

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations

William Johnston, Program Officer, U.S. Programs Justice Fund

Presidential Review: Scheduled May 21, 2015

Grantmaking - 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4)

Over the period covered by this review (2011 through 2014), the Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations portfolio included 28 organizations receiving a total of 64 grants. Twenty-three of these grants were explicitly time limited and/or one time grants, and 4 were tie-off grants to longstanding grantee organizations and/or projects that were no longer a strong fit with refinements in the portfolio's objectives or strategies. While the majority (60) of the portfolio's grants over this period were 501(c)(3) public charity grants, the portfolio has included 4 targeted 501(c)(4) grants. Currently, the portfolio includes 21 organizations with 23 active grants. Please see the following "Grantmaking At A Glance" and "Grants List" for a full picture of the portfolio's grantmaking for 2011 through 2014.

Research

In 2013, to inform the Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations portfolio planning and to help strengthen its grantees' communications, we retained Lake Research Partners to conduct a national research project, including focus groups in four cities and a nationwide survey of 2016 likely voters, on the public's responsiveness to the goal of reducing incarceration by 50% and to a range of strategies for significantly reducing incarceration.

Convening

In 2013, to help strengthen Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations portfolio grantees' communications and to encourage an ongoing conversation in the field about the need for coordinated communications strategy, we convened Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations portfolio grantees and allied to present the findings of Lake Research Partners' national research project and to discuss field communications needs.

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grantmaking At A Glance (2011 through 2014)

Strategy	Grantee Organization	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Totals
National Field Organizations							
Advancing Sentencing Reform	The Sentencing Project		700,000		600,000		1,452,423
	(Supplemental: National Campaign Development)	152,423					
	Families Against Mandatory Minimums Foundation		600,000		600,000		1,200,000
	Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.	500,000		600,000			1,400,000
	(Supplemental: Brave Governors/General Support)			50,000	250,000		
¹	Council of State Governments	500,000		250,000			1,000,000
	(Justice Fund Core)			250,000			
	Justice Policy Institute	300,000		250,000	250,000		800,000
²	American Civil Liberties Union, Inc.				3,000,000	8,000,000	11,000,000
							\$ 16,852,423
Building Field Sophistication & Capacity							
Communications	Brave New Films			200,000	500,000		700,000
State Advocacy Capacity	The Tides Center: Justice Strategies		400,000		400,000		800,000
Diversion	Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law		500,000		400,000		1,275,000
	(Supplemental: Law Enforcement Diversion)	375,000					
Diversion	Corporation for Supportive Housing		400,000		150,000		550,000
Financial Structures	Grassroots Leadership, Inc.	300,000		300,000			600,000
Financial Structures	Partnership for Working Families		300,000	300,000			600,000
New Voices: Crime Survivors	Partnership for Safety and Justice	200,000		100,000	300,000		600,000
New Voices: People of Color ³	Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.	100,000		200,000			800,000
	(Co-funded)	400,000		100,000			
New Voices: People of Color ⁴	A Better Way Foundation, Inc.	100,000		45,000	47,000		292,000
	(Co-funded)	100,000					
Formerly Incarcerated Led	Human Rights Defense Center	200,000		50,000			250,000
Prison-Based Gerrymandering ⁵	Dēmos: A Network for Ideas and Action, Ltd.	225,000	300,000	300,000			900,000
	(Co-funded)	75,000					
Issues Affecting Women	Women's Prison Association and Home, Inc.	150,000					150,000
Solitary Confinement	National Religious Campaign Against Torture		250,000				250,000
							\$ 7,767,000

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grantmaking At A Glance (2011 through 2014)

Investment in Jurisdictions

California	⁶ The Tides Center: Californians for Safety and Justice (Justice Fund Contribution) (Supplemental: Prop 47 Implementation)	1,500,000	1,000,000	500,000	500,000	1,000,000	4,700,000
	⁷ The Advocacy Fund: Vote Safe (Proposition 47 Campaign)		350,000		1,000,000	250,000	1,600,000
	Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in California (Supplemental)	300,000		50,000	200,000	300,000	1,100,000
	⁸ (Supplemental: California Coalition)	250,000					
	⁹ NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.	250,000					250,000
Texas	Texas Criminal Justice Coalition	600,000			600,000		1,200,000
New York	Correctional Association of New York		300,000			300,000	600,000
	The Osborne Association, Inc.	200,000			200,000		400,000
Ohio	Ohio Justice and Policy Center		100,000			100,000	200,000
Federal	The Urban Institute				100,000		100,000
							\$ 10,150,000

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Justice Fund Reduce Incarceration Budget	\$ 4,202,423	\$ 3,900,000	\$ 4,245,000	\$ 4,647,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 17,994,423
Other Budgets	\$ 2,575,000	\$ -	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 8,000,000	\$ 16,775,000
Total	\$ 6,777,423	\$ 3,900,000	\$ 5,945,000	\$ 9,147,000	\$ 9,000,000	\$ 34,769,423

¹ The U.S. Programs Core and Justice Fund Reduce Incarceration budgets each contributed \$250,000 to the 2013 grant to Council of State Governments.

² The amounts indicated here for this Fund For Policy Reform, Inc., (c)(4) grant to the American Civil Liberties Union include only the outright commitment for the first two years of this eight year, \$50 million grant.

³ The 2011 and 2013 grants to the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference were co-funded. In 2011: \$100,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, \$300,000 from the Campaign for Black Male Achievement, and \$100,000 from the Drug Policy Project. In 2013: \$200,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget and \$100,000 from the Campaign for Black Male Achievement.

⁴ The 2011 grant to the A Better Way Foundation was co-funded: \$100,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, and \$100,000 from the Drug Policy Project.

⁵ The 2011 grant to Demos was co-funded: \$225,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, and \$75,000 from the Equality Fund. The Justice Fund tied this investment off in 2013.

⁶ These time-limited grants to Californians for Safety and Justice are part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Population in California. The U.S. Programs' Board contributed \$1,500,000 in 2011 and \$1,000,000 in 2013, with the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget beginning to assuming the costs starting in 2013, and contributing \$500,000, \$700,000, and \$1,000,000 in 2013, 2014, and 2015, respectively.

⁷ These 3 time-limited, Open Society Policy Center (c)(4) grants to Vote Safe are part of the Foundation Led Open Society Policy Center investments in Vote Safe are part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Population in California.

⁸ The \$250,000 time limited grant to Ella Baker Center in 2011 was part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Populations in California. The U.S. Programs' Board contributed the full amount.

⁹ The \$250,000 time limited grant to NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 2011 was part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Populations in California. The U.S. Programs' Board contributed the full amount.

Sustaining National Field Organizations Advancing Sentencing Reform

The Sentencing Project

\$600,000 over 2 years (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2016) to provide general support.

\$700,000 over 2 years (7/1/2012 to 6/30/2014) to provide general support.

\$152,423 over 15 months (10/1/2011 to 12/31/2012) to develop the framework for a coordinated multi-state collaborative effort among a broad range of advocates to reduce significantly prison populations in the United States.

Families Against Mandatory Minimums Foundation

\$600,000 over 2 years (1/1/2015 to 12/31/2016) to provide general support.

\$600,000 over 2 years (1/1/2013 to 12/31/2014) to provide general support.

Vera Institute of Justice, Inc.

\$250,000 over 10 months (9/1/2014 to 6/30/2015) to provide general support.

\$650,000 over 2 years (7/1/2013 to 6/30/2015) to support Vera Institute of Justice's Center on Sentencing & Corrections.

\$500,000 over 2 years (6/1/2011 to 5/31/2013) to support Vera Institute of Justice's Center on Sentencing & Corrections.

Council of State Governments

¹ \$500,000 over 2 years (9/1/2013 to 8/31/2015) to support the Justice Center's Justice Reinvestment Initiative.

\$500,000 over 2 years (7/1/2011 to 6/30/2013) to support the Justice Center's Justice Reinvestment Initiative.

Justice Policy Institute

\$250,000 over 1 year (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015) to provide general support.

\$250,000 over 1 year (7/1/2013 to 6/30/2014) to provide general support.

\$300,000 over 2 years (7/1/2011 to 6/30/2013) to provide general support.

American Civil Liberties Union, Inc.

² \$50,000,000 over 8 years (10/1/2014 to 9/30/2022) to support the development and deployment of state-level legislative advocacy campaigns to redefine the criminal justice system in the United States, with an emphasis on ending mass incarceration.

¹ The U.S. Programs Core and Justice Fund Reduce Incarceration budgets each contributed \$250,000 to the 2013 grant to Council of State Governments.

² The amount indicated here for this Fund For Policy Reform, Inc., (c)(4) grant includes both the outright commitment and conditional payments of the grant.

Building Field Sophistication & Capacity

Communications

Brave New Films

\$500,000 over 2 years (1/1/2015 to 12/31/2016) to support Brave New Films' national multimedia public education campaigns designed to educate and engage people on a broad array of mass incarceration issues and to advance policies focused on community-based solutions for increasing public safety and reducing the nation's reliance on incarceration.

\$200,000 over 1 year (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014) to work with advocates across the country to educate and engage people on a broad array of mass incarceration issues and to advance policies focused on community-based solutions for reducing crime and the nation's reliance on incarceration.

State Advocacy Capacity

The Tides Center: Justice Strategies

\$400,000 over 2 years (1/1/2015 to 12/31/2016) to support the Justice Strategies project's nonpartisan analysis and research and technical assistance to inform and support grassroots organizations, advocates, and policymakers working to reform criminal justice and immigration enforcement policies and practices in the United States, and to build organizational capacity and effectiveness by improving fundraising development and strengthening communications capacity.

\$400,000 over 2 years (1/1/2013 to 12/31/2014) to support the Justice Strategies project's nonpartisan analysis and research and technical assistance to inform and support grassroots organizations, advocates, and policymakers working to reform criminal justice and immigration enforcement policies and practices in the United States.

Diversion

Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

\$400,000 over 2 years (1/1/2015 to 12/31/2016) to address and combat the criminalization of people with mental disabilities through impact litigation, public education, and policy analysis.

\$500,000 over 2 years (1/1/2013 to 12/31/2014) to redirect public investments in incarceration toward effective mental health treatment and stable supportive housing alternatives that reduce the number of people in prison and promote successful reentry.

\$375,000 over 2 years (7/1/2011 to 12/31/2012) to redirect public investments in incarceration toward effective mental health treatment and stable supportive housing alternatives that reduce the number of people in prison and promote successful reentry.

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grants List (2011 through 2014)

Corporation for Supportive Housing

\$150,000 over 1 year (10/1/2014 to 9/30/2015) tie off grant to help communities identify and engage high utilizers of public systems and place them into supportive housing to break the cycle of repeated use of costly crisis services, shelters, and the criminal justice system.

\$400,000 over 2 years (7/1/2012 to 6/30/2014) to promote public reinvestments and systems integration across criminal justice, human service, and housing sectors to create and sustain supportive housing to break the cycle of repeated use of costly crisis services, shelters, and the criminal justice system.

Financial Structures: Privatization

Grassroots Leadership, Inc.

\$300,000 over 2 years (5/1/2013 to 4/30/2015) to provide general support.

\$300,000 over 2 years (5/1/2011 to 4/30/2013) to provide general support.

Partnership for Working Families

\$300,000 over 2 years (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2015) to provide campaign assistance to a broad-based national coalition focused on challenging the privatization of prisons and immigrant detention centers in the U.S.

\$300,000 over 2 years (1/1/2012 to 12/31/2013) to develop, provide campaign assistance to, and expand a diverse national coalition focused on challenging the privatization of prisons and immigrant detention centers in the U.S.

New Voices: Crime Survivors

Partnership for Safety and Justice

\$300,000 over 2 years (1/1/2015 to 12/31/2016) to provide general support.

\$100,000 over 1 year (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014) to provide general support.

\$200,000 over 2 years (5/1/2012 to 12/31/2013) to provide general support.

New Voices: Communities of Color

³ **Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.**

\$300,000 over 2 years (11/1/2013 to 10/31/2015) to support the Campaign to End the New Jim Crow, a national effort to educate and mobilize interfaith and intercultural networks including academics, local communities and church members, formerly incarcerated people and Black church prison ministries.

\$500,000 over 2 years (9/1/2011 to 8/31/2013) to launch the Campaign to End the New Jim Crow, a new racial justice movement that seeks to end the mass incarceration of people of color, particularly black men, and to forge a new moral consensus about how the United States responds to poor people of color.

³ Grants to the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference were co-funded. In 2011: \$100,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, \$300,000 from the Campaign for Black Male Achievement, and \$100,000 from the Drug Policy Project. In 2013: \$200,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget and \$100,000 from the Campaign for Black Male Achievement.

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grants List (2011 through 2014)

A Better Way Foundation, Inc.

\$47,000 over 1 year (3/1/2014 to 2/28/2015) to provide general support.

\$45,000 over 6 months (8/1/2013 to 1/31/2014) to provide general support.

⁴ \$200,000 over 2 years (9/1/2011 to 8/31/2013) to provide general support.

Formerly Incarcerated Led

Human Rights Defense Center

\$50,000 over 1 year (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014) tie-off grant to provide general support.

\$200,000 over 2 years (1/1/2012 to 12/31/2013) to provide general support.

Prison-Based Gerrymandering

Dēmos: A Network for Ideas and Action, Ltd.

\$300,000 over 1 year (11/1/2013 to 10/31/2014) tie-off grant to support the Ending Prison-Based Gerrymandering Project.

\$300,000 over 1 year (11/1/2012 to 10/31/2013) to support the Ending Prison-Based Gerrymandering Project.

⁵ \$300,000 over 1 year (11/1/2011 to 10/31/2012) to support the Ending Prison-Based Gerrymandering Project.

Issues Affecting Women

Women's Prison Association and Home, Inc.

\$150,000 over 1 year (10/1/2011 to 9/30/2013) tie-off grant to support the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice, a national center for dialogue, research, and information about criminal justice-involved women and their families.

Solitary Confinement

National Religious Campaign Against Torture

\$250,000 over 2 years (9/1/2012 to 10/31/2014) to support the Ending Solitary Confinement in the United States project.

⁴ The 2011 grant to the A Better Way Foundation was co-funded: \$100,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, and \$100,000 from the Drug Policy Project.

⁵ The 2011 grant to Dēmos was co-funded: \$225,000 from the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget, and \$75,000 from the Equality Fund.

Investment in Jurisdictions

California

⁶ **The Tides Center: Californians for Safety and Justice**

\$200,000 over 1 year (12/1/2014 to 12/31/2015) to ensure the effective implementation of Proposition 47 (The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014), a California ballot initiative, approved by voters in November 2014, that ends felony sentencing for simple drug possession and petty theft and directs financial savings to K-12 education, mental health treatment, and victims services.

\$1,500,000 over 2 years (7/1/2014 to 12/31/2015) to support The Tides Center's Californians for Safety and Justice project, which provides the infrastructure for a multi-pronged, multi-year campaign to reduce significantly corrections populations in the State of California.

\$1,500,000 over 2 years (1/1/2013 to 6/30/2014) to support The Tides Center's Californians for Safety and Justice project, which provides the infrastructure for a multi-pronged, multi-year campaign to reduce significantly corrections populations in the State of California.

\$1,500,000 over 2 years (1/1/2012 to 12/31/2013) to seed and support the first year of operations and programming of Californians for Safety and Justice, which will provide the infrastructure for a multi-pronged, multi-year campaign for reducing significantly prison populations in the State of California.

The Advocacy Fund: Vote Safe

\$250,000 over 1 month (10/1/2014 to 11/4/2014) to support the Vote Safe project's fall communications plan to advance Proposition 47 (The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014), by elevating the voices of unlikely supporters of the measure and cultural influencers through video shorts, earned media, social media and online organizing.

\$1,000,000 over 8.5 months (2/17/2014 to 11/3/2014) to win reforms in California sentencing and correctional practices that will accelerate reductions in the state's level of incarceration.

\$350,000 over 6 months (10/1/2013 to 3/31/2014) to support Vote Safe in winning reforms in California sentencing and correctional practices that will accelerate reductions in the state's level of incarceration.

⁶ These time-limited grants to Californians for Safety and Justice are part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Population in California. The U.S. Programs Board contributed \$1,500,000 in 2011 and \$1,000,000 in 2013, with the Justice Fund's Reduce Incarceration budget beginning to assume the costs starting in 2013, and contributing \$500,000, \$700,000, and \$1,000,000 in 2013, 2014, and 2015, respectively.

⁷ These 3 time-limited, Open Society Policy Center (c)(4) grants to Vote Safe are part of the Foundation Led Open Society Policy Center investments in Vote Safe are part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Population in California.

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grants List (2011 through 2014)

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in California

\$300,000 over 2 years (11/1/2014 to 10/31/2016) to provide general support.

\$200,000 over 1 year (11/1/2013 to 10/31/2014) to provide general support.

\$50,000 over 1 year (6/1/2012 to 5/31/2013) to provide general support.

⁸ \$250,000 over 6 months (11/1/2011 to 4/30/2012) to strengthen the California Partnership's capacity to participate in the development and implementation of a public education and mobilization campaign to advance cost-effective solutions that reduce excessive incarceration in California.

\$300,000 over 2 years (7/1/2011 to 6/30/2013) to provide general support.

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

⁹ \$250,000 over 1 year (3/1/2011 to 2/29/2012) to conduct nonpartisan analysis and research on the impact of California's Three Strikes Sentencing scheme and to support public education and grassroots mobilization.

Texas

Texas Criminal Justice Coalition

\$600,000 over 2 years (1/1/2014 to 12/31/2015) to provide general support.

\$600,000 over 2 years (1/1/2012 to 12/31/2013) to provide general support.

⁸ The \$250,000 time limited grant to Ella Baker Center in 2011 was part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Populations in California. The U.S. Programs' Board contributed the full amount.

⁹ The \$250,000 time limited grant to NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in 2011 was part of the Foundation Led Investment in the Campaign to Reduce Incarcerated Populations in California. The U.S. Programs' Board contributed the full amount.

Portfolio Review Elements: Reducing U.S. Incarcerated Populations
Grants List (2011 through 2014)

New York

Correctional Association of New York

\$300,000 over 2 years (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2016) to provide general support.

\$300,000 over 2 years (7/1/2012 to 6/30/2014) to provide general support.

The Osborne Association, Inc.

\$200,000 over 2 years (7/1/2013 to 6/30/2015) to support the New York Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents, which seeks to remove policies in corrections, child welfare, education and mental health systems that harm children whose parents are caught up within the criminal justice system.

\$200,000 over 2 years (7/1/2011 to 6/30/2013) to support the New York Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents, which seeks to remove policies in corrections, child welfare, education and mental health systems that harm children whose parents are caught up within the criminal justice system.

Ohio

Ohio Justice and Policy Center

\$100,000 over 2 years (8/1/2014 to 7/31/2016) to provide general support.

\$100,000 over 2 years (4/1/2012 to 3/31/2014) to provide general support.

Federal

The Urban Institute

\$100,000 over 18 months (1/1/2013 to 6/30/2014) to assess the federal corrections system and identify opportunities for reducing federal prison populations and costs.