

Confronting the Moral Crisis of Mass Incarceration

Understanding the Criminal Justice System, Making Change Happen in Illinois,
and Addressing the Needs of the Incarcerated and of Those Who Have Been Released

OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES FOR GETTING INVOLVED

Revised September 17, 2018

Note: New additions to this list and new information since the last update **are shown in bold**.

Digital Access

Please go to <http://incarcerationreform.com/> for digital access to:

- This document, with live links to the information discussed here about events, volunteer and training opportunities, needs for advocacy, resources for learning, and organizations deserving our support
- Documents discussing how the criminal justice system at every stage in the process systematically diverges from just results and contributes to a cycle of crime and punishment
- Presentation Videos from Winter 2018 Programs on Confronting the Moral Crisis of Mass Incarceration.

Headlines Re: **Upcoming Events, Advocacy, Recent Reports and Articles, Training, Legislative Update**

Upcoming Events in Illinois - more details and links available starting at page 3 below regarding:

Tuesday September 18 from 10:00 - 11:00 am. at Randolph and Clark Streets
Downtown rally against use of cash bail to demand full implementation of Chief Judge Evans' General Order 18.8A limiting the use of cash bail,

Thursday September 27 from 11:30 to 1:30 at the University Club at 76 East Monroe
Annual Luncheon of the John Howard Association in support of its work in monitoring prisons and supporting prisoners in Illinois

Thursday October 4 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at Ignite Glass Studios at 401 North Amour in Chicago – Benefit in support of Recipe for Change and its transformative work in training inmates in the cooking school that it operates in the Cook County Jail

Friday October 5 through Saturday October 13
5th Annual (In)Justicefor All Film Festival - - 50 films at 16 locations throughout the Chicago area

Monday October 8 through Thursday October 11 from 8:00 to 9:30 am, daily
Advocacy Training (multi-day boot camp or "a la carte" individual sessions) presented by Restore Justice (location to be determined)

Monday October 15 from 10 am - 2:00 pm at 750 South Halsted, Room B
Annual Policy Conference of the Council of Advisors to Reduce Recidivism through Employment (CARRE), focused on developing and implementing strategies to reduce recidivism through removing barriers to employment and promoting successful reentry practices

Current Opportunities for Advocacy - see details in the Advocacy section beginning on page 6

Supporting the Bond Reforms in Cook County

Please go online to sign the [petition to support bond reform](#) asking the County's Criminal Justice Stakeholders to protect and fully implement important bond reforms implemented in September 2017

Time Sensitive Support for Reducing Housing Discrimination In Cook County Against Those With a Criminal Record. There are details on page 4 below on how to:

1. Endorse the initiative of the Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance and Housing Action Illinois to amend the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit landlords:
 - from refusing to rent to an individual because of an arrest record and
 - from having a policy of not renting to anyone who has been convicted of a crime,
2. Act now to meet the extended deadline of October 15 for completing the process of joining the effort to build grass roots support in each Cook County Commissioner District by ordering a supply of cards now to be signed by individuals and returned to Patricia Fron by October 15 to be presented to the County Commissioners of the districts in which they reside (see details on page 6 below)

Supporting an End to Penal Enslavement and Human Rights Violations in Prisons

Go to the link on page 5 to sign the petition supporting the changes that demanded by prisoners participating in the recent nationwide prison strike

Recent Reports and Articles:

Two new reports from Professor David Olson, Graduate Program Director in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Loyola University Chicago:

The Rise (and Partial Fall) of Illinois; Prison Population, June 2018

<https://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/criminaljustice/pdfs/prisonpopulationgrowthbulletinjune20183.pdf>

which examines what drove the increase (and recent decrease) in Illinois' prison population.

Cook County's Criminal Justice System: Trends and Issues Report, June 2018

<https://luc.edu/media/lucedu/criminaljustice/pdfs/Cook%20County%20Trends%20and%20Issues%20Report%20June%202018.pdf>

which h provides a detailed understanding of the Cook County/Chicago justice system and indicators of crime, arrests, court processes and sentencing practices.

Illinois Attorney General Candidates' Responses to the Criminal Justice Questionnaire Prepared by a Coalition of Organizations led by the Illinois Justice Project

<https://www.iljp.org/agquestionnaire>

Independent Analysis of Cook County State's Attorney Data from the People's Lobby and Chicago Appleseed, June 11, 2018

<https://www.thepeopleslobbyusa.org/independent-analysis-of-states-attorney-data/>

August 2018 Report on Treatment of Mentally Ill Inmates in America's Jails - Horrific Deaths and Brutal Treatment -

https://pilotonline.com/news/local/projects/jail-crisis/article_5ba8a112-974e-11e8-ba17-b734814f14db.html

Report of August 13, 218 from Injustice Watch about a lawsuit in California against a private company for extorting exorbitant fees from low-income defendants for electronic monitoring services.

<https://mailchi.mp/injusticewatch/electronic-monitoring-lawsuit?e=3238a8f6cd>

Illinois Justice Project News Summary through 8/26/18 -

<https://www.iljp.org/news>

Training Opportunities - more detail and links available in the Training section on page 10

Monday through Thursday, September 17 to 20

Restorative Justice Training - offered by Trinity Nehemiah Rising

Saturday September 22 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Advocacy Training presented by Restore Justice at BUILD Chicago, 5100 W Harrison St. in Chicago

Legislative Update - see details starting at page 7 below in the Advocacy section regarding:

- **Governor Rauner's actions on bills that the Legislature passed and sent to him this summer, and**
- **Bills on which the Legislature did not act and that may get further consideration in the future**

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Upcoming Events in Illinois

Conversation on Incarceration sponsored by Restore Justice with Sister Helen Prejean, who was the subject of the film "Dead Man Walking Thursday September 13 from 8:00 am to 9:30 am, at the Home of Susanne Dumbleton in Streeterville:

Address will be shared upon RSVP by September 10, 2018, to [Claire Gaiefsky at: claire@restorejustice.org](mailto:claire@restorejustice.org)

Two showings by the Community Renewal Society of the film Milwaukee 51306, which explores the impact on families and the community of the incarceration of a majority of the men in the predominantly black area of zip code 51306 in Milwaukee

- Friday, September 14, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the New Faith Baptist Church International, 25 Central Ave, Matteson, IL
register at: https://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/calendar/Milwaukee-53206_09-14
and
- Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:00 PM at Old St. Patrick's Church, 625 W Adams St in Chicago
register at: https://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/Milwaukee-53206_09-17

Downtown rally against the use of cash bail, Tuesday September 18 from 10:00 - 11:00 am at Randolph and Clark Streets, to demand full implementation of Chief Judge Evans' General Order 18.8A limiting the use of cash bail,

More information available at <https://mailchi.mp/chicagobond/join-us-on-sept-18th-to-endmoneybail-in-cook-county?e=a459dae235>

Advocacy Training Saturday September 22 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at **BUILD Chicago**, 5100 W Harrison St. in Chicago, presented by Restore Justice

register at: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/#sept18training>
for more information, go to: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/>

Annual Luncheon of the John Howard Association, Thursday September 27 from 11:30 to 1:30 at the University Club at 76 East Monroe, in support of its work in monitoring prisons and supporting prisoners in Illinois

for more information and to register, go to <http://www.thejha.org/luncheon2018>

Benefit for Recipe for Change, Thursday October 4 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at Ignite Glass Studios at 401 North Armour in Chicago –in support of its transformative work in training inmates in the cooking school that it operates in the Cook County Jail

for more information and tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/recipe-for-change-tickets-48281660747>

5th Annual (In)Justice for All Film Festival - Friday October 5 through Saturday October 13 - 50 films at 16 locations throughout the Chicago area

Selections and times and places of showings will be available at <http://www.injusticeforallff.com/>

Advocacy Training (multi-day boot camp or "a la carte" individual sessions) Monday October 8 through Thursday October 11 from 8:00 to 9:30 am, daily (location to be determined) presented by Restore Justice

register at: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/#oct18training>
for more information, go to: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/>

Annual Policy Conference of the Council of Advisors to Reduce Recidivism through Employment (CARRE), Monday October 15 from 10 am - 2:00 pm at 750 South Halsted, Room B, focused on developing and implementing strategies to reduce recidivism through removing barriers to employment and promoting successful reentry practices

To register without charge go to www.saferfoundation.org/CARRE

For more information to go <http://www.saferfoundation.org/Press/News/17th-annual-carre-policy-conference>

Volunteer Opportunities in Illinois:

Opportunities to be a Pen Pal with someone who is incarcerated. Find details for:

Black and Pink's program at <http://www.blackandpink.org/pen-pals/>

The **Write a Prisoner** program at <https://www.writeaprisoner.com>

The **Friends Beyond the Wall** program at <http://www.friendsbeyondthewall.com>

The **Write to Prisoners Project** at <https://prisoninmates.com/>

Go to <https://jmail.cc/> for further information about how to communicate with prisoners without disclosing your address

The Federal Prisons all have email via www.corrlinks.com

Volunteer opportunities at the **John Howard Association** in:

Prisoner Information Services

General Administrative/Office & Fundraising

Citizen Prison Monitoring

Learn more from Scott McWilliams at smcwilliams@thejha.org

or by visiting: <http://thejha.org/volunteer>

To volunteer in the jail with JHA monthly or get involved with election implementation, fill out the our Google form at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XhDg5BR2G7KeDfBLzYSgaNiev6CLvf5wzOUzWBTRh1k/edit>

Volunteer opportunities at **St. Leonard's Ministries** including mentoring, training in interviewing and other skills,

Learn more from Sharon Kushiner at skushiner@slministries.org

Volunteer with the **Chicago Community Bond Fund** to support individuals in their hearings in bond court

Register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1WZrbPZp8o9T15lozyFE5XAT5-iCi0JefhRB9CbRhVQOT6A/viewform>

Daily opportunities to court watch and support people in **Cook County Bond Court**:

- You can attend bond court, which is held daily at 1:30 pm (including weekends) at 2600 S California, to observe whether the new rules restricting the use of cash bail are being followed.
- Here is the [complete schedule of bond hearings in Cook County](#).
- Note that the normal court room (room 100) is currently under construction, so the situation could be a little wonky for the next couple months.)

Volunteer with the **Lawndale Christian Legal Center**:

- to provide academic tutoring assistance to LCLC youth
- to be a mentor to a young person in Lawndale on the journey to become a good citizen
- to provide part time job placements for LCLC youth
- to offer specialized skills in info tech, website development, graphic design, accounting, etc.
- to Host a house party or corporate networking event benefitting LCLC to introduce your friends and colleagues to LCLC
- to join the volunteer legal team

learn more at <http://lclc.net/partnering/volunteering/>, or <http://lclc.net/partnering/>, go to <http://lclc.net/contact-us/> or contact Maggie Lamb, at mlamb@lclc.net or 773-762-6381 to get involved

Volunteer opportunities at **Cabrini-Green Legal Aid**:

1. Helping people expunge and seal their criminal records (attorneys)
2. Assisting CGLA with data input for the thousands of people we are working to clear their records.

learn more from Eve Kleinerman at evekleinerman@cglanet.net

Volunteer opportunities at **Safer Foundation** at locations throughout Illinois and eastern Iowa

Learn more at: <http://saferfoundation.org/How-You-Can-Help/Volunteer>

Volunteer to register voters in in the **Cook County Jail** (requires voter registration training)

3:00 to 6:00 p.m. on July 8

[Click here to sign up](#)

Learn more <http://www.uupmi.org/calendar.html>

And for more information see: <https://chicago.defender.com/2018/04/18/voting-behind-bars-2/>

Volunteer to join a **Unitarian Universalists Covenant Group** meeting every other week with incarcerated people

Learn more at: <http://www.uupmi.org/prison-ministries.html>

Volunteer opportunities in **Illinois Correctional Facilities** through the Department of Corrections

Learn more at <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/programs/Pages/VolunteerPrograms.aspx> and from the volunteer coordinators at each facility (available at the phone number for each facility available at a link in that page

Volunteer opportunities at the **Community Renewal Society** in Policy and Organizing, depending on

available time commitment and areas of interest -see: www.communityrenewalsociety.org.

Member of the Restoring Rights and Opportunities

(2018 criminal justice reform priorities currently under consideration)

Watch for possible volunteer opportunities:

- To work on the **5th annual (In)justice for All Film Festival** - October 4 to 13, 2018
Regular planning meetings are now underway
See <http://www.injusticeforallff.com/>
Learn more from: Daryle Brown - debrown@trinitychicago.org

Issue Advocacy in Illinois

With The Cook County Board of Commissioners on Reducing Housing Discrimination In Cook County Against Those Who Have Been Arrested and Those Who Have Been Convicted of a Crime.

Acting now as noted below to support the initiative the Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance and Housing Action Illinois to amend the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance to prohibit landlords:

- from refusing to rent to an individual because of an arrest record and
 - from having a policy of not renting to anyone who has been convicted of a crime,
- by incorporating HUD guidance under the Fair Housing Act into a Cook County Ordinance. (Landlords would retain the right to consider prior convictions on an individual basis.)

See: <https://www.cafha.net/jhi-subpage2>

1. Fill out the Endorsement Form, available at <https://www.cafha.net/jhi-main>, to endorse the proposed amendment to the Human Rights Ordinance, and send in the completed form to Patricia Fron, Executive Director, Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance, 401 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1101, Chicago 60605
2. Act NOW by writing to Patricia Fron at pfron@cafha.net to order supplies of the "post card" forms, shown at <https://www.cafha.net/jhi-main>, and using them to obtain signed individual endorsements of the proposed Amendment of the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance by:
 - getting individual citizens of Cook County to fill out and sign the post card form,
 - collecting the signed forms, and
 - returning them by October 15 (for sorting and presentation to the Commissioners for the districts in which each individual resides) to Patricia Fron, Executive Director, Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance, 401 South LaSalle Street, Suite 1101, Chicago 60605

For more information go to the website above or contact Patricia Fron at pfron@cafha.net

With Cook County Officials on Supporting and Expanding Bond Reform in the County

Attending the Downtown rally against the use of cash bail, Tuesday September 18 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at Randolph and Clark Streets - see above.

Going online to sign the [petition to support bond reform](#) asking the criminal justice stakeholders in the Cook County Government and the Cook County Court System to protect the important bond reforms implemented in September 2017 and to work to ensure their full implementation.

Writing and calling Sheriff Tom Dart to demand that he obey the law and stop refusing to release accused people that the courts have ordered to be released pending trial:

at (312) 603-6444, sheriff.dart@cookcountyil.gov or 50 W. Washington St. Chicago 60602

See: *Dart's Misguided Approach to Jail Reform* at:

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/ct-perspec-dart-misguided-jail-reform-toni-preckwinkle-0313-story.html>

and *No need for Tom Dart to be gun-shy on bail reform* at

<http://www.chicagoreporter.com/no-need-for-tom-dart-to-be-gun-shy-on-bail-reform/>

In Support of Basic Human Rights of Incarcerated People

Going to the following link to sign a petition supporting the demands of prisoners participating in the recent prison strike for an end to penal enslavement and other human rights violations in prisons:

https://www.dailykos.com/campaigns/letters/sign-and-send-the-petition-demand-basic-human-rights-for-incarcerated-people?detail=emailactionLL&link_id=0&can_id=5704777eccbe23910611b0d58fa9f3cd&source=email-its-going-down-largest-prison-strike-in-us-history-continues-sign-and-send-the-petition&email_referrer=email_413003_subject_520398&email_subject=usa-the-country-that-incarcerates-25-of-the-worlds-population-sign-and-send-the-petition

See also:

<https://therealnews.com/stories/prisoners-strike-across-america-canada-to-end-penal-enslavement>

Summary of Governor Rauner's Actions on Bills Passed by the Legislature in 2018 and Sent To Him This Summer:

"Car Jacking:

Governor Rauner signed [HB 1804](#), which creates a significant potential for felony convictions for car jacking without proof that they know that a car that they are driving has been stolen.

Prisoner rights

- o Voting Rights - Governor Rauner issued an amendatory veto of [HB 4469](#) which would insure that people held in jails in Illinois can vote.
 - He has recommended removing the provisions added to the Counties Code and the Unified Code of Corrections regarding voter registration and the provision of voting rights information. (Deletes reference to: 55 ILCS 5/3-15003.3 new; 55 ILCS 5/3-15003.4 new; 730 ILCS 5/3-2-2.3 new; 730 ILCS 5/3-14-1)
- o Medical copays- Governor Rauner issued an amendatory veto of [HB 5104](#), which would abolish the \$5 copay that IL inmates must pay to see a doctor
 - He has recommended reducing from \$5 to \$3.90 the co-payment for non-emergency medical or dental services for persons committed to the Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice (rather than prohibiting the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice from requiring a committed person to pay a co-payment for medical or dental services).

Impact of Court Fees, Fines and Cost Assessments

- o Fair Access to Employment Act - Governor Rauner signed [HB 5341](#), which prohibits consideration of unpaid fees, fines or assessments ordered by a court, law enforcement or other units of government in determining whether someone can seal their criminal record in order to avoid discrimination in Employment, effective August 10, 2018 as Public Act 100-0776.
- o Criminal and Traffic Assessment Act – Governor Rauner signed [HB 4594](#), which organizes and consolidates court fees and costs that are imposed on court users and creates a sliding scale fee waiver for poor criminal defendants, effective August 20, 2018 as Public Act 00-0987.

Diversion From Incarceration

- o Incentives for Counties to Divert Those Charged to Community Based Services – Governor Rauner signed [SB 3388](#), which expands eligibility to participate in Adult

Redeploy Illinois (ARI) to all probationable offenses, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act 100-0999.

- o Community-Law Enforcement Partnership for Deflection and Addiction Treatment Act – Governor Rauner signed [SB 3023](#), which allows law enforcement to facilitate contact between community members and substance use treatment providers, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act 100-1025.

Criminal Penalties and Data Collection

- o Driving on a Suspended License – Governor Rauner signed [HB 3920](#), which reclassifies as a petty offense (rather than a Class A misdemeanor) the first two instances of driving on a suspended license due to unpaid traffic fines and failing to pay support or to comply with visitation orders, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act 100-1004.
- o Data Collection About Corrections Issues – Governor Rauner signed [HB 4888](#), which requires the inclusion of specific data, such as incidence of violence in correctional facilities, parole revocations by county, completion of evidence-based programs, vacancy rates at work-release centers, in Department of Corrections' quarterly report, to enable executive team to review, identify trends and take steps to mitigate violence, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act.

Registries and Collateral Consequences

- o Registration of Offenders – Governor Rauner signed [SB 3489](#), which allows individuals required to register on the Murder and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry to request review of any errors in the information that led to the registration mandate, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act 100-0946.
- o Use of Medical Marijuana – Governor Rauner signed [SB 336](#), which authorizes the Department of Public Health to establish the Opioid Alternative Pilot Program The program to allow treatment of a medical condition with medical marijuana rather than an opioid, and to remove the restriction for individuals with conviction for "excluded offenses" on eligibility for a cannabis registry identification card, effective August 28, 2018
- o Publication of Criminal Records – Governor Rauner signed [SB 2560](#), which provides that any website that publishes criminal record information for profit shall correct any errors in a record within 5 business days of notification of the error and shall not publish booking photographs for civil offenses and offenses that are classified as less than a Class A misdemeanor, effective January 1, 2019.

Policing

- o Ticket Quotas – Governor Rauner signed [HB 3509](#), which ends the practice of establishing quotas for the number of tickets that Police must issue, effective January 1, 2019 as Public Act 100-1001.

Gun safety:

- o Gun Purchase Waiting Period – Governor Rauner signed SB 3256, which increases the waiting period on all gun purchases to 72 hours.
- o Firearms Restraining Order – Governor Rauner signed HB 2354, which allows family or law enforcement to petition the courts to have a firearms temporarily removed from the home of a person determined to be a risk to themselves or others, effective January 1, 2019.
- o SB 337 (Combating Illegal Gun Trafficking Act) to require that Federal Firearms License holders in Illinois be certified by state police - not yet sent to the Governor.

Possible Future Advocacy with the Illinois State Legislature:

Find your state rep's contact info here.

Pending Bills on which the Legislature did not complete action and that may be considered in the future:

SAFE ACT (Illinois House Bill 5308), which passed the Senate and that may be taken up by the House, for passage in the November "veto" session. This legislation would mobilize state economic development and social service agency outreach to the communities most damaged by violence.

- For more information on the SAFE Act, including a fact sheet and a supporters list, please visit www.iljp.org/thesafeact/.

Further "car jacking" legislation (Illinois Senate Bill 2339), supplementing House Bill 1804 / Illinois Senate Bill 2), which Governor Rauner signed into law, related to proof of intent of juveniles accused of possessing a stolen vehicle.

- see: "Cracking down on armed carjacking in Chicago and the suburbs," Sun-Times Feb. 12

Suspension of Drivers Licenses

Illinois Senate Bill 2411 (the "License to Work Act", a practical proposal of great value that would eliminate an existing law that allows drivers licenses to be suspended for non-driving offenses, thereby depriving people of the ability to keep a job and driving many poor (mostly black and brown) citizens further into poverty and often into a life of crime.

Action needed to encourage your state Senator to support this legislation

For more information see the Action alert of the Safer Foundation at:

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1102405162255&ca=bf4df71b-7cff-4171-a582-a2b8103bbaeb>

Sentencing Reform:

Illinois House Bill 3355 – To Implement Recommendations of the Illinois State Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform

Learn more from: Ben Ruddell - bruddell@ACLU-il.org

Juvenile Justice:

Illinois House Bill 531 – to reintroduce parole in Illinois for juveniles

Learn more from: Jobi Cates: jcates@restorejustice.org

Illinois House Bill 4473 - to require that a juvenile be brought before a judge within 24 hours of arrest to determine whether he or she should be further held in pre-trial custody

Learn more at: jjj@jjustice.org

Illinois House Bill 4336 - to raise the age of juvenile detention to age 13 from age 10

Learn more from: Jennifer Vollen-Katz of the John Howard Association: jvollen@thejha.org and from Elizabeth Clarke at bc@jjustice.org<bcjuv@aol.com>

Illinois Senate Bill 1265 - to mandate lawyers for children during interrogation

Learn more from Elizabeth Clarke at bc@jjustice.org<bcjuv@aol.com>

Illinois House Bill 4543 - to implement youth support services to provide alternatives to detention and to prevent deeper criminal involvement

Learn more from: <http://www.uuani.org/>

Prisoner Rights and Opportunities:

Illinois House Bill 4505 - to authorize Illinois to participate in the Federal Prison Industry Enhancement Certification ("PIE") Program, which would provide Federal funds to develop training programs for inmates in Illinois Prisons (details attached here)

Learn more from: Patrick Simon patrick.simon@illinois.gov or Michael Lane michael.r.lane@illinois.gov at the Illinois Dept. of Corrections

Illinois House Bill 4741 - to safeguard prison visiting rights

Learn more from: Jobi Cates: jcates@restorejustice.org

Illinois House Bill 4888 - to require improvements in conditions, treatment, accountability and communication and structural changes in the operation of the Department of Corrections, and collection and sharing of information and data

Learn more from Jennifer Vollen-Katz: jvollen@thejha.org

Restrictions on Rights and Opportunities of Former Inmates and those convicted of a crime:

Illinois Senate "Path To Restoration" Bill 3489 - to allow individuals that are subject to registration after release from prison in the Violent Offender Against Youth Registry to amend incorrect information and appeal their inclusion in the database.

Learn more at <https://www.imacentral.org/support-path-restoration/>

Illinois House Bill 3142 - to prohibit colleges, universities, and trade schools from asking or considering an individual's criminal record for purposes of admissions

Learn more from: Samantha Tuttle : stuttle@heartlandalliance.org

Illinois House Bill 5340, the License to Work Act - to eliminate the practice of restricting the rights to a driver's license or vehicle registration as a result of things such as a failure to satisfy a fine or penalty, failure to pay a taxes or civil penalties owed to the Illinois Commerce Commission, or being a convicted sex offender.

Maintenance of records of offenses:

Illinois Senate Bill 3415 - to permanently continue traffic and pedestrian data stop collection in Illinois

Learn more from Chelsea Diaz at CDiaz@aclu-il.org

Records of Eviction Proceedings

Illinois House Bill 4968 - to provide for sealing and impoundment of a court file for an ----- eviction action in which the court does not find that a tenant or an occupant has materially breached the lease

Learn more from Bob Palmer at bob@housingactionil.org

Availability and Allocation of Resources

Legislation to redirect budget priorities toward social services and away from incarceration

See: <https://chicago.suntimes.com/opinion/recognition-of-budget-cuts-not-enough-time-to-fund-up/>

State Financial Resources

Legislation to amend the Illinois' Constitution to allow enactment of a progressive income tax:

Learn more from: Alex Tindal Weisendanger - alex@responsiblebudget.org

Political Organizations - Engaging with Political Organizations with a Focus on Criminal Justice Issues

Law Enforcement Leaders To Reduce Crime and Incarceration - <http://lawenforcementleaders.org/>

The People's Lobby - <https://www.thepeopleslobbyusa.org/>

Critical Resistance – <http://criticalresistance.org/>

Responsible Budget Coalition - <http://www.responsiblebudget.org/>

Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression - <http://naarpr.org/>

Training Opportunities in Illinois

Restorative Justice Training - offered by:

- Trinity Nehemiah Rising - bc@jjustice.org<bcjuv@aol.com>

Monday through Thursday, September 17 to 20

Learn more from - Michelle Day at mday2@sbcglobal.net

- Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice - <http://www.ibarj.org/>

- Community Justice for Youth Institute - https://www.facebook.com/pg/Community-Justice-for-Youth-Institute-141340905931890/about/?ref=page_internal

Advocacy Training Saturday September 22 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at **BUILD Chicago**, 5100 W Harrison St. in Chicago, presented by Restore Justice

register at: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/#sept18training>
for more information, go to: <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/events/advocacy-camp/>

Training Offered by the People's Lobby

Saturday October 6 at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Core Team Training (location to be determined)

Saturday October 6 also at 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Political Analysis Training (location TBD)

Saturday November 10 at 9:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Second Saturday Leadership Training
at the Lutheran School of Theology at 11 East 5th Street

Tuesday November 13 at 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - Money Training (location to be determined)

Saturday December 8 at 9:15 to 1:00 - Second Saturday Leadership Training
at the Lutheran School of Theology at 11 East 5th Street

Details at <https://www.thepeopleslobbyusa.org/calendar/>

Click on the event name to RSVP

Six-hour Circle Facilitator's Training workshop for leading covenant groups in prisons and jails, offered by the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois -.contact for information on schedule:

<http://www.uupmi.org/prison-ministries.html> and <http://www.uupmi.org/registration.html>

Radical Hospitality 101 - cultivating skills needed to work with currently or formerly incarcerated people, offered by the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois at the Third Unitarian Church, 301 N. Mayfield Ave, Chicago

Learn more at: <http://www.uupmi.org/radical-welcome.html>

Electronic Newsletters and Updates:

ACLU of Illinois - register for updates at <https://www.aclu-il.org/>

Safer Foundation newsletters - register for the weekly newsletter at <http://www.saferfoundation.org/>

Clergy for a New Drug Policy Newsletter - register for the newsletter at <http://newdrugpolicy.org/blog/>

Juvenile Justice Initiative - register for updates at <http://jjustice.org/category/news/>

Children and Family Justice Center newsletters register at

<http://www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic/cfjc/>

Brennan Center for Justice updates - register at:

<http://www.brennancenter.org/civicism/profile/create?gid=13&reset=1>

Law Enforcement Leaders To Reduce Crime and Incarceration - register at:

<http://lawenforcementleaders.org/>

Restore Justice News and Updates - subscribe at <https://restorejusticeillinois.org/>

Community Renewal Society Updates - register at

http://salsa3.salsalabs.com/o/50480/p/salsa/web/common/public/signup?signup_page_KEY=9322

Lawndale Christian Legal Center - subscribe to get updates at

https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001s6pS_QJvIMMkL_b4df4pbveyzEEC1hAysXxryuS1c8ldoxGpSzNJGCL6F5Rt7Kmw_NetOdqc0WlzpAzzegWIS3gmXfoMj5roTyxL8ZJi7rd7vzhAJmsnEdfkrp5LIDj1TpHPiGpufiWGXGcrPENHxYSarGjruyyr

Inner-City Muslim Action Network - register at <https://www.imacentral.org/>

Social Justice Resource Center Monthly Newsletter - subscribe using the link on the home page at <http://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/>; for past Newsletters, [click here](#).

Media Organizations Follow and Support-

Illinois Justice Project's news summary -

To subscribe contact jimbray1@mac.com

Archive of past issues is available at:

<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=eec202973d7612f9b029f7a8d&id=04ed805c10>

The Marshall Project - <https://www.themarshallproject.org/>

Center for Media Justice - <http://centerformediajustice.org/about/>

Injustice Watch - <https://www.injusticewatch.org/>

WBEZ - <https://www.wbez.org/>

ProPublica Illinois - <https://www.propublica.org/about/illinois/>

The Chicago Reporter - <http://www.chicagoreporter.com/category/key-issue/criminal-justice/>

The Atlantic - <https://www.theatlantic.com/projects/the-presence-of-justice/>

Rattling the Bars Initiative of The Real News Network -

http://therealnews.com/t2/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=832&Itemid=74&jumival=1441

Restorative Justice - Supporting Organizations That Provide Restorative Justice Training or Operate Restorative Justice Hubs

Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation <https://pbmr.org/>

Lawndale Christian Legal Center Restorative Justice Hub - <http://lclc.net/programs/rjhub/>

Nehemiah Trinity Rising - <https://www.nehemiahtrinityrising.org/>

Circles and Ciphers - <http://www.circlesandciphers.org/>

Other Organizations to Support and Follow -

- Donating to 501(c)(3) Organizations That Are Devoted to Criminal Justice Reform and
- Checking Their Websites for Information About:
 - Criminal Justice Reform Efforts and
 - Opportunities to Get Involved in Their Work

Organizations Leading Reform Efforts

ACLU of Illinois - <https://www.aclu-il.org/>

Action Committee for Women in Prison - <https://acwip.wordpress.com/>

Brennan Center For Justice - <https://www.brennancenter.org/issues/justice-all>

Center for the Study of Human Flourishing of King's College in New York City
<https://www.tkc.edu/academics/centers/cshf>

Chicago Appleseed - <http://www.chicagoappleseed.org/criminal-justice/>

Chicago Community Bond Fund - <https://chicagobond.org/site/give/index.html>

Civil Rights Corps - <http://www.civilrightscorps.org/>

Clergy for a New Drug Policy – <http://newdrugpolicy.org/>

Coalition To End Money Bond - <http://www.chicagoappleseed.org/coalition-to-end-money-bond/>

Community Renewal Society - <http://www.communityrenewalsociety.org/>

Faith in Public Life - <https://www.faithinpubliclife.org/>

Heartland Alliance - <https://www.heartlandalliance.org/>

Housing Action Illinois - <http://housingactionil.org/who-we-are/mission-values-vision/#>

Human Rights Watch - <https://www.hrw.org/united-states/criminal-justice>

Illinois Justice Project - <https://www.iljp.org>

John Howard Association – <http://www.thejha.org/>

Juvenile Justice Initiative - <http://jjustice.org/about-us/>

Mental Health America of Illinois - <http://www.mhai.org/>

Restore Justice - <https://restorejustice.org/about-us/>

Shriver Center for Poverty Law - <http://www.povertylaw.org/communityjustice>

Social Justice Resource Center - <http://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/criminal-justice-system/>

Southern Poverty Law Center - <https://www.splcenter.org/issues/mass-incarceration>
Worthy Now Prison Ministry Network of the Church of the Larger Fellowship -
<https://worthynow.org/>

Organizations and Initiatives Led by Former Prisoners -

Ex-cons for Community and Social Change - <https://www.facebook.com/TyroneECCSC/>
Learn more from Tyrone Farrakhan Muhammad at tyronemuhhammad17@gmail.com
Inmates for Change - <http://illinoisinstitute.net/idea-exchange/inmates-for-change/>
Learn more from Budder Jones at inmatesforchange@yahoo.com
Inner City Muslim Action Network ("IMAN") - <https://www.imacentral.org/>
Learn more from Rami Nashashibi at shamar@imacentral.org

Other Organizations Serving the Accused, Those Incarcerated, and the Formerly Incarcerated

Bard Prison Initiative - <https://bpi.bard.edu/>
John Howard Association - <http://www.thejha.org/>
Lawndale Christian Legal Center - <http://lclc.net/>
Mental Health America of Illinois - <http://www.mhai.org/>
Nehemiah Trinity Rising - <https://www.nehemiahtrinityrising.org/>
Positive Pathways Chicago - www.positivepathwayschicago.org
Prison and Neighborhood Arts Project - <http://p-nap.org/donate.html>
Reading Between the Lines - <https://www.readingbetweenthelines.org/>
Recipe for Change - <http://recipeforchangeproject.org/>
Safer Foundation - www.saferfoundation.org/
Saint Leonard's Ministries - <https://slministries.org/>
Shriver Center for Poverty Law - <http://www.povertylaw.org/communityjustice>
Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) - <http://www2.tasc.org/>
Thresholds - <http://www.thresholds.org/>
Westside Health Authority - <http://healthauthority.org/>

Learning From the Experts -

Presentation Videos From Winter 2018 Programs on Confronting the Moral Crisis of Mass Incarceration - now available digitally at

<http://incarcerationreform.com/>

and

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2ZYmD3yv4fw9RsoMo1_jXA

Discussion of the Origins and Impact of Mass Incarceration - January 25, 2018

- Rev. Al Sharp, Professor David Olson, Sharone Mitchell, moderator Rob Wildeboer

Discussion of Imprisonment, Release and Reentry - February 1, 2018

- John Baldwin, Jennifer Vollen-Katz, Victor Dickson, Erwin Mayer, moderator John Bouman

Discussion of Alternatives to Incarceration - February 8, 2019

- Pam Rodriguez, Mark Ishaug, Professor Mark Heyrman, moderator Carroll Bogert

Discussion of What's Changing, What More Needs to be Done, What We Can Do To Help -
February 15, 2018

Amy Campanelli, Kim Foxx, John Maki and Ben Ruddell, moderator Rob Wildeboer

Earlier presentations on Mass Incarceration and Criminal Justice Reform from the fall of 2017

are also available at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2ZYmD3yv4fw9RsoMo1_jXA:

Rev. Al Sharp - How Our System of Incarceration Has Developed, and Some Key Issues - 9/10/17

Jahmal Cole - Broadening Horizons of Chicago's Youth - 9/17/17

Amy Thompson - How the Criminal Justice System Works, Barriers to Reducing Incarceration - 9/24/17

Courtney Lance - *Pruno, Ramen and a Side of Hope: Stories of Wrongful Conviction* - 10/1/17

Andrea Ritchie - Special Problems with the Treatment of Women and LGBT People - 10/15/17
Rev. Andrew McGowan - How Faith Communities Engage with Integrity and Impact - 10/22/17
Pam Rodriguez - Adult and Juvenile Alternatives to Incarceration - 11/05/17
Paula Wolff - Criminal Justice Reform: a Historical Perspective - 11/12/17
Toni Preckwinkle - County Reform Initiatives: Progress and Next Steps - 11/19/17
Nate Steinfeld - Prison Reform Initiatives: Proposals, Actions and Practical Implications - 11/26/17
Mark Ishaug and Jill Valbuena - Focus on Mental Health Issues and Imprisonment - 12/3/17
Professor David Olson - Who Pays: The Real Cost of Excessive Criminalization - 12/07/17
Ben Ruddell - Pending Criminal Justice Reform Legislation - 12/10/17
Erwin Mayer - Release and Reentry - Issues Facing Those Who Leave Prison - 1/7/18

Other Sources of Ideas/Information/Advocacy on Criminal Justice Reform

Materials Distributed at Programs on Confronting the Moral Crisis of Mass Incarceration in the Winter of 2018

Now available digitally at <http://incarcerationreform.com/>

Projects and Campaigns

Coalition to End Money Bond

Learn more at <http://www.chicagoappleseed.org/coalition-to-end-money-bond/>

Coalition on Court Costs, Fines, and Fees of Chicago Appleseed Fund for Justice

See discussion at: <http://www.chicagomag.com/city-life/March-2018/How-Court-Costs-Trap-People-in-Povertyand-How-Lawmakers-Are-Trying-to-Fix-It/>

Smart Decarceration Initiative of the

Center for Social Development, Washington University-St. Louis

Learn more at <https://csd.wustl.edu/OurWork/SocialJustice/Decarceration/pages/default.aspx>

#ChallengingEcarceration: Electronic Monitoring project of the Center for Media Justice proposes guidelines for the use of electronic monitoring

<http://centerformediajustice.org/our-projects/challengingecarceration-electronic-monitoring/>

Social Media Kit for spreading word about the proposed guidelines is available at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18RLoS0XTfjp2wtIAqp_Q12FiwAEhgoeCWwZEtKgKX2l/edit

Recent Articles and Reports:

Two new reports from Professor David Olson, Graduate Program Director in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Loyola University Chicago:

The Rise (and Partial Fall) of Illinois; Prison Population, June 2018

<https://www.luc.edu/media/lucedu/criminaljustice/pdfs/prisonpopulationgrowthbulletinune20183.pdf>

which examines what drove the increase (and recent decrease) in Illinois' prison population.

Cook County's Criminal Justice System: Trends and Issues Report, June 2018

<https://luc.edu/media/lucedu/criminaljustice/pdfs/Cook%20County%20Trends%20and%20Issues%20Report%20June%202018.pdf>

which provides a detailed understanding of the Cook County/Chicago justice system and indicators of crime, arrests, court processes and sentencing practices.

Illinois Attorney General Candidates' Responses to the Criminal Justice Questionnaire Prepared by a Coalition of Organizations led by the Illinois Justice Project

<https://www.iljp.org/agquestionnaire>

Independent Analysis of Cook County State's Attorney Data from the People's Lobby and Chicago Appleseed, June 11, 2018

<https://www.thepeopleslobbyusa.org/independent-analysis-of-states-attorney-data/>

Report of August 13, 218 from Injustice Watch about a lawsuit in California against a private company for extorting exorbitant fees from low-income defendants for electronic monitoring

services.

<https://mailchi.mp/injusticewatch/electronic-monitoring-lawsuit?e=3238a8f6cd>

Horroric Deaths and Brutal Treatment - August 2018 Report on Treatment of Mentally Ill Inmates in America's Jails -

https://pilotonline.com/news/local/projects/jail-crisis/article_5ba8a112-974e-11e8-ba17-b734814f14db.html

Article on Complexity and Criminal Justice by Nathan Robinson in *Current Affairs Magazine* issue of April 24, 2018:

<https://www.currentaffairs.org/2018/04/complexity-and-criminal-justice>

Chicago Appleseed May 2018 Report on the Importance of Reforming Wealth-Based Driver's License Suspension

<http://www.chicagoappleseed.org/driven-into-debt/>

Metropolitan Planning Council May 2018 report on how to decrease the impact of segregation and move the Chicago region toward increased racial equity and economic opportunity:

[Our Equitable Future](#), including the importance of cash bail reform to break the link between people with low incomes and incarceration

A Synopsis of the 16th Annual Policy Conference of the Council of Advisors to Reduce Recidivism through Employment on October 16, 2017 (CARRE)

<http://www.saferfoundation.org/Safer-Policy-Institute>

Why Illinois Needs to Restore Parole for Juvenile Lifers

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/ct-perspec-parole-juvenile-lifers-prison-illinois-children-criminals-0222-story.html>

Monitoring Cook County's Central Bond Court: A Community Courtwatching Initiative,

issued February 27, 2019 by the Coalition to End Money Bond, see [the press release](#) issued by the Coalition for more details

Stemming the Tide: Diverting Youth with Mental Health Conditions from the Illinois Juvenile Justice System - <http://povertylaw.org/stepping-the-tide>

Handcuffs in the Hallways: The State of Policing in the Chicago Public Schools

<http://povertylaw.org/handcuffs>

Archives

Educating Ourselves archive of the Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois -

<http://www.uupmi.org/self-led-learning>

Websites:

National Reentry Resource Center - <https://csgjusticecenter.org/nrrc>

The Sentencing Project - <https://www.sentencingproject.org/>

Children and Family Justice Center - <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic/cfjc/>

Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission - <http://ijjc.illinois.gov/publications/commission-resources>

Justice Divided - <https://justicedivided.com/>

Black and Pink - <http://www.blackandpink.org/>

Adult Redeploy Illinois - <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/redeploy/>

Illinois Institute for Community Law and Affairs -

<http://illinoisinstitute.net/idea-exchange/category/news-articles-essays/>

The Mental Health Summit - <https://mentalhealthsummit.wordpress.com/>

Prison and Neighborhood Art Project Resources page - <http://p-nap.org/resources.html>

Gains Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation of The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) – <https://www.samhsa.gov/gains-center>

State Innovation Exchange - <https://stateinnovation.org/issue/criminal-justice-reform/>

American Legislative Exchange Council - <https://www.alec.org/issue/criminal-justice-reform/>

Books:

Race to Incarcerate, by Sabrina Jones and Marc Mauer

The Real Cost of Prisons Comix, by Lois Ahrens

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander

Locked In, by John Pfaff

The Collapse of American Criminal Justice, by William Stuntz

The Protestant Ethic and The Spirit of Punishment, by T. Richard Snyder

Not a Crime To Be Poor, by Peter Edelman

Men on the Inside, by Tyrone Muhammed - available for purchase at:
<http://www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/tyrone-f-muhammad/men-on-the-inside/paperback/product-23336713.html>

Policing the Black Man, edited by Angela Davis
Inside Private Prisons, by Lauren-Brooke Eisen

Theater:

Lettie, by Boo Killebrew – premiered in the spring of 2018 at Victory Gardens Theatre –
Portrays the struggles of a woman who has been released from prison
Inspired by the experience of women at Grace House of St. Leonard's Ministries in Chicago
more information at: <http://victorygardens.org/our-season/lettie/>

Film:

- "13th" (Netflix documentary on criminalization of African Americans and the U.S. prison boom) –
more information at: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80091741>
- The new CNN Films Production: "*American Jail*," premiering Sunday July 1, 2018 at 8:00 pm Eastern Time on CNN and CNNgo - see: <https://www.cnn.com/shows/american-jail-film>
- Fifth annual *(In)Justice for All Film Festival*, Friday October 5 through Saturday October 13 -
50 films at 16 locations throughout the Chicago area
For more information to go <http://www.injusticeforallff.com/>

Sources of Reentry Services and Support for Returning Citizens

New Texting Resource to facilitate communication between returning citizens and service providers
more information about the pilot program available at <https://www.tiltas.co/>;

see also the discussion at:

<http://www.chicagobusiness.com/article/20180524/ISSUE01/180529974/chicago-startup-tiltas-connects-ex-offenders-to-nonprofit-services>

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership - <http://www.workforceboard.org/>

Chicago Jobs Council Member Directory - http://www.cjc.net/member_dir.php

Green Reentry – A project run by the Inner-City Muslim Action Network. They rehab foreclosed and vandalized property in Chicago Lawn. These are then used for transitional housing for ex-offenders during their reentry - <https://www.imacentral.org/project-green-reentry/>

Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) - offers insurance to high-risk workers including ex-criminals who need insurance to get certain types of jobs, through a Federal Bonding program -

Illinois Department of Employment Security / Chicago Jobs Council Website: Workforce Resources for those who Assist Ex-offenders - www.ides.state.il.us/exoffenders

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) – Focuses on ex-offenders building and/or maintaining relationships with their children, employment and life skills - <https://www.lssi.org/services-prisoner-family.php>

MPOWR – A reentry network that connects many different people and organizations involved in the criminal justice system.

National H.I.R.E. Network / Legal Action Center - Services to ex-felons to help them in areas such as listing of agencies that help ex-felons with job placement - <http://www.hirenetwork.org/>

Positive Pathways of Chicago - Provides a unique training program works to re-develop the relationship and employability skills of formerly incarcerated and underemployed adults to

prepare for and obtain meaningful and lifelong employment -for more information contact [com www.positivepathwayschicago.org](http://www.positivepathwayschicago.org)

Re-Entry Illinois – A directory of services and reentry housing for ex-offenders in Illinois - <http://www.reentryillinois.net/>

Reentry Source – A large organization that has branches in multiple states, offering free reentry services for people with criminal records looking for a better life

Resource Directory of Reentry Friendly Services and Housing - developed by the Corporation for Supportive Housing and Chicago Metropolis 2020 - www.reentryillinois.net/

Safer Foundation – Education , employment services, other services - <http://www.saferfoundation.org/>

7-70 Re-entry Services – A faith-based organization that provides coaching, mentoring, and counseling - <http://70x7liferecovery.org/re-entry/>

St Leonard's House – Provides transitional housing, job training and placement, and other support services - <http://slministries.org/>

Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) -- advocacy and case management services - <http://www2.tasc.org/>

Teamwork Englewood – Serving the South Side of Chicago, supporting ex-offenders connect with partners at their headquarters in Englewood - <http://www.teamworkenglewood.org/index.html>

Thresholds –helping ex-offenders create better lives and stay out of prison - <http://www.thresholds.org/>

Sources of Legal Aid for Accused and Those Released from Prison

Cabrini Green Legal Aid -www.cgla.net

Lawndale Christian Legal Center - <http://lclc.net/>

Illinois Legal Aid Online - <http://www.illinoislegalaidonline.org/>

Juvenile Expungement Help Desk - in the Juvenile Court Building at 1100 South Hamilton, Chicago, IL 60612; call for more information: 312.347.8373

CGLA Expungement Help Desk, in room 1006 at the Daley Center, 312.850.4783