Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!

Become a Member Today!
Support our work, and gain access to the special Members Only page
Subscribe to our Newsletter

COVID19 Resources and Updates
LARRP has created a page on our website compiling important information, resources and updates tailored specifically to our community. We are updating it daily.

Please don't hesitate to send us anything you feel we should add.

Visit our COVID19 Page

LARRP is Responding to the COVID-19 Crisis

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I would like to start by extending our sincerest gratitude for all that are serving on the front lines working in your communities during this unprecedented time. Please know that we are here to support your work. We continue to maintain our role as a connector, curator, and convener for our organizations serving the reentry population across multiple sectors; including healthcare, homelessness, employment, policy and education. Our resource page is there to provide you valuable real-time information as you navigate the immediate needs your organization is facing as you address COVID-19 and as you plan for long term response and recovery.

Belonging to a community of people that are connected and dealing with same issues is more valuable today than it ever has been. We have been rightly encouraged to practice physical distancing to maintain public safety. However, I want to remind us that we are a community, and that social distancing or social isolation is something entirely different and may be especially harmful to you and the people we serve. As a result, we invite the LARRP Network and broader community to engage in "social solidarity" along with spatial separation, giving particular emphasis to how you are serving others in this critical time.

In our continued work to elevate cross-sector solutions and examples of success addressing issues our populations are facing, we welcome your stories, innovative policies and practices, and learnings that we can share with our broader network. See our spotlight story below about how four of our member organizations are working to respond to this crisis and to care for the influx of recently released prisoners. Please feel free to tell us what is working in your community or for your organization as you respond to COVID-19 by emailing Eve Lyman.

Thank you for your continued efforts and partnership. We look forward to hearing from you.

In solidarity,

Troy Vaughn
Executive Director

LARRP MEETINGS and EVENTS

Employment Committee Meeting via Zoom

May 21st, 2:00pm-3:30pm
Integrated Health Committee Meeting

Tuesday May 5th, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Meeting ID: 912 7004 6658
Password: 104222

Education Committee Meeting

May 21st, 4:00pm-5:30pm

Meeting ID: 971 6780 9439
Password: 175495

LARRP Housing Committee

Thursday, May 21st
1:30pm-2:15pm

Brief Check In Zoom Meeting

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Call to Action - Important Survey

WE need your feedback!

Los Angeles Service Provider COVID-19 Needs

The goal of this survey is to collect and share information about what local service providers need from government and system actors now and in the near future to support people released from jail or with prior system involvement, given the COVID-19 crisis.

For More Information or to take the survey, please click below

Take the Survey

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LARRP May Spotlight

We are profoundly grateful this month to these 4 LARRP member Organizations that are using their network to address the increasing number of people who are being released from jail and prison daily!

**HOPICS**

During this unprecedented time SSG/HOPICS’ efforts highlight the humanity, vulnerability and resiliency of us all through their expanding crisis response efforts to creatively take action to save lives. In addition to SSG/HOPICS continuing to provide essential onsite services- including keeping 2,200 men, women and children off of the street in their interim housing every night- their team has quickly developed ways to provide basic needs and emotional support to hundreds of vulnerable people.

Read More

**Center For Living and Learning**

CLL continues to see the same needs as previous to Covid-19 but now it can be more difficult to navigate. Every day we see recently released clients who report that they either do not have housing or are in unsafe-unhealthy situations. We work to get them into the hotels if literally on the streets and into alternative living arrangements in necessary. One such was client was able to be helped with the family program at LA Family Housing and received assistance within days. CLL has been able to assist a number of clients with partial payments for sober living as they wait for housing program funding to begin and will continue to do so! Those initially resistant to shelters located in recreation centers for the unhoused have now begun reporting that they do feel safe and that it does not feel “like a jail”!

Read more
The COVID-19 pandemic has created a significantly more difficult landscape for the women and men returning home after incarceration. At Amity Foundation, we have adjusted our services to meet these unprecedented needs. Amity advocates/case managers have been working to ensure that those being released from LA County jails are safely placed into bridge and permanent housing.

Our Amity on Broadway Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming (STOP) project that normally serves around 2,500 people a year is providing surge capacity services for the 3,500 state releases. With the Division of Rehabilitative Programs working quickly to get us the resources needed, Amity was able to coordinate and mobilize hundreds of additional reentry beds, 21 additional drivers, and distribute over 20,000 sets of PPE’s thus far.

**Read More**

**Five Keys**

Five Keys Charter School student Luis was released early from Pitchess Detention Center due to Covid-19. He was one credit short of his high school diploma. He completed the final project for his English course via zoom.

**Read More**

**Member Newswire**

LARRP Steering Committee Member and Policy Committee Co-Chair, Joseph Maizlish is featured in this recent article in the LA Progressive

Keeping Tabs on Los Angeles County — April 27 to May 1

"I provide this to give us a fuller grasp of the tangle of beliefs and practices involved in a system with results which so obviously contradicted some of its stated values."

Keep up with the Board of Supervisors meetings, motions and resources at LARRP Steering Committee member, Joseph Maizlish’s site. His Page contains weekly listings of selected items from agendas of upcoming L.A. County Board and other meetings, with a focus on criminal justice and related social issues and comment. Reports on past meetings and relevant resources are sometimes included.

**Stay informed!Weekly listings of LA County Business**
goals, and did so much harm.”

Read the article

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**Funding Opportunities for Non-Profits during COVID-19**

Please visit our COVID-19 Resource page for constantly updated a list of these new resources!

COVID-19 Resource Page

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**PARTNER EVENTS**

As our Partners move to keep up with the swiftly changing needs and demands and questions this pandemic brings, events, meetings, webinars etc are scheduled at the last minute. We are posting them on our Home page as soon they come in! Please keep checking back for the latest info.

LARRP Home Page

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Save the Date!

**DAs office in the time of COVID**

On Tuesday, May 12
5:00 - 6:30pm
Presented by the LA Coalition for DA Justice & Accountability

Panelists:

- Two family members who have currently incarcerated loved ones and who can speak to the horrid conditions in MCJ and CDCR
- A person who provides health care in the jails to talk about current conditions/risk
- Nikhil Ramnaney, President of Local 148 & public defender in Long Beach court who can speak to what the DA office should be doing from a PD’s perspective
- Diana Zuniga, Regional Collaboration - Whole Person Care at Los Angeles County Department of Health Services to provide ATI perspective
- Robin Steinberg, founder and CEO of The Bail Project to talk about pretrial issues/bail schedule/etc.
- The DA candidates: DA Lacey (invited) and George Gascón (confirmed)

Check our website for more info as it becomes available

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**Decarceration During Coronavirus**

Friday, May 1st at 9:15 - 12:15 PT
Facebook Live

JLUSA presents a National Town Hall on the dangerous spread of COVID-19 behind bars and a discussion of federal policy solutions to #FreeThemNow!

Register

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**Revolutionary Storytelling**

May 1 & 2
10am - 6 pm both days

Last of 3 Virtual Healing Arts Retreats for formerly incarcerated women (trans and cis), non-binary folk, and trans men via zoom. This is going to be a beautiful, fun, creative, and relaxing retreat. Qualifications: You have been released within the last 3 years; You’re 18 or over; You live in California.

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**NEWS**
People freed from prison during coronavirus may face big risks on the outside
The Conversation, April 27, 2020
by Daina Stanley

This month’s featured story is a thoughtful and in-depth article about the subject that is concerning us all these days: the release of prisoners, and ensuring their safety and security once they are released.

“I strongly support humane measures to reduce the risks to incarcerated individuals, correctional and medical workers and communities.

“But historical injustices, systemic inequalities and harsh criminal justice ideologies and practices often create barriers to safe community re-entry, particularly for the most vulnerable individuals in prisons.

“My research highlights complexities that must be confronted before individuals can be safely released to the community. I have seen far too many individuals released from custody — often despite the best efforts of correctional caseworkers — to precarious circumstances.”

Read More

More News Stories

The Coronavirus Is Hitting Our Nation's Prisons and Jails Hard. And It's Exposing a Crisis That Existed Long Before the Outbreak
Time Magazine, April 22, 2020
By Joyce White Vance
The news from the nation’s prisons and jails is increasingly grim. On Sunday, there were reports that 1,828 people incarcerated at Marion County Correctional Facility in Ohio, 73% of its total population, have tested positive for COVID-19. One staff member has died and another 109 have tested positive. Similar reports are coming in from federal and state facilities across the country. But this crisis in our criminal justice system isn’t due to the coronavirus. Rather, the pandemic is exposing a pre-existing crisis in our prisons that we are long overdue to fix.

Read more

Film producer says coronavirus "shouldn't be a death sentence" for inmates
CBS NEWS, April 23, 2020
Interview with Scott Budnick, Anti-Recidivism Coalition
Watch here!

New Data: Second Chance Pell Continues to Open Doors for More Students
The Vera Institute's Think Justice Blog, April 21, 2020
By Margaret diZerega and Ruth-Delaney
Read More

Project Roomkey is saving lives in the coronavirus pandemic
Pasadena Star News, April 26, 2020
By Larry Wilson
Read More

Grocery, drug, food-delivery workers earn protections from
LA County amid coronavirus outbreak
PressTelegram, By City News Service, April 14, 2020
Ordinance requires employers to sanitize and stock bathrooms with necessary supplies, clean stores and shopping carts between uses and provide security to enforce social distancing, among other standards. Read More

Reports

FLATTENING THE CURVE: WHY REDUCING JAIL POPULATIONS IS KEY TO BEATING COVID-19
ACLU Report:
COVID-19 could claim the lives of approximately 100,000 more people than current projections stipulate if jail populations are not dramatically and immediately reduced, according to a new epidemiological model released by the ACLU and academic research partners. The findings indicate that — even if communities across the United States continue practicing social distancing and following public health guidance — we will still experience much higher death rates if no substantial action is taken to reduce jail populations. The United States' unique obsession with incarceration has become our Achilles heel when it comes to combatting the spread of COVID-19. Read the Report