



AJFO | MEMBER NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2022

A Big, Big, Thank You!

Our 19th Biennial AJFO Conference was a huge success! While we were not able to be together in person, the virtual conference offered us opportunities to come together, connect, share information, and celebrate the wonderful accomplishments of our membership. We are so grateful to all the presenters, attendees, and sponsors for helping us to celebrate community together. Don't forget - Just because the conference has ended, doesn't mean that the fun has to end. Be sure to visit our members site where you can connect with other AJFO members all year long!

Events

Stamford, Connecticut: March 26, 2022
Women Against Mass Incarceration's (WAMI) Decade of Excellence' Fundraising Gala is a celebration of the long-standing, extraordinary service of the 'Unlikely Heroes' ; honoring the hard work of remarkably passionate and exceptional individuals that have pushed the needle forward significantly over the last 10 years in their respective fields. Tickets available at wamigala.rsvpify.com.

Book Club

We're kicking off our first AJFO bookclub on March 1 on our member site. For our first book, we'll be reading [In Search of Safety: Confronting Inequality in Women's Imprisonment by Barbara Owen, James Wells, & Joycelyn Pollock](#). Order your book from the link above to support AJFO. To join in the discussion head to our member site (community.ajfo.org), select "Clubs," and join the "AJFO Book Club!" For the next three months we'll be reading along and discussing together.



*"Never underestimate the difference you can make in the lives of others. Step forward, reach out, and help. Reach out to someone that might need a lift."
- Pablo*

Member Spotlight

Meet TIFFANY ATKINSON, PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM MANAGER Resilience & Recovery Project, The Pathfinder Network in Collaboration with Jackson County Community Justice

Tiffany is a leader in the implementation of Creating Regulation and Resilience, a trauma and resilience informed communication model that enhances her in-the-moment interactions with participants to greater facilitate growth and change. She brings incredible lived and professional experience to the work. "providing support, community, resources and helping to reduce barriers for system impacted individuals and their families."



Regional Updates



- ▶ **Northeast** – Doula program expansion in [New York](#) and [Pennsylvania](#)



- ▶ **Midwest** - Update on the first women cohort of Northwestern Prison Education Program at Logan Correctional Center in [Illinois](#)



- ▶ **Western** - Early evaluation and outcomes of Girls Courts from [California](#), including Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) courts, and from [Washington](#)



- ▶ **Southern** – Working to eliminate prison birth in all correctional facilities in [Georgia](#)



- ▶ **International** - An exploratory report on the challenges of resourcing work with and for incarcerated women and girls worldwide:
[Women Beyond Walls - FORGOTTEN BY FUNDERS \(December, 2021\)](#)

Coffee & Community

An AJFO Podcast

Episode 4: Alexandra Walker

In our fourth episode of the Coffee & Community Podcast, we sat down with Dr. Alexandra Walker for a discussion of the importance of alignment within our organizations and challenges that we face as we grapple with implementation and sustainability of initiatives. Alex has over 20 years of experience working in human services. From mental health and substance use treatment to reentry systems, she has been implementing innovative justice reform strategies in organizations big and small. Prior to founding ACJI with her partners, Alex has worked across the legal spectrum in residential treatment, jails, halfway houses, prisons, and community reentry programs with her most recent position being the Vice Chair of the Colorado Board of Parole.



Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in serving as a regional chairperson? Regional chairpeople would be responsible for:

- moderating the discussions in the online regional group,
- helping to post thought provoking questions and conversations topics for the group,
- providing a brief update for this quarterly newsletter that share recent highlights in your region, and/or
- sharing regional events and helping to schedule webinars.

Please contact our [Navigator](#) for more information!

Headlines

[Women leaving prison in N.J. now have a health center just for them](#)

[When prison education went virtual, an MIT program reached new incarcerated students](#)

[Picturing Hope: Helping girls in Madagascar see life through a different lens](#)

[Opinion: Santa Clara County is now a national model for juvenile detention reform](#)

[How going from care to prison compounds women's trauma – new research](#)

[What can funders do to better support incarcerated women and girls?](#)



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