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Title: Community Outreach Fellow
Organization or Agency: The Coalition
Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed
NA

Testimony:

I'm currently housed in Cheshire Correctional Institution. A level 4 prison where there are not enough programs to officially call this a Department of CORRECTIONS! And the programs that they do have it takes years to get in! They claim to not have enough space in these programs for the majority of their population, but always have enough space in S.E.G where punishment is no more than concealed or socially sanctioned vengeance. To continue to beef up their files for the legislation. So they can continue to portray to society that we can't be rehabilitated!

The lack of professionalism has those with 20+ years in the system confused on the direction and the current state of D.O.C. They have sentenced so many men and women (mostly black and Latinos) to lengthy prison terms with one goal and one goal only to warehouse!

They have no true purpose for the lives of many men and women incarcerated in the state of Connecticut who must continue to raise their kids and still be important figures to their family structure. But most important be positive role models for the younger brothers and sisters who will need are guidance in navigating the negative impacts of prison that has left so many scarred!

In a true Democracy social problems are a collective responsibility!

In the same way we know the importance of having Laws(because without them) there can be no order! So how can a system that refuses to provide Educational Programs expect for those incarcerated to change the quality of their lives?

How can we as a country continue to fill these seats with (Senators, Congress, Legislators) men and women who preach change but DONT know what true change looks like? Court Cases, Educational policies, and Reforms are created to Retro Fit the design.

Researchers systematically choose behaviors, the results are then interpreted in the light of a Preestablished model from which the observer began. Which legitimizes the science policymakers are equipped with which continue to establish a system that maintains structural and systemic barriers.

My letter for the Correction Advisory Committee.