

**U.S. Programs  
Criminal Justice Fund  
Summary of Recommended Grants  
Docket III  
September 22, 2009**

**Criminal Justice Fund**

2009 Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking Budget (24027)	5,475,000
2009 Re-Entry Grantmaking Budget (24013)	1,415,000
2009 Gideon Grantmaking Budget (24420)	1,050,000
Out of Docket Grantmaking	(775,780)
Docket I Grantmaking	(1,737,895)
Docket II Grantmaking	(3,079,000)
Docket III Grantmaking	
Catch-Up Docket Grantmaking	
<b>Total 2009 Available Grantmaking Budget:</b>	<b>\$ 2,347,325</b>

<b>Program Area/Organization</b>	<b>Grants Totals</b>	<b>Grant Term</b>
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**Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking (24027)**

Critical Resistance	\$ 100,000	1 year
Foundation for Criminal Justice <sup>1</sup>	\$ 225,000	2 years
Ella Baker Center	\$ 250,000	2 years
Grassroots Leadership	\$ 75,000	6 months
Partnership for Safety and Justice <sup>2</sup>	\$ 150,000	2 years
<b>Total Recommended:</b>	<b>\$ 800,000</b>	

**Reentry (24013)**

Green For All	\$ 75,000	1 year
Partnership for Safety and Justice <sup>2</sup>	\$ 50,000	2 years
Women's Prison Association and Home	\$ 100,000	1 year
<b>Total Recommended:</b>	<b>\$ 225,000</b>	

**CJF GRANTMAKING TOTAL THIS DOCKET: \$ 1,025,000**

**National Security and Human Rights (21095)**

Foundation for Criminal Justice <sup>1</sup>	\$ 200,000	2 years
<b>Total Recommended:</b>	<b>\$ 200,000</b>	

  
Approval Signature

*September 22, 2009*

<sup>1</sup> Total grant to Foundation for Criminal Justice is \$425,000 (\$225,000 from Criminal Justice Fund 24027 and \$200,000 from National Security and Human Rights)

<sup>2</sup> Total grant to Partnership for Safety and Justice is \$200,000 (\$150,000 from Criminal Justice Fund 24027 and \$50,000 from Reentry 24013)

# Memo

To: Aryeh Neier

From: Ann Beeson, Leonard Noisette, and CJF Staff

Date: 15 September 2009

Re: Docket III, September 22, 2009

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For this third docket of 2009, the Criminal Justice Fund (CJF) recommends 7 grants for funding totaling \$1,025,000<sup>1</sup>. All of these grants are renewals. Two grants are to organizations with whom our relationship is relatively new, **Green for All** and **Foundation for Criminal Justice**, who are current leaders in addressing key CJF priorities; two are to longtime grantees who over the past few years have expanded their work and are successfully addressing a number of CJF priorities, **Ella Baker Center for Human Rights** and **Partnership for Safety and Justice**. Three grants are to organizations whose continued relationship we will evaluate during the new grant period. **Grassroots Leadership** is managing an executive transition, and the proposed grant will support that transition and allow for consideration of longer term support for the organization under new leadership. Our one-year grants to **Woman's Prison Association** and **Critical Resistance** will allow staff the time to determine whether the organizations' current priorities, strategic approaches and organizational capacity warrant further funding. Collectively, these grants would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's key goals of reducing mass incarceration, eliminating harsh punishment and eliminating racial disparities and securing a fair and equitable system of justice.

## **Reducing Mass Incarceration**

**Critical Resistance (CR)**, \$100,000 general support grant renewal over one year. CR continues to organize statewide training with community groups around corrections spending and challenging prison expansion. Working with the Prison Law Office and private attorneys, it is also supporting lawsuits concerning prison funding and conditions. Nationally, CR continues to advance its policy agenda of reducing reliance on incarceration by working to cultivate new leadership and support movement-building activities. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration and by eliminating harsh and unjust sentencing policies and practices.

## **Eliminating Harsh Punishment**

**Green For All (GFA)**, \$75,000 project grant renewal over one year to create, convene, and provide technical assistance to a national working group that will develop and promote strategies for expanding green job opportunities available to people with criminal records. Continued OSI

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<sup>1</sup> In addition, CJF is co-funding two grants being considered in the National Security and Human Rights Campaign docket totaling \$60,000 (\$50,000 for the Rights Working Group, \$10,000 for the Religious Coalition Against Torture).

funding will enable GFA to build the capacity of its *Green Pathways Out of Poverty Community of Practice* by creating and facilitating an ongoing working group specifically dedicated to supporting practitioners and advocates working to connect people with criminal records to green sector employment and career opportunities. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in eliminating harsh punishment by eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry and increasing access to living wage employment opportunities in the emerging green economy.

### **Eliminating Racial Disparities and Securing a Fair and Equitable System of Justice**

**The Foundation for Criminal Justice (FCJ)**, \$425,000 general support renewal over two years (co-funded with the National Security and Human Rights Campaign) to support its mission to ensure justice and due process for persons accused of crime, to foster integrity and independence of the criminal defense profession and promote the fair administration of justice. NACDL has been at the forefront of reforms to improve public defense, enact sentencing reform, address racial and ethnic disparities, and oppose over-criminalization and the evisceration of fundamental constitutional rights. In the past year, NACDL has taken a lead role in challenging the prolonged detention of terrorism suspects at Guantanamo Bay and seeking procedural protections for these detainees. This grant will further the Criminal Justice Fund's goals of eliminating racial disparities and securing a fair and equitable system of justice and the National Security and Human Rights Campaign's goals of raising awareness about countering the government's efforts to undermine the constitutional and human rights of persons charged with terrorism-related activities in the name of national security.

### **Grantees Addressing Multiple Criminal Justice Fund Priorities**

**Ella Baker Center (EBC)**, \$250,000 general support grant renewal over two years. EBC's projects include: Books Not Bars, which promotes alternatives to youth incarceration in California; Silence the Violence, which combines youth leadership and cultural engagement with a strong policy agenda to reduce rates of violent crime in the Bay Area; the Campaign for Green Collar Jobs, which creates job opportunities for low income communities and communities of color by engaging diverse stakeholders to launch training programs, align green employers, and advocate for public policies that promote clean energy, green business, and green jobs training; and Soul of the City, which promotes an active solution-based model—by means of civic engagement and leadership development—for ensuring public safety. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration, ending the treatment of children as adults in prosecution and sentencing, and eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry and increasing access to living wage employment opportunities in the emerging green economy.

**Grassroots Leadership, Inc. (GL)**, \$75,000 general support grant renewal over six months. GL is a multi-racial team of organizers who support Southern community, labor, faith, and campus organizations working to put an end to abuses of justice and the public trust by developing and directing campaigns to abolish for-profit private prisons and all immigrant family detention. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration and reforming polices that criminalize immigrants.

**Partnership for Safety and Justice (PSJ)**, \$200,000 general support grant renewal over two years. PSJ operates four programs, including: the Safety and Sentencing Program, which promotes safe and sensible sentencing reform as well as alternatives to incarceration; the Crime Survivors for Community Safety program, which has been effective at neutralizing “tough on crime” advocates in Oregon by organizing survivors of crime and violence to promote progressive responses to the needs of survivors and to support criminal justice reform that reduces future violence without increasing prosecution and incarceration; the Beyond Barriers program, which focuses on eliminating the civil and social barriers facing people with criminal records; and the Prison Program, which advocates for increased access to quality programs within prisons and against the implementation of policies that further erode the constitutional or human rights of incarcerated people. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund’s interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration, eliminating harsh and unjust sentencing policies and practices, and eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry.

**Women’s Prison Association and Home, Inc. (WPA)**, \$100,000 project grant renewal over one year to provide continued support for the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice. Continued OSI funding will enable WPA to serve as a much-needed, authoritative national voice and resource on women in the criminal justice system and avenue for promoting the participation of formerly incarcerated women in public debate about incarceration policies. This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund’s interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by fostering reform efforts affecting vulnerable populations such as women and children.

**Name of Organization:** Critical Resistance

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide general support

**Previous OSI Support:** \$1,041,728  
(\$120,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2008; \$113,017 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$50,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$118,711 U.S. Justice Fund-2006; \$40,000 Strategic Opportunities Fund-2005; \$200,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2004; \$200,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2002; \$200,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-2000)

**Organizational Budget:** \$463,000

**Sources of Support:** \$50,000 Akonadi Foundation; \$30,000 Fund for Nonviolence; \$33,000 Other Income Sources; \$30,000 Monthly Sustainer Memberships; \$25,000 Ms. Foundation for Women; \$20,000 21<sup>st</sup> Century Foundation; \$20,000 Fundraising Events Revenue; \$15,000 Beyond Prisons Fund; \$15,000 Direct Mail Revenue; \$10,000 Handelman Fund; \$10,000 Omnia Foundation; \$10,000 Davis Fund; \$10,000 Schaffer Fund; \$5,000 Allen Fund; \$Angelo and Mary Cali Family Fund; \$5,000 Scweser Family Fund

**Project Budget:** Not applicable

**Amount Requested:** \$100,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$100,000 (Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking, T1: 24027)

**Term:** 1 year

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

In September 1998, a young, fledgling organization that would come to be known as Critical Resistance (CR) held a conference in Berkeley, California, on the over-reliance on incarceration and prison expansion in the United States. Over 3,500 activists, academics, formerly incarcerated people and their family members, labor leaders, religious leaders, feminists, and policymakers from every state in the U.S. and several other countries attended. Since then, with very limited funding, CR has created a national organization and infrastructure dedicated to ending the reliance on imprisonment as an answer to social, political, and economic issues through movement building; grassroots organizing; and popular education to change public opinion and public policy. Against the continued expansion of the use of imprisonment perpetrated in the name of safety and security, CR is building a national movement to create safe and healthy communities by shifting society's investment in prisons and policing to basic resources that create true public safety, such as education, health and mental health care, and housing.

In addition to three active chapters centered around its national headquarters in Oakland, California; a Northeast Regional office in Brooklyn, New York; and a Southern Regional office in New Orleans, Louisiana, CR supports another seven active chapters, all of which are located in cities particularly hard-hit by mass incarceration. These chapter sites include Durham, North Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; Gainesville, Florida; Tampa/St. Pete, Florida; New Haven, Connecticut; Chicago, Illinois; and Los Angeles, California. Through these chapters, CR organizes those most directly impacted by mass incarceration, focusing on communities of color, people with criminal records, loved ones of people in prison, and poor people; anti-prison, prison reform, and social justice advocacy communities; and communities indirectly impacted by criminal justice policy, including groups affected by rising prison budgets such as teachers, healthcare workers, and students. In all, CR has over two-hundred core volunteers (defined as at least monthly participation in CR organizing), and thousands of members and supporters across the country. It estimates its membership is 70% people of color, 58% female, and 4% transgender people and that 43% of its membership earns less than \$25,000 per year, and another 56% earns between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per year.

CR has continuously built and directed coalition work to unify criminal justice policy reform advocacy across the country. It is the lead organization in the Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) coalition, a statewide grassroots coalition working to reduce the prison population and to close prisons and representing all regions of California. Through CURB, CR provides formal and informal support to allied organizations working in California and engages in public education and media advocacy to shift public opinion and to mobilize Californians statewide.<sup>2</sup>

CR plays a leading role supporting the infrastructure, strategic planning, and outreach efforts of the Community in Unity Coalition (CIU), comprised of over 15 South Bronx-based organizations joined to oppose construction of a 2,000-bed jail in their neighborhood.<sup>3</sup> CR dedicates resources to building common interests among the diverse organizations that make up CIU, demonstrating how the groups can work together toward a common goal as environmental justice, economic development, youth, and criminal justice organizations. In early 2008, CR and the Community in Unity Coalition won cancellation of the original jail expansion plan, and CR has since devoted additional resources to supporting local advocates in the other four boroughs in their efforts to oppose jail construction plans in their neighborhoods and to lay the groundwork to challenge future expansion plans in the Bronx.

Building on its New Orleans *Amnesty for Prisoners of Katrina* campaign, which challenged the use of jails and prison as disaster response tools, CR has collaborated with OSI grantees Safe Streets/Strong Communities and the New Orleans, Public Defender to host an Expungement Day and to launch a campaign focused on ending discrimination against people with criminal records. In addition to providing resources to more than 400 community members, the collaboration has resulted in the Public Defender allocating an additional \$5,000 to expand its own expungement services. This past June, CR launched a Community Legal Clinic focused on training and *pro se* support for winning expungements for New Orleanians with criminal records; training

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<sup>2</sup> The Californians United for a Responsible Budget coalition includes OSI grantees *All of Us or None* and the *Youth Justice Coalition*, as well as the ACLU of Southern California, the Labor Community Strategy Center, Families to Amend California's Three Strikes, the California Prison Moratorium Project, and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners, among others.

<sup>3</sup> The Community in Unity Coalition in the South Bronx includes For a Better Bronx, the Seven Neighborhood Action Partnership, Mothers on the Move, among others.

community members as Community Legal Advocates; and building a foundation for a broader campaign for institutional changes in reentry policy and funding.

CR integrates strategic communications and leadership development of people most directly impacted by criminal justice policy throughout its work. CR coordinates regular actions and press events that generate visibility for current prison policy issues—bringing people and ideas together to expand the movement. CR executive staff and organizers play an important role educating new activists and contributing toward key policy debates by speaking at events, conferences, meetings, churches, and schools throughout the year. This work has included “Reverse Ribbon Cuttings” to highlight the cost of prison construction to education, health care, and social services; Mother’s and Father’s Day outreach events at county jails; and panel presentations at gatherings ranging from local high schools and college campuses, to the US Social Forum, to UN Commission on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

CR continues to expand the La Casita Project, its five-year-old leadership development and organizing program with residents of the La Casita alternative-to-prison residential treatment program for women and their children in the South Bronx. It facilitates monthly workshops to a rotating constituency of 40 women and children, and actively links participants to and prepares them for leadership in the CIU Coalition fighting jail expansion in the South Bronx. Created by CR in collaboration with A New Way of Life (an independent reentry center for women in Los Angeles run by Soros Justice Fellow Susan Burton), the Leadership, Education, Action, and Dialogue Project (LEAD) is CR’s second leadership development project focused on formerly incarcerated women. Through LEAD, CR offers twice-monthly workshops, educating participants about the interconnectedness of mass incarceration and the divestment of public resources in other sectors and institutions (e.g., public education, mental health, housing, and economic development); teaching them organizing, advocacy, and communications skills, such as media and video-making; and engaging participants in organizing projects and campaigns in Los Angeles.

Critical Resistance has been an OSI grantee since 2000. In 2008, OSI awarded Critical Resistance renewed general support.

**Description for the Project for Which Funding is Sought:**

Critical Resistance requests renewed general support.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund’s interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration and by eliminating harsh and unjust sentencing policies and practices.

In the eleven years since its founding as an organizing and mobilizing force for strategic decarceration, CR has played an important role in halting California’s prison construction boom. CR’s efforts have generated a vast turnaround in public opinion about prison expansion and successfully defeated two massive prison expansion plans during this period and—most notably exemplified in 2006 and 2007, the first years in over two decades in which California did not have a prison under construction. Due in no small part to CR’s constant involvement in the debate over California prison expansion, the editorial pages of the state’s major papers are devoting more attention to criminal justice policy.

Nationally, CR also continues to advance its policy agenda of reducing reliance on incarceration by working to cultivate new leadership and support movement-building activities. Its work over the past eleven years has had a significant impact on the way that people across the country think about imprisonment and the people who have been in prison, and on the number of people inspired to organize around reversing mass incarceration. With stories in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Oakland Tribune*, *Sacramento Bee*, *San Diego Union-Tribune*, and *Christian Science Monitor*, CR brings prison issues to the forefront, generating hundreds of media hits per year. Through this work, it has transformed what were once “CR talking points” into generally accepted axioms of the prison policy debate.

CR also produces and distributes a growing library of original media materials. Its members and staff have published book length studies of prison issues (including 2007’s acclaimed *Golden Gulag* by Soros Justice Fellow Ruth Wilson Gilmore and *Forced Passages* by Dylan Rodriguez), and have contributed articles to publications including *Women, Girls, and Criminal Justice*, *Radical History Review*, and the forthcoming anthology *Education or Incarceration?*. It has also created several organizing toolkits, edited two widely used anthologies, and produced five original films, which provide activists, policy makers, and community members with a diverse array of organizing tools. CR also publishes a bilingual English-Spanish newspaper *The Abolitionist*. This project brings together the writing of incarcerated people with those of acclaimed policy makers and academics and is distributed free of charge to thousands of people in prison.

CR will continue its tradition of national and regional conferences. CR’s conferences, where communities most affected serve as the “experts,” help CR and the field organize priorities, develop leadership and gives voice to communities most impacted, renew activism, attract significant media attention, and help construct and maintain strategic coalitions. CR10—CR’s fourth national convening held in September 2008 in Oakland, California—provided the opportunity to examine the wins and losses of the past decade in California and in CR’s national efforts and provided the opportunity to mobilize and educate an even wider audience, due to the vast network CR has built up in its years of existence. CR has begun to build off the experience of CR10, using the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary retrospective to inform its future goals, strategic planning, and follow-up events around the U.S., organized by community and issue.

CR’s staff and leadership are strong organizers with deep understanding of the U.S criminal justice system. Its Board of Directors consists of seven people from around the country who are all formerly incarcerated and/or family members of people in prison. CR’s National Organizing Body, which shapes CR’s national political agenda, includes acclaimed activists, academics, and professionals who have themselves extensively shaped the prison reform and public safety agendas over the past twenty years, as well as new organizers.<sup>4</sup> While leadership from the field is something we value, Critical Resistance’s staffing structure is decentralized, with decision-making power spread among several Directors, and with limited capacity to plan and execute a

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<sup>4</sup>CR’s National Organizing Body members include: Soros Justice Fellow Ellen Barry (1998 Macarthur “Genius Award” winner, Founding Director of Legal Services for Prisoners with Children); Soros Justice Fellow Ruth Wilson Gilmore (Associate Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at USC and author of the acclaimed *Golden Gulag*); Soros Justice Fellow Lisa Kung (Executive Director of the Southern Center for Human Rights); Soros Justice Media Fellow Cassandra Shaylor (2001 Leadership for a Changing World Award winner, co-founder of Justice Now); Dorsey Nunn (Program Director, OSI grantee Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, All of Us or None Co-founder); and Dylan Rodriguez (Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at UC Riverside).



strategic plan for organization growth and development. This grant would allow staff to assess, over the next year, Critical Resistance's staffing, organizational capacity and plans for long-term sustainability, and to determine the nature and extent of future OSI funding..

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed general support in the amount of \$100,000 over one year to Critical Resistance.

<b><u>Name of Organization:</u></b>	Green For All
<b><u>Tax Status:</u></b>	501(c)(3) public charity
<b><u>Purpose of Grant:</u></b>	To create, convene, and provide technical assistance to a national working group that will develop and promote strategies for expanding green job opportunities available to people with criminal records
<b><u>Previous OSI Support:</u></b>	\$75,000 (\$75,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2008)
<b><u>Organizational Budget:</u></b>	\$5,600,000
<b><u>Project Budget:</u></b>	\$75,000
<b><u>Sources of Support:</u></b>	Not Applicable
<b><u>Amount Requested:</u></b>	\$75,000
<b><u>Amount Recommended:</u></b>	\$75,000 (Reentry Grantmaking, T1: 24013)
<b><u>Term:</u></b>	1 year
<b><u>Matching Requirements:</u></b>	None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 2008, Green For All (GFA) is a national organization whose mission is to improve the lives of all Americans by building an inclusive, green economy. GFA works in collaboration with business, government, labor, and grassroots organizations to secure local, state, and federal commitments to job creation, training, and entrepreneurial opportunities in the emerging green economy and to connect people who are most in need of work to living wage, career-path green-collar jobs that contribute to environmental sustainability. Its strategies include policy development and advocacy, public education and communications, grassroots movement and coalition building, technical assistance, and creating and supporting *Communities of Practice* to connect on-the-ground practitioners and advocates who are working in various fields throughout the country on programs and policies to address climate change and to create pathways out of poverty through green-collar jobs. GFA currently supports two Communities of Practice, including the *Green Pathways Out of Poverty Community*, which focuses on green job training programs, and the *Retrofit America's Cities Community*, which focuses on programs designed to perform energy-efficiency retrofits at a city-wide scale. Each has hundreds of members, with a couple of dozen people serving as its "Working Group"—a committed core of leaders who coordinate the Community's activities.

In 2008, OSI funded Green For All to integrate the Civic Justice Corps into Green For All's campaign to create a national Clean Energy Corps.

### **Description of the Project for Which Funding Is Sought:**

Green For All seeks renewed project funding to create, convene, and provide technical assistance to a national working group that will develop strategies for expanding green job opportunities available to people with criminal records. OSI funding will enable GFA to build the capacity of its Green Pathways Out of Poverty Community of Practice by creating and facilitating an ongoing working group specifically dedicated to supporting practitioners and advocates working to connect people with criminal records to green sector employment and career opportunities. Specifically, GFA will:

*Create, convene, and assist a national working group.* To foster peer-to-peer support and information sharing, GFA will develop and support a working group of 20-25 practitioners and advocates working across the country to expand opportunities available to people with criminal records for jobs and training in energy efficiency, renewable energy, urban greening, brownfield remediation, conservation, and other green sector employment areas. Through outreach to members of its *Communities of Practice* and relationships with criminal justice reform and environmental justice reform advocates, GFA will identify and recruit working group members from its target cities,<sup>5</sup> including participation from workforce development providers that also run social enterprises. GFA will coordinate logistics and will work with working group members to define goals, parameters and structure of the working group, and improve technological tools to be used for communication and sharing of resources among working group members. Among other issues, GFA will facilitate the working group in identifying barriers that prevent training providers from serving people with criminal records and in developing best practices for removing those barriers.

*Produce and disseminate a report and hold three-part webinar series.* To make broadly available to practitioners the working group's work and to leverage its efforts to support advocates working for policies that expand opportunities for people with criminal records, GFA will oversee the production of a report and produce a three-part webinar series on best practices for connecting people with criminal records to and training them for green economy jobs. GFA will assist the working group to identify a lead researcher and writer; outline, research, draft, edit, design, and finalize the report; develop a distribution strategy; and disseminate the report, including a section on GFA's website with additional resources for workforce programs serving people with criminal records. GFA will also produce a three-part webinar series with the goal of 500-1,000 participants per webinar. The first two webinars of the series will be targeted to workforce development practitioners, while the third would be a Green For All Capital Access Program webinar for businesses. The webinars would share best practices for supporting people with criminal records through training and employment; best practices for employers; and tools for advocates working on removing unreasonable barriers to employment for people with criminal records, both in terms of existing supports (e.g., bonding and Work Opportunity Tax Credits), as well as emerging public policy (e.g., community benefits agreements).

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<sup>5</sup> Green For All is in conversations with partners to do work in the following cities: New Orleans, Oakland, Boston, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Albuquerque, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Atlanta, Chicago, Newark, Denver, and Los Angeles and it is assessing ten additional cities. It is taking a three-tier approach to its level of local engagement, depending on local partner organization assets and needs, as follows: 1) Green For All as proactive leaders; 2) Green For All as active partners; and 3) Green For All as responsive supporters.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in eliminating harsh punishment by eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry and increasing access to living wage employment opportunities in the emerging green economy. This grant would also advance OSI's interests in addressing climate change.

Just as more funding is becoming available to train people facing barriers to employment, including people with criminal records, workforce development practitioners serving people with criminal records face a uniquely challenging time. With unemployment rising in the current recession, practitioners must navigate an increasingly competitive job market, one in which even highly experienced and skilled people without criminal records have difficulties competing for few vacancies. Often, in cases where green jobs do become available, workforce development practitioners that work with people with criminal records either are not themselves qualified to provide the appropriate training, or they do not have the connections necessary to link their clients to the opportunities in the emerging green economy. Moreover, practitioners often must confront employers' resistance to hire people with criminal records and other limitations stipulated by funders or boards that prevent workforce development practitioners from serving people with criminal records (especially for those convicted of violent or sexual crimes). Separated by their sector of work or by geography, practitioners are often unexposed to potential solutions.

Since spinning off from the Ella Baker Center in 2008, Green For All has become a valued and active member of the green jobs coalition; built a solid, fiscally viable organization; and recruited an impressive staff of seasoned program and policy professionals. Even with Van Jones' departure in March as GFA's founding president, GFA has achieved significant victories under the leadership of its new CEO, Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins. Specifically, in May, GFA helped shape a landmark green jobs bill in Washington State that creates thousands of good, green-collar jobs, as workers retrofit upwards of 100,000 residential and commercial buildings to make them more energy efficient. The bill also protects Washington's renewable energy standards and includes job quality standards and opportunities for low-income people. In June, GFA secured two key equity provisions in the federal American Clean Energy and Security Act: \$860 million allocated to the Green Jobs Act; and local access to quality jobs, through a green construction careers-demonstration program.<sup>6</sup> GFA's advocacy displayed its powerful networking capabilities to forge many unlikely alliances in the civil rights, faith-based and labor communities.

Green For All's Community of Practice (CoP) is a well-developed project that convenes practitioners from various sectors—businesses, government, non-profits, workforce development, higher education, labor, and others—to collaborate on developing tools, resources, and strategies to make the promise of a green economy real for people with criminal records. Through specialized convenings and thoughtfully facilitated conversations, the Green Pathways Out of Poverty CoP is already counting policy wins. In May 2009, the Green Pathways Out of Poverty working group drafted a letter to Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis with specific recommendations for the Solicitation for Grant Application (SGA) for green jobs training grants. The final SGA included many of the CoP's recommendations, including eligibility for persons convicted of violent crimes for training in green careers.

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed project funding in the amount of \$75,000 over one year to Green For All.

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<sup>6</sup> In accordance with U.S. tax law, no OSI funds will be used by Green For All for lobbying purposes.

<b><u>Name of Organization:</u></b>	Foundation for Criminal Justice
<b><u>Tax Status:</u></b>	501(c)(3)
<b><u>Purpose of Grant:</u></b>	To provide general support
<b><u>Previous OSI Support:</u></b>	\$200,000 (\$150,000 National Security and Human Rights Campaign 2008; \$50,000 Gideon Project 2008)
<b><u>Organizational Budget:</u></b>	\$475,000
<b><u>Project Budget:</u></b>	N/A
<b><u>Sources of Support:</u></b>	\$380,000 Ford Foundation
<b><u>Amount Requested:</u></b>	\$225,000
<b><u>Amount Recommended:</u></b>	\$425,000 \$225,000 (Criminal Justice Fund, T1: 24027) \$200,000 (NSHR Campaign, T1: 21095)
<b><u>Term:</u></b>	Two years (September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011)
<b><u>Matching Requirements:</u></b>	None

**Description of Organization:**

Founded in 2000, the Foundation for Criminal Justice (FCJ) is a 501(c)(3) organization that works to preserve and promote the core values of America’s justice system guaranteed by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and to support the work of its member organization, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL). As a 501(c)(6) trade association, NACDL is the sole member of FCJ and appoints a majority of the Trustees for FCJ. The appointed Trustees, in turn, elect the remainder of the Board of FCJ. No fewer than three and no more than one-half of the Trustees of FCJ must be current officers of NACDL and two-thirds of the Trustees of FCJ must be current NCADL members. NACDL’s mission is to ensure justice and due process for persons accused of crime, foster integrity and independence of the criminal defense profession, and promote the proper and fair administration of justice. Founded in 1958, NACDL has more than 11,000 members and 35,000 affiliate members committed to preserving fairness within America's criminal justice system. In recent years, FCJ and NACDL have sought to address threats to civil liberties posed by U.S. “war on terror” policies.

FCJ works closely with NACDL to develop strategies for reform, including partnering with academic institutions on research, developing and publishing reports, supporting litigation efforts, providing expert witnesses, serving as amicus curiae, developing and implementing targeted public education campaigns, working with the media, and building coalitions. With support and collaboration from FCJ, NACDL has undertaken a variety of programs and initiatives to support criminal justice reform and protect civil liberties. These activities are described in more detail below.

**Criminal Justice Initiatives**

*Research on criminal justice practices.* Supported by FCJ, in April 2009, NACDL released the report, *Minor Crimes, Massive Waste: The Terrible Toll of America's Broken Misdemeanor Courts*. The report exposed the failures in misdemeanor representation and proposed a set of policy recommendations to improve misdemeanor defense services and seek solutions outside of the criminal justice system to address the issue of low-level offenders. NACDL worked with Spitfire Strategies to target seven jurisdictions to publicize the report when it was released. The report garnered national attention and editorial coverage across the ideological spectrum of civil society. With support from FCJ, in 2007, NACDL established a task force on problem-solving courts to assess the extent to which these diversionary courts preserve or erode fundamental rights. The task force conducted extensive research and held public hearings in seven states, receiving testimony from judges, prosecutors, treatment providers, defense lawyers, and others involved in the operation of those courts. The final report, which will be published later in 2009, will highlight good and bad practices and establish guidelines for establishing the formation of a problem-solving court program.

*Eyewitness identification reform.* The standard methodologies for conducting eyewitness identification by police are suggestive and lead to inaccurate identifications. In advocating for the adoption of better eyewitness identification procedures by law enforcement agencies, FCJ has supported NACDL's efforts to provide experts to testify in favor of eyewitness identification reform in commission hearings and state legislatures in several jurisdictions. NACDL in conjunction with several partnering institutions has also sought to expand the challenges to traditional eyewitness identification procedures by hosting a comprehensive training on litigating eyewitness identification cases.

*Grand jury reform.* The FCJ and NACDL have long believed that the abuse of the grand jury process is a major cause of injustice. To address this issue, FCJ and NACDL have pursued federal grand jury reform for the last decade, including issuing a report in 2000 calling for a grand jury bill of rights. Currently, NACDL is working with George Mason University Law School Professor Jonathan Gould to analyze grand jury practice in two states that have already enacted reform.

*Expert support for reform.* One of the most effective ways NACDL has been able to support state reform efforts is by providing expert assistance for reform litigation and testimony before tribunals, commissions, and upon invitation, to legislative bodies. For example, when a public defender in a small county in Ohio was charged with contempt for refusing to go to trial within three hours of undertaking representation of a client, NACDL sent a nationally renowned ethics expert to testify on behalf of the public defender.

*Amicus Curiae.* NACDL has been cited by third party experts as having one of the most effective Supreme Court amicus curiae programs among non-profit organizations. This work has been accomplished with successful support from FCJ. For example, NACDL recently filed an amicus brief in the New York Court of Appeals regarding the use of global positioning systems by police without a warrant. The argument was used by the majority in holding that utilizing a GPS device constitutes a search and cannot be utilized without a warrant absent exigent circumstances.

*Resource Counsel.* While many cities have public defender offices staffed by full-time defense lawyers, nationally a high percentage of public defense work is handled by small public defender offices, contract defenders, and court-appointed counsel. These lawyers do not have access to the institutional support that a large public defender office provides. With collaboration from FCJ, NACDL launched a resource counsel project to provide lawyers with needed support, including an online forum for the line criminal defense practitioner, information on new and emerging issues like eyewitness identification challenges, and resources on basic skills and concepts such as DUI cases and discovery.

## National Security Initiatives

*National security in domestic criminal cases.* Laws passed allegedly to combat terrorism have crept into everyday, non-terrorism-related criminal prosecutions. FCJ and NACDL recognize that under the banner of the “war on terror” Americans’ fundamental constitutional protections have been under attack. FCJ has collaborated with NACDL to implement a national security program, and NACDL’s National Security Coordinator (NSC) has worked to track developments in the domestic misuse and abuse of national security laws and maintain both a national security section on the NACDL website and a national security and military listserv.

*Preserving Fourth Amendment and privacy rights.* FCJ is working with NACDL to expand its national security program and to target resources to safeguard Fourth Amendment protections in the context of the “war on terror.” To guide this effort, NACDL’s president has recently appointed a committee to work with the NSC to reach out to allies to determine how NACDL can best meet privacy threats. NACDL will assess the activities of other advocacy organizations and consider surveying the state of the law and the extent to which the use of new technologies that derogate the Fourth Amendment are infiltrating criminal prosecutions.

*Defense of Guantanamo detainees in military commission trials.* In early 2008, FCJ and the ACLU established the John Adams Project to support the defense teams for Guantanamo detainees charged with capital crimes being tried under the Military Commissions Act. The ACLU, FCJ, and NACDL arranged for the assignment of two civilian attorneys to assist each of the Guantanamo detainees facing capital charges before military commissions related to the planning of the 9/11 attacks. The NSC also recruited pro bono attorneys to research and draft motions to challenge the military commission procedures under humanitarian and domestic constitutional law. The NSC has also developed an education program to assist attorneys litigating cases in front of the military commissions.

*Developing national security law.* With the support of FCJ, NACDL is taking an active role in challenging current national security laws and will advocate for future national security laws that respect due process and constitutional norms. NACDL also provides amicus briefs in national security cases, and submitted briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Hamdan*, *Moussaoui*, and *Boumediene* cases.

*Alternatives to military commissions.* The NSC has worked with a coalition of human rights groups to develop messaging designed to encourage the administration to reject “preventive detention” and not to revert to military commissions or, at a minimum, to ensure that future commissions provide for full due process rights for detainees.

### **Description of the Project for Which Funding Is Sought:**

FCJ seeks general support.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant will further the Criminal Justice Fund’s goals of eliminating racial disparities and securing a fair and equitable system of justice. The grant advances the National Security and Human Right’s Campaign’s priority of strengthening the capacity of core organizations to advocate against a range of abusive counterterrorism policies and for a progressive national security policy that respects civil liberties, human rights, and the rule of law.

FCJ and NACDL have been at the forefront of pursuing the reforms necessary to make America's criminal justice system more humane: support for public defense, sentencing reform, addressing racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system, opposing overcriminalization and evisceration of fundamental constitutional rights, and death penalty reform.

FCJ and NACDL are uniquely positioned to provide the criminal defense bar with resources and training to challenge ill-conceived attacks on fundamental freedoms. Too frequently, front line defense lawyers lack the appropriate resources and training to provide the zealous advocacy their clients deserve. These lawyers are also pressured by the courts to cut short their advocacy in the name of greater efficiency. To combat these pressures, FCJ and NACDL provide training and resources that equip the criminal defense bar to fight against prosecutorial overreaching.

If properly trained and resourced, the criminal defense bar has incredible potential to advocate successfully for reform. Courts generally render decisions more quickly than one can motivate a legislative body to act, and decisions generally issue in criminal cases much faster than in civil rights cases due to a streamlined procedural process. At the same time, the impact of a criminal court decision can be just as broad as a class action decision, and such decisions can serve as catalysts for wider reform. Recently, it was one criminal defense lawyer raising the constitutionality of a GPS tracking device that led the New York Court of Appeals to strike down the unlimited use of those devices by police without a warrant – a decision that will have tremendous impact in New York.

FCJ and NACDL have also been successful as leaders in addressing a growing threat to American's civil liberties. Since the tragedy of 9/11, the U.S. government has engaged in unparalleled assaults on a range of constitutional rights, including the right to counsel, the right to due process, the right to a speedy trial, the right to habeas corpus, and the right to trial by jury. Despite hopes that the new Administration would reserve these policies, it has become clear that the Obama administration has not ruled out the use of indefinite detention without charge or the prosecution of Guantanamo Bay detainees in a procedurally flawed military commission system. Moreover, little effort is being made to rescind/limit the additional powers allotted to executive agencies in the name of national security. Given these challenges, the ability of NACDL's national security program to marshal the resources of the criminal defense bar to expose and combat these limitations on civil liberties is an important asset.

For the above reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund and the National Security and Human Rights Campaign staff jointly recommend a general support grant of \$425,000 over 22 months to the Foundation for Criminal Justice.



**Name of Organization:** Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide general support

**Previous OSI Support:** \$1,631,800  
(\$125,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2008; \$125,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$140,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2006; \$11,800 Strategic Opportunities Fund-2005; \$280,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2004; \$150,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2003; \$175,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2002; \$150,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2001; \$25,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-2000; \$300,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-1998; \$150,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-1998)

**Organizational Budget:** \$2,100,000

**Sources of Support:** \$275,000 Marguerite Casey Foundation; \$200,000 Kendeda Fund; \$200,000 Rudolf Steiner Foundation; \$100,000 Ford Foundation; \$74,000 Corporate Contributions; \$60,000 Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund; \$50,000 Public Welfare Foundation; \$34,000 Corporate Contributions; \$30,000 Walter & Elise Haas, Sr. Fund; \$25,000 Rosenberg Foundation; \$25,000 Bellwether Foundation; \$9,000 Women's Foundation of California; \$5,000 Edna Wardlaw Charitable Trust;

**Amount Requested:** \$250,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$250,000 (Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking, T1: 24027)

**Term:** 2 years

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights (EBC) was established in 1996 as an outgrowth of the Bay Area PoliceWatch, a hotline founded in 1995 for victims of police brutality and EBC's first program. Originally based in a small Oakland office donated by the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, EBC has grown to be an award-winning national strategy and action center working for justice, opportunity and peace in urban America. Through a combination of grassroots organizing, direct action mobilizing, public education, media advocacy, policy reform advocacy, and legal assistance, EBC promotes a human investment agenda that offers positive alternatives to violence and incarceration and aims to build "people power" in those communities most harmed by over-reliance on prison and harsh punishment.

EBC works toward its goals of "justice in the system, opportunity in our cities and peace on our streets" through four programs that promote alternatives to violence and incarceration, including: *Books Not Bars*, the *Green-Collar Jobs Campaign*, *Soul of the City*, and *Silence the Violence*.

*Books Not Bars.* Created in 2004, Books Not Bars works to reform California's abusive and costly youth prison system and replace it with effective, rehabilitative alternatives and community-based centers. Books Not Bars targets California's youth prisons, which have been described as "draconian lockup units," under the authority of the California Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ)—formerly the California Youth Authority. Inside DJJ prisons, young people are subjected to unusually harsh conditions. Instances of 23-hour-a-day solitary confinement for months at a time, lock-ups in small cages during class time and denial of basic medical care are common, and at least five young people have died since 2004. Books Not Bars criticizes the DJJ not only as an abusive system, but also an ineffective one. The existing system costs California an average of \$160,000 a year for each young person behind bars with a recidivism rate of 75%, earning California the distinction of having the nation's most expensive, least effective juvenile justice system. To address this Books Not Bars advocates for policy reforms that place young people in appropriate rehabilitation programs instead of youth prisons; educates the public with rallies and events, media work, a website, and documentary screenings; organizes parents and families of incarcerated youth through local chapters of "Families for Books Not Bars," the state's only network of families with incarcerated children; and organizes prosecutors, judges, business leaders, and teachers calling for reform.

*Green-Collar Jobs Campaign.* EBC unveiled the Green-Collar Jobs Campaign—originally calling it "Reclaim the Future"—at the United Nations World Environmental Day Conference in 2005 to address the lack of meaningful work opportunities in the Bay Area by creating opportunities in the green economy for poor communities and communities of color. As billions of dollars are being invested in eco-friendly construction, clean technology, urban agriculture and renewable energy, the Green-Collar Jobs Campaign works to turn investment into "green-collar" job opportunities for low-income people, at-risk youth, and people with criminal records. It is working to "build a green economy that is strong enough to lift people out of poverty" by engaging diverse stakeholders to launch training programs; aligning green employers; and advocating for public policies that promote clean energy, green business, and green jobs training. Through an employment pipeline called the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, which recruits participants and provides ongoing support, teaches "soft" skills (i.e., general life skills necessary to be successful in any work environment) and "hard" skills (i.e., specific skills required to work on new energy projects as a member of the Oakland Green Corps), it provides employment experience for a limited time on City-funded renewable energy and efficiency projects, and supports participants in transitioning from the Oakland Green Jobs Corps into independent employment.

*Soul of the City.* Launched in January 2009, Soul of the City replaces EBC's longest running program *Bay Area Police Watch* and shifts the organization's prior work—which represented a largely reactive approach to public safety—to a proactive, solution-based model that employs civic engagement and leadership development. By bringing residents together to address community concerns and build on hopes through learning, service, and leadership, the program is working to transform Oakland into a socially just, spiritually connected, ecologically sustainable city with shared prosperity for all. Soul of the City provides political education through workshops that teach interconnectedness and connect participants with shared purpose to transform the city; develops and launches community service and community solutions projects; hosts member-led "Serve Our City" community service projects that bring people together to share resources, build mutual prosperity, and improve the environment; engage residents in advocacy to shape policy and programs that lift up neighborhoods; and creates an educated and invested voter base in all neighborhoods to achieve sustainability and prosperity.

*Silence the Violence.* Silence the Violence combines youth leadership and cultural engagement with a strong policy agenda to reduce rates of violent crime in the Bay Area, and it has enjoyed tremendous success and growing public support for systemic change since its launch in 2006. It advocates for smart policies proven to stop violence, like expanded funding for recreation and entertainment, job opportunities, and street-based conflict mediation. Silence the Violence reaches young people at the street level, spreading messages of nonviolence through music and art and building a culture of peace from the ground up through its CD project, magazine, online/viral marketing campaign, and partnership with the region's leading hip-hop radio station. The program advocates for and organizes recreation alternatives timed for when violence tends to peak—holidays, weekends, and the summer—to help young people stay out of trouble by having something positive and fun to do. Silence the Violence also trains Oakland's next generation of young leaders (ages 15-18) through “Heal the Streets,” a ten-month fellowship program that develops advocacy and organizing skills by engaging young people in policy reform campaigns.

The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights has been an OSI grantee since 1998. In 2008, the U.S. Justice Fund awarded EBC renewed general support over one year.

**Description of the Project for Which Funding is Sought:**

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights requests renewed general support.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund’s interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration, and by eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry and increasing access to living wage employment opportunities in the emerging green economy. This grant would also advance the racial justice priorities of the Equality and Opportunity Fund, the multi-issue and multi-sector constituency building priorities of the Democracy and Power Fund, and OSI’s interests in addressing climate change.

In its thirteen years of operation, EBC has continually expanded and refined its scope to better recognize and address the ways in which criminal justice intersects with other policy issues. We agree with EBC’s analysis that creating enduring change, including criminal justice reform, involves engaging communities and creating opportunities in other public institutions to reverse the decades of disinvestment in our cities, the excessive policing, and over-incarceration that have destabilized and endangered poor communities and communities of color. To break the cycle of violence and reinvest in our cities, EBC offers smart solutions and uplifting alternatives that mirror CJF’s longstanding philosophy: the safest neighborhoods aren’t the ones with the most prisons and the most police; they are the ones with the best schools, the cleanest environment, and the most opportunities for young people and working people. We share what EBC wants for urban America: justice in the system; opportunity in our cities; and peace on our streets.

EBC has earned a reputation for tenacity and innovation. But more importantly, it has earned impressive victories. In 2008, Books Not Bars celebrated success of its pioneering campaign to transform the California Division of Juvenile Justice as it closed two of the most abusive youth prisons, El Paso de Robles and Dewitt Nelson Youth Correctional Facilities. In 2008, EBC spearheaded the campaign to defeat Proposition 6, which would have spent billions on prison building and targeted youth for adult incarceration by deeming any youth 14 years or older who is convicted of a “gang-related” felony must be tried as an adult. In the same year, Books Not Bars helped get the Family Communications Act signed into law. This act is a huge step toward better

communication between incarcerated youth and their families. Similar organizing and advocacy efforts also won the dismissal of violent, abusive guards in one of California's youth prisons and a brutal San Francisco police officer. The Green Collar Jobs Campaign organized the City of Oakland's neighborhoods, business community, and training centers to support the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, which trains local residents for employment in the burgeoning green economy. In 2008, the Oakland City Council voted to provide \$250,000 in funding to the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, which provides a vital pool of seed funding to attract matching donations over the long-term. A portion of these funds will create special paid internships for Green Jobs Corps graduates in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

We are impressed by EBC's smooth transition from being a founder-led organization to its current phase of development. With Van Jones stepping down as EBC's Executive Director in May 2007, Jakada Imani, former director of EBC's Books Not Bars Campaign, became the organization's new executive director. Having served as an advocate within EBC for several years, Imani has been able to preserve the fierce activist spirit of the organization while making sure its capacity meets the demands placed on EBC. He is a smart, pragmatic leader with strong fundraising skills and an ability to speak persuasively to multiple constituencies. Imani has also garnered widespread media coverage of EBC's work on juvenile justice reform as well as considerable praise from incarcerated youth and their family members. Given staff changes and founders transitioning to board positions, EBC began a strategic planning process at the end of 2008. With great confidence in Imani's leadership we believe continued support will sustain, if not enhance, EBC's authority and accomplishments as a dynamic criminal justice reform leader in California.

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed general support in the amount of \$250,000 over two years to the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights.

**Name of Organization:** Grassroots Leadership, Inc.

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide general support

**Previous OSI Support:** \$1,540,000  
(\$120,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2008; \$260,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$280,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2005; \$130,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2004; \$25,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2003; \$150,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2003; \$150,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2002; \$150,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2001; \$275,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-2000)

**Organizational Budget:** \$773,660

**Sources of Support:** \$195,000 Individual Contributions \$111,000 Andrus Family Foundation; \$87,660 Contracts and Other Income; \$60,000 Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation; \$57,000 United World College; \$40,000 Development Directors of Color Fellowship; \$30,000 Ms. Foundation; \$21,000 Concerts and Lectures; \$20,000 Rose and Scherle Wagner Family Foundation; \$15,000 Akonadi Foundation; \$10,000 Dobkin Family Foundation; \$7,740 Texas Prison Bidness; \$6,000 Andrus Family Foundation

**Amount Requested:** \$75,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$75,000 (Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking, T1: 24027)

**Term:** 6 months

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Grassroots Leadership is a southern-based national organization founded in 1980 by Si Kahn—a folksinger/song writer and activist with deep roots in the civil-rights movement, including work with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in the 1960s and subsequent labor organizing—as a multi-racial, state and regional community organizing effort to create infrastructure for a progressive movement in the South. Since its founding, Grassroots Leadership has designed organizing campaigns around issues that advance its mission to defend democracy, enhance the public good, and stop the erosion of the public sphere. The organization has played an important field-building role through its aggressive organizational and leadership development work with established and emerging community-organizing groups and individuals working throughout the South. Through this work, Grassroots Leadership has helped organizations become stronger so that they can meet their own goals; created and supported new organizations to address community needs; and provided strategic space for Southern activists to work together on common issues and campaigns.

In 1999, Grassroots Leadership formally entered the criminal justice reform field when it directed the focus of its organizing efforts to abolish all for-profit, private prisons, jails, and detention

centers and to help establish a prison and criminal justice system that is in at least some measure humane and just. That year, it formed and began directing the Public Safety and Justice Campaign (PSJC), a national campaign that brought together a strong coalition of labor, criminal justice reform, religious, community, student, advocacy, and research organizations to stop for-profit private prisons and jails. PSJC earned its most notable campaign victory in 2001 through the *Not with Our Money!* campaign, a joint Grassroots Leadership and Prison Moratorium Project effort led by Soros Justice Fellow Kevin Pranis that mobilized students on sixty university campuses to demand that the catering company, Sodexo Alliance, divest its 10% stake in Corrections Corporation of America (CCA). This successful organizing coup attracted high profile, international media coverage and galvanized the field of activists working to oppose prison privatization. In 2008, because of the issue's deep interconnectedness to prison privatization, Grassroots Leadership began to address immigrant detention when it launched its *Campaign to Abolish Immigrant Family Detention*.

Today, through its offices and corresponding chapters in Charlotte, North Carolina; Southaven, Mississippi; Montezuma, New Mexico; and Austin, Texas; Grassroots Leadership directs six distinct projects that use a combination of field and organization capacity building assistance, grassroots organizing, direct action mobilizing, public education, media advocacy, and policy reform advocacy. These projects include the *Mecklenburg Justice Project*, the *Campaign to Abolish Immigrant Family Detention*, *Familias Unidas por la Esperanza*, *Keeping Faith*, the *Center for Theory and Practice*, and the *Development Directors of Color Fellowship*.

*Mecklenburg Justice Project (MJP)*. Launched on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, with a founding two-year grant of \$120,000 from the North Carolina-based Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, MJP is working to build broad-based, institutional and individual support for decreasing the current jail population in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina (Charlotte) by increasing alternatives to incarceration. To do so, it is also addressing and helping foster community solutions to the inter-related issues that contribute to crime, including homelessness, unemployment, untreated mental health conditions, and drug and alcohol abuse. The Mecklenburg Justice Project is currently evaluating the feasibility of a campaign to end the notorious 287(g) program<sup>7</sup> in the county. With eight 287(g) sites each, North Carolina and Virginia “lead” the nation in this practice; fully 25% of the country’s 287(g) programs are located in these two states.

*Campaign to Abolish Immigrant Family Detention*. In November 2008, Grassroots Leadership launched a national campaign to abolish so-called “immigrant family detention,” the appalling practice whereby infants and children are incarcerated together with their parents, not one of whom has been charged with any offense other than entering the United States without the appropriate documents. The campaign grew out of Grassroots Leadership’s work over the past three years to close T. Don Hutto, the notorious “family detention center” in Taylor, Texas, operated by for-profit private prison giant Corrections Corporation of America. Despite the stunning victory on August 7, 2009, when the federal government announced the closing of Hutto, immigrant family detention itself has not yet been abolished. Some families will still be detained at the public facility in Berks County, Pennsylvania, northwest of Philadelphia. It is possible that other similar contract sites, both public and private, will be established. Grassroots Leadership is assessing what these changed conditions mean for the *Campaign to End Immigrant Family Detention*, and how it will move forward.

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<sup>7</sup> The program, known as 287(g), deputizes police to turn over suspects or people who have been arrested to immigration authorities for possible deportation.

*Familias Unidas por la Esperanza (Families United for Hope).* Austin-based Luissana Santibañez won a 2008 Soros Justice Fellowship to found this statewide Texas advocacy network, which includes both formerly detained immigrants and family members of those who are currently detained or have been deported, a tragedy mirrored in Luissana's own family. *Familias* supports affected people and organizes them to challenge unjust laws and practices.

*Keeping Faith.* In 2005, Grassroots Leadership launched *Keeping Faith: A Religious Response to the Prison Crisis*, which works with people of faith and faith organizations at the state, local, national, and international level to call for an end to all incarceration for profit. *Keeping the Faith* works to develop an expanded role for the faith community nationally and internationally around prison and criminal justice issues so that passionate faith-based voices are heard loudly and clearly in opposition to the injustice present in our current systems.

*Center for Theory and Practice.* Founded with a \$100,000 grant from the C.S. Mott Foundation, the center brings organizers, activists, and educators together for reflection and strategic interaction. In 2009 the Center held a strategy session in Houston for Texas activists focusing on the impact of mass incarceration on Black and Brown communities and a gathering entitled "Re-visioning Progressive Education" for participants to think through strategies for opposing the increasing corporatization and privatization of education and rebuilding widespread support for education as a public good for all.

*Development Directors of Color Fellowship.* Initiated in 2008 with a major two-year Z. Smith Reynolds founding grant, the *Development Directors of Color Fellowship* addresses the underrepresentation of people of color in non-profit fundraising. Over the next ten years, it will help ten young people of color become fully trained development professionals, who in turn, will help expand the financial base and capacity of progressive activist organizations in the South.

Grassroots Leadership has been an OSI grantee since 2000. In 2008, OSI awarded Grassroots Leadership general support funding for one year.

**Description of Project for Which Funding is Sought:**

Grassroots Leadership requests renewed general support.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration and its goal of eliminating harsh punishment by reforming policies that criminalize immigrants. The grant would also advance the immigrant rights priorities of the Equality and Opportunity Fund and the Transparency and Integrity Fund's concern with the impact of privatization and efforts to undermine the role of government.

The incursion of market forces into the public sector of the United States is troubling and represents a serious threat to open society values and basic principles of justice and democracy. This state of affairs is particularly worrisome in criminal justice policy. While private prisons remain a relatively small share of the "prison market" (in 2000, roughly 5.5% of all U.S. prisoners were held in private facilities), there is strong agreement among criminal justice reform advocates and policy analysts that the for-profit private prison industry is a major force contributing to prison expansion in the U.S. and internationally. Industry representatives lobby lawmakers for policies that expand the use of incarceration and contribute heavily to elected

officials that support and advance “tough on crime” policies. In terms of criminal justice reform, as difficult as it is for incarcerated people and their advocates to demand accountability when prisons are publicly held and operated, the possibility of challenging policies and practices when prisons and detention facilities are in private, corporate hands seems remote at best.

Grassroots Leadership’s strong work to abolish the practice has made the organization OSI’s flagship grantee in the area of prison privatization in the United States. For an organization that, during most of these past ten years, has had only seven full time paid staff members, Grassroots Leadership has won up an impressive list of victories through its strategic and effective public education, grassroots organizing, and coalition building. In April 2007, due in large part to Grassroots Leadership’s organizing, voters in Pike County, Mississippi, voted not to allow construction of a CCA private prison in their county—the first time in Mississippi’s history that a public referendum defeated a proposed private prison. In 2008, an aggressive campaign Grassroots Leadership launched and directed in Mecklenburg County (Charlotte), North Carolina, blocked construction of a proposed 1,500-bed immigrant detention center that would have owned and operated by a for-profit private prison corporation. When the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) attempted to build the detention center in adjacent Gaston County, Grassroots Leadership’s coalition stopped that effort as well. More recently, Grassroots Leadership’s organizing led to the August 7, 2009, Department of Homeland Security announcement that it was withdrawing all families from the country’s first “immigrant family detention center” in Taylor, Texas—the for-profit private T. Don Hutto Family Center, operated by Corrections Corporation of America—and that ICE was withdrawing its RFP’s for the three new immigrant family detention centers it had planned to construct. We agree with Grassroots leadership’s assessment that had these new detention centers been built and filled, the institutionalization of immigrant family detention would have been well on its way and increasingly difficult to affect or abolish.

As Grassroots Leadership celebrates its most recent victory, the organization is at a crossroads. On May Day, 2010, Grassroots Leadership’s Executive Director Si Kahn, who founded and has led the organization for 30 years, will step down and retire. Grassroots Leadership’s board and staff have taken a very intentional approach to ensuring a smooth transition, with the organization beginning transition planning almost four years ago, retaining an outside transition consultant to assist and guide it through the process of examining board and staff roles, and organizational goals in preparation for the selection and arrival of a new executive director. All members of the Grassroots Leadership’s board have committed to extending their terms of service so that they will remain on the board for at least one year following the current Executive Director’s retirement, and the organization is working hard to secure five-year pledges from its donors, and multi-year grants from our foundation allies to help ensure its financial stability for several years following the executive director transition. A search committee of Board and staff is reviewing applications, and hopes to have the new Executive Director on board as of January 1, 2010. Staff believes Grassroots Leadership will emerge from its transition a strong organization committed to addressing the issues and policy reform priorities of concern to OSI. We will work closely with the organization as it searches for a new Executive Director, and will consider multi-year renewal funding when the organization names its new Executive Director early in the New Year for presentation on our first docket of 2010. OSI funding at this time, at a slightly higher level, will give the organization flexibility over the next six months of the transition to its new Executive Director.

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed general support in the amount of \$75,000 over six months to Grassroots Leadership.



**Name of Organization:** Partnership for Safety and Justice

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide general support

**Previous OSI Support:** \$557,715  
(\$56,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2008; \$200,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$6,715 Strategic Opportunities Fund-2006; \$75,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2006; \$120,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2004; \$100,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2002)

**Organizational Budget:** \$580,250

**Project Budget:** Not applicable

**Sources of Support:** \$51,000 Meyer Memorial Foundation; \$50,000 Public Welfare Foundation; \$50,000 Fund for Nonviolence; \$50,000 Northwest Health Foundation; \$40,000 Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program; \$33,500 Western States Center; \$30,000 JEHT Foundation; \$25,000 Campaign for Youth Justice; \$15,000 Butler Family Fund; \$15,000 Social Justice Fund; \$10,000 Greenwald Fund; \$10,000 Social Justice Fund

**Amount Requested:** \$200,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$200,000  
(\$150,000 Criminal Justice Fund Grantmaking, T1: 24027)  
(\$50,000 Reentry Grantmaking, T1: 24013)

**Term:** 2 years

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

The Partnership for Safety and Justice (PSJ) was founded in 1999—then called the Western Prison Project—by people directly affected by the criminal justice system to build a progressive, multi-racial, grassroots movement to reduce the reliance on incarceration in the Northwest. A multi-issue, statewide advocacy organization based in Portland, Oregon, PSJ organizes those most directly affected by crime, violence, and the over reliance on incarceration and harsh punishment—crime survivors, people with criminal records, and the families of both—to advocate for policies and practices that reduce violence, increase personal and community safety, and effectively redirect resources from an over reaching criminal justice and prison system to community-based solutions to ensuring public safety. PSJ identifies, recruits, and builds the capacity and skills of grassroots leaders and criminal justice reform groups in Oregon and engages these activists in collaborative public education and policy reform campaigns. To support movement building and criminal justice policy reform efforts beyond Oregon—in Washington, Idaho, and Montana—PSJ serves as an information resource, technical assistance, and campaign strategy support center for grassroots activists and organizations working throughout the region.

PSJ combines grassroots leadership development and organizing with professional advocacy and public education to advocate for a justice system that is just and that more effectively builds safer, healthier communities. It builds coalitions and alliances with other groups and organizations that support its policy goals; engages with policymakers through direct advocacy and grassroots organizing campaigns; provides education, training, and leadership development to its members and its allies to increase their effectiveness as grassroots policy advocates and organizers; and produces well-researched print and electronic materials as tools to mobilize broader public support for reform and to inform and educate the public, the press, policymakers, and its membership.

PSJ seeks measurable, progressive change to the criminal justice system and a more balanced approach to public safety. Specifically, the organization promotes: a reduction in Oregon's use of incarceration as a response to crime and social problems shifting toward more effective solutions to reduce future crime; the removal of unreasonable barriers to successful community reentry faced by formerly incarcerated people; increased social and community support for survivors of crime; and reform of the prison system consistent with constitutional and human rights with an emphasis on increased access to programs that foster successful reentry.

Partnership for Safety and Justice organizes its work around six program and campaign areas, including:

*Safety and Sentencing Program.* The *Safety and Sentencing Program* promotes approaches to public safety that foster safe communities, are fiscally responsible, and reduce Oregon's over-reliance on prisons. This program promotes safe and sensible sentencing reform (with a special focus on youth), as well as proven and effective alternatives to incarceration.

*Crime Survivors Program.* The *Crime Survivors Program* promotes progressive responses to the needs of crime survivors and to supporting restorative justice. PSJ is building a base of crime survivors who advocate for a system focused on prevention, not punishment. The program focuses on the issues and needs of crime survivors (people who are harmed by another person/people during a criminal event) throughout Oregon. Its goals are to strengthen services for survivors of crime and to promote progressive responses to crime victims' needs and establish policies that ensure safety, accountability, healing, and justice.

*Prison Program.* The *Prison Program* advocates for increased access to quality programs within prisons that foster successful reentry, help incarcerated people and their families gain access to information about issues that affect them, and that protect the constitutional and human rights of incarcerated people.

*Beyond Barriers.* Building on PSJ's past work on the disenfranchisement of people with past felony convictions (the VOICE project), the *Beyond Barriers* program works to eliminate the unreasonable civil and social barriers formerly incarcerated people experience. The program's goal is to create a society that better supports the successful reentry of people returning to the community from prison and jail.

*Youth Justice Campaign.* Based on the premise that public safety is best served when youth in trouble are held accountable and given the services they need to succeed in the juvenile justice system rather than the adult criminal justice system, PSJ's *Youth Justice Campaign* works to combat the laws that automatically try and sentence and imprison youth in our adult system.

*Think Outside the Box Campaign.* To highlight the link between good public safety strategy and reducing unreasonable employment barriers faced by people with criminal records, PSJ's *Think Outside the Box Campaign* works to remove the question "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" from initial job application forms throughout Oregon.

PSJ has been an OSI grantee since 2002. In 2008, OSI awarded PSJ general support funding for seven months.

**Description of the Project for Which Funding is Sought:**

Partnership for Safety and Justice requests renewed general support.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by attacking the excessive and economically destructive costs of incarceration, eliminating harsh and unjust sentencing policies and practices, addressing the treatment of youth as adults in prosecution and sentencing, and eliminating unreasonable barriers to successful reentry.

PSJ began as one of the only organizations in the Pacific Northwest working on criminal justice reform. Today it is the only statewide player in Oregon that addresses a wide mix of criminal justice reform issues, ranging from sentencing reform and reentry to prison expansion and crime survivor advocacy. It is also a regional criminal justice information hub for the Pacific Northwest. Beyond this, PSJ has established itself as an integral part of the national criminal justice reform field. When OSI grantees such as the Sentencing Project, Justice Strategies, and the Justice Policy Institute identify organizations they can trust to use their research and public education materials to advance sophisticated advocacy campaigns, PSJ is on the top of the list.

PSJ's advocacy and problem-solving approach reflects its origins as an organization committed to grassroots constituency building around criminal justice reform. With every campaign it takes on, it performs a comprehensive "power analysis." It maps relevant constituencies on each side of the debate. It identifies wedge issues that can be used to splinter opposition. It cultivates relationships with individuals and organizations with the influence needed to move an issue. And, it takes deliberate steps to position itself as an expert on its core issues so that journalists, policy makers, and the public turn to PSJ first when seeking information and counsel on criminal justice issues at play in Oregon.

PSJ's continues to be a strong statewide advocacy organization operating in a region with few models for effective criminal justice advocacy and its strategic and effective public education, grassroots organizing, coalition building and advocacy has achieved several impressive recent victories. In 2008, PSJ's *Youth Justice Campaign* successfully argued that holding young people in adult jails and prisons dramatically increases the risk of physical abuse and suicide as well as increasing the likelihood they will return to prison sometime in their lifetime, which led Multnomah County—Oregon's largest county encompassing the greater Portland area—to pass a resolution that prevents youth under 18 from being held in adult jails. Also that year, PSJ was the lead organization in a campaign that successfully defeated a regressive statewide ballot measure that created new mandatory minimum sentences for drug-related crimes. Had the measure passed, it would have cost over \$400 million a biennium, not including another \$2 billion in related prison construction, exploding the state budget and destroying Oregon's social safety net in the process. In 2009, PSJ's Crime Survivors Program staff led organizing for a successful

statewide campaign to increase State funding for the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund, which provides vital resources to community-based organizations assisting survivors of violence. And in June this year, PSJ's public education and organizing paid off when the Oregon Legislature passed a landmark omnibus corrections savings bill that included a range of sentencing reforms that will save roughly \$50 million in reduced need for prison beds. PSJ's organizing around this effort could offer a range of lessons for similar work around the country.

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed general support in the amount of \$200,000 over two years to the Partnership for Safety and Justice.

**Name of Organization:** Women’s Prison Association and Home, Inc.

**Tax Status:** 501(c)(3) public charity

**Purpose of Grant:** To provide continued support for the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice

**Previous OSI Support:** \$975,000  
(\$100,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2007; \$150,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2006; \$150,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2005; \$55,000 U.S. Justice Fund-2002; \$25,000 Criminal Justice Initiative-2002; \$420,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-1998; \$75,000 Center on Crime, Communities & Culture-1996)

**Organizational Budget:** \$7,229,265

**Project Budget:** \$171,194

**Sources of Support:** \$61,194 Women’s Prison Association and Home General Fund

**Amount Requested:** \$100,000

**Amount Recommended:** \$100,000 (Reentry Grantmaking, T1: 24013)

**Term:** 1 year

**Matching Requirements:** None

**Description of Organization:**

Women’s Prison Association and Home (WPA) is the largest non-profit agency in New York providing social services to women involved in the criminal justice system and their families. WPA provides alternative residential housing to women facing long prison sentences; transitional housing for homeless women trying to reunite with their children; the Incarcerated Mothers Law Project; job placement; a range of prison, jail and community-based HIV/AIDS services; independent living and parenting skills; and family preservation services.

In 2005, with seed funding from OSI and the JEHT Foundation, WPA established the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice (the Institute) as a national center for dialogue, research, and information about criminal justice-involved women, their families, and communities. Housed at WPA, the Institute is separate from but informed by the organization’s New York-based reentry services for women. To address the special policy considerations concerning women in the justice and prison systems, the Institute injects gender considerations into the policy debates on sentencing, prisons, and reentry, as well as other relevant public institutions and systems. The Institute’s Women’s Advocacy Project (WAP) uses an issue-based service-learning curriculum that provides hands-on advocacy and leadership training to formerly incarcerated women through participation in ongoing public education and policy reform campaigns centered on issues affecting women in the criminal justice system.

WPA has periodically been an OSI grantee since 1998. In 2007, OSI provided continued funding for the Institute on Women and Criminal Justice.

### **Description of the Project for Which Funding Is Sought:**

The Women's Prison Association requests renewed project funding for its Institute on Women and Criminal Justice (Institute), developed and launched with funding from OSI in 2005 and 2006. Renewed funding over one year will support the Institute to:

*Provide gender-specific research and expertise:* The Institute will publish an in-depth report examining features of traditional alternatives to incarceration programs (i.e. drug treatment) as well as other effective community-based interventions that keep women out of jails and prisons and in their communities. The research will consider successful, gender-responsive approaches around the country and internationally, offering concrete recommendations on how systems can work together to more effectively leverage a family's involvement with one system (e.g. the child welfare system) to add services (e.g. a court liaison function as an add-on to existing services) to expand options for community-based alternatives beyond what is currently available or considered. The Institute will continue to participate in and provide expertise to numerous policy efforts and reform coalitions on the local, state, and national levels.

*Serve as a national resource to policymakers, practitioners, and the media:* The Institute will continue to participate in local forums and national conferences and provide gender-specific analysis of federal statistics released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the FBI. WPA will maintain the national database of programs for women with criminal justice involvement it launched in collaboration with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) by updating the database with new programs as they emerge and provide ongoing maintenance and oversight. The Institute will continue to enhance its capacity for proactive media relations and electronic communications and keep its growing list of constituents (including allied organizations, policymakers, and concerned community members) up-to-date on topics ranging from parole policies to sentencing reform.

*Develop leadership of directly affected women in advocacy and policy:* In January, the Institute will launch its seventh class of the Women's Advocacy Project (WAP), an advocacy-training course for formerly incarcerated women. Using a structured curriculum developed by the Institute, participants meet weekly to develop skills in policy analysis, leadership, and advocacy. WAP participants choose a topic and develop a set of policy recommendations, which it distributes to family, friends, corrections officials, and the media at a year-end public event. The Institute will adjust the WAP curriculum based on implementation experience and feedback from WAP participants and disseminate the curriculum to groups around the country. In the coming year, the Institute will formulate a follow-up plan to document the tangible impact of WAP's previous recommendations on criminal justice policy and practice and that of related systems. The Institute will continue to convene monthly, the WAP Alumnae Council, launched in the spring of 2008, which offers advanced training in speaking to the media, nonprofit fundraising, networking, and advocacy skills, to WAP participants from past cycles. The Alumnae Council serves as allies and advisors to the current WAP women and regularly co-teach WAP classes.

### **Rationale for Recommendation:**

This grant would advance the Criminal Justice Fund's interest in reducing mass incarceration and eliminating harsh punishment by addressing the particular issues affecting vulnerable populations such as women and children.

Despite the troubling reality that women, particularly women of color, are the fastest growing segment of the prison population, the particular needs and interests of women are often absent from policy discussions. The Criminal Justice Fund is making a concerted effort to close this gap, especially as we seek to attack the economically destructive costs of incarceration and address issues related to the impact of incarceration on families and communities. WPA has a critical role to play not only in shedding light on the increase in incarceration rates for women, but also in identifying specific gender-innovative responses to crime that go beyond incarceration and narrow definition of alternatives to incarceration. Continued support for WPA's Institute on Women and Criminal Justice is both timely and important to ensure that national discussion on shifts in criminal justice policy address issues facing women with criminal justice involvement.

As the largest multi-service agency in the country exclusively devoted to serving criminal justice-involved women, WPA is highly respected as an authority on the impact of female incarceration and efforts to reform the systems that impact criminal justice-involved women. Several local, national, and international media placements in the past year, including the *New York Times*, the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, and *Alternet*, have exposed the repercussions of incarceration on families and communities to new and diverse audiences. The Institute's ground-breaking research on effective approaches to working with women in the criminal justice system appeared in the field journal *Women in Corrections* and in the March/April 2008 issue of *American Jails Magazine*, the official publication of the American Jail Association. *The New York Times* also published a letter to the editor from Sarah From, WPA's former Director of Public Policy & Communications. Ms. From highlighted the effects of the incarceration boom on women in response to an article on exceptionally high incarceration rates in the U.S. Ms. From also authored an article on maternal incarceration for the inaugural issue of *CW360*, a national child welfare journal published by the University of Minnesota. WPA published a practice brief on mentoring women in reentry and released a national report on women's nurseries, *Mothers, Infants and Imprisonment*, in May 2009, receiving positive feedback from practitioners, researchers, and the media.

Equally important to the Criminal Justice Fund is the Institute's commitment to putting the voices of those most directly affected at front and center. The 2007 WAP class, for instance, presented its recommendations, entitled "Shifting Resources from Prisons to Communities" to the State Director of the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives for New York State. One WAP member appeared on WNYC's *Brian Lehrer Show* to discuss how incarceration impacts women differently than men, and another WAP member appeared on NPR's *Talk of the Nation*, a program with a listenership of three million, to discuss her experience with reentry after serving 10 years in prison. Over the past few years, the Institute has learned a great deal about supporting the leadership and professional development of women with criminal records, and we believe other organizations will benefit from the Institute's soon-to-be finalized WAP curriculum.

We have encouraged WPA to develop a strategy for diversifying the Institute's funding and to refine its priorities and focus its work—including the WAP curriculum—in support of specific policy objectives. Over the grant period, staff will assess the organization's progress in these areas.

For these reasons, the Criminal Justice Fund recommends renewed project funding in the amount of \$100,000 over one year to the Women's Prison Association and Home.