

WALE Postconference Workshop:

Public Libraries and Patrons Re-Entering Society after Incarceration

I am interested in helping people at my library. Where can I sign up?

Google Doc for Public Librarians for Successful Reentry (PULSE) contact info

<http://bit.ly/2ejgKmR>

What can I do within my community?

Here are some of the organizations where you can volunteer your time to help inmates reentering society

Civil Survival (Washington state) <http://civilsurvival.com/>

Community Partnership for Transition Services (Pierce, Snohomish & King Counties)

http://www.cpts.info/pierce_cpts.aspx

Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (Seattle area)

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

The If Project (Pierce and King counties only) <http://www.theifproject.com/>

Kairos Prison Ministry (Nationwide) <http://www.kairosprisonministry.org/>

University Beyond Bars (Washington state)

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

What have other libraries done that can inspire me?

Colorado State Library Free to Learn Project Overview

(Free to Learn began as a grant-funded project in 2010 and is now the Women's Open Lab)

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/documents/cdelib/lsta/download/pdf/freetolearn.pdf>

Denver Public Library's Resources for Ex-Offenders (CO)

<https://www.denverlibrary.org/resources-ex-offenders>

Hennepin County Library (MN)

<http://www.hclib.org/about/news/2016/sept/families-affected-by-incarceration>

Urban Libraries Council

http://www.urbanlibraries.org/free-to-learn----public-library-services-for-ex-offenders-innovation62.php?page_id=46

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What can I read?

Alexander, Michelle. *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. New York: New Press, 2011.

Clark, Sheila, and Erica MacCreigh. *Library Services to the Incarcerated: Applying the Public Library Model in Correctional Facility Libraries*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2006.

Kerman, Piper. *Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Woman's Prison*. New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2010.

Stevenson, Bryan. *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2014.

What can I watch?

Check out this amazing documentary on Netflix:

13th. Directed by Ava DuVernay. Oakland, CA: Kandoo Films, 2016

Are there any other good resources I should check out?

ACLU Mass Incarceration website

<https://www.aclu.org/issues/mass-incarceration>

The New Jim Crow Resource list <http://newjimcrow.com/take-action>

“It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside its jails. A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.”

— **Nelson Mandela**

Ask Questions!

Getting to know your library's policies and procedures to better help individuals reentering society.

- If someone doesn't have a state issued ID can they:
 - Register for a library card? ○ Use internet computers using a temporary pass? ○ Print, scan, fax?
 - Attend programs?

- If someone doesn't have a mailing address:
 - Can they register for a library card? ○ Use internet computers using a temporary pass? ○ Print, scan, fax? ○ Attend programs?
 - Can they use general delivery as an address?
 - General Delivery is mail delivery to a post office for pickup by the addressee.
 - Do you know a shelter or social services that offer mail service to homeless individuals in your area?

- If someone has overdue fines or lost material from long ago:
 - How long do the fines exist on their account? ○ Does the library send the fines to collections? ○ Is there amnesty for old fines/lost material? ○ Can the library recall the fines from collections?
 - Is there a process for appealing fines due to extreme circumstances?

- If someone is unfamiliar with current technology:
 - Does your library offer regular and various digital literacy classes?
 - Can individuals get technology assistance any time? Dose that include tutorials on unfamiliar personal technology? ○ Are there services like "check out a librarian," that would be beneficial to people who require more in-depth assistance?
 - Does your library offer technology to check out, i.e. tablets to use in the library or take home?