LARRP July 2021 Newsletter

Restoring People! Rebuilding Community! Reshaping the Nation!

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LARRP Meetings * July Spotlight * LARRP Updates * Policy Updates * Member Newswire * Partner Events * Recurring Clinics and Workshops * Information and Opportunities * News * Reports

Please Note: This month we are putting our Partner Events and the Opportunities and Information Sections at the bottom to feature news stories and reports that might be of interest to our network.

LARRP Committee Meetings and Events

July General Meeting
July 15, 2021,
10:00 AM - 11:30

REGISTER - General Meeting

Education Committee:
July 15th, 2021
4:00PM - 5:30 PM

Register Education

Employment Committee
Wednesday, July 21, 2021
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Register Employment

Integrated Health Committee
JULY MEETING CANCELLED!
August 2, 2021
1:00 pm
July Spotlight
LARRP LEADERS Graduation

Leading, Engaging, Advocating, Demonstrating, Enhancing and Expanding Reentry Systems

On July 25, 2021, LARRP held a moving celebration to mark the graduation of the first cohort of LARRP’s L.E.A.D.E.R.S. Training Academy. These amazing 12 LEADERS, all with lived experience, have gone through various trainings, engaged in community stakeholder meetings, and identified some of the barriers and challenges that they themselves encountered and that others coming home face. The graduating cohort will continue to stay involved with LARRP, and further exercise their leadership by continuing to put in the work. They will stay engaged in community stakeholder meetings and assist with identifying barriers to broaden equitable opportunity for those coming home.

Below are some of the highlights from that inspiring ceremony.

POLICY IS POPPING!
LARRP Policy Updates

On Tuesday, June 29th, the Assembly Public Safety Committee heard SB 731 (Durazo) and SB 81 (Skinner), two priority bills LARRP has been working on for the past 5 months.

- SB 731, our Sunsetting Convictions bill passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee, showing that there is significant political pressure behind allowing formerly incarcerated individuals to seal their records after serving their sentence.

City of Los Angeles

- The next update comes from the City of Los Angeles, which recently voted to support SB-57 (Wiener). This bill would allow LA, Oakland, and San Francisco to create Overdose Prevention Pilot Sites where individuals with substance-use disorders could safely use drugs in a safe, sterile space, supervised by medical professionals. The next step is for the state to vote on the measure in the fall.
their records after serving their sentence.

- SB 81 (Skinner) also was voted on and approved by the Assembly Public Safety Committee, and would ensure that sentencing enhancements that do not serve a clear and compelling purpose are no longer added to an individual’s sentence, and that those who have been given an enhancement would have legal recourse to have it minimized or taken entirely off their sentence.

LA Board of Supervisors

- On Tuesday, June 22nd, the LA Board of Supervisors approved the creation of the Jail Closure Implementation Team (JCIT). This motion, authored by Chair Hilda Solis and Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, is a major step in closing the Men’s Central Jail. We have been told by Board staff that LARRP’s network efforts will play a key role in the initial stages of the MCJ closure.

- In line with this incredible news, we have been informed that on July 13, the Board will also have a vote pertaining to funding requests put forth by Chair Solis that would, among other things, allocate $237 million toward community bed development to divert individuals away from incarceration. This funding, which was identified as a priority by the MCJ Closure Workgroup, will come from President Biden’s newly signed “American Rescue Plan”.

- We have also been told by Supervisor Janice Hahn’s office that they are looking to secure funding to build the County’s Psychiatric Mobile Response Team infrastructure in preparation for the launch of 988 next summer. Supervisor Hahn’s office has requested our network to support their request for ARP funding for this project as well, as it will ensure those experiencing a mental health crisis are able to receive around the clock emergency care without the intervention of law enforcement. If you would like to support this work, please make sure to open the newsletters and policy blasts for the most up-to-date information on how to make your voice heard.

California

- On the state level, we are asking for you to submit letters of support of AB 717 (Stone), the Cal-ID bill that we are co-sponsoring. This bill will ensure that all individuals leaving CDCR custody are given either a drivers license or state identification card. These are vital to accessing support services, housing, and employment, and so ensuring their issuance will provide one less barrier for those who will be leaving the carceral system. AB 717 will be in the Senate Public Safety Committee, though it has yet to receive a hearing date. We are asking for your letters to be submitted as soon as possible, as once the hearing is set, you will only have a few days to complete the letter. The template for the letter can be found HERE and instructions can be found HERE. If you have any questions with how to submit your document, please reach out to LARRP’s Policy and Legal Coordinator, Charles Vignola, at charles@lareentry.org.

AB 717 Support Letter

Instructions

With your help, we at LARRP will continue to fight for all of the communities impacted by the carceral system, and your support with letters, calls, and community-based advocacy will always be a tool to protect and expand the dignity of those who have been incarcerated.

A few things we are watching on the National level

A New Way Of Life Reentry Project issued a statement responding to HUD Secretary Fudge’s remarks regarding the need for housing for people released from incarceration. After providing background and statistics showing the very strong relationship between homelessness and reincarceration, ANWOL commits to support the Secretary’s plans and makes a call on government to go further:

“A New Way of Life looks forward to working with HUD and California Public Housing Authorities to provide stable housing to formerly incarcerated people. ANWOL likewise supports HUD’s decision to review “existing HUD policies and regulations that limit access to housing and HUD-funded services to formerly incarcerated individuals”.

Congress will consider the People’s Response Act, a bill that adopts a new approach to public safety that will save lives, and build systems of care that are rooted in improving the well-being of all communities.

Introduced by Rep. Cori Bush, the People’s Response Act reimagines public safety as our collective responsibility and provides resources to address the root causes of violence in ways that don’t rely solely on racist policing and incarceration tactics. If passed the bill would:

- Create a grant program that funds community-based organizations to implement approaches to community safety that don’t center policing or incarceration.
and regulations that limit access to housing and HUD assistance among people with criminal convictions” and publish “findings regarding best and promising practices on reentry housing.” Though we support HUD’s commitment to ensuring that landlords’ denial of housing applicants on the basis of criminal records are not in violation of Fair Housing policies, we call upon state and federal governments to amend the Fair Housing Act to recognize having a criminal record as a protected characteristic.” ANWOL statement.

LARRP is looking forward to learning more about this bold and brilliant strategy.

**Member Newswire**

This month we would like to introduce you to **The Latino Coalition for Community Leadership (LCCL)** has been recognized as a leading intermediary. We seek to Find, Fund, Form and Feature nonprofits in marginalized communities meeting the needs of individuals and families. Over the last 18 years, the LCCL has accessed more than $39.9m in Federal grants from the Departments of Labor, Justice, and Health and Human Services, and almost $32m in State funding from Colorado and California. In addition, funding from foundations, corporate and private donors has enabled the LCCL to provide comprehensive grantmaking, capacity building and technical assistance to community and faith-based organizations while driving money deep into the communities we serve. To date, the LCCL has partnered with more than 171 CFBOs in marginalized communities throughout the United States. We walk alongside these organizations, which we identify as Community Partners, by providing capacity building within the framework of their priorities. This creates an ecosystem where community capacity is increased, quality people-centered services are delivered, and stewardship of public funds is demonstrated through return on investment.

The LCCL has also been a key catalyst in creating Community Reinvestment Initiatives (CRI). CRI is a new approach that redirects resources from under-performing government programs into community led initiatives. These initiatives work closely with government and other community stakeholders to leverage and coordinate resources to the benefit of the people being served.

"Our communities have always held a response to meeting the needs of individuals and families. Our people may not have degrees and clean records, but we are there. We are the people who live, shop, work, worship and raise families in the same communities we serve. We uplift those with lived experience of the very issues we collectively help to address and solve. What communities want are equitable resources, opportunities and assistance in building community health and safety in a way that makes sense for their community."

Their current Work and Gain Education & Employment Skills (WAGEES) projects serve over 1,000 young adults (18-24) in six different high-poverty, high-crime target areas providing services and activities that promote successful reentry. The LCCL has partnered with seven Community Partners, which include Healing Urban Barrios (Los Angeles, CA), Centro CHA (Long Beach, CA), Garden Pathways (Bakersfield, CA), Paving Great Futures (San Diego, CA), Project Kinship (Santa Ana, CA), Underground GRIT (Orange, CA) and Servicios De La Raza (Denver, CO). We are profoundly grateful for all our Community Partners and the impactful examples they set as valuable contributors to community health and safety.

For more information please visit [https://latinocoalition.org/](https://latinocoalition.org/)
LA County Supervisors vote 4-1 to close Men’s Central Jail

Los Angeles Daily News By Elizabeth Marcellino, City News Service, June 22, 2021

Supervisor Hilda Solis said it was time to stop studying the issue and take action, co-authoring a motion finding that the decrepit downtown lockup must be demolished and that no replacement jail is needed.

READ MORE

Emergency homeless shelter at LA Mission in Skid Row to be remodeled

ABC News, Tuesday, June 29, 2021

The Los Angeles Mission, a non-profit in Skid Row helping the homeless, broke ground Monday to remodel their emergency shelter.... Rev. Troy Vaughn was first in line to help knock down the old walls.

WATCH

Opinion: Progressive DA’s shake up tough-on-crime status quo

Orange County Register, By Steven Greenhut, June 25, 2021

SACRAMENTO – One need only look back at decades of news reports about the behavior of various California district attorneys and attorneys general to come to a sobering conclusion. Most people will shrug at almost anything from these powerful “top cops” – ranging from coddling misbehaving cops to seeking unjust sentences to wasting outrageous amounts of tax dollars.

Bill Bratton on Police Reform: ‘Let’s Do It Right This Time’

The Crime Report, By Joe Domanick, June 15, 2021

Closing CA’s Youth Prisons The Right Way Means Adequately Funding Oversight Of Youth Justice “Realignment” To The Counties

WitnessLA, June 15, 2021 by Celeste Fremon

READ MORE
LA City Council supports state bill to legalize safe sites for drug users

MSN News, City News Service, June 22, 2021

LOS ANGELES (CNS) - The Los Angeles City Council approved a resolution today to support Senate Bill 57, which would legalize sites where people can use drugs in the presence of medical personnel in an effort to reduce overdoses, which are the leading cause of accidental death in California.

California’s prison boom saved this town. Now, plans to close a lockup are sparking anger and fear

LA Times, June 21, 2021, By Hailey Branson-Potts, Photography By Gary Coronado

“Racially Charged: America’s Misdemeanor Problem”

A New Film On The Damage Done By The Nation’s Lowest Level Criminal Charges

Witness LA, June 10, 2021 by Celeste Fremon
Interrupting the Cycle of Incarceration for Individuals with Mental Illness-
An Analysis of LA County’s Rapid Diversion Program

UCLA Institute on Inequality and Democracy, Report by By Jess Bendit, Joshua Segui, Courtney B. Taylor & Rachel Vogt

READ THE REPORT

Youth Justice Reimagined Report recommendations

These include expansion of the Office of Diversion and Re-Entry’s Division of Youth Diversion and Development’s pre-arrest prevention and youth development services to all eligible countywide and the establishment of a new Department of Youth Development.

Read the Recommendations

Bias in Conventional Hiring Tools: Understanding the Status Quo

Pymetrics by Sara Kassir, June 9, 2021

READ MORE

The Justice Equity Services Index

Advancement Project California, June 2021

The Justice Equity Services Index (JESI) identifies L.A. County’s justice-related, community-based supports and services in low to highest service areas to inform where to shift investments and capacity-building supports towards equity and justice.

MORE INFO

Prosecutor Lobbying in the States, 2015-2018

The Prosecutors and Politics Project, June 2021

An Important New Study Looks At The Relationship Between Prosecutors & Politics, Including The Actions Of California’s Lobbyist District Attorneys

A new study by the “Prosecutors and Politics Project,” a research initiative at the University of North Carolina School of Law, looks at the role of prosecutors in the nation’s state criminal justice systems, with a focus on their “political power,” specifically the power of DAs as lobbyists pushing for or against proposed legislation.

OVERVIEW

READ THE STUDY

Complete REPORT Archive

Partner Events
We update our website DAILY with new events of interest to our Community. It is perhaps the most complete calendar of such events. Please visit frequently as events so often come in at the last minute.

And if you have an event or an announcement - please send it our way! info@LAreentry.org

Upcoming Events!

West LA AJCC Worksource Job Fair

Thursday July 8, 2021, 1:30 PM - 4 PM
5446 Sepulveda Blvd Culver City, CA 90230

Employers in attendance include: Alimento, Border Grill, Avatara and more. Our Business Services Reps will also be recruiting for hundreds of positions.

REGISTER

ATI - Upcoming: July Meetings

JULY 15: Measure J Advisory Committee Meeting
ZOOM LINK

JULY 21: Alternative Crisis Response (ACR) Public Convening
CLICK to Join MS Meetings

Note that the Governor has not yet removed the eased Brown Act requirements. Thus, the July 15, 2021 meeting will be strictly a virtual meeting and the Advisory Committee will NOT meet in person on July 15th.

Community Safety through Racial Justice Learning Series

Prevention Institute will facilitate a three-part bi-monthly learning series for local health jurisdictions and their community and government partners on applying racial justice principles and practices to build community safety.

Jul 20, 2021 11:00 AM
Sep 21, 2021 11:00 AM
Nov 16, 2021 11:00 AM

MORE INFO AND REGISTER
Stop the Violence Rally (New Date)
July 11, 2021, 2pm- 6pm
Kirkwood Street Park, on 11th & Spruce Street
Featuring LARRP’s Managing Director, Joe Paul

LA Family Housing Recruitment Event
July 22nd at 5PM
Are you looking for a job? Want to end homelessness across LA County? Join us for a conversation with Executive Leadership at LA Family Housing on Thursday, to learn About Their Mission, Vision, and Current Employment Opportunities!

REGISTER

Recurring Clinics and Workshops
Please visit our website and scroll past Partner Events for a growing list of recurring workshops and clinics!

Court Relief for Criminal Records
Last Tuesday of Each Month
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Attendees of this Webinar will find out
- How Reductions of Charges, Expungements, and Certificates of Rehabilitation may increase their opportunities for employment and job licensing.
- The criteria to qualify, how to apply if eligible, and be provided resources in their community that can be helpful in their rehabilitative journey.
- In addition, a lawyer from the Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association will be present to answer questions and provide information on the free legal services they offer for eligible individuals.
Registration required.

More info and register

NEW!

Legal Clinics
hosted by the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) and the D.O.O.R.S team

A New Wave of Life
Struggling to find a job because of your conviction?
Denied work or occupational licensing because of your conviction history?
Want to clean up your record?

Download Flyer
A New Way of Life & UCLA Law
Virtual Reentry Legal Clinic
Call 323-563-3575 ext. 2 to register

What do I need?
You will need a copy of your complete and current court dockets. We will give you information on how to get these documents when you register.

Am I ready?
You may qualify for Prop 47 or Prop 64 any time! You may qualify for expungement if you are not on probation, parole, or court supervision, and not facing current charges.

Questions: Call D.O.O.R.S Center reception desk at 323-730-4442

SECTOR Manufacturing Academy at LA Valley College

Begins July 15th

Are you working with system-impacted individuals interested in gaining employment in the advanced manufacturing sector? If so, please refer them to the Alliance for Community Empowerment's SECTOR program where they can enroll in a free 6-week training (7 slots remaining!) starting July 15th provided by LA

2021 Subrecipient Project Replacement for CoC Joint TH-RRH and RRH Program

Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) is pleased to announce the release of the 2021 Subrecipient Project Replacement for Continuum of Care (CoC) Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Program Request for Proposals.

LAHSA is issuing this RFP to solicit proposals for a Joint TH-RRH Component Program and a Standalone RRH Program.

The purpose of this RFP is to increase the housing resources available to survivors of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, and stalking (“Survivors”) who may be single (ages 18+, or an emancipated minor that can sign a lease agreement) or with minor children.

Programs funded under this RFP will be required to operate as collaborative partners within local victim service providers, the Los Angeles CES for Families, CES for Individuals, and CES for Youth. This RFP does not provide funding to programs that provide housing or services to unaccompanied minors under the age of 18.

RFP Timeline:
- Release: June 17, 2021
- Mandatory Proposers Conference Webinar: June 30, 2021 at 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Registration Link:

Visit our website

Make sure to check out the DOZENS of new jobs on our website. These jobs are constantly updated!

Visit our website

LAFLA and the D.O.O.R.S team

Expungement and Early Termination of Probation Workshop: Every 1st Wednesday of the Month at 1:00pm (More Info)

Citations/Tickers Workshop: Every 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 10:00am (More Info)

Fair Chance Hiring Workshop: Every 4th Wednesday of the Month at 1:00pm (More Info)

Information and Opportunities

2021 Subrecipient Project Replacement for CoC Joint TH-RRH and RRH Program

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15th provided by LA Valley College and receive additional program support such as free cognitive behavioral classes focused on maintaining employment, career coaching, and more. Graduates will be equipped to gain employment in this growing field!

Send questions and referrals including name, contact information and confirmed interest in the program to Joanna Cervantes, cc-ed here, from ACE, cervantes@ace4change.org

A Restorative Conversation Toolkit
This toolkit was compiled by nuri nusrat and designed by Danbee Kim (https://ooristudio.com). This toolkit is for anyone who wants to practice talking about conflict, things that are hard to talk about, things that hurt, in an attempt to:
1. understand the person in front of you;
2. address the impacts of harm, mutual harms, conflicts and more;
3. support those impacted in getting what they need to move forward in a way that supports their healing

CLICK HERE for the Toolkit

CA COVID-19 Rent Relief
For additional assistance, call 833-430-2122

Whether it's a health-related event or a significant financial hardship, COVID-19 has affected us all. As our state continues to recover, we are committed to keeping families housed and recognize that California renters and landlords have enough to worry about. We want to make sure that past due rent isn't one of them.

CA COVID-19 Rent Relief will help income-eligible households pay rent and utilities, both for past due and future payments. The federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 provides funding to support the program and tenant (renter) protection laws signed by Governor Newsom.

MORE INFO

Funding Racial Justice: Budget Advocacy Training for Community Power 2021 Application
The 2021 Funding Racial Justice: Budget Advocacy Training for Community Power program is designed for California community members, organizers, and advocates to learn local budget advocacy and research skills necessary to win equitable investment in their communities. The program includes a series of five 2.5-hour virtual sessions, running from August 31 through November 30, where cohort participants will deepen their local budget knowledge, build tools to perform an analysis and lead a local budget campaign, and receive one-on-one coaching to develop an individual budget campaign project.

Completed applications, which include short response questions and a 1-3 minute video, are due by July 20, 2021, 5 pm PST. Selected participants will be notified on Friday, August 6, 2021, by 5 pm PT.

MORE INFO

BREAKING BARRIERS
An Innovative Cross-Sector Solution
Breaking Barriers is a groundbreaking program in Los Angeles County that provides housing stability and employment training to individuals on felony probation. The program was designed to support the Los Angeles County Probation Department’s efforts to reduce recidivism and address the issue of homelessness among individuals on felony probation in Los Angeles County.

The Need
People exiting criminal justice settings face major barriers to housing and employment because of discrimination, coupled with LA County’s untenable rental market and wages that have failed to keep up with market prices. Housing is key to breaking
Training to Jobs

Let us assist you with getting the education and training you deserve.
Discover which Community College Vocational Training program will be best for your success.
Schedule an appointment today for your very own education assessment!

Healing Urban Barrios
161 S Ave 24, Los Angeles, CA 90031
(323) 332-2997