

ELEMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL REENTRY

14th Annual

PRISONER'S FAMILY CONFERENCE

October 19-21, 2022
Virtual

WELCOME

We are grateful you have joined us for the 14th annual Prisoners' Family Conference. 14 years ago upon establishing this conference, our primary goal was to bring awareness of trauma produced by incarceration, to a sorely unaware public. While we have done well on achieving that goal, we seem to have ignored the consequences of "heightening awareness," because humanizing the criminal justice population has raised the ire of those who believe we have forgotten the victims of crimes by being far too soft on crime.

That reaction is not surprising when attempting to unite opposite poles on common ground, while each firmly fights for their own opinion; adamantly refusing to compromise. So, adapting to address current concerns, we added "Effective Advocacy" to our goals and are making headway.

The Advocacy in Action Coalition (AIAC) was formally established at the 2013 conference and immediately began developing and implementing helpful advocacy guidelines. Under the thoughtful innovative leadership of AIAC Chair, Dr. Avon Hart Johnson, the AIAC Task Force regularly brainstorms to develop the most effective criminal justice self-advocacy tools available. This year members of the AIAC Task Force will present their most recently developed effective tools for your own advocacy. Current AIAC members are noted on the conference website. To join AIAC and strengthen your own self advocacy skills, e-mail us your interest.

The far-reaching ripple effects of the conference have drawn many like-minded attendees together to form lasting friendships and collaborations throughout the country and around the world. These partnerships are providing support and encouragement, community awareness and advocacy for all persons impacted by incarceration personally and/or professionally.

Fourteen years ago it was a challenge to encourage criminal justice impacted individuals to speak publicly at the conference. Those exiting the criminal justice system along with their loved ones routinely slid behind self-imposed barriers into a silent world of shame and embarrassment. Today, the need for this conference has changed as people return to the community eager to speak out and openly advocate for humane treatment and improved quality of life for all who are impacted by incarceration. Family members readily offer support to one another, and community members are shedding misconceptions of an entire hidden population they formerly knew little about.

We are humbled, yet proud of the role we have played in enlightening our communities and building support for prison families. As I step into the final stage of my own life journey, I am blessed and confident knowing very capable hands have already picked up the PFC reins to drive the conference forward to address new needs to effectively improve the quality of life for prison families in ways none of us have yet imagined possible.

With blessings and much love,
Carolyn

Proclamation

According to the Prison Policy Initiative “Locking up the most vulnerable people in our society has created a public health crisis not just inside the prison walls, but in the outside community and across the country: The health of individuals, families and entire communities are clearly associated with incarceration” and WHEREAS according to the Equal Justice Initiative, “Half of Americans have family members who have been incarcerated;” and

WHEREAS The National Research Council reports that “The Growth of Incarceration in the United States examines research and analysis of the dramatic rise of incarceration rates and its effects... the United States has gone far past the point where the numbers of people in prison can be justified by social benefits and have reached a level where these high rates of incarceration themselves constitute a source of injustice and social harm;” and

WHEREAS according to Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson’s research, family members with an incarcerated loved one can face secondary collateral punishment, encountering the phenomenon of symbolic imprisonment, feelings of grief, isolation, and a sense of disempowerment; and

WHEREAS through lived experience and testimony, Prison Families Alliance advocate, Barbara Allan informs that family members, indeed “do time on the outside,” often facing their own mental and medical health crisis, reinforcing the need to declare a public health crisis, placing a continued focus on disseminating topic-specific interventions and information shared via the International Prisoner Family Conference, whose organizations offer families across the nation care and support from professionals, researchers, educators, advocates, clergy, and others from communities across the nation to avoid the adverse effects of incarceration, stigma, shaming, and Isolation; and

WHEREAS The International Prisoners Family Conference, the Advocacy in Action Coalition, together with, the Prison Families Alliance, and DC Project Connect, invites all residents of Texas, and citizens across the nation to participate in a Day of Empathy named for our passionate founder and President, Carolyn Esparza, who has for over 40 years advocated and has fought tirelessly for prison reform and closing the empathy gap for incarcerated individuals and their families on the outside. We proclaim October 19, 2022, as the

INTERNATIONAL PRISONERS’ FAMILY CONFERENCE CAROLYN ESPARZA DAY OF EMPATHY

We encourage parents, caregivers, and all residents to promote empathy, eliminate oppressive practices toward family and children of incarcerated persons, and prevent recidivism by taking bold steps towards advocacy, and disseminating information via conferences and networking towards healing families from the harmful effects and consequences of incarceration.



To, not only those who so graciously bestowed upon me the original copy of the preceding proposal for making October 19 an annual Prisoners' Family Conference Carolyn Esparza Empathy Day, but also "thank you" to the amazing people who rolled up their sleeves to ultimately assure such a day would even be conceived. For, while it is an immense honor this day was even conceived, such a day could never have been conceived without the loving energy of those who have painstakingly supported this conference with brilliant ideas and darn hard work.

To say it's a bittersweet moment to receive such an honor while simultaneously taking my first steps into the final leg of my own life's journey is much of an understatement. On one hand I know the best days are ahead for this conference, and while fully as yet unknown, on the other hand those days may likely not be mine to see, but possibly because there is this conference, become the best days in the lives of many.

*With blessings and much love,
Carolyn*



STEERING COMMITTEE

Barbara Allan – New York

Kimberly Dearman – Texas

Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson – Washington, D.C.

Julia Lazareck – Nevada

James Prager – Ohio

Kayla Victor – Washington

Carolyn Esparza – Oregon

President & Conference Founder & Chair



ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIMES

Agenda at a Glance

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19

- 8:30 AM PRE CONFERENCE NOTATIONS
- 9:00 AM WELCOME KAYLA VICTOR & BOARD MEMBERS
- 9:15 AM ADVOCACY IN ACTION COALITION TASK FORCE
- 10:15 AM BREAK
- 11:00 AM BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS (3 CHOICES)
- WORKSHOP 1** TRANSFORMING PRISONERS' RELATIONSHIPS
- WORKSHOP 2** SUCCESSFUL REENTRY BY DIVERSIFYING INCOME
- WORKSHOP 3** RESTORATIVE MINDSET
- 12:15 LUNCH BREAK
- 12:45 POST LUNCH ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 1:00 ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCE
- 1:45 BREAK
- 2:00 PEOPLE'S LIVES HAVE HOLES, BUT THIS ONE'S MINE "FAMILY PERSPECTIVES
OF DEATHS IN PRISON CUSTODY
- 2:30 THE CRUCIAL ROLE FOR FAMILIES OF AN INSPECTORATE OF PRISONS
- 3:00 YOUR HISTORY DOES NOT CREATE YOUR DESTINY

2022 PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19

8:30 – PRE CONFERENCE NOTATIONS

9:00 – WELCOME – KAYLA VICTOR & MEMBERS OF CONFERENCE BOARD

All Program Times Are Central Standard Time

TIME ZONE CONVERTER – TIME DIFFERENCE CALCULATOR
WWW.TIMEANDDATE.COM

**JOIN IN EARLY AND MEET OTHER ATTENDEES DURING
THE CONFERENCE FROM 9:00 CENTRAL STANDARD TIME (CST)
DAILY DALLAS TIME**

**10:00 AM EST (NEW YORK)
9:00 AM CST (DALLAS)
8:00 AM MOUNTAIN
7:00 AM PST (LOS ANGELES)
4:00 AM STOCKHOLM
3:30 AM EDINBURG
2:00 AM PRAGUE
5:00 AM UGANDA**

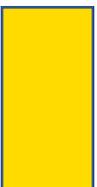
Advocacy In Action Coalition

AIAC Core Team

- **Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson, AIAC Chair, Moderator**
- **Ms. Carolyn Esparza**, IPFC Chair
- **Ms. Allegra Pocinki**, DCPC Board Member, Co-Moderator
- **Dr. Amanda Lewis**, DCPC Board Member, AIAC Member, Co-Moderator
- **Ms. Barbara Allan**, Prisoner Families Alliance, AIAC Member, Co-Moderator
- **Dr. Monique Tate**, AIAC, Co-Moderator
- **Ms. Tiffany Green**, DCPC Board Member, AIAC Member, Co-Moderator, Translator, RISE
- **Ms. Julie Uribe**, DCPC Board Member, AIAC Member, Co-Moderator
- **Mr. Jim Prager**, AIAC Member
- **Ms. Vetta Dunston**, DCPC Board Member, AIAC Member
- **Ms. Rita Dixit Kubiak**, AIAC Member

Major Contributors

- **Ms. Jess Angel**, AIAC Member
- **Julia Lazareck**, Prison Families Alliance, AIAC Member
- **Dr. Geoffrey Johnson** DCPC Executive Director
- **Mr. Noah Auston**, Students for a Just Society, Video Production



9:15 – 10:15 - EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY FROM THE CONFERENCE
ADVOCACY IN ACTION COALITION TASK FORCE

2022 Master Class Series

Through compelling shorts, the Advocacy in Action Coalition (AIAC) will unveil the 2022 Master Class Series of videos. These vignettes feature "Seasoned Advocates" who focus on compelling issues regarding conditions of carceral systems and strategies to empower families, giving them hope and actionable steps. Complete with fact sheets and "Big Take-Aways" the team promises to place resources to accompany the videos on the AIAC page of the IPFC website. However, conference attendees get the first sneak preview!

The 2 to 3-minute vignettes elevate such matters as the Mandela Rules (how people should be treated in prison), Bangkok Rules (treatment of female residents of prisons), and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Family-Based Advocacy (exploring advocacy for children).

The AIAC will hold an interactive discussion about the videos, engaging attendees in "why" these seemingly unachievable policies and guidelines actually apply to their situations and are not insurmountable, but rather, within reach of influencing social change.

"We're excited about this work! We have been looking to produce these short films for the last three years. We have finally accomplished that goal and I am super excited to share the resources at the Conference,"

Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson, AIAC chairperson.

10:15 BREAK

11:00 – 12:15 BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS – (1 of 3 choice)

**PLEASE GET SOCIAL
WITH US**



@PrisonersFC
@PrisonersFamilyConference

HASHTAGS

#prisonersFC
#family
#socialjustice
#secondchances
#prisonereform
#prisonerfamily
#inspired

11:00 – 12:15 BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 1 – (1 of 3 choice)



Ron and Catherine Tijerina
Co-Founders The Ridge Project
Ohio

Transforming Prisoners' Relationships

Compelling evidence supports the importance of relationship education to the incarcerated, formerly incarcerated and their partner. Dire statistics show prisoners

have one half the marriage rate of those never incarcerated, but twice the divorce rates, while the same parental rate as the general public, The Tijerinas uniquely know from personal experience that children with an incarcerated parent are the least likely to benefit from the protective factors of a healthy family. Research also underscores the importance of strong family connections in relation to successful reentry and that strong relationships are foundational to breaking generational cycles of incarceration. With three strong and healthy adult children who defied these statistics, this remarkable couple shares the means to break generational cycles by preparing prisoners and their partners to enjoy the benefits of a healthy, lasting relationship that helps protect their children from cycles of poverty and imprisonment. Combatting the devastating effects of incarceration on family stability will be shared along with innovative strategies to attract, serve, and equip individuals and couples impacted by incarceration to build healthy relationships. Participants will leave this workshop with an understanding of the impact of healthy relationships in stabilizing prisoners and their families.

11:00 – 12:15 BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 2 – (2 of 3 choice)



Kimberly Dearman

Texas

**Successful Reentry by
Diversifying Income**

Incarceration impacts the entire family system. Reentry, although joyous, is also very stressful. Attendees will engage in an

interactive discussion about the importance of the returning citizen and their family taking steps to "live life on their own terms" by diversifying their income and not relying on traditional employment by another. When returning to the community, finding employment is difficult and many times one has to take a low paying job, just to have a job. By adding additional sources of income, one can be more financially secure and have less stress by knowing they control their own future. Participants will discuss how to help control financial security by diversifying income through a wide range of often overlooked and avoided self-employment possibilities. Speaking from personal experience, Ms. Dearman offers her own entrepreneurial spirit to help others consider and even start implementing a "side gig" which may turn into full time income.

11:00 – 12:15 BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 3 – (3 of 3 choice)



Braunwynn Franklin

313 Network Solutions

Michigan

Restorative Mindset

Returning to society after a period of incarceration has many challenges. There is a mindset that puts you into prison; a mindset that helped you navigate the prison system and a mindset that is needed to return home

and become whole, well and productive. Having a community that supports your peace, your purpose as well as your perseverance by developing a strong social tribe of supports that includes positive role models in a variety of areas is critical to reentry success. Learning to reframe the skills that fueled the street behavior into marketable job qualifications can be highly beneficial to the returning citizen. Finally, unlearning the poverty survival techniques by replacing them with financial gems to start to create generational wealth in your community is highly beneficial. These strengths and skills are ready to be tapped by building faith to instill hope and ultimately success.

12:15 Lunch Break

12:45 Post Lunch Announcements

1:00 – 1:45



Fritzi Horstman

Founder, Compassion Prison Project
California

ACEs in Prison

With up to 98% of the men and women living in prison having at least one Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) and up to 64% having at least 6 ACEs, it is urgent for the Criminal

Justice System and Justice-Impacted communities to understand the devastating effects of childhood trauma and adversity on the developing brains of the men and women that are incarcerated. The object of this discussion is to create awareness and begin the journey to healing of all system-impacted communities. We will begin with the viral video "Step Inside the Circle" and discuss how our current penal system is doing more harm than good.

1:45 BREAK

2:00 – 2:30 3 C's for Effective Advocacy:

The 2 following presentations evidence the exceptional benefits of collaboration, cooperation & compromise. Consider how those 3 C's might make your own advocacy efforts most effective. Advocacy is Helpful, but EFFECTIVE Advocacy is Makes a REAL Difference



**Nancy Loucks and
Asha Anderson**

International Coalition
for Children of
Incarcerated Parents
(INCCIP). & Families
Outside
Scotland

People's lives have holes, but this one's mine"

Family perspectives of deaths in prison custody

The Independent Review of the Response to Deaths in Prison Custody, published in November 2021, included a focus on the experience of the families of people who had died in prison custody. The co-chairs of the Review agreed at the outset that families' perspectives were key to whether the response to a death in custody could be deemed effective, humane, and compassionate. This presentation, co-presented by the Vice-Chair of the Family Advisory Group for the Review, summarizes very rich and detailed accounts of families' experiences and concerns they raised with the Review team, including their views about what may have prevented their family member's death and recommendations for change.

2:30 – 3:00



Wendy Sinclair-Gieben

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for
Scotland

**The Crucial Role for Families of an
Inspectorate of Prisons**

The goal of this presentation is to raise awareness of the role of an independent prisons inspectorate and

how this can support families of people who are incarcerated. The presentation describes how prison inspectorates work in other countries and offers discussion on how this affects prison accountability and its impact on families. This independent inspection of prisons is crucial to protect the rights of people in custody as well as the interests of those affected by the incarceration. To be effective in doing this, it needs to be fully independent and with adequate influence to promote compliance and change. This presentation describes how and why prison inspections operate in Scotland; how the Inspectorate has engaged with families; and whether the work of the Inspectorate makes a difference.

3:00 – 3:45



Chuck Gallagher

South Carolina

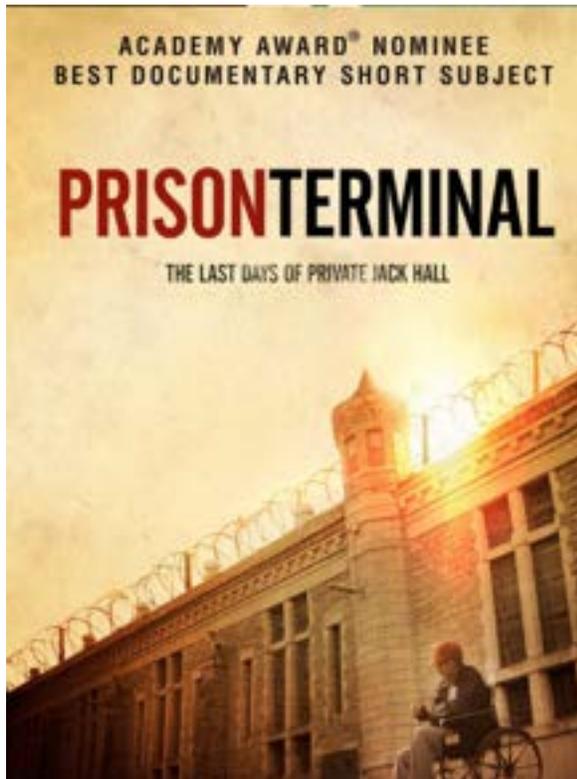
**Your History Does Not
Create Your Destiny**

You may have seen Chuck on television, or heard him on CNN, CBS or NPR radio programs. His business insights are sought after for his strong position on ethics and ethical leadership. Chuck's focus is business—but his passion is

empowering others.

Currently COO of a national company and former Sr. VP of Sales and Marketing for a public company, Chuck may have found a sales niche early on in life selling potholders door-to-door, or convincing folks to fund a record album of his musical performance at age 16 (and yes those were the days when an album was made of vinyl), but it was the school of hard knocks that provided a fertile training ground for Chuck's lessons in success. Described as creative, insightful, captivating, and a person that "connects the dots" between behavior, choices and success, Chuck gives his clients what they need to turn concepts into actions and actions into results.

In the middle of a rising career, Chuck lost everything because he made some bad choices. He has since rebuilt his career and his life back to immense success. With more vulnerability than the average keynoter, Chuck shares with his audiences his life journey, the consequences of his unethical choices, and how life gives you second chances when you make the right choices. In fact, Chuck's new book, *SECOND CHANCES: Transforming Adversity into Opportunity*.



Join Us Tonight

6:00 CST

**Humane Prison Hospice Project
Why Humane End of Life Care
Matters in Prison**

Edgar Barens

Marvin Mutch

Ladybird Morgan

90 min

Special Presentation, Film Screening & Panel Discussion

In Prison Terminal: The Last Days of Private Jack Hall, of central importance is the ultimate dilemma faced by the incarcerated and their families - death behind bars. As a documentary filmmaker I have had a notable record of successful production in very stressful prison environments. Over the years I have established supportive relationships with both prison authorities and prisoners themselves – among the most important elements for ensuring a successful film project. Additionally, I have also connected on a very personal level with the families and loved ones of prisoners, who, through no fault of their own, have been plunged into the American criminal justice system.

ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIMES

Agenda at a Glance

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20

- 9:00 AM MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 9:15 AM REENTRY SUCCESS FROM SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT IT TAKES
- 10:00 AM KNOW YOUR TROUBLE BUBBLE
- 10:45 AM BREAK
- 11:00 AM ACCESSING THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF RADIO
- 12:00 LUNCH BREAK
- 12:30 **BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 2 – (1 OF 2 CHOICE)**
- WORKSHOP 1 THRIVING IN A WORLD WE NEVER WANTED TO LIVE IN**
- WORKSHOP 2 "ARE THE CONSEQUENCES COLLATERAL?"**
- 1:30 BREAK
- 1:45 PROMOTING COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH TREATMENT RATHER THAN
BANISHMENT &
MISCONCEPTION IS NOT REALITY
- 2:45 HELP! MY PARENT IS IN PRISON
- 3:15 WRAP UP DAY 2 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:00 A.M. – Morning Welcome & Announcements

9:15 – 10:00



Franklin (Frank) Deese
From Inmate to Mayor & Beyond
North Carolina

REENTRY SUCCESS FROM
SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT
IT TAKES

Born and raised in Marshville, N.C. by a single mother, Frank's outlook on life was molded by hard work, grit, and

determination. Growing up during the civil rights era further solidified the idea that he could shape his life through personal effort regardless of the conditions around him. He performed well in school and became the co-captain of the varsity basketball team and the first African American Vice President at Forest Hills High School. Though he understood his actions, positive or negative, directly affected his life, he became sidetracked by some negative choices.

As a result of those choices, Frank was sentenced to a total of 29 years for armed robbery and he served more than ten years in the North Carolina prison system. He says, "I learned then that we all must pay for our choices, and I was no exception. Those years of my life were filled with anger, disappointment, and embarrassment, but, more importantly, there was growth and development as well. In December 1989, he was paroled with \$30 in his pocket and the clothes on his back. And as he walked out of what had been his home for more than ten years, one thought in his mind permeated throughout his entire being: "I am not going back there."

(Franklin Deese Continued)

In 2005, Frank was elected to serve as the mayor of his and he served for 14 years. He is the first and only African American elected to serve in this capacity for all the 14 municipalities in Union County in its 166-year history. After serving 14 years as mayor, he was hired to fill the city manager position and has continued in that role for the past four years.

There are three areas of service that help make up who Frank is today and drive him to do even more: service to children and young adults, service to the prison population (past and present), and service to the public.

In addition, Frank is the proud father of 5 children: Shaunda (deceased), Kimberly, Tiffany, Franklin II, and Kamilah, and is the proud grandfather of 5: Jayla, Jamylan, Jacyn, Jasir, and Alis, Frank is an outstanding businessman and community leader. The conference is honored to have been befriended by Franklin Deese for many years now, and we are grateful he has joined us once again.



10:00 – 10:45



Carolyn Esparza , MSW

Founder & Chair of the Prisoners' Family
Conference

Texas & Oregon

Know Your Trouble Bubble



For 13 years, Carolyn has wanted to share what she believes is the most practical tool ever placed in her own counseling tool box. For 13 years she has found other issues seemed to take precedence. Now, in the 14th year, and in all likelihood her final year to participate, certainly as "Chair" of this conference, she is determined to share that tool with those attending the conference. The hope is that no matter how you feel about counseling and counselors, you will receive this information with an open mind and try to apply it to a personal issue so it will make the most sense to you. It is practical, if you practice it. If you practice it, and encourage those you love to practice it, you run the risk of AVOIDING many problems in the future! Take a chance! Try it. You may just like it!

The Trouble Bubble elevates awareness that ALL of us actually plan each and every one of our offenses, and we all commit offenses against others and ourselves. There really are no exceptions. The presentation will help participants recognize the many times they could STOP themselves from offending behaviors by helping individuals recognize how, when and why they can stop themselves before committing offensive behaviors and thereby avoid unpleasant and often dangerous consequences.

10:45 BREAK

11:00 – NOON



Emma Lugo, Radio Host

The Prison Pipeline, KBOO Radio

Oregon

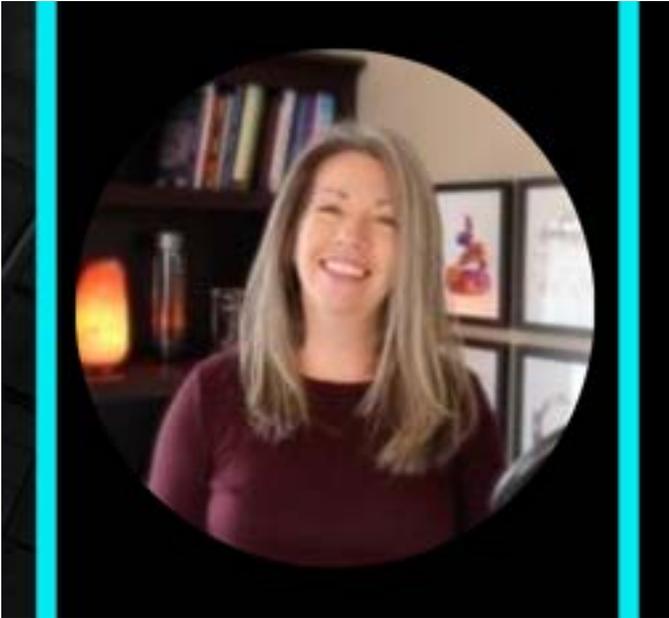
**Accessing the Transformative
Power of Radio**

Radio host, Emma Lugo discusses the transformative power of radio that allows adults in custody to tell their authentic stories of incarceration to audiences

unfamiliar with the day to day realities of incarceration. More broadly this workshop will discuss the power of community media to educate, transform and inspire change within the prison-industrial complex. Here is your opportunity to explore with the presenter how to access community radio; how to produce shows both for real time and virtual media and how to walk the fine line between journalism and advocacy.

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

12:30 – 1:30 BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 2 – (1 of 2 choice)



Jolyn Armstrong

Certified Trauma Recovery
Coach/Founder of The FOTA

Colorado

**Thriving In A World We Never
Wanted To Live In**

Some of us find ourselves having
been violently shoved into a world we
wish we would have never known

existed. A world that feels upside-down and completely foreign; where the rules don't make sense and the path isn't clear. Our normal first reaction to this world is resistance, denial, grief and depression. But once we find support, strength and determination, we can make this new world – however horrific it seems on first impression – a world we thrive in, and maybe even learn to love. This important presentation, provides the path to thriving in even the most difficult of times. It gives us the formula to make sense of the topsy-turvy rules and experiences we face as prison families. And it shines a ray of hope in an otherwise dark and hopeless world.

12:30 – 1:30 BREAKOUT WORKSHOP 2 – (2 of 2 choice)



Elizabeth Justesen, Esq.;MSW –
Chief Community Outreach Officer:
Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County
New York

"Are the Consequences Collateral?"

This presentation introduces participants to the topic of collateral consequences and defines the issue.

The presentation then dives into the many pervasive penalties that do not present as "collateral" once a client and their family are facing them post-conviction. Topics addressed include employment, educational licensing, housing, accessing public benefits, and civic participation. Participants will also learn ways to advocate on an individual and policy level through various techniques.

1:30 BREAK

1:45 – 2:45 JIM & KIM PRAGER

“SUCCESSFUL REENTRY & STILL “ON PAPER”



James Prager

Prison CONversation; Member of
Advocacy in Action Coalition; Board
Member Prisoners' Family
Conference

Ohio

**Promoting Community Safety
Through Treatment Rather than
Banishment**

Sharing his own incarceration experience after over twenty years of successful reentry the presenter demonstrates the importance of Treatment for prisoners. Such treatment has shown that people with pedophilia can be treated and the remarkable importance of advocacy that challenges and corrects existing stereotypes.

1:45 – 2:45 JIM & KIM PRAGER – SUCCESSFUL REENTRY & STILL “ON PAPER”



Kim Kensler-Prager

Ohio

Misconception Is Not Reality

The wife of this former prisoner acknowledges that role is not an easy one. She provides insight into the challenges returning sex offenders and their families face and how these challenges might best be

met. Encouraging others to share their own incarceration and reentry experiences, the presenter notes that when we share we open doors for others and create opportunities to burst troubling myths and stereotypes. Kim’s presentation addresses the harm done to prison families by the criminal justice system, who through no fault of their own are treated as though they are an extension of the convicted party. She seeks to clarify the distinction in roles of family members when one is incarcerated and the other is not.

2:45 – 3:15



**Danica Hubbard, PhD; Prison
Families Alliance Board Member
California**

Help! My Parent is in Prison

Families related to sex offenders often suffer in isolation, engulfed in stress, silence and shame. This presentation hopes to make connections with those who may

have experienced similar losses and have been too reluctant to share as the presenter guides a conversation to share this sensitive and taboo subject. We are not able to control what our parents do, but we can choose how we respond to the consequences of their actions by asking questions like: How do you accept a parent who goes to prison? How do you cope with the shame and guilt? What resources are available to families of incarcerated parents?

3:15 WRAP UP DAY 2 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIMES

Agenda at a Glance

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

- 9:00 AM WELCOME DAY 3
- 9:15 AM FROM PRISON TO PURPOSE
- 9:30 AM CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN WITH INCARCERATED PARENTS
- 10:15 AM BREAK
- 10:30 AM ~~THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY. THE SEX, THE SLEEP, & THE FOOD!~~
- 11:15 AM THE NEW SOLUTION FOR PRISONER COMMUNICATIONS
- 11:45 AM CARING FOR YOURSELF & YOUR LOVED ONE DURING INCARCERATION
& RELEASE
- 12:45 POST TRAUMATIC PRISON DISORDER SHAWANNA W76337
- 1:15 DAYBREAK ON THE HORIZON
- 2:15 WRAP UP DAY 3 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 PROGRAM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:00 WELCOME DAY 3

9:15 – 9:30



Shay Walters

West Virginia

POWER MESSAGE: From Prison to Purpose

After a decade of addiction, this presenter finally landed in prison. Now, sober 7 years, she returned to establish a viable

business now employing 35 individuals serving almost two hundred clients, many who are also attempting to successfully reenter society. Learn what had to change for this woman to achieve the success she has today and what she expects will help her maintain the type of success she has achieved.

9:30 – 10:15



Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson

Co-Founder and Co-Director DC

Project Connect

Chair of Advocacy in Action

Maryland

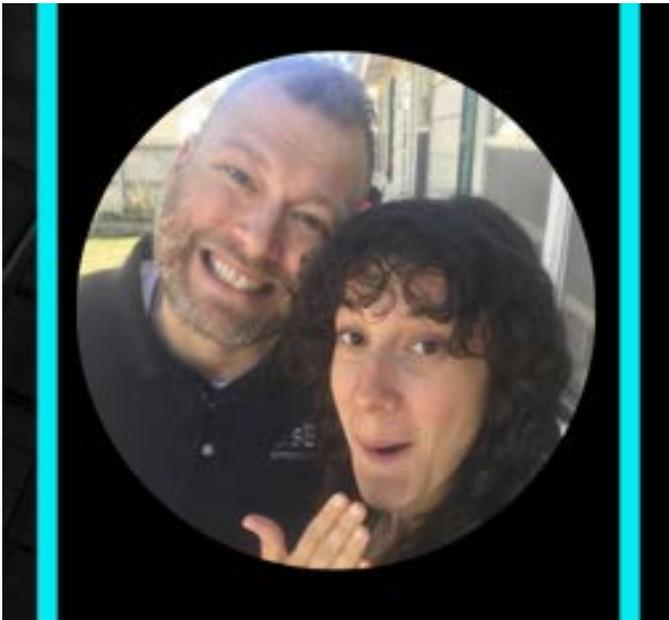
**Caregivers of Children With
Incarcerated Parents**

Incarceration can impact the entire family system. In this workshop,

attendees will engage in an interactive discussion of how parental incarceration can profoundly impact young children, especially during their formative years. A specific focus is placed on understanding the challenges of caregiving and the vital role caregivers play in supporting children with incarcerated parents. Participants will learn how to acquire much needed physical, emotional and social health and well being to maintain the stamina needed to effectively support children whose parents remain in custody of a criminal justice system.

10:15 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 11:15



Gabe and Tiffany Green

Michigan

~~The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The Sex, the Sleep, and the Food!~~

The Greens share their story about re-entry successes and challenges in a candid, humorous way. Their objectives include discussing the

realities of being on the sex offender registry as it relates to individual and family life. They will talk about maintaining a healthy marriage amid the challenges of incarceration and reentry and explain the adjustment pitfalls and how to avoid them.

11:15 – 11:45



Alex Peder

CEO and Co-founder: Corrio SPC

Washington

New Solutions for Prisoner Communication

Alex Peder, is the CEO and Co-founder of Corrio SPC with over 30 years of experience in the consumer electronics industry.

On June 10th, 2010 Alex was the cause of an accident that resulted in two deaths. In

a moment, he knew the life he had ended and his prison life would begin.

He was faced with one big question, now that he was living in what amounted to a concrete box with extremely limited free time, how was he ever going to talk with his family, friends, professionals, and especially his kids? Recognizing there were always people using the phones and always people waiting. Available time to make a call and competition for access were constant stressors for him.

This experience led him to one question: How could he get a simple voicemail service to talk with his friends and family? Serving the remainder of a five-year sentence in a Washington State Prison, he was set on developing a solution. Today, that simple voicemail service has grown into a nationwide service used by thousands of customers to make prison communications accessible and functional in the world we live in. It's called Corrio Messaging. The Corrio system enables voicemail, text messaging, and long distance for inmates and families.

Studies have shown conclusively that inmates with more family communication have better outcomes. Alex is on a mission to increase an incarcerated persons chances of a successful release by strengthening the bonds they have with the people who matter most, our children and families.

11:45 – 12:15



Julia Lazereck

Prison Families Alliance
Prison: The Hidden Sentence
Nevada

**Caring for Yourself and Your Loved
One During Incarceration
and Release**

When a loved one is incarcerated they don't go alone. Their family goes with them. The only difference is they are serving the sentence with them outside - they are serving the *hidden sentence*. There is so much guilt and shame involved that they don't feel like they deserve to enjoy their lives while their loved one is behind bars. This presentation provides tools for the prison family to navigate supporting their loved one through their incarceration, while not sacrificing selfcare. Attendees can also expect guidance on setting realistic expectations for when they can all be together again on the outside.

12:15 – 12:40 LUNCH BREAK

12:45 – 1:15



Shawanna E. Vaughn

Silent Cry Inc.

New York

POWER MESSAGE:

Post Traumatic Prison Disorder

Shawanna W76337

Born in prison, this presenter entered prison herself at age 17. Her presentation addresses the

important issue of the impact of incarceration on mental health of those who are incarcerated. She brings into the picture the long recognized but often ignored actual trauma imposed by the criminal justice system and certainly by years of incarceration. As with any traumatic impact, if not effectively addressed, this prison disorder remains with many, if not most incarcerated and formerly incarcerated persons for a lifetime.

1:15 – 2:00



TERRENCE SAMPSON

TEXAS

DAYBREAK ON THE HORIZON

It is often said the night is the darkest before daybreak, and as it relates to life, some of the hardest struggles we experience in life happen right before we receive relief.

Over the 29 years of my

incarceration, as I grew from a boy into a man in the Texas prison system, it seemed daybreak would never come. However, with the support of my parents and the guardian angel I had in Mrs. Carolyn Esparza, I would endure the struggle of incarceration and be prepared for my freedom at daybreak. The importance of family support throughout an incarceration can never be understated, for family support for the incarcerated man or woman is a representation of the beacon of light seen on the horizon after the darkest of nights.

For Terrence:

If you attended the last "in person" conference, it is likely you met Terrence Sampson, fresh out of prison, after just under 30 years confinement—he was 42—yes, a "man" in chronological age, having been raised by the State of Texas, since age 12, when he did commit a truly heinous crime. I know he would acknowledge that, because I was there, watching this exceptionally bright and talented and quite sensitive youth grow as much as he possibly could those 30 years within the confines of incarceration. This is my note of apology to him for not being fully there these early years of his reentry, however I do pray that he benefits from those I long ago and more recently placed in his path, on purpose. Much love, Terrence, as you continue your reentry success story right here at the 14th Prisoners' Family Conference, a conference you watched and even encouraged to grow from the inside, and now participate in, actively, on the outside! Keep blooming, my dear child, wherever you may be planted. ~ Mom "E"



**THANK
YOU!**

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**Advocacy
*In Action***



KAYLA VICTOR

We are honored and proud to support our friend Barbara Allan and her years of support to Prison Families

SHARED SENTENCES explores the toll of incarceration on families and loved ones. The story follows Olivia, a lonely aspiring artist, who finds herself in a United Prison Families meeting, a support group for those with an incarcerated loved one. The piece, inspired by powerful true stories, explores how we define “family”, and the struggle between the warmth and comfort of community and the cold depths of utter isolation



Houses on the Moon is proud to present the world premiere of Emily Joy Weiner’s new play, [SHARED SENTENCES](https://housesonthemoon.org/production/shared-sentences), October 26-November 12 at 122CC’s 2nd Floor Theater (150 1st Avenue, NYC)!

Directed by Lisa Rothe with additional material by Barbara Allan, Kevin Barron, Zudaydah Rivera, and Tanasha Gordon, SHARED SENTENCES explores the toll of incarceration on families and loved ones.

<https://housesonthemoon.org/production/shared-sentences>

Prison: The Hidden Sentence

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WORKSHOPS:

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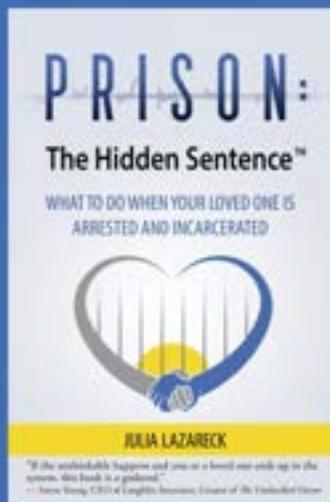
Prison the Hidden Sentence provides live and recorded webinars led by peers and professionals to provide the information you need to know.

PODCASTS:

Prison The Hidden Sentence podcast provides awe-inspiring stories and information from people impacted by incarceration, law enforcement, legal counsel, and others.

PrisonTheHiddenSentence.com/podcast

See Prison The Hidden Sentence website for a full list of workshops and webinars.



Scan the QR Code to Get The Book:
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PRISON FAMILIES ALLIANCE

<https://PrisonFamiliesAlliance.org>
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**TO OUR PRESENTERS – A SPECIAL THANK YOU
ENORMOUS GRATITUDE IS EXTENDED TO OUR
EXTRAORDINARY PRESENTERS FOR
SHARING THEIR WEALTH OF KNOWLEDGE
AND EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS
THEIR VALUABLE TIME.**

**MANY ARE NOT AWARE THAT OUR PRESENTERS
REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE FAR BEFORE THE
CONFERENCE BEGINS, AND A PORTION OF THEIR
REGISTRATION FEE IS APPLIED TO PRISON FAMILY
MEMBER SCHOLARSHIPS.**

THANK YOU! WITH GRATITUDE

Thank you to the following who have supported this conference by generously sharing special funds, special services, exceptional talent and loving support.

Carolyn Esparza for her vision and helping families thrive during the darkest of times.

Barbara Allan for laughter, love & support.

Franklin Deese for always answering our phone calls

Chuck Gallagher for your continued support

Kimberly Dearman for your drive & determination

Dr. Avon Hart-Johnson for your leadership

Julia Lazareck for your passion

James Prager for making this world a better place

Terrence Sampson for paving the path for others



**MISSING YOU GUYS ALREADY
PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH WITH US & EACH OTHER**

&

PLAN NOW TO COME BACK NEXT YEAR

WATCH YOUR E-MAIL FOR FUTURE CONFERENCE INFO

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(915) 861-7733

INFO@PRISONERSFAMILYCONFERENCE.ORG