announce the Community-Based Reentry Incubator Initiative is accepting applications starting July 1, 2024.
The Community-Based Reentry Incubator (CBRI) Initiative offers



Launch of POC Data Dashboard Featuring Juvenile Detention Data

Work Location: In-person San Fernando Valley, CA: Relocate before starting work (Required)

More Info



LARRP Is Hiring!!!

Join Our Team!

One Full Time Jobs is Still Available:
Program Assistant

community and faith-based organizations capacity building and funding to advance their organizational growth and sustainability.
More info



Designing Creative Futures

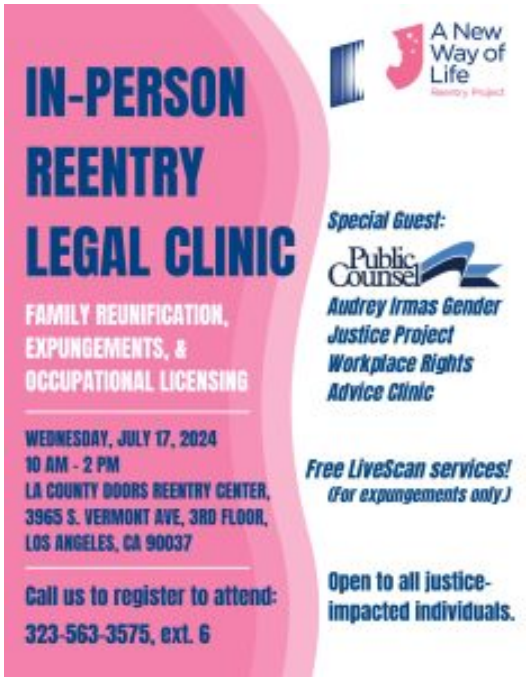
An arts-focused internship program for formerly incarcerated individuals California Lawyers for the Arts Paid Reentry Internship Application deadline July 14th
More Info

This is a new digital platform providing transparent access to juvenile detention data in Los Angeles County. The POC Data Dashboard debuts with data from 2022 onwards and features critical insights into juvenile detention patterns, including:

- Deployments of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) spray by Probation Officers.
- Demographics (age, gender, ethnicity) of pre- and post-adjudicated youth.
- A breakdown of youth in juvenile halls by case status.

Go to Dashboard

Don't miss out! Upcoming events in July



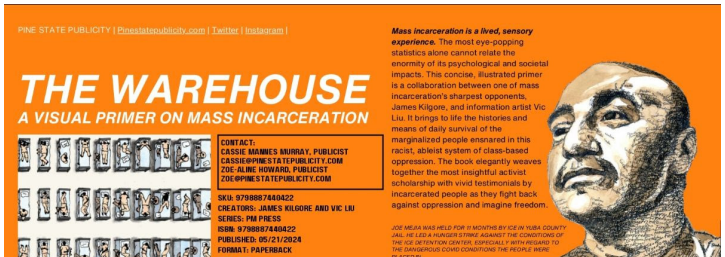
In-Person Reentry Legal Clinic

Wednesday, July 17, 2024, 10am - 2pm
DOORS Reentry Center
3965 S. Vermont Ave, LA, 90037
Register by calling 323-563-3575 ex 6



Ancestral Healing Movement Meditation

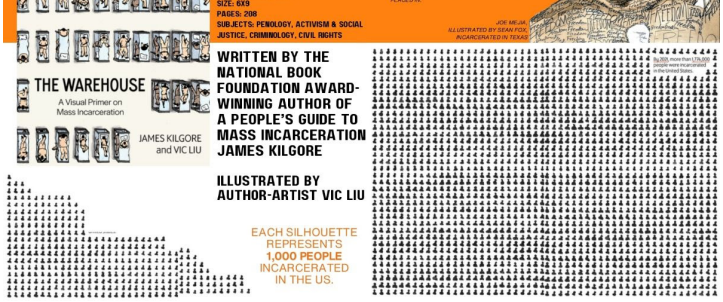
July 11, 2024, 11:00am - 12:00pm
We'll explore personal and ancestral healing through various scales of movement, aiming to release outdated energies and thoughts. This session incorporates epigenetics to understand how we can unlock resilience and embrace a healthier path forward.
Register





Summer Night Lights (SNL)

July 3rd - August 9th, Wednesday - Saturday
Summer Night Lights (SNL) is held across various locations in Los Angeles between the hours of 7-10:30pm Wednesday thru Saturday. SNL provides a space for the community to enjoy free hot meals, sports and arts activities, and various resources. If you are interested in participating ***please submit a form*** response and our



CCWP Hosts Virtual Book Launch for The WAREHOUSE

Wednesday July 10, 6:30pm

Author James Kilgore & Author-Artist Vic Liu in Conversation with KD Dixon, California Coalition for Women Prisoners Q&A + discussion with participants
The WAREHOUSE is a concise, visual primer on mass incarceration which brings to life the histories and means of daily survival of the marginalized people ensnared in "the largest system of incarceration in human history."
Register

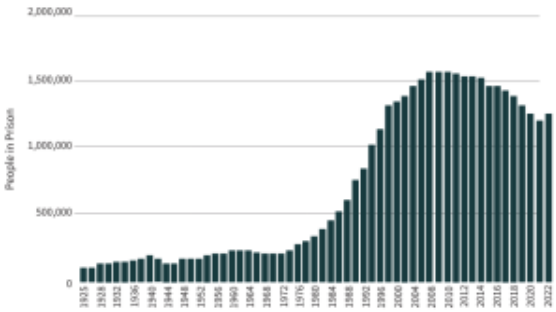
SNL team will reach out to collaborate further.



Compassion Ministry Giveaways in Lancaster

Total Deliverance Church
43423 Division Street, #301 Lancaster, CA, 93535
compassion@TotalDeliveranceChurch.org

Featured Reports



Mass Incarceration Trends (New Update)

The Sentencing Project, By Ashley Nellis, Ph.D., May 21, 2024

Report findings include:

- Nearly two million people are living in prisons and jails instead of their communities. Compare this figure to the early 1970s when this count was 360,000 people.
- Black men are six times as likely to be incarcerated as white men and Latinx men are 2.5 times as likely.
- One in 7 people in prison has a life sentence.
- 4.4 million Americans are barred from voting due to laws restricting this right for those with felony convictions.

The social, moral, and fiscal costs associated with the large-scale, decades-long investment in mass imprisonment cannot be justified by evidence of its effectiveness. Misguided changes in sentencing law and policy – not crime – account for the majority of the increase in correctional supervision.



The Second Look Movement: A Review of the Nation's Sentence Review Laws

The Sentencing Project, By Becky Feldman, May 15, 2024

Legislatures in 12 states, the District of Columbia, and the federal government have enacted "second look" judicial review policies to allow judges to review sentences after a person has served a lengthy period of time.

Read the Report



Read Report



Shadow Budgets: How mass incarceration steals from the poor to give to the prison

Prison Policy Initiative, By Brian Nam-Sonenstein, May 6, 2024
Revenues from communication fees, commissary purchases, disciplinary fines, and more flow into "Inmate Welfare Funds" meant to benefit incarcerated populations. However, our analysis of prison systems across the U.S. reveals that they are used more like slush funds that, in many cases, make society's most vulnerable people pay for prison operations, staff salaries, benefits, and more.
Read More



Incarceration and Crime: A Weak Relationship

The Sentencing Project, By Nazgol Ghandnoosh, Ph.D. and Kristen M. Budd, Ph.D., June 13, 2024

Nearly 50 U.S. states have reduced both incarceration rates and crime in the last decade. We don't have to return to a punitive playbook in the face of recent crime upticks.
Read the Report

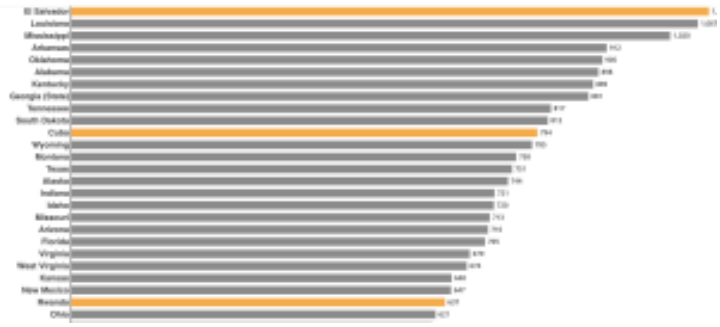


Out of Step: U.S. Policy on Voting Rights in Global Perspective

By the Prison Policy Alliance, ACLU, and Human Rights Watch
By Nicole D. Porter, Alison Parker, Trey Walk, Jonathan Topaz, Jennifer Turner, Casey Smith, Makayla LaRonde-King, Sabrina Pearce and Julie Ebenstein, June 27, 2024

The United States is an outlier nation in that it strips voting rights from millions of citizens solely on the basis of a criminal conviction. As of 2022, over 4.4 million people in the United States were disenfranchised due to a felony conviction. While many U.S. states have scaled back their disenfranchisement provisions, a trend that has accelerated since 2017, the United States still lags behind most of the world in protecting the right to vote for people with criminal convictions.

Read More



States of Incarceration: The Global Context 2024

Prison Policy Initiative, by Emily Widra, June 2024
If we imagine every state as an independent nation, as in the graph above, every state appears extreme. While El Salvador has an incarceration rate higher than any U.S. state, nine states have the next highest incarceration rates in the world, followed by Cuba. Overall, 25 U.S. states and three nations (El Salvador, Cuba, and Rwanda) have incarceration rates even higher than the national incarceration rate of the United States. Massachusetts, the state with the lowest incarceration rate in the nation, would rank 30th in the world with an incarceration rate higher than Iran, Colombia, and all the founding NATO nations.
Read More

In the News - June 2024

Featured News Article

The scheme to break up the anti-Prop 47 coalition

Politico, California Playbook, By Emily Schultheis, Will Mccarthy, 06/10/2024

The scheme to break up the anti-Prop 47 coalition

coalition



Will McCarthy, 06/10/2024
Prosecutors and retailers worked together to qualify an initiative rolling back parts of the decade-old criminal-justice reform known as Proposition 47. The big question this week: How long can rural sheriffs and the board of Walmart share a common vision for fighting crime?
Now Gov. Gavin Newsom and Democratic leaders are scheming to get the measure off the ballot by pulling the coalition partners in opposite directions. The Democratic-led Legislature is moving forward with a suite of bills addressing many of the retailers' concerns, with a new crime category for serial theft and a crackdown on the resale of stolen goods.
READ MORE

More News Stories



Supreme Court rules cities may enforce laws against homeless encampments

LA Times, By David G. Savage, June 28, 2024
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Friday that cities in California and the West may enforce laws restricting homeless encampments on sidewalks and other public property.
Read More



California lawmakers add measure to end forced prison labor to the November ballot

LA Times, By Anabel Sosa, June 27, 2024
If passed by voters, the ballot measure would end mandatory work requirements for state prisoners, instead making jobs for those incarcerated voluntary.
"The current practice of forced labor does not prepare incarcerated people for success upon reentry and often prevents rehabilitative services," said Sen. Steven Bradford (D-Gardena) during Thursday's floor session. "Let us take this step to restore some dignity and humanity for the often forgotten individuals behind bars."

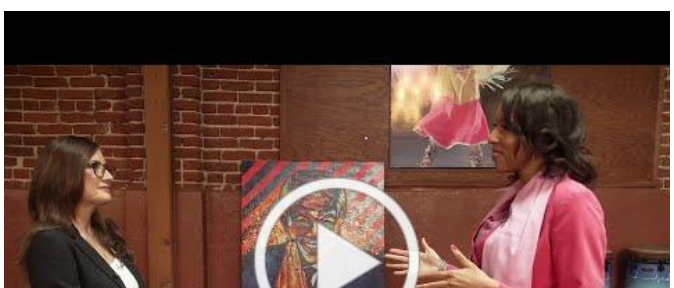


Tinisch Hollins on the Rollback Attempt of Prop 47

Everyday Injustice Podcast Episode 240: Davis Vanguard, June 24, 2024

A decade ago, California voters passed Prop. 47 which reduced the punishment of simple drug possession and petty theft to misdemeanors, while raising the felony threshold from $400 to $950 for petty theft.
From the start, the measure passed by the voters has garnered criticism from law enforcement and other tough-on-crime groups and has been blamed for the rise in fentanyl use as well as a rash of high-profile retail thefts and smash and grabs.
However, as Tinisch Hollins, executive director of Californians for Safety and Justice, the state's leading public safety advocacy organization, told the Vanguard—this is a false narrative

Watch/listen



Read More



L.A. County juvenile halls are so violent that many officers are skipping work

LA Times, By Rebecca Ellis, June 27, 2024 3 AM PT
On the night that a young person stole a key, scaled a wall and briefly escaped, 100 probation officers were scheduled to work at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. About 60 of them never showed up.
Read More



An Ankle Monitor Gives a False Taste of Freedom

Vera Institute for Justice, Wesley Vaughan, Jun 25, 2024
"I spent 30 months on an ankle monitor. It felt crueler than jail."

Parole and probation are far from benign—they are the silent giants fueling mass incarceration in this country. One of the weapons parole and probation departments use to perpetuate the cycle of incarceration is the electronic monitor, and it is emblematic of how "community supervision" has strayed so far from its intended purpose of rehabilitation and reintegration. Currently, almost exclusively, its primary function is one of surveillance. A surveillance department ready to strike at the least possible incarcerating infraction on the long list of mainly arbitrary and ambivalent rules.
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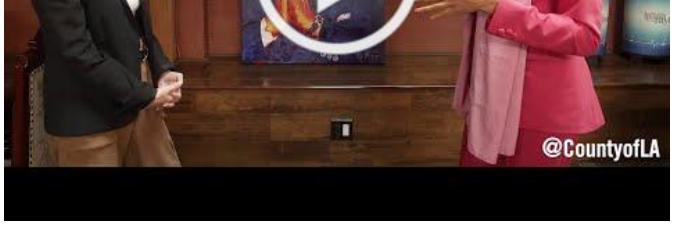

LA County Presents - One on One; JCOD Director Judge Songhai Armstead (Ret.)

LA County Channel LA36, Jun 7, 2024
Watch the insightful interview with JCOD Director Judge Songhai Armstead (Ret.) with Naibe Reynoso on LA County Presents - One on One and learn about the critical work of JCOD, the innovative programs supporting justice-involved individuals and the department's ongoing efforts to promote equity, justice and community support across LA County.



Editorial: Clean California is ending. So are jobs for formerly homeless and incarcerated people

By The LA Times Editorial Board, June 6, 2024
In the three years since Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the Clean California initiative, massive amounts of litter and trash have been hauled away from state highways and the land around them by thousands of people who might not otherwise have found work.
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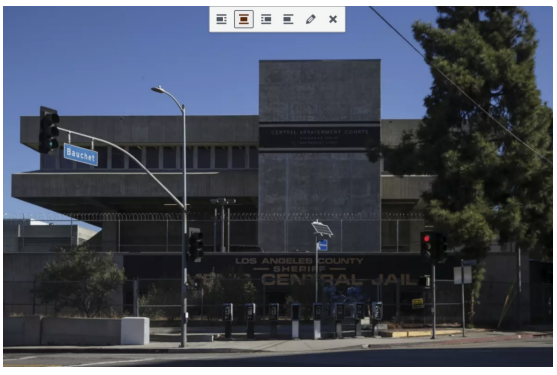

Inmate hung a noose. Jailers too busy watching 'explicit video' to intervene, inspectors say

LA Times, By Keri Blakinger, June 5, 2024

Gov. Newsom, Legislative leaders consider putting new crime initiative on November ballot

KCRA, Ashley Zavala, Jun 22, 2024

SACRAMENTO, Calif. —Gov. Gavin Newsom and some Democratic lawmakers are now considering placing a crime-related measure on the November ballot to compete with an initiative that has already qualified meant to enhance penalties for drug traffickers and repeat thieves. Five sources close to the situation, but who are unauthorized to speak publicly about it, confirmed to KCRA 3 the new initiative is an effort to continue negotiating the measure that would reform parts of Proposition 47 off of the November ballot.

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Feds Closed a Prison Notorious for Abuse. Things Only Got Worse

Rolling Stone, By Lisa Fernandez, June 5, 2024
Dozens of women were assaulted at the Federal

Correctional Institute in Dublin, California, before it was shut down. Now, prisoners are facing “mass retaliation and bullying”

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Nobody Checked On Us

Witness LA, June 17, 2024, by By Sergio Coronel
I was released from the old Fresno Juvenile Hall when I was thirteen. I had no reentry plan or support for coming back to my varrio, a neighborhood that needed more programs and care for youth. There were two churches in the varrio, but they never helped us out. The members would stare at us as we walked by, and I always felt judged. So, I went back to the only social group where I felt protected, respected, seen, heard, loved, and like I belonged to something: the gang.

When a pair of oversight inspectors walked up to one of the deputies’ stations inside Men’s Central Jail last month, they were already exasperated. During their visit to the high-security unit, the inspectors later wrote in their report, they’d been concerned to see a noose in one of the cells. They were even more concerned when they realized a jailer had walked by for a safety check and ignored it.

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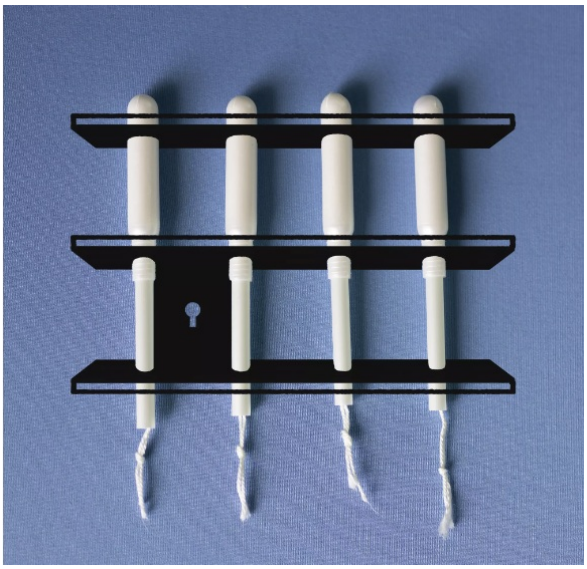

For some incarcerated women, getting ahold of menstrual products is a nightmare

(Note: LARRP is a cosponsor for Assembly Bill 1810)

LA Times, By Anabel Sosa and Keri Blakinger, June 2, 2024
One of the things Alissa Moore remembers clearly from her time in prison is how the guards taunted her when she asked for a tampon. Sometimes they’d outright refuse. Other times they’d ask her to come to a closet or a back room, where she said, on several occasions, she was sexually assaulted.

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Helping former Inmates, addicts or homeless People rebuild their lives

CBS News, June 16th 2024

Story about LARRP Steering Committee Member ***Center for Living and Learning***

Watch



Why California Is Swinging Right on Crime

The Atlantic, By Conor Friedersdorf, JUNE 9, 2024

Viral videos and their outraging, perception-changing, galvanizing effects may have propelled both outraged skepticism of tough-on-crime tactics and the backlash to it.

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Why a 'reimagined' detention system for juveniles has stalled in LA County

Los Angeles Daily News, By Jason Henry, Pasadena Star News, June 2, 2024

The proposal, dubbed "Youth Justice Reimagined," was developed over more than a year by a working group that included advocates, law enforcement, defense attorneys and prosecutors. The most dramatic reform would take juvenile detention out of the control of the Probation Department in light of its "history of reform failures" and instead place it under Youth Development's oversight. Now, that reform may never come to fruition due to unexpected legal constraints, while other key components of the policy inch forward, years behind schedule.

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The Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) wins 4 Awards!

JCOD's Justice Connect Support Center, Incubation Academy, D.O.O.R.S and LACTC Earn National Achievement Awards

LOS ANGELES, June 10, 2024– The Justice, Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) was recently recognized with four 2024 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for JCOD's

Justice Connect Support Center, Incubation Academy, Developing Opportunities and Offering Reentry Solutions (D.O.O.R.S) and Los Angeles County Training Center (LACTC). The awards honor innovative, effective County government programs that strengthen services for residents.

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