March 24, 2026

The Honorable Jerry Moran
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Grace Meng
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Moran and Rogers, Ranking Members Van Hollen and Meng:

We write to express our strong support for continued funding of the Second Chance Act in the FY 2027 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

As organizations representing a broad range of sectors—including law enforcement, business leaders, faith-based groups, state and local government associations, direct service providers, experts in substance use disorder and mental health treatment, and organizations representing individuals with lived experience—we recognize the critical need for, and value of, comprehensive reentry services nationwide. Second Chance Act programs enhance public safety by reducing recidivism and improving outcomes for individuals returning from state and federal prisons, local jails, and juvenile facilities. These programs provide essential grants to support reentry efforts, including housing, career training and job placement, and substance use disorder and mental health treatment. Since Congress enacted the Second Chance Act in 2008, the national three-year reincarceration rates have declined by 23 percent.[1]

The Second Chance Act has enjoyed broad bipartisan support since it was signed into law by President Bush in 2008 and reauthorized by President Trump in 2018. Since its inception, Second Chance Act programs have supported reentry efforts in 49 states, serving more than 440,000 individuals through over 1,200 grants awarded to state, Tribal, and local agencies and community-based organizations across U.S. states and territories.

Additionally, the Second Chance Act addresses the distinct challenges faced by individuals returning to their communities by reducing barriers to successful reentry and increasing participation in the workforce and broader economy, and providing access to treatment. From 2009 to 2023, more than 60 percent of participants enrolled in employment, housing, or education services through Second Chance Act–funded programs secured employment, obtained housing, or

[1] CSG Justice Center, *50 States, 1 Goal: Examining State-Level Recidivism Trends in ,the Second Chance Act Era* (New York: CSG Justice Center, 2024), https://csgjusticecenter.org/publications/50-states-1-goal/.

earned vocational certificates or degrees.[2] Research consistently demonstrates that workforce and educational programs provided during incarceration reduce recidivism and increase post-release employment and earnings.[3] The Second Chance Act also addresses the disproportionate prevalence of substance use and mental health disorders within the justice system by implementing treatment programs that have demonstrated the ability to reduce recidivism and future substance use.[4] Second Chance Act programs are urgently needed to provide communities with access to services that promote safer and more productive families and communities.

We are grateful for your longstanding leadership and commitment to advancing responsible, evidence-based initiatives that promote public safety. We respectfully request your continued support for critical Second Chance Act reentry programs in the FY 2027 Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

1. Council of State Governments Justice Center
2. A Better Glynn
3. Accompanying Returning Citizens with Hope (ARCH)
4. ACT4SA
5. AD-V Business Consulting, Inc.
6. Addiction Policy Forum
7. Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles
8. Alameda County Workforce Development Board
9. Alaska Behavioral Health Association
10. All of Us or None
11. Alliance for Safety and Justice
12. Alternative Solutions Associates Inc.
13. Alvis, INC
14. American Civil Liberties Union
15. American Correctional Association (ACA)
16. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
17. American Jail Association
18. American Probation and Parole Association
19. Anam Cara LLC
20. Anchorage Reentry Coalition
21. Appalachian Center for Economic Networks
22. Arise Collective
23. Aurora University
24. Austin Area Urban League
25. Banjoko Consulting LLC

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[2] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025, February) "Incarceration & Reentry,"https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/human-services/incarceration-reentry-0.

[3] Ben Stickle and Steven Sprick Schuster, "Are schools in prison worth it? The effects and economic returns of prison education", American Journal of Criminal Justice, (2023): 48(6)

[4] United States Sentencing Commission. (2022, May). *Recidivism and federal bureau of prisons programs: Drug Program Participants Released in 2010*.
https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/research-publications/2022/20220AddicAddictiontion517_Recidivism-BOP-Drugs.pdf

26. Barred Business
27. Be-Moor Global Network
28. Beautiful Minds Recovery Montana
29. Behind the Walls, Between the Lines
30. Benevolence Farm
31. Better Together Recovery Center
32. Bridgeways
33. Bring Light Save Life
34. Building Futures
35. Cabell County Emergency Medical Services/Huntington Quick Response Team
36. CADCA
37. California Consortium of Addiction Programs & Professionals
38. California Polytechnic University Humboldt
39. California State Association of Counties
40. Camelot of Staten Island Inc.
41. Career Resources Inc.
42. Carpenter Training Partners
43. Casa Esperanza, Inc.
44. Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
45. Cayuga County Sheriff's Office
46. Center for Children & Youth Justice (CCYJ)
47. Center for Community Alternatives
48. Center for Creative Justice
49. Center for Employment Opportunities
50. Center for Justice Innovation
51. Center for People In Need, Inc.
52. Central City Concern
53. Central Outreach and Advocacy Center
54. Centre, Inc. (Community Extended Nuclear Transition Residence for Ex-Offenders)
55. CGA Inc.
56. Chance 2 Change
57. Chance For Change
58. Chance for Life
59. Center for Creative Justice
60. Child and Family Resource Council, Inc. DBA: The Parenting Place
61. Chris Wilson Foundation
62. City of Philadelphia - Office of Public Safety - Division of Reentry
63. City of Poulsbo
64. City of Refuge
65. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice
66. Commissioner of Recovery & Reentry, State of North Dakota
67. Commonwealth Justice Coalition
68. Community in Connection
69. Community Leadership & Development Inc.(CLDI)
70. Community Resources for Justice
71. Compassion for Lives
72. Connections Health Solutions

73. Cornerstone Community Housing, Inc.
74. Corporation for Supportive Housing
75. Correctional Leaders Association
76. Courageously She LLC
77. Criminal Justice Ministry
78. Culinary Concepts AB
79. Cumberland County Adult Reentry Program
80. D & M Consultants
81. Damascus House Community Development Corporation
82. Damien Center, Inc.
83. DC Department of Corrections
84. Devin J. Norring Foundation
85. Diversion Hub
86. Douglas County Community Mental Health Center
87. Douglas County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
88. Downtown Billings
89. Dream.Org
90. Drug Policy Alliance
91. Due Process Institute
92. Dynamic Recovery
93. Eastern Ohio Correctional Centers
94. Empower 180
95. Essex County Sheriff's Department
96. Ethnic Community Opioid Response Network - Missouri
97. Faces & Voices of Recovery
98. Faith & Freedom Coalition
99. Families Against Mandatory Minimums
100. Families United For Change
101. Family Service of Montgomery County, PA
102. FareStart
103. Fathers & Families Support Center
104. Fathers Building Futures
105. Fathers Support Center, St. Louis
106. Finnegan Consulting, LLC
107. Five Keys Schools and Programs
108. Florida Justice Institute
109. Focus Forward Project, Inc.
110. Focused Interruption, Inc.
111. For The People
112. Freedom For Felons
113. FWD.us
114. Gaston County Court Services
115. Genesee County Community Engagement and Justice Services
116. Genesis Behavioral Health Services, Inc
117. Georgia Justice Project
118. Georgia Micro Enterprise Network
119. Goodwill Kentucky

120. Grace Dayton United Methodist Church
121. Greater Impact Inc
122. Gulfstream Goodwill Industries
123. G. Williams & Associates, Inc.
124. Hawaii Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
125. Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center
126. Health, Homelessness & Criminal Justice Lab (HHCJ Lab)
127. Hill Country Community Clinic
128. Hood Proverbz
129. HopeWorks, Inc
130. Horry County, SC Government
131. Horry County Sheriff's Office
132. House of Mercy
133. Housing Works Inc.
134. Humility Homes & Services, Inc.
135. Hurley House
136. IC&RC
137. Illinois Coalition to End Permanent Punishments
138. Impact for Equity
139. Impact Justice
140. INCASE (International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education)
141. Innocence Project
142. Inspire Positivity Inc.
143. John R. Lewis Reentry Reform Services
144. Johnson County Mental Health Center
145. John Howard Association
146. Jones Rehab Inc
147. Journey of Hope, Inc.
148. Julia McKernan Ministries Inc.
149. Justice Action Network
150. Juvenile Law Center
151. Kansas Department of Corrections
152. Kitchens for Good
153. KM Clinical Education & Consulting LLC
154. Kohnlinq, Inc.
155. LaGuardia Community College, City University of New York
156. Land of Freedom de PR, Inc
157. Latino Coalition for Community Leadership
158. Law Enforcement Action Partnership
159. Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration
160. Lead4Life
161. Lebanon County Community Action Partnership
162. Life Learning Center
163. Lived Experiences
164. Louisiana Parole Project
165. Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA)
166. Marion County Public Defender Agency

167. Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy
168. Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
169. Mathern for Senate
170. Matt Talbot Institute for Addiction Studies
171. Menchville House Ministries, Inc.
172. Mental Health Association of Maryland
173. Mental Health Recovery Board of Clark, Greene & Madison Counties
174. Michigan Chapter of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants
175. Michigan State Senator Stephanie Chang
176. Milestone Community Wellness, LLC
177. Ministry on the Margins
178. Mississippi Senate District 27
179. Missouri Works Initiative
180. Montgomery County Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, Inc.
181. Morgan County Community Corrections
182. NAACP
183. NACoA
184. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
185. National Alliance to End Homelessness
186. National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers
187. National Association of Counties
188. National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
189. National Association of Evangelicals
190. National Association of Social Workers
191. National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
192. National Conference of State Legislatures
193. National Council for Mental Wellbeing
194. National Council of Dentist Health Programs
195. National District Attorneys Association
196. National Incarceration Association, Inc.
197. National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives
198. National Workrights Institute
199. NATIVE, Inc.
200. NC Justice Center
201. NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
202. Never Alone Recovery Support Services
203. New Age Services Corporation
204. New Hampshire Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
205. New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
206. New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare
207. New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision
208. No More ODs
209. North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
210. Northstar Correctional Education Services
211. NPC Research (Northwest Professional Consortium)
212. Nxt Chapter
213. Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery

214. Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections
215. Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education
216. OpenDoors
217. Operation Restoration
218. Opportunities Industrialization Center
219. Orange County Restorative Justice Center
220. Oregon Council for Behavioral Health
221. Orianahouse
222. Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office Day Reporting Center
223. Pacific Northwest Ironworkers District Council
224. Partnership to End Addiction
225. Patrick & Henry Community College
226. Peaceprints of Western New York
227. People of Purpose
228. Petey Greene Program
229. Pinellas Ex Offender Reentry Coalition d/b/a People Empowering and Restoring Communities
230. PIVOT
231. PPRE-Forevergreen of Charlotte, Inc
232. Prison Fellowship
233. Project Rebound, Cal Poly Humboldt
234. Project Restart
235. Providence House, Inc.
236. Rebuilding Independence My Style
237. Recovery Connection Network
238. Recovery Zone
239. Redemption Outreach Services Inc.
240. Remissi's Inc
241. ReNforce
242. Repowered
243. ResourceFull Consulting, LLC
244. Responsible Business Initiative for Justice
245. Rhode Island Department of Corrections
246. Ridge Treatment and Reentry Center
247. Rising Sun Recovery
248. Rockland Recovery Homes, Inc
249. Ross County Reentry Coalition
250. Safe Harbor Peer Support Services
251. Safer Foundation
252. Sage Advice Therapy LLC
253. San Diego Workforce Partnership
254. San Francisco Drug Users Union
255. Santa Maria Hostel
256. SEAL Inc
257. Shady Hills Mission Chapel
258. She's Somebody's Daughter
259. Silver Bow Counseling

260. Siouxland Human Investment Partnership
261. Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Reentry Program
262. Smartnbeautiful LLC
263. Social Purpose Corrections
264. South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance
265. Southeast Arkansas College
266. Sponsors, Inc.
267. St. Vincent de Paul
268. Step By Step, Inc.
269. STEAM Cafe
270. Successful Reentry
271. Supporting Our Loved Ones Group
272. Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program
273. Tayas YAwks
274. Technical Assistance Partnership of Arizona
275. TechServ Corporation
276. Texas Federation of the People Foundation
277. The Almond Connection
278. The Black Rose Collective
279. The Change Companies
280. The Chris Atwood Foundation
281. The Clean Slate Initiative
282. The Dannon Project
283. The Delta Project
284. The Helping Way Transitional Program for Men
285. The HelpKC (Kansas City)
286. The Osborne Association
287. The Parenting Place
288. The Parents' Place of MD
289. The Prison Graduation Initiative
290. The RESt Organization
291. The Restorative Justice Project Maine
292. The Trenton Sun
293. Tri County OIC
294. The United States Conference of Mayors
295. The Urban League of Greater Atlanta
296. The Urban League of Philadelphia
297. The Way Home
298. The WorkWell Partnership
299. Time For Change Foundation
300. Touch A Heart
301. TRAILS Ministries, Inc.
302. Treatment Advocacy Center
303. Treatment Alternatives for Stronger Communities
304. Treatment Communities of America
305. Tri County OIC
306. U.S. Chamber of Commerce

307. United Way of Dane County
308. University of South Florida
309. Urban League of Essex County
310. Valley Felon-Aid
311. Virginia CARES Inc
312. VT Works for Women
313. WakeUp Carolina
314. Walters Way Regaining Your Life Foundation
315. Washington State Department of Corrections
316. Wavelength Psychological Services
317. Webb Hunter
318. Weber Housing Authority
319. WeKonnect, LLC.
320. Willing 2 Move Forward
321. Wisconsin Department of Corrections
322. Women on the Rise, Ga
323. Workforce Development Board Herkimer, Madison & Oneida Counties, Inc.
324. Young Christian Professionals
325. Youth Development, Inc.
326. Youth First Justice Collaborative
327. Youth Recovery Connections
328. YouthBuild Global
329. 1st Step Male Diversion Program
330. 21CP Solutions - 21st Century Policing, LLC
331. 90Works Inc.