

U.S. Programs: Snapshot of Key Policy Reform Goals

Priority Area	Goal	Lead Grantees	U.S. Programs Role
Criminal Justice*	Build public will to repeal excessive state and federal sentencing policies (e.g., Rockefeller-type drug laws and federal mandatory minimum sentences)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families Against Mandatory Minimums • Sentencing Project • Texas Criminal Justice Coalition • Justice Policy Coalition 	Reframe the debate on crime and sentencing (particularly in the economic context); identify messengers who are best positioned to broaden the mandate for reform nationally and secure results in key states
	Support national initiative to improve state indigent defense systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Legal Aid and Defender Association • Southern Center for Human Rights • National Juvenile Defender Center • Equal Justice Initiative 	Convene government leaders and experts to improve access to counsel; use new public defender system in Harris County, Texas, as a model for other jurisdictions
	Build public will for nationwide review of criminal justice policies (e.g., National Criminal Justice Commission)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentencing Project • Council of State Governments • Drug Policy Alliance 	Form partnerships with government and funders and participate in briefings (e.g., Congressional Black Caucus)
Drug Policy*	Implement regulations to ensure that healthcare reform increases access to treatment and harm-reduction practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harm Reduction Coalition • State Association of Addiction Services • Legal Action Center • University of Wisconsin Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment 	Support greater collaboration between treatment providers, harm reduction agencies, and traditional medical community
	Build public will to pass state legislation decriminalizing addiction and non-dependence drug use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Policy Alliance • National Advocates for Pregnant Women • A Better Way Foundation 	Sponsor public fora on alternatives to prohibitionist approach to drug policy
School-to-Prison Pipeline	Use the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind to advocate for modified school accountability measures and reduce suspensions, expulsions, and school-based arrests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancement Project • Juvenile Law Center • Forum for Education and Democracy • Children’s Defense Fund 	Developed targeted proposals to advance campaign on No Child Left Behind and continue working closely with grantees to connect No Child Left Behind to the school-to-prison pipeline

	Implement action plan, including advocacy, education and communications, to bring proposed reforms to the forefront of the discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancement Project • Ella Baker Center for Human Rights • National Center for Fair and Open Testing • NAACP-LDF • Children’s Defense Fund 	Convene key grantees and help maintain the field’s focus on campaign timetables and connections with stakeholders and partners
Immigration*	Strike down Arizona’s SB 1070	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MALDEF • National Immigration Law Center • Asian American Center for Advancing Justice • National Day Laborer Organizing Network • NAACP 	Provide rapid-response funding to a broad base of effective grantees to lead the legal challenge to SB 1070 and who can reinforce the political message that the law is racially discriminatory
	Build public will to pass comprehensive immigration reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center for Community Change • Leadership Conference on Civil Rights • Gamaliel Foundation • PICO Interfaith Network • Presente • United We Dream Network • Democracia-USA 	Support large-scale public participation to advance comprehensive reform; strengthen grantees organizing key constituencies (e.g., faith communities and youth) in support of reform
	Challenge flawed law enforcement initiatives including the 287(g) program that allows jurisdictions to enforce federal immigration law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Council of La Raza • Border Network for Human Rights • National Immigration Forum • Migration Policy Institute • Advancement Project 	Persuade funder colleagues to support organizations challenging enforcement; support grantees who are on the front lines of enforcement policies and are influential with policymakers
Right to vote	Build public will for state and federal reforms to modernize voter registration systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brennan Center for Justice • Pew Center on the States 	Put modernization at the center of the dialogue about reform and support grantees seeking state and federal registration reforms
	Defend and expand voting opportunities for historically disenfranchised voters (e.g., National Voter Registration Act and Voting Rights Act); educate communities to engage in the redistricting process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demos • Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law • Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights • NAACP-LDF • NAACP • Advancement Project 	Through targeted grantmaking, strengthen states’ compliance with voter-registration requirements (and support litigation when necessary); prioritize funding for grantees protecting the Voting Rights Act from challenges in key states; support strategies that empower communities to engage in the redistricting process

National security*	Conform U.S. policy for detention and interrogation of terrorism suspects to human rights and constitutional standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Rights First • Human Rights Watch • Constitution Project • National Security Initiative • Center for Constitutional Rights • ACLU • Center for International Policy 	Advocate directly and support grantees to resist formalization of preventative detention; secure revisions to Army Field Manual on interrogations; open a commission of inquiry on torture
	Protect against racial and religious profiling (e.g., End Racial Profiling Act, Department of Justice guidelines)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights Working Group • Muslim Advocates • Sikh Coalition 	Both directly and through support to grantees, educate policymakers and the public
Life outcomes for black men	Improve state and federal education policies to increase equity and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advancement Project • Schott Foundation for Public Education • Coalition of Schools Educating Boys of Color • Black Alliance for Educational Options • Raising Him Alone Campaign 	Continue educating policymakers (e.g., Capitol Hill briefing on best practices); convene and strengthen grantees working to reduce unfair disciplinary policies; create more equitable funding streams for schools in communities of color; increase race- and gender-relevant teacher training and curriculum; strengthen black parents' leadership
	Expand responsible fatherhood initiatives and end punitive child-support policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Institute • Center for Research on Fathers, Children, and Family Wellbeing • Center for Urban Families • National Fatherhood Leadership Group 	Focus grantee efforts on increasing state and federal funding for comprehensive fatherhood programs, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit to non-custodial fathers, and ending punitive child-support policies for the formerly incarcerated
Economic security	Build public will for job-creation legislation at the state and federal levels (e.g., Local Jobs for America Act) and protect low-wage workers' rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Rights at Work • Center for Community Change • Economic Policy Institute • Main Street Alliance • National Day Laborer Organizing Network • Michigan Earn and Learn Initiative • Innovative Solutions for Increasing Self Sufficiency 	Identify and fund grantees that develop research and lead campaigns to shift the paradigm toward systemic (and less incremental) solutions; develop models for using public funds to support subsidized jobs that generate long-term employment outcomes (e.g., Michigan)

	Educate the public and policymakers about the need for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families and advocate for other state and federal public-assistance programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center on Budget and Policy Priorities • Legal Momentum • National Employment Law Project • Fair Food Network • Food Research and Action Center 	Support efforts to expand eligibility and increase benefit levels (particularly for underserved populations); support grantees that can catalyze public participation; pursue multi-faceted approaches to benefits access and other assistance (including state and federal systems-change and demonstration projects with key partners)
	Ensure transparency and equity in federal stimulus funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Jobs First • State economic-recovery alliances • Opportunity Agenda • Leadership Conference • NAACP-LDF 	Develop state alliances and support grantees that can ensure that guidelines on stimulus spending include equity for low-income communities, women, and communities of color
	Increase transparency and equity in loan modification requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Consumer Law Center • National Council on La Raza • National Fair Housing Alliance 	Support policy research, regulatory advocacy, and/or litigation; convene key leaders in the field to coordinate strategy
Access to information	Protect net neutrality to ensure open and fair access to the Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New America Foundation • Center for Media Justice • Free Press • Public Knowledge • Media Democracy Fund 	Coordinate grantmaking with other funders, organize convenings, and bring new funders to the work
	Improve federal standards for classified material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OMB Watch • Project on Government Oversight • Sunlight Foundation • Open the Government Coalition • National Security Archive Fund 	Connect Beltway advocates to those working on these issues at the state and local levels; focus the field's efforts on improving standards while ensuring that the government complies with existing protections (e.g., FOIA)

* These issues are also priorities for OSI-DC, and U.S. Programs partners closely with our colleagues in OSI-DC to build public will for federal policy reform.