

Volunteer Opportunities in Illinois:

Chicago Community Jail Support – on-site assistance 5:00 to 10:00 pm daily at 27th and California for those being released from Cook County Jail, run entirely by volunteers

/ <https://chicago-community-jail-support.webnode.com/>

Learn how to volunteer at:

<https://chicago-community-jail-support.webnode.com/my-work/>

Learn about volunteer roles at:

<https://chicago-community-jail-support.webnode.com/volunteer-roles/>

Learn of other ways to contribute:

<https://chicago-community-jail-support.webnode.com/donate/>

Follow on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook:

<https://chicago-community-jail-support.webnode.com/follow-us/>

Become a Buddy assisting the Illinois Prison Project in working with a client who is leaving prison *register to participate in the next one-time Buddy Program Orientation on January 31 at:*

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfJsE5yhqha0FmDTEEQEd0iXTs4FPmPb6bQxm7NBXLzasVxA/viewform>

The Illinois Prison Project also needs attorneys from anywhere to participate *pro bono* remotely in filing for clemency on behalf of incarcerated veterans – the next cohort begins meeting for training and support once a week for five weeks, starting in the week of February 14, along with beginning to meet with an assigned client .

Join the Illinois Alliance for Reentry and Justice (as an individual or an organization) at

<https://www.ilarj.org/>

Volunteer to help the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (“ICJIA”) in reviewing applications for grants being awarded by ICJIA for justice related projects in Illinois

Register here: https://icjia.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7WdQmeqmqzqkPHWC

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

Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry Network through the **Church of the Larger Fellowship Ambassador Program for Illinois** /

follow the steps outlined at <http://www.uupmi.org/penpals.html>

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

Campaign to Free Incarcerated Survivors of Police Torture (CFIST)

Learn how to help in seeking pardons from Governor Pritzker at <https://www.caarpr.org/cfist>

Join the CFIST list serve by writing to cfist@caarpr.com

to participate in the monthly online CFIST meetings at 6:00 the first and third Thursday of each month

to help in drafting the survivor stories for these men. See

https://www.caarpr.org/survivor_stories

Tutor/Mentor Program of the Tutor/Mentor Institute – Volunteer to tutor at risk kids all over Chicagoland. *Get more information at:* <http://www.tutormentorexchange.net/volunteer>

Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign (<http://housingnothandcuffs.org/about/>) –

Contact Rajan Bal at rbal@nlchp.org or (202) 638-2532 x 105 to get involved in helping to organize the campaign

Kolbe House Prison Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago – volunteer to help prep, deliver, or underwrite the cost of meals for their twice monthly FAITH night--Families Affected by Incarceration; contribute basic items to their clothing and food pantry which serves individuals coming out of jail and families in need, and find out about possible opportunities to participate in their in-jail ministry at the Cook County Jail

Information about how to learn more about Kolbe House's mission, ministry, and needs is available at <https://pvm.archchicago.org/human-dignity-solidarity/kolbe-house-jail-ministry/contact-us>

Defy Ventures <https://www.defyventures.org/>– volunteer to mentor incarcerated and formerly | incarcerated individuals in the entrepreneurial programs that enable them to find their inner strength and to become the CEOs of their own lives: <https://defyventures.org/take-action-main/volunteer-1>.

Register to be a volunteer at: <https://learn.defyventures.org/apply/>

To volunteer to participate in Defy Ventures' new book club, [Sign up here!](#)

Social Change – Volunteer to become a change agent in amplifying community voices and disrupting the legacy of systematic injustice through organizing, policy advocacy and storytelling, at <https://socialchange.site/join-us>

Storycatchers Theatre -Learn about a variety of rewarding volunteer alternatives from which you can choose for supporting the youth development programs of Storycatchers Theatre for young people who are incarcerated or who are working to rebuild their lives, depending on the amount of time that you have to get involved. Details available at: <https://www.storycatcherstheatre.org/get-involved/>

Help in the work of **Chicago Books to Women in Prison** (<https://chicagobwp.org/about-us/>) by contributing paperback books, hosting a book drive or fundraiser, volunteering in packaging and sending incarcerated women books that they have requested, or soliciting books from publishers and authors.

[Learn more here](#) or write chicagobwp@gmail.com and note "Volunteer Training" in the subject line.

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 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 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 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