

V2A Resource Sheet

Black Lives Matter Philadelphia

<https://www.facebook.com/blacklivesmatterphilly>

The official Black Lives Matter chapter in Philadelphia. For information, please contact

blacklivesmatterphilly@gmail.com

<https://twitter.com/BLMPhilly>

Philadelphia Student Union

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

The Philadelphia Student Union exists to build the power of young people to demand a high quality education in the Philadelphia public school system. We are a youth led organization and we make positive changes in the short term by learning how to organize to build power. We also work toward becoming life-long learners and leaders who can bring diverse groups of people together to address the problems that our communities face.

Youth United Change

<http://youthunitedforchange.org/>

YUC is an organization dedicated to developing young leaders in Philadelphia and empowering them to improve the quality of their education and their communities to better meet their needs. We do this through a process of institution-based, community organizing. Meaning a diverse group of students come together to identify common concerns in their school or community and take collective action to address their concerns.

Caucus of Working Educators

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

CWE is an activist sub-group of the Philadelphia teacher's union attempting to wrest control of the union away from long-time leaders that many believe are complicit in the degradation of public education in the city. Broadly, they are fighting for transparency, accountability, increased funding, decreased testing, education for all, and a strong contract.

New Sanctuary Movement

<http://sanctuaryphiladelphia.org/>

Through grassroots organizing led by affected immigrants, we fight and win immigrant justice campaigns with our members across nationality, faith, class, and immigration status. Our community organizing in Philadelphia builds power in immigrant communities to alter the power imbalance, organizes direct action campaigns, builds the individual and collective capacity of the immigrant community and brings immigrant and ally communities together in solidarity to work for change.

MOVE

<http://onamove.com/>

MOVE emerged in the early 1970s as a revolutionary group in Philadelphia. Their main objective is respect for all beings through acknowledging the worth and importance of all living beings. On May 13, 1985 the MOVE house was bombed by the city of Philadelphia, killing 11 people including 5 children. In 2016, MOVE is republishing their book *25 Years on the MOVE* and opening a space to give youth home renovation skills while also teaching them about social justice issues.

Asian Americans United

<http://aaunited.org>

Asian Americans United's mission is to build leadership in Asian American communities to build our neighborhoods and unite against oppression. AAU has worked in Philadelphia's Asian American communities and in broader multiracial coalitions around quality education, youth leadership, anti-Asian violence, immigrant rights, and folk arts and cultural maintenance.

VietLead

<https://www.facebook.com/vietlead>

Vietlead is a new grassroots community organization that is serving the Vietnamese community in Philadelphia and South Jersey composed of members who seek to build a community, cultural, and people-centered vision for self determination. Cultivate. Inspire. Lead. Create Community.

Juntos

<http://vamosjuntos.org>

Juntos is a community-led, Latinx immigrant organization in South Philadelphia fighting for our human rights as workers, parents, youth, and immigrants. We believe that every human being has the right to a quality education and the freedom to live with dignity regardless of immigration status.

1Love Movement

<https://1lovemovement.wordpress.com>

1Love Movement is a community network of grassroots organizers that work together to unite Southeast Asian communities to organize for power, so families can protect their human rights and live with dignity. 1Love Movement organizes communities through four points of action: Leadership Development, Coalition Building, Policy Advocacy & Political Education.

Coalition to Abolish Death By Incarceration - CADBI

<https://www.facebook.com/CADBIphilly>

We are working to build a mass movement both inside and outside of prison to take a stand against DBI and other harsh sentencing practices. To do this, we have established three core demands for legislative change:

1. Parole eligibility after no more than 25 years;
2. Presumptive parole: people are paroled at their eligibility date, unless the prison administration can prove serious unresolved disciplinary infractions;
3. A maximum sentencing law that will stop the commonwealth from incarcerating people for indefinite periods of time.

Reconstruction Inc

<http://www.reconstructioninc.org>

The mission of Reconstruction Incorporated is to effect social change by forging individuals that were formerly incarcerated into an organized community of leaders working together to transform the criminal justice system, their communities and themselves.

Malcolm X Grassroots Movement - Philly Chapter

<https://mxgm.org>

The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement is an organization of Afrikans in America/New Afrikans whose mission is to defend the human rights of our people and promote self-determination in our community by any means necessary! Attended the National Movement for Black Lives convening in Cleveland, sponsored by BYP100, BLM, Project South, Color of Change, Advancement Project, Blackout Collective, and OBS

Philly Chapter of Boricua Human Rights Network

https://www.facebook.com/phi.nbhrn/info?tab=page_info

The National Boricua Human Rights Network is an organization dedicated to defending the human rights of the Puerto Rican community in the US. The National Boricua Human Rights Network (NBHRN) is an organization composed of Puerto Ricans in the US and their supporters that educates and mobilizes the Puerto Rican community, the broader Latin American community and other people of conscience regarding issues of justice, peace and human rights. Our priorities include: (1) The decontamination, development, and return of the island of Vieques to its people; (2) The release of the remaining Puerto Rican political prisoners; (3) An end to the continuing political repression and criminalization of progressive sectors of the Puerto Rican community.

Philly Coalition for REAL Justice

<https://www.facebook.com/PhillyforREALjustice>

Philadelphia based #Blacklivesmatter activists fighting against police terror.

POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness Empower & Rebuild)

<http://powerinterfaith.org/>

POWER uses our belief in God's goodness and compassion for the suffering to organize and empower the people of Philadelphia to live and work together so that God's presence is known on every block, that people work together to transform the conditions of their neighborhood, and that life flourishes for all.

★ The Nanticoke Leni-Lenape Tribal Nation

<http://nanticoke-lenapetribalnation.org>

The Nanticoke Leni-Lenape Tribal Nation is the northernmost of three interrelated tribes of the area of the Delaware Bay. We are a made up of the American Indian families from southern New Jersey and the Delmarva Peninsula who remained in our ancestral homeland after many of our relations were removed to the west and to the north as far as Oklahoma and Canada. Centuries ago, our Lenape and Nanticoke ancestors were among those locally referred to as

“Cohansies,” “The Indians of Cohansey Bridge,” Alloways,” “Little Siconese,” among other names.

Human Rights Coalition - Philly

www.hrcoalition.org

We work towards putting an end to abuse, torture, and unjust practices in U.S. prisons and the “above- the-law” attitude and actions of the criminal justice system. We provide a safe place for family members of prisoners where there is no embarrassment associated with having a loved one in prison; HRC members are facing the same stigma, restrictions, dilemmas that you are going through this very minute. Our mission is to empower prisoners’ families to be leaders in prison organizing and to teach them how to advocate on behalf of their loved ones in prison and expose the inhumane practices of the Department of Corrections to the general public.

215 People’s Alliance

<http://215pa.com/>

FULLY FUNDED PUBLIC SCHOOLS for all children, and an elected School Board

A \$15 MINIMUM WAGE for all workers, and tax policies that make wealthy corporations pay their fair share

AN END TO STOP AND FRISK policing, and a criminal justice system that is fair to all people. 215 People’s Alliance is a multi-racial collaborative dedicated to fighting for equity and justice in Philadelphia - at the ballot box, and in the streets. We are parents and neighbors, teachers and students, union members and block captains, cab drivers and cashiers working to unite a broad sector of Philadelphians to make meaningful change.

Bread and Roses Phoebus Criminal Justice Fund

<http://breadrosesfund.org/grants-scholarships/phoebus-criminal-justice-initiative/>

Provides grants to organizations working to change the criminal justice system

Books Through Bars

<http://booksthroughbars.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/booksthroughbars/>

<https://twitter.com/btbphilly>

We distribute books and other publications to prisoners. Their *Address This!* project aims to provide innovative, radical, educational courses via correspondence to individuals currently incarcerated throughout Pennsylvania. The program prioritizes the participation of those being held in solitary confinement and/or maximum security facilities who are otherwise frequently excluded from educational programming.

Hearts on a Wire Collective

<https://www.scribd.com/user/78046739/Hearts-on-a-Wire#>

A group of trans and gender variant people and those working in solidarity with them both inside and outside of prisons. They publish quarterly ‘zines and provide needs-responsive support,

such as giving grants to individuals re-entering Philadelphia from prison, to the T/GV community.

X-Offenders for Community Empowerment

<https://www.facebook.com/XOffendersForCommunityEmpowerment>

We organize formerly convicted people to reduce recidivism, prevent violent crime, and help returning citizens access essential services. Their *Pardon Me* clinics, which are being spread to new areas each year, teach people how to get convictions cleared from their permanent records. They are launching a public education campaign to organize support for Ban-the-Box legislation and amendments, and to inform community residents of their rights under Ban-the-Box and the EEOC.

Youth Sentencing & Reentry Project (YSRP)

<http://ysrp.org/>

YSRP works to transform the experiences of children prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system. The ultimate goal of YSRP is to eliminate the practice of sentencing children as adults. Their *Family Advocacy Movement (FAM)* program creates peer support groups for family members of youth who are incarcerated or facing incarceration in the adult criminal justice system. *FAM* takes a participant-led, trauma-informed approach to building community among women with incarcerated loved ones. *FAM* members will also engage in advocacy work for policy change on behalf of young people in the justice system in order to dismantle the practice of charging children as adults.

Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project (YASP)

<http://www.yasproject.com/>

YASP holds art and poetry workshops for youth incarcerated in adult jails. YASP is raising awareness about the school-to-prison pipeline and building a youth movement to resist and dismantle it. They are working to repeal Pennsylvania Act 33, which allows youth to be charged as adults.

Urban Creators

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

A grassroots organization that inspires inner-city neighborhoods to transform neglected landscapes into dynamic safe-spaces that foster connectivity, self-sufficiency, and innovation. Their *ReGeneration* program is a neighborhood-based approach to reducing youth violence, mass incarceration, and recidivism among young African American youth. By empowering at-risk and formerly incarcerated youth as pioneers in the revitalization of their own communities, Urban Creators hopes to improve public safety & civic engagement, build equity and resiliency at the grassroots level, and empower a generation of young leaders, innovators, and urban creators.

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

<https://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/>

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit available to employers for hiring individuals from certain [target groups](#) who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. WOTC joins other workforce programs that incentivize workplace diversity and facilitate access to good jobs for American workers.

Why Not Prosper

<http://whynotprosper.wix.com/whynotprosper>

A faith-based grassroots organization founded by a formerly incarcerated woman, Rev. Michelle Simmons. Why Not Prosper's services help formerly incarcerated women to find employment and housing, re-unite with their children, and not return to prison. Their *Woman's Advocacy Program* for formerly incarcerated women consists of education, advocacy, and an internship at Riverside Correctional Facility. The goals of the program are to teach women how to be advocates, educate advocates on the ASFA law, and make a difference in the family reunification process.

Impact Services

<http://www.impactservices.org/reentry-services-for-ex-offenders/>

Impact now operates in seven locations in Philadelphia where its staff of 120 provide a range of Employment and Training, Supportive Housing, Community and Economic Development services to over 17,000 needy Philadelphians each year. Helping TANF recipients and Ex-offenders re-entering the community to find work and become self-sufficient are service areas that also keep growing in response to community need.

National Hire Network

<http://www.hirenetwork.org/content/pennsylvania>

Established by the Legal Action Center in 2001, the National **H**elping **I**ndividuals with criminal records **R**e-enter through **E**mployment (H.I.R.E.) Network is both a national clearinghouse for information and an advocate for policy change. The goal of the National H.I.R.E. Network is to increase the number and quality of job opportunities available to people with criminal records by changing public policies, employment practices and public opinion. HIRE accomplishes these goals by providing leadership on [public policy advocacy](#), providing [technical assistance](#) and training on overcoming labor market barriers based on a criminal record, and promoting collaboration between individuals directly affected by the criminal justice system, advocates, practitioners, researchers, and policymakers working to improve the employability of people with criminal records. HIRE also supports employers in figuring out how to hire re-entrants.

Legal Action Center

<https://lac.org/>

The Legal Action Center is the only non-profit law and policy organization in the United States whose sole mission is to fight discrimination against people with histories of addiction, HIV/AIDS, or criminal records, and to advocate for sound public policies in these areas. LAC also runs the National HIRE Network and provides [free issue-specific advocacy toolkits](#) for those looking to champion relevant public policy initiatives.

Sisters Returning Home

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

Advocates for social justice on behalf of families, inmates, and loved-ones who are incarcerated. They will implement a Family Advisory Board to work on issues between families and prison officials, host a Women's Reentry Summit, and organize a Legislation Day at the state capitol to discuss policies around criminal justice.

Pennsylvania Prison Society

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

A social justice organization advocating on behalf of prisoners, their families, and formerly incarcerated individuals. They are starting a peer support group for returning citizens. The group will offer a forum for discussion and the exchange of information, promote collective activism focused on criminal justice issues, and provide action steps to effectively facilitate systemic change.

Roots2Rise

<http://www.roots2rise.com>

Roots2Rise started as a vehicle to teach inmates yoga and mindfulness at Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility in Philadelphia the summer of 2015. Since then we have partnered with various organizations, schools, and communities in the city and suburbs to bring our service to as many people as possible.

Legal Action Center

<https://lac.org/toolkits/Introduction.htm>

Advocacy toolkits to combat legal barriers facing individuals with criminal records.

Online Petitions

Demilitarize Police Petition by Roots Action to U.S. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter

The use of war weapons and tactics in local police departments fuels the widespread mentality that police in black and brown communities are at war against the people they are meant to serve.

https://act.rootsaction.org/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=12491

A VISION FOR BLACK LIVES: POLICY DEMANDS FOR BLACK POWER, FREEDOM & JUSTICE

<https://campaigns.organizefor.org/efforts/m4bl>