LARRP September Spotlight

LARRP’s Legislative Reentry Lobby Day with the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

On Wednesday, August 14, 2019, LARRP Policy Coordinator Joseph Petitt traveled to Sacramento to participate in the 2019 Ella Baker Center for Human Rights Lobby Day! The day started with meeting at the Sacramento SEIU Office Center, which was kicked off with a welcome from Zachary Norris of the Ella Baker Center and Public Safety Chair, Senator Nancy Skinner.

Then the EBC Policy team gave an overview on bills and brief training on meeting with Senators and Assembly members, assembled all of the participating participants with their lobby teams. We walked to the Capitol and spoke with policymakers on key bills that impact the reentry community:

- SB 136 (Wiener) Repeal Ineffective 1-Year Sentence Enhancements, the RISE Act,
- ACA 6: Restore the Right to Vote for People on Parole,
- SB 310 (Skinner) The Right to a Jury of Your Peers,
- SB 555 (Mitchell) Fair Access for Connections to Support, and AB 45 (Stone)
- Eliminating Medical and Dental Copays in Prisons and Jails.

Read the rest on our Blog

LARRP MEETINGS and EVENTS
September 12, 2019
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

LARRP General Meeting

NEW LOCATION - Plenty of Parking!
LARRP Office
742 North La Brea Blvd. Inglewood, CA 90302

September 19, 4:00-5:30 pm
LARRP Education Committee

Compton College: 1111 East Artesia Blvd. LA, CA, 90211
Boardroom, Building "A"
For parking info please contact- Julianna Mendez

The meetings will be every 3rd Thursday of the month.

September 7
10:00AM -1:00PM
LARRP's FREE Legal Clinic
First Saturday of Every Month

At the Amity Foundation
3750 S. Grand Ave. LA, CA 90007

Make sure to check out the upcoming September Webinars and all the resources constantly being posted on the LARRP Education Committee webpage

LARRP Education Committee

ACTION ITEMS

Fight voter suppression in California
End Mass Incarceration, Keep Ca Families Together
Paso SB 136
California's Constitution denies nearly 50,000 people the right to vote simply because they're on parole.

Tell your state assembly member to vote YES on ACA 6!

Pass SB 136

SB 136, will eliminate a one-year sentencing enhancement that adds additional years to the sentences of people with prior felony convictions – even though they've already served their time. Email your state assembly member now and ask them to vote YES on SB 136.

Faith Leaders, Join us in our letter to hold Governor Newsom accountable for ending private prisons in California by signing a clean AB 32 policy. Encourage your network of faith leaders to sign this letter.

Deadline to Sign-on: Sept 9th

Read our Letter

Sign this letter TODAY

New Feature! LARRP Member Newswire

Center for Living and Learning

CLL just wrapped up conducting door to door business outreach to over 5000 businesses in the SFV and Hollywood. The project through the City of Los Angeles, Office of Wage Standards consisted of distributing posters for employers on the minimum wage/sick pay and Fair Chance hiring laws. Thank-you to Leslie and Adriana, our LA:RISE graduates for enduring the hot summer heat in the SFV to deliver these important messages!
Please send any news updates about what you are doing so we can feature you on the Member Newswire. Tell us about any new appointments, jobs, or other reentry, newsworthy tidbits!

PARTNER EVENTS

September 28-29
Justice on Trial Film Festival
Loyola Marymount University

Monday, September 9
10:00am
Grand Park in Downtown Los Angeles.

Please join us at the press conference for the official launch of the Los Angeles County Fair Chance Pledge and Business Engagement Campaign!

CCJBH NEEDS YOUR VOICE
September 18, 2019
1:00PM – 4:30PM
Meeting location TBA

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,
JUSA LEADING WITH CONVICTION

Year-Long Leadership Training Program

Leading with Conviction (LwC) is an advanced leadership training for formerly incarcerated, mid-senior level leaders with a specific and proven track record in advocacy and community organizing.

LwC is a cohort based, 12-month opportunity for leaders from around the country. LwC takes place both in-person through four in-person forums, and remotely through six webinars, executive coaching, peer coaching, and regular communication.

Applications due: September 30, 2019

More Info and Apply Now

**NEWS**

**Featured News Story**

This month we feature stories about how the LA Board of Supervisors finally voted to halt new 'jail' Construction.

Los Angeles County Votes To Stop Construction Of New Jail-Like Facility, Adding Momentum To National Abolition Movement

The Intercept by Francisco Aviles Pino, August 22 2019

....On August 13, the movement had a pivotal victory. Following months of teach-ins, public forums, and office visits by JusticeLA, the Board of Supervisors voted to halt a $2.2 billion contract to build a gargantuan, jail-like mental health facility. Instead, the board will investigate how the county could invest in treatment programs and alternatives to incarceration.

The win is notable in part because it was driven not by reform politics but by an explicit call for prison abolition.

Read the Article

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

NY Times,
Aug. 15, 2019, Jill Cowan

...County leaders placed the decision to end the contract in the context of the broader national movement to change the criminal justice system, to emphasize treatment for substance abuse and mental illness, and to reduce jail and prison populations that swelled during the era of mass incarceration. Even as efforts have been made around the country to reduce prison populations, Los Angeles, despite its reputation as a progressive haven, has been a laggard.....

L.A. County Will Explore Possibility of Separating Youth from Probation
The Chronicle of Social Change
August 14, 2019, Jeremy Loudenback

On Tuesday, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors decided to move forward with exploring a new “care-first” direction for its juvenile justice system by moving it out of the county’s Probation Department...

No more ‘convicts’ or ‘felons’ if San Francisco passes criminal justice language proposal
LA Times
By Colleen Shalby, August. 22, 2019

A proposal from San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors would strip pejorative language from anyone with a criminal record

Executives Transforming Probation and Parole Initiative
The Chronicle of Social Change
August 19, 2019 by Jeremy Loudenback

Today in San Francisco, more than 50 current and former probation and parole chiefs have signed on to a
new initiative designed to reduce the number of adults who are under supervision in the country’s local probation and parole systems.

We asked 3 prisoners about the movement to give them voting rights

VOX,
Aug 20, 2019, Catherine Kim

Read what they had to say

California Governor Promises More Changes to “Biased, Random” Justice System
Signing a new law on police shootings, Gavin Newsom says he’s sending a message.

The Marshall Project
August 19, 2019, Abbie Vansickle

Read More

Restoring Pell Grants To Prisoners Benefits Us All

Detroit Free Press
August 16, 2019, Greg Handel and Margaret diZerega

Read More

REPORTS

Featured Report

What America's Users Spend on Illegal Drugs, 2006–2016

by Gregory Midgette, Steven Davenport, Jonathan P. Caulkins, Beau Kilmer

Research Questions

- How many people are using cocaine (including crack), heroin, marijuana, and methamphetamine in the United States?
- How much are they using?
- How much money are they spending?
- How have these quantities changed over time?

Read More
Arrest, Release, Repeat: How police and jails are misused to respond to social problems
Prison Policy Initiative
By Alexi Jones and Wendy Sawyer, August 2019

Police and jails are supposed to promote public safety. Increasingly, however, law enforcement is called upon to respond punitively to medical and economic problems unrelated to public safety issues. As a result, local jails are filled with people who need medical care and social services, many of whom cycle in and out of jail without ever receiving the help they need.

Conversations about this problem are becoming more frequent, but until now, these conversations have been missing three fundamental data points: how many people go to jail each year, how many return, and which underlying problems fuel this cycle.

Read the Report