

Freedom from Inequality

From mass incarceration

Elected officials across the United States, indefensibly allocate billions of tax-dollars to operate prisons, jails, and detention centers.

To freedom

Our project moves people and money out of prisons, freeing billions of tax-dollars for recovery services and investments in our neighborhoods. And, we engage our legislators to pass *felony expungement laws*, with a clear and legal path to restore our full rights of citizenship.

We form positive networks to grow and reconnect with our families and communities, claiming a portion of the money used for mass incarceration to build strong communities with recovery services; early childhood learning, excellent elementary and secondary schools; afterschool arts, sports, civics, academics; recreational activities; skill certifications; jobs; businesses, health and wellness services.

Here's how

Public Safety Compact
Felony Expungement
Political Action

Public Safety Compact is a deal with Dept. of Corrections to free men, women and *their dedicated funding* from prisons.

- Men and women receive drug treatment while in prison and, if successful, are released from prison years early, saving the State millions of dollars.
- The savings are reinvested to increase recovery, opioid/drug treatment, health and mental health services and to rebuild our communities.

Felony Expungement is a law to delete felony charges from record. Whereas a person can state that they do not have a felony record of conviction.

- The full rights of citizenship are lawfully restored.
- After serving time and making amends, everyone deserves a second chance.

Political Action

- Register to vote, VOTE, demand representation.

Proof it works

Public Safety Compact (PSC) in Baltimore City

Success: From 2010 – 2015, 600 people earned early and safe release from prisons, into the PSC network of services. With a real chance, success is inevitable. Only 9% of graduates and 22% of all participants recidivated compared to the City's rate of approximately 73%.

Money saved and reinvested: For every day a member is free, the Department of Corrections saves \$18.82 for the *meals, medical care and laundry services not delivered*. The men and women of the PSC saved the state \$6 million, of which \$3 million has been invested in our communities.

Racism leveraged & disrupted: 90% of the members in the PSC are African American, disproportionately benefitting, because of disproportionate incarceration.

Felony Expungement

Expungement of felony convictions under select conditions and achievements; relieves men and women of collateral consequences that cause ongoing economic and social barriers – that essentially push many back to prison. *“For many people convicted of crimes, the most severe and long-lasting effect of conviction is not imprisonment or fine. Rather, it is being subjected to collateral consequences involving the actual or potential loss of civil rights, parental rights, public benefits, and employment opportunities.”* Dr. Gabriel Chin, University of California Davis School of Law."

Dr. Gabriel goes on to state: *“that collateral consequences are essentially a reincarnation of the old English concept of "civil death," which stripped most civil rights from all persons convicted of a crime and put them outside the law's protection.”*

<https://www.prisonfellowship.org/>

The Hamilton Project of the Brookings Institute emphasizes the importance of including ex-prisoners in the workforce: *“Increasing the opportunities of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated Americans to rejoin our communities as productive members is necessary on both economic and moral grounds.”*

<http://www.hamiltonproject.org/about/>

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Citizens Deserve A Second Chance