LARRP October Spotlight

LARRP Receives Two Awards from the California Community Reinvestment Grant (CalCRG)

Investing in Social Equity: $28.5 Million Works to Counteract Impacts of the War on Drugs

“The California Community Reinvestment Grants program moves our community in the right direction, by helping us to begin addressing the biggest challenges in our communities ourselves. When we infuse resources into marginalized communities, we empower them to inspire, build and lift themselves up; because those that are most impacted by the system, are also those that have the greatest chance of changing the system.” - Troy F. Vaughn

We are thrilled to share with you all that LARRP was awarded two distinctive grants from the CalCRG (Prop 64) first round of funding.

Prop 64, the 2016 Adult Use of Marijuana Act, allocated tax revenues to a dedicated fund for community based organizations and county health departments to engage in work to repair the devastation caused by the 40+ year war on drugs.

See LARRP’s two awards

We send our congratulations to the many LARRP members who also received a grant, and look forward to working with all 25 LA based grant recipients. In total, GO-Biz made 69 awards across the state, releasing a total of $28.5 million in funding. This represents two years of GO-Biz’s state budget allocation (9.6 million for year 1 and $18.9 million for year 2).

You can read the full September 25th announcement here
To see the complete list of who was funded, see this file
We have a moral responsibility to address the War on Drugs’ multi-generational impacts that have marginalized communities throughout our state. Programs like CalCRG exemplify California’s commitment to this responsibility, and it ensures our cannabis marketplace remains rooted in social justice.” - Governor Gavin Newsom.

LARRP MEETINGS and EVENTS

October 17th, 2019
4:00-5:30 pm
LARRP Education Committee

LATTCC
400 W Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015
Cedar Hall Room K222

For parking you can enter the following parking lots and only park above the THIRD LEVEL!
Parking Structures
1) Olive Street Parking Structure
2) 24th Street Parking Structure

November 21st, 2019
9am-11am
LARRP Employment Committee Meeting
Location TBD.
Topic: Local Training Resources

Please note: LARRP General Meetings and other events are open to the public. By attending, you consent to having your voice and likeness recorded, photographed, posted on LARRP’s website and social media, and included in LARRP’s materials and publications for noncommercial purposes. If you don’t want to be photographed or recorded, please let the facilitator know so you can be seated accordingly.

LARRP's Free Legal Clinics The first Saturday of every month

Attorneys and paralegals from the Los Angeles Public Defenders Office will be onsite providing FREE post-conviction relief. Reentry services offered:
- Felony Reductions
- Dismissals
- Prop 47 and 64 Relief
- Certificate of Rehabilitation
- Referrals
- Voter Registration
- Employment Services

Next Clinic:
October 5, 2019
10AM -1PM
Amity Foundation
3750 S. Grand Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90007

LARRP Hosts Free Live Scan Fair at New DOORS Center – September 27, 2019

Among the highlights of the day:
- We served over 50 people with free live scans, special thanks to live scan host Councilwoman of Compton, Michelle Chambers and A-1 Mobile
As part of the 2nd Annual National Expungement Week, LARRP organized a Free Live Scan Fair at the new D.O.O.R.S. Center in partnership with the Probation Department and all community based organizations at the Center. The event was an opportunity to introduce DOORS to the broader South LA community, and inform the public about the many services and opportunities available at the Center. Chief Deputy of Adult Services for the LA County Probation Department, Reaver Bingham, visited and said, “This is exactly what we want to see taking place at the D.O.O.R.S. Center”.

We linked everyone with appointments to expunge their records through the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) team.

- We also provided linkages to services and program with the D.O.O.R.S. partners, America’s Job Center of California, and Christ Centered Ministries (CCM).
- Every attendee got a delicious box lunch by Manna Feast, sponsored by LARRP supporter Cresco Labs!

Special thank you to Los Angeles elected leaders who attended in support, Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer and Assemblymember Mike Gipson!

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ACTION ITEM

**Important votes at Board of Supervisors TODAY**

Attend, Call, or Email your comments

As you know, the LA County Board of Supervisors (BOS) meets nearly every TUESday at 9am to discuss and vote on critical County business, including all issues relating to criminal justice, reentry, and health services.

This week, TODAY, the BOS will be voting on two important motions, one to approve and advance the recommendations of the PRIT (Probation Reform Implementation Team) and create a newly empowered Probation Oversight Commission.

And the second motion addresses the Sheriff’s $63 Million overspending of his $3.5 Billion budget. See below for details on each motion.

You can sign up for agenda notification [here](#) or for LARRP Steering CMte member Joe Maizlish’s weekly summaries by [emailing him](#).

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**Board meeting**

**October 1, 9:30 a.m.**

**Public Safety – Law Enforcement:**

Implementing an Enhanced Structure for Probation Oversight: Establish the Probation Oversight Commission (POC) under Board authority, with the authorities and responsibilities of the existing Probation Commission, and with expanded authority and codified powers. (see motion and reports). Principal additional authorities are the ability to compel production of records and documents “in compliance with all laws and confidentiality protections,” and to conduct investigations through the Office of Inspector General (OIG), the OIG does concerning LASD

[Read the Motion](#)

For internal financial processes and controls within the LASD for accountability and fiscal responsibility: Request the Sheriff to implement a deficit mitigation plan; Direct the CEO to plan to recover from the LASD the $63,400,000 deficit spending it did in 2018-19; Implement an LASD hiring freeze; Direct the Auditor-Controller to hold $143,700,000 from various LASD budget units until a Board-approved budget plan is
**Poetic Justice**

_A new Series by LARRP Executive Director, Troy Vaughn!

While many know Troy Vaughn as the Executive Director of LARRP, the CEO of CCM Reentry Homes, or as Pastor of Inglewood Community Church, Troy is also an artist. LARRP is excited to feature Troy’s "Poetic Justice Series" on our blog space from time to time.

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**BAIL OUT**

When we say we want due process afforded to us we’re not asking you to bail us out of our responsibility to face the charges against us as you might say. We’re asking not to be locked up in a cage simply because we can’t afford the bail like some others can, even if they have the same charges, because they can pay.

Because when we create systems that work against the purpose of its original intent and become unfair to benefit the wealthy and not the poor.

We must soon face the hard truth that we don’t really care about justice for all, and we have lost sight of our nation’s creed; and this we can no longer ignore.

We have created a system of merchandise and are using our citizens like chattel to keep the rich in power, and the poor trapped in an ever-ending cycle of Russian roulette.

If we continue to play this game with the lives of our citizens, the chambered round of justice might just end up firing on those in power and to their regret.

The tide is turning in this land, and people are rising up to claim the rights afforded them under the Constitution in the Fourteenth, Eighth and Sixth Amendment.

We will no longer allow ourselves to be used to create wealth for others, and to maintain the power of the few, for we are many, and we are resilient.

The time for widespread wealth-based incarceration is over and we want our due process, equal protection, and a speedy and just trial for the charges we face.

We promise to return and face the allegations against us, just set us free before we’re convicted of a crime and trapped in cages that are designed to imprison our race.

To those that impose the laws that are on the books, let us return home to fight the charges that are against us; and this you can be assured and never doubt.

We are not asking that you grant us something for nothing, like the banks did in their bailout; our reform is quite simple, create a system that is fair for all and just let us get out.

Written by Troy F. Vaughn
September, 2019
**Partner Events**

**October 2, 2019**
2:30pm – 4:00pm
The Hall of Administration in DTLA, Room 743

**HIRE UP Kick-Off Meeting**
The HIRE UP program is collaboration between partner organizations, led by WDACS, that assists individuals who are homeless and those that are at-risk of homelessness, into a career pathway within high-growth sectors such as Construction, Hospitality, and Civil Service.

For more info, please contact **Nicholas Pisca, PhD**

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**October 17, 2019**
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Amity Foundation
3745 South Grand Ave, LA, CA 90007

**CCJBH NEEDS YOUR VOICE**
The Council of Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH) is conducting a community engagement event to listen to the perspectives and learn from the experiences of individuals with Lived Experience in the intersection of the criminal justice and behavioral health systems. We hope you can participate in this interactive event and have your voice heard.

**Purpose:** Through dialogue with critical system partners in policy and program implementation, identify strategies to increase housing outcomes, and funding resources for justice-involved individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges.

**Outcome:** Develop recommendations to improve housing outcomes for a CCJBH policy brief on the intersection of criminal justice, homelessness, and behavioral health.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

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**Chrysalis Partner Open Houses**

Chrysalis will be opening its doors to our partners next month and we would love to see you there. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our services and see our center. For more info: email Nancy.Martinez@ChangeLives.org.

**Chrysalis DTLA: Thursday, October 3rd**
522 S. Main St. Los Angeles, CA 90013, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
**RSVP**

**Chrysalis Santa Monica: Wednesday, October 9th**
1853 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

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**A Call for Collaboration! Join us in an interactive session to create opportunities for individuals**

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1853 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404. 2:00pm – 4:00pm
RSVP

Chrysalis San Fernando Valley: Wednesday, October 16th
13545 Van Nuys Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331, 2:00pm – 4:00pm
RSVP

October 17, 2019
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
College Behind Bars:
A Film Screening & Panel Discussion
Presented by The Michelson 20MM Foundation
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Main St, LA, CA 90012
Register

October 16, 2019
11:30-1:30 pm
Five Keys 4th Annual Partner Luncheon:
A Call for Collaboration
La Cañada Country Club
5500 Godbey Dr, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
Register

October 26, 2019
11AM - 2PM
The Catalina Room: 128 S. Catalina Ave. Redondo Beach, CA.
Criminal Justice Reform—Bridging the Gaps in the Criminal Justice System
It will be hosted by Mediators Beyond Borders International - Los Angeles Regional Group (MBBI-LA) in collaboration with community partners such as: Institute for Nonviolence Los Angeles, United Nations Association - Inland Empire, Centinela Youth Services, and others.

Tuesday, October 15
7:00 to 9:00 pm
What is the D.A.'s Role in the Transformation of our Justice System?
This month we feature the story about the ban of private prisons in California.

California Lawmakers Approve Ban of For-Profit Prisons and ICE Jails

*Democracy Now*, Sept. 13, 2019

California lawmakers voted Wednesday to ban private prisons statewide, in a major blow to the for-profit prison industry in the U.S. The legislation also orders the closure of four ICE prisons that can jail up to 4,500 immigrants. The bill now heads to Governor Gavin Newsom for his signature. Newsom said in his January inaugural address that California should "end the outrage of private prisons once and for all."

LARRP is always updating the Home page with recent news stories and there is a hefty archive of all the stories on the News Page.

More News Stories

I Host a Popular Podcast. I'm Also in Prison.

*The Marshall Project*, September 26, 2019, Rahsaan Thomas

"I'm hungry to make meaning out of destruction."

Read the piece

Opinion: NYC Should Learn from LA Before Building New Jails

City Limits September 27, 2019
By Coss Marte and Christopher Marte

Read the piece
Contra Costa to consider waiving certain court fees
The Mercury News
September 13, 2019, By Annie Sciacca
The moratorium would include probation report fees, public defenders’ fees and fees for alternative custody programs such as electronic monitoring and work alternatives to jail. Fees would be waived for everyone, regardless of ability to pay.

Read more

LA County May Soon Create A Civil Justice Defense Program To Address The Collateral Consequences Of Incarceration
Witness LA, September 11, 2019
Taylor Walker

Read the Article

A Visit with My (incarcerated) Mother
The Hill - Opinion
September 24, 2019, By Kathy Morse And Dr. Homer Venters

Read the piece

LA County Campaign Encourages Employing People With Criminal Records
City News Service, Sep 9, 2019

Los Angeles County supervisors and local business leaders announced on Monday The Fair Chance Hiring Initiative, which is aimed at encouraging companies to employ people who have been rehabilitated through the criminal justice system.

"We challenge employers to think outside the box when making their hiring decisions," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, who authored the motion to establish the Fair Chance campaign. "Studies clearly show that hiring rehabilitated people with past (criminal) records is a smart business move. They work harder, stay longer and promote faster than other employees."

Read the Article

Fair Chance

REPORTS

Featured Report

The 1619 Project
This month we would like to highlight a major initiative from The New York Times observing the 400th anniversary of the beginning of American slavery.

It aims to reframe the country’s history, understanding 1619 as our true founding, and placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of the story we tell ourselves about who we are.

Read the Series

We would especially like to highlight this article by Bryan Stevenson from the 1619 Series:

Slavery gave America a fear of black people and a taste for violent punishment. Both still define our criminal-justice system.