GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders
18 Tremont St, Suite 950
Boston, MA 02108
Phone: 800-455-4523
Fax: 617-426-3594
Website: www.glad.org

Resources for People Who Are Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated

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Please help us keep this list of resources updated. Let us know if you notice incorrect information or new information we should add. Send updates to gladanswers@glad.org.

CONNECTICUT

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Connecticut
765 Asylum Ave., Hartford, CT 06105
860-523-9146

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU. See listing under National Resources for more information.

Community Partners in Action
110 Bartholomew Ave., Suite 3010, Hartford, CT 06106
860-566-2030
info@cpa-ct.org

This organization provides transitional case management for prisoners and ex-inmates. Provides discharge planning through direct care, helping clients set up medical appointments, and through referrals for employment, substance abuse, family unification and HIV/AIDS programs. Prisoners should be referred to the program through their HIV contact nurse.

Community Renewal Team, Inc.
555 Windsor St. Hartford, CT 06120
860-560-5600

Offers several re-entry programs.

Family ReEntry
Bridgeport (Main office): 75 Washington Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604; 203-838-0496
Norwalk: 9 Mott Ave., Suite 104, Norwalk, CT 06850; 203-838-0496
New Haven: 50 Fitch St., Suite 202, New Haven, CT 06515; 203-361-9166
Waterbury: 232 North Elm St., Waterbury, CT 06702; 203-519-7167
info@familyreentry.org

Provides counseling and therapy services, parent education, information, referrals, mentoring and gifts for children, offenders, and their families across a variety of sites (e.g. adult probation, day incarceration centers, alternative to incarceration centers, residential substance abuse treatment facilities, pre-release prison programs).

Inmates' Legal Assistance Program, Law Offices of Sydney T. Schulman
10 Grand St., Hartford, CT 06106
860-522-2960
office@schulmanlaw.net

LAP provides assistance only in civil matters, such as divorce, child custody or personal injury. Assistance does not include representation. LAP helps inmates identify, articulate, and research legal claims. Provides advice and assistance in the preparation of legal documentation for meritorious claims. Assistance for CT inmates only.

Isaiah 61:1, Inc.
Women: 405-407 Clinton Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06605
Men: 112, 120, 341 Clinton Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06605
203-368-6116

Isaiah 61:1 is a halfway house with work release program to help inmates back into the community, including spiritual and individual counseling groups, life skills training, anger management, HIV/AIDS education and counseling, AA/NA/AL anon, mandatory family therapy and referrals to employment services. Programs last 6-9 months for women, 3-4 months for men. Inmates apply to house through counselor.

Jerome N. Frank Legal Services
Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, Yale Law School, P.O. Box 209090, New Haven, CT 06520
203-432-4800

These are student-run clinics with limited resources provided to CT federal and state prisoners, including parole-related litigation, post-conviction, habeas corpus, prison conditions, direct referrals. Damage suits can be handled on a contingency fee basis, only if client is indigent and unable to get a local law firm to take the case. Publishes *Connecticut Prisoners' Rights*, which includes a guide to resources for prisoners and ex-offenders, $4 if able to pay. Because this program is university-affiliated, it may not be staffed during transitional periods in the academic schedule.

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

New Haven Reentry Initiative
Office of the Mayor, City of New Haven, 165 Church St., Second Floor, New Haven, CT 06510
203-946-7658

Works with community partners, state agencies and other reentry organizations to support the reintegration of formerly incarcerated residents into the New Haven community. Publishes a New Haven Reentry Resource Guide, which provides information about reentry resources for individuals returning from incarceration and their families. Resources include Obtaining a Birth Certificate, Basic Needs (Benefits, Clothing, Food, and Housing), and Additional Reentry Resources (Advocacy and Support Groups, Domestic Violence, Education, Employment, Family Support and Child Support, Legal Assistance and Law Related, Substance Abuse, Youth Services and more).

People Empowering People
UConn Department of Extension
W.B. Young Building, Room 233, 1376 Stoors Row, Unit 4036, Stoors, CT 06269-4036
Faye Griffiths-Smith: faye.griffiths-smith@uconn.edu
pep@uconn.edu
203-407-3410
https://pep.extension.uconn.edu

People Empowering People provides training to facilitate a course addressing life skills and leadership training, mentoring, and support to families and friends of offenders. They can also be contacted to find a group to take the course with.

Perception Programs, Inc.
842 Main St., Willimantic, CT 06226
860-450-7122 (no collect calls)

Perception Programs serves substance abusers, offenders, and people living with HIV in northeastern Connecticut. Programs include residential work release and treatment programs for men and women, short-term residential substance abuse treatment for male prisoners in transition back to community life (including men with dual substance abuse and mental health diagnoses), outpatient substance abuse treatment, and residential treatment and education programs that act as alternatives to incarceration for adults and adolescents. Program fees may apply.

University of Connecticut Criminal Clinic
University of CT School of Law, 65 Elizabeth St., Hartford, CT 06105
860-570-5165

The Clinic is primarily geared toward defending individuals against criminal charges. Prisoners can also request assistance with habeas corpus or other matters involving criminal convictions, but assistance is subject to limited resources. Because this program is university-affiliated, it may not be staffed during transitional periods in the academic schedule.

MAINE

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Maine
P.O. Box 7860, Portland, ME 04112
207-774-5444
info@aclumaine.org

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU. See listing under National Resources for more information.

Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic
University of Maine Law School, 300 Fore St., Portland, ME 04101
207-780-4370 (collect calls accepted)
877-780-2522 (toll free, outside of greater Portland area)

The Clinic provides free legal representation to financially eligible people in York, Cumberland, Androscoggin, and Sagadahoc counties. Clients are represented by seniors in law school who are specially licensed by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court and the District Court. The clinic handles most civil, criminal, and family law matters, but very rarely takes appellate cases. Because this program is university-affiliated, it may not be staffed during transitional periods in the academic schedule.

Maine Civil Liberties Union
401 Cumberland Ave., Suite 105, Portland, ME 04101
207-774-5444

The MCLU provides legal representation regardless of ability to pay to those whose constitutional rights to free speech, religion, due process, or equal protection under the law have been violated.

Maine Correctional Center
17 Mallison Falls Rd., Windham, ME 04062
207-893-7000

Provides parenting classes, support groups, and monthly children's workshops, visits in a day care setting.

MASSACHUSETTS

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

General Advocacy & Legal Services

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Massachusetts
Boston: One Center Plaza, Suite 850, Boston, MA 02108; 617-482-3170
Western MA: 39 Main St., Northampton, MA 01060; 413-586-9115
info@aclum.org

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU. See listing under National Resources for more information.

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) – Criminal Justice Program
1991 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140
617-661-6130 (collect calls accepted)

The AFSC Criminal Justice Program provides prisoner referrals and resources for legal help available to prisoners and ex-offenders. Provides assistance to prisoner organizations in prison and community organizations working on prison issues. AFSC's quarterly newsletter, *Outlook on Justice*, is available to prisoners for $2 per year.

CPCS Innocence Project
75 Federal Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110
617-623-0591

CPCS works to identify and fight to overturn wrongful convictions across the state. Their attorneys represent indigent state defendants who have been convicted and punished for crimes they did not commit.

Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project
108 Austin Hall, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA 02138
617-495-3127 (collect calls accepted)

The Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project provides direct in-person service to indigent inmates, advocates for prisoners charged with violating prison regulations, represents prisoners at the Parole Board and disciplinary hearings, provides research assistance for domestic post-conviction, reviews civil rights arguments, and offers other services to prisoners. Because this program is university-affiliated, it may not be staffed during transitional periods in the academic schedule.

Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project
98 North Washington Street, Suite 106, Boston, MA 02114
617-742-9296

PAIR's Detention Program is the only immigration legal services program with negotiated access to all three major ICE detention centers in Massachusetts. They give "Know Your Rights" (KYR) Presentations inside the jails; distribute legal materials and PAIR's Self-Help Manual; and represent detainees *pro bono* for release on bond and in their full immigration court case.

Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts (PLSMA)
50 Federal St., 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02110
617-482-4124 (collect calls accepted) or 800-882-1413

PLS (formerly MCLS) provides legal services to prisoners and their families for issues arising out of incarceration. They offer a variety of services:

- Administrative and legislative advocacy
- Provision of information to prisoners on their rights and how they can pursue those rights
- Individual and class action lawsuits
- Referral to panels of private attorneys, such as the Women's Bar Assoc. Framingham Project

On Mondays, from 1-4 p.m., attorneys and paralegals work on intake and assess inmates' circumstances. They focus on guard-on-prisoner brutality, healthcare and conditions of confinement issues and provide representation to gay and lesbian prisoners. They do not take on disciplinary, parole or re-classification hearings but can provide references to groups that will.

Massachusetts Department of Correction
50 Maple St., Suite 3, Milford, MA 01757
508-422-3300

Provides children's centers in visiting rooms, parent education, self-help support groups, information, referrals, case management, group activities for children, religious ministry, and family reunification support.

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

Northeastern University Prisoners' Rights Clinic
Northeastern University School of Law, 416 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115
617-373-3660

This Northeastern program represents state prisoners in Eastern Mass. in parole revocation, disciplinary, and classification hearings. Because this program is university-affiliated, it may not be staffed during transitional periods in the academic schedule.

Community Legal Aid
Worcester: 370 Main St., Suite 200, Worcester, MA 01608; 508-752-3718
Springfield: One Monarch Place, Suite 400, Springfield, MA 01144; 413-781-7814
Northampton: 20 Hampton Ave., Suite 100, Northampton, MA 01060; 1-800-639-1309
Pittsfield: 152 North Street, Suite E-155, Pittsfield, MA 01201; 413-499-1950
Fitchburg: 515 Main St., 3rd Floor, Fitchburg, MA 01420

Inmates in local county jails may access limited direct legal services in civil law matters (not prison conditions) through this office. Services limited to housing issues, public benefit rights, some family law.

Legal Services at Specific Institutions

Middlesex County Inmate Legal Services
Middlesex County House of Corrections (mailing address)
269 Treble Cove Rd, Box 565, Billerica MA 01821; 617-494-4410
Middlesex County Jail (physical location)
40 Thorndike St., Box 97, East Cambridge, MA 02141

Legal Services provides legal assistance to inmates of both institutions, including issues involving sentencing, parole, unlawful incarceration, institutional issues (such as parole release, post-conviction release, administrative hearings, etc.)

Suffolk County Inmate Legal Services
Suffolk County House of Corrections
20 Bradston St., Boston, MA 02118
Suffolk County Jail
200 Nashua St., Boston, MA 02114; 617-635-1100

Both institutions have on-site legal services (by appointment or referral) to assist with institutional matters (jail credit, disciplinary and parole hearings, sentencing), pro se civil matters, and complaints against the institution, such as harassment or denial of medical treatment.

Services Primarily for Formerly Incarcerated People

Aid to Incarcerated Mothers (AIM)
434 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 503, Boston, MA 02118
617-536-0058 (collect calls accepted)
Open 9-5 Monday-Thursday

AIM provides services to incarcerated mothers and their children, as well as women who have had trouble with the law in the past and are trying to improve their lives upon re-entry into the community. While a woman is in prison, AIM attempts to prevent her from being permanently separated from her children. AIM arranges foster care review with DSS, children's visitation, as well as counseling and support for children of incarcerated mothers. For women in transition, the RENEW program offers medical assistance, resource development (housing, education, jobs), parental assessment, and 1-on-1 counseling. The CHARM (Comprehensive Health to At-Risk Mothers) program works with women on issues of self-esteem and domestic violence, and helps them teach back to the community. AIM also runs a support group for women who have returned to the community, working on habits that will keep them clean and legal. Referrals for services such as detox programs, shelters and sober houses are also available.

Springfield: Clinical and Support Options
1 Federal St., Building 102, Springfield, MA 01109
413-737-9544

Clinical and Support Options does not have a prisoner or ex-offender specific program, but they offer extensive programming for mental health, and their CSP Community Support Program provides assistance in finding housing, applying for entitlements (such as Social Security and food stamps), and work readiness.

Community Resources for Justice (CRJ/ Coming Home Directory)
355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116
617-482-2520

CRJ helps clients transition from prison to independent community life, delivering services at a number of residential facilities and day services to help ex-offenders develop the skills necessary to avoid further conflict with the law. Programs include education, counseling, and assistance with employment and housing, and substance abuse treatment. They operate residential pre-release centers serving individuals leaving Suffolk County House of Correction, Department of Youth Services (DYS) custody, and federal facilities. The criminal justice system or a case manager should refer prisoners interested in these services. The Crime & Justice Institute of CRJ publishes the *Coming Home Directory, a Resource Directory of Offender Reentry Services in Greater Boston.* You can request a printed copy or access the directory online at: http://cominghomedirectory.org/index.php.

The Salvation Army—Harbor Light Center
407 Shawmut Ave, Boston, MA 02118
617-536-7469

Harbor Light provides both short-term and longer residential substance abuse treatment programs for individuals in transition from prison to community. Programs include 3 meals a day, 1-on-1 counseling, structured classes on behavior and life decision-making, referrals and assistance making community contacts (housing, employment, etc.). Inmates can contact Harbor Light in writing or through a case manager.

Spectrum Health Systems
Central Office: 10 Mechanic St., Suite 302, Worcester, MA 01608
Outpatient Services: 800-464-9555 x1161
Inpatient Services: 800-366-7732
info@spectrumhealthsystems.org

Spectrum operates five major programs in substance abuse services: Correctional treatment services, drug-free housing, women and adolescent services, mental health services, and prevention services.

- In-Prison Programming includes general population programming, residential substance abuse treatment, violence programming, a high-risk offender program, and reentry workshops. These are located at the Old Colony Correctional Center (Bridgewater), Massachusetts Correctional Institution (MCI) Concord, MCI Framingham, South Middlesex Correctional Center (Framingham), MCI Gardner, Bay state Correctional Center (Norfolk), MCI Norfolk, MCI Shirley, Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (Shirley), and MCI Cedar Junction (Walpole), and the reentry workshops are located in 19 facilities statewide.
- Drug-Free Housing is offered at 4-7 Marston Way, Worcester MA.
- Giblin House – Women and Children's Program is a residential program for women who are incarcerated with children, offering substance abuse and mental health services and reentry programs. 153 Oak St., Westborough MA 01581. (508) 870-5555
- Additional Programs include substance abuse and mental health programs for men, women and at-risk youth, including outpatient, residential and inpatient treatment. Contact the central office for more information about which program and location will best serve your needs.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Hampshire
18 Low Ave., Concord, NH 03301
603-225-3080

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU. See listing under National Resources for more information.

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

New Hampshire Department of Corrections
105 Pleasant St., PO Box 1806, Concord, NH 03302-1806
603-271-5700

Provides children's center in visiting rooms, parent education, self-help support groups, information, referrals, case management, mentoring, gifts for children, marriage preparation and support, and public education and advocacy to offenders, their spouses and children and their children's caregivers.

New Hampshire Legal Assistance
Administration: 603-224-4107
Toll Free Number: 800-562-3174
Berlin: 38 Glen Ave., Berlin, NH 03570
Claremont: 24 Opera House Square, Suite 206, Claremont NH 03743-2603
Concord: 117 North State St., Concord NH 03301
Manchester: 1850 Elm St., Suite 7, Manchester NH 03104
Portsmouth: 154 High St., Portsmouth NH 03801

Provides assistance on prison conditions issues, direct referrals, and legislative advocacy. Assistance subject to limited resources.

RHODE ISLAND

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Rhode Island
128 Dorrance St., Suite 400, Providence, RI 02903
401-831-7171
Info@riaclu.org

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU. See listing under National Resources for more information.

DARE
340 Lockwood St., Providence, RI 02907
401-351-6960

DARE is working on a living wage ordinance which will incorporate a provision on non-discrimination based on criminal record.

Community Care Alliance
Community Care Alliance – Family Support Center, 245 Main St., Woonsocket, RI 02895
401-235-6000

Community Care Alliance's Family Support Center provides services that include classroom training, as well as opportunities to practice job skills in a professional environment. Additional benefits include intensive case management and job placement assistance for those who complete the program. For individuals who meet certain income requirements, there is no cost; services are available to others at various fees. Programs include: Making It Work – Helps low-income clients prepare for employment and find a job; it then provides case management for six months following placement employment. Career Connections – Designed to help individuals receiving public assistance to become self-sufficient. Participants have four weeks of job readiness training, volunteer work experience, then six months of case management following job placement. Summer Youth Employment Training Program – Helps participants ages 14 – 21 develop job and interpersonal skills, and encourages completion of high school. Employment Training Program Linkages – Referral to GED, Literacy and other programs or services.

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

Project Bridge
The Center for Prisoner Health and Human Rights, Miriam Hospital/Brown University Medical School
8 Third St., 2nd Floor, Providence, RI 02906
401-793-4783
bbrockmann@lifespan.org

An 18-month discharge-planning program for people with HIV incarcerated at ACI in Rhode Island. The program includes clinical case management with free medical care provided at Miriam Hospital, referrals for housing, employment, and substance abuse. Project Bridge makes contact with individuals very discreetly, 1 to 3 months prior to their release. The program is limited to individuals who have been sentenced (i.e., not simply awaiting trial).

Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.
56 Pine St., 4th Floor, Providence, RI 02903; 401-274-2652
50 Washington Square, Newport, RI 02840; 401-846-2264

Free or low-cost legal resources, both in civil and criminal law, are helpful to individuals with criminal histories in learning about relevant state laws governing the expungement or sealing of criminal histories or addressing other legal issues resulting from having a criminal history.

Work Release Program (State Department of Corrections)
Assistant Director/Rehabilitative Services
Rhode Island Department of Corrections, 40 Howard Ave., Cranston, RI 02920
401-462-2676

The Furlough Program grants inmates temporary conditional release based upon risk and needs for treatment and rehabilitative services. The program serves as an introductory step in the reintegration process back to the community. Furloughs are available to all prisoners who meet the criteria. Furloughs are granted for the following purposes: to attend the wake of a deceased family member or to visit a seriously ill immediate family member in the hospital; to obtain health care services and treatment for medical, psychiatric/psychological matters, including community-based substance abuse treatment; to seek employment and/or educational/vocational training; and to secure a residence upon release. Social furloughs are intended to allow prisoners who are close to release to visit their immediate families to renew and stabilize family relationships and bonds. They also allow the prisoners to begin the adjustment process of transitioning from institutional behavior to responsible behavior in the community by giving them opportunities to practice ordinary life skills. Inmates requesting social furloughs are carefully screened and processed to meet eligibility requirements. All participants are thoroughly counseled with detailed instructions and are closely monitored while on furlough. Future social furloughs are based on successful participation.

VERMONT

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Vermont
P.O. Box 277, Montpelier, VT 05601
802-223-6304
info@acluvt.org

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates several specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project*. Go to the National Resources section for more information.

Legal Services of Vermont
274 North Winooski Ave., Burlington, Vermont 05401
1-800-889-2047

Legal Services of Vermont works to connect clients with a full-service attorney through the Vermont Volunteer Lawyers Project, the South Royalton Legal Clinic, Vermont Legal Aid, or Vermont Protection & Advocacy

New England Innocence Project
1035 Cambridge St., Suite 28A, Cambridge, MA 02141
617-945-0762
intake@newenglandinnocence.org

New England Innocence Project works to correct and prevent wrongful convictions throughout New England. NEIP reviews claims of innocence from people found guilty of crimes they did not commit in any of the six New England states.

Prisoners' Rights Office
6 Baldwin St., 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT 05633-3301
802-828-3194

The Prisoners' Rights Office provides limited assistance with civil rights actions, post-conviction relief, habeas corpus, prison conditions, medical issues, releases, direct referrals, parole revocation, prison disciplinary matters. Services limited to Vermont.

Vermont Catholic Charities, Inc.
55 Joy Dr., South Burlington, VT 05403
802-658-6110 ext. 1312
info@vermontcatholic.org

Vermont Catholic Charities provides one-on-one pastoral counseling, family visitation, inmate supervised passes, and referral services to VT inmates, ex-offenders, and their families. Assists inmates in transition back to the community with employment and housing. Inmates may speak to Deacon Steve Ratte when he visits prisons.

Vermont Department of Corrections
Mailing: 103 South Main St., Waterbury, VT 05401
Physical: 426 Industrial Ave. Williston, VT 05495
802-951-5003

Provides parent education, self-help support group, information, referrals, group activities for children, family reunification support, family therapy, public education, and advocacy.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Legal Advocacy

Advocates for Inmates
475-766-7912
info@advocatesforinmates.com

Advocates for Inmates provides national and local resources related to inmate corrections, prisoner rights, and prisoner advocacy.

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
125 Broad St., 18th floor, New York, NY 10004
212-549-2500

The ACLU is not a resource for handling individual convictions or problems, unless related to conditions of confinement. The ACLU operates a number of specific projects, including the *AIDS Education Project* of the *National Prison Project*, and the *Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* of the ACLU.

- *The National Prison Project of the ACLU (NPP)* handles class action suits involving prison conditions and related issues in state and federal institutions. Litigation is usually limited to cases involving major class actions challenging prison conditions or otherwise of national significance. They also perform advocacy for criminal justice reform and educate the public on the government's prison policies. The quarterly NPP Journal is available to prisoners for $2 per year.
- *The AIDS Education Project* serves as a resource center to provide educational and legal information regarding HIV in prison. Assists prison HIV support groups, peer education programs, offers referrals. Publishes *AIDS and Prisons: The Facts for Inmates and Officers*, in English and Spanish.
- *The Gay and Lesbian Rights Project* handles discrimination issues involving the rights of gays and lesbians. Contact should first be made through the state ACLU affiliates, or online at https://www.aclu.org/secure/report-lgbthiv-discrimination?ms=web_LGBTintake

Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
4400 Market St., Oakland, CA 94608
415-255-7036
info@prisonerswithchildren.org

LSPC is an advocacy group, focusing on female prisoners and their families, and on the role of race in incarceration. They provide information, legal advice and referrals. Their most popular manual, the Incarcerated Parents' Manual is also available in Spanish and, along with other materials of interest, may be requested through the mail.

Rights Behind Bars
416 Florida Avenue NW, #26152, Washington, DC 20001
202-455-4399

Rights Behind Bars is a non-profit legal advocacy organization working alongside incarcerated people to challenge the cruel and inhumane conditions of confinement.

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Main, Washington, D.C. 20530
202-514-4609
TTY: 202-514-0716

Enforces the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA), protecting residents of institutions from conditions that deprive them of their constitutional rights. Also enforces Title III of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits race discrimination in public facilities. The Special Litigation Section has been active in prisoners' rights cases. They focus on conditions of confinement, law enforcement misconduct, and access to reproductive health facilities and places of religious worship.

Legal Resources and Information

Columbia Human Rights Law Review—Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual
435 West 116th St., New York, NY 10027
212-854-1601
Jlm.board.mail@gmail.com

The JLM is a handbook developed for inmates, to inform them of their legal rights and how to secure them. The JLM explains procedures and legal jargon, and reports on important legal developments. The Manual and Supplement are available to inmates for $35, and can be purchased by contacting Columbia Human Rights Law Review. They can also be downloaded for free at http://www3.law.columbia.edu/hrlr/jlm/toc/. A Spanish version of the manual is in progress.

Equal Justice Initiative
122 Commerce Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104
334-269-1803
intake@eji.org

Equal Justice Initiative provides legal representation to people who have been illegally convicted, unfairly sentenced, or abused in state jails and prisons. We challenge the death penalty and excessive punishment, and they provide re-entry assistance to formerly incarcerated people.

First Step Alliance
862-294-0355
info@firststepalliance.org

First Step Alliance is a non-profit organization committed to charitable and educational causes that help advance successful reentry and sustainable financial independence for justice-involved individuals.

Freedom Fund
1730 S Federal Hwy #311, Delray Beach, FL 33483
786-233-8969
info@lgbtqfund.org

LGBTQ Freedom Fund pays pretrial bail in Florida and immigration bond in any U.S. state, focusing on LGBTQ individuals. In tandem they fight to address the disproportionate rate and harm of imprisonment of LGBTQ individuals.

HEARD
P.O. Box 1160, Washington, D.C. 20013
202-436-9278
advocacy@heardadvocates.org

HEARD supports deaf/disabled individuals to fight for their rights, access emotional and legal support in their language, learn about prison and police abolition, and access financial support while inside and in the crucial months after release.

How To Justice
11 South 12th St, Richmond, VA 23219
919-727-8368

How To Justice provides easy-to-read answers to your questions about your rights in prison, including conditions, medical care, visitation, and rights to communication

Human Rights Watch Prisoner Resources
www.hrw.org/prison-resources

A listing by state of resources for prisoners and ex-offenders.

National Lawyers Guild
P.O. Box 1266, New York, NY 10009-8941
212-679-5100

Publishes Jailhouse Lawyers Handbook and Women's Appendix.

Prison Legal News
P.O. Box 1151, Lake Worth, FL 33460
561-360-2523
pwright@prisonlegalnews.org

Prison Legal News is a monthly publication reviewing and analyzing prisoner rights, court rulings and reporting on prisoner news. Inmates may contact Prison Legal News to obtain brochures and other information about the publication.

Prison Policy Initiative
PO Box 127
Northampton, MA 01061
www.prisonpolicy.org, http://www.prisonpolicy.org/contact.html

Provides information and resources for prisoners including lists of legal resources for prisoners by state.

Prison Activist Resource Center (PARC)
P.O. Box 70447, Oakland, CA 94612
510-893-4648
info@prisonactivist.org
www.prisonactivist.org/resources

PARC is a prison abolitionist group committed to exposing and challenging all forms of institutionalized racism, sexism, able-ism, heterosexism, and classism, specifically within the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC). PARC believes in building strategies and tactics that build safety in our communities without reliance on the police or the PIC. PARC produces a directory that is free to prisoners upon request and seeks to work in solidarity with prisoners, ex-prisoners, their friends and families.

Prisoners' Self-Help Litigation Manual (4th edition)
Customer Service: Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Rd., Cary, NC 27513
1-800-445-9714
custserv.us@oup.com

This excellent resource includes information on federal and state legal systems, legal terminology, legal research and procedures. It also has directories of courts and legal assistance organizations. The book can be purchased from the publisher directly, or from where books are elsewhere sold.

Solitary Watch
PO Box 11374, Washington, D.C. 20008
info@solitarywatch.org

Solitary Watch works to expose and oppose the use of solitary confinement in U.S. prisons and jails.

Political Advocacy

Amnesty International, U.S.A.
311 W 43rd St., 7th Floor, New York, NY 10036
212-807-8400
aimember@aiusa.org

Amnesty International is a worldwide movement working for international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of prisoners of conscience, and advocates for fair trial for political prisoners. It opposes the death penalty, torture, and other inhumane treatment of prisoners. For prisoners who have been ill-treated by prison personnel, Amnesty provides a "Questionnaire on Torture and Ill-treatment."

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE)
P.O. Box 2310, National Capitol Station, Washington, D.C. 20013-2310
202-789-2126

CURE organizes prisoners, their families, and other concerned citizens to achieve reforms in the criminal justice system. Does not take on individual cases. Publishes a newsletter 3 times a year, $2 subscription for prisoners, $5 for families.

Social Services & Counseling

Fortune Society
29-76 Northern Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11101
212-691-7554
info@fortunesociety.org

Fortune Society is an ex-offender self-help program offering general counseling, HIV/AIDS programming, court advocacy, public education, alternative to incarceration services, housing placement assistance, career development, treatment services, also targets at-risk youth. Publishes Fortune News, free to inmates upon request.

Just Detention International
3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340, Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-384-1400, FAX 213-384-1411 (collect calls accepted)
info@justdetention.org
Resource Guide: http://www.justdetention.org/en/resourceguides/rg_national.aspx
Legal mail address for incarcerated individuals:
Cynthia Totten, Esq.
CA Attorney Reg. #199266
3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Just Detention International is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention. JDI works to hold government officials accountable for prisoner rape; promote public

attitudes that value the dignity and safety of inmates; and ensure that survivors of this violence have access to the help they need. JDI's *Resource Guide for Survivors of Rape Behind Bars* lists legal and psychological counseling resources for survivors who are still incarcerated, those who have been released, and loved ones on the outside who are searching for ways to help. JDI's Survivor Speakers List gives survivors a chance to work with journalists and policymakers to tell the real story about sexual assault behind bars. Finally, the JDI website features stories from survivors and information for family members, while a listserv provides subscribers with news reports and opportunities for activism.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—National Prison Project
4805 Mt. Hope Dr., Baltimore, MD 21215
410-580-5777

The National Prison Project of the NAACP's mission is to begin rehabilitation for inmates upon incarceration. Programs are developed to fit institutional needs, and generally aim to provide inmates with the life skills necessary to succeed after release and thereby reduce recidivism. Some of the programs may focus on literacy, resume writing, math, etc. Inmates who are indigent may also be referred to lawyers who will take their case pro bono. The National Prison Project is present only in some states, including Maine and New York. For information, inmates should contact their warden, or the NAACP directly.

Project Lets
401-400-2905
info@projectlets.org

Project Lets specializes in building just, responsive, and transformative peer support collectives and community mental health care structures that do not depend on state-sanctioned systems that trap our folks in the medical/prison-industrial complex.

TGI Justice Project
370 Turk St #370, San Francisco, CA 94102
415-554-8491
info@tgijp.org

TGI Justice Project is a group of transgender, gender-variant and intersex people, inside and outside of prisons, jails, and detention centers, creating a united family in the struggle for survival and freedom

Family Resources

** An asterisk means we do not have information about their work with members of the LGBTQ+ community*

Project Avary
P.O. Box 150088, San Rafael, CA 94915
415-457-8799
https://www.projectavary.org

Helps children heal from the impacts of having a parent in prison. They do this by surrounding youth with a long-term, supportive community of peer and adult mentors and by empowering them with leadership development skills so they can break free from generational cycles of trauma and incarceration.

Forever Family
P.O. Box 89308, Atlanta, GA 30312
404-223-1200
mharris@foreverfam.org
https://www.foreverfam.org

Focuses on providing services to children with incarcerated parents and their families.

Friends Outside
P.O. Box 4085, Stockton, CA 95204
209-955-0701
http://www.friendsoutside.org

Provides services to incarcerated and reentering people, their families, and communities.

HIV/AIDS Resources

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
To order publications:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Rd, Atlanta, GA 30333
1-800-CDC-INFO

The CDC is a government agency that works with national, state, and local organizations to conduct research, publish findings, and develop programs to promote health and well-being. One of the centers within the CDC is the *National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP).* The CDC publishes information on policy, prevention, surveillance, co-infection, and testing among other topics.

National Commission on Correctional Health Care
1145 W. Diversey Pkwy., Chicago, IL 60614
773.880.1460
info@ncchc.org

Publishes standards for health services for jails, prisons, and juvenile confinement facilities, develops programs for training correctional and health care personnel, acts as a clearinghouse on correctional health care, and conducts research on selected aspects of correctional health care. Publishes a quarterly newspaper, *CorrectCare*, which is available free to prison libraries, but cannot be sent free to individual prisoners.

National Minority AIDS Council—Prison Initiative
1931 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009
202-483-6622
communications@nmac.org

The Prison Initiative HIV/AIDS education, technical assistance, and national advocacy programs publish materials for inmates, care providers, and case managers. Inmates can also access a Resource List for HIV and Corrections, updated bimonthly by contacting the Prison Initiative in the Treatment Department of the MNAC.

POZ
Smart + Strong, 157 Columbus Ave, Suite 525, New York, NY 10023-6082
General Phone: 212-242-2163
Magazine Single Subscription Phone: 800-973-2376

Published by Smart & Strong, POZ is a magazine about the HIV epidemic, including profiles and updates on treatment. It is published in English and Spanish. Contact POZ for copies.

Steps to Take If You Are Being Harassed in Prison

Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 124, Section 1, requires the Commissioner of Corrections to investigate claims of misconduct in jails and prisons.

If you feel that you are being harassed, by either your fellow inmates or by prison officials, you may file a grievance. A grievance is a complaint about your conditions or treatment (see sample grievance attached).

The Department of Corrections non-discrimination policy does not include sexual orientation, but Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 127, Section 32 requires that all prisoners be treated "equally and with kindness."

Prison regulations are found in the Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR). As a prisoner, you must be allowed to see the CMR if you ask for it.

***103 CMR 934 covers your legal rights*. Some of the things you should know are:**

- There must be a written policy explaining your right to speak with a lawyer.
- There must be a written policy explaining your right to seek help from the Court or government officials.
- There must be a program to help you prepare and file legal papers. This help can either be a law library and supplies to fill out legal papers, or a program that lets you meet with a lawyer to discuss your problem.
- There must be a grievance policy to allow you to make complaints and get those complaints heard and solved.
- You CANNOT be punished for filing a complaint or grievance.

Prison Visitation Rights

The Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) covers prison visitation policy.
If you are incarcerated in a state facility, 103 CMR 483.16 applies.
If you are in a county facility, 103 CMR 950.05 applies.
These regulations must be made available to you if you ask to see them.

The rules do not limit who may visit, but they do allow prison officials broad discretion to end or forbid visits. The rule states that "visitors shall conduct themselves reasonably and not engage in physical contact with inmates that is excessive or inappropriate for a public place." (103 CMR 483.15). A homophobic prison official could try to use this rule to prevent a prisoner's same-sex lover from visiting.

If someone visits you (partner, lover, friend) and, after some physical contact (a kiss, hug), his/her visitation rights are suspended or ended completely, you and your visitor do have a right to attempt to get visitation rights restored.

The VISITOR:

- Must be given a reason for the suspension or ban on visiting, in most cases.
- Must be told by the prison superintendent, within a week, if and when s/he may start visiting again, or whether there will be restrictions on visiting.
- May, within fifteen working days, seek a review of the visiting restrictions and get a hearing with the Superintendent.

The INMATE:

- Must get a copy of the prison superintendent's decision.
- May file a grievance. A grievance is a complaint about your conditions or treatment (see sample grievance attached).

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Sample Grievance

I, John/Jane Inmate, was harassed/threatened/physically attacked because of my sexual orientation by [name(s) of person(s) involved] on [date(s) that the act(s) took place].

When you write a grievance, be sure to include as much information as you can remember. Include in your complaint:

- what happened
- when it happened
- who did it
- where it happened
- what was said by the attacker(s)—paraphrase if you do not remember the exact quote.
- who saw it happen
- why you think it happened

If you reported harassment to any prison official(s) previously, indicate who you told, when, and what they did or did not do about it.