

BEYOND THE BARS *UNTIL SHE'S FREE*

9TH ANNUAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



**Building the Grassroots:
Organizing Workshops**

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2019

Columbia School of Social Work



BUILDING THE GRASSROOTS: Organizing Workshops

Sunday, March 10th

Welcome to the last day of **Beyond the Bars 2019: Until She's Free**. This year's conference is focusing on both the incarceration and criminalization of women and girls, as well as their families and communities. Our focus is inclusive of transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming people. The many struggles for justice, equity and safety led by women and girls directly impacted by the criminal legal system are at the heart of this conference, as we create a space to further strengthen and advance change.

- The Beyond the Bars Organizing Team

SCHEDULE

10:00 am - 11:00 am **WELCOME & PERFORMANCES**

11:15 am - 12:45 pm **SESSION #1**

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm **LUNCH**

1:45 pm - 3:15 pm **SESSION #2**

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm **SESSION #3**

WELCOME & PERFORMANCES

OPENING

Beyond the Bars Fellows

PERFORMANCE

Broadway Advocacy Coalition featuring Mary Soto,
Abigail Unger, and Ari Afsar

PERFORMANCE

How Our Lives Link Altogether!
Youth Organizing Collective

BEYOND THE BARS

SUNDAY WORKSHOPS

Special Track: RESEARCH FOR JUST SOCIETIES

Room 1109

BLOCK #1 - 11:15am - 12:45pm

CAGED LA- THE MOVEMENT TO FREE INCARCERATED WOMEN IN LOS ANGELES

This workshop will train participants on how to leverage community movement, academic research, and public policy analysis to drive liberation. Far too often we lose battles for freedom because we are only comfortable working in a particular lane- the streets, the classroom, or in halls of power. In truth, the most successful movements toward abolition have required some kind of communication between all levels of power and activism. This workshop will use Los Angeles and the foiled construction of the Mira Loma Women's Jail as a case study for how to leverage the collective strength and influence of the people and our allies.

Presenters:

The Million Dollar Hoods Project

Isaac Bryan is the Public Policy Director for Million Dollar Hoods

Joanna Navarro is a data scientist and a co-author on the Million Dollar Hoods report highlighting the incarceration of Women in LA County

Sade Adjayi is a member of the Million Dollar Hoods community engagement and public policy division

BLOCK #2 - 1:45pm - 3:15pm

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS: At The Intersection of Social Science and the Criminal Justice System

Discussant: Dr. Geraldine Downey

Students at various levels of their educational careers will present on research at the intersection of social science and the criminal justice system. Topics discussed will include the use of innovative research methods to understand the criminalization of women and girls, the effects of stigma on employment opportunities available for people affected by the criminal justice system, and the ways that those who are criminalized "rebel" against the systems set up in place to "control" them.

Presenters and titles of their presentations:

Joana Chávez, Activist Scholar, Cesar E. Chavez Department of Chicana/o Studies, UCLA

(Re)Incarceration through Homes: Testimonios of Latina Rebels

Federica Coppola, JD, PhD; Presidential Scholar in Society and Neuroscience, The Center for Science and Society; Columbia Law School; The Center for Justice

Rethinking criminal justice with social and affective neuroscience

James P. Dunlea - PhD Student, Columbia University

Bad people, bad actions: Children's and adults' understanding of the criminal justice system

Rachel Lazar, MA Student, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and **Dara Huggins**, PhD Student, Columbia University

The Effect of Textual and Verbal Contextual Information on the Humanization of Defendants

Michael Naft, PhD Student, Columbia University

Criminal Stigma and Structural Exclusion from the U.S. Labor Market: A Rejection Expectancy Psychological Framework

job Sankofa, Yale University, Joint Ph.D Candidate in African American Studies and American Studies

Centering the Voices of Black Women and Girls in the Prison Archive, 1915-1945

Pastor Isaac Scott, Justice in Education Scholar Columbia University and **Lauren Hagani**, Columbia College

From the Inside Out: Examining the Social Dynamics of NYS prison

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BLOCK #3 - 3:30 - 5:00pm

USING FINDINGS TO CHALLENGE THE CRIMINALIZATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Discussant: Dr. Geraldine Downey

Presenters from a variety of organizations will share findings from groundbreaking reports that shed light on how women and girls are affected by their own incarceration or that of loved ones. Presenters will discuss what it means to examine the criminal justice system, which has been developed by and for men, through a gender responsive framework and what it takes to develop fair and just criminal justice processes. Implications for advocacy and action will be discussed.

Presenters and titles of their presentations:

Gina Clayton-Johnson, Founder & Executive Director, Essie Justice Group
Because She's Powerful: Women's Political Isolation and Resistance in the Age of Mass Incarceration

Sharon Pia Hickey, Research and Advocacy Director, Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, Cornell Law School
Judged for More than Her Crime: Women Facing the Death Penalty

Mahsa Jafarian, Senior Program Associate, Initiative to End Girls' Incarceration, Vera Institute of Justice

Girls Matter: Centering Gender in Status Offense Reform Efforts

jasmine Sankofa, American Civil Liberties Union, Aryeh Neier Fellow
The Lasting Harm of Jailing Mothers Before Trial

Special Track: ARTS PROGRAMMING

Rm 304

BLOCK #1 - 11:15am - 12:45pm

USING THEATRE TO CHANGE THE NARRATIVE

The Graduates, a seven-year-old performance ensemble of formerly incarcerated women who grew out of the 23-year-old LCIW Drama Club at the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women developed our performance-making techniques “inside LCIW” to facilitate individual and collective healing for the women. In this workshop, we share techniques we are using on the outside to use our personal stories to ignite systemic and societal change in regards to overhauling the U.S.’s current criminal justice system.

Facilitated by Graduates **Taece Defillo, Carry Emerson, Fox Rich** and Co-Directors **Ausetua Amor Amenkum** and **Kathy Randels**

BLOCK #2 - 1:45pm - 3:15pm

FORUM THEATRE ON WOMEN IN THE CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM WITH ADAPTED SCENES FROM “THE NATURE OF THE CRIME”

Join members of TONYC’s Rapid Response troupe to play core games of Theatre of the Oppressed, and to engage in an adaptation of The Nature of the Crime. This Forum Play with poetry was originally devised by the LaGuardia Performing Arts Troupe, a group almost entirely comprised of folks who are formerly incarcerated. The adapted scenes focus on the women who shared experiences of being paroled after serving time for defending themselves against abusive men. Participants will be invited to bring their ideas on justice into the scenes as “spect-actors,” taking on the role of the protagonist to explore creative interventions and alternatives in the Forum Play. Following the Forum, participants will be invited to brainstorm structural change ideas to address the problems presented in the play as an introduction to our Legislative Theatre process.

This presentation will feature performances by: **Darryl Campbell,**

Mersadez George, Damian Henry, Karen Thomas & Stanley Washington. The Rapid Response Troupe is facilitated by **Liz Morgan.**

BLOCK #3 - 3:30 - 5:00pm

GALLERY OF THE ABSURD: I WORKED IN A PRISON FOR A YEAR

A forum theatre spectacle expressing the quintessential absurdity that was my experience working as a theatre practitioner in a Federal prison for a year. This workshop invites participants to indulge in the Invest/Divest idea & actual Creative Non-Fiction reality of prisons.

Facilitated by the Gilda Papoose Collective, with **Aléjandro Pablos** and **Samantha Masters**

ORGANIZING WORKSHOPS

SESSION #1: 11:15 am – 12:45 pm

ROUNDTABLE ON STUDENT ACTIVISM AND ORGANIZING

Room C03

Description:

This roundtable will explore the activism and organizing power of students directly impacted by mass incarceration and criminalization, and in particular discuss the development of a new campaign to build student support for AB 277, a California bill that would allow people on parole to earn significant time off their parole term for participating in educational programs.

Facilitators:

Azadeh Zohrabi, Director, Berkeley Underground Scholars Initiative

Andrew Winn, Director, Project Rebound at California State University, Sacramento

ADVOCACY FOR INCARCERATED TRANSGENDER WOMEN

Room 311

This workshop will help advocates who work with criminalized populations learn how to best and most effectively advocate for the safety and well-being of incarcerated transgender women. We will provide advocates with an overview of the criminal legal system, who the decision makers are, and how to creatively pursue just outcomes. Additionally, we will provide very specific tools that we have developed within the LGBTQ Defense Project at The Bronx Defenders for such advocacy.

Presenters:

Deborah Lolai is an attorney and LGBTQ Client Specialist at The Bronx Defenders.

Dany Greene is an LGBTQ Fellow at The Bronx Defenders.

WOMEN INFLUENCING SYSTEMS & HISTORY:

Be Your Best Advocate!

Room 312

This workshop is open to advocates of all levels, beginning with a conversation about “what is advocacy?” and leading into best practices, tools, and techniques to refine our abilities as advocates. The workshop is a preview for the WISH advocacy training program and an introduction to its signature tool—the advocacy equation. The advocacy equation helps individuals organize and plan their argument and/or narrative to ensure their efforts are the most effective and persuasive as possible. The session will conclude with a mock lobby visit activity.

Presenters:

Jordyn Rosenthal—Senior Associate of Policy & Advocacy at College & Community Fellowship (CCF) and created the Women Influencing Systems & History (WISH) program.

Ivelisse Gilestra—Community Organizer at CCF

Nathalie Noboa—Bronx native, a musician, & yoga teacher who participated in the 1st WISH cohort.

EMPOWERING WOMEN TO DISCOVER THE INTERSECTION OF ADVOCACY AND LEGISLATION TO END MASS INCARCERATION, THROUGH HEALING HARMED COMMUNITIES.

Room C05

The main goal of our workshop is to center how as advocates and activists we can empower women and girls to shift political landscapes on city, state and federal levels based on the needs of our community. By directly impacted young girls leading the work that features healing harmed communities we can eradicate recidivism through ENSURING the cycle never begins. This can be accomplished by keeping EVERY child out of jail and pressuring prosecutors to act responsibly.

Presenters:

Shanequa M. Charles: Executive Director of Miss Abbie's Kids and Co-Founder of Never Be Caged, ending mass incarceration through investment in our youth.

William M. Evans: President of Neighborhood Benches and Co-Founder of Never Be Caged, building leadership within youth to end mass incarceration.

Darney Kborn Rivers: President of I Am My Community and Co-Founder of Never Be Caged, addressing mental health amongst youth to end mass incarceration.

Miracle Robinson: CEO of Styled By Miracle & Youth Program Development Partner of Miss Abbie's Kids, decreasing hunger amongst homeless children and empowers youth activism.

#JUSTICELA. TAKING ON THE WORLD'S LARGEST JAIL

Room C06

With the recent victories in LA county that helped stop the construction of a women's jail, and the demands centering the woman experience that helped make that happen, as well as inform the alternative vision with regards to pretrial reform, healing justice, and public safety, #JusticeLA as a campaign is well suited to engage in a very fresh and direct dialogue about these issues from this frame.

Presenters:

Phal Sok, Organizer, Youth Justice Coalition / #JusticeLA Coalition

MASS COMMUTATIONS: DECARCERATION, DECRIMINALIZATION, AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Room 301

This workshop will introduce participants to the work that *Survived and Punished* does in the journey to abolishing gender violence, prisons, and the carceral state. We will focus on our work launching and running a mass commutations campaign in New York State, guiding participants through the process. We will then create space for them to reflect on some of the challenges that come up in the work. The primary goal is for participants to understand what a mass commutations campaign is, why an organization might start one, and how they can launch a campaign themselves. The workshop will be interactive and use a popular education model, drawing on experiences of participants.

Presenters:

Alyssa Smaldino is an organizer, activist and facilitator in the struggle for racial equity and collective liberation.

Juli Kempner is an organizer, photographer, and active participant in past and present campaigns for human justice and dignity.

Zoe Vongtau is an eighteen-year-old college student studying Global Liberal Studies at NYU. She is interested in community-based organizing, service, and social justice work.

Hafizah Omar is an organizer based in Queens, working to fight against intersecting violences that communities of color and immigrant communities face.

CAN SOMEBODY PLEASE COME GET HIM?

Room C02

History has taught us that revolutionary movements are built on the backs of womxn. In addition to this historical erasure, there has been a culture of gendered silence that has accompanied being a womxn and/or trans/queer/gnc in the revolution. That solidarity requires us to be especially silent when it comes to gender-based violence inflicted upon our bodies. This has got to be addressed. It takes courage to be able to recognize and acknowledge our anger; it takes more courage to use that anger to challenge the system and speak truth to power to effect change. Join us for a honest discussion on this struggle to center womxn and QTPOC in a patriarchal movement culture as we address the impacts of interpersonal, state and federal institutional violence we suffer.

Presenters:

Aminah Elster is a formerly incarcerated survivor of intimate and state violence and is currently the Family Unity Project Coordinator for Legal Services for Prisoners with Children.

London Croudy is a resilient survivor of the federal system whose mission is to use her experience and passion for the arts to push for change.

Judy Jun is a second-gen queer Korean and before working at Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, was a public defender and LGBTQ+ youth advocate.

Aila Ferguson works at Legal Services for Prisoners with Children on issues of family unity and criminal justice wealth stripping that most disparately impact womxn of color.

SUPPORTING FAMILY CONNECTIONS THROUGH THE BARS

Room 404

This panel will focus on supporting familial connections while a loved one is incarcerated and features formerly incarcerated participants and their loved ones along with voices of currently incarcerated people. Our discussion will center on innovative programs that foster positive family ties, including the CHOICES program at Sing Sing and the Hour Children Program at Bedford Hills, and advocacy for policies that support or extend programs like these. We will also explore other ideas for supporting family connections, including the use of videoconferencing and tablets, and ways to support families throughout the duration of their loved one's incarceration, with a special emphasis on women's experiences navigating these challenges.

Presenters:

Lawrence Bartley and family

Leah Faria

Jarrell Daniels and family

Keila Pulinario

Moderator: Geraldine Downey

THE DEATH PENALTY FOR FAMILIES IS ALIVE AND WELL: HOW DO WE TEAR IT DOWN?

Room 405

MFP, jointly with the National Council, and organizing groups on the ground, will undertake an awareness raising campaign on abolishing termination of parental rights, the death penalty for families. The advocacy component of this campaign will focus on amending and/or abolishing the Adoption and Safe Families Act, a law that has fast tracked termination of parental rights not just for incarcerated parents but ALL parents in the child welfare system. Our workshop will:

(1) educate the audience about ASFA, its historical roots and racist implications, (2) argue ASFA violently severs families and explain the impact on not just incarcerated mothers but all mothers (3) highlight grassroots efforts that are being undertaken to dismantle and abolish this law, and (4) engage the audience in a call to action to eliminate forced family separation.

Presenters:

Lisa Sangoi, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Movement for Family Power

Erin Cloud, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Movement for Family Power

The National Council for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls

INVEST/DIVEST STRATEGIES FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Room 302

This workshop will demonstrate the Philly model for justice re-investment. It will be a hands-on, interactive workshop for organizers and advocates who want to push their city government to divest from prisons and invest in communities.

Presenters:

Reuben Jones leads the invest/divest strategy in Philadelphia fighting to invest the savings from closed jails into poor communities.

A CASE FOR THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF SEX WORK: THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF LEGISLATION AND SOCIAL NORMS

Room C01

In this interactive workshop, we will explore the current laws in New York City and State which criminalize those faced with prostitution-related charges, and how these laws are harming specific communities, primarily those comprised of black and Latina femme. We hope to thoughtfully challenge stereotypes and social norms held by society of what sex workers “look like”, by inviting the audience to consider their own perceptions of sex work. The dialogue will also include the different ways that folks become faced with such charges, both from a legal and societal perspective, and provide a contextual framework of definitions that are often conflated with one another. A summary of current advocacy work will be provided; so that participants can find ways to further engage in this movement to decriminalize sex work, all while emphasizing that at the center of any advocacy work should be the narratives of those who experience sex work directly.

Presenters:

Saye Joseph is a policy person at Brooklyn Defender Services who is passionate about changing our violent system “accountability.”

Sasha Levitskaya is a first generation, cis-gendered female refugee from the USSR who is a social worker in the Family Defense Practice of Brooklyn Defender Services, whose mission is to assert the due process rights of parents in Family Court, including their constitutional right to family integrity, while providing access to the benefits and services families need to stay together.

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SESSION #2: 1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

BEYONDROSIES: DESIGNING A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SYSTEM FOR WOMEN IN NEW YORK CITY

Room C03

Panelists will describe the Women's Community Justice Project (WCJP); one effort that has proven to be successful in reducing the number of women unnecessarily detained at Rikers jail by providing them housing with services in the community; and how this project has shown we can create a criminal justice system that serves women in the community not jail. Panel members are leaders in the WCJP effort. The panel will also include leaders who are part of a BeyondROSIES 2020 effort dedicated to decarceration and moving women back into the community. Panel members will describe the WCJP project funded by the city to reduce the number of women at Rikers and they will lead a discussion and vision of what a new community-based secure facility should look like, what programming is needed, type of staffing and oversight. Panelist will share their thought and ideas on how individuals in communities can be part of a changed and humane system.

Presenters:

Rita Zimmer, Director of WCJA is the founder of Housing Plus Solutions.

Carole Eady-Porcher, Coordinator of the HERSTORIES Project, assisted in the passage of NYS Anti-shackling and the Adoption and Safe Families (ASFA) Expanded Discretion legislation.

Kandra Clark is a compelling speaker, leader and advocate for the BeyondROSIES 2020 Campaign to close the Rose M. Singer Center at Rikers Island jail.

Cheryl Wilkins is the Senior Director of Education and Programs at Columbia University's Center for Justice.

Sharon White-Harrigan is the former Program Director of the Women's Prison Association's transitional shelter for women, Hopper Home.

JIM AND JUAN CROW LAWS

Room 311

The mainstream immigrant rights movement historically has told undocumented immigrant communities that comprehensive immigration reform with a pathway to citizenship is a solution to their problems and that mass incarceration and widespread policing are strategies for public safety. This faulty framework masks the true issues of disenfranchisement, covers up anti-Blackness, and positions immigrants against "criminals" creating a warped understanding of the function of criminalization and mass incarceration in the US.

Presenters:

Alejandra Pablos is a reproductive justice community organizer, storyteller and writer and is currently fighting her own deportation defense campaign, "KeepAleFree" and is appealing a recent order of deportation in AZ.

Jovana Renteria – Legal Director, Puente and community organizer against deportations, in Arizona, with a criminal injustice framework, who also works inside the women's prison.

PALESTINE SOLIDARITY AND MASS INCARCERATION

Room C05

This workshop will help attendees understand the connections between the movement to end mass incarceration and the movement for solidarity in Palestine. It will include discussing how gender, race and class impact these growing solidarities. It will help attendees examine and explore the need to make connections across issues and geographies of struggle and building upon the growing solidarity work.

Presenters:

Johanna Fernandez, History Professor. Coordinator, Educators for Mumia Abu-Jamal

Randa Wahbe, Addameer Prison Support and Human Rights Association Based in Ramallah

THE INVISIBLE POPULATION “LBQTGIRLS” THE SCHOOL TO PRISON / FOSTERCARE TO PRISON PIPELINES

Room C06

The workshop will present stories from girls and trans women that have been criminalized in school systems, foster care. The participants of the workshop will have an opportunity to discuss possible solutions to address advocacy/policy on behalf of this population, diversion instead of incarceration, and economic empowerment, through an interactive exchange of smaller groups.

Presenters:

Sharon Turner, founder of Southern Women and Girls Restorative Justice Alliance, activist organizer, entrepreneur, returned citizen, resides in Atlanta GA.

Tyjah Khan, founder of TransPower International, returned citizen activist organizer, writer, designer, entrepreneur trans youth advocate.

LESS IS MORE: CAPTURING SAVINGS FROM DOWNSIZING PAROLE AND REINVESTING THEM IN COMMUNITIES

Room 301

Description:

New York is poised on passing one of the nation's most profound reforms to the process of returning people to prison for crimeless, technical violations - the Less is More Act. More than 6,000 people are in New York's prisons, 700 in New York City's jails, and 1,000 in jails throughout the state, not because they committed a new crime, but because they violated some rule of their post-prison supervision.

Participants will be informed about the elements of Less is More, the scope of mass supervision for women - particularly women of color - in New York, and examples of creative ideas for helping welcome people home from prison. But mostly, we'll want to hear from attendees as experts in devising a watershed approach to helping people land on their feet upon reentry that eschews crimeless violations, and bolsters services, supports and opportunities for those impacted by the carceral state.

Presenters:
Donna Hylton
Nancy Sicardo
Curtis Bell
Latonya Tate

BAIL OUTS' BLACK ORIGINS

Room C02

Ending cash bail has become a trendy topic. As language has been co-opted, it's time to take a moment to stop, reflect, ground ourselves in our values. What are the Black origins of paying bail? How does this inform what we can imagine in our world beyond pre-trial detention and cash bail?

Presenters:

Justina Walker is a Senior Bail Associate with the Brooklyn Community Bail Fund.

Karess Taylor-Hughes is a Client Operations Associate.

LADIES FIRST: THE LOHM ADVOCATES FOR HER

Room 404

The Ladies of Hope Ministries seeks to connect with attendees by providing a plethora of opportunities with the furtherance of reentry. We hope to inform people about our organization and what resources we provide. Through our five programs, we are able to help impacted women with employment, housing, entrepreneurship, high-quality education, advocacy, and much more. We will have tabling for each of our programs and offer on-site support with signing the participants up. It is vital that women and girls know we exist as an entity. We are here to support and bring comfort to the communities that have been unsecured by society.

Presenters:

Katharine Nephew - The LOHM's Deputy Director

Brianni Taylor - The LOHM Operations Manager

Vanee Sykes - The Co-founder & Director of Hope House

Mercedez Walker - Director of The Parole & Probation Accountability Project

Sheronda Patton - The LOHM's Executive Assistant

Jaquanna Hendrickson - Faces Of Women Imprisoned Director

STUDENT-LED RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN SCHOOLS

Room 405

At the heart of school-based Restorative Justice work is level of engagement and involvement of the students in this work. Lyons Community School, a public secondary school in Brooklyn, has been working to increase and improve our student led Restorative Justice work. It, like all things, is a work in progress, but we are interested in sharing the work we are doing, stories of our journey, and engaging participants in this work. Students will also share curricular work they are doing around these topics.

Presenters:

Lyons Community School Students

Lyons Community School has been using Restorative Justice since it opened in 2007, and sees student led RJ work as our overarching strategy to doing this work.

A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO CENTERING THE EXPERIENCES OF BLACK WOMEN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE AND CRIMINALIZATION**Room 312**

Community and faith-based organizations have historically played significant roles in raising awareness, mobilizing the public, and generating political action on important issues such as civil rights. In the recent era of #MeToo there have been slower responses, if any at all, leaving behind the victims and survivors in some of our most vulnerable communities. This workshop will address recent convenings and collaborations between domestic violence and sexual assault advocacy organizations and Black women clergy and will share projected strategies to center the experiences of Black women exposed to gender-based and domestic violence and impacted by criminalization. Additional themes to be explored include an overview of trauma and why the work to end intimate partner violence needs to be intersectional while recognizing additional historical, interpersonal, systemic, and structural barriers to intervention and prevention.

Presenters:

Afua Addo, MHC, is the manager of Gender and Family Justice Initiatives at the Center for Court Innovation.

Brittany Davis is a social worker and Coordinator of Gender and Family Justice Initiatives at the Center for Court Innovation.

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Dudley is the Regional Executive Minister of American Baptist Churches Metropolitan New York.

Sevonna M. Brown is the Assistant Executive Director of Black Women's Blueprint.

TAKING A STAND AGAINST PRISON INJUSTICE**Room 302**

Formerly Incarcerated Activist and Scholars Taking a Stand Against Injustice and succeeding through advocacy and policy change within Prison Institutions. Workshop will entail vivid experiences of woman advocating for human rights through organizing while incarcerated. In addition to Michael Saavedra who will speak on his experience in helping start a hunger strike in 2011 to end the psychological torture within solitary confinement in Pelican Bay State Prison. All these efforts not only helped them succeed in their lawsuit against California Department

of Correction. But they also influenced policy shift. Resilient stories of advocating against injustices. Our Main purpose of the workshop is to inform those in attendance about the ways people could help advocate for movements happening inside prisons. Teaching different methods and techniques that were effective to advocate for policy change and winning lawsuits against the Correctional department of California.

Presenters:

Stacy Rojas & Linda Gomez advocated against Discrimination, Harassment for Non-gender Conforming Individuals while Brandy Estrada combated the Medical Neglect in Chowchilla State Prison.

Michael Saveedra advocated against Psychological Torture in Pelican Bay Prison Solitary Confinement by helping initiate a Hunger Strike in 2011. They are all free and continue to organize in the Community of Los Angeles to Abolish Prisons.

Javier Rodriguez will be the Moderator and share a story about formerly incarcerated students at UCLA Advocated for a change in the UCLA Posthumous degree policy when a formerly incarcerated student passed away and didn't meet the qualifications on the original Posthumous policy.

ENDING MASS SURVEILLANCE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS ON PROBATION AND PAROLE: DISMANTLING STATE IMPOSED BARRIERS TO RE-ENTRY

Room C01

This workshop will address the ways that probation and parole serve as impediments to successful re-entry after incarceration and/or contact with the criminal legal system and will identify and the unique obstacles experienced by women and girls. These obstacles include: mandated residence in restrictive halfway houses/group homes, gendered restrictions to re-entry programming, limited contemplation of women and girls in job training programs for returning citizens, and parole-imposed family separation and state-facilitated termination of parental rights. The second part of the workshop will explore strategies for dismantling and abolishing these oppressive mechanisms including the #CloseMSDF campaign to close a jail in Milwaukee specifically for people accused of technical violations of probation and parole; policy recommendations to make probation/parole less punitive, and divestment strategies away from Departments of Corrections and towards true re-entry support.

Presenters:

Ashley Carter is an attorney based in Washington, DC where her work focuses on dismantling systems of mass incarceration and policing.

Catoya Roberts is Associate State Director of WISDOM-Wisconsin where her work engages community organizing to develop and support social justice movements across the state.

A survivor of state-based surveillance, **Danyelle Guyton** works to raise awareness of jail and prison conditions and the parole system in Michigan and the ways that they impact women of color.

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SESSION #3: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TEACH-IN: SHIFTING OUR ENVIRONMENTS TO PREVENT AND BETTER RESPOND TO THE CRIMINALIZATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS OF COLOR

Room 311

The Bystander Intervention Teach-In will train workshop attendees how to identify harmful behaviors that contribute to the marginalization and criminalization of women and girls of color. Using CASS's bystander intervention curriculum, attendees will be equipped with the concrete skills and strategies needed to train their communities on how to intervene before aggression escalates, intervene when violence and harassment takes place, and respond to women and girls who disclose they've experienced violence, with an emphasis on centering them when determining a path forward toward repairing harm.

Presenters:

Eteng Ettah is a Board member and workshop facilitator with Collective Action for Safe Spaces, a grassroots organization that uses community-based solutions to end violence in public spaces.

Alicia sanchez gill, CASS's Interim Executive Director, is a survivor with many years of experience engaging in intersectional anti-violence work via crisis intervention with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, sex worker organizing and HIV housing advocacy.

SHUT DOWN RIKERS, DON'T REPLACE IT

Room C03

In this workshop, we will explore our perception of safety not just for ourselves but for our society. We will also investigate NYC's history of attempting to resolve its social issues through jail expansion, and imagine alternatives to policing, surveillance, and imprisonment that would heal our community -- not harm.

Presenters

Kei Williams is a queer transmasculine identified designer, writer, and public speaker. A founding member and former organizer with Black Lives Matter Global Network, the aim of Kei's work is to transform global culture from the individual into a systemic analysis of structural racism.

ORGANIZING MONEY TO SUPPORT WOMEN, GIRLS, AND TRANS-LED ACTIVISM

Room C05

CJI will draw on our 19-year history of organizing funders and activists to support incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women, girls, and trans people in the movement. With a panel of directly impacted circle members, we will talk about our Starving the Beast circle, which focuses on people who are criminalized due to drug use and sex-work, our leadership circle, which has been a leader in funding anti-shackling and reproductive justice organizing, and our upcoming Free Her Fund, which will be entirely dedicated to women, girls and trans-led work.

Presenters:

Aleah Bacquie Vaugn is the founding director of CJI and has worked toward the transformation of the criminal legal system for more than 25 years.

Charlene Allen has been a member of the CJI leadership circle since 2000 and has worked to transform the system through restorative justice programs, funding, and as an attorney.

FAMILIES ORGANIZING AGAINST FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT**Room C06****Description:**

This workshop will be comprised of women who are directly impacted by incarceration and are members of the Alliance of Families for Justice ("AFJ"). In addition to being directly-impacted, they are integrally involved in leading and determining the direction of AFJ's work, including the felony disenfranchisement campaign. The workshop will be a panel discussion culminating in a call to action to get involved with and support this statewide campaign.

Presenters:

Marilyn Alicea

Barbara Barron

Phoebe Brown

Carol Harriott

Soffiyah Elijah, facilitator

BYP 100 - WHAT GETS US FREE**Room 301****Description:**

How can we end gender violence that happens to Black women, girls, gender non conforming & trans people? It will require individuals to take action, movements that shift culture, and ultimately systems to fall. In this participatory workshop, we will underscore the interconnectedness of interpersonal and state violence as we explore historical legacies of violence, current challenges to addressing the problem, and brainstorm ways of addressing gender violence without police or prisons as we engage in the work of transforming our society.

Join us for some history, some visioning, conversations about what to do in real life scenarios, and to get plugged into organizing work to create a world in which Black women, girls, gender non conforming & trans people can be free.

Facilitated by BYP 100 Members **Janae Bonsu, Asha Ransby-Sporn, Brianna Gibson & Imani Brown.**

SOLIDARITY & AFFECTIVE LABOR: EVERYDAY ABOLITION THROUGH PENPALLING

Room C02

We will discuss the importance of building relationships for abolition, and how becoming a pen pal with someone on the inside achieves that. We'll also investigate how gender impacts many of our inside members, critique gender differentials between inside and outside pen pals, and discuss how to navigate these issues to form transformative relationships. We'll match interested people with incarcerated pen pals to start writing right away.

Presenters

Tanya Nguyen – a queer abolitionist who lives in NYC and has been volunteering with B&P for 5 years.

Veevee is a formerly incarcerated trans Latina who lives in the Bronx, does EVERYTHING, is always down for the people.

Mio Proepper is a student who moved here from Germany; outside of academia, she helps out a lot with mail processing for B&P.

Isaiah Dupree is an activist who fights injustice and spreads joy; he bottom-lines B&P's monthly pen pal matching sessions.

UNDERSTANDING BILLS AND PROPOSED RULES

Room 404

Sometimes we want to change the law—or keep the law from getting worse. But when dealing with changes to statutes or regulations, it can feel daunting to read the fine print. You don't need a law degree to analyze this stuff, though. Mostly, it takes persistence, and attention to what may look like little things. In this skill share, we will work through analyzing legal language step-by-step. We will use examples about access to menstrual hygiene products in prisons, decriminalizing HIV, and solitary confinement reform. Bring a pen or a device if you can, along with your reading glasses.

Presenters:

Gabriel Arkles – lawyer with the ACLU LGBT & HIV project, and used to work as a lawyer at the Sylvia Rivera Law Project.

FIGHT FOR LIBERATION AND SOLIDARITY: EXPERIENCES OF QUEER CIS AND TRANS WOMEN IN IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTERS IN US.

Room 405

QDEP proposes a workshop focusing on the conditions experienced by queer cis and trans women when they are imprisoned in immigration detention facilities on the East and West Coast, as well as their involvement in supporting other impacted by mass incarceration immigrants and in organizing against it. The panel will include directly impacted members of our organizations who will speak about their experiences.

We are currently in the process of engaging three other organizations to participate in the panel and it is our hope that they will be able to co-organize this discussion: Black LGBTQ Migrant Project (BLMP), Make the Road and Translatinx Network. The format of the workshop would be as follows: 1-hour panel session that includes 10 minutes for introductions, and a 15-minute presentation by each organization. After the panel there will be 20 minutes for Q&A.

Presenters:

Serena Liguori is the Executive Director of New Hour, a formerly incarcerated Latina whose lifelong mission continues to focus on supporting justice-impacted women.

Danielle Donaphin is the program director for New Hour and runs over 8 group workshops for incarcerated women per week.

Amanda Acevedo, New Hour social worker, provides ongoing support for women in reentry transition and their children she is the adult child of a decade-long incarcerated dad.

TALK2ME!

Room 302

Create a safe space for women to talk about their experience(s) with mass incarceration. This workshop will empower women through the telling of their experiences which will unite them in the common struggles that they face, and how they have overcome hardships, pain, and change. They will provide hope to each other.

Presenters:

Lilla Garcia: Workis with the formerly incarcerated population for over 20 years, and presently restructuring a support program for women who have incarcerated or recently released loved ones.

Linda Steele: formerly incarcerated, Developer of Raising My Voice and Raising My Voice KIN; a leadership and speaker's bureau for re-entrants and a member of their family to find their voice to become advocates for themselves and their family members.

Barbara Barron: Barbara is formerly incarcerated mother of 5 children who felt the impact of her incarceration. Barbara now works with young people involved in the criminal justice system.

Lanetta Hill: Lanetta is formerly incarcerated mother, who raised her son from prison. She is presently working as a case manager with homeless families.

Wanda Velez: Wanda is a graduate of Raising My Voice and has become a spokesperson for women who have suffered violence, drug addiction, and incarceration. She presently is slated to graduate with a MSW this summer.

Melinda Fuentes: Melinda has experienced many of her family members who have been incarcerated. Melinda is a LMSW in a program working with high school students at the Dept. of Education.

A VOICE IN THE DESERT: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF JUSTICE-INVOLVED WOMEN IN SUBURBIA

Room C01

Bringing formerly incarcerated women to speak about the barriers to reentry posed for those in reentry in both suburban and rural areas, we seek to engage in solutions to barriers to reentry. We will explore the challenges and solutions faced by women with less resources and more restrictive stigmatized communities within the suburban landscape. It is no mistake that Trump targeted Long Island as a base builder, shamefully, with over 300 KKK members in Eastern Long Island, women in reentry face incredible stigma post release in suburban communities like Long Island. New Hour is the sole organization in Suffolk County dedicated to empowering justice-involved women and their children while creating new opportunities for leadership.

Presenters:

Serena Liguori is the Executive Director of New Hour, a formerly incarcerated Latina whose lifelong mission continues to focus on supporting justice-impacted women.

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