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Ella Baker: Civil and human rights activist



Photo from Wikipedia

Ella Baker

Ella Baker was an African-American civil rights and human rights activist. She was a largely behind-the-scenes organizer whose career spanned more than five decades. In New York City and the South, she worked alongside some of the most noted civil rights leaders of the 20th century, including W. E. B. Du Bois, Thurgood Marshall, A. Philip Randolph, and Martin Luther King Jr. She also mentored many emerging activists, such as Diane Nash, Stokely Carmichael, Rosa Parks, and Bob

Moses, whom she first mentored as leaders in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

Baker criticized professionalized, charismatic leadership; she promoted grassroots organizing, radical democracy, and the ability of the oppressed to understand their worlds and advocate for themselves. She realized this vision most fully in the 1960s as the primary advisor and strategist of the SNCC.

See **ELLA** on Page 4

Black History month celebrates artists and legends



Photo from Wikipedia

Dr. Charles Drew

Dr. Charles Drew (June 3, 1904 -April 1950) was an American surgeon and medical researcher. He researched in the field of blood transfusions and improved techniques for blood storage. He developed large-scale blood banks in early World War II. This allowed medics to save thousands of lives of the Allied forces, according to Wikipedia. To protest the practice of racial segregation of donation of blood, Drew resigned his position with the American Red Cross,

which continued the practice until 1950. Drew attended medical school at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

He graduated second in his class and received a Doctor of Medicine and Master of Surgery degree. He was appointed faculty instructor at Howard University in pathology from 1935-36. Then he joined the Freedman's Hospital as an instructor in surgery and assistant surgeon.

See **DREW** on Page 6

COVID vaccinations in CDCR

By Vincent E. O'Bannon
Staff Writer

Makeshift vaccination stations were erected on San Quentin's West Block yard in late January to provide those 65 and older and other vulnerable prisoners COVID-19 vaccination shots. Medical and correctional staff were the first to receive the vaccinations earlier that month.

Medical staff are in the process

of administering the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine to the initial high-risk prisoners throughout the institution.

"It is important for everyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine," wrote Kathleen Allison, CDCR Secretary and J. Kelso, federal receiver, in a December joint memo to the incarcerated population. "Our goal is to keep everyone safe, and to control the spread so that we can safely reopen our prisons to in-person

visiting, programming and normal movement."

San Quentin suffered a major outbreak in June and by August more than 2,000 incarcerated people had tested positive for the coronavirus and 29 had died, including one correctional officer. The prison vaccine distribution and its short supply loom large in the minds of some San Quentin prisoners.

See **VACCINE** on Page 5



Photo from CDCR

Nurse administering the COVID vaccine inside CDCR

Q&A with Pulitzer Prize nominated Ear Hustle

By Marcus Henderson
Editor in Chief

Once again *Ear Hustle*, San Quentin's critically acclaimed podcast, has broken new ground. It was nominated for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for audio recording. It was one of the three finalists for the prestigious award. *This American Life* with the *Los Angeles Times* and *Vice News* won. But for a podcast produced from prison to be acknowledged at that level is an extraordinary achievement. *San Quentin*

News interviewed some on the *Ear Hustle* staff, Earlonne Woods, Nigel Poor, Pat Mesiti-Miller and inside host Rahsaan Thomas.

Q: How does it feel to have been nominated for a Pulitzer?

A: Earlonne Woods (EW): Right in the beginning of COVID during shelter in place, I kept getting texted from people in journalism, *Center for Investigative Reporting* and *Reveal*. They were like "Congratulations!" and I was like congratulations for what? And they told me how to say it: pull-its-sir.

This is just me but I'm a fan of the People's Choice Award because that's the actual listener of people who support your stuff. We've been nominated twice for the Peabody and Pulitzer. And stuff like that is cool... I don't know how this is done. I think it's a couple of people in a room. I don't believe we submitted, we could've submitted. We were I think us and two other people were nominees and that's how we found out.

See **PULITZER** on Page 5



Photo by Eddie Herena

Nigel Poor, Earlonne Woods, Antwan Banks and Pat Mesiti-Miller

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Ameelio aims to provide free communication for incarcerated families

By Vincent E. O'Bannon
Staff Writer

Billion dollar companies are making millions on the prison communication industry, primarily off of low-income families who wish to stay in touch with an incarcerated loved one.

Ameelio, a web-based communication nonprofit, launched an app giving families free online communication services to keep families and their loved ones connected.

"There are billion dollar companies that are profiting off of vulnerable and justice impacted people," said co-founder Uzoma Orchingwa to *SQ News*. "So we founded the nonprofit to usher in more innovation to help families that are impacted and are being exploited."

The web-based app provides letter writing, pictures and pre-made postcard services. Users can type letters on the website or the app. The text is then sent to a third service that prints and sends the letters, pictures or postcard to the incarcerated friend or family member.

The postcards are funny and inspirational. Some of



Photo courtesy of Ameelio
Uzoma Orchingwa



Photo courtesy of Ameelio
Gabriel Saruhashi

them have interactive games on the back that incarcerated people can pass the time with. "We were reading a lot of news about prisoners being on lockdown (due to COVID) and the lack of families being able to reach their loved ones," said Orchingwa. "So we felt the need that our tool (platform) was going to be essential during this time."

"Ameelio" comes from the word "ameliorate," meaning "to make things better," said Gabriel Saruhashi, co-founder of the company with Orchingwa, to the *Yale Daily News*.

Ameelio is made up of Yale, Harvard, and MIT college students who engineer and develop the technology. The company services have helped more than 50,000 people connect with their imprisoned loved ones throughout the United States.

"This is a good thing to offer people with loved ones locked away," wrote Gene, a user on the website, according to the *Yale News*. "I'm 75 and have palsy in my hands... so writing is very hard for me but even harder for my son to decipher. My thanks to the good folks who provide this

free service."

Orchingwa studied mass incarceration and U.S. penal policy at the University of Cambridge and is currently on leave from Yale Law School. Ameelio is his way to contribute to criminal justice reform.

"I'm really passionate about this issue. A number of my friends were incarcerated,"

"A number of my friends were incarcerated," said Orchingwa to *SQ News*. "That really drove me to better understand this problem and try and figure out how we can solve it on a political level. I'm really passionate about this issue."

"I realized that the policy solution would take a long time to come to fruition. I figure I can have more impact in the immediate term. While folks are working on

sentencing reduction or addressing the power of prosecutors. I stumbled onto the prison communication issue," he added.

Orchingwa connected with formerly incarcerated people on Facebook and has used them as advisers to get feedback on how to improve the app.

"One of our advisers, a formerly incarcerated woman who served time in federal prison, told us that one of the major challenges for incarcerated women is having to parent their kids from afar," said Orchingwa. "So she kind of implored us to include parental resources in the mobile app."

The Ameelio team understands the challenges it faces in competing with companies such as JPay, Corlink, Securus Technology, and Global Tel Link (GTL) Corporation on prison communications throughout the nation.

"You have American Securities, different private equity funds behind GTL and Securus," said Orchingwa to *SQ News*. "They ended up buying smaller phone providers and

started to consolidate the industry. They have eight percent of the market shares and are in 39 states. We are focusing our attention on 11 states because it's much easier for us to get them to sign on because they wouldn't be taking a revenue hit."

Prisons and county jails get revenue cuts from the larger companies, so they are incentivized to keep costs high, said Orchingwa.

As Ameelio grows, they are learning how to navigate the many different national correctional systems to provide their services.

"In Texas, postcards are completely banned, so users can only send letters," said Orchingwa. "Different prisons have their own arbitrary reasons for rejecting content, so our customer success is really helpful."

Ameelio is seeking to launch a free prison video-conferencing platform which would be the first in the country.

"It's about logistics. A lot of facilities were not built with accessing Wi-Fi in mind and are difficult to connect to," said Orchingwa. "So we

are actually offering not just software, but the hardware and broadband installation. Our team is very technically sound and we would offer 24-7 customer service."

The Colorado and Iowa departments of correctional systems are on the list that Orchingwa has been in discussion with. They are hoping to see connections in California as well.

Ameelio is also meeting with different colleges to present education programs on their communications platforms. This will help build a virtual and a technological bridge to their programs for the incarcerated, said Orchingwa.

"Our vision is to build free technologies to help incarcerated people to reconnect with society," said Orchingwa. "Also, pushing more states to transition into embracing free communications."

Twitter and Square CEO Jack Dorsey, Google CEO Eric Schmidt, the Robin Hood Foundation, the Mozilla Foundation and the tech nonprofit Fast Forward have been donors to the startup.

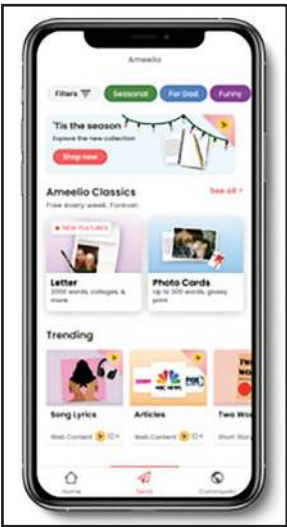


Photo courtesy of Ameelio
Ameelio phone app

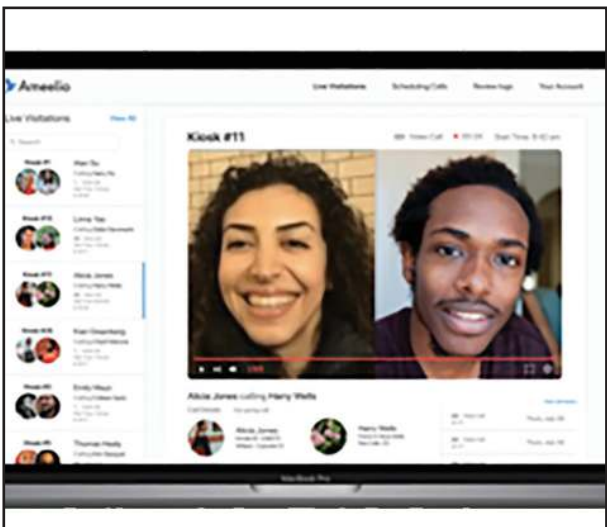


Photo courtesy of Ameelio
Prototype of video visiting app on a laptop

Families bear the cost of burying loves ones lost to COVID-19

By Amir Shabazz
Journalism Guild Writer

After losing a loved one to COVID-19, families of the incarcerated throughout the California prison system must bear the cost of burying their loved ones, according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*. “It’s a pretty disgusting policy,” said attorney Michael Bien, who represents many California prisoners about their families having to foot the bill to bury them.

The families are not the ones that committed the crimes, Bien added, according to the article.

Under current policy of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, all burial services and costs are the family’s responsibility. The state pays only

if the body is considered unclaimed; then the individual will be cremated.

Most of the grieving families feel that they are the ones being punished for the COVID-19 outbreaks and deaths inside California’s prisons. The families have to come up with the money to get their loved ones’ remains released to them. They are billed for the shipment of the body to a local mortuary and the burial site, which all adds-up, said Bien.

“Nobody has money in our family,” said Beverly Vargas, whose brother Steve García died of the virus while serving his sentence in Avenal State Prison. “Everybody’s been up all night, trying to figure out where to get the money to bury him. ...I mean, we’ll do whatever it takes—a car wash or whatever we have to do to

get the money.”

García’s burial cost more than \$16,000 to be buried at the family plot. The family had to rely on a GoFundMe page to raise the money, said the article. García died July 24. Vargas expressed her frustration with CDCR and the hospital. She and her relatives called the hospital repeatedly, but all their calls went to voicemail. She said she only heard from the prison at the initial phone call about her brother. She said the prison didn’t give her any information on his condition or how to visit him while he was hospitalized. García’s other family members traveled to the hospital from Arizona to gain answers.

“You’re fighting tooth and nail to get anybody to answer you,” Vargas told the *Chronicle*.

Another widow, Tracy Henson, received a \$900 cremation bill informing her of the cost if she wanted to claim her husband Melford Henson’s remains.

Melford was housed in the California Institution for Men in Chino. He died in May, but was scheduled to parole at the end of this year, said the August *Chronicle* article. Melford contracted the coronavirus in April. He was hospitalized and was placed on a ventilator; he died shortly thereafter.

Tracy Henson was informed that if she didn’t want her husband’s remains, her husband would be considered “unclaimed” and the state would pay, but his ashes would be scattered at sea, said the article.

“I cried my eyes out,” said Henson. “I don’t have that kind of money sitting around,” Henson paid some of the bill with her stimulus check and Melford’s sister agreed to pay the rest, said the article.

“I wanted the ashes at my home,” said Henson, about her husband. “And I have them now. They’re right next to my bed.”

The *Chronicle* obtained an itemized bill for \$1,807.57 from another grieving family member, who also lost a brother at CIM due to COVID-19. The bill was sent from a funeral home in San Diego. The bill listed: \$695 for Transfer of Remains to the Funeral Home, \$195 for Cremation Fee, \$295 for Refrigeration, \$140 Charge for Direct Cremation, and another \$195 for Mailing of Cremated Remains.

“I just want to be at peace,” said the family member, who didn’t want to be named to the *Chronicle*.

All Caring Cremations, a firm in Van Nuys, has a contract with the CIM prison. The company just picks up the bodies and temporarily stores them. They don’t perform burial services, chief operations officer Alex Matthews told the *Chronicle*.

CDCR said it tries to help the families of the deceased as much as possible.

“It is our highest priority to respect the traditional and religious beliefs of the loved ones of the incarcerated person who have passed away while in CDCR custody,” de-

partment spokeswoman Dana Simas told the *Chronicle*. “We offer families the ability to provide the burial and funeral arrangements according to their own values and traditions.”

The department is not required to reimburse the family for any expenses, but the law does allow them to seize any funds that were on the deceased person’s institutional accounts for payment towards burial or cremation, said the article.

Arkansas is the only state that offers assistance to families who cannot pay for their loved ones’ remains. The Arkansas Department of Corrections cremates the body and ships the remains for free to the family, said Cindy Murphy, a department spokeswoman to the *Chronicle*.

Families, advocates and attorney Bien vow to start litigation on the issue to the Legislature and the governor’s office. They say the policy is cruel and discriminates against those who do not have the money for sudden bills, said the article.

“This is basic human decency here,” said Bien.

Denver Broncos pledge \$250,000 to social justice programs

By Timothy Hicks
Sports Editor

The Denver Broncos are committed to social justice and reform and they are taking measures to provide resources to their cause and others.

The Broncos organization has a program called the Social Justice Fund, in which team members participate in building wealth to be distributed to many organizations across the country. After last year’s protests in honor of George Floyd

and Breonna Taylor, the Broncos administration reaffirmed its stance. “We are committed to following through for [the team] and keeping it going as we move forward,” said Broncos President and CEO Joe Ellis in an article on the team’s website.

The team takes reform seriously and they even meet regularly for discussions about how they can choose deserving organizations to donate to and ways to improve the system. The Broncos have since

added two other programs, “We Stand For” and “Broncos Inspire Change.”

The team has weekly social justice Power Hour meetings where they invite outside help and speakers to help them broaden their perspective with new ideas to formulate constructive ways for advocacy. The executive director of community development, Allie Engelken announced, “We [The Denver Broncos] were excited and honored to announce a \$250,000 commitment towards player-designated social justice programs throughout Colorado, as well as local initiatives and individual players’ communities.”

They have narrowed their commitments to focus on three areas that they are most passionate about: education and youth, bail and criminal justice reform, and community mental health resources. So far the team has distributed \$40,000 dollars each to five Colorado programs, said the article.

“It is something our players have done a great job with,” said coach (Vic) Fangio, taking pride in his team. “...I think our players — different than many people — sustained it throughout the season and have done a great job with this.”

LAPD sued for mislabeling Black and Latinx people as gang members

By Vincent E. O’Bannon
Staff Writer

The Justice X Law Group is suing the Los Angeles Police Department, alleging Black and Latinx men and women are being mislabeled as gang members.

The Black and Brown plaintiffs claim they are being criminalized under unwritten and written policies by the city’s police department, the *Los Angeles Sentinel* reported.

“At the age of 18, I was thrown into a situation where police took me from my house,” said Branden Costas. “I was facing a life sentence for something I didn’t see happen.”

For “individuals who have been misidentified as gang members—the financial and economic disadvantage is incalculable,” said the Aug. 6 article.

“We’re talking about the criminalization of people who are living in a certain neighborhood. What they (police) are saying is just because you hang around certain people, you’re a gang associate,” said attorney Christian Contreras.

“If you instill fear on someone, there can be no equality in justice with fear. We fear the criminal justice system; we fear the police and they know it,” said Stephen King, co-founder of the Justice X Law Group. “They are taking away our abilities to earn a living for (our) families.”

Thousands of Black and Latinx people may have been affected by this misclassification, noted the law group. “There are over 20 police officers under investigation and 57 charges,” according to the article.

“These cops will pay,” said King. “They know what they

are doing is wrong. ...They are trying to take away what we’re trying to build,” he told reporters at a news conference.

“This lawsuit is huge,” said civil rights attorney Austin R. Dove. “It is one of the biggest lawsuits that we ever landed in the city of Los Angeles, and it speaks to the heart of the corruption that has destroyed and devastated so many Black (and Brown) men and women. It’s more widespread than people think.”

The Justice X Law Group is committed to helping change a system it believes is failing minorities, the article reported.

“They think they are above everybody and they can mistreat everybody else because they have a badge,” said attorney Humberto Guizar about some of the mentality within the department.

San Quentin News

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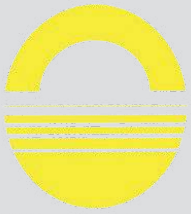
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- Limit your articles to no more than 350 words.
- Know that articles will be edited for content and length.
- The newspaper is not a medium to file grievances. (For that, use the prison appeals process.) We encourage submitting articles that are newsworthy and encompass issues that will have an impact on the prison populace.
- Please do not use offensive language in your submissions.
- Poems and artwork (cartoons and drawings) are welcomed.
- Letters to the editor should be short and to the point.

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Behind the Scenes



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CA SB 203 extends Miranda Rights protection

By Edwin E. Chavez
Journalism Guild Writer

Being handcuffed and placed in the back of a squad car or questioned by seasoned detectives as a suspect can overwhelm teens and young children. Under these encounters, teens may not fully understand their “rights” and be pressured into a false confession, according to *The Imprint-Youth and Family News*.

California Senate Bill 203 was signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom in September. The Bill extends the Miranda rights protections (the constitutional “right against self-incrimination, and the right to remain silent”) to minors 17 and younger. Minors being detained now have the right to consult a lawyer before being interrogated by law enforcement either in person, by phone or video conference, according to the article.

“No young person should make an uninformed legal de-

cision, one that could cost 20 years of his life,” said Jerome Dixon, testifying by phone to the State Senate, helping the bill pass.

Dixon testified that at age 17 he underwent a 25-hour police interrogation without legal representation. He ultimately spent 21½ years in prison, according to the article.

“Those of us who value the Constitution, rather than a blind focus on securing convictions at all costs, are bound to support the type [of law] envisioned by SB 203,” said Chesa Boudin, San Francisco district attorney, at the hearing.

Now in San Francisco, before minors are interrogated, lawyers are required to explain to them their Miranda rights.

State Sen. Steven Bradford, D-Gardena, authored the bill because he was concerned about juvenile confessions. He cited the infamous

1989 case of the Central Park Five, where a group of Black and Latino teens were falsely imprisoned for the rape of a New York City jogger. The 14-, 15- and 16-year-olds endured harsh interrogations and falsely confessed to the crime. The story was later told in the Netflix series “When They See Us.”

“Young people must know their rights, and they must not be alone when they’re being interrogated,” Bradford told the Imprint News.

Suspects younger than age 18 constituted 35% of all false confessions, according to a study cited by the North Carolina Law Review. Teenagers do not always have the mental capacity or maturity to understand Miranda rights or what giving up those rights means, found the American Psychological Association in their study, reported the *Imprint-Youth and Family News* article.

However, the bill was

called “unnecessary” by some California sheriffs and district attorneys, who say it could make certain cases more difficult to prosecute.

Boudin disputed this, saying the San Francisco office’s ability to prosecute crime has not been undermined by the new legal protections. Boudin noted with security cameras, increasing forensic evidence and electric data, prosecutors rely on confessions “less and less,” according to the article.

California and Illinois were the only states that required a lawyer to explain to youth 15 and younger what it means and the impact of giving up their Miranda rights. Other states are now working on similar bills to address police interrogates with youth in their custody.

California’s prior law extended Miranda rights protection only to those aged 15 or younger. It was scheduled to sunset in 2024, but SB 203 has now replaced it.

Interview with Emily Harris of Ella Baker Center

In her role, Emily oversees state and local campaigns, develops membership structures, and builds and coordinates relationships with other state organizations, community leaders, allies and key local and state officials.

Q: How long have you been with the Ella Baker Center (EBC)?

A: Five and a half years.

Q: What has your work looked like over the past few months during the pandemic?

A: The Center has been part of an effort with organizations across the state trying to respond to COVID. The only thing that is safe to do is to reduce the population in prison. EBC has been working on commutations. We've been continuing to push for additional commutations. And working to push for the releases of people who are medically vulnerable or elderly. The administration said that they were planning to release folks, but ultimately, that process has resulted in very few releases, which we're really frustrated about. Ella Baker Center has a legislative platform. We were able to help get elder parole expanded so that people who are 50 and have served 20 years are eligible now for an elder parole hearing. And so that also feels kind of in response to COVID.

We've been trying to do a lot of work within the Stop San Quentin Outbreak Coalition to support people in reentry, trying to raise money for reentry organizations, trying to really make sure that our folks are coming home and have what they need, and help

the governor, the administration, our legislators and the community understand that people love people in prison and are ready to support their integration back into the community. I think there's always that fear of release. You know, there's like the fear mongering has made it so that people get really worried about releasing people, and we want to push back on that narrative.

Q: You mentioned your involvement with the Stop San Quentin Outbreak Coalition, and I was curious if you could talk a little bit more about what that looks like on your end.

A: We as an organization have had a lot of relationships with people who've done time in San Quentin. We also have a lot of relationships with families who have loved ones in San Quentin. We knew if COVID got into the prisons, it was going to be a nightmare. And we knew that, if it got into San Quentin, shit would hit the fan—knowing that place and how small the cells are, and how bad the ventilation is. People love being there because of the programming, not because the living conditions are subpar. So we had a town hall meeting. We had some organizing meetings, and then it became this broad coalition of groups. We've been meeting weekly ever since, trying to be as responsive as we can to the various strategies that could make it possible to reduce the prison population.

We've been trying to help people understand how they can become part of the class

action suit. And how to navigate the court, and what's happening in the hearing. And we've been trying to do a communication strategy to be responsive to the media when they have questions about what's happening. And making sure that legislators are informed. Also trying to make sure that people inside's feedback and needs and demands are being integrated.

"We got a \$500 check from Norco, which was from food sales. And I cried. I know how much work went in that from people inside to financially support our work"

We had a group of people who have loved ones on death row. Those are folks that are very unlikely to have something like a mass release effort impact their loved ones, but those people on death row are the ones that are dying the fastest. And so we want to make sure that any reduction in the prison population would also result in a change of the conditions that those folks are living in. So,

you know, just trying to be thoughtful in those ways.

Q: What's your vision for the Ella Baker Center?

A: We need to be investing in what we know works—that is not cops and prisons. My department is the policy department. A viable solution for harm in our world—is for people to meet folks who are in prison. To meet the people I know, the people that I love, that I care about, that I organize with. It's about getting those people free, so they can speak for themselves and be out here in the world. Because I think when a legislator meets James King, so much more becomes possible, than if they meet me in terms of what they believe is possible about people who are inside and why we need to change what we're doing. That's one. Two, I want to use and leverage my power as a person who has a lot of educational privilege, has a lot of access, and navigate the system.

I don't think we can fix prisons, I do think we can temporarily do some things that are going to help keep people alive until we get them out. Whether that's like preventing more people from going in. We need health care, housing, schools—all of those have suffered because our investment has been in militarized policing, surveillance, imprisonment. All of the money that we spent is ridiculous during COVID. We didn't have enough PPE for doctors. And yet we have plenty of money for like, the zillions of armed cops in the street to respond to the protests of the cops killing



Photo by Ella Baker Center
Ella Baker Center's Policy Manager Emily Harris

people. That cost money. That's money we chose to spend there and not on our people, and not to take care of them not to give health care. As we reduce the number of people who are locked up, we move those resources. We snatch our people back and we snatch our money back.

Q: How can people inside support what you're doing at the Ella Baker Center?

A: This amazing thing happened. We got a \$500 check from Norco, which was from food sales. And I cried. I know how much work went in that from people inside to financially support our work. That is a big deal. That's like a million dollar grant from a foundation to me. I wouldn't

say that fundraising from the inside is the most important. But I just want to acknowledge that those things are incredible.

We get so much mail—people can write to us. But actually, what I need people inside to do is if we send them something useful, share it. Share it with the person in their cell, share it with the people in their dorm or on their tier. I think our approach is about wanting to get people the information that they need to be able to organize for themselves, because we can't do it for everybody. And so part of it is wanting to build a culture in prisons, where people are supporting each other. So when we work on making up handbooks or things that help people navigate the system, and people take that and then they're like, 'I wrote petitions for, you know, 50 other guys,'—do that! Support each other, help each other get free. The more people we get free, the more people we can get free. Sometimes there's like a scarcity thing. Like, if he gets out, I won't get out. And that's actually not true. If he gets out, you're more likely to get out. And so I think that's part of it, not letting prison culture of scarcity get in our way of supporting each other's freedom and having the information that we need to get free.

We want everyone to know what's going on, what bills we're working on. It's really helpful if people inside are like, hey, they're still charging us copays, or, oh, that went into effect, here's what we're seeing. The realities, there's one conversation happening in Sacramento, and then there's another conversation happening in every prison. And so I want to know what those are so that I can have concrete examples, I can use those to push the agenda forward.



Members of Ella Baker Center

ELLA BAKER

Continued from Page 1

Baker has been called “one of the most important American leaders of the twentieth century and perhaps the most influential woman in the civil rights movement.” She is known for her critiques not only of racism within American culture, but also of sexism within the civil rights movement.

Ella Baker's Legacy and Honors

- In 1984, Baker received a Candace Award from the National Coalition of 100 Black Women.
- Her papers are held by the New York Public Library.
- In 1994, Baker was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.
- In 1996, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, a non-profit strategy and action center based in Oakland, California, was founded and named for her.
- The Ella Baker School in the Julia Richman Education Complex in New York City (founded 1996)
- In 2003, The Ella Jo Baker Intentional Community Cooperative, a 15-unit cohousing community, began living together in a renovated house in Washington, DC.
- Ella J. Baker House, a community center which supports at-risk youth in Dorchester, Boston, was created at some point before 2005.
- In 2009, Baker was honored on a U.S. postage stamp.
- In 2014, the University of California at Santa Barbara established a visiting professorship to honor Baker.

Pulitzer nominated Ear Hustle recalls favorite memories

PULITZER

Continued from Page 1

Nigel Poor (NP): It was incredible. First of all it was a huge surprise, so getting the news was an utter delight. When you receive a nomination like this and it is for a real collaborative project it just makes you so proud, not proud of yourself but proud of the entire team and it reminds you of the deep love and gratitude you have for the people you work with. A nomination for us is really an acknowledgment of all the great work that is happening inside prisons.

Rahsaan Thomas (RT): Being nominated for a Pulitzer Prize makes me feel proud and purposeful. It especially feels good to be honored for such a prestigious prize while in prison during a pandemic. Mostly I feel blessed that Nigel and Earlonne added me to the team just in time for the very first Pulitzer Prize Podcasting.

Q: Why is it important to tell these stories?

Pat Mesiti-Miller (PMM): There is a whole lot of misinformation around incarcerated people and incarceration in general and having a show produced from inside a prison is a great way to dispel the myths and uncover the reality of how this system has been designed and how it impacts people. A lot of what's out there regarding incarceration is done by people who haven't lived that experience, and that kind of journalism misses a crucial perspective. I think we need more stories from people on the inside looking around to

tell the world what is really going on and what their experience is.

RT: It's important for me to tell the stories of system impacted people so that the public gets a complete picture of us. That's important to me because I wasted years fighting against my neighbors when the real issues were redlining, gun control, policing policies rooted in White Supremacy, etc.

Similarly, I hope that telling our stories shows the public that in most cases, the issue isn't evil. It's trauma, addiction, racial discrimination, poverty, gun control, redlining, and of course poor choices made within these parameters. I pray a better understanding continues leading to better solutions.

Q: What is your favorite story and why?

NP: I could say my favorite story is always the current one I am working on but if I have to name just one my heart always goes back to Looking Out. It was one of our earliest stories and it showed exactly the kind of story we wanted to tell. It highlighted the relationship Earlonne and I have as co-hosts, it had beautiful sound design by Antwan Williams, which signal to the listener that sounds was going to be a solid character in our stories, and it had a great range of emotion, you found yourself laughing, crying, surprised, delighted, outraged- all those in one episode. Also it is really a story about finding love



Photo by Eddie Herena

Behind the scenes of Ted Koppel interviewing Earlonne Woods and Nigel Poor for CBS

and giving love in prison so it surprised people - and Rauch was the main character, who wouldn't love that?

RT: My favorite story is "Tell Christy I Love Her" because the former police officer Tom is so honest. (And I love Christy). Tom helped me realize that we don't aim to stop crime before it happens, we aim to solve crime with more violence, after someone is already hurt, which can lead to more cycles of violence. Tell Christy I Love Her got me to imaging better solutions.

Q: What do you want to say to your fans?

NP: Wow I think I can speak for everyone on the team when I say we have buckets of gratitude for our listeners. Knowing that there are so many people out there who care about these voices and stories is amazing—it is

a real gift that we do not take for granted. I love when I run into someone on the street and they want to tell me why they love Ear Hustle - it makes the world feel smaller and it makes me think together we are going to be able to make a difference when it comes to criminal justice reform.

PMM: I would like to thank everyone that listened and shared the stories, and to everyone who contributed and who talked with us to share their experience. It's really great that the show has reached so many people, please keep sharing! And if you are on the outside and in a position to uplift the voices of those incarcerated, do that! Support incarcerated journalists!

RT: I don't have "fans." I have people who support Ear Hustle and I thank them for listening despite my past. I especially thank everyone

who took the time to send me a birthday card in response to Earlonne's post.

Q: What advice can you give to those still incarcerated?

RT: The advice I would give to those still incarcerated (like me) is a modification of what I heard Chadwick Boseman (RIP) say. We were all born with a purpose and that the struggle prepares you for your purpose. I heard this while fighting depression brought on by the Coronavirus outbreak and men going man down around me. I found myself sleeping and watching TV too much until I heard Chadwick's words. Now I'm up at 5 AM working out and reading and writing by 7 AM, seizing everyday. During this pandemic, I've been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, curated an art exhibit on Museum African Dias-

pora, helped restore voting rights, co-produced a few episodes of *Ear Hustle* along with cameos, read twenty books, gave four interviews and I'm mentoring a hard headed youngster on the tier. I'd rather have Mike Hampton (RIP to Covid) and my victim back but at least embracing this time has given it all purpose. In sum, embracing your struggle is embracing your purpose. I hope to hear you up at 5 AM.

PMM: I think there's a lot of advice that I'm not really qualified to give, but in regards to storytelling, my advice would be to document your experience in any way you can. There is power in truth and your story is important, you are important, you are impactful, you are powerful.

Ear Hustle also won the 2021 duPont-Columbia award.

VACCINE

Continued from Page 1

"Getting the vaccine to us prisoners is moving too slow," said Calvin Rogers, San Quentin resident. "We should be getting it right away along with them (staff and medical workers), not when they have determined who's the most vulnerable. We are all vulnerable. Every incarcerated man and woman."

Vaccinating the incarcerated has sparked nationwide debate. Some opponents argue that prisoners should not have priority over those who have not committed any crimes. Advocates argue that prisons are high-risk living fa-

cilities where several states had major outbreaks and deaths. They argue that not vaccinating prisoners could prolong the pandemic.

Prison medical facilities are receiving supplies of the Moderna and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines, and as of February 4, 21,780 incarcerated residents and 23,365 staff have been vaccinated, according to the COVID-19 Information page on the CDCR's website.

There are roughly 90,000 prisoners currently incarcerated in CDCR. As of February 4, 200 prisoners have died from what appear to be COVID-19 symptoms and more than 35,000 have tested positive for the virus

since March 2020, according to CDCR data and other news sources.

"I'm 79-years-old," said Alex Lopez, SQ resident. "If the vaccine is here, I want to take it. I have my reservations about taking it, but I had the virus. I don't want to catch it again."

Vaccinations also took place at the California Health Care Facility in Stockton in late December. At least 65 prisoners and employees volunteered to receive the vaccine, reported the LA Times.

The Stockton facility houses approximately 2400 prisoners, mostly with special needs. As of February 11, 636 of them tested positive for COVID-19, according to the CDCR website.

The Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla (CCWF) and California Medical Facility at Vacaville, are also scheduled for vaccination for their employees and high-risk prisoners.

CCWF is undergoing its own outbreak, according to Pam Fadem, *Fire Inside* news editor, to *SQ News*. At least 771 women have tested positive for COVID-19 among the 2,000 incarcerated there.

"What a mess. It's just like it was at San Quentin," said Fadem. "CDCR was totally unprepared and not following its own policies and regulations. It's a miracle no one has died, but people have been and still are sick."

The number of positive cases has dropped, but the California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP) organization is still planning to hold rallies for the people inside CCWF.

California State Prison in Lancaster also has a high caseload of infections with more than 1500 prisoners and 590 staff testing positive for the virus, according to the LA Times.

Correctional officers at the prison are at risk because they are required to guard prisoners' rooms that have been hospitalized, said Robert Davis, correctional union leader to the *Times*.

CDCR still requires everyone to wear their mask, practice distancing, and to

wash their hands often, according to its memo.

After the initial vaccine shots for the correctional employees and high-risk prisoners, the second dose would be administered in the coming weeks. Overall, the nation is facing a vaccine shortage. Gov. Gavin Newsom expects additional vaccines for the state, but no information has been given for what would be allotted to the prison system, reported the *Times*.

As the pandemic reaches its one year mark, rates of COVID-19 infections and deaths in prisons and jails continue to rise. But just like in society, people in prison are also skeptical about getting the vaccine.

Letter To The Editor

To My San Quentin Community:

This has been one hell of a year. Under the easiest of times, prisons are a hard place to live. This year it became one hundred times harder. COVID-19 has stolen our loved ones, harmed the health of thousands of people at San Quentin, and made the lives of people who are incarcerated much worse than before. There is no one more affected by the pandemic than people who are in prison. One of the hardest hit areas in all of California has been people on death row.

As some of you know, I was released from San Quentin in December, 2019. Since then I've been working with lots of amazing organizers, community members, and advocates to end our state's reliance upon prisons for public safety.

Starting last March up until today, there has been an outbreak at every state prison in California. Incarcerated people and staff are both affected. People in prison are 4 times more likely to catch COVID-19, and 2.5 times more likely to die from it.

At the same time, the CDCR has not done everything within their power to protect people. They have not released people who are most vulnerable, especially if they were lifers. CDCR chose who to release based upon how long a person's sentence was, instead of upon their medical needs. That is only one of the things that make them hard to trust when it comes to distributing the vaccine.

Your lives and your health are important. I'm surprised, but also excited that California is one of only a few states that is offering the vaccine to people in prison. They are doing so, partially because of the advocacy work many people throughout the state have put in, to say that those who are most medically vulnerable should be given the vaccine first, regardless of their incarceration status. We are thrilled that our state is following the advice of medical experts on this, and we also believe strongly that vaccines should not be the end goal. We who are outside of the prison walls understand that there are far too many people in prison, and we will not stop pushing for more releases.

I'm not a doctor, so I can't give you medical advice. I can tell you however, that I plan on taking the vaccine as soon as I can. I've realized this year just how important good health is. When I was locked up, I knew that I wanted to still be in good health if I was released. CDCR has proven they are not going to do everything they can to protect your health, so it's up to you to make the best decision regarding your own safety.

Public health experts are already saying that, even if a person gets the vaccine, they still need to be able to physically distance themselves from other people and they still need to wear masks. So prisons will still not be safe, as long as our prisons are overcrowded. We will keep pushing for fewer people to be in prison. And I encourage you to do what you can to protect your health.

Sending love to you all,
James King
State Campaigner
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

1995's The Million Man March in Washington, D.C.



Photo by Wikipedia

The Million Man March in Washington, D.C. in October 1995

On October 16, 1995 more than a million Black men gather at the nation's Capitol Hill and Mall in Washington DC for "A Day of Atonement." This past October marked the 25th anniversary of The Million Man March. The gathering was led by controversial Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan. The call for Atonement, Reconciliation and Responsibility was the theme for Black men to accept their roles as leaders of their families and communities. Christians, Muslims, Black Nationalists along with those with no religious or organizational affiliation were in attendance. It was billed as a March for justice in response to the spiritual, political and economic warfare that targeted Black people and Black men in particular. The gather-

ing addressed mass incarceration and called for "Stop the Killing" and gang violence. There were young and old Black men standing shoulder to shoulder in the crowd. There were a sea of Black men and no violence was recorded, according to the *Final Call* newspaper. There were speeches by Civil Right leaders and politicians. Even though the call was made for men only, prominent Black women were on the stage in support of the march. Dr. Betty Shabazz, Malcolm X's wife, Maya Angelou and Rosa Parks along with many others. After the historical day many Black men returned home and joined social reform organizations or started businesses. "Get on the Bus", the Spike Lee movie, captures the event—the love and the

complex relationships of families and ideas on the journey to Washington DC. The Million Man March was deemed a success by the Black community, even though some in the mainstream denounced Farrakhan. "So today, whether you like it or not, God brought the idea through me," said Farrakhan in his October 16, speech. "He didn't bring it through me because my heart was dark with hatred and Anti-Semitism, He didn't bring it through me because my heart was dark and I'm filled with hatred for White people and for the human family of the planet. If my heart were that dark, how is the message so bright, the message so clear, the response magnificent." The event sparked the Million Women March and the Million Family March.



Photo by Wikipedia

March attendees



Photo by Wikipedia

Illustration of Drew by Charles Alston in the collection of the National Archives



Photo by Wikipedia

Minnie Lenore Robbins with NIH Director, Donald Frederickson, unveiling of bust and exhibit of her husband, 1981

DREW

Continued from Page 1

He continued his studies and earned a Doctor in Science in Surgery at Columbia University, in New York. In 1940, he became the first African American to earn a

Doctor of Science in Medicine, but he was not allowed to join the American Medical Association. He died never being accepted as a member, according to Wikipedia. Drew develop the program for blood storage and preservation, which collected, tested and transported large quantities of blood plasma

for distribution in the United Kingdom. He was the medical director of the United States' Blood for Britain project during World War II. He started bloodmobiles, trucks that transported refrigerated stored blood. He established central location for blood collection, testing and how to

handle blood plasma to avoid contamination. The Blood Transfusion Betterment Association applauded his work. In 1941, he was selected the first African American to serve as examiner on the American Board of Surgery. That same year his was appointed the first American Red Cross Blood Bank

director. He was in charge of the blood used by the U.S. Army and Navy; he disagreed with the exclusion of African Americans blood in the plasma-supply networks. The armed forces ruled the blood of Black soldiers would be accepted but stored separately. Drew resigned. He returned to the Freedman's Hospital

and Howard University as a surgeon. He died in a fatal car crash on his way to Tuskegee, Alabama with three other Black doctors to annual free clinic work at John A. Andrew Memorial Hospital. Charles Drew has multiple parks, schools and a Navy ship named after him.

bell hooks - professor, feminist, and social activist



Photo by Wikipedia
bell hooks in October 2014

bell hooks (Sept. 1952-Present) born Gloria Jean Watkins, is an author, professor, feminist and social activist. Her pen name bell hooks comes from her maternal great grandmother. hooks chose the name because of her grandmother's bold and snappy tongue. hooks has published more than 30 books that tackles race, capitalism and gender. She gained widespread recognition with her book "Ain't I a Woman?", influenced by feminist and abolitionist Sojourner Truth's famous speech of the same name.

Her work made her a postmodern cultural critic and political thinker. Her writings touch on feminist thought and the impact of sexism and racism on Black women, the media's role and

portrayal and the devaluation of Black womanhood, and the education system. What is feminism? hooks answers "(it's) rooted in neither fear or fantasy.... 'Feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation and oppression,'" according to Wikipedia. She lays out her point in her book "Feminist Theory: From Margin to Center" (1984). She argues how can feminism seek to make wom- equal to men in Western Society when all men are not equal. She also argued men must do their part for change to occur. She addresses some of those topics in "We Real Cool: Black Men and Masculinity" (2004).

As a college professor she stresses that communication and literacy, the ability to read, write and think

critically, helps to develop healthy relationships and communities plagued by the many inequalities.

In her book, "Teaching to Transgress: Education as the Practice of Freedom" challenges educators to teach students to "transgress" against racial, sexual and class boundaries to achieve freedom. hooks argues that teachers use power and control within an approach of assembly-line learning that dulls the students' enthusiasm and teaches obedience to authority. She advocates collaborative learning and offers a space for change and invention.

hooks also addresses the role of movies and media in her book "Reel to Reel". She states, "Representation is the 'hot' issue right now because it's a major realm of power for any system of domination. We keep coming back to the question of representation because identity is always about representation," according to Wikipedia. hooks stresses the importance of Black female filmmakers because Hollywood's conventional representation of Black women amounts to the objectification of Black women and their experiences.

hooks received her BA from Stanford University in English (1973), her MA from the University of Wisconsin, Madison (1976) and her Ph.D from the University of California, Santa Cruz, (1983). In 2014, she founded the bell hooks Institute at Berea College in her home state of Kentucky.

Geto Boys in a league of their own in the hip hop genre

By Marcus Henderson
Editor-in-Chief

"This year Halloween fell on a weekend / Me and Geto Boys are trick-or-treating," sang the rap group Geto Boys on their hit single "Mind Playing Tricks on Me."

The late '80s and early '90s rappers hailed from Houston, Texas. The group consisted of Bushwick Bill, Scarface and Willie D. While New York and California were dominating the rap scene at the time, the Geto Boys kicked the door in for rappers from the South.

Their blend of gangsta rap, gore and psychotic lyrics put them in a lane of their own.

Where gangsta rap has been pigeon-holed as glorifying guns and drugs, it also addresses social issues of drug addiction, poverty and the family dynamic suffering under both issues. The Geto Boys' music went deeper into the psychology of the Black youth growing up during the crack cocaine epidemic.

The group touched on taboo issues such as suicidal thoughts and tendencies,

paranoia and the hidden traumas of witnessing the bodies of murder victims lying in the street. "Mind Playing Tricks on Me" hit Number 23 on the Billboard Hot 100 in 1992.

The song is on the group's 1991 album, We Can't Be Stopped. Bushwick Bill is being carted through a hospital by Scarface and Willie D on the album cover, an incident recreated after Bushwick Bill lost an eye in a high profile shooting.

Mental health issues were rarely discussed in the Black community, but the group put it front and center with their song "Mind of a Lunatic" on their 1989 album, Grip It! On That Other Level. The song has been covered by many other artists, including Marilyn Manson in 2003.

Geto Boys' music also addresses social politics with "Crooked Officer," about police brutality that was happening in the '90s. "The World Is a Ghetto," "Geto Fantasy" and "Six Feet Deep" are songs that address the impact of street violence on the community.

"F*&k a War" was the group's antiwar song to



Photo from Wikipedia
Geto Boys' Scarface

protest the Iraq War.

The group's vivid storytelling skills painted the graphic realities of street life. But, like most groups, the team broke up. Willie D left and Rapper Big Mike filled-in on the 1993 album, "Til Death Do Us Part." Big Mike and Bushwick next left the group, but Willie D

returned for the 1996 "The Resurrection" and 1998's "Da Good, Da Bad & the Da Ugly." Both albums were critically acclaimed.

Bushwick Bill returned for the group's final album "The Foundation," released in 2008. The Geto Boys gave the East and West coasts a look into the drug



Photo by Wikipedia
Geto Boys' Bushwick Bill

epidemic and social unrest in the South. The group was ranked Number 10 on About.com's the 25 Best Rap Groups of All-Time.

The video game Grand Theft Auto V and the Netflix series Maniac feature their song "Mind Playing Tricks on Me."

In 2018, founding member

DJ Ready Red, 53, died from an apparent heart attack. Bushwick Bill, 52, died from pancreatic cancer in 2019. Scarface is still going strong as a solo artist and businessman.

The Geto Boys might be one of the most underrated but most influential groups of all-time.

Nina Simone: legendary singer, songwriter and civil rights activist



Photo by Wikipedia
Nina Simone in 1969

Born Nina Simone Cath- erine Waymon, Nina was a singer, songwriter and a civil rights activist. She recorded more than 40 albums between 1947 and 1958.

Many of her songs address the racial inequality in the United States. Her song "Mississippi goddamn" was in response to the killing of

civil rights leader Medgar Evers and the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church, where four young black girls were killed. "(It's) like throw- ing 10 bullets back at them," said Simone, about her protest song, according to Wikipedia.

Simone was a classical pianist with a low jazz- like singing voice that



Photo by Wikipedia
Simone at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol in Amsterdam, Netherlands in March 1969

accompanied her protest music. "Old Jim Crow" was another song on the same album titled "Nina Simone in Concert (1964)". The song challenged race relations—"me and my people are just about due," said Simone.

Her songs were protested in the South and her albums were smashed. She spoke

and performed at civil rights meetings. She was also a friend and supported Mal- colm X. She sang, "Blacklash Blues" written by Langston Hughes, her friend of and leader of the Harlem Renais- sance.

In 1967, she recorded "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to be Free" and "Turning



Photo by Wikipedia
Simone in 1955

Point" on her "Silk and Soul" album. A year later, she sang "Why (The King of Love is Dead)" a song she dedicated to Martin Luther King, Jr. after he was assassinated. The song is on the album "Nuff Said!". On her album BBlack Gold (1970), Simone and Weldon Irvine turned the Lorraine Hansberry play "To

be Young, Gifted and Black" into a Civil Rights song.

Simone credited Hansberry for cultivating her social and political consciousness. After enduring discrimination from music schools, an abusive husband, and not benefiting financially from her album sales. Nina Simone is still the icon of protest music.

Pope Francis seeks end to capital punishment

By A.J. Hardy
Journalism Guild Writer

Vatican City — Pope Francis has brought the Catholic Church’s stance on capital punishment and life impris-



Photo from Wikipedia
Pope Francis

onment to the end of a centuries-long evolution, calling for their total abolition in his new encyclical, “Fratelli Tutti,” according to *America Magazine*. “Let us keep in mind that ‘not even a murderer loses his personal dignity, and God himself pledges to guarantee this,’” said Pope Francis, citing St. John Paul II’s “*Evangelium Vitae*” (The Gospel of Life). “The firm rejection of the death penalty shows to what extent it is possible to recognize the inalienable dignity of every hu-

man being and to accept that he or she has a place in this universe,” he added. An encyclical is a papal letter of ultimate authority issued to instruct and clarify official Church teaching. With more than one billion Catholics across the globe, Pope Francis’s new encyclical could influence social teaching on mercy and reconciliation everywhere. San Quentin’s former Catholic chaplain, Father George Williams, S.J., praised the Pope’s stance. San Quentin is home to California’s death row, where Father Williams saw the damage done to the human spirit first-hand. He told the *America Magazine*

reporter that people living under life sentences without hope of ever getting out is crueler than outright execution. Pope Francis also called life sentences the “secret death penalty,” and condemned its use. “Fear and resentment can easily lead to viewing punishment in a vindictive and even cruel way, rather than as part of a process of healing and reintegration into society,” Pope Francis said in “*Fratelli Tutti*,” urging the removal of revenge from the criminal justice equation. For hundreds of years, the church officially supported the death penalty, or at least

did not oppose it. The original Roman catechism, written in the 1500’s, endorsed capital punishment on two grounds: “...lawful slaying belongs to the civil authorities... [to] punish the guilty and protect the innocent,” said the Roman catechism. Historically, however, there has always been opposition to the taking of a person’s life as a means of punishment. “From the earliest centuries of the church, some were clearly opposed to capital punishment,” Pope Francis wrote, referring to St. Augustine’s plea for mercy on behalf of two assassins.

In 1995, Pope John Paul II challenged traditional Church teaching on the death penalty, saying crimes warranting capital punishment were “very rare, if not practically non-existent,” according to the article. Then in 1999, he revised this position and sought to eliminate the death penalty altogether — a stance reiterated in 2011 by his successor, Pope Benedict XVI. In “*Fratelli Tutti*,” Pope Francis said “There can be no stepping back from this position. ‘Today we say clearly that ‘the death penalty is inadmissible’ and the church is firmly committed to calling for its abolition worldwide.’”

The case of Von Staich with incarcerated people at SQ

By Alfred King
Journalism Guild Writer

A California appeals court has ordered San Quentin to significantly reduce the prison’s population and take steps to protect the incarcerated and staff from the COVID-19 pandemic. The ruling came in a lawsuit by Ivan Von Staich, who maintained the warden and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation officials acted with “deliberate indifference” and that relief was warranted, according to the Oct. 20 decision. Petitioner Von Staich, 64, suffers from respiratory problems, the result of bullet fragments lodged in his left lung. His sworn declaration to the court said ... “he and his 65-year-old cellmate, both of whom had tested positive for COVID-19 (although petitioner was asymptomatic), were placed on the fourth tier of West Block in a cell which was like others in that facility.” The cell “was so small that you can touch the walls with

your hands,” the declaration stated. It claimed “protecting oneself from infection of COVID-19 in this open cell is impossible” because “there is no opportunity to engage in social distancing,” court documents revealed. Amanda Klonsky wrote in *The New York Times* on March 16, 2020, that “prisons and jails have been long associated with inordinately high transmission probabilities of infectious disease. Early on, physicians, public health officials, and the national Centers for Disease Control sounded the alarm that prisons and jails could become the epicenters of the (COVID-19) pandemic.” The remedy sought by the petitioner was placement in a residential facility supervised by CDCR where he had already been accepted, subject to a brief period of quarantine, said court documents. By all accounts, the COVID-19 outbreak at San Quentin has been the worst epidemiological disaster in California correctional history, and there is no reason

to think it will not experience a second or third spike, as it did during the Spanish Flu outbreak in 1918, according to an article by the resident prison physician at the time, Dr. L.L. Stanley: “Influenza at San Quentin State Prison”, (May 9, 1918). Dr. Chris Breyer, an epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, stated that ... “it was self-evident from the 75% infection rate and the rates of morbidity at San Quentin that its response to the outbreak there has been a failure to protect the lives of the inmates and staff,” according to court documents. The appellate court decision said “it is doubtful any correctional agency in the United States is more familiar with the adverse consequences of mass incarceration on inmate medical care, and the need to prevent them, as CDCR is or should be, given its litigation of the issues in the Plata and Coleman cases since the turn of the century,” court documents show. In granting petitioner’s

writ, the court did not order his release or any other prisoners at San Quentin. State officials at San Quentin were ordered to remove Ivan Von Staich from San Quentin “by transfer to a CDCR facility that is able to provide the necessary physical distancing and other measures to protect against COVID-19, or to another placement meeting these criteria.” Officials were also told to “immediately commence a design and implementation of a plan to expedite release or transfer of the number of prisoners necessary to reduce the population to 50% of its June 2020 population,” court documents show. In order to achieve this reduction, state officials were ordered to revise and rethink their expedited release plans to include prisoners over the age of 60, who have served at least 25 years of their sentences and are eligible for parole and second and third strike prisoners, even if they are serving time for violent offenses. State officials were ordered

to ensure that prisoners fitting the specifications of the Elderly Parole Program receive “special consideration” for release prescribed by that program. Four San Quentin prisoners agreed to be interviewed for this article. All were glad for the court’s ruling, but expressed concern for the future, and what would happen next. 1. Anthony Williams, committed from Riverside County to a term of 16 Years To Life, here at San Quentin for five years said... “deliberate indifference” is exactly how the CDCR operates, and as soon as no one is watching will return to business as usual.” 2. Walter Ridley, 59, a non-violent third striker sentenced in Los Angeles County, here for 19 years said, “Of course I would like to go home,” but he believes he will be transferred to another prison as a result of the ruling. 3. Ron Jeffrion, 55, sentenced in Los Angeles County, at San Quentin for 15 years, was hit hard by the

COVID outbreak. He spent weeks in ICU and 30 days hooked up to machines at Seton Hospital in Daly City. He said he does not hold much hope for things to change. 4. Jose “Big Boy” Godinezi, sentenced in San Mateo County to 15 years, at San Quentin for nine years, was glad to hear about the court ruling, but expressed concern over those responsible “not being held accountable.” He added, “There are a lot of people who should get released.” In a footnote to the Von Staich decision, on October 10, 2020, the appellate court wrote that rather than transferring the petitioner to another facility, the administration had moved Von Staich into a single cell in a quarantined area of San Quentin. The court noted that “This solution, however, does nothing to advance the population reduction necessary to protect the inmate population at San Quentin.” *The case has since been sent back to the lower courts for an evidentiary hearing.*



In February we acknowledge National Gun Violence Survivor week. I would guess that many of you, like me, are survivors of Gun Violence. It’s a club no one wants to be part of, but we have no choice in that. 40 years ago, my 27-year-old brother David was shot and injured and it changed our lives forever. At the time I was a care-free college student who adored my older brother who called me Ducky. I thought David the lucky one because he could do anything, he put his mind to and he charmed everyone. David was handsome, a skier, woodworker, master in martial arts, who played guitar, and loved music and fast cars. He had lots of friends, was happily married, owned his home and worked in a hospital as a Respiratory Therapist. Everything changed one rainy evening when I answered the call from my sister-in-law, a nurse. David had been shot by an angry driver through a crack in the window when he was pulled over on the side of the road to let him pass. The bullet entered the left side of David’s neck and traveled down through his spinal cord, severing it. David survived because his friend who was in the passenger seat, pulled his bloodied body across the arm rest to drive him to the emergency room. David was in intensive care, and would never walk again. Stunned, I managed to take down the details to tell my family before completely breaking down. Sometime later we found out that they had caught the shooter, a 19-year-old who had thrown away the gun he shot David with. When they tracked him down, he had another gun, an unlicensed gun. How easy it was for him to find another gun, it’s shameful really, the easy access. How different the outcome might have been if he had not had a gun. After almost a year in hospitals, David was discharged. His wife had divorced him so our parents dropped their lives to take care of their adult son who was paralyzed from the chest down. Can you imagine the impact? a healthy, independent man suddenly confined to a wheelchair. Can you imagine the humiliation of having a home health aide changing your diaper, your catheter, bathing you, dressing you because you couldn’t do it yourself? Your mother, cutting your meat for you? And the constant pain was unbearable. It wasn’t much of a life for David, or our parents, and there was little joy in that home. After 16 years of pain and frustration David sick of it all, killed himself with stored up pain medications. It was heartbreaking. While that that bullet didn’t kill David immediately in 1980, it did kill his spirit and tore a hole in the lives of every member of our family. From that day forward I would never look at marriage, relationships, or family in the same way and that is only a fraction of the impact of that bullet. For so many years I was alone in my experience but sadly that is no longer the case, Gun Violence is commonplace and that is unacceptable. A few years ago, I joined a group called Moms Demand Action and was introduced to the Everytown Survivor Network. These groups, including Gun Violence survivors work tirelessly to end gun violence. Finally, someplace to offer me a voice and actions to take to end gun violence and begin the true healing process. Until the day that Gun Violence becomes a rarity, I ask you to use your voice and actions to honor David and the 100’s of lives impacted by gun violence daily, and work to prevent other families from enduring a preventable tragedy.

San Quentin college students defend Ethics Bowl championship against UC Santa Cruz (before COVID)



Photo by FirstWatch
SQ Debate team- Randy Akins, Charles Crowe, Jesse Rose, George Calvin, Alex Ross



Photo by FirstWatch
Ethics Bowl coach Kathy Richards and Kyle Robertson

**By David Ditto
Staff Writer**

Student debate teams from the College Program at San Quentin and the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) matched wits once again on the prison chapel stage in front of a live audience on February 14, 2020.

The Collegiate Ethics Bowl Match was the culminating competition for the incarcerated team’s intensive semester-long debate workshop. They researched, practiced, and held weekly workshops with coaches throughout the semester-long extracurricular program.

The prison match capped the UCSC team’s annual competition in the national Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (IEB).

“Welcome to the third annual Ethics Bowl hosted by the College Program at San Quentin,” said Executive Director Jody Lewen, PhD. “This is our first event as the new independent college, Mount Tamalpais College.”

The hundred or so incarcerated and outside guests in the audience applauded the occasion and then listened to an introduction by Kyle Robertson, lecturer of philosophy at UCSC and coach for both teams.

“The Ethics Bowl is very different from a traditional debate,” said Robertson. “The two teams argue only what they really believe, and they may even agree with each other. The Ethics Bowl allows participants to pro-

duce a productive dialogue rather than just shoot each other down.”

ROUND ONE

With five students from each team seated at tables on opposite sides and three judges seated center stage, moderator and SQ ethics bowl coach Kathy Richards introduced the first issue for debate.

“In this era of climate change, having more children exacerbates the problem and the children themselves will suffer,” said Richards.

“In light of the added pressure on our ecosystem from increasing world population, is it still OK to have more children?”

Moderator Richards started the two-minute stopwatch and the UCSC students quickly huddled around their table and prepared their answer. The team had 10 minutes to present their views.

Marian Avila-Breach opened, confidently stating UCSC’s position. “It is OK to continue to have children despite climate change.” She emphasized the importance of the right of all individuals to choose for themselves whether to have children.

Leqi Zeng explained that other measures such as increasing recycling or reducing pollution make more sense, particularly since climate change negatively affects the poor disproportionately and is caused mostly by corporations.

“A corporate problem

should have a corporate solution,” summarized UCSC’s Andrew Genshaft.

“Of course, if any individual chooses not to have a child, that choice is correct for them,” added Noah Thomas, before UCSC’s time ran out.

The San Quentin team then had one minute to prepare their five minute rebuttal. They began their response by summarizing UCSC’s stated views. Next, Alex Ross and Randy Akins asked questions about what corporations should do and why.

Nicholas Paramoure responded for UCSC, explaining that it is immoral to ask those without power to give up their right to have children when the powerful cause more global warming in the first place.

Then it was the judges’ turn to engage the UCSC team. James Clifford, retired UCSC professor, asked the debaters, “Is there ever a point where this ethical question should be considered?”

Zeng and Genshaft responded that there is room for the question.

Jennifer Fisher, teacher at the University of San Francisco and Mount Tamalpais College, asked, “Could there ever be a point when more draconian measures would be ethical?” “No,” responded Avila-Breach.

“It is always immoral for someone to tell another to not have a child,” said Zeng. “It’s a matter of human rights.”

ROUND TWO

Moderator Richards introduced the second ethical question for debate. “Student loan debt is a \$1.5 trillion crisis, second in size only to mortgage debt. Most presidential candidates have forgiveness plans.

“Do you think government should forgive student loan debt?”

It was San Quentin’s turn to present their views first. Their position: It is not ethical to forgive the students’ debt.

Charles Crowe led the presentation. He asked, “Do students have a moral obligation to repay?” and answered “Yes.” Then he asked, “Should the debt be paid by taxpayers?” and answered “No.”

Crowe further supported the team’s position: “Autonomy and reciprocity are present in most cases. It is a just moral contract that benefits the less affluent. Unscrupulous lending is a red herring.”

Akins added, “Some may say tax the rich. But the rich wiggle out. Shifting the debt burden to the general public is immoral.”

Zeng began UCSC’s rebuttal to the incarcerated team’s position, stating, “We agree with some of your views, but disagree with some. College education should be paid by taxes because education benefits the public, not just individual students.”

Thomas continued, arguing, “College benefits all, and should be free in the first place.”

Avila-Breach added,

“There really is no autonomy. There is no freedom because not having a degree is too difficult.”

Paramoure concluded the UCSC team’s rebuttal, saying, “The debt is unfair because the less affluent have to borrow more.”

The SQ team responded by rejecting UCSC’s argument that because college education ‘should have been free’ to begin with, loan debt should be forgiven. “College is not a panacea. For example, many people are overeducated.”

Jessie Rose followed up, “There are many jobs that don’t require a college degree – McDonald’s, for example, or correctional officers. Value comes from experience as much as from education.”

“The California public chose to limit taxes for education, thus requiring higher tuition decades ago with Proposition 13,” said George Calvin.

Then the judges began their dialogue with the SQ team. “Debt forgiveness is the public deciding later and is different from welching,” said judge Rahsaan Thomas to his fellow incarcerated students. “And by the way, who is paying for your education?”

Smiles filled the chapel as Rose graciously acknowledged that the SQ college program is only possible because of generous supporters, some of who were in the audience. Time ran out. The debate was over. The audience buzzed, excitedly awaiting the decision of the three-judge panel.

THE FINAL SCORES

Judge Clifford: SQ 46, UCSC 42. Judge Fisher: SQ 52, UCSC 51. Judge Thomas: SQ 53, UCSC 52.

The unanimous decision granted the win to the SQ team. The students of Mount Tamalpais College, all new to the debate team except for Akins, kept the tradition of success. The College program at San Quentin remains undefeated through three years of the annual Collegiate Ethics Bowl Match against UCSC.

SQ Ethics Bowl coach Connie Krosney and team members Andrew Wadsworth (for SQ) and Andres Ortuno (for UCSC) also attended and supported their teams.

This year’s team also won a unanimous decision in a scrimmage against Stanford University’s IEB team in December 2019, and lost a split decision to San Jose State University’s IEB team in January 2020.

The Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, founded in 1996, is an annual national competition between more than 200 universities. The Collegiate Ethics Bowl Match inside The Q is hosted by the College Program at San Quentin and the Center for Public Philosophy at UC Santa Cruz.

The annual match brings thinkers from diverse backgrounds and circumstances together to engage in civic dialogue about today’s challenging social issues.



Photo by FirstWatch
UC Santa Cruz Ethics Bowl Team members - Noah Thomas, Marian Avila-Breach, Leqi Zeng, Nicholas Paramoure, Andrew Genshaft



Photo by FirstWatch
SQ Debate team with team member Andrew Wadsworth

Snippets

#symbol isn't officially called hashtag or pound. Its technical name is octothorpe. The "octo-" means "eight" to refer to its points, though reports disagree on where "-thorpe" came from. Some claim it was named after Olympian Jim Thorpe, while others argue it was just a nonsense suffix.

Acow-bison hybrid is called a "beefalo". You can even buy its meat in at least 21 states.

Very interesting fact: Glitter was made on a ranch. A cattle rancher in New Jersey is credited for inventing glitter, and it was by accident. Henry Ruschmann from Bernardsville, New Jersey was a machinist who crushed plastic while trying to find a way to dispose of it and thus made glitter in 1934.

Dogs normally start sniffing with their right nostril, then keep it there if the smell could signal danger, but they'll shift to the left side for something pleasant, like food or a mating partner.

Crossword

Edited by Jan Perry

Across

1. Now

5. Jackson 5 song

8. Michelle Wie star

11. Goes after Blue or White

12. Actress Lathan

14. '00s rock band

15. Scent

16. Actors Rickman and Cumming

17. Some types of phones

18. Fun (Brit.)

21. Spanish cheer

22. Apple from the service tree

23. Some laptops

26. Onerepublic song

28. Comic book type of man

31. Berry drink ____ Wonderful

32. Abbr. of popular US congressperson

33. Jaded people have ____ all

35. Shares some chow

39. Balkan country

40. Type of music

41. Earth material

42. French city famed for its food

43. ____ Rubika

44. Tom Hardy movie

46. Japanese noodle

48. STD

49. Is tender

57. Actor Bridges

58. A destructive mudflow on the slopes of a volcano

59. Precedes action, bend, or boot

60. Money given to poor people

61. Short musical composition

62. Round Dutch cheese

63. Dir from San Francisco to Monterey, CA

64. ____ & Stimpy

65. Not all

Down

1. Type of appeal

2. Type of detergent

3. Singer Blacc

4. Extreme fear

5. Actresses Gasteyer and de Armas

6. UK street artist

7. G-Shock maker

8. Type of tax

9. Fox TV show

10. Portable life saving machines (Abbr.)

12. Sound minded

13. Political abbr in Chicago

14. Type of coffee

19. Lou Gehrig's disease (Abbr.)

20. ____ + True

23. Notices (Abbr.)

24. 90s Canadian software company

25. Type of board

26. Type of story

27. Land parcels

29. Layered vegetable

30. Booster

32. Actor Butterfield

33. Singer Cooke

34. Us vs ____

36. Generic webpage

37. Types

38. CA job dept.

43. Inborn

44. Energy

45. Calls up

47. Former Houston athlete

48. ____ and now

49. College degrees

50. Long fishes

51. Dull

52. Town in Switzerland

53. Possessed

54. Ctrl-z

55. Group

56. Substance to carry oxygen in blood

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10
11					12	13				14		
15					16					17		
18				19					20			
			21				22					
23	24	25				26	27			28	29	30
31					32				33			34
35			36	37				38				
39							40				41	
	42					43				44	45	
				46		47			48			
49	50	51					52	53			54	55
56												
57						58					59	
60						61					62	
63						64					65	

By Jonathan Chiu

Last issue's answer

E	S	P			M	M	M	M		S	M	S
S	T	O	T		A	A	A	A		H	E	P
T	O	N	I		R	R	R	R		O	M	A
A	P	Y	R	R	H	I	C	V	I	C	T	O
			A	D	I	A			O	A	T	
K	A	S	D	A	N			H	S	N		C
E	C	T	O		O	S	H	A		I	S	L
S	H	O	R	T	S	H	A	R	P	S	T	O
H	A	S	S	E		O	W	E	R		E	S
A	S	S		M	S	W			A	R	P	E
			I	P	O			I	N	D	O	
D	A	Y	S	O	F	R	E	C	K	O	N	I
E	R	A	S			T	A	M	E	S		I
A	C	L	U			E	R	I	E			T
	S	E	E			N	E	T	S			L

Sudoku

Corner

	3			8				1
		7	4		1		5	
9				5		2		
		2			5		1	
3			2	1		5		
5	9			6				2
		6	5		2			
		9	6				2	7
					8		6	5

4		7						
9				2	3			
	9			4			1	
	3		6			2		
5					2			8
	7				5	8		3
			7	8				
		6	3			7		4

Last Issue's

Sudoku

Solutions

1	7	4	2	8	5	3	9	6
2	5	8	3	6	9	4	7	1
3	6	9	1	4	7	2	5	8
4	1	7	5	2	8	6	3	9
5	8	2	6	9	3	7	1	4
6	9	3	4	7	1	5	8	2
7	4	1	8	5	2	9	6	3
8	2	5	9	3	6	1	4	7
9	3	6	7	1	4	8	2	5

9	5	7	6	1	3	2	8	4
4	8	3	2	5	7	1	9	6
6	1	2	8	4	9	5	3	7
1	7	8	3	6	4	9	5	2
5	2	4	9	7	1	3	6	8
3	6	8	5	2	8	7	4	1
8	4	5	7	9	2	6	1	3
2	9	1	4	3	6	8	7	5
7	3	6	1	8	5	4	2	9

Brain Teasers

Answers

The blind beggar was the sister of her brother, who died.

Room-Turn on the first two switches. Leave them on for five minutes. Once five minutes has passed, turn off the second switch, leaving one switch on. Now go through the door. The light that is still on is connected to the first switch. Whichever of the other two is warm to the touch is connected to the second switch. The bulb that is cold is connected to the switch that was never turned on. Thought this brain teaser was hard?

Campsite-White. The only place you can hike 3 miles south, then east for 3 miles, then north for 3 miles and end up back at your starting point is the North Pole. Polar bears are the only bears that live at the North Pole, and they are white.

Photograph-His son

Job-There are pronounced differently when the first letter is capitalized.

This issue

What makes this number unique:
8,549,176,320?

What five-letter word becomes shorter
when you add two letters to it?

A man stands on one side of a river, his
dog on the other. The man calls his dog,
who immediately crosses the river without
getting wet and without using a bridge or a
boat. How did the dog do it?

I am the beginning of sorrow and the
end of sickness. You cannot express
happiness without me yet I am in the midst
of crosses. I am always in risk yet never in
danger. You may find me in the sun, but I
am never out of darkness.

Your parents have six sons including
you and each son has one sister. How
many people are in the family?

An Arab sheik is old and must leave his
fortune to one of his two sons. He makes a
proposition: Both sons will ride their camels in a
race, and whichever camel crosses the finish line
LAST will win the fortune for its owner. During
the race, the two brothers wander aimlessly for
days, neither willing to cross the finish line. In
desperation, they ask a wise man for advice. He
tells them something; then the brothers leap onto
the camels and charge toward the finish line.
What did the wise man say?

Incarcerated Reentry Resource Directory

Time for Change Foundation (Women)
2164 N Mountain View Ave
San Bernardino, CA 92405
(909) 886-2994 info@timeforchangefoundation.org timefor-changefoundation.org/services/psh/
Housing: Temporary Housing, Emergency Housing

Episcopal Community Services - Rapid Rehousing Program
Cricket Miller, Program Manager
1138 Howard St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 487-3300 x7012 esf-sf.org
Housing: Temporary Housing

Kingdom Builders Christian Fellowship Dream Center
20450 Royal Ave.
Hayward, CA 94541
(510) 326-2446 info@kingdombuilderscf.org
kingdombuilderscf.org/dream-center/
Housing: Temporary Housing

Forensic Housing Program
John Paul Soto, Senior Program Manager
191 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 581-0891 x105 JPSoto@lssnocal.org lssnocal.org
Housing: Temporary Housing

Volunteers of America
24 14th St.
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 419-0360 voa.org
Housing: Temporary Housing

Insight Garden Program
Amanda Berger, Program Director
2081 Center St.
Berkeley, CA 94704
(415) 854-0067 insightgardenprogram.org
Housing: Search

HealthRight 360
Ivana Chavez, Program Manager
1563 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
Office: (415) 746-1940 (415) 767-0481 x3588 healthright360.org
Housing: Temporary Housing, Substance Use: Treatment

Options Recovery Services
Pam Thomas, Housing Director
Corey Glassman, Admissions Manager
1835 Allston Way
Berkeley, CA 94703
(510) 666-9552 pthomas@optionsrecovery.org cglassman@optionsrecovery.org optionsrecoveryservices.org
Housing: Temporary Housing, Substance Use: Treatment

GEO Reentry Services
111 Taylor St.
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 346-9769 georeentry.com
Housing: Temporary Housing Substance Use: Treatment (Referral Required)

Women's Center Youth & Family Services
620 N. San Joaquin St.
Stockton, CA 95202
(209) 941-2611 womenscenteryfs.org
Housing: Temporary Emergency Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims,Community Support: Peer Mentorship, Support Groups, General Support: Family and Children's Services, Public Benefits, Help with Applications, Case Management Services, Clothing, Helpline for Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault

Phatt Chance Community Services Inc.
George Ray Turner, MA, Executive Director
2443 Fillmore St.
#216 San Francisco, CA 94115
SF: (415) 822-9922 Oakland: (510) 878-2360 phattchance.org
Housing: Temporary Housing, Healthcare: Emergency Psychiatric Care

Root & Rebound
1730 Franklin St., Ste. 300
Oakland, CA 94612
510-279-4662 info@rootandrebound.org rootandrebound.org
Housing: Transitional Housing Assistance, Legal: Reentry Legal Advice Hotline

The Young Women's Freedom Center - Home Free Project
Gloriana Darwin (415) 424-8249
Luna Salamme (510) 621-3265 youngwomenfree.org
Housing Community Support: Peer Mentorship General Support: Ride-Home Services from Custody, Life Coaching for Women

Building Opportunities for
Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) Rental Assistance and Warm Hand Off
9006 MacArthur Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94605
(510) 649-1930 info@self-sufficiency.org self-sufficiency.org/reentry-justice/
Housing: Temporary Housing, Rental Assistance, Financial Support for Move-In Costs, Family Reunification: Assistance and Referral

Project New Start
1000 Broadway, Ste. 500
Oakland, CA 94607

Office of AIDS Administration: 1000 Broadway, Ste. 310, Oakland, CA 94607
(510)-268-2497 acphd.org/project-new-start.aspx
General Support: Prison Tattoo Removal

Asian Prisoner Support Committee
416 8th St.
Oakland CA 94607 asianprisonersupport.com
General Support: Case Management

California Reentry Program (San Quentin)
P.O. Box 483,
San Quentin, CA 94964
info@ca-reentry.org https://www.ca-reentry.org/
General Support: Parole Planning, Pre-Release Assistance

Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County
220 Twelfth St.
Marina, CA 93933
(831) 883-8387 vtcmonterey.org
General Support: Veterans with No Registration Offenses

Bonafide
General Support: Gate Pickups
Community Support
415-659-8406 bonafidelife.org

Prison Reentry Network
prisonerreentrynetwork.org/resources/prn-produced
Guide: Resource List, Technology, Directions, Banking, Job Search, Obtaining Identification

Root and Rebound Reentry Planning Toolkit
rootandrebound.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/RR-Reentry-Planning-Toolkit_CIPFIP-1.pdf
Guide: Resource Guide, Reentry Planning

California Veteran Services
calvet.ca.gov/VetServices/Documents/Veteran_%20Resource_%20Book.pdf
Guide: Veteran Resources

UCSF - Older Adults Returning to the San Francisco Community
tideswellucsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/SF-REENTRY-GUIDE.pdf
Guide: Older Adults

No New SF Jails
nonewsfjail.org/reentry-menu/
Guide: Reentry Guide

Getting Out and Staying Out Database
https://sfgov.org/sfreentry/sites/default/files/GOSO_18.19%20Edition_final.pdf
Guide: Resource Database

Legal Aid at Work
(415) 864-8848 legalaidatwork.org

Legal Services of Northern California (Ukiah Regional Office)
Client Line: (707) 462-1471 Toll free: (877) 529-7700 lsnc.net

Prisoners with Children
4400 Market St.
Oakland, CA 94608
(415) 255-7036 Fax: (415) 552-3150 prisonerswithchildren.org
Legal: Family Unity Project, Legal Resources, Legal Guides

Asian Law Caucus - Asian Americans Advancing Justice
Legal: Asian American Pacific Islanders Immigration
Aarti Kohli, Executive Director
55 Columbus Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 896-1701 Fax:(415) 896-1702 advancingjustice-alc.org
Legal: Asian American Community, Immigration, Deportation Defense

TGI Justice Project
1349 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 554-8491 info@tgjp.org tgjp.org
Legal: Transgender Persons, Reentry Support Services

Bay Area Legal Aid
1735 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 663-4755 baylegal.org/what-we-do/
Legal: Housing, Public Benefits, Criminal Record Remedies, Employment, Consumer

Restoration Law Center
PO Box 7965,
Van Nuys, CA 91406
(213) 835-0730
ivie@restorationlawcenter.com restorationlawcenter.com
Legal: Criminal Defense

San Francisco Clean Slate Program
Walk-In Clinic Locations Vary By Day of the Week sfpUBLICdefender.org/services/clean-slate/
Legal: Record Cleaning

Alameda Clean Slate Program
(510) 268-7400 cleanslate@acgov.org co.alameda.ca.us/defender/services/cleanslate.htm
Legal: Record Cleaning

Open Door Legal
4634 3rd St.
San Francisco, CA 94124
(415) 735-4124 opendoorlegal.org
Legal: Clean Slate, Job Discrimination, Child Support, Custody & Visitation, Eviction Defense, Estate Planning, Additional Locations in Excelsior, Western Addition

Legal Services of Northern California
51 12th St.
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 551-2150 (707) 643-0054 lsnc.net
Legal: Criminal Record Remedies, Occupational Licensing, AB 1008 Enforcement, Housing

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
1020 15th St., Ste. 20
Modesto, CA 95354
(209) 577-3811 (530) 742-5191 crla.org
Legal: Record Clearing, Occupational Licensing Issues, Housing, Employment, Public Benefits, Education

La Familia Women With Hope
Linda Zavala, Senior Counselor/Outreach Coordinator
3315 International Boulevard
Oakland, CA 94601
510-634-8819 lzavala@lafamiliacounseling.org lafamiliacounseling.org/recovery_wellness
Substance Use Treatment: Women, Outpatient Treatment, Includes Childcare On-Site, Additional Languages: Spanish

La Familia Latina Family Services Center
Robert Archuleta, Outpatient Supervisor
1319 Fruitvale Ave.,
Oakland, CA 94601
510-300-3170 rarchuleta@lafamiliacounseling.org lafamiliacounseling.org/recovery_wellness
Substance Use Treatment: Men, Outpatient Treatment, Drug Screening, Healthcare: HIV Testing, Additional Languages: Spanish

El Chante Recovery Home
Aura Gonzalez, Lead Counselor
425 Vernon Street
Oakland, CA 94610
510-465-4569 Agonzalez@lafamiliacounseling.org lafamiliacounseling.org/recovery_wellness
Substance Use Treatment: Men, Residential Treatment, Drug Testing, Educational Activities, Job Placement, Social Support Referrals, Additional Languages: Spanish

Lifelong Project Pride
2545 San Pablo Ave.
Oakland, CA 94612
General: (510) 446-6160 Admission: (510) 446-7150 lifelongmedical.org/locations/our-locations/east-bay-community-recovery-project.html
Substance Use Treatment: Pregnant and Parenting Women, Residential Treatment, Training, Mental Health Support, Includes Child Care with Education, Therapy, Developmental Assessments

Primavera
Melissa Mata, Lead Counselor
3315 International Blvd.,
Oakland, CA 94601
510-731-4558 mmata@lafamiliacounseling.org https://www.lafamiliacounseling.org/recovery_wellness
Substance Use Treatment: Youth, Treatment, Individual and Group Counseling, Drug Testing, Social Activities
Youth, Additional Languages: Spanish

La Familia Alameda County Justice Restoration Project (ACJRP)
Lara Maxey, Program Director (510) 300-3560 x1260
1319 Fruitvale Ave.,
Oakland, CA 94601
lmaxey@LaFamiliaCounseling.org lafamiliacounseling.org/diversion_re_entry_department
Wraparound Services: Individual, Family, Group Therapy, Inpatient and Outpatient Substance Use Treatment

3rd Street Youth Clinic
1728 Bancroft Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94124
(415) 822-1707 Fax: (415) 822-1723 3rdstyouth.org
Youth: Development, Education, Counseling

Focus Forward
(559) 600-4961 focusforward.org
Youth: Education, Mentorship, Case Management, Reentry Planning

Oakland Unite
Kentrell Killens, Program Officer Gkillens@oaklandca.gov
Sara Serin-Christ, Family Violence Response sserin-christ@oaklandca.gov
(510) 238-3121 oaklandunite.org
Youth: Diversion, Reentry, Intervention
Family Violence Support: Mental Health Services, Systems Navigation, Family Support, Safety Needs, Legal Advocacy, Hotline, Temporary Safe Space for Survivors

This resource guide was provided by post-conviction unit interns from UC Hastings and the San Francisco Public's Defenders Office. Researched and compiled by Ayanna Gandhi, Abigail Swallow, Amy Tao, Violeta Velazquez, Ruby Wilks under the Supervision of Stephen Liebb.

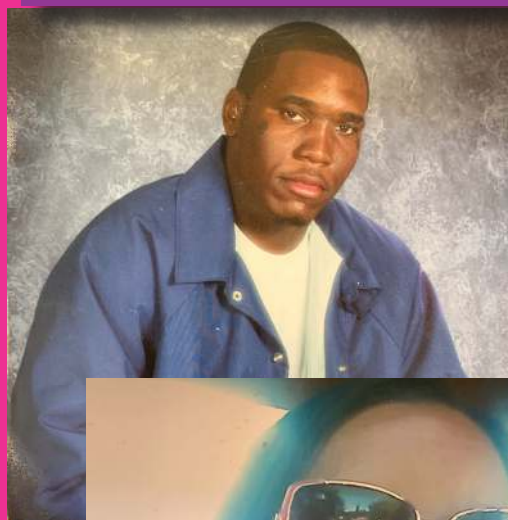


To those who we love and cherish but
can't be together at this difficult time,
it will pass and we will be reunited once again



Happy Valentine's Day

To the one woman I have
Ever loved Starr Wadsworth
The one woman through thick
and thin, always tried her
hardest to stand by me.
Happy Valentine's Day



Drew
&
Starr



Family of Mr. and
Mrs. Lee
Happy 6th Anniversary



Shane and Maria
Thank You for a
Wonderful 10 years



Hearts, Melodies, Forever
My Valentine's...
Shi'Kem ♥ Maggie



Your Love is God's love for me.
Eternally Yours, XOXO
Robert and Erma