LARRP Monthly Newsletter: February 2020

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!

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LARRP MEETINGS and EVENTS

Integrated Health Committee Meeting
February 4
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
742 N La Brea Inglewood 90302

We will be discussing social determinants of health; resource book can be accessed here.

Policy Committee Meeting
February 5, 2020
11:00 - 12:30
742 N La Brea Inglewood 90302

Education Committee Meeting
February 20, 2020
4:00-5:30
LATTC 400 W Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Employment Committee Meeting
February 20, 2020
9:00 - 11:00
742 N La Brea Inglewood 90302

This will be a planning meeting led by Joe Paul and Cesar Perez.

Bail Reform Pilot

Pretrial Department of Probation is hosting an informational session on Wednesday, where they will discuss pretrial services and the Bail Reform Pilot rolling out in LA County in March.
February 12th
6:00 to 8:00 pm
LARRP Headquarters
742 N La Brea Inglewood 90302

Save the Dates for LARRP March meetings:

Next LARRP General Meeting
March 12, 2020
9:00am-12:00pm
LARRP office

Housing Committee Meeting
March 19, 2020
1:30 -3:00 pm
Hopics Broadway 5715 S Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90037

February Spotlight
California’s Primary Election Day is right around the corner, March 3, 2020. This year you can vote early and it’s easier than ever. Here’s what you need to know:

Are you eligible to vote? YES, even if you have a felony conviction, even if you are on Probation, and even if you are in jail awaiting trial, NEARLY ALL CITIZENS CAN VOTE IN CALIFORNIA. In fact, the only citizens (18+) who cannot vote are those currently in state prison or on parole. Please see the full eligibility list here.

How can you vote? LA’s voting system got a major upgrade this year. Yes, things will be different, and we no longer have local polling places, but the election system changes are a major improvement, including:

- **Vote By Mail** (VBM) starts February 3, click here if you want a vote by mail ballot. VBM ballots can be dropped off at any Vote Center, VBM drop off location, or via post office (no postage required), read more on how to return you VBM ballot here.
- **Vote Centers:** Instead of local polling places, LA County now has 1000+ Vote Centers, often in the same locations (like schools and churches), but LA voters can now vote at any Vote Center they want, it can be hear your home, your work, or at the mall. There are also pop-up Vote Centers making their way to events and gatherings around the County, check the full Vote Center list here.
- **Early Voting** starts February 22 at 250 new Vote Centers, another 750 Vote Centers open on Feb 29. We have 11 days of voting this year! You can also vote even earlier in person at the Election HQ in Norwalk beginning February 3 (12400 Imperial Hwy, 3rd Floor, Room 3002, Norwalk, CA 90650).
- **New Voting Machines:** LA County is using new state of the art electronic voting machines that are NOT connected to the internet to keep our votes safe from election interference. Voters receive a blank ballot upon arrival, insert it into the voting machine, make your selections, your draft selections will be printed out for you to review and confirm before submitting your final ballot back into the machine. It looks and feels like using an ATM machine, and in 19 languages!
- **Same Day Voter Registration:** Not registered? No Problem. Last year Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 72, the “Same Day Voter Registration” law, allowing all eligible voters to register the same say as they arrive to vote. Simply go to any Vote Center and request a Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) form, complete and submit right there and then proceed to cast your vote. Learn more about CVR here.

Please watch this brief video from the Elections Office about the new voting experience:

And remember, this year LARRP is leading the Unlock the Vote effort to register and educate voters inside LA County Jails.

LARRP, along with a number of community partners including ANOWL, will educate and register individuals who are incarcerated inside the LA jails as well as engage with the justice-impacted community at re-entry fairs.

In order to engage with as many people who are impacted as possible, we need your support.

We will need volunteers:
- To go inside the jail facilities to educate and register*,
- At the visitor’s line educate and register family and
friends,
• To help with mailings,
• To attend reentry fairs to educate and register people who are
  CJ-impacted
• And so much more

To Volunteer, please contact Joe Paul, Managing Director of LARRP, at joe@lareentry.org

PARTNER EVENTS

February 10th,
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

District Attorney Candidate Forum Pasadena
Orange Grove Friends Meeting Hall
520 E Orange Grove Blvd
Pasadena, CA

Register

February 18th
6:30-8:00 pm
LA District Attorney Candidate Forum
National Council of Jewish Women, 543 N. Fairfax Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90036

RSVP

Naloxone (Narcan) Train the Trainer

Tue, February 18, 2020
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
2644 30th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405
Register

Fri, March 20, 2020
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
2644 30th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90405
Register

This training prepares individuals to train those who will discuss overdose education and naloxone use with individuals at risk of experiencing or witnessing an opioid overdose. This course is most appropriate for individuals who will offer trainings to county and municipal health departments, treatment providers, socials service agencies (including homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, food banks, etc), medical providers, and other community organizations and agencies that may work with at-risk individuals.

February 22, 2020
9:00 AM -2:00 PM
Social Justice Summit & Job Fair
LATTC, 400 W Washington Blvd,
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Please join the Drug Policy Alliance and Social Equity LA at the first annual Social Justice Summit & Job Fair, which will focus on economic, social, emotional, and mental health of individuals currently
February 23, 2020
5:00 PM
The City of Refuge Presents
Criminal Justice Forum 2020
An evening of Civic Education
Criminal Justice Reform from a Judicial Perspective
An Intimate Conversation on Bail Reform with Mr. Reaver Bingham, Chief Deputy of Adult Services, Los Angeles County Probation Department

Faith-Based Collaborative Partners include LARRP's Pastor Troy Vaughn, Inglewood Community Church, Executive Director LARRP and Elder Joe Paul, City of Refuge, Managing Director LARRP

14527 San Pedro Street Garden, CA 90248

Yes on R
Days of Action in February

SAVE THE DATE!
The ATI (Alternatives to Incarceration) Final Report will be presented to the Board on Tuesday, March 10 at 11am at The Hall of Administration (500 W. Temple, LA CA 90012). We hope that you can join us for this historic day!

More Info

Opportunities and Information

The Open Society Foundations seeks applicants for their Soros Equality Fellowship, which aims to support long-term leaders influencing the racial justice field. The fellowship award provides individuals with $100,000 to support the production of an innovative racial justice project over the course of 18 months.

The deadline to apply: Feb. 13th

Apply Here

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?
It is vitally important that everyone is counted.

The official count helps to ensure fair political representation. It is used to:

allocate seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, determine the number of Electoral College votes for each state and create electoral lines for all levels of government.
It also provides the foundational basis for
addressing disparities in voting, education, housing, employment, healthcare, transportation, redistricting, zoning and criminal justice.

- If residents go uncounted, it would mean fewer seats in Congress, fewer Electoral College votes, skewed legislative boundaries, and diminished enforcement of civil rights laws.
- The Census count also guides distribution of $882 billion annually in federal funds to state, local and tribal governments.
- Programs and services at risk include schools, hospitals, community centers, roads, transportation, and public safety departments.
- **Marginalized communities will suffer if residents go uncounted.**

Read more!

**LARRP Newswire**

LARRP Managing Director, Joe Paul, will be traveling to D.C. from 2/2/20-2/5/20 as the guest of Senator Kamala Harris to speak to the black Democratic Party on reentry and attend the State of the Union with her!

This is an exciting moment for him and for all of us, and is yet another example of how far our movement has come!

**NEWS**

**Featured News Story**

Justine Gude, sister of LARRP co-founder Lynne Lyman, moves the world with her bravery and spirit of service during her month long deployment to Australia to fight the raging wildfires. Justine started fire fighting in California prison and joined the Federal Forest Service after she was released in 2011, where she has risen through the ranks becoming one of the few female "hot-shots" in the country.

*Read the Article*

*Watch the Video*

**More News Stories**
COLDPLAY Performs a Sold Out LA Concert Run at The Palladium – Supporting Local Prison Reform Efforts:
*Reform LA Jails’ “Yes on R” Campaign + “A New Way of Life” Reentry Project*
RESPECT Magazine
January 24, 2020 by Ayana Rashed

Read the article

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Harm Reduction Coalition Selected to Lead $15.2 Million California Harm Reduction Initiative

Read More

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Ray Leyva Joins L.A. County Probation As Interim Chief
January 17, 2020
Brings With Him Over 40 Years Experience to Lead the Nation’s Largest Probation Department

Read More

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5 arrested in $3.2 million Southern California sober living home fraud scheme

Orange County Register, January 17, 2020
by Scott Schwebke and Teri Sforza

Read More

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LAPD making almost half as many arrests as a decade ago

Decline in bookings far outpaces drop in crime

Crosstown
January 16, 2020, By Ethan Ward

Read the article

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REPORTS

LA County is able to safely divert thousands of individuals with mental illness into treatment

Rand Corporation
January 7, 2020 by Stephanie Brooks Holliday
More than 3,300 people in the mental health population of the Los Angeles County Jail are appropriate candidates for diversion into programs where they would receive community-based clinical services rather than incarceration, according to a new RAND Corporation study.

Read more