

THE CJJ MONTHLY DOWNLOAD

Announcements

CJJ Administration: Are you unsure who or how to contact for admin or HR issues? Please take a look at the new [Contact Form](#).

CJJ Branded Template

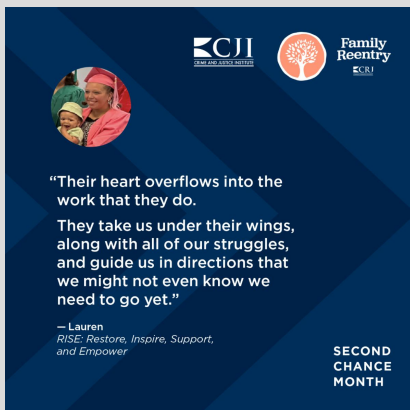
Need help creating a CJJ PowerPoint with proper branding? Use one of our readymade templates. We have a fantastic assortment of CJJ-branded PowerPoint templates that are ready for you to use at your convenience. To find these helpful resources, select Communications Resources in your CJJ Teams folder.

Upcoming Observances and Holidays

- Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- National Military Appreciation Month
- Jewish American Heritage Month
- Haitian Heritage Month
- May (4-10) - National Correctional Officer's Week
- May 11 - Mother's Day
- May 11-17 - National Police Week
- May 15 - International Day of Families
- May - International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia
- May 26 - Memorial Day

Second Chance Month Takes Over CJJ

Across CJJ, various portfolios and project teams have found creative ways to commemorate Second Chance Month. Check out the CJJ social media channels to see all of the great work, which includes the Absconding report, the "Coming Home Directory," and a series of quotes from participants in CRJ's Family Reentry program.



CJJ's Maja Vljajnic Appears on Jeopardy

Senior Data and Policy Specialist Maja Vljajnic appeared on the long-running game show Jeopardy! She shared her vast knowledge with the world, which we at CJJ are incredibly grateful to utilize regularly. Congrats Maja!

Check Your Pronouns

Employees at multiple federal agencies were ordered to remove pronouns from their email signatures, in compliance with executive orders signed by President Trump that limited diversity and equity programs in the federal government. To be proactive regarding the administration's stance on DEI, CJJ is doing the following:

- Removing pronouns from our email signatures and updating our organizational policy.

These changes only apply to emails sent from your CJJ e-mail address and work-related communications. As such, please make sure to remove pronouns from your work email signature and from any video conferencing applications.

1. Open a new email and find the **Insert** tab
2. Select the **pen on paper** symbol and then **Signatures**
3. Select **New** in the next pop up and name your signature
4. Paste in the outline (there is a step 5 below this):

Name
Title
Crime and Justice Institute
A Division of Community Resources for Justice
Phone: xxx.xxx.xxxx Twitter:
[@CJatCRJ](#)
[www.cjinstitute.org](#)

Check out CJJ's quarterly email newsletters.

CJJ
CRIME AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE
cjinstitute.org

Have You Visited the Breakroom?

The CJJ Operations Team has recreated some of our beloved Slack channels in Teams. The Break Room channel is located in Teams. Be sure to pin the channel by following the instructions below.

The Break Room

The Break Room is a new Team with Channels for non-work-related discussions.

Add the Break Room to your Teams list:

1. Find the "see all your Teams" link at the bottom of your Teams/Channel list.
2. Click "Show" next to the Channels you're interested in

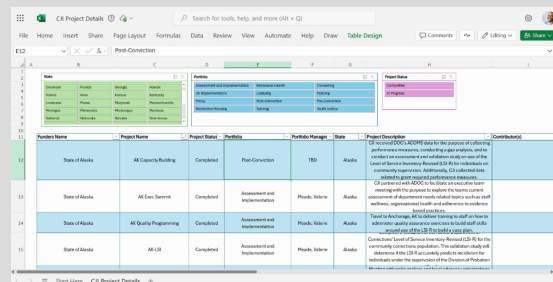
Coming Home Directory

The Coming Home Directory is a resource designed to support individuals by connecting them with essential services and programs in their local area. To access the latest edition of this reentry resource, visit [cominghomedirectory.org](#).



CJI Project Details Tracker

Have you ever needed to know details about the various projects CJI is actively working on? Thankfully the CJI Project Tracker showcases active and past projects with details on their purpose, progress, outcomes, and key people who worked on them. To access this helpful tool, open your Teams app, then select **CJI General**, **“Files,”** and open the **“CJI Project Details Tracker”**



Project Showcase

Improving Systems by Supporting Community-based Organizations

On April 1st, the Youth Justice Team continued its partnership with YouthConnect, a Boston-based program of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. YouthConnect embeds licensed clinical social workers in Boston police stations to provide diversion services that address the root causes of youth crime and delinquency, such as social-emotional challenges and unmet needs. Following a comprehensive process evaluation, CJI supports YouthConnect in enhancing its practices to improve outcomes for youth and families. This includes strengthening how case management data is used to inform programming and reduce the risk factors that lead to arrest.

A First Impression Is a Lasting Impression

The Youth Justice team is gearing up to launch its fifth initiative in Kansas - a multi-year, million-dollar effort focused on two key statewide priorities. The first initiative will support the Kansas Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee in enhancing data capacity and recidivism fidelity. This includes assessing current data systems to identify gaps and limitations, to enable incremental tracking and reporting of recidivism data until full data capacity is achieved. The second initiative will involve collaboration with the Kansas Detention Risk Assessment Instrument Steering Committee to support the continued implementation and improvement of the state’s detention assessment tool.

Caddo Parish Recap

This past month, the Caddo Parish Team finished its Phase II efforts. Under the guidance of Maureen Flanagan, the Phase II team helped to increase communication among some guarded stakeholders. Additionally, with the team’s help, the courts implemented a digital evidence management system for more efficient discovery sharing. The team also collaborated with the jails to use evidence-based behavioral health screening tools in their intake process and assisted the police and their mobile crisis response provider in developing policies.

Louisiana Women’s Prison Tour

CJI was pivotal in shaping the design of the Louisiana Correctional Institution for Women. The Louisiana Women’s Incarceration Task Force utilized CJI’s expertise for this project. Tasked with guiding and facilitating the design and construction process, CJI JRI Phase II focused on four critical areas: trauma, physical and behavioral health, women’s prison experience and reentry, and community supervision.

Key recommendations from CJI that were integrated into the new facility include:

- Enhanced physical spaces for incarcerated women
- Expanded access to physical and behavioral health services
- Increased institutional programming options
- Gender-responsive reentry planning
- More gender-responsive community supervision

Identifying Drivers of Absconding Webinar Recap

A large amount of research is available on parole and probation. However, studies that focus on the reasons leading to absconding are limited. This leaves supervision agencies with limited guidance on how to prevent disengagement from supervision. To address this, CJI hosted a webinar introducing the findings and recommendations highlighted in our latest report, "Identifying Drivers of Absconding."

North Dakota JRI Phase I Passes Reentry Package

This month, the North Dakota JRI Phase I team reached a milestone as policy recommendations from its final report became law with its Reentry package. The team just passed three incredible bills, including standardizing deflection practices, expanding diversion opportunities, defining absconding, incorporating risk assessments into supervision, requiring IDs upon release, establishing a Native American liaison, a transition housing task force, and many others. Many kudos to the efforts of this team.



Identifying Drivers of Absconding Webinar Recap Video

Social Media Highlights

CJI's social media channels help promote our ongoing data-driven work and collaboration with stakeholders and encourage engagement with our brand for broader reach. You can help with CJI's social media efforts by liking, sharing, and commenting on our great content!



The CJI Restrictive Housing Team hosted a conference that shared a wide range of information about corrections. In the photo, you see Becky Altman, Jessica Cook, Barbara Pierce, Jess Hickman, and Lois Fegan.

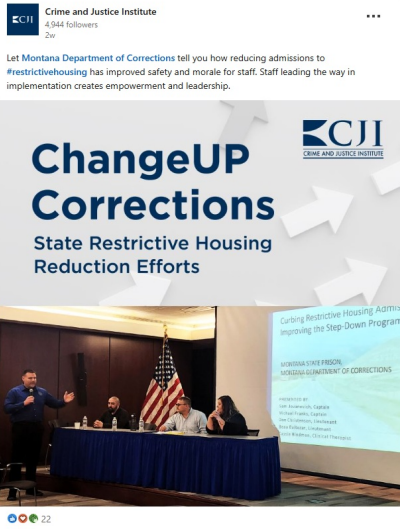
Shout Outs From Partners

The Association of Women Executives in Corrections (AWEC)

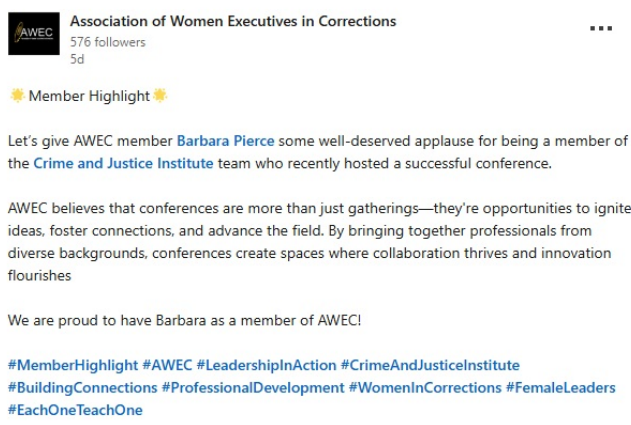
The Association of Women Executives in Corrections gave CJI's Barbara Pierce a well-deserved shout-out for her hard work and commitment to improving the justice system.

"Let's give AWEC member Barbara Pierce some well-deserved applause for being a member of the Crime and Justice Institute team who recently hosted a successful conference."

We are proud to have Barbara as a member of AWEC!"



CJI Restrictive Housing shares how Montana Department of Corrections is reducing admissions to restrictive housing.



Employee Spotlight

Get to Know: Jasmine Jackson

Hello, Good People! I'm not usually one for the spotlight—I like to say I'm an introvert with time-restricted extrovert tendencies—but here's a little glimpse into who I am.

Born and raised in Virginia, I've called the DMV home for most of my life. At 17, I graduated high school and set off to South Carolina for undergrad - that's where my passion for youth justice took root. After college, I returned to Maryland and deepened that passion by interning at a local boys' detention center. Not long after, I landed my "dream job" as a juvenile probation officer, working closely with youth charged as adults and young girls navigating the system.

Although I miss the day-to-day with the kids, I knew I needed to shift gears to tackle the bigger picture. I wanted to fix the very systems I used to vent about—so, hello CJI! It's wild to think I've now spent eight years driving change and advocating for better systems.

I'm still deeply rooted in service when I'm off the clock. I'm a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, serving as my chapter's treasurer. I also serve as the corresponding secretary for the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice DC Chapter and a rehabilitation mentor for youth and emerging adults dealing with behavioral health challenges. Most recently, elected as a board member for the newly established Vision Fair Philanthropy.

Outside of work and service, you can catch me counting my steps with my 65-pound pup, Mr. OMG "Emgee" Jackson, or balancing my love for heavy weights with my love for delicious food – the pendulum sometimes swings towards the food more than it should!

Fun fact: I'm getting ready to say "I do" —yep, 2026 bride-to-be over here!

CJI On the Ground

The CJI team attended Boston Medical Center's 2025 "Together for Hope" conference to showcase the release of this year's Coming Home Directory. The directory provides support to

individuals navigating the reentry process. For more information on the community providers supporting stability and success in the Greater Boston area

Photo Caption: [Cheyenne Bourgeois and Amanda Coscia]

ProTip: Remember to take a moment to snap a quality photo while on your work trips. Team photos, photos with stakeholders and partners, or photos of a notable landmark make great mementos as CJJ makes an impact on the ground.



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