

Prisoner's Resource Guide

Legal Support

- **American Civil Liberties Union/National Prison Project/Prisoner's Assistance Directory**
National Prison Project, 125 Broad Street, 18th Floor, New York NY 10004

Tel: 212-549-2500 / [Website](#)

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is our nation's guardian of liberty, working daily in courts, legislatures, and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to all people in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States. The ACLU National Prison Project offers the *Prisoner's Assistance Directory* which includes contact information, services, and descriptions for over 300 national, state, local and international organizations that provide assistance to prisoners, ex-offenders, and families of prisoners. It also includes a bibliography of informative books, reports, manuals, and newsletters of interest to prisoners and their advocates.

- **The Innocence Project**

40 Worth St., Suite 701 New York, NY 10013/Tel: 212.364.5340 info@innocenceproject.org

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

California Western School of Law is home to the California and Hawaii Innocence Projects. Students at California Western work to free wrongfully convicted inmates by reviewing more than 1000 claims of innocence each year, and focusing on cases where there is evidence of actual innocence. Innocence Project attorneys and students then investigate cases by tracking down and re-interviewing witnesses, examining new evidence, filing motions, securing expert witnesses, and advocating for their clients during evidentiary hearings and trials. Four California Innocence Project clients have been released since the project's inception in 2000. The Hawaii Innocence Project was founded in spring 2005.

- **Centurion Ministries**

1000 Herrontown Road Princeton, NJ 08540 /Tel: 609.921.0334 Website:

<http://www.centurionministries.org/>

Centurion Ministries, Inc. (CM) was founded in 1983 in Princeton, New Jersey as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation by Jim McCloskey. Recognized in North America as the pioneer in this field, CM has successfully reinvestigated and free scores of factually innocent people within the US and Canada. CM is the only entity whose focus is nationwide and Canada. We take advantage of DNA and other forensic testing to prove innocence when we can; however most wrongful convictions do not have evidence that can be scientifically tested to prove innocence. Therefore, the bulk of our casework is non-DNA and requires "in-the-field" investigation of wrongful convictions that of taken place throughout the nation. At any given time CM has a caseload of approximately 20 active cases, all in different stages of development. In achieving the objectives of our work at no cost to those whom we serve, CM conducts an exhaustive reinvestigation of each case with the goal of developing new evidence sufficient to overturn the

conviction. We also retain and work closely with the very best attorneys and forensic experts who ably assist us in obtaining judicial relief for our beneficiaries. CM bares all expenses necessary for the successful completion of our mission. How to submit a case: please read [The Centurion Ministries Criteria for Considering a Review of a Case](#) before writing to us about a case.

• **EDPUBS/Order Free U.S. Department of Education Publications**

ED Pubs P.O. Box 22207 Alexandria, VA 22304 /Tel: -877-576-7734/E-mail:

edpubs@edpubs.ed.gov / Website: <http://www.edpubs.gov/>

The ED Pubs web site is intended to help you identify and order U.S. Department of Education products. All publications are provided at no cost to the general public by the U.S. Department of Education. ED Pubs offers more than 6,000 titles.

• **Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM)**

1100 H Street NW Suite 1000 Washington, D.C. 20005 /Tel: (202) 822-6700/E-mail:

famm@famm.org / Website: <http://famm.org/>

Families Against Mandatory Minimums is the national voice for fair and proportionate sentencing laws. We shine a light on the human face of sentencing, advocate for state and federal sentencing reform, and mobilize thousands of individuals and families whose lives are adversely affected by unjust sentences. FAMM's vision is a nation in which sentencing is individualized, humane, and sufficient but not greater than necessary to impose just punishment, secure public safety, and support successful rehabilitation and reentry. FAMM's national membership includes prisoners and their families, attorneys, judges, criminal justice experts and concerned citizens. Inmates may write for further information.

• **Innocence Project**

40 Worth St., Suite 701 New York, NY 10013 /Tel: (212) 364-5340/E-mail:

info@innocenceproject.org / Website: <http://www.innocenceproject.org/>

The Innocence Project was founded in 1992 by Barry C. Scheck and Peter J. Neufeld at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University to assist prisoners who could be proven innocent through DNA testing. To date, 240 people in the United States have been exonerated by DNA testing, including 17 who served time on death row. These people served an average of 12 years in prison before exoneration and release. The Innocence Project's full-time staff attorneys and Cardozo clinic students provide direct representation or critical assistance in most of these cases. The Innocence Project's groundbreaking use of DNA technology to free innocent people has provided irrefutable proof that wrongful convictions are not isolated or rare events but instead arise from systemic defects. Now an independent nonprofit organization closely affiliated with Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University, the Innocence Project's mission is nothing less than to free the staggering numbers of innocent people who remain incarcerated and to bring substantive reform to the system responsible for their unjust imprisonment. All cases for consideration should be mailed (to the address above) with a brief factual summary of the case and a list of the evidence used against the defendant. No other documents should be submitted for initial review. The Innocence Project is not equipped to handle telephone or electronic (email) applications. The Innocence Project only accepts cases on post-conviction appeal in which DNA testing can prove innocence. If the case does not involve

biological evidence or DNA, visit the Other Innocence Organizations page to see if there is a program in your area that provides broader legal and investigative assistance.

•**Lewisburg Prison Project**

PO Box 128, Lewisburg, PA 17837/Tel: (570) 523-1104/Website:

<http://www.lewisburgprisonproject.org/> E-mail: prisonproject@windstream.net

The Lewisburg Prison Project, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides legal and other assistance to prisoners in Central Pennsylvania. We are dedicated to the principle that prisoners are persons with incontestable rights to justice and compassion. We strive to provide safeguards for their constitutional and human rights. LPP was founded in 1973 by concerned citizens of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Currently, the LPP consists of one staff attorney, one full-time paralegal, an office manager, student interns, and volunteers.

• **National Center on Institutions and Alternatives**

7222 Ambassador Road, Baltimore MD, 22305/Tel: (410) 265-1490/Website:

www.ncianet.org

Since 1979, the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives (NCIA) has provided criminal justice services to defense attorneys, defendants, inmates, and court systems throughout the country. We have worked with more than 10,000 clients in all 50 states. When assisting defense attorneys or defendants facing sentencing, we provide assistance in understanding the applicable sentencing statutes or guidelines and design individualized sentencing reports or memoranda, which include specific sentencing proposals. When permitted by the applicable State or Federal law, our sentencing proposals frequently include the use of creative public service that draws on the offender's strengths and background, substance abuse counseling, work-release, home confinement, and community confinement. In addition to sentencing advocacy, we also provide capital case mitigation services, parole release advocacy, institutional designation and transfer, and release planning. NCIA provides services to clients after sentencing, helping them with the adjustment to confinement, assisting them with designation to and placement in the least restrictive facility available. In the Federal system especially, we research questions and provide advice regarding the Bureau of Prisons, the administrative remedy process, intensive confinement, RDAP, pre-release programming, home confinement and related issues.

• **National CURE (Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants)**

PO Box 2310, Washington DC, 20013/Tel: (202) 789-2126 / E-mail: cure@curenational.org

/ Website: <http://www.curenational.org/index.php>

Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE) is a grassroots organization that was founded in Texas in 1972. It became a national organization in 1985. We believe that prisons should be used only for those who absolutely must be incarcerated and that those who are incarcerated should have all of the resources they need to turn their lives around. We also believe that human rights documents provide a sound basis for ensuring that criminal justice systems meet these goals. Inmates may write to request our newsletter for further information.

• **National Capital Crime Assistance Network**

Claudia Whitman, 6 Tolman Road, Peaks Island ME 04108/Tel: (207) 766-2418 (June through Sept) and (970) 533-7383 (Oct through May) / E-mail: claudia@celldoor.com /

Website: <http://www.nccan.org> NCCAN is an organization helping death row prisoners to gain

access to legal, investigative and community support. NCCAN also assists individual prisoners in their efforts to act as self-advocates. Death row prisoners need legal, investigative and community assistance to counter negative forces marshaled against them. Some are without lawyers or are having problems with lawyers that are representing them. Most need investigative work on their cases and there is rarely funding available for this critical work. Others need local contacts and support groups and contact with the media. Many need their families and friends to have a better understanding of their cases and training/support for family members to facilitate meaningful work on the cases. Some need innocence claims presented to Innocence Projects. Both prisoners and their loved ones need to gain skills in summarizing case issues, identifying tasks, and finding resources so that they can become effective self-advocates and advocates. NDRAN addresses these issues and develops individual and collective solutions by networking nationally and acting locally.

- **National Legal Aid & Defender Association**

1901 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Ste. 500 Washington, DC 20006 /Tel: (202) 452-0620

E-mail: info@ndlada.org/Website: <http://www.nlada100years.org> NLADA is the nation's leading advocate for front-line attorneys and other equal justice professionals - those who make a difference in the lives of low-income clients and their families and communities. Representing legal aid and defender programs, as well as individual advocates, NLADA is proud to be the oldest and largest national, nonprofit membership association devoting 100 percent of its resources to serving the broad equal justice community. NLADA serves the equal justice community in two major ways: providing first-rate products and services and as a leading national voice in public policy and legislative debates on the many issues affecting the equal justice community. We also serve as a resource for those seeking more information on equal justice in the United States.

- **Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network**

The Cast Iron Building, 718 Arch St, Suite 304 South, Philadelphia, PA 19106/Tel: (215) 925-2966/Website

The Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project seeks to deliver civil legal services to the institutional population of our Commonwealth. Difficulties with access and the unique nature institutional legal issues require a specialized method of delivering such services. The Project was created and designed to meet the needs of low income residents of our prisons, jails, state hospitals, and state centers. The goal of the Institutional Law Project is to ensure equal access to justice for indigent institutionalized persons. We are a non-profit organization administered by the PA Legal Services Center. To be eligible for our services, you must be in prison (state and federal), jail, state hospital (due to mental illness), or state center (due to mental retardation). Geographic guidelines: Pennsylvania residents only.

- **Prison Legal News**

P.O. Box 1151 Lake Worth, FL 33460 /Tel: 561-360-2523/E-mail:

info@prisonlegalnews.org/Website No matter what your legal or educational background, *The Prisoner's Guide to Survival* will help you learn how to research the law, study your rights, determine your legal options, and take the necessary steps to protect your rights or challenge an illegal conviction or sentence. Complex issues are explained in plain language so that even if you don't have an attorney you can make an informed decision regarding your legal choices. The

Supreme Court decision in *Apprendi v. New Jersey* and its potential for sentence reduction for thousands of defendants is also discussed. The Survival Guide includes: current legislation and court decisions affecting prisoners, actual size example forms for Appeals, Habeas Corpus actions, Motions, Constitutional rights complaints for state & federal prisoners, and more, over 3,000 case law decisions covering criminal conviction, sentencing and prisoner civil rights, an extensive prisoner assistance resource directory, a guide to the Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act. [Purchase through Amazon here.](#) Other publications available [here.](#)

• **Prison Law Office**

Prison Law Office, General Delivery, San Quentin CA 94964/Tel: (415) 457-9144/Website: <http://www.prisonlaw.com/>

The Prison Law Office strives to improve the living conditions of California state prisoners by providing free legal services. The Prison Law Office represents individual prisoners, engages in class action and other impact legislation, educates the public about prison conditions, and provides technical assistance to attorneys throughout the country. The Prisoners Handbook is available to inmates for \$40. Order [Here.](#)

• **Prison Legal News**

P.O. Box 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460 /Tel: (206) 246-1022/E-mail:

info@prisonlegalnews.org Website: <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/> Prison Legal News is an independent 56-page monthly magazine that provides a cutting edge review and analysis of prisoner rights, court rulings and news about prison issues. PLN has a national (U.S.) focus on both state and federal prison issues, with international coverage as well. PLN provides information that enables prisoners and other concerned individuals and organizations to seek the protection and enforcement of prisoner's rights at the grass roots level. Prison Legal News' coverage includes court access, disciplinary hearings, prison conditions, excessive force, mail censorship, jail litigation, visiting, telephones, religious freedom, free speech, prison rape, abuse of women prisoners, retaliation, the Prison Legal Reform Act (PLRA), medical treatment, AIDS, the death penalty, control units, attorney fees and much more. Subscriptions are \$30/yr for prisoners. Free email newsletter available [Here.](#)

• **Prison Policy Initiative**

PO Box 127, Northampton MA 01061/Website: <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/> The non-profit, non-partisan Prison Policy Initiative documents the impact of mass incarceration on individuals, communities, and the national welfare. We produce accessible and innovative research to empower the public to participate in improving criminal justice policy. We currently have listings for organizations providing legal services to people incarcerated in: Alabama, Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin.

Free Book Resources

- **The Aleph Institute**

9540 Collins Ave, Surfside FL 33154/Tel: (305) 864-5553/864-5675/Website:

<http://www.alephinstitute.org/>

The Aleph Institute's Spark of Light program is the only national program that serves Jewish people incarcerated in the United States to ensure that they stay connected to their families, communities and Jewish heritage. Spark of Light social programs and services provide for the religious, rehabilitation and humanitarian needs of individuals and their families from the moment of arrest, during the pre-sentencing stage and trial, and throughout their imprisonment. Spark of Light helps inmates amend their wrongs, seek forgiveness and have the best possible opportunity to return to society as purposeful, responsible people. Jewish inmates may write to receive free books, regular monthly literature, holiday offerings, and family programs.

- **Books for Prisoners**

Groundwork Books, 0323 Student Center, La Jolla CA 92037/Tel: (858) 452-9625/Website:

<http://groundwork.ucsd.edu/>

Groundwork Books offers up to two books per person, free of charge. Send your request, specifying your interests, and we will send you a detailed booklet for that area of interest. Subjects: politics, spirituality, feminism, dictionaries, culture, social criticism, and select novels. Stamp donations are appreciated but not required.

- **Books Trough Bars**

4722 Baltimore Ave, Philadelphia PA 19143/Tel: (215) 727-8170/E-mail:

info@booksthroughbars.org/Website: <http://booksthroughbars.org/>

We send quality reading material to prisoners and encourage creative dialogue on the criminal justice system, thereby educating those living inside and outside prison walls. We offer a wide range of reading materials free of charge to inmates. Request books by topic and specific subject areas (for example: novels, self-help, American history, etc.). If you wish, you may request specific titles or authors, however, we may not be able to provide these. No legal books. Donations, including stamps, are greatly appreciated. Please send information regarding prison regulations for reading material being sent in.

- **Books to Prisoners**

c/o Left Bank Books, 92 Pike Street, Box A, Seattle, WA 98101/Phone: 206-527-

3339/Website: <http://www.bookstoprisoners.net/>

Books To Prisoners (BTP) is a Seattle-based, all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that sends books to prisoners in the United States. BTP believes that books are tools for learning and opening minds to new ideas and possibilities. By sending books to prisoners, we hope to foster a love of reading and encourage the pursuit of knowledge and self-improvement. Volunteers work two evenings a week opening letters, finding books in our collection that correspond to the request, and wrapping and mailing parcels. Because of continuing backlog of requests, prisoners sometimes wait up to six months to receive their books. Please be patient.

- **Books to Prisons D.C. Area**

DC Books to Prisons, PO Box 34190, Washington, DC 20043-4190 //Website:

<http://dcbkstoprisoners.org/> E-mail: btopdc@gmail.com Books to Prisons offers free

educational as well as a wide selection of fiction and nonfiction reading material to prisoners around the United States free of charge. Please send requests for your general interests.

• **California Coalition for Women Prisoners**

1540 Market St., San Francisco CA 94102/Tel: (415) 255-7036 ext. 4

E-mail: info@womenprisoners.org Website: <http://womenprisoners.org> CCWP is a grassroots social justice organization, with members inside and outside prison, that challenges the institutional violence imposed on women, transgender people, and communities of color by the prison industrial complex (PIC). We see the struggle for racial and gender justice as central to dismantling the PIC and we prioritize the leadership of the people, families, and communities most impacted in building this movement. *The Fire Inside* is a quarterly publication with a circulation of over 2,000 that is dedicated to providing a space for women prisoners and their supporters to communicate with each other and the broader public about the issues and experiences women prisoners face through articles, art and poetry. CCWP provides support to hundreds of prisoners throughout California and the U.S. by providing information and resource referrals.

• **The Inside Books Project**

Inside Books Project at Space 12, 3121 East 12th Street, Austin, Texas 78702 /Tel: (512) 655-3121

E-mail: insidebooksproject@gmail.com /Website: <http://insidebooksproject.org/>

Based in central Austin, the Inside Books Project (IBP) is an all volunteer, non-profit organization sending free books and educational materials to people in prison in the state of Texas. It is the only project in the state offering this vital resource to Texas' prisoner population, which now exceeds 171,790. Unfortunately due to the great demand it may take at least 4-5 months for the books to be mailed unless you provide the postage. Donations and/or stamps are appreciated if possible.

• **Prison Book Program**

c/o Lucy Parsons Bookstore, 1306 Hancock Street, Suite 100, Quincy MA 02169/Tel: (617) 423-3298

E-mail: info@prisonbooks.org / Website: <http://prisonbookprogram.org/>

The primary work of the Prison Book Program is sending books to prisoners. The Prison Book Program has been supplying individuals and groups of prisoners with free, quality reading material since 1972. We believe that literacy and access to reading materials are crucial for the personal, spiritual, and political development of all people. We offer a free National Prisoner Resource List to all prisoners. We do not offer a catalog of books, so please request books by topics. When requesting books, please send us your prison's restrictions on reading material. Donations, including stamps, are always welcome. Be patient, we have over a 3 month backlog of requests. We do not send books to California, Grateford (Pennsylvania), Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, or Texas. The website also has a 6 page National Prisoner Resource List available.

• **Prisoners Literature Project**

c/o Bound Together Bookstore, 1369 Haight St, San Francisco CA 9411/Tel: (415) 431-8355

Website: <http://www.prisonersliteratureproject.com/> The Prisoners Literature Project is a grassroots organization that sends free books to prisoners in the United States. The project started in the early 1980's in the back of Bound Together Books, an anarchist bookstore still

operating on Haight Street. PLP is run entirely by volunteers and funded by donations. You may request types of books—not specific titles. Stamps or donations are greatly appreciated but are not required. Main types of books usually requested: dictionaries, ethnic studies, basic educational books. Sorry, no Texas prisoners.

- **The Prison Library Project**

The Claremont Forum, 586 West First Street, Claremont CA 91711// E-mail:

claremontforum@gmail.com/Website: www.claremontforum.org The Prison Library Project aims to confront the negativities of our prison system by giving prisoners the opportunity for self-education while behind bars, which can lead to rehabilitation. Our group's actions also seek to reduce prisoners' feelings of isolation, which we believe helps to counteract the dehumanizing effects of the prison system. We further believe that the work the PLP does gives people in prison hope for their future and helps to remind them that every single person on our earth, even one who is behind bars, is deserving of human compassion. We offer books on self-help, personal and spiritual growth, wellness, and metaphysical books. No law books, technical, or GED, and no catalogue.

- **Real Cost of Prisons Project**

5 Warfield Place, Northampton MA 01060 / Email: info@realcostofprisons.org/

Website: realcostofprisons.org RCPP works to strengthen and deepen the organizing capacity of people and communities struggling to end mass incarceration. Resources include a website with useful up-to-date research, books, links to hundreds of organizations, PDF's of RCPP created materials, including three comic books (*Prison Town — Paying the Price*, *Prisoners of a Hard Life — Women and Their Children*, and *Prisoners of the War on Drugs*) and the newest sections “Comix from Inside” and “Writing from Prison.” Comic books are free to prisoners and to organizers, advocates, family support groups, educators and others.

- **Women’s Prison Book Project (WPBP)**

c/o Boneshaker Books, 2002 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis MN 55404/E-mail:

womensprisonbookproject@gmail.com/Website: <http://www.wpbp.org/> Since 1994, the Women’s Prison Book Project (WPBP) has provided women and transgender –identified persons in prison with free reading materials covering a wide range of topics from law and education (dictionaries, GED, etc.) to fiction, politics, history, and women’s health. We are an all volunteer, grassroots organization. We seek to build connections with those behind the walls, and to educate those of us on the outside about the realities of prison and the justice system. To educate those of us on the outside about the realities of prison and the justice system.

- **Conversations With God**

P. O. BOX 507, Ashland, OR 97520/Tel: 541-482-8806/Website:

<http://www.cwg.org/index.php?page=connect> /E-mail: Foundation@CwG.org Our foundation is based upon the work of Neale Donald Walsch and his books *Conversations with God*. Our Prison Outreach program is committed to reaching out to the population that finds itself in prisons, jails and other facilities where freedom, choices and opportunities are restricted. As with Book for Friends, this program was also initiated as a result of book requests coming

from those incarcerated. Prison Outreach is committed to creating ways to support the spiritual exploration of our friends inside, from gifting them with books, to exposing them to more resources through newsletters and magazines, to personally corresponding in support of their spiritual exploration.

Pen Pal Correspondence

• Buddhist Inmate Sangha Pen Pal and Book Donation Project

Buddhist Inmate Sangha, Betty Lu Buck, PO Box 6517, Brookings, OR 97415 We are an independent interfaith Sangha dedicated to providing spiritual support for Buddhists behind bars. We currently donate Buddhist books, magazines, videos and audio cassettes to prisons and inmates around the country upon request.

• CellPals!

P.O. Box 13278, Las Cruces, NM 88013/Phone: 855-736-7257/Website:

<http://www.cellpals.com/index.php> CellPals! Is a prison pen pal organization on the internet that seeks to aid inmates in finding positive influences during a given term of incarceration. We try to make our site accessible to everyone regardless of financial status. The website provides national and international links for male inmates, female inmates, gay inmates, and death row inmates.

• Christian Pen Pals

PO Box 11296, Hickory, NC 28603/ Website: <http://www.christian-penpals.com>/We share the love of Jesus by providing a Christian pen pal for friendship and spiritual help to those who ask, and by networking with other sources of help for other needs common to prisoners. We are here to help prisoners, prisoner's families, and chaplains. Our ministry is therefore focused on proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ, His forgiveness, and His great love for all. When prisoners come to know and follow Jesus, hearts are changed. The Holy Spirit gives them power to overcome sin and bondage, giving them a transformed life. Stamps and donations are appreciated.

• Church of the Brethren Death Row Support Project

Death Row Support Project, PO Box 600, Liberty Mills, IN 46946 / Website:

<http://www.brethren.org/drsp/instructions.html> /E-mail: drsp@brethren.org Offers pen-pal services to death row inmates only. Can connect Spanish-speaking pen-pals on a limited basis. In 1978, concerned Church of the Brethren members formed the Death Row Support Project to facilitate one-to-one correspondence with persons sentenced to death. Since then, thousands of people from all over the country and around the world have responded to the challenge of connecting with death row prisoners.

• **Free in Christ Ministries**

1435 E. Palo Verde Dr., Chino Valley, AZ 86363 / Website:

<http://www.prisonministry.net/fcj> Free in Christ Ministries provides nationwide pen pals and outreach.

• **The Christian Prisoner Resource List Website:** <https://prisonresourcelist.wordpress.com/>

This page lists seventeen contacts and fifty-seven contacts for pen pals.

• **Inmate-Connection.com**

PO Box 83897, Los Angeles, CA 90083/ E-mail: info@inmate-connection.com

Website: <http://www.inmate-connection.com/> “Though they may incarcerate the flesh, they can’t incarcerate the mind.” This website is dedicated to connecting inmates with the outside world. You may write to request an application form that will give you a full web page on our site. The cost is \$20.00 for an entire year. Inmate-connection.com is an excellent place to advertise on the net and get pen pal connections.

• **The Insight Prison Project**

P.O. Box 151642, San Rafael, CA 94915 /Phone: (415) 459-9800/ E-mail:

info@InsightPrisonProject.org /Website: <http://www.insightprisonproject.org/> IPP is non-profit community organization working in collaboration with San Quentin State Prison to provide unique rehabilitation programs for self selected and motivated prisoners so that they can break the cycle of incarceration. IPP believes that as community members we have a responsibility to work with those in our community who do not live by the rules we have all agreed on. The key to IPP's success has been to invite the prisoners to become highly valued and integral stakeholders in every aspect of the learning process. Our diverse teaching staff of dedicated professionals and volunteers is committed to creating positive change both inside and outside the prison walls. Since 1997, the Insight Prison Project has been dedicated to reducing recidivism rates and improving public safety by conducting highly-effective in-prison rehabilitation programs that provide prisoners with the tools and life skills necessary to create durable change. Working in partnership with San Quentin State Prison, IPP conducts 19 weekly classes involving more than 200 prisoners. Our classes focus on preparing the men to become responsible and productive members of the community when they leave prison.

• **Jewish Prisoner Services International**

PO Box 85840, Seattle, WA 98145-1840 /Tel: (206) 985-0577 /Emergency Collect: (206) 528-0363 /Website: <http://jpsi.org/> / E-mail: jewishprisonerservices@msn.com We are an

international organization that provides religious services and materials to Jews in prison and their families throughout the world. Our mission is as follows: to provide an international network for individuals and organizations which serves Jewish prisoners and their families, to share information and resources, to raise consciousness within Jewish communities about the issue of Jews in prison, to encourage the participation of other individuals and groups, to make Jewish educational, religious, cultural and spiritual resources available to prisoners, to formulate guidelines of service to Jewish inmates and their families before, during and after incarceration. JPSI is not a direct provider of financial assistance and is not a direct provider of legal services. JPSI functions as a resource center, clearinghouse, referral agency and conduit of information and assistance.

• **Messenger Bible Institute**

PO Box 1756, Oakdale, CA 95361 / Tel: (209) 845-1718 / Website:

<http://www.prisonministry.net/MBI> Messenger Bible Institute offers free Bible correspondence studies and Christian ministry diplomas. They also offer Jail and Prison Ministry Training Programs and Writing Ministries (Pen Pals). MBI has locations in Corcoran, Soledad, Folsom, Jamestown, Pelican Bay, Mule Creek, San Quentin, all of which are in California.

• **PrisonerLife.com**

PO Box 1664, Voorhees, NJ 08043 / Website: <http://www.prisonerlife.com/> With over 2,728,132 unique visitors and 22,662,888 page views per year, PrisonerLife.com IS the gateway for all United States prisoners, ex-offenders, and those going to prison to communicate with Internet users and expand their networks of support. . . and it offers their families and friends, as well as the general public, an opportunity to learn about the American prison system and the two million people it holds. Prisoners can become part of the PrisonerLife.com family by simply entering their information into our member directory. There is no charge for this service.

• **Prison Pen Pals**

PO Box 235, East Berlin, PA, 17316-0235/ E-mail: info@prisonpenals.com

Website: <http://www.prisonpenpals.com/> The largest prison pen pal site on the internet since 1996. Thousands of inmates' personal, legal, and specialty ads are listed on this site, providing prisoners with correspondence opportunities. Write for a brochure. We have prisoners from the USA, Australia, Africa, Canada, Egypt, Belgium, England & Ireland. Must be 18 or older.

• **WriteAPrisoner.com**

PO Box 10, Edgewater, FL 32132/Website: <http://www.writeaprisoner.com/> **E-mail:**

General-information@writeaprisoner.com We are an organization whose primary goal is to help inmates receive letters from pen pals. Inmates have been turning to us in the tens of thousands since the year 2000 to find friendship. We post their personal profiles, photos and contact information on WriteAPrisoner.com. You, the viewer, can then select which prisoners you would like to correspond with. You will find a broad range of prison pen pals on WriteAPrisoner.com. We host profiles for inmates on death row, in maximum-security prisons, county jails, international prisons and more. Must be 18 or older.

Creative Writing/Artistic Resources/Journals

• **The Beat Within**

P.O. Box 34310, San Francisco, CA 94134 / Tel: 415-890-5641/E-Mail:

mpau@thebeatwithin.org/Website: <http://www.thebeatwithin.org/> The Beat Within's mission is to provide incarcerated youth with consistent opportunity to share their ideas and life experiences in a safe space that encourages literacy, self-expression, some critical thinking skills, and healthy, supportive relationships with adults and their community. Outside of the juvenile justice system, The Beat Within partners with community organizations and individuals to bring resources to youth both inside and outside of detention. We are committed to being an effective

bridge between youth who are locked up and the community that aims to support their progress towards a healthy, non-violent, and productive life.

- **Cell Door Magazine**

14985 Rd. 40.2, Mancos, CO 81328 / E-mail: publisher@celldoor.com/Website:

<http://www.lairdcarlson.com/celldoor/01301/>

The Cell Door Magazine is written for a free audience by prisoners or people who are family members or friends of prisoners. Our goal is to develop an audience who reads The Cell Door Magazine for its educational and entertainment value and quality, learning in the process that prisoners are intelligent, personable, talented human beings. We will definitely consider all submissions. We publish art, poetry, essays, news, opinion, fiction, humor, and inmate cases.

- **Critical Resistance National Office**

1904 Franklin St., Suite 504, Oakland CA 94612 / Tel: (510) 444-0484 /Email:

crnational@criticalresistance.org / Website: <http://criticalresistance.org>/Critical Resistance

works to end society's reliance on prisons, policing and other forms of social control as solutions to social problems. *The Abolitionist* is a quarterly newspaper, provided free to all imprisoned people, that highlights the struggle of those inside and out against the prison industrial complex and is a tool for resistance and political discussion. Submissions are encouraged.

- **The Journal of Prisoners on Prisons**

Submissions: Journal of Prisoners on Prisons c/o Justin Piché, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1N 6N5/

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

Subscriptions for inmates: \$15 for 1 year/\$28 for 2 years/\$40 for 3 years.

The *Journal of Prisoners on Prisons* is a unique forum for the voices of prisoners everywhere. Drawing on writing from prisoners across the world, the JPP allows those most knowledgeable about the realities of prison life and most closely affected by those realities to speak out. The JPP brings us the passionate, articulate voices not previously heard in the ongoing debates about penology, prison abolition, and prisoners' rights. Creative writing, personal stories, artwork, academic, and legal arguments, contribute their perspective to a wide range of contemporary issues related to crime, justice and punishment. Published annually. Submissions: Prisoners and former prisoners are encouraged to submit papers, collaborative essays, discussions transcribed from tape, book reviews, and photo or graphic essays (no fiction or poetry). We publish articles in either French or English.

- **Off Our Backs: A Women's News Journal**

2337B 18th St NW, Washington DC 20009 / Tel: (202) 234-8072 / E-mail:

oob@offourbacks.org / Website: <http://www.offourbacks.org>/Off Our Backs is a bi-monthly newsjournal by, for, and about women. It is the longest surviving feminist newspaper in the United States. Our mission is to provide news and information about women's lives and feminist activism; to educate the public about the status of women around the world; to serve as a forum for feminist ideas and theory; to be an information resource on feminist, women's, and lesbian culture; and to seek social justice and equality for women worldwide. Subscriptions are free for women prisoners. We are happy to accept writing or art submissions from woman prisoners.

• **Pen America Pen American Center**

588 Broadway, New York NY 10012 / Tel: (212) 334-1660/ E-mail: info@pen.org / Website: <http://www.pen.org/prison-writing>

Upon request, we will send inmates, free of charge, a writing handbook offering information on the craft of creative writing, places to send your work and a list of organizations and resources for writers. We also sponsor an annual writing contest for prisoners. The Prison Writing Program promotes the idea that writing and creative self-expression can be rehabilitative. The program offers writing instruction through its *Handbook for Writers in Prison* and an extensive one-one Mentoring program. The program helps provide incarcerated writers with an audience for their work through the annual PEN Prison Writing Contest. Winning manuscripts are published on the PEN web site.

• **The Pennsylvania Prison Society**

245 North Broad St Suite 300, Philadelphia PA 19107 /Tel: (215) 564-4775 / Website:

<http://www.prisonsociety.org> Greaterfriends is a monthly prisoner advocacy newsletter that provides a voice for inmates and their families. It contains current correctional related information as well as legal information, letters from inmates and families, death penalty and legislative updates. We accept story submissions including poetry, essays, and your thoughts on the penal system. \$3.00 per year suggested donation for prisoners (you may also pay with stamps).

Reentry Assistance/ Family Support/ Continuing Education

• **American Friends Service Committee**

Locations / Website: <http://afsc.org> The American Friends Service Committee is a practical expression of the faith of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). It has many offices, both in the US and abroad. Committed to the principles of nonviolence and justice, it seeks in its work and witness to draw on the transforming power of love, human and divine. We provide human rights advocacy and monitoring on behalf of US prisoners. Prisoners may report human rights violations and write to us for further information. The website has a list of resources and information available to those who are incarcerated.

• **The Center for Children of Incarcerated Parents (CCIP)**

PO Box 41-286, Eagle Rock CA 90041 / E-mail: ccip@earthlink.net /

Website: <http://e-ccip.org> Our mission is the prevention of intergenerational crime and incarceration. Our goals are the production of high quality documentation on and the development of model services for children of criminal offenders and their families. CCIP offers our education projects in three formats. Correspondence courses are available to prisoners nationwide. Courses taught by CCIP staff are offered regionally. We also train instructors to teach CCIP curricula; this service is offered nationally. The Clearinghouse project offers a collection of over 3500 documentary and audiovisual items that can be purchased online or by mail through two catalogs. By mail, through the Catalog for Incarcerated Parents, we offer more than 200 items free of charge to prisoners and their families.

• **Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers (CLAIM)**

740 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60642 / Tel: 312-738-2452 / [Website](#) / E-mail: amansfield@claim-il.org

Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers (CLAIM) provides legal and educational services to maintain the bond between imprisoned mothers and their children. CLAIM advocates for policies and programs that benefit families of imprisoned mothers and reduce incarceration of women and girls.

• **Critical Resistance National Office**

1904 Franklin St, Suite 504, Oakland CA 94612 / Tel: (510) 444-0484 / Email:

crnational@criticalresistance.org / Website: <http://criticalresistance.org/>

Critical Resistance works to end society's reliance on prisons, policing and other forms of social control as solutions to social problems. We distribute a quarterly newspaper to anyone in prison for free and welcome contributions. We also organize to challenge the prison industrial complex by organizing and building relationship with people who are locked up. We provide, upon request several different books about the prison industrial complex as well as an organizing toolkit and work with folks inside as allies in the struggle for liberation. We do accept collect calls.

• **Family and Corrections Network**

93 Old York Road, Suite 1 #510, Jenkintown, PA 19046 / Tel: (215) 576-1110 / E-mail:

fcn@fcnnetwork.org / [Website](#)

FCN is for and about families of prisoners. We offer training, technical assistance, and information on children of prisoners, parenting programs for prisoners, prison visiting, incarcerated fathers and mothers, hospitality programs, keeping in touch, returning to the community, the impact of the justice system on families, and prison marriage. FCN publishes *FCN Report*, the only national publication devoted to families of prisoners. FCN provides no legal services. You are encouraged to get family, friends, relatives, or other professionals to go online and get the information for you. FCN is your gateway to practice, policy, and research on families of offenders.

• **The Fortune Society**

26-76 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11101 / Tel: (212) 691-7554/ Website:

<http://fortunesociety.org/>

Staffed primarily by ex-offenders, The Fortune Society is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to assisting exoffenders and at-risk youth break the cycle of crime and incarceration through a broad range of services which include: counseling, career development, housing, education, substance abuse treatment services, alternatives to incarceration services, health services, and volunteer/internship opportunities. We communicate with prisoners all over the country via the mail, answering questions and providing information for those who are in need of services. We are also dedicated to educating the public about prisons, criminal justice issues, and the root causes of crime. Fortune News, our quarterly journal, is sent free of charge to inmates and contributing members.

• **National Fatherhood Initiative**

12410 Milestone Center Drive, Suite 600, Germantown, MD 20876 /Tel: (301) 948-0599 / Website: <http://www.fatherhood.org/>

NFI's mission is to improve the wellbeing of children by increasing the proportion of children growing up with involved, responsible, and committed fathers. As part of NFI's mission to disseminate educational materials to the public and to help men become better fathers, we have developed several informative resources that emphasize the importance of fathers in their children's lives. Please write to us for further information.

• **OPEN, Inc. (Offender Preparation and Education Network)**

PO Box 472223, Garland TX 75047/ Tel: (972) 271-1971 (800) 966-1966 / Website:

<http://www.openinc.org/>

We offer the book *99 Days and Get Up* free of charge to prisoners. This book is one of the most widely used reentry handbooks in America, a powerful guide to successful social and emotional transition from prison into the community. Revised and expanded to cover the last six months pre-release and the first six months postrelease, *99 Days and Get Up* gives honest, direct advice for dealing with the major barriers ex-offenders must overcome to achieve long-term success. We also offer other self-help handbooks and educational materials to improve your ability to readjust to society and strengthen family ties.

• **The Graduate Group**

PO Box 370351, West Hartford CT 06137/ Tel: (860) 233-2330 /E-mail:

graduategroup@hotmail.com /Website: <http://www.graduategroup.com/>

Our goal is to provide readers with information (at no cost to them) that will help them gain a broader understanding of available opportunities and career options. Our titles cover a variety of subjects, including law, career guidance and counseling in a variety of fields, and personal development.

• **The Osborne Association**

809 Weschester Avenue, Bronx NY 10455 / Tel: (718) 707-2600/ Website:

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

The Osborne Association operates a broad range of treatment, educational, and vocational services for people involved in the adult criminal and juvenile justice systems, including prisoners and former prisoners, their children, and other family members. We serve more than 6,500 people annually in community sites and courts in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan, as well as in city jails and state prisons. Our program models demonstrate that employment and family services, chemical dependency treatment, access to HIV/health care, and constructive and supervised alternatives to incarceration can reduce crime, decrease violence, and address the concerns of victims.

• **Prisoner's Guerilla Handbook to Correspondence Programs in the United States and Canada**

Prison Legal News, P.O. Box 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460 /Phone: 561-360-2523 /E=mail: info@prisonlegalnews.org /Website

Any prisoner seeking to begin or continue their education behind bars will find this handbook to be an invaluable roadmap. The author, Jon Marc Taylor BS, MA, an inmate presently incarcerated in Missouri, is a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award winner. A partial list of what this handbook offers: 250 plus programs outline, free programs for the blind, prisoners tuition rates and discounts, 200 plus diploma/associate/baccalaureate degrees, 60 plus graduate degree programs, 25 cross-referenced indexes, bar exam qualified law schools, bonus articles on correctional education. Regular Price: \$49.95

• **Prisoner Visitation and Support**

1501 Cherry St, Philadelphia PA 19102 / Tel: (215) 241-7117 no collect calls / E-mail: pvs@afsc.org /Website: <http://www.prisonervisitation.org/>

In 1972, PVS was granted permission by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to visit all federal prisons and prisoners in the U.S. In 1975, the Department of Defense granted PVS access to all military prisons and prisoners in the U.S. Today, PVS volunteers see any prisoner desiring a visit, including those in Special Housing Units (solitary confinement), those on death row, and those transferred from prison to prison. We are dedicated to human contact with those who seek visitors, we have no religious agendas, and offer no legal services. We do not visit state prisons.

• **The Safer Society Foundation**

PO Box 340, Brandon, VT 05733 / Tel: (802) 247-3132 / Website: <http://www.saferociety.org/>

The Safer Society Foundation, a nonprofit agency, is a national research, advocacy, and referral center on the prevention and treatment of sexual abuse. Inmates may write to us to receive names of treatment providers from our referral database. We also offer a free 64-page catalog of titles relating to the treatment and prevention of sexual abuse.

• **Second Chance / STRIVE**

6145 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114/ Tel: (619) 234-8888 / Website: <http://www.secondchanceprogram.org/>

Second Chance creates opportunities for people to transform their own lives by fostering behavioral changes that promote personal responsibility, healthy relationships and positive contributions to society. We accomplish this through programs that provide job readiness and life skills training, along with job placement, mental health and prisoner re-entry services, relapse prevention and sober-living housing for adults and youth in need.

Health/Nutrition/Personal Safety

• **Aids Project Los Angeles (APLA)**

611 South Kingsley Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90005 / Tel: (213) 201-1600 /Website:

www.apla.org /E-mail: info@alpa.org

AIDS Project Los Angeles, one of the nation's largest AIDS service organizations, provides direct services to men, women, and children living with HIV and AIDS. APLA is a leader in the provision of bilingual HIV treatment information, in print and on the Internet, and advocates for effective AIDS-related policies and legislation on the local, state and federal level. Write to receive further information about our services.

• **Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons**

Vera Institute of Justice, 233 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10279 / Tel: (212) 334-

1300 / [Website](#)

In 1961, philanthropist Louis Schweitzer and magazine editor Herb Sturz recognized the injustice of a bail system in New York City that granted liberty based on income. Working with criminal justice leaders, they explored the problem, developed a solution, and rigorously tested it. Within a few years, they had demonstrated that New Yorkers too poor to afford bail but with strong ties to their communities could be released and still show up for trial. Evidence of a viable alternative to bail forever changed how judges make release decisions in criminal courts around the world, while also reducing costs and minimizing disruption in the lives of innocents. It also led to the founding of the Vera Institute of Justice—named for Schweitzer's mother—to pursue similar initiatives. Today, Vera staff are leading more than two dozen separate projects that aim to reveal more about the meaning of justice even as they make a difference in the lives of individuals. Every Vera project begins with an examination of how a targeted part of the justice system really works. Often, this inspires the design of a practical experiment or the development of a rational course for reform. Whatever path a project takes, Vera's goal is to help government partners achieve measurable improvements in the quality of justice they deliver and to share what they've learned with people around the world. The result: Justice systems that are fairer, more humane, and more effective for everyone.

• **Protecting Your Health and Safety: A Litigation Guide for Inmates**

Prison Legal News, PO Box 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460 / Phone: 561-360-2523 / E-mail:

info@prisonlegalnews.org / [Website](#)

A 328-page manual designed to help inmates who are not represented by an attorney, *Protecting Your Health and Safety* explains the legal rights that inmates have regarding health and safety, including the right to receive medical care and the right to be free from inhumane treatment such as excessive force by prison guards. It also explains to inmates how they can enforce those rights when they are violated. It provides an overview of the legal system, a glossary of legal terms and explains how to file and litigate pro se complaints in federal courts. It also includes a list of federal courts and resources groups for prison inmates. It does not cover criminal matters. Cost of manual is \$10.00, which includes shipping and handling. Payments may be made by check or money order. When ordering the manual please note any special institutional regulations, such as no padded envelopes, receipt required, etc. Upon request, prison law libraries will be sent a copy at no cost.

- **The Vegetarian Resource Group**

PO Box 1463, Baltimore MD 21203 / Tel: (410) 366-8343 / E-mail: vrg@vrg.org / Website: <http://www.vrg.org/>

The Vegetarian Resource Group is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public on vegetarianism and the interrelated issues of health, nutrition, ecology, ethics, and world hunger. In addition to publishing the Vegetarian Journal, VRG produces and sells cookbooks, other books, pamphlets, and article reprints.

- **WORLD (Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases)**

449 15th Street, Suite 303, Oakland, CA 94612 / Tel: (510) 986-0340 / Website: <http://www.womenhiv.org/>

An information and support network by, for and about women with HIV/AIDS. We offer our monthly, 8-page WORLD Newsletter to female prisoners free of charge. Our newsletter has 12,000 readers in over 85 countries and offers personal stories of women living with HIV, treatment updates, resources, and other information about living with HIV. Please write for further information.

Jobs and Careers

- **Careeronestop**

Toll-free help line: (877) 872-5627, 877-348-0502 / E-mail: info@careeronestop.org / Website

CareerOneStop is a publicly-funded resource for job seekers and businesses. Find jobs—from entry level to technical to professional. Locate public workforce services in your area. Explore alternative career paths, compare salary data for different occupations, learn which careers are hot, get resume writing tips and job interview strategies, and much more. Visit our site and see how we can help you find the job that's right for you. Thousands of new jobs are posted daily by employers.

- **CareerBuilder.com**

200 N. LaSalle St., Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60601 / Website

CareerBuilder.com puts jobs in front of poised job seekers, wherever they are, at home or at work, in print and on the internet. We are the leading recruitment resource, with presence in more than 130 local newspapers and more than 26 million visitors to our newspaper websites each month.

- **Cool Works**

Coolworks.com, PO Box 272 – 513 Highway 89, Gardiner MT 59030 / Phone: 406-848-2380 / Website: <http://www.coolworks.com/>

Year-round, full-time jobs in great places: national and state parks, camps, cruise ships, rafting, ranches, amusement parks, ski resorts, lodges and resorts. Some of the coolest jobs in the best places.

- **The Distance Education Accrediting Commission**

1601 18th St NW, Suite 2, Washington, DC 20009 / Tel: (202) 234-5100 / E-mail: detc@detc.org / Website: <http://www.deac.org/>

You may write to receive a free directory of accredited institutions that offer distance learning education courses.

• **EDPUBS - U.S. Department of Education**

ED Pubs, P.O. Box 22207, Alexandria, VA 22304 / Tel: (877) 433-7827 / Website: <http://www.edpubs.gov/>

A resource for Department of Education Publications. United States Department of Education products can be identified and ordered through the website, or you may write to request the following helpful booklets: Student Aid, Student Guide, Funding Your Education, Need Money for College, College Preparation Checklist. All publications are provided at no cost to the general public.

• **topTECHjobs**

NetTemps, Inc., 55 Middlesex St., Suite 220, North Chelmsford, MA 01863 /Phone: (800) 307-0062 / Website: <http://www.net-temps.com/>

A website that helps you find a new job and manage your career. Search from tens of thousands of contract and direct jobs, post your resume, have jobs automatically e-mailed to you, reach over 7,500 top recruiters.

• **Non-Profit Career Network**

E-mail: nonprofitcareer@comcast.net / Website: <http://www.nonprofitcareer.com/>

This website is dedicated to the nonprofit sector of today's business and economic world. Our mission is to be a complete, one-stop resource center for nonprofit organizations, individuals seeking job opportunities in a nonprofit organization, and people who want to volunteer to make a difference in this world.

• **USAJOBS**

Website: <https://www.usajobs.gov/>

This is a United States Office of Personnel Management web site. USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official one-stop source for federal jobs and employment information. Learn how to apply for jobs, build your resume, find an ideal job, or explore exciting federal career options that match your interest.

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