Advocacy For All: Including Incarcerated Survivors in Our Work

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Welcome

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Workshop Agenda

I. Framing today’s discussion
II. Naming the problem
III. Making a movement for all survivors
IV. Resources
Framing the Conversation
Naming The Problem
Small Group Discussion

What reactions have your staff and volunteers had in response to your agency serving incarcerated survivors?
Roots of the Problem

- Fear of incarcerated people
- Negative media representation
- Rigidity around definition of a victim or survivor
- Sexual violence against incarcerated people not seen as “our problem”
Addressing Our Bias

- Necessary to unlearn messages we receive about incarcerated people
- Not always comfortable
- Essential to our work
We Have To Support All Survivors

- Necessary to reach ultimate goal of ending sexual violence
- Part of dismantling oppression
- Sexual abuse of incarcerated people is our problem
“So long as some 200,000 people are sexually violated in detention centers annually, rape will never really retreat into the realm of the unthinkable, no matter how many perpetrators we turn into victims”

A Movement For All Survivors
Start the Conversation

- Use the readiness tool
- Identify internal barriers to dismantle
- Identify training needs
- Connect with community partners
Tips For Creating Change

- Slow, but crucial process
- Set clear expectations
- Incorporate into all work
- Navigate challenges directly
Using Our Mission Statements As A Guide
Mission/Vision/Values

“…actively supports the right of all people to live their lives free from interpersonal violence.”

“We will provide a nurturing non-judgmental environment to all.”
Mission/Vision/Values

“...mission is to advocate for all victims and survivors of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.”

“...we strive to provide survivor centered, supportive services to people of all ages, genders and circumstance who have been affected by sexualized violence.”
JDI’s Core Belief

No matter what crime a person may have committed, rape is not part of the penalty.
Resources

Just Detention International
justdetention.org

Hope Behind Bars: An Advocate’s Guide
Hope for Healing: Information for Survivors
Archived Webinars
Other publications
Look for upcoming regional trainings throughout California!
QUESTIONS?