

Millions for Prisoners Human Rights March

NO SHACKLES

Vol 1.8

Letter from the Editor

Brothers and Sisters,

With April being poetry month this past week was Pongo's Poetry Reading Finale. As I've mentioned in the past, my work with the Pongo Poetry Project in Seattle allows me to work with youth in King County's Juvenile Detention teaching poetry as a method of healing and reflection and I wanted to share one of my favorites written by a young man in detention age 17:

GOTTA FACE IT

Just some young cats trying to take over the nation.
Kinda hard to uprise wit all this damn gentrification.
Just cause our schools look black, don't mean they still not racist.
Got these standardized tests that cause education misplacement.
But shit,
I gotta face it.
This the world that I was raised in.
Judges smacking kids wit time,
makin em dry up like some raisins.
Most of my friends don't go to church
Cause it's the streets that they be praisin.
Parents can't be mad cause these the babies they be makin.
Mom's always working.
Pop's hardly seen.
He likes forty sipping forties, on the block,
still sellin cream.

Dedicated to people in the struggle

I've realized that this nation profits off of trauma and poverty, many of the students I work with are from families who live in poverty and are usually also victims of trauma. This march is our attempt to release those victims from this cycle, it's time to call out America.

In solidarity,
Amani Sawari (@SawariMi)



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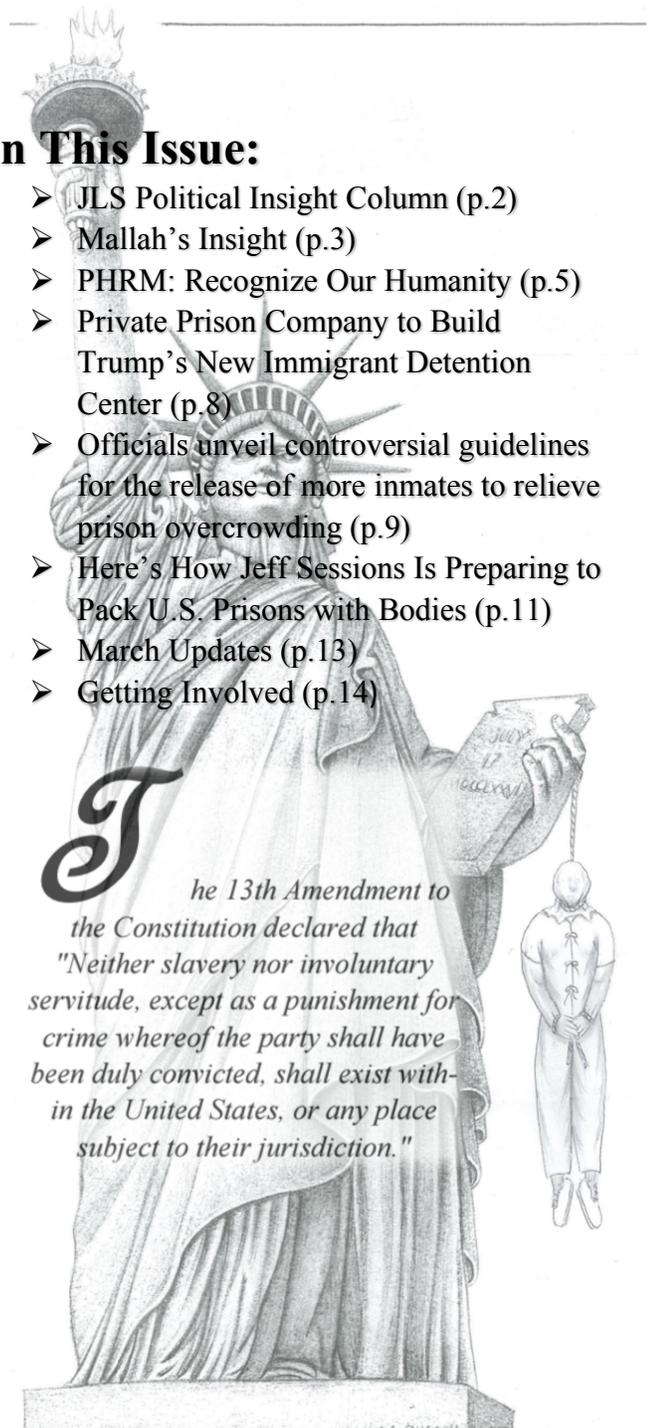


iamWE Prison Advocacy Network

In This Issue:

- JLS Political Insight Column (p.2)
- Mallah's Insight (p.3)
- PHRM: Recognize Our Humanity (p.5)
- Private Prison Company to Build Trump's New Immigrant Detention Center (p.8)
- Officials unveil controversial guidelines for the release of more inmates to relieve prison overcrowding (p.9)
- Here's How Jeff Sessions Is Preparing to Pack U.S. Prisons with Bodies (p.11)
- March Updates (p.13)
- Getting Involved (p.14)

The 13th Amendment to the Constitution declared that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction."



JLS Political Insight Column

By Jailhouse Lawyers Speak | art by Kevin Cooper at San Quentin

Millions for Prisoners Human Rights core demands for action:

- A. We DEMAND the 13th amendment ENSLAVEMENT CLAUSE of the United States Constitution be amended to abolish LEGALIZED slavery in America.
 - B. We DEMAND a Congressional hearing on the 13th Amendment ENSLAVEMENT CLAUSE being recognized as in violation of international law, the general
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Principles of Human Rights and its Direct Links to:

- 1. Private entities exploiting prison labor
 - 2. Companies overcharging prisoners for goods and services
 - 3. Private entities contracted by states/federal government to build and operate prisons. This would also include immigration detentions
 - 4. Racial disparities in America's prison population and sentencing
 - 5. Policing: the disproportionate (unaccountable) killings by police in the black and brown communities
 - 6. Felony Disenfranchisement laws
 - 7. Immigration and Customs Enforcement 34,000 detention quotas
 - 8. Producing the world largest prison population
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Mallah's Insight

By Mallah-Divine Mallah

We have a little over 3 months left until the world spot light is on DC and Legalized Slavery. The question other countries will ask is, how are you, America the leader of the free world when you have legalized Slavery in your Constitution?

And let's make no mistakes that the current administration is a friend of progress. It's a bunch of barbarians in suits. The top cop wants to institute another war on drugs and favor mandatory minimums. His mind state is from an era when the White Citizen Council ran local politics in Alabama.

Activist should not be surprised if you start to come under surveillance. The good thing is that encryption devices and apps are either free or affordable. The powerbrokers are not clueless that the will of the people are moving away from this get tough on crime rhetoric. Or saying that the cities are crime ridden; when you have Starbucks and corner style cafes in once notorious neighbors. And the gentrification crowd are walking the streets unmolested and living well in this same "hoods."

Our mind should also start to shift to what happens after the march. Who going to put pressure on politicians and corporations that support prison labor in their supply chain? The average person does not know about Whole Food who promotes this wholesome organic image of itself. Or any other company that use prison labor.

The average person does not know that they swell prisons with people with mental health issues because it's cheaper to drug them and lock them up. We a society that prey on the weak; which is why we been in some type of war or conflict since Operation Urgent Fury (1983).

We must get back to the core of humanity, which is lift your fellow man up, lend a hand, and help restore him/her back to the ranks of a community stakeholder. That is the best of who we are. And we going to start momentum on August 19, 2017.



Inner Strength

The universal spirit manifested in sable matter.
Broken heart filled with fire tears the years
Of concentration in a lotus position got me
Missing living life with dangerous ambition.
My mission is written on scrolls that's missing.
Still the objective painted on genomes that's
Thousands of years coded with warrior quotes.
Atmospheric type pressure got my inner strength
Training without weights.
Fig dreams with palm fan thinking got my mental stable.
While my body caged and my emotionally-self drained.
My steel resolves got me holding on when others
Bow down or opt out with a state sheet neck tie.
Me, I brought into wisdom that was whispered by prison sages.
Lessons ancient resonated with my indwelling intelligence.
I sit in a cube position and meditate, the no mind got me in inner peace.

© 2015 Mallah-Divine Mallah



PHRM: Our Fifth Year to the Agreement to End Hostilities: Recognize Our Humanity

By Prisoner Human Rights Movement | <https://prisonerhumanrightsmovement.wordpress.com>
April 17, 2017

PHRM

Our Fifth Year to the “Agreement To End Hostilities”

Thereby Governor Brown, CDCr Secretary Kernan: Recognize Our Humanity!



We are within our 5th Year of the August 2012 historical document “[AGREEMENT TO END HOSTILITIES](#).” followed by the PHRM’s third and the largest Hunger Strike within the State of California and equally larger than any Hunger Strike within the United States federal and state prison system, to which there were over 30,000 Prisoners here in California who participated (that is, from Solitary Confinement and the General Population. We (PHRM) have decreased California Prison Melees in half over the past five years with **NO assistance by CDCr**: SVSP, PBSP, New Folsom, Kern

Valley, SATF, Lancaster, Centinela, High Desert, etc. Officials.

These historical acts of courage were led by the four Principal Negotiators Arturo Castellanos, C-17275, Sitawa Nantambu Jamaa (Dewberry, C-35671), Todd Ashker, C-58191, and Antonio Guillen, P-81948, along with the Sixteen known Representatives, and along with our Unsung Heroes throughout CDCr.

We Salute Our Fallen Heroes

We shout out to the Families of those who died during the Historical Hunger Strikes (2011-2013), and to the Families who lost Loved Ones during the (AEH) struggle For Equal Justice, “Christian Gomez, Alex Machado, Alonzo Hozel Blanchard, A. “Baby Paya” Morales, Billy “Guero” Sell, Johnny Owen Vick, and Hugo “Yogi” Pinell.”

“We also want to warn those in the General Population that [CCPOA guards & their Supervisors] will continue to plant undercover Sensitive Needs Yard (SNY) debriefer ‘inmates’ amongst the solid GP prisoners with orders from IGI to be informers, snitches, rats, and obstructionists, in order to attempt to disrupt and undermine our collective groups’ mutual understanding on issues intended for our mutual causes (that is, forcing CDCr to open up all GP main lines, and return to a rehabilitative-type system of meaningful programs/privileges, including lifer



conjugal visits, etc. via peaceful protest activity/non-cooperation, e.g., hunger strike, no labor, etc. etc.).

People need to be aware and vigilant to such tactics, and need to refuse to allow such IGI inmate snitches to create chaos end reignite hostilities amongst our racial groups. We can no longer play into IGI, ISU, OCS, and SSU's old manipulative divide and conquer tactics!!!"

(quoted from [AEH, #3](#))

CDCr Secretary Kernan, Undersecretary Diaz, (DAI) Director Allison, Director Alfaro (of High Security Prisons) and Governor Brown have all been notified or the crisis here at SVSP C-Facility.

The lack of rehabilitative programs (i.e., Vocational Carpentry, etc.) here at SVSP and throughout the system remains dysfunctional.

Those within the PHRM here at SVSP C-Yard, who were released from Solitary Confinement over the last three years, have created our own Juvenile Divergent Program called "**LIFE-C.Y.C.L.E.**" ("Careless Youth Corrected by Lifers' Experiences"), and this program has successfully for the past fifteen months conducted five Seminars, bringing in At-Risk Youth from the local Monterey County to guide them, while mentoring other prisoners. During the Seminars, the Youth share their thoughts and understandings of not wanting to come to prison, and what their goals are, that they will set for themselves to prevent that from happening. The PHRM prisoners have realized that CDCr has caused harm to them over the past 2, 10, 20. 30-40 years of Solitary Confinement. We – as Class Members of the PHRM here at SVSP C-Facility realize the negligence and adverse impact of that devastating ordeal coming out here to a partial General Population (G.P.). And we realized once again CDCr failed to acknowledge the harm that they caused to us, therefore, we took it upon ourselves to establish our supportive **MEN'S GROUP** in order to cope with the devastating harm that was caused by Solitary Confinement.

The purpose of this MEN'S GROUP is to serve as a diverse multi-cultural support group for both those prisoners in- and being released to the G.P. from Solitary Confinement successfully settle-in, be provided access to rehabilitative pre-Parole Board (SR 260/261) Self-Programs, etc., that CDCr/SVSP are mandated to make available for all G.P. prisoners.

The primary purpose of the MEN'S GROUP is for the Participants to mentor and aid one another. Our Group's vision brings a sense of community, respect and responsibility that springs from the 21st century insight of collective minds who have united in solidarity and have mutually agreed to end hostilities among racial groups. This historic agreement will continue to bring about substantive changes to the CDCr system of non-rehabilitation.

On November 3rd, 2015, the PHRM had discussed with Warden Muniz, Chief Deputy Warden Hatton, and Associate Warden Bienkale about the need for this type of Support Group to address the cause and effects of Solitary Confinement upon our re-entry into the G.P. These administrative officials' response was positive and was witnessed by the outside citizenry



activists hosting the event, Mary Lou, Barrio Unidos (Santa Cruz), Actor Danny Glover, and Mr. Kahn, Peace Academy.

We were told to prepare and submit our proposed Self-Help Support Group to AW Bienkale via SVSP's Community Resource Manager (CRM) Carol Hernandez, which we immediately completed.

However, since November, 2015 to April, 2017, CDCr-SVSP has continued to *not* address these serious matters of concern. Although, on the occasions when we speak with Muniz (and Bielkale in Nov., 2016), they are supposedly going to initiate the MEN'S GROUP (according to AW Bienkale). But to date they have failed to approve it, which left hundreds of prisoners suffering from the effects of solitary confinement with no administrative support. We (PHRM) have been integrated into some of the worst CDCr 180/270-designed prisons in the State, not considering these same men were held illegally in Solitary Confinement up to forty-plus (40+) years and their Humanity is now again being withheld by new Green Walls/Old Culture. Yet, prisoners held at SVSP (facility-C) face the bigotry and prejudice by the Senior Correctional Officers and supported by their Supervisors (eg., Sgts) who allow for all new C/Os to be trained and taught the Old Culture/continual Green Wall.

Scott Kernan, CDCR Secretary, Ralph Diaz, CDCr UnderSecretary, Kathleen Allison, Director of Adult Institutions: Recognize Our Humanity and correct your Staffers' here at SVS Old Culture Mentality here at SVSP forthwith.

In Solidarity,

Prisoner Human Rights Movement – Local Council (PHRM-LC)



Private Prison Company to Build Trump's New Immigrant Detention Center

By Laurel Dammann | <http://www.carbonated.tv/>

Trump is setting out to do what he said he'd do when it comes to illegal immigration. The plans are making private prison companies very happy.

In the early days of Donald Trump's presidential reign, he issued a series of highly controversial executive orders regarding immigration, one of which dealt explicitly with security along the United States-Mexico border.

Signed into effect by authoritarian impulses and supported by a short-sited administration, the order promised the infamous wall, expedited deportation proceedings, and more immigration detention centers, among other things. People with ties that span the border have been scrambling to prepare themselves for what's to come. Judging by recent news, it's here.

The Trump administration has awarded its first federal contract for a new immigration detention facility to GEO Group, a private prison company. They plan to build in Texas, and it's a 10-year, \$110 million deal for a 1,000 bed facility that would put Trump's immigration plans off to an expectedly expensive start. However, it is projected to generate "\$44 million in annualized revenue and returns on investment," which makes it much more palatable to any supporters still on the fence.

GEO already has a formidable presence in Conroe, where Trump's detention center is to be built, as well as throughout Texas and the world. It has more than a dozen facilities, ranging from local jails to immigration detention centers, throughout the state, and 143 facilities across the globe.

The company has used that wealth and power to make important allies. According USA Today, GEO donated \$250,000 to Trump's inauguration day festivities, and a subsidiary of the company gave \$225,000 to a super PAC that backed Trump's presidential campaign.

Immigration rights groups know this signals the true beginning of Trump's plan to decimate America's undocumented immigrant population.

"We're not surprised, but we are deeply disappointed that the administration is not only lining the pockets of the private-prison industry but expanding detention," Bob Libal, the executive director for Grassroots Leadership, an Austin-based immigration rights and private prison watch dog group, told The Texas Tribune.

However, GEO is understandably thrilled, and other private prison companies see a golden opportunity to turn immigrant detention into sky-high profit. The Trump administration has proposed that to fast-track immigration deportations, the Department of Homeland



Security should double the number of people held in detention centers daily. That's approximately 80,000 people a day and, to corporate America, a lot of money.

While advocates of undocumented immigrants were certainly expecting a government crackdown, the GEO contract has forced them to step back and take a second look at the potential scope of Trump's plan. It's possible scale is jolting to some.

GEO already has 3,000 empty beds available for illegal immigrants in the U.S., and The Washington Post reported that 33,000 more beds are ready and waiting. Judging by Trump's executive order and this new contract, it won't stop there. Staying true to his hypocritical soul, the president appears intent on throwing away millions in order to uproot lives after boasting at how effectively he could manage the country on a lean budget.

"Frankly this surprises me," said Carl Takei, staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union's National Prison Project, about the GEO contract to the Associated Press. "This raises the question both of how much ICE is actually planning to expand its already enormous detention system and where they're going to get the money for all this."

Officials unveil controversial guidelines for the release of more inmates to relieve prison overcrowding

By Jazmine Ulloa | <http://www.latimes.com/>
March 24, 2017

California corrections officials on Friday unveiled new regulations that will increase the chances of early release for hundreds of state prison inmates, and expand the credits they earn for demonstrating good behavior and completing rehabilitation programs behind bars.

The highly anticipated — and hotly contested — guidelines are the first major step toward overhauling the state's prison parole system under Proposition 57, the ballot measure approved by voters last year that aims to reduce the statewide prison population by 9,500 inmates over the next four years.

In a conference call Friday, Scott Kernan, secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, echoed Gov. Jerry Brown's words on the measure, calling the new law "a durable solution" for prison overcrowding and part of the state's response to a federal court-ordered cap on the state inmate population.



But he also emphasized the need to create opportunities that improve the chances for inmates to leave prison and keep them from coming back.

“Through rehabilitation, we are creating hope in our prisons by giving inmates the opportunity to change and acquire skills and tools to be productive members of our society once they leave prison,” he later said in a statement.

Proposition 57 gave new power to the state parole board to grant early release to prisoners whose primary sentences are for crimes not designated as “violent” under California law. It also provides new ways for those inmates to earn time credits toward their sentences if they enroll in certain programs.

The pool of inmates newly eligible for parole — about 1,200 offenders — is expected to expand by more than 500 over the next fiscal year, Kernan said Friday. Early projections show more than 1,500 inmates could be eligible for early release by 2021.

Under the regulations, inmates will be able to trim their sentences up to six months for earning a high school diploma or college degree, and up to a month each year for successfully completing self-help programs — such as substance abuse support groups, counseling and parenting or anger management classes.

They will also have the chance to earn greater “milestone” credits, awarded for achieving certain goals in certain rehabilitation programs, allowing them to potentially reduce their sentences by up to 12 weeks in a yearlong period.

But the regulations could face scrutiny from law enforcement officials and prosecutors who have opposed the measure from the start. They have argued its incentives should not be extended to sex offenders or those serving life sentences. The debate has spurred several lawmakers to introduce legislation that would expand the state’s list of violent crimes.

The regulations unveiled on Friday exclude only death row inmates and those who are serving life without the possibility of parole from the credit earnings. Violent offenders could receive up to 20% of time served for good behavior, up from 15% in previous guidelines.

The rules are expected to receive final approval in the fall after a public comment period. If they win initial approval from state regulators, changes to the credit system will begin as early as May, while the parole eligibility changes will take effect in July.

Probation officials and criminal justice advocates lauded the effort on Friday. In a statement, Mary Butler, president of the Chief Probation Officers of California, called the rules “fair and consistent with the mission of Prop 57.”



“The voters spoke clearly in Prop. 57 that they want true rehabilitation in our prison system, and in order to have true rehabilitation we must ensure a balance of incentives and sanctions in any regulations that are permanently adopted,” she said.

Here’s How Jeff Sessions Is Preparing To Pack U.S. Prisons With Bodies

By Christopher Brauchli | <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/>
April 13, 2017

The Attorney General’s allegiance to private prisons and disdain for immigrants make for a frightening mixture.

It turns out that the immigration crackdown that Donald Trump’s ICE is pursuing, though hard on illegals and their families by producing terrible uncertainty for them, is not without its “bright side.” The light that provides a bright side is shining on the shares of stock in the Geo Group and CoreCivic, and on jails in a number of Texas counties.

Geo Group and CoreCivic operate private, for-profit prisons. Before Trump became president, they were on hard times, and for good reason. In August 2016, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General issued a report that was highly critical of the way those companies treated prisoners entrusted with their care. The report found that inmates in facilities run by those corporations “were nine times more likely to be placed on lockdown than inmates at other federal prisons and were frequently subjected to arbitrary solitary confinement simply because there was not space for them among the general population.”

Although placing them in solitary confinement so they would not add to overcrowding in the general prison population had the desired effect, solitary confinement is generally acknowledged to be equivalent to torture and has been repeatedly criticized for its excessive use in United States prisons. According to the report, the Bureau of Prisons was using the private prisons on a large scale to “confine federal inmates who are primarily low security, criminal alien adult males with 90 months or less remaining to serve on their sentences.” The report stated that “in a majority of the categories we examined, contract prisons incurred more safety and security incidents per capita than comparable Bureau of Prisons institutions.” It said that the contract prisons “do not provide comparable services [to those operated by the



Federal Bureau of Prisons], do not save substantially on costs, and do not maintain ‘the same level of safety and security.’”

At almost the same time that that report was issued, Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates, issued instructions to federal officials to reduce the use of private prisons because of the falling prison population throughout the country. The result was that stock in CoreCivic and GEO, the two largest private prison companies in the United States, fell precipitously. The election of Donald J. Trump reversed their fortunes.

The day after the election shares in CoreCivic rose 43 percent and share in GEO rose 21 percent. The investors’ optimism was rewarded when on February 21st, 2017, Attorney General Sessions, rescinded the order that the private prisons be phased out. Following the announcement, the prison companies enjoyed another jump in share prices. The order should not have been a surprise. Notwithstanding the Justice Department report that was highly critical of the private prisons, Trump—for whom facts are notoriously unimportant—said: “I do think we can do a lot of privatizations and private prisons. It seems to work a lot better.” Of course, private prisons are not the only ones rejoicing in the prospect of more inmates, thanks to the increased attention being paid to illegal immigrants and their incarceration. Jailers in small Texas counties are also excited.

Because of reforms to the criminal justice system, a number of Texas counties are having a tough time making ends meet because their jails are underperforming. An underperforming jail is one located in a community in which the residents do not engage in sufficient criminal activity to provide residents for the local jails. According to a report by the Associated Press, the current problem traces its beginning to the 1990s and the early 2000s. Counties that were losing employment prospects for their citizens addressed the problem by building new jails with lots of beds. The plan was that, in addition to housing their residents, the jails could be rented out to other counties and the federal government when those entities found themselves short of space. It was a great idea and worked until criminal justice reform took place and alternative sentencing provisions were adopted. Now many of the counties that eagerly built new jails find themselves trying to pay off the cost of construction without adequate occupants to pay the debt that was incurred to build them. The good news for them is that since Trump has encouraged ICE to round up and jail illegal immigrants, the glut of jail space may soon vanish and cells that were empty and non-income producing, will once again be fully occupied with illegal immigrants and their families.

In a speech delivered to Police Chiefs Association on April 11, 2017, Attorney General Sessions announced a number of increased enforcement policies including a provision that those who



get married to avoid immigration laws, will be charged with offenses that carry a two-year mandatory minimum prison sentence. If, notwithstanding the prospect of new occupants, counties no longer want to maintain their facilities, they may be able to sell them to private prison companies that will use the space for housing illegal immigrants. It's a win-win situation for private prisons and Texas counties. The only loser is the pre-Trump United States we knew and loved.

Millions for Prisoners March

Updates

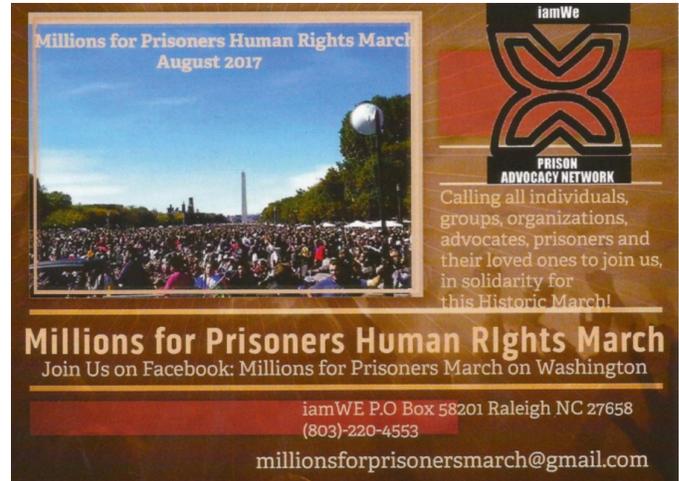
Here is a current list of local representation for the millions for prisoners' march stretching across all ends of the country from Washington State down to California and over to Florida.

- Lancaster, CA
- Los Angeles, CA
- Riverside, CA
- San Diego, CA
- Santa Barbra, CA
- Palmdale, CA
- Tampa Bay, FL
- Savannah, GA
- Baton Rouge, LA
- New Orleans, LA
- Omaha, NE
- Central New Jersey
- Raleigh, NC
- Lancaster, PA
- Northampton, PA
- Mid-Point South Carolina
- Houston, TX
- Fredericksburg, VA
- Richmond, VA
- Seattle, WA
- Spokane, WA
- Washington D.C

Mission Statement



WE SEEK TO UNITE ACTIVISTS, ADVOCATES, PRISONERS, EX-PRISONERS, THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, AS WELL AS ALL OTHERS COMMITTED TO THE FIGHT TO DRASTICALLY REDUCE OR ELIMINATE PRISONS AND THE PRISON SYSTEM, AND REPLACE THEM WITH MORE HUMANE AND EFFECTIVE SYSTEMS. OUR AIM IS TO EXPOSE THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION THAT IT TRULY IS. WE WANT TO CHALLENGE THE IDEA THAT CAGING AND CONTROLLING PEOPLE KEEPS COMMUNITIES SAFE. WE BELIEVE THAT FOR TOO LONG OUR NATION HAS RELIED UPON INCARCERATION AS A WAY TO SOLVE BROADER SOCIAL PROBLEMS, TO ITS DETRIMENT. IN AUGUST OF 2017, WE WILL MARCH ON WASHINGTON TO BRING WORLD ATTENTION TO THE CONTINUED SLAVERY AND INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE IN AMERICA, ENABLED BY THE 13TH AMENDMENT AND TO HIGHLIGHT THE EVER INCREASING MOVEMENT AGAINST THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX.



Getting Involved

The Millions for Prisoners March is a grassroots movement dependent on community investment and local organizing. We urge readers to personally take up this human rights cause by getting involved in a variety of ways including creating flyers, making videos, sharing hashtags such as #Abolishthe13th or #EndPrisonSlavery, as well as sharing Millions for Prisoners Facebook pages in order to raise awareness through social media. These are some small steps individuals can take to inform their community. We also encourage participants to spread their impact by organizing their community to mobilize to Washington D.C. For those who are unable to travel to D.C. we are ask that communities host solidarity demonstrations on the August 19th. This is a grassroots movement so we are truly relying on the people to make this happen. Below is information on how to form a local organizing committee.

Expressing Solidarity with the Millions for Prisoners Human Rights March

Solidarity Actions: The organizers of the Millions for Prisoners March ask prisoners to do the following throughout the month of August to show solidarity and develop our collective political education upon the issues that impact us as incarcerated people:

- Fast from sunrise to sunset
 - Daily prayer or meditation
 - Daily exercise regimen
-



- Study and self-educate, paying particular attention to the 13th Amendment & ways to challenge the systems that uphold legalized prison slavery
 - Refrain (and ask your family to refrain) from spending money within the prison system on any level including commissary, food items, phone cards and other items
 - Refrain from smoking and drinking alcoholic beverages
 - In honor of Black August and the Millions for Prisoners March, please wear a black arm band or wrist band (i.e. shoelace) around left wrist.
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Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

The Local organizing committees shall be comprised of various individuals and organizations situated in local communities throughout the country. The LOCs will provide direct interaction with members of its local community as it relates to the promotion, organization and mobilization for the Millions for Prisoners Human Rights March. The LOC will engage members of the local community, and provide education on the impacts of the 13th amendment of the U.S constitutions and other laws that contribute to mass incarceration in their communities.

Requirements:

1. Minimum of 3 participants to form a LOC- 1 member being the Local Representative
2. All participants must be in agreement to raise awareness and push the Millions for Prisoner Human Rights March agenda. Participants are responsible for connecting with organizations and recruiting new members



Submission Info: In addition to publishing content raising awareness about the march and providing updates on demonstration progress, the No Shackles Newsletter also accepts work from prisoners in the form of articles, art and poetry. This March is about you and some of our most meaningful contributions come from the inside. We also accept submissions from friends and family members of prisoners. For readers interested in submitting their work: typed and printed can be sent to the return address or emailed to <millionsforprisonersmarch@gmail.com>; carbon copy: <amanisawari@gmail.com> Submissions should be marked Attn: No Shackles Newsletter
 Facebook: Millions for Prisoners March on Washington



Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners

1. All prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings.
2. There shall be no discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
3. It is, however, desirable to respect the religious beliefs and cultural precepts of the group to which prisoners belong, whenever local conditions so require.
4. The responsibility of prisons for the custody of prisoners and for the protection of society against crime shall be discharged in keeping with a State's other social objectives and its fundamental responsibilities for promoting the well-being and development of all members of society.
5. Except for those limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, all prisoners shall retain the human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and, where the State concerned is a party, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto, as well as such other rights as are set out in other United Nations covenants.
6. All prisoners shall have the right to take part in cultural activities and education aimed at the full development of the human personality.
7. Efforts addressed to the abolition of solitary confinement as a punishment, or to the restriction of its use, should be undertaken and encouraged.
8. Conditions shall be created enabling prisoners to undertake meaningful remunerated employment which will facilitate their reintegration into the country's labor market and permit them to contribute to their own financial support and to that of their families.
9. Prisoners shall have access to the health services available in the country without discrimination on the grounds of their legal situation.
10. With the participation and help of the community and social institutions, and with due regard to the interests of victims, favorable conditions shall be created for the reintegration of the ex-prisoner into society under the best possible conditions.
11. The above Principles shall be applied impartially.

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