

THE DRUM

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UPCOMING EVENTS

CITIZENS FOR PRISON REFORM: Q & A WITH

CINDY SHANK

May 9th, 4pm

Facebook Live | CPR Facebook page
<http://www.micpr.org/>

Citizens for Prison Reform is hosting this event to celebrate National Family Prisoner Month. Cindy Shank and her daughter were the subjects of HBO's "The Sentence." This documentary debuted at the Sundance Film Festival in 2018 where it won the audience award and it went on to win a Primetime Emmy Award in 2019.

PEOPLE POWER TOUR: JACKSON

May 12th, 6pm

Register: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DylHiSdRLme3VR2ZHQPLO

This virtual event is being hosted in collaboration with Nation Outside-Jackson Chapter. The People Power Tour provides the ACLU an opportunity to talk about the work that we do in various communities around the state. More importantly, the tour stops give residents a chance to tell us how we can better fight for the civil rights and liberties issues that they feel are critical where they live.

SUPPORT MICHIGAN LIBERATION WITH BLACK MAMA'S DAY BAILOUT (COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE)!

Michigan Liberation is a leader in criminal justice advocacy work across the state. This is a great opportunity to make a donation that will undoubtedly bail mothers out of jails and detention centers, and save the most vulnerable from COVID19. Learn more about Michigan Liberation and how to donate by following them on social media @MichiganLiberation, or visiting their website miliberation.org

MICHIGAN PRISONER REHABILITATION CREDIT ACT (MPRCA)

BY ASHA BURNS

Did you know that Michigan is one of the few states that does not currently have a form of good time or earned credit system? Since a 1998 ruling, Michigan has practiced "Truth in Sentencing" which requires everyone to carry out the minimum sentence they are originally given. There is no way for people incarcerated in prison for their sentences to be reduced. For those who have earned good time prior to the 1998 ruling, those credits still count but they can not earn additional credits.

There is no truth in sentencing within the current system which is why it is important that Michigan moves away from this ruling. In order to work around this legislation there is a ballot initiative circulating called the Michigan Prisoner Rehabilitation Credit Act (MPRCA). This Act was created by a man who is currently incarcerated and it establishes an earned credit system to allow for incarcerated folks to knock time off of their sentences. To move forward with this Act, the MPRCA Coalition must collect physical signatures from registered Michigan voters in support of it. If enough signatures are collected, then the Act may be on the Fall 2020 ballot, enabling people to vote to enact it within our state! Due to the current pandemic, organizers can no longer canvas and collect signatures in person, but people can sign up on the MPRCA website and physical petitions can be mailed to your residence. Help give power to this community by utilizing your voice and advocating for change!

Petition Instructions:

1.) Go to this website: sawarimi.org/mprca-petition

2.) Simply request to have a petition mailed to you using the button in the top right corner so that you can circulate among your family members. Remember, signers on the same sheet must be registered to vote in the same county. However, if they live in another county no problem, have them sign another sheet labeled with their correct county. Each petition has lines for twelve signatures and you can request multiple petitions.

**Please note, signing the online petition does not count toward the signature count. All of the signatures counted must be physical so please include your address to have the petition mailed to you directly. For more information, check out the flier on the next page!

THE BENEFITS OF REPEALING TRUTH-IN-SENTENCING LAWS IN MICHIGAN STATE PRISONS

REDUCING THE SPREAD

- Prisons by design are congregate environments. Due to this there is no way to consistently keep a safe six foot distance from others around.
- This is exasperated by the fact that MDOC is operating over-capacity and medical resources cannot be effectively spread across populations
- Prison health is directly related to public health, we are only as safe on the outside as our prisoners are on the inside

REDUCING VIOLENCE IN PRISON

- When people in prison are incentivized to participate in productive activities we will reduce cases of violence and increase the number of prisoners taking advantage of academic and professional opportunities during their incarceration.

REDUCING STATE COSTS

- Michigan spends over \$2 Billion every year on its department of corrections, this cost takes away from our ability to invest in other areas of society including public education, healthcare and other forms of infrastructure
- Michigan spends \$40,000 on each person in prison each year, that could be used on higher education, to address trauma and to provide other forms of individualized care to address behavior that lead to crime.

REUNITING FAMILIES

- There are millions of children and spouses who suffer with a parent in prison.
- Many families are forced into poverty as a result of the loss of their primary breadwinner to prison.
- We have the potential to dramatically improve the conditions the lives of millions of people with the return of rehabilitated incarcerated people to their families.

If you have any further questions, you can contact MPRCA directly:

PO Box 2278, Detroit, Michigan 48202
Email: support@mprca.info
Phone: (313) 420 - 7405
Website: mprca.info

UPCOMING EVENTS, CONT.

STATEWIDE SMART JUSTICE DAY OF ACTION

May 27, 9:30AM-5PM

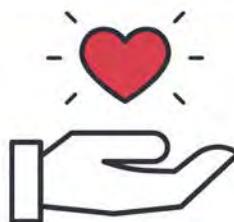
Registration link:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/5815859446429/WN_Wb92iZkTRGmkTJIHepNcIg

The ACLU of Michigan invites you to join us for the "Smart Justice Day of Action: Uniting for Pretrial Reform" online event. We are organizing a mass mobilization of advocacy groups and reform activists to push for passage of legislation related to the recommendations from the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration.

Participants will learn more about the work that is being done in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis and ways in which you can help with the much-needed overhaul of our bail and pretrial detention systems going forward. Participants will include elected officials, legal and policy professionals, and impacted community advocates.

S A D O



PROJECT REENTRY

INTRODUCING WEDNESDAY WELLNESS ZOOM SERIES

Zoom in and join SADO's Project Reentry for Wednesday Wellness. The purpose of Wednesday Wellness is to provide people who have been incarcerated with a space to learn, grow, share, and discuss mental health as it relates to their experiences. The group will discuss and choose meeting topics and potential facilitators.

Follow Project Reentry on social media @SADoreentry or call 313-420-2967 for updated information and zoom links to Wellness Wednesday events.

UPCOMING DATES:

MAY 6TH

MAY 20TH

JUNE 3RD

JUNE 17TH

--COMMUNITY VOICES--

Editors note: The following is an excerpt from a piece written by one of our community members, Kevin Jones. If you would like to read his full letter, please contact the SADO Reentry email at reentry@sado.org

I am writing you comrades in regards to the "African-American Community, Law Enforcement, and Mass Incarceration" article that was published recently in "The Drum" newsletter. Let me start off by acknowledging the fact that I've had a long journey and to simply try to cram this struggle into a one ounce letter wont be doing my story any justice. I'm 26 years old but growing up in a poor-below poverty-stricken ghetto was never easy. Simply fighting to endure the everyday struggles of low-income housing with parents who were unable to sustain long-lasting, high quality paying jobs because of the high demand for work from the community and lack thereof jobs was a traumatic experience in itself. How could you expect a child to sit through class everyday and properly retain the information that's being taught to him when, for one, his poor school barely had enough money and resources to properly educate him and for two, the only thing on his mind was the growl and pain inside his stomach? Even more important, how could you possibly expect this same child to adhere and conform himself to the laws of society and put his unfailing trust in its empty promises when he already senses the nothingness that this mind frame and concept of "obedience" has gotten his family and the families of friends in his community? Some may call it a "recipe for disaster" and I agree with them wholeheartedly but I would also like to consider it as the moldings that make up the revolutionary mind frame that exists within my being today...

FOLLOW US

@SADoreentry



CONTACT US

Email: reentry@sado.org

Phone: 313.256.9833

IN MEMORY

BILL GARRISON, 1959-2020

Dear Project Reentry Community,

We are very sad to report on the passing of Mr. Bill Garrison. Mr. Garrison entered the MDOC in 1976, and would have paroled this May. He lived by a strong value system, and he made the most of the many years he spent in the MDOC, educating himself about the law and other subjects. He was always willing to lend a hand to help someone else who was struggling with their own case.

Mr. Garrison died on April 13, 2020, from COVID-19 (coronavirus). This was a tragedy. He shared a loving relationship with his family, and we are keeping them in our thoughts and prayers during this terrible time.

Sincerely, SADO and the Project Reentry team



MEET THE TEAM



LIZZETTE RIVERA

University of Michigan Social Work Student
Graduating August 2020

HOMETOWN: Chicago, IL

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Watching Anime, playing video games, hanging out with my dog, and painting!

MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

Stand up for what you love, make deep connections, keep up with loved ones, and push forward!

thank you
TO OUR EXITING INTERNS

We would like to take the time to thank our interns who are exiting our team. We appreciate all of your work and hope to emulate your dedication to our clients and community as we continue to serve. Thank you to Olivia, Lizzette, Sylvia, Briana, and Emma. We wish you all the best and can't wait to see what you do next!

READ



WATCH



LISTEN



READ

I'm Telling the Truth but I'm Lying by Bassey Ikpi In this moving memoir, the Nigerian-American author writes about her experience with mental health. The compelling collection of essays delve into her life as an immigrant, a Black woman, a slam poet, a mother, a daughter, and an artist through the lens of her bipolar II and anxiety diagnoses.

This book and thousands of others are available for free in ebooks format (available for your phone, tablet, or computer) from the Detroit Public Library.

Go to detroitpubliclibrary.overdrive.com to learn more. There are also audio books available!

WATCH

The Public Broadcasting Service has dozens of entertaining and educational programs available for free on their website. Visit pbs.org/shows to tune into programs including recordings of live music performances, mystery shows, cooking competitions, travel shows, and documentaries. They also post the weekly One Detroit public affairs program online.

LISTEN



BRITTANY HOWARD

Jaime by Brittany Howard



PBS

Howard is an incredible guitarist with a voice that will leave you wanting to hear more. The former front woman of blue rock band Alabama Shakes shows up and shows out in these 11 tracks. In this memorable record she explores her personal history from a childhood crush in the song "Georgia" to a hate crime her family experienced in "Goat Head" Justice.

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

THE YBMEN PROJECT

[HTTPS://WWW.YBMENPROJECT.COM/](https://www.ybmnenproject.com/)

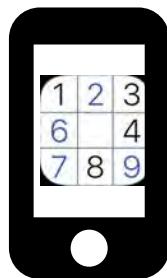
"The YBMen Project is an educational and social support program for young Black men. Through the project, we can learn about the strategies that influence and shape young Black men's ideas and experiences with mental health."

"The YBMen Project was born in 2014, after Dr. Daphne C. Watkins spent several years studying the mental health, masculinity/ manhood, and social support of Black men over the adult life course.

APP OF THE MONTH

SUDUKO.COM BRAIN GAMES:

If you're looking for a fun way to pass the time that can keep your brain sharp, the Suduko app is for you. A mix between a crossword and number problem, Suduko uses logic to complete puzzles with varying degrees of difficulty.



ONLINE LEARNING

During this time at home, some are looking for more ways to progress their learning, take up free time, or stay engaged. The following universities are offering free online courses. Whether you are seeking personal enrichment or want to learn new skills to add to your resume, these courses could be a great way to utilize your time. You can search these classes online OR follow this link which has all of the resources in one place.

www.theladders.com/career-advice/7-elite-universities-offering-free-online-online-classes

University of California

UC Berkeley created a resource to house all of its online courses and degree programs. In conjunction with edX, courses ranging from statistics and marketing to business writing and literature can be audited for free.

Yale University

No credit or certificates are available. Lectures are presented in video and audio format, and you'll also have access to the syllabus and suggested readings.

Stanford University

Stanford offers more than 100 unique, free online courses or MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) in service to the world, for lifelong learning and self-enrichment." Free college classes can be found on its website in a wide range of topic areas that span humanities, medicine, engineering, and more. Enrollment can be completed at any time as classes are self-directed and completed on your terms.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Known as OpenCourseWare (OCW), the site contains material from 2,400 courses. OCW doesn't require any registration and courses are categorized by topic, department, and MIT course number. Each course contains lecture notes, readings, and assignments.

Carnegie Mellon University

CMU offers low-cost courses and also has an "Open and Free" section that allows students to access courses material for free. These courses are self-guided, meaning there is no instructor or grades assigned, along with no credit. "Evidence-Based Management," "Introduction to Programming in Java," and "Spanish I" are just a few of the courses available.

Duke University

Duke University's free courses are on Coursera, a popular online learning platform. Free classes are on an audit basis, allowing you to access content, but you won't be submitting assignments for a grade or earning a certificate. You can review the syllabus, instructors, and reviews from previous students for each class on Coursera. Offerings include, but are not limited to, courses in statistics, medical neuroscience, and machine learning.

Harvard University

iThe online learning website edX hosts Harvard's free courses. These self-paced courses are free on an audit basis, but a certificate can be awarded for a fee. Each course will provide information on how much time is required, the difficultly level, and information on instructors

SADO & COVID -19

In order to prevent the spread, Project Reentry is taking precautions and changing the way we live, work, and communicate. At this time, Project Reentry is not permitted to meet with clients in-person. Our intern team is decreasing their workload and our resources are limited. Project Reentry, however, can still offer other types of non-contact assistance with your reentry needs. As always, if you are in need, please reach out by calling 313-420-2967, emailing reentry@sado.org, or messaging us on social media @SADOreentry. A more comprehensive resource guide is available through request.

In response to the virus, many organizations and companies have made special arrangements to accommodate people's changing needs. Read on for some community resources.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Mindful Detroit Yoga and Meditation Series

Weekly on Thursdays beginning April 2

12:00-12:45pm

FREE! No mat required

Zoom Meeting

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/387522495>

Meeting ID: 387 522 495

AA Meetings

Online meetings

<http://aa-intergroup.org/directory.php>

SERVICES

Comcast Internet

New Internet Essentials customers will receive two free months of Internet service, which is available to all qualified low-income households for \$9.95/month plus tax. Apply by April 30, 2020 at

<https://apply.internetessentials.com>

United Way Hotline and phone number

For resources in your community dial 211 or visit

<http://211.org>

PCAP Mutual Aid Financial Assistance

PCAP is donating money to returning citizens. For more information please visit <https://pcapmutualaid.com/>

Michigan COVID-19 Community Response

List of local resources & organizations working to support community – <https://micovidcommunity.com/>

PUBLIC BENEFITS

File for Unemployment. If you find yourself out of work, please contact Michigan's Unemployment Insurance program, www.michigan.gov/uia, which provides temporary income to workers who have lost their job through no fault of their own.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

Gleaners Food Bank Food Distribution sites and times:

Roberto Clemente Recreation Center

2631 Bagley

Every other Wednesday starting March 25

2:30pm-5:30pm

Heilmann Recreation Center

19601 Crusade

Every other Thursday starting

March 26

2:30pm-5:30pm

Coleman A. Young Recreation Center

2751 Rober Bradby Dr.

Every other Saturday starting March 29

1:30-4:30pm

All Saints Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry

7824 W Fort St

(855) 882-2736

Soup Kitchen Hours: M, W, Th 11-12:30

Food Pantry Hours: T 10-12 and W 1:30-3.

Core City Neighborhoods Inc.

3301 23rd St

(313) 580 2386

Food distribution is on Tuesdays at 4 pm

Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries

150 Stimson St

(313) 993-4700

Community meals provided at 5pm each day; may have food baskets available upon request

COMPANIES WAIVING FEES

Capital One

Ally Financial

Sprint

T-Mobile

Navy Federal

Comcast

AT&T

Verizon

DTE

Chase

Discover

CitiPNC Bank



JOB HIRING DURING COVID-19

ACE HARDWARE

Location: Various

Apply: <https://storejobs.acehardware.com/>

ALDI

Location: Various

Apply: <https://careers.aldi.us/>

KROGER

Location: Various

Apply: <https://jobs.kroger.com/>

LOWE'S

Location: Various

Apply: <https://jobs.lowes.com/>

AMAZON (LOCKER+ ASSOCIATE)

Location: Plymouth

Apply: <https://search.amazondelivers.jobs/>

MEIJER

Location: Various

Apply: <https://meijer.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/>

UPS

Location: Various in Metro Detroit (43 available)

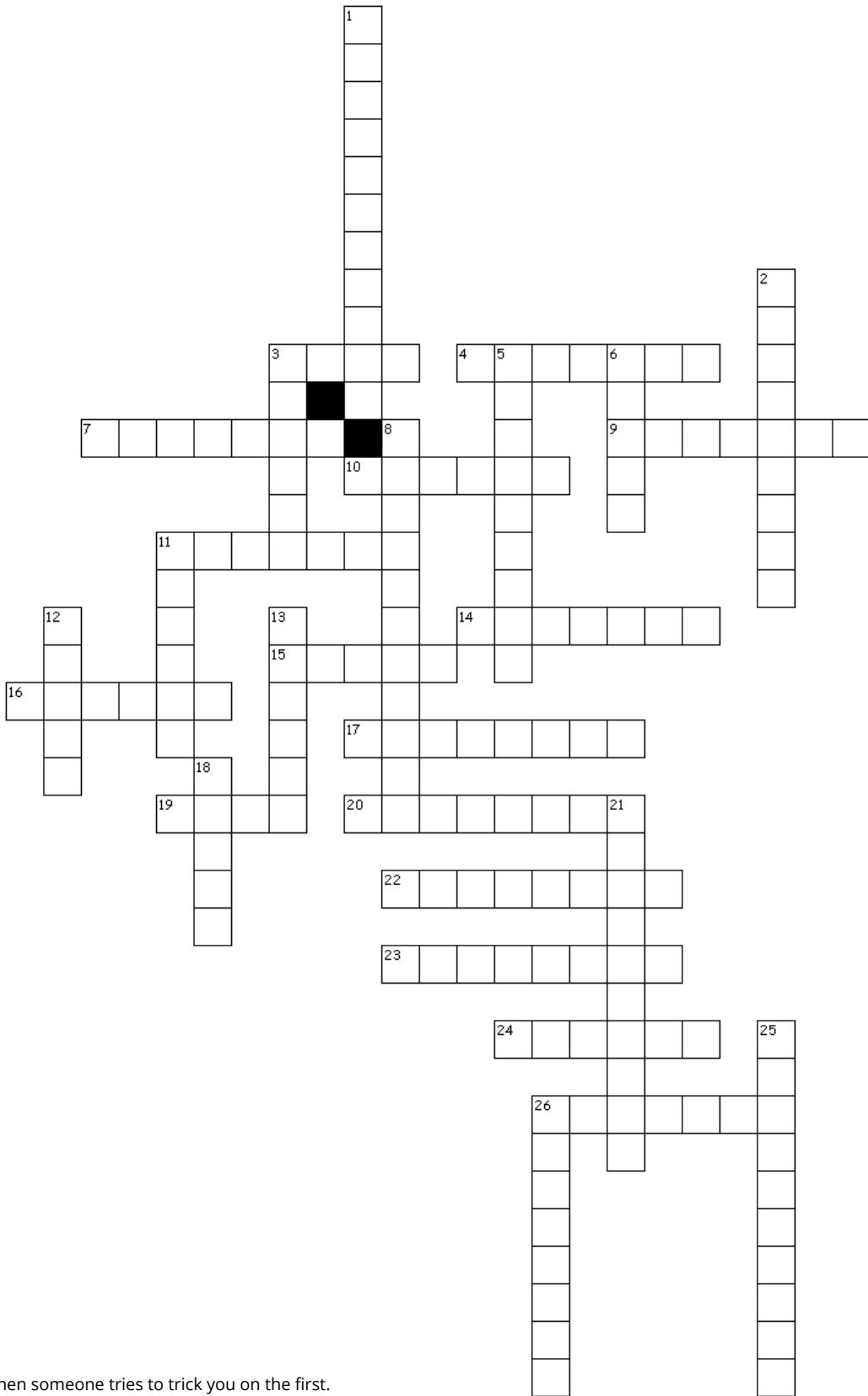
Apply: <https://www.jobs-ups.com/>

COSTCO

Location: Various

Apply: <https://www.costco.com/jobs.html>

Please note that although these companies hire people with records, discretion varies at each store



Across

3. Don't be called a _ when someone tries to trick you on the first.
 4. A display of colors in the sky which often appears after a storm.
 7. Roses are red. _ are Blue.
 9. One of two days in the year when the length of day and night are the same. these days also mark the first day of their respective season's
 10. Sometimes in spring it is warm enough to go outside without a _
 11. Birds _ north as the weather changes.
 14. Spring is thought to be the ideal season for this kind of ceremony bonding two people.
 15. Spring can be warm but unlike summer it is usually not _.
 16. Bees carry this from flower to flower.
 17. Spring _ - Time to tidy up!
 19. The biggest downside to warm weather.
 20. Before these athletes can "hit one out of the park", they have to endure spring _.
 22. A three-day weekend celebrating and remembering fallen military.
 23. Cooking outside over coal or propane.
 24. The season preceding spring.
 26. April _ brings May flowers.

Down

1. a deep sleep broken by warm weather.
 2. _ Day - a holiday featuring this animal predicts either an early spring, or six more weeks of winter.
 3. A day celebrating paternal caregivers.
 5. Sneezing and watery eyes caused by _.
 6. College students often travel to warm climates to enjoy this time of year.
 8. A _ turns into a butterfly.
 11. A day celebrating maternal caregivers
 12. In the spring trees and flowers are in _.
 13. Birds lay eggs and they hatch into _.
 18. Jumping rope is double as fun with a person from The Netherlands.
 21. A ceremony marking the completion of education.
 25. March Madness
 26. "I've got - on a cloudy day"