



Action Guide

2024

GANY INDEPENDENT
PRISON OVERSIGHT
SINCE 1844

About CANY

Established in 1844, the Correctional Association of New York (CANY) is the only independent organization in New York authorized under state law (Correction Law 146) to provide oversight of state prisons and to report its findings to the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS), the legislature, and the public. CANY monitors all state prisons in New York and makes recommendations for changes at the system level. CANY's oversight activities allow for the identification and resolution of problems, leading to policy changes that are intended to increase safety and wellbeing, uphold people's rights, and help people prepare for reintegration into society.

CANY approaches prison oversight in a comprehensive way: our staff and volunteers visit DOCCS facilities where they make observations, speak to administrators, employees, and incarcerated individuals; we receive communications in the form of letters, emails, and phone calls from incarcerated individuals and their advocates; we conduct surveys by mail to gather additional information about current conditions; and we submit Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests to secure data and records from state agencies. These activities help to inform CANY's reports and recommendations.

CANY works to effect change at the system level within a complex system in which change happens slowly and incrementally. Sometimes the impact we have is felt in the near term; more often, the work we do builds toward change in ways that are difficult to isolate as resulting from CANY's influence alone. Occasionally, CANY's work from previous generations resurfaces to create new impact on contemporary conditions. The letters, phone calls, and other communications we receive from incarcerated people and their advocates inform our oversight activities, and we do our best to connect people to information and resources that help them address their immediate concerns.

About the Action Guide

This Action Guide contains a vast array of information about service providers, government agencies, legal advocacy, and other organizations. This information has been compiled over the course of several years and was updated in the fall of 2023. Although it is focused on providing resources to incarcerated people so that they can advocate for themselves, CANY understands that there are many in the community who need this resource to assist in their advocacy for incarcerated people. With this in mind, the contact information outlined in the Action Guide includes email and web addresses in addition to mailing addresses and phone numbers.

The Action Guide will be updated periodically to ensure that it is as relevant and accurate as possible. In the meantime, it is possible that some of the information contained in this edition will become out of date. CANY does not intend for the contents of this guide to provide legal or medical advice. We encourage readers to use this guide in conjunction with input from trusted sources.

CANY welcomes your feedback. Our contact information is below.

Correctional Association of New York
PO Box 793
Brooklyn, NY
212-254-5700 (We accept collect calls.)
www.correctionalassociation.org

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PART I: REPORTING PRISON CONDITIONS

General

DOCCS Commissioner's Office

It may help to write a letter to the DOCCS Central Office about problems you are having at your facility if you feel you have run out of avenues for resolving the problem.

Contact Information

Daniel F. Martuscello III, Acting Commissioner
New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
Harriman State Campus
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226

DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI)

If you would like to initiate an official investigation into your treatment, you can contact the OSI.

Contact Information

Office of Special Investigations - Intake Unit
New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
Harriman State Office Campus
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226-2050

Phone: (844) OSI-4NYS

Email: OSIComplaint@doccs.ny.gov

Online Complaint Form: <https://publicapps.doccs.ny.gov/DOCCSWebOSIComplaintForm.aspx>

New York State Office of the Inspector General (OIG)

The OIG conducts in-depth investigations and analyses of alleged criminal wrongdoing, corruption, conflicts of interest, fraud and abuse in New York State agencies/entities which fall under its jurisdiction. George Frany III is the Attorney-in-Charge for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) matters at the Offices of the New York State Inspector General. He serves as lead counsel in coordinating all of the Office of Inspector General's DOCCS related investigations, audits, and compliance initiatives across New York State. Contact the OIG to file a complaint.

Contact Information

New York State Offices of the Inspector General
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 2, 16th Floor
Albany, New York 12223 Hotline 1-800-DO-RIGHT (1-800-367-4448)

Misconduct

NYS Commission on Judicial Conduct

The New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct investigates complaints against judges of the NY State Unified Court System. Complaints should be in writing and signed. Complaints do not have to be sworn or notarized. Have someone on the outside go to their website and print the complaint form, which you can then send to one of the addresses below. The website lists which counties are assigned to which office. Please remember to sign the letter and include your contact information, including your mailing address and phone number. Your complaint should be as detailed as possible, including a description of the alleged misconduct, the name of the judge, and any additional information you have, such as the court, the name of the case, the name(s) of the attorney(s), and the date or dates on which the misconduct allegedly occurred.

Contact Information

New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct
61 Broadway, Suite 1200 New York, New York 10006

New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct
Corning Tower, Suite 2301 Empire State Plaza Albany, NY 12223

New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct
400 Andrews Street, Suite 700 Rochester, New York 14604
Website: NYS Commission on Judicial Conduct

Medical Care

DOCCS Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Carol Moores
NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
1220 Washington Ave. Albany, New York, 12226
(518) 445-6176

Office of Professional Medical Conduct

OPMC investigates complaints about physicians, physician assistants and specialist assistants and monitors practitioners who are subject to Orders of the State Board for

Professional Medical Conduct. To file a complaint, fill out and mail the form (link below) to the mailing address below.

Contact Information

NYS Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct Riverview Center
150 Broadway, Suite 355 Albany, New York 12204-2719

For questions about the form, call OPC at (800) 663-6114 or (518) 402-0836.

Email address: opmc@health.ny.gov

Complaint Form: <https://www.health.ny.gov/forms/doh-3867.pdf>

NYS Department of Health

New York State Department of Health

Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12237

Commissioner: James V. McDonald

Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner: Johanne Morne

Toll Free Helpline: (866) 881-2809

Mental Health

Office of Mental Health Commissioner

For questions about mental health services, to find a mental health service provider or to make a complaint, contact OMH customer relations.

Contact Information

NYS Office of Mental Health
44 Holland Avenue Albany, New York 12229
Office of Mental Health: (518) 474-4403
OMH Customer Relations: (800) 597-8481
Email: ann.sullivan@omh.ny.gov
Ann Marie T. Sullivan, M.D, Commissioner

Discrimination

Federal Department of Justice (DOJ)

The DOJ Civil Rights Division works to uphold the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans. The Division enforces federal statutes prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, religion, familial status and national origin.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/contact-office>

U.S. Department of Justice
Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Main
Washington, D.C. 20530
Phone number: (202) 514-3847

DOJ Southern District of New York (SDNY)

Contact Information

Counties Covered: The boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, as well as Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, and Westchester

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-sdny/civil-rights>

United States Attorney's Office Southern District of New York
Attn: Chief, Civil Rights Unit
86 Chambers St., 3rd Floor
New York, New York 10007
Phone number: (212) 637-0840

DOJ Northern District of New York (NDNY)

Contact Information

Counties Covered: Albany, Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Clinton, Columbia, Cortland, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego, Rensselaer, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Tioga, Tompkins, Ulster, Warren, Washington

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndny/civil-division>

United States Attorney's Office Northern District of New York
Attn: Civil Division
445 Broadway, Room 542
Albany, NY 12207
Phone number: (518) 431-0247

DOJ Western District of New York (WDNY)

Contact Information

Counties Covered: Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Allegany, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Yates, Steuben, Schuyler and Chemung

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdny/contact-us>

United States Attorney's Office Western District of NY
138 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone number: (716) 843-5700

NOTE: There is no separate contact info for the Civil Division, so make sure to request that division in your letter and/or phone call

DOJ Eastern District of New York (EDNY)

Contact Information

Counties Covered: The boroughs of Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, as well as Nassau, and Suffolk

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-edny/contact-us>

United States Attorney's Office Eastern District of NY
271 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Phone number: (718) 254-7000

NOTE: There is no separate contact info for the Civil Division, so make sure to request that division in your letter and/or phone call

NY State Inspector General's Office

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has jurisdiction over all executive branch agencies, departments, divisions, officers, boards and commissions, and over most public authorities and public benefit corporations. The Inspector General's functions and responsibilities include receiving and investigating complaints concerning allegations of corruption, fraud, criminal activity, conflicts of interest or abuse in any entity under the Inspector General's jurisdiction. This jurisdiction includes state-funded infrastructure investments and projects.

Contact Information

Website: <https://ig.ny.gov/contact-0>

New York State Offices of the Inspector General
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building 2, 16th Floor
Albany, New York 12223

Phone number: (518) 474-1010, (800) 367-4448

Complaint Form: <https://ig.ny.gov/form/complaint-form-long>

NYC Department of Investigations (DOI)

The DOI may investigate any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the city, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the city. As New York City's Inspector General, DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive controls and operational reforms that improve the way the city is run.

Contact Information

Whitney Ferguson, Inspector General
Department of Correction
180 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 10038

Phone number: (212) 266-1900

Email: wferguson@doi.nyc.gov

Website: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doi/contact/contact-inspectors-general.page#doc>

DOJ Special Litigation Section

The Department of Justice enforces federal laws that protect you from discrimination based on your race, color, national origin, disability status, sex, religion, familial status, etc. It also protects you against mistreatment by police, correctional staff, or other incarcerated people. They may take up to 90 days to respond.

The Special Litigation Section is one of several Sections in the Civil Rights Division. It works to protect civil rights in the following areas: 1) the rights of people in state or local institutions, including jails, prisons, juvenile detention facilities, and health care facilities for persons with disabilities; 2) the rights of individuals with disabilities to receive services in their communities, rather than in institutions; 3) the rights of people who interact with state or local police or sheriffs' departments; 4) the rights of youth involved in the juvenile justice system; 5) the rights of people to have safe access to reproductive health care clinics; and 6) the rights of people to practice their religion while confined to state and local institutions. It can also act on behalf of people at risk of harm in these areas.

Contact Information

U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Phone number: (202) 514-3847

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/special-litigation-section>

Link to report a violation: <https://civilrights.justice.gov/>

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

The FBI is the primary federal agency responsible for investigating allegations regarding violations of federal civil rights statutes. Using its full suite of investigative and intelligence capabilities, the Bureau today works closely with its partners to prevent and address hate crime, color of law violations, and Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act violations.

Contact Information

New York City

Website: <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/newyork>

26 Federal Plaza, 23rd Floor New York, NY 10278-10004

Phone number: (212) 384-1000

Albany

Website: <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/albany>

200 McCarty Avenue, Albany, NY 12209

Phone number: (518) 465-7551

Buffalo

Website: <https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices/buffalo>

One FBI Plaza Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone number: (716) 856-7800

Non-DOCCS Facilities

A jail within New York City

NYC Board of Correction

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/boc/index.page>

2 Lafayette, Suite 1221

New York, NY 10007

Call at: (212) 669-7900

File a Complaint: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/boc/about/how-to-make-a-complaint.page>

Contact the NYC Department of Correction Commissioner:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doc/about/contact-the-commissioner.page>

File a grievance for a concern in a NYC jail by calling 311 or

by emailing constituentservices@doc.nyc.gov

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/doc/about/contact-doc.page>

A local jail outside of New York City

The New York State Commission of Correction (SCOC)

Alfred E. Smith State Office Building

80 South Swan Street, 12th Floor

Albany, New York 12210

Phone number: (518) 485-2346

A federal prison

The Federal Department of Justice

Website: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/contact-office>

U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Main

950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20530

Phone number: (202) 514-0716

Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (Justice Center)

The Justice Center was created in 2013 to restore public trust in the institutions and individuals charged with caring for vulnerable populations by protecting the health, safety, and dignity of all people with special needs.

Services Offered

The agency operates a toll-free hotline 24 hours a day, seven days a week for receiving reports of allegations of abuse and neglect. The Justice Center is authorized to investigate these reports and pursue administrative sanctions against staff found responsible for misconduct. The agency's Special Prosecutor/Inspector General works with local district attorneys who prosecute criminal offense allegations. The Justice Center also issues recommendations for corrective actions. In addition, the agency provides support services for individuals and guardians as well as issues abuse prevention materials statewide.

Contact Information

NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs
161 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, New York 12054-1310

Phone number: 518-549-0200, Relay users, please dial 7-1-1 and give the operator (518) 549-0200

Report Abuse: 1-855-373-2122 (staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week) Relay users, please dial 7-1-1 and give the operator 1-855-373-2122

Report a Death: 1-855-373-2124

NYS Accessibility Coordinator: 518-473-0234

Language Assistance: 800-624-4143 (Monday through Friday 9am-5pm)

Email for general inquiries: webmaster@justicecenter.ny.gov

Website: <https://www.justicecenter.ny.gov/>

PART II: RESOURCES FOR SUPPORT

Legal Assistance

Prisoners' Legal Services (PLS)

PLS' mission is to provide high quality, effective legal representation and assistance to indigent prisoners, help to secure their civil and human rights and advocate for more humane prisons and for a more humane criminal justice system.

Contact Information

Website: <https://plsny.org/get-help/>

Main phone number: (518) 445-6050

Albany Office (Adirondack, Altona, Bare Hill, Clinton, CNYPC, Coxsackie, Eastern, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gouverneur, Great Meadow, Greene, Hale Creek, Hudson, Marcy, Mid-State, Mohawk, Otisville, Queensboro, Riverview, Shawangunk, Sullivan, Ulster, Upstate, Wallkill, Walsh, Washington, Woodbourne)

41 State Street, Suite M112

Albany, NY 12207

(518) 438-8046

email: gdevane@plsny.org

Buffalo Office (Albion, Attica, Collins, Gowanda, Groveland, Lakeview, Orleans, Wende, Wyoming)

14 Lafayette Square, Suite 510

Buffalo, NY 14203

(716) 854-1007

email: dphillips@plsny.org

Ithaca Office (Auburn, Cape Vincent, Cayuga, Elmira, Five Points, Willard)

114 Prospect Street, Ithaca

NY 14850

(607) 273-2283

email: ebanks@plsny.org

Newburgh Office (Bedford Hills, Fishkill, Green Haven, Sing Sing, Taconic)

10 Little Britain Road, Suite 204

Newburgh, NY 12550

(845) 391-3110

email: jbrown@plsny.org

Immigration Unit

PLS provides representation to all immigrants in NYS prisons who are facing deportation hearing. The Rapid Response Unit provides immigration representation to individuals detained or facing detention in NY North country. Also, PLS Unaccompanied Minors Project at Berkshire Farms provides holistic immigration services to unaccompanied children.

Albany: (518) 694-8699

email: jroldan@plsny.org

Buffalo: (716) 844-8266

email: jnowak@plsny.org

Legal Aid Society Prisoners' Rights Project (PRP)

PRP is a leading advocate of humane and constitutional conditions in the New York City jails and State prisons. The Project seeks to dismantle the oppression and racism of the carceral system by protecting the safety and basic human rights of the people who are subjected to it.

Some of the problems PRP addresses include violence by correctional staff, protection from harm, denial of medical and mental health care, discrimination, denial of education and mistreatment of disabled and LGBT people. PRP engages in law reform and class action civil rights litigation to seek systemic change inside jails and prisons, and advocates for regulatory and legislative protections for incarcerated people.

Contact Information

199 Water Street
New York, New York 10038
212-577-3300

Website: <https://www.legalaidnyc.org/programs-projects-units/the-prisoners-rights-project/>

Hotline number: (212) 577-3530

Legal Action Center (LAC)

For individuals with a criminal record who live in New York, LAC offers services that range from brief advice to informal advocacy and full representation.

Services Offered

Its services include getting and correcting your New York State and FBI RAP sheets, Certificates of Relief from Disabilities or Good Conduct, sealing cases under New York's limited sealing laws, correcting mistakes on a background check, denials of jobs and occupational licenses because of your criminal record, denials of NYCHA and other publicly funded housing because of your criminal record, voting, higher education, guardianship rights, and collecting evidence of rehabilitation/positive change.

***LAC DOES NOT WORK ON criminal defense or appeals, sex offense risk level reduction, police misconduct, or legal malpractice. The only probation/parole and prison condition issues LAC works on involve access to medication for opioid use disorder.

New Yorkers who need help getting health insurance to pay for addiction and/or mental health treatment may call the CHAMP Helpline at (888) 614-5400. Read more about the CHAMP Helpline at: <https://www.lac.org/major-project/champ>

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.lac.org/legal-help>

Address: 225 Varick St, 4th Floor New York, NY 10014

Phone number: (212) 243-1313

Disability Rights New York (DRNY)

DRNY is the federal and state-authorized Protection and Advocacy System and Client Assistance Program (P&A/CAP) for people with disabilities in New York State. DRNY provides free legal and advocacy services to individuals with disabilities. Working tirelessly to protect and advance the rights of children and adults with disabilities, DRNY is committed to enabling those it serves to exercise their own life choices and fully participate in community life.

DRNY provides these services under its federal grant-funded mandates listed below. These grants have been established by Congress to protect and advocate for the rights, safety, and autonomy of people with disabilities. DRNY recommends that individuals reach out on their own behalf so as to answer the detailed intake questions.

Services Offered

DRNY provides free legal and advocacy services for people with disabilities. It challenges systemic abuse, neglect, discrimination, and civil rights violations through legal case handling, individual and systemic reform litigation, monitoring of facilities, investigations, and advocacy work. Assistance is limited to disability-related matters within agency resources.

Contact Information

DRNY recommends that individuals reach out to them directly by calling, through the website by completing the intake form (<http://www.drny.org>), via email, or via mail by sending a letter to them with the request for assistance in detail.

Fill out online intake form: <https://www.drny.org/intake.php>

Disability Rights New York
279 Troy Road, Ste 9, PMB 236, Rensselaer, NY 12144
Phone: (518) 432-7861
TTY: (518) 512-3448
Toll Free: (800) 993-8982
Email: intake@DRNY.org

Sylvia Rivera Law Project

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination or violence.

Services Offered

Provides legal help and support to incarcerated trans and gender nonconforming people.

Contact Information

Website: <https://srlp.org>
Email address: info@srlp.org
Sylvia Rivera Law Project c/o Prisoner Advisory Committee,
147 W 24th St, 5th Floor New York, NY 10011
Phone number: (212) 337-8550

Lambda Legal

Lambda Legal is the oldest and largest national legal organization whose mission is to achieve full recognition of the civil rights of LGBTQ+ people and everyone living with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.

Services Offered

Lambda Legal carries out its legal work principally through test cases selected for the likelihood of their success in establishing positive legal precedents that will affect LGBTQ+ people and those affected by HIV.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.lambdalegal.org>

120 Wall Street, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10005

Phone number: (212) 809-8585

Alliance of Families for Justice

The mission of the Alliance of Families for Justice is to support, empower, and mobilize families and individuals impacted by the criminal justice system so they can marshal their collective power to create a just world. AFJ supports the families of incarcerated people, empowers them as advocates, and helps marshal their voting power.

Services Offered

Family support, including individual and family counseling and weekly family empowerment circles. Legal support for both families and incarcerated people (including visitation issues). Advocacy and communication skills training for formerly incarcerated people and families. Paid youth empowerment/leadership training.

Contact Information

Website: <https://afj-ny.org>

8 W. 126th Street, 3rd floor NY, NY 10027

Family Support Unit: (917) 830-8585

Legal Support Unit: (917) 268-2500

Main Office: (347) 973-0580

A Jailhouse Lawyers' Manual

A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual (JLM) is a handbook of legal rights and procedures designed for use by people in prison. The JLM informs people in prisons of their legal rights and instructs them about how to secure these rights through the judicial process, clearly explaining legal research techniques and how to read legal documents. Incarcerated individuals may use the JLM to address specific problems related to their treatment in prison, or to attack their unfair convictions or sentences. You can access the manual online or order a physical copy. The 12th Edition is available to incarcerated individuals for \$30.

Contact Information

Attn: JLM Order
435 W. 116th Street
New York, NY 10027
Website: <http://jlm.law.columbia.edu/about-jlm/>
Email address: jlm.board.mail@gmail.com
Phone number: (212) 854-1601

Jailhouse Lawyer’s Handbook

Similar to the JLM, the JLH discusses how to understand and challenge violations of your rights in prison.

- **2021 Edition:** <https://ccrjustice.org/home/get-involved/tools-resources/publications/jailhouse-lawyers-handbook>

Support for Appeals and Exonerations

Criminal appeals, federal habeas corpus petitions, and NY 440 proceedings are the main ways for challenging a criminal conviction. If you are represented by counsel, that person may be the best person to assist you as they have access to the information in your criminal case (such as court papers, discovery documents and the trial transcript, if at the appellate stage). Organizations that work on appeals include:

Appellate Advocates

Appellate Advocates represents individuals who have been convicted of crimes and cannot afford private lawyers. They believe in fighting for every person’s constitutional right to a fair trial and in working to overturn unjust convictions or sentences.

Services Offered

Legal representation for indigent people convicted of crimes. Most cases are assigned by the Appellate Division, 2nd Dept, and are direct appeals. They also represent clients in the New York Court of Appeals and in several types of post-conviction proceedings in trial court. Specific practice areas: direct criminal appeals from trials and pleas, non-citizen practice, innocence investigations practice, trafficking practice, Domestic Violence Survivors Justice Act (DVSJA) practice, Sex Offender Registration (SORA) practice. The Appellate Advocates also has a re-entry and social work program.

Contact Information

111 John St, 9th Floor New York, NY 10038
Phone number: (212) 693-0085
Website: <https://www.appad.org>

Center for Appellate Litigation (CAL)

CAL is a public defense law firm dedicated to the pursuit of justice for indigent New Yorkers in criminal appeals and other post-conviction proceedings. CAL takes cases only through assignment by the courts of New York and does not accept any fee-paying clients. CAL represents clients assigned to it by the Appellate Division, First Department and Appellate Term, First Department, in appeals and post-conviction proceedings in Manhattan and the Bronx. CAL distinguishes itself through its passionate and creative advocacy, and its dynamic approach to finding effective litigation strategies in pursuit of justice.

Services Offered

Appellate litigation, immigration assistance, SORA, wrongful convictions, re-entry assistance, parole advocacy, and support for inappropriate conditions of confinement (such as medical neglect, harassment).

Contact Information

120 Wall St., 28th Floor, New York, NY 10005

Phone number: (212) 577-2523

Email address: info@cfal.org

Website: <https://www.appellate-litigation.org>

The Exoneration Initiative (EXI)

EXI is a pioneering not-for-profit organization that provides free legal assistance to wrongfully convicted people in New York. It focuses on the most challenging cases—those that lack DNA evidence. EXI's primary criterion for selecting cases is compelling evidence of innocence. It focuses on the forms of weak evidence which have been proven unreliable over the past few decades, such as mistaken eye-witness identifications, false confessions, and bad forensics; as well as prosecutorial and police misconduct, and perjury. EXI investigates for new evidence of innocence which has never been heard on its merits by a judge or jury and then it brings it to court.

Contact Information

The Exoneration Initiative

233 Broadway, Suite 2370 New York, NY 10279

Phone number: (212) 965-9335

Email address: info@exi.org

Website: <http://exonerationinitiative.org>

Intake form to be mailed: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7119fbd16a776b14a56ef6/t/5f0cce806f40e375a3208f91/1594674817889/CaseEvaluationForm.pdf>

The Innocence Project

The Innocence Project exonerates the wrongly convicted through DNA testing and reforms the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice.

Services Offered

Legal exoneration, strategic litigation, post-release support for exonerees, and reform advocacy. The Innocence Project only considers cases that are post-conviction and have physical evidence that if subject to DNA testing would prove innocence.

To submit a case for consideration, submit the Intake Form:

English: <https://innocenceproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Intake-letter-2020-English.pdf>

Spanish: <https://innocenceproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Intake-letter-2020-Spanish.pdf>

Or mail it to the address listed below.

Contact Information

Innocence Project, Intake Department
40 Worth St., Suite 701, New York, NY 10013
Phone number: (212) 364-5340
Email: info@innocenceproject.org
Website: <https://www.innocenceproject.org>

Legal Aid Society Criminal Appeals Bureau

The CAB is the largest provider of services to low-income people in NYC who are challenging their criminal convictions on appeal or in other post-conviction proceedings. They practice daily in the Appellate Divisions and Appellate Terms for the 1st and 2nd Departments.

Services Offered

Appellate litigation, parole preparation and assistance, and re-entry support.

Contact Information

199 Water St., New York, NY 10038
Phone number: (212) 577-3300
Website: <https://legalaidnyc.org/programs-projects-units/criminal-appeals-bureau/>

Legal Aid Society Wrongful Conviction Unit

The Wrongful Conviction Unit helps people who have exhausted all possible avenues of defense at the trial and state and federal appellate levels and are still fighting for their freedom and to clear their names of crimes they did not commit. This unit investigates

wrongful conviction claims by conducting intensive investigations, including forensic and physical evidence. If you believe you have been wrongfully convicted of a crime, contact the Wrongful Conviction Unit and request the questionnaire to potentially receive individual legal advocacy.

Contact Information

The Wrongful Conviction Unit c/o The Legal Aid Society

199 Water Street, New York, NY 10038

(212) 577-3300

Email: wcu@legal-aid.org

Website: <https://legalaidnyc.org/programs-projects-units/wrongful-conviction-unit/>

Office of the Appellate Defender (OAD)

OAD represents poor people convicted of felonies in Manhattan and the Bronx in the New York Supreme Court, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Judicial Department, the New York State Court of Appeals, and the federal courts. It is also a leader in innovative, holistic, and client-centered representation.

Services Offered

Appellate litigation, conditions of confinement advocacy, parole, Sex Offender Registration Act (SORA) and resentencing advocacy, and re-entry support.

Contact Information

11 Park Place, Suite 1601

New York, NY 10007

(212) 402-4100

Email: clientservices@appellatedefender.org

Website: <https://oadnyc.org/about-oad/>

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence

PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) Program

Through a partnership with the State Office of Victim Services and State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, DOCCS provides the confidential 777 Rape Crisis Hotline services to individuals incarcerated at all DOCCS facilities state-wide. Hotline operators provide supportive listening and crisis counseling, as well as referrals for emotional support and advocacy services. When requested by the survivor, the hotline will also make reports to the Department.

Beyond the hotline, this partnership includes a number of community-based victim assistance programs or “PREA Centers” who provide incarcerated survivors with ongoing emotional support and victim advocacy services.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.nyscasa.org/get-help/prea/>

PREA Hotline: 777

PREA Centers

Crime Victims Treatment Center (Altona, Bare Hill, Clinton, Eastern, Edgecombe, Five Points, Franklin, Green Haven, Queensboro, Shawangunk, Sullivan, Upstate, Wallkill, Woodbourne)

40 Exchange Place, Suite 510, New York, NY 10005

Vera House, Inc. (Auburn, Cayuga, Elmira)

723 James Street, Syracuse, New York 13203

Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson Co. (Adirondack, Cape Vincent, Gouverneur, Riverview)

418 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601

WestCOP Victim Assistance Services (Bedford Hills, Fishkill, Otisville, Sing Sing, Taconic, Ulster)

2 Westchester Plaza, Elmsford, NY 10956

RESTORE, Sexual Assault Services (Albion, Attica, Groveland, Lakeview, Orleans, Wyoming)

RESTORE, S.A.S., PO Box 290, Batavia, NY 14020

Crisis Services (Wende, Collins)

100 River Rock Drive, Suite 300, Buffalo, NY 14207

St. Peter's Crime Victim Services (Coxsackie, Great Meadow, Greene, Hale Creek ASACTC, Hudson, Marcy, Mid-State, Mohawk, Washington)

Samaritan Hospital – 5 Tower, 2215 Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY 12180

Just Detention International (JDI)

JDI is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. JDI is the only organization dedicated exclusively to ending sexual abuse behind bars. It holds government officials accountable for prisoner rape; challenges the attitudes and misperceptions that allow sexual abuse to flourish; and makes sure that survivors get the help they need.

Services Offered

JDI provides survivors and their loved ones with information about sexual abuse, prisoners' rights, and how to get help. JDI responds to every survivor who writes to it. Please note that JDI does not provide legal representation or counseling services. Its

Resource Guide includes listings of service providers nation-wide that can help survivors in detention.

Contact Information

3250 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 1630
Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-384-1411

1100 H Street, NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005
202-506-3333

Email: info@justdetention.org

Website: <https://justdetention.org/what-we-do/helping-prisoner-rape-survivors/>

Parole Services

Legal Aid Society's Parole Revocation Defense Unit

The Parole Revocation Defense Unit at The Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Practice is dedicated to providing representation for those incarcerated in the New York City area on a New York State parole violation warrant. It can also provide legal advice, referrals and assistance to New Yorkers concerned about their parole supervision. If you are incarcerated on a New York State parole violation, or you are concerned that you may be violated on parole, contact the Parole Revocation Defense Unit for potential assistance.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.legalaidnyc.org/get-help/parole/>

199 Water Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10038

Hotline Number: (212) 577-3300

Parole Preparation Project (PPP)

PPP provides critical advocacy and direct support to currently and formerly incarcerated people serving life sentences and seeking to transform the parole release process in New York State.

Services Offered

PPP trains community volunteers to collaborate with incarcerated people as they prepare for their interviews with the Board of Parole; advocates for a more transparent, just, and merciful parole release process; Supports currently and formerly incarcerated leaders of the prison and parole justice movements; Provides access to services and supportive communities for people returning home from prison and their families.

Contact Information

Parole Preparation Project
c/o Law Office of Michelle L. Lewin
135 W. 20th Street, Suite 401 New York, NY 10011
Phone number: (347) 620-5906
Website: <https://www.paroleprepny.org/contact-us>
Email address: info@paroleprepny.org

Re-Entry Support

Re-Entry Services by County

ALL COUNTIES

Pre-Release and Re-Entry Program Prisoners' Legal Services of New York

10 Little Britain Rd, Suite 204 Newburgh, NY 12550
(845) 391-3110 Ext. 1504
Email: jnolan@plsny.org

Albany County Re-entry Task Force c/o Department of Mental Health

260 South Pearl St Albany, NY 12202
(518) 447-2003

Bronx County Re-entry Task Force c/o The Fortune Society

1074 Washington Ave. Bronx, NY 10469
(718) 292-3851 ext. 7327

Broome County Re-entry Task Force c/o Southern Tier Care Coordination

206 State St Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 743-1790

Dutchess County Re-entry Task Force c/o Exodus Transitional Community, Inc.

97-99 Cannon St Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
(845) 452-7620

Erie County Re-entry Task Force c/o Spectrum Human Services

1280 Main St Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 539-5409

Kings County Re-entry Task Force c/o District Attorney's Office

210 Joralemon St 3rd floor Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 250-3281

Monroe County Re-entry Task Force c/o DELPHI Rise

835 West Main St Rochester, NY 14611
(585) 467-2230

Nassau County Re-entry Task Force c/o Leadership Training Institute

50 Clinton St Suite 607 Hempstead, NY 11550
(516) 483-3400

New York County Re-entry Task Force c/o Exodus Transitional Community

2268 Third Ave New York, NY 10035
(917) 492-0990

Niagara County Re-entry Task Force c/o Community Missions

1570 Buffalo Ave. Niagara Falls, NY 14303
(716) 285-3403 ext. 2258

Oneida County Re-entry Task Force c/o Workforce Investment Board

209 Elizabeth St. Utica, NY 13501
(315) 207-6951

Onondaga County Re-entry Task Force c/o Department of Social Services - Economic Security

421 Montgomery St. Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 435-2985 ext. 7153

Orange County Re-entry Task Force c/o RECAP, Inc.

201 Broadway Newburgh, NY 12550
(845) 568-3445

Queens County Re-entry Task Force c/o The Fortune Society

29-76 Northern Blvd. Long Island City, NY 11101
(718) 906-2984

Rensselaer County Re-entry Task Force c/o District Attorney's Office

80 Second St. Troy, NY 12180
(518) 270-4002

Rockland County Re-entry Task Force c/o BRIDGES

2290 Palisades Center Dr. West Nyack, NY 10994
(845) 624-1366 ext. 136

Schenectady County Re-entry Task Force c/o The Center for Community Justice

144 Barrett St. Schenectady, NY 12305
(518) 346-1281 ext. 220

Suffolk County Re-entry Task Force c/o Probation Department

Box 188 Yaphank, NY 11980
(631) 852-5054

Ulster County Re-entry Task Force c/o Family of Woodstock, Inc.

39 John St. PO Box 3516 Kingston, NY 12402
(845) 331-7080

Westchester County Re-entry Task Force c/o Department of Community Mental Health

112 East Post Rd, 2nd FL., White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 995-2791

New York Public Library’s Connections

For additional information on re-entry services or programs that may be useful after your release, the information in the Connections Guide would likely be useful to you. You may view it online at [nypl.org/corrections](https://www.nypl.org/corrections), or request a free copy of Connections by mailing a request to the following address:

Correctional Services

The New York Public Library

445 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10016

Website: <https://www.nypl.org/help/community-outreach/jail-prison-services>

Acacia Network

Acacia Network and its affiliates provide integrated, culturally-competent, and trauma-informed services to over 150,000 individuals of all ages through Primary Care, Behavioral Health and Addiction Services, Residential Treatment for At-Risk Populations, Affordable and Supportive Housing, Transitional Housing and Homeless Services, Early Childhood Education, Afterschool Programs and Youth Development, Services for Older Adults Ages 60+, Workforce Development, Arts and Culture, and more.

Contact Information

Contact Form: <https://acacianetwork.org/contact-us>

Services Directory: <https://acacianetwork.org/services-guide/>

Primary Care Call Center: (718) 734-2539

Behavioral Health Admissions: (718) 960-7599

Older Adults Services: (347) 614-2519 Ext. 7304

Workforce Development: (212) 473-0255

Childcare: (646) 937-0068

Youth Education & Development: (212) 781-5500 Ext.5513

Supportive Housing: (718) 299-1100 Ext. 6535

Affordable Housing: (718) 741-1900

CASES

CASES offers a range of programs to help people to successfully navigate the challenges of reentry, access opportunities to improve their lives (including through proven protective factors like education and housing) and avoid recidivism.

Services Offered

Community-based programs providing education and employment services for youth and young adults recently released from jail or prison; in-home family therapy for youth in the community on probation who have behavioral health treatment needs; and discharge planning and ongoing case management for men and women with serious mental illness pre- and post-release from Rikers Island Correctional Facility.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.cases.org/reentry-services/>

For referrals, including self-referral: <https://www.cases.org/referrals/>

Brooklyn Location

151 Lawrence Street, 3rd Floor Brooklyn, NY 11201

Phone number: (212) 553-6300

Harlem Location

2090 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd 8th Floor New York, NY 10027

Phone number: (212) 553-6606

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Albany

Catholic Charities offers a wide spectrum of services, from addressing basic needs such as food, clothing, and shelter to more specialized needs such as mental health counseling, prison support services, programs for low-income families, and disaster assistance. Catholic Charities advocates on behalf of the poor and vulnerable and collaborates with others to build a more just society.

Contact Information

Website: <http://www.ccrda.org/>

Email address: Catholic.charities@ccrda.org

40 North Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

Phone number: (518) 453-6650

Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)

CEO provides employment and training programs to formerly incarcerated individuals who are recently released and other young adults ages 18–24. CEO accepts new clients on a rolling basis. Eligible participants may immediately begin a paid transitional work assignment after a 5-day orientation, provided they submit necessary identification and other documents necessary for legal clearance to work.

Services Offered

Offered services include paid transitional employment, permanent full-time job placement support (including guidance on how to navigate NYC's Fair Chance Act), and no-cost vocational training. Vocational training offerings include OSHA certifications, warehouse/forklift, plumbing, electricity, carpentry, and more.

Contact Information

Website: <https://ceoworks.org>

Email address: info@ceoworks.org

Contact form: <https://ceoworks.org/contact>

Headquarters Address

50 Broadway, Suite 1604 New York, NY 10004

Phone number: (212) 422-4430

Mary Bedeau, Deputy Executive Director

mbedeau@ceoworks.org

Buffalo Address

170 Franklin Street, Suite 300

Buffalo, NY 14202

Phone number: (716) 842-6320

Victor Ellis, New York State Regional Director

vellis@ceoworks.org

Albany Address

41 State Street, Suite 408

Albany, NY 12207

Phone number: (518) 426-0390

Robert Carillo, Site Director

rcarillo@ceoworks.org

Bronx Address

384 East 149th Street #300

Bronx, NY 10455

Phone number: (646) 603-3020

Cynthia Brackett, Senior Director

cbrackett@ceoworks.org

Rochester Address

16 East Main Street, Suite 700

Rochester, NY 14614

Phone number: (585) 957-9858

Jarmani Dozier, Site Director

jdozier@ceoworks.org

Community Service Society

CSS currently provides reentry-related legal services in the areas of employment, occupational licensing, government clearance for jobs, and records-related problems in addition to other things.

Services Offered

CSS helps people with conviction histories. It requests, reads, and repairs their NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services rap sheets (and/or FBI rap sheets). Counselors also help individuals apply for Certificates of Good Conduct or Certificates of Relief from Disabilities, which provide presumptive evidence of rehabilitation and overcome numerous statutory barriers to employment and licensure. CSS also offers mentoring for children of incarcerated parents (MentorCHIP) and a Public Benefits and Housing Information Line at (212) 614-5552.

Contact Information

633 Third Ave, 10th FL, New York, NY 10017

Phone number: (212) 254-8900

Email address: info@cssny.org

Legal Help Hotline for discrimination due to conviction history: (646) 759-8088

CUNY HSE Connect

CUNY HSE Connect helps formerly incarcerated or justice-involved individuals over age 25 to obtain their HSE diploma through supportive programming.

Contact Information

Website: <https://justiceandopportunity.org/educational-pathways/hse-high-school-equivalency-connect/>

Email address: JustOpplInfo@jjay.cuny.edu

Phone number: (212) 393-6010

Defy Ventures

This re-entry program provides formerly justice-involved individuals with career readiness programs, entrepreneurship training, opportunities for leadership and network building, and other forms of business and career experience. Less than 10% of Defy graduates return to prison.

Services Offered

Employment readiness and assistance. Entrepreneurship training. Business incubator and alumni programs.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.defyventures.org/for-eits>

Email address: info@defyventures.org

5 Penn Plaza, 19th floor, New York, NY 10001

Phone number: (800) 680-0563

Exodus Transitional Community

Exodus Transitional Community delivers innovative programming tailored to adults and youths affected by the justice system, and advocates for a society in which all can achieve social, economic, and spiritual wellbeing.

Services Offered

Job skills and employment assistance. Technology training. Youth empowerment and mentorship--helping youths to obtain a GED, post-secondary education or training, and enter the workforce. Outpatient treatment for alcohol and substance abuse and counseling.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.etcny.org>

Email address: info@etcny.org

Harlem office information

2271 Third Avenue, Second Floor New York, NY 10035

Phone number: (917) 492-0990 ext. 118

Poughkeepsie office information

97-99 Cannon Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Phone number: (845) 452-7620

Newburgh office information

85 Grand Street, Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone number: (845) 565-2700

EXPONENTS

EXPONENTS serves those impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance use, incarceration, and behavioral health challenges. It delivers these services through a client-centered, strength-based approach which greatly improves health outcomes and promotes overall wellness in the communities.

Services Offered

Drug treatment, reentry services, health education (including services specific to people with HIV/AIDS and Hep C), counseling, clothing closet, life-skills training, and programs specifically for LGBTQ+ individuals.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.exponents.org>

Email address: info@exponents.org

17 Battery Place, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10004

Phone number: (212) 243-3434

Intake Phone Number: (212) 243-3434 ext. 325

Fedcap Wildcat Jails 2 Jobs

The Jails2Jobs program offers individuals leaving NYC Department of Corrections facilities the training and skills necessary to obtain and maintain employment. It starts planning before an individual leaves jail and works with them after they return to the community.

Services Offered

An array of behavioral health supports including cognitive behavioral therapy, case management services, work readiness, job placement and retention services, and transitional employment through Wildcat.

Contact Information

Website: <https://fedcapinc.org/jail2jobs/>

Email address: JailstoJobs@fedcap.org

Phone number: (917) 477-6793

Fortune Society

The Fortune Society's mission is to support successful reentry from incarceration and promote alternatives to incarceration, thus strengthening the fabric of our communities.

Services Offered

Housing, employment services, education, family services, mental health and substance abuse treatment, health services, benefits access, food and nutrition, and creative arts.

Contact Information

Website: <https://fortunesociety.org/contact/>

Email address: info@fortunesociety.org

29-76 Northern Boulevard Long Island City, NY 11101

Phone number: (212) 691-7554

Heritage Health and Housing, Inc.

Heritage Health and Housing, Inc. provides health care, housing and a wide range of social and support services within a community of healing in each of its operating venues.

Services Offered

Comprehensive medical and dental care, including pediatrics, ophthalmology, women's health (OB/GYN), HIV/AIDS testing, podiatry and x-rays. Housing services, including single room occupancies, transitional and supportive housing, residential treatment programs, HIV/AIDS permanent housing.

Contact Information

Website: <http://heritagenyc.org/>

1727 Amsterdam Avenue, 4th Floor New York, NY 10031

Clinic Phone number: (212) 862-0054

General Info: (212) 866-2600

Positive Health Project

301 W 37th St, New York, NY

Phone number: (212) 465-8304

Keith D. Cylar Community Health Center:

743-749 E 9th St, New York, NY

Phone number: (718) 277-0386

Housing Works' S.M.A.R.T.

The Housing Works S.M.A.R.T. Program provides a number of reentry services to individuals including (but not limited to) Welcome Home kits with clothing and other necessities, mental health services, primary care services, substance abuse services, workforce development services, employment placement, and more.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.housingworks.org>

Phone number: (347) 473-7400

Email: info@housingworks.org

Institute for Justice and Opportunity at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

As a champion of institutional, structural, and personal transformation, the Institute opens doors and eliminates barriers to success for people who have been involved in the criminal legal system. It creates access to higher education and pathways to satisfying careers. It advocates for the right to housing, employment, healthcare, and other human rights too often denied people with criminal convictions.

Services Offered

HSE Connect (listed above). Prison-to-College Pipeline (CUNY's in-prison college program). College Initiative, a college preparation program and community. CI offers academic counseling, peer mentoring, and community support.

Contact Information

Website: <https://justiceandopportunity.org/about/contact-us/>

Email address: JustOppInfo@jjay.cuny.edu

Mailing Address: John Jay College Institute for Justice and Opportunity
524 West 59th St. Suite 609B New York, NY 10019

Make the Road/Se Hacer Camino

Make the Road New York builds the power of immigrant and working-class communities to achieve dignity and justice.

Services Offered

Legal and Survival Services to tackle discrimination, abuse and poverty. Transformative Education to develop community members' abilities to lead the organization, the movement, and society. Community Organizing to transform the systems and power structures impacting our communities. Policy Innovation to rewrite unjust rules and make democracy truly accountable to all.

Contact Information

Website: <https://maketheroadny.org/>

Bushwick, Brooklyn

301 Grove Street, Brooklyn, NY 11237

Phone number: (718) 418-7690

Jackson Heights, Queens

92-10 Roosevelt Avenue, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Phone number: (718) 565-8500

Port Richmond, Staten Island

161 Port Richmond Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302

Phone number: (718) 727-1222

Brentwood, Long Island

1090 Suffolk Avenue, Brentwood, NY 11717

Phone number: (631) 231-2220

White Plains, Westchester County

46 Waller Ave, White Plains, NY 10605

Phone number: (914) 948-8466

Network Support Services

Network Support Services is a non-profit organization that provides rehabilitation and re-entry programs for incarcerated people and people on parole in New York State.

Services Offered

Support Meetings. Job Readiness, Training and Placement. Housing Referrals. Anger Management Training. Substance Abuse Prevention. Educational Services, including GED and College. Family Counseling. Health Services.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.networkssi.org>

Email address: Contact@networkssi.org

555 Bergen Avenue, 3rd Floor, Bronx, NY 10455

Phone number: (347) 584-8601

NYC Justice Corps

NYC Justice Corps addresses the reintegration challenges of their young adults (ages 18-24, who reside in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Harlem, or Queens) reentering from the criminal justice system, instilling a sense of civic responsibility and accountability, and tangibly improving their prospects for personal and professional success.

Services Offered

As a Corps member, you can improve your neighborhood through projects that you will design and complete, learn job skills, be part of a team, receive a stipend, meet local leaders and business people, boost your reading and math skills on your way to a high school equivalency, get help applying to college, build a resume and develop job references, and get help finding a job.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.nycjusticecorps.org/get-involved/how-to-apply-for-the-nyc-justice-corps/>

Bronx Justice Corps:

Vanessa Vanterpool, Program Director

Phipps Neighborhoods

1409 Fulton Avenue, Bronx, NY 10456

Phone number: (347) 329-4004, ext. 5050

Email address: VVanterpool@hippsny.org

Brooklyn Justice Corps:

Willard Beale, Program Director

Center for Alternative Sentencing & Employment Services, Inc.

510 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11216

Phone number: (212) 553-6652

Email: wbeale@cases.org

Harlem Justice Corps

Trisa Edmondson, Program Manager

Center for Justice Innovation

127 West 127th Street New York, NY, 11027

Phone number: (646) 593-8520

Queens & Brooklyn Justice Corps

Willard Beale, Program Director

Center for Alternative Sentencing & Employment Services, Inc.

89-31 161st Street, Jamaica, NY 11432

Phone number: (347) 796-4111

Email address: wbeale@cases.org

Odyssey House

Odyssey House helps New Yorkers in need to overcome drug and alcohol abuse, improve their physical and mental health, and defeat homelessness.

Services Offered

Substance use disorder treatment, medication-assisted treatment, mental health services, housing assistance, vocational and educational training, fitness and wellness services, expressive arts program, medical and dental care, peer recovery network.

Contact Information

Website: <https://odysseyhousenyc.org>

Email: info@odysseyhousenyc.org

120 Wall Street, Fl 17, New York, NY 10005

Phone number: (866) 888-7880

Osborne Association

Osborne offers a wide range of direct services to justice system-involved people and their children and families.

Services Offered

Job skills and employment. Substance use treatment. Court advocacy. Support for families, including visitation assistance. Elder reentry. Housing readiness and search assistance for people with HIV. Wellness and prevention. Therapy and counseling.

Contact Information

Website: <http://www.osborneny.org/>

Osborne Association NYC Reentry Hotline:

(833) 672-3733

Brooklyn office information:

175 Remsen St., Suite 800, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Phone number: (718) 637-6560

Bronx office information

809 Westchester Ave. Bronx, NY 10455

Phone number: (718) 707-2600

Buffalo office information

The Community Health Center of Buffalo

34 Benwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14214

Phone number: (929) 239-5943

Manhattan office information

2090 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd, New York, NY 10027

Phone number: (212) 324-5577

Newburgh office information

388 Ann St. Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone number: (845) 345-9845

STRIVE

Strive’s Mission is to help people acquire the life-changing skills and attitudes needed to overcome challenging circumstances, find sustained employment, and become valuable contributors to their families, their employers, and their communities. All of its programs help you lay the foundation to not just get a job, but build a career. Graduates have lifetime access to STRIVE services, which include helping you find a job that is right for you; provide skills training programs that help you seek promotion and advance your career, connects you to housing and childcare services, facilitates workshops such as money management.

Contact Information

Website: <https://strive.org/nyprograms>

Email address: info@strive.org

205 East 122nd Street, 3rd Floor New York, NY, 10035

Phone number: (212) 360-1100.

Facebook: @strivenewyork

Services for Women

College and Community Fellowship (CCF)

CCF helps women reach the goals and dreams they had for themselves before they were ever involved with the criminal justice system. Its Academic Support Program helps hundreds of women earn their undergraduate and graduate college degrees. CCF provides a sisterhood of women all working toward similar goals.

Services Offered

Mentorship for currently-incarcerated women. Financial assistance to pay back old debts to college. Help applying to college, including choosing the right college for you. Guidance applying for financial aid. One-on-one academic counseling. Financial support for school supplies, books, transportation, tutoring, and more. Financial support to help you earn a high-quality career certification.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.collegeandcommunity.org>

Email address: info@collegeandcommunity.org

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1626, New York, NY 10115

Phone number: (646) 380-7777

Grace Institute

Grace Institute empowers low-income women in the New York area to achieve employment and economic self-sufficiency by providing job-skills training, counseling, placement services and continuous learning opportunities that lead to upwardly mobile employment. Grace Institute's employer-driven workforce training programs help women develop the professional skills employers have identified as being needed by today's administrative and customer service professionals.

Services Offered

They offer two workforce training programs that provide training in best administrative practices, customer-centric approaches, and workplace technical skills: Administrative Professionals (AP) Program and Patient Service Representative (PSR) Program. For women ages 18-64; GED/TASC required and able to type at a minimum speed of 25 words per minute.

Contact Information

Registration form: <https://graceinstitute.org/enroll/registration/>

Email address: admissions@graceinstitute.org

40 Rector Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10006

Phone number: (212) 832-7605

Greenhope Services for Women

Greenhope’s mission is to empower women involved in substance abuse and the criminal justice system to reclaim their lives, reunite with their families, and rebuild their communities.

Services Offered

Drug and alcohol counseling. Domestic violence education and prevention. Legal advocacy and support. Vocational and educational services. Residential, outpatient, and day treatment programs offered. After-care and follow-up support.

Contact Information

Website: <https://acacianetwork.org/greenhope/>

435 East 119th Street New York, NY 10035

Intake Specialist: (212) 360-4002 x1742

Front Desk phone: (212) 360-4002

New Hour

New Hour was founded to provide meaningful support to current and formerly incarcerated women, their children and families. It builds community to promote successful re-entry and lasting reintegration, and to reform unjust criminal justice system policies. It empowers directly impacted people to utilize their lived experiences to create lasting reforms to the carceral system.

Services Offered

New Hour provides parenting skills, work skills, and wellness programs during and after incarceration; it aims to give women the tools needed to become powerful change agents for themselves, their community and their children.

Contact Information

New Hour for Women and Children - LI

PO Box 213

Brentwood, NY 11717

(631) 273-3300

Contactus@newhourli.org

The Lilac House Project

This organization is committed to filling the existing housing gap for formerly incarcerated women in Westchester County and increasing access to a second chance in a safe community. As a uniquely envisioned transitional residence, The Lilac House offers reentry-specific supportive living, which, in addition to providing refuge, aims to cultivate a close-knit community through on-site resources and referrals to address concerns for its residents.

Services Offered

Individualized Case Management: Employment Services, Housing Search, Clothing
Wellness: Mental Health, Substance Use Treatment, Support Groups
Education: Soft Skills, Tech Workshops, Budgeting
Family: Parenting Classes, Child Care, Reunification

Contact Information

The Lilac Housing Project
1223 East 233rd Street, #1092
Bronx, NY 10466
914-230-0956
Email: info@thelilachouse.org
Website: <https://thelilachouse.org>

Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS) Incarcerated Mothers Law Project

VOLS Incarcerated Mothers Law Project provides family law advice, education and advocacy to mothers in prison or jail at Riker's Rose M. Singer Center, Taconic Correctional Facility and Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. It also provides family law advice, education and advocacy post-incarceration. VOLS is committed to supporting mothers in prison or jail with their family law concerns.

Contact Information

Stephanie Taylor
VOLS
40 Worth Street, Suite 829
New York, NY 10013
staylor@volsprobono.org

Women's Prison Association

WPA works with women at all stages of criminal justice involvement. It promotes alternatives to incarceration and helps women avoid arrest/incarceration. Inside, WPA is a source of support to women and a resource to them as they plan for release. After incarceration, it helps women build the lives they want for themselves and their families in the community.

Services Offered

Shelter and housing. Emergency assistance. Workforce development & employment services. HIV, mental health, health care, addiction services. Legal assistance.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.wpaonline.org/services/reentry-services>

Email address: info@wpaonline.org

347 East 10th Street, New York, NY 10009

Phone number: (646) 292-7724

Mental Health and Healthcare

Baywood Center (Warren County)

Outpatient substance use disorder treatment.

Services Offered

Transitional housing and shelters. Permanent supportive housing. Counseling and mental health services. Care coordination. Case management. Drug and alcohol treatment, including outpatient treatment, medically assisted treatment, intensive residential treatment, opioid treatment, community residences, and recovery services.

Contact Information

Website: <http://www.samaritanvillage.org/contact-us>

Admissions Department: 88-83 Van Wyck Expressway Jamaica, NY 11435

Administrative Address: 138-02 Queens Boulevard Briarwood, NY 11435-2647

Phone number: (718) 206-2000

For admission, call (718) 657-6195 or (855) 322-4357 (HELP)

Callen-Lorde

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center provides sensitive, quality health care and related services targeted to New York's LGBTQ+ communities regardless of ability to pay. To further this mission, Callen-Lorde promotes health education and wellness, and advocates for LGBTQ+ health issues.

Services Offered

Primary care. Women's health. Transgender health. Behavioral health. Case management/care coordination. Facilitated enrollment. Sexual health clinic. Dental services. Pharmacy. Community outreach and education.

Contact Information

Website: <https://callen-lorde.org/register/>

Chelsea

356 West 18th St. New York, NY 10011

Phone number: (212) 271-7200

Bronx

3144 3rd Ave, Bronx, NY 10451

Phone number: (718) 215-1800

Brooklyn

40 Flatbush Ave Ext, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Phone number: (718) 215-1818

Thea Spyer Center

230 West 17th St, New York, NY 10011

Phone number: (212) 271-7200

Centers Healthcare (CH)

With nursing homes and assisted living facilities across NY, NJ, and RI, CH offers discharge planning for the chronically ill. Staff frequently visit Rikers and Ward’s Island and does screenings for nursing home placements.

Website: www.centershealthcare.com

Email: info@centershealthcare.org

4770 White Plains Road, Bronx, NY 10470

General phone number: (800) 305-9151

Central New York Psychiatric Center (CNYPC)

The Central New York Psychiatric Center (CNYPC) is a comprehensive mental health service delivery system providing a full range of care and treatment to persons incarcerated in the New York State and County Correctional Systems.

Contact Information

Website: <https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/facilities/cnpc/>

Message form: https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/email/compose_mail.php?tid=facilities_cnpc_1

9005 Old River Road Marcy, NY 13403,

P.O. Box 300

Phone number: (315) 765-3600

Glen Falls Hospital Center for Recovery (Warren or Washington County)

Accepts commercial insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare. A sliding fee-scale is available for uninsured residents of Warren or Washington counties who do not have insurance.

Services Offered

The Center for Recovery has two locations, one in Warren County and one in Washington County. The Center for Recovery offers an array of outpatient services including

evaluations for substance use disorders, individual and family counseling, group therapy, and medication- assisted treatment (MAT). The Center for Recovery staff includes a psychiatrist, a registered nurse, social workers, Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselors (CASAC's). Intensive outpatient treatment is available by arrangement according to clinical needs, up to five days per week (once it can bring groups back into its larger space). The population served includes adolescents, adults (through all stages of life), pregnant women, and families.

Contact Information

Website: <https://bhsn.org/mental-health/center-for-recovery/>

Warren County

Center for Recovery
25 Willowbrook Road, Queensbury, NY 12804
Phone: (518) 926-7200

Center for Well-Being

25 Willowbrook Road, Queensbury, NY 12804
Phone: (518) 926-7100

Washington County

Center for Recovery
340 Main St., Hudson Falls, NY 12839
Phone number: (518) 747-8001

Housing Works

Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) offering primary care, psychiatric services, STI treatment, PEP and PrEP, medication management, HEP C testing and treatment, case management and more.

Contact Information

Website: <https://healthcare.housingworks.org/>

East New York Community Health Center: 2640 Pitkin Ave, Brooklyn, NY
Phone number: (718) 277-0386
Downtown Brooklyn Health Center: 57 Willoughby St, Brooklyn, NY
Phone number: (718) 277-0386

Kings County Hospital Behavioral Health Center Program

Offers a variety of behavioral health programs and treatment options, including psychopharmacology, individual psychotherapy, psychoeducation, group therapy, activity therapy, and family/significant other meetings.

Services Offered

Chemical Dependency Treatment Services: Inpatient & outpatient services for substance abuse. Offers safe, medical detoxification for heroin/opiate and alcohol addiction and referral to aftercare upon completion. Outpatient services are tailored to the needs of individual patients. Patients are assessed by the central intake unit and placed in a specific program most appropriate for their needs.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.nychealthandhospitals.org/kings-county/services/behavioral-health/>

648 Albany Avenue, K-5 Building Brooklyn, NY 11203

Phone number: (718) 245-2629

Appointments: (844) NYC-4NYC

General Information: (718) 245-3131

Samaritan Daytop Village

Samaritan Daytop Village provides comprehensive health and human services to over 33,000 people each year through a network of more than 50 facilities.

Services Offered

Outpatient drug/alcohol rehab using problem solving groups, specialized therapies such as insight-oriented psychotherapy, cognitive-behavioral therapy, and 12-step programs. Accepts private insurance, Medicaid, sliding fee-scale.

Contact Information

Phone number: (518) 798-4221 ext 0

551 Baywood Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804

Support for Family and Friends of Incarcerated People

Alliance of Families for Justice

The mission of the Alliance of Families for Justice is to support, empower, and mobilize families and individuals impacted by the criminal justice system so they can marshal their collective power to create a just world. AFJ supports the families of incarcerated people, empower them as advocates, and help marshal their voting power.

Services Offered

Family support, including individual and family counseling and weekly family empowerment circles. Legal support for both families and incarcerated people (including visitation issues). Advocacy and communication skills training for formerly incarcerated people and families. Paid youth empowerment/leadership training.

Contact Information

Website: <https://afj-ny.org>
8 W. 126th Street, 3rd floor NY, NY 10027
Family Support Unit: (917) 830-8585
Legal Support Unit: (917) 268-2500
Main Office: (347) 973-0580

Beacon Prison Rides Project

This is a volunteer-run organization providing free rides between the Beacon train station & Beacon area prisons (Fishkill, Green Haven, Wallkill and Shawangunk.)

Contact Information

(845) 288-1865
Email: beaconprisonrides@gmail.com
Website: <https://prisonridesproject.org/>

Children of Promise NYC

Children of Promise NYC is a community-centered organization that partners with children and families impacted by mass incarceration to dismantle the stigma and heal from the trauma plaguing Black and Brown communities.

Services Offered

Mental health. Trauma informed counseling. Academic support. Mentoring. Recreational activities. Social justice initiative. Family engagement. Arts and cultural activities. After school and summer camp.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.cpnyc.org>
Email address: info@cpnyc.org
Brooklyn: 54 Macdonough Street, Brooklyn, NY 11216
Phone number: (718) 483-9290

Bronx

1842 Webster Avenue, The Bronx, NY 10457
Phone number: (718) 461-5117

The Educational Alliance

Educational Alliance brings together and partners with diverse communities in Lower Manhattan, offering individuals and families high-quality, multi-generational programs and services that enhance their well-being and socioeconomic opportunities.

Services Offered

Residential and outpatient treatment for substance abuse, with individual and group therapy, case and medication management, vocational services, and wellness activities. Children, parents, and family services. Career counseling and workshops.

Contact Information

Website: <https://edalliance.org/>

Address: 197 East Broadway, New York, NY 10002

Email address: info@edalliance.org

Center for Recovery and Wellness Intake email address: crwintake@edalliance.org

Treatment phone number: (646) 395-4406

25-29 Avenue D New York, NY 10009

Hour Children

HC is a leading provider of services to incarcerated and formerly-incarcerated women in NYS. Focused on women and their children, it supports families during a mother's incarceration and help them get back on their feet upon release.

Services Offered

Provides a variety of reentry, childcare, and community services, including mentorship for women and their children, supportive housing, job training, educational opportunities, and mentoring; food pantry; summer camps, tutoring, and childcare.

Contact Information

Website: <https://hourchildren.org>

36-11 12th St., Long Island City, NY 11106

Phone number: (718) 433-4724

In Arms Reach

The mission is to provide high-needs students with tutoring and STEM education in a collegiate setting, to normalize educational attainment beyond high school, and to disrupt the cycle of generational incarceration that ensnares too many children in the communities they serve.

Services Offered

After school tutoring and summer camp at City College. STEM exposure and college prep. Transportation to visit incarcerated parents and help with letter writing.

Contact Information

Website: <http://inarmsreach.net/about-us/>

Email address: info@inarmsreach.net

The City College of New York

160 Convent Avenue, New York, New York 10031

Phone number: (212) 650-5894

The National Resource Center on Children and Families of the Incarcerated

NRCCFI is the oldest and largest organization in the U.S. focused on children and families of the incarcerated and programs that serve them. It disseminates accurate and relevant information; guides the development of family strengthening policy and practice; train, prepare, and inspire those working in the field; and include the families in defining the issues and designing solutions.

Contact Information

Website: <https://nrccfi.camden.rutgers.edu>

Email address: nrccfi@camden.rutgers.edu

NRCCFI at Rutgers–Camden, 405-7 Cooper St., Room 103, Camden, NJ 08102

Phone number: (856) 225-2718

Office of Mental Health Family Liaison

This is a useful resource for family members who want to better understand the way mental health is addressed in prisons, or if a family member wants to advocate for the rights and protections of an incarcerated loved one with a mental illness.

Contact Information

Directory of Family Liaisons: https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/map/a_to_z.htm

Office of Mental Health Phone: (518) 474-4888

Rising Ground

Rising Ground is a leading nonprofit human services organization that provides children, adults, and families in the greater New York City area with the resources and skills needed to help them rise above adversity and positively direct their lives. The organization offers a wide range of children and family services, education and early childhood services, intellectual/developmental disabilities services, and health and wellness services that may benefit families of incarcerated people.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.risingground.org/>

Organization Directory: <https://www.risingground.org/contact-us/>

Brooklyn Headquarters: 151 Lawrence Street, Brooklyn, 5th Floor, NY 11201

Phone: (212) 437-3500

Books, Publications, and Pen Pals

Beacon Prison Books Project

This project provides books to incarcerated persons throughout New York State, by request. People who are incarcerated in area prisons can use free postcards or simply write to the address provided below to request books or book recommendations. Staff would then order the books, connect with individual sponsors, pack up the books, and send them to the person who made the request. Most of this activity happens through Binnacle Books in Beacon, NY.

Beacon Prison Books Project
P.O. Box 132
Beacon, NY 12508

Black and Pink

Black and Pink was founded in 2005 and is a national prison abolitionist organization dedicated to dismantling the criminal punishment system and the harms caused to LGBTQ+ people and people living with HIV/AIDS who are affected by the system through advocacy, support, and organizing.

Services Offered

For LGBTQ+ and HIV-affected incarcerated people: Pen pal matching service (may have long wait time, but they will list and promote you). Free Black and Pink national newspaper. NYC quarterly 5-page mailer. Solidarity package of food/requested items. Central mailbox for updates, info/advocacy requests. Community support for NYC re-entry (social visits, MetroCard).

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.blackandpink.org/chapters/nyc/>
Email address: nyc@blackandpink.org
Black and Pink NYC, PO Box 1741, New York, NY 10013

Incarcerated Writers Initiative

The Incarcerated Writers Initiative at Columbia University was started in 2016 as a way to open a publishing platform to writers in prisons across the United States. This population has been traditionally overlooked and undervalued. IWI believes the inclusion of their literary voices enlarges and ultimately strengthens the artistic and scholarly communities.

Services Offered

IWI serves as a resource for incarcerated writers to submit their work for detailed critique. Each submitter receives feedback from a Writing Program student, offering a constructive response to their work and ideas on how to improve its effectiveness.

All submitted works are considered for publication in Exchange, IWI's literary magazine published through Columbia Artists/Teachers that features work exclusively by incarcerated artists. All writing submissions may also be considered for general print and online publication in the Columbia Journal. Please reach out for further information and guidance.

Contact Information

Writers can send digital submissions to ColumbialWI@gmail.com or physical copies of their work to:

Incarcerated Writers Initiative, Columbia Artists/Teachers
415 Dodge Hall
Mail Code 1804
2960 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

NYC Books Through Bars

Provides free books to incarcerated individuals. This address is for book requests only:
c/o Bluestockings Bookstore
172 Allen Street New York, NY 10002
Email address: Info@booksthroughbars.nyc.org

PEN America's Prison and Justice Writing Program (PJW)

PJW advocates for the right of imprisoned persons in the US to engage in journalism, creative and research-based writing without fear. It supports incarcerated writers by providing resources that aid in creating and publishing. PJW's longest running, prison creative writing annual contest is free to enter and submitting can garner awards as well as an offer of mentorship from published authors. PJW also publicly supports policies that allow imprisoned authors to publish their writing as a basic first amendment right to free expression that is not relinquished as a result of incarceration. It advocates in order to protect incarcerated writers from any retaliation, official or unofficial, that may occur as a direct result of their writing and publishing activities and challenge carceral censorship.

Contact Information

To become involved in the broader literary community, get free resources, ask for assistance or find out more please write:

PEN America Prison and Justice Writing
588 Broadway, Suite 303
New York, NY 10012

Pro Se

Pro Se is a newsletter published bi-monthly by Prisoners' Legal Services of New York for incarcerated individuals in New York State prisons. Pro Se provides information and analysis on recent developments in the law. Pro Se advises people in prison of changes in the law, provides practice pieces to assist them in complying with statutory and regulatory requirements, and explains technical aspects of various laws affecting prisoners. Pro Se is sent free of charge to individuals incarcerated in New York State who request to be placed on the mailing list:

Pro Se, 114 Prospect St.

Ithaca, NY 14850

Past publications: <https://plsny.org/pro-se/>

Prison Legal News

Prison Legal News, a project of the Human Rights Defense Center, is an independent 72-page monthly magazine that provides cutting edge review and analysis of prisoners' rights, court rulings and news concerning criminal justice-related issues. Send a check or money order for \$36 (discounted annual subscription rate for incarcerated individuals) to:

Prison Legal News

P.O. Box 1151

Lake Worth, FL 33460.

Or see all subscription options at this link: <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/subscribe/print/>

Email: info@prisonlegalnews.org PLN also has a bookstore.

Prison Book Program

Prison Book Program is a grassroots organization that exists for one purpose—to send free books to prisoners. It is best to request genres of books rather than specific titles.

Contact Information

Prison Book Program – Website Request c/o Lucy Parsons Bookstore

1306 Hancock Street, Suite 100 Quincy, MA 02169

Or use the online request form: <https://form.jotform.com/221254873816056>

Or print and mail request form: <https://prisonbookprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/website-request-form.pdf>

Website: <https://prisonbookprogram.org/for-people-in-prison/request-books/>

Solitary Watch: Lifelines to Solitary

Correspondence program and newsletter, for people in solitary confinement.

To request a pen pal:

Lifelines to Solitary, PO Box 11374, Washington, DC 20008

To request the newsletter:

Solitary Watch, PO Box 11374, Washington, DC 20008.

Website: <https://solitarywatch.org>

Email address: info@solitarywatch.com

PART III: ACTIONS TO SUPPORT SYSTEM-WIDE CHANGE

Contacting Policymakers

Your NYS Legislators

New York State legislators make the laws that govern what happens inside NY prisons. Each person has one NY Senator and one NY Assembly person. They represent you! As a constituent, writing a letter can help to influence the changes you want. If you don't know who your legislators are, someone on the outside can find out by typing in your address at:

http://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie

Email address: speaker@nyassembly.gov

District Office

1446 East Gun Hill Rd., Bronx, NY 10469

Phone number: (718) 654-6539

Albany Office

Legislative Office Building Room 932, Albany, NY 12248

Phone number: (518) 455-3791

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Email address: scousins@nysenate.gov

District Office

28 Wells Avenue, Building #3, 5th floor, Yonkers, NY 10701

Phone number: (914) 423-4031

Albany Office

188 State Street, Room 907, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12247

Phone number: (518) 455-2585

New York City Office

250 Broadway, Room 1930, New York, NY

Phone number: (212) 298-5585

Assembly Corrections Committee Chair Erik M. Dilan

Email address: dilanE@nyassembly.gov

Albany Office

LOB 526, Albany, NY 12248

Phone number: (518) 455-5821

District Office

366 Cornelia St, Brooklyn, NY 11237

Phone number: (718) 386-4576

Senate Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction Chair Senator Julia Salazar

Email address: salazar@nysenate.gov

Albany Office

172 State Street, State Capitol Building. Room 514. Albany, NY 12247

Phone: (518) 455-2177

District Office

212 Evergreen Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11221

Phone: (718) 573-1726

Governor's Office Governor, Kathy Hochul

The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York State.

NYS State Capitol Building, Albany, NY 12224

Phone number: (518) 474-8390

Online intake: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>

Attorney General, Letitia James

Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany NY 12224

General helpline: (800) 771-7755

Press Office Email: NYAG.Pressoffice@ag.ny.gov

Online intake: <https://ag.ny.gov/contact-attorney-general-letitia-james>

Independent Advocacy Organizations

Center for Community Alternatives (CCA)

CCA supports and builds power with people across New York State who have been affected by mass incarceration, criminalization and community disinvestment.

Through a statewide network of direct services, advocacy and organizing, and by supporting the leadership of directly impacted people, CCA advances civil and human rights for all New Yorkers.

Services Offered

CCA provides various services, including court advocacy, health education, substance use treatment, employment coaching, and reentry support. Within these service areas, CCA seeks to meet the needs of youth and women. CCA's research, training, public advocacy, and policy division, Justice Strategies, leverages organizational experiences, knowledge, and analysis to advocate for humane criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Contact Information

[Communityalternatives.org](https://communityalternatives.org)

25 Chapel Street

7th Floor

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Telephone: 718-858-9658

Email: cca@communityalternatives.org

Main Office

115 E. Jefferson Street

Suite 200

Syracuse, NY 13202

Freedom Commons

450 Burt Street

Syracuse, NY 13202

Telephone: 315-422-5638

Email: cca@communityalternatives.org

130 Andrews Street

Rochester, NY 14604

Telephone: 585-328-8230

Email: cca@communityalternatives.org

Citizen Action of New York

Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization taking on big issues that are at the center of transforming society by:

- Ensuring our children have a quality public education no matter their zip code
- Ending our current system of mass incarceration and establishing a new system of justice
- Ensuring quality affordable housing for all
- Fighting for guaranteed quality, affordable health care
- Taking big money out of politics by creating a fair elections system
- Aiming to dismantle the historic racist system by promoting racial justice
- Striving for a more progressive tax system to begin to end the runaway inequality in our state

This organization looks for opportunities to accomplish big changes – not small, incremental reforms. It works to elect progressive candidates to office who are committed to these issues. Its power comes from the grassroots: people coming together to push the edge of the possible. Every new member helps bring New York and America closer to a society that works for all of us!

Its strategic approach to its work combines grassroots organizing, leadership development and political education while strategically communicating with the people. Citizen Action of New York wins campaigns that have a direct impact on people’s lives; it builds the infrastructure to develop more power, and it is constantly changing hearts and minds across New York State in order to spread its vision and change what’s possible to win.

Contact Information

Statewide Office – Capital District

PO Box 636

Albany, NY 12206

518.465.4600

info@citizenactionny.org

Southern Tier

477 State Street

Binghamton, NY 13901

607.723.0110

southerntier@citizenactionny.org

Western New York

403 Main St, Office 529
Buffalo, NY 14203
716.855.1522
westernny@citizenactionny.org

Central New York

500 Plant Street
Utica, NY 13502
315.725.0974
centralny@citizenactionny.org

New York City

40 Worth Street, Suite 802, NYC, 10013
212.523.0180
nyc@citizenactionny.org

Long Island Progressive Coalition

90 Pennsylvania Ave
Massapequa, NY 11758
516.541.1006
administration@lipc.org

Hudson Valley

7 Grand Street
Kingston, NY 12401
845.802.0199
HUDSONVALLEY@CITIZENACTIONNY.ORG

Rochester

1392 Culver Rd
Rochester, NY 14609
585.369.4212
ROCHESTER@CITIZENACTIONNY.ORG

Drug Policy Alliance (DPA)

At the DPA, the staff fight for people. It believes that every person should be able to work, parent, be housed, have a community, experience joy, and live freely regardless of drug use.

As the Drug Policy Alliance moves forward in the next phase of our work, DPA is prioritizing: decriminalizing drugs and building health-based alternatives; uprooting the drug war from civil systems (e.g., employment, housing, immigration); disempowering

police in drug enforcement and response; reducing punishments for people in the drug trade; reinvesting drug war resources into the communities most harmed, and eliminating the poison drug supply through responsible legal regulation of all drugs.

DPA will do this by leading ambitious local, state, and national campaigns to change policies, by providing expertise to support the drafting and strategy for legislative efforts by fellow advocates, by funding and fostering partnerships that will build power across movements, and by mobilizing our base and growing to reach the vast majority of people like you who know the drug war has failed and demands a new approach.

Contact Information

Headquarters

131 West 33rd Street, 15th Floor

New York, NY 10001

212.613.8020

nyc@drugpolicy.org

State Offices

New York (Policy)

nys@drugpolicy.org

Washington, D.C.

dc@drugpolicy.org

Email us at: contact@drugpolicy.org

New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU)

The NYCLU is a public-interest law firm that addresses issues involving challenges to a government law, policy or practice affecting the constitutional and civil rights and liberties of a significant number of people arising only in NYS. Generally, NYCLU only takes on systemic issues or cases that could set a widely impactful precedent. The NYCLU generally does NOT accept individual criminal defense; complaints about an individual's attorney in a criminal case; claims of innocence; individual employment disputes; disputes involving private companies; landlord-tenant disputes; obtaining green cards/visas for immigrants; and only monetary damages.

Contact Information

Website: <https://www.nyclu.org>

Hudson Valley Chapter (Sullivan, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester Counties)

NYCLU 297 Knollwood Road, Suite 217 White Plains, NY 10607

Phone number: (914) 997-7479

Email address: HUDSONVALLEY@NYCLU.ORG

Central NY Chapter (Onondaga, Madison, Oneida, Seneca, Oswego, Cortland, and Cayuga Counties)

499 S. Warren St., Suite 430, Syracuse, NY 13202

Phone number: (315) 471-2821

Email address: cnyintake@nyclu.org

Nassau County Chapter (Nassau County)

NYCLU, Nassau County Chapter 33 Front Street, Suite 205 Hempstead, New York 11550

Phone number: (516) 741-8520

Email address: nassau@nyclu.org

Genesee Valley Chapter (Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties)

121 N Fitzhugh St, Rochester, NY, United States, New York

Phone number: (585) 454-4334

Email address: geneseevalley@nyclu.org

Suffolk County Chapter (Suffolk County)

Touro Law Public Advocacy Center

225 Eastview Drive, PA 221 Central Islip, NY 11722

Phone number: (631) 616-9112

Email address: suffolk@nyclu.org

Western Region Chapter (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara Counties)

657 Main St. Buffalo, New York 14203

Phone number: (716) 852-4033

Email address: westernregion@nyclu.org

Capital Region Chapter (Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Saratoga, Washington, Warren, Columbia, and Greene counties)

41 State Street, Suite 612, Albany, New York 12207

Phone number: (518) 436-8594

Email: mtrimble@nyclu.org

For NYC and all other counties:

New York Civil Liberties Union

Attention: Legal Intake Department

125 Broad Street, 19th Floor New York, NY 10004

Phone: (212) 607-3300

To inquire about NYCLU assistance, complete the “Request For Legal Assistance Form” (link below) and send it by mail, fax, or email. Do not send us documentation or legal

papers because they cannot guarantee their return. If they need more information, they will contact you.

Phone number: (212) 607-3300

Email address: legalintake@nyclu.org

The Legal Intake form can be found here: <https://www.nyclu.org/en/about/legal-assistance>

New York Communities for Change (NYCC)

NYCC brings neighbors together to build community power. Its members use that power to improve their lives and their communities. It uses direct action, legislative advocacy, and community organizing to fight for a safe and healthy New York.

- Safe, affordable & stable homes and neighborhoods instead of evictions and displacement.
- A safe & thriving planet to build our communities on.
- Safety from economic exploitation
- A social safety net for all people (no matter their immigration status.)
- Communities that are safe from violence, police brutality, incarceration & deportations.

Contact Information

info@nycommunities.org

(347) 410-6919

470 Vanderbilt Ave. 9th Fl

Brooklyn, NY 11238

www.nycommunities.org

Partnership for the Public Good (PPG)

PPG is a community-based think tank that builds a more just, sustainable, and culturally vibrant Buffalo Niagara through action-oriented research, policy development, and citizen engagement. Together, PPG and Cornell University host the Buffalo Commons, which includes a digital library of research about Western New York and a set of tools for community groups and researchers to connect and work together. Each summer PPG works with Cornell to bring students to Buffalo to intern with PPG partners through High Road Fellowships. PPG is part of innovative collaborations such as Open Buffalo and the Crossroads Collective, and it provides staffing and support for the Greater Buffalo Recycling Alliance and the City of Buffalo Living Wage Commission. The PPG also hosts a weekly radio show, the Public Good, and offers workshops, forums, and other events throughout the year. Major supporters include Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, John R. Oishei Foundation, Western New York Foundation, the Margaret

L. Wendt Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Chorus Foundation, Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Frank G. Raichle Foundation, M & T Bank, PUSH Buffalo, WNY Area Labor Federation, Cornell University, and many more.

Contact Information

617 Main St.
Suite 300
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 852-4191
info@ppgbuffalo.org

Release Aging People in Prison

Release Aging People in Prison (RAPP) works to end mass incarceration and promote racial justice through the release from prison of older and aging people and those serving long and life sentences.

Services Offered

It mobilizes currently and formerly incarcerated people, their families, and other concerned community members. From this base RAPP works to raise public awareness about the destructiveness of mass incarceration and the benefits to society in releasing aging people, including those convicted of violent crimes. It promotes the use of key mechanisms for release, such as parole, compassionate release, clemency, and policy changes. Its goal is to dismantle the racist punishment system.

Contact Information

Website: <http://rappcampaign.com/about/>
Email address: nyRAPPcampaign@gmail.com
135 West 20th St, New York, NY 10011
Phone number: (631) 885-3565

The Bronx Defenders

The Bronx Defenders is a public defender nonprofit that is radically transforming how low-income people in the Bronx are represented in the justice system and, in doing so, is transforming the system itself.

Services Offered

The teams go where their clients go, beyond the confines of a single case or courtroom. It knows that once someone is in the justice system, it can be staggeringly hard to get out. An arrest for a drug charge can lead to a deportation case. A housing case can lead to a child welfare case. As a team, our criminal, civil, immigration and family defense attorneys — alongside social workers and non-lawyer advocates — go where the client goes, addressing the complex web of legal issues, cases, and consequences that can arise from justice involvement.

Contact Information

360 East 161st St. Bronx, NY 10451

(718) 838-7878

Info@bronxdefenders.org

www.bronxdefenders.org

The Sentencing Project

The Sentencing Project advocates for effective and humane responses to crime that minimize imprisonment and criminalization of youth and adults by promoting racial, ethnic, economic, and gender justice.

The Sentencing Project brings unique value as a bridge organization, uniting work on the ground with overarching policy changes at the national level. It currently partners with 68 national groups and over 150 state-level organizations who are working with us to advance extreme sentencing, voting rights, and youth justice reforms. In all of these partnerships, the Sentencing Project is committed to centering the voices, experiences, and leadership of directly impacted individuals and communities, and it uses their direction to inform and tailor their support strategies for each collaboration.

Contact Information

1705 DeSales St, NW

8th Floor

Washington, D.C. 20036

202.628.0871

staff@sentencingproject.org

2024 Action Guide

212-254-5700 (We accept collect calls)
info@correctionalassociation.org
www.correctionalassociation.org