

National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women

Women are one of the fastest growing populations entering the criminal justice system. While women make up only about 17% of the total criminal justice population, the implications of their experiences in jail, prison, or community supervision are far reaching – impacting their children, family members and neighborhoods. A growing body of research reveals issues specific to women (e.g., pathways to crime, risk to reoffend, criminogenic needs, experiences with victimization and abuse) and highlights the need for evidence-based, gender responsive approaches that can promote law abiding behavior and improve women’s physical, social, and economic well-being, as well as that of their children, families, and communities.

About the National Resource Center on Justice-Involved Women

[The National Resource Center on Justice-Involved Women \(NRCJIW\)](#) was established by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in 2010 to serve as a resource for policymakers and practitioners who work with adult women involved in the criminal justice system. BJA partners with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to ensure a coordinated approach to delivering much-needed products and services to the field specific to justice-involved women.

The NRCJIW is administered by the Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP) and its partners, individuals and organizations that have been at the forefront of conducting research, developing tools, and training professionals about gender-informed, evidence-based practices with women offenders. These partners include: CORE Associates, Orbis Partners, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) National Center for Trauma-Informed Care, the National Institute of Corrections, the Moss Group, University of Cincinnati, School of Criminal Justice, and the Women’s Prison Association.

Mission

The NRCJIW’s mission is to provide guidance and support to criminal justice professionals – and to promote evidence-based, gender-responsive policies and practices – in order to reduce the number and improve the outcomes of women involved in the criminal justice system. Specifically, the goals of the Resource Center include:

- Promoting the safety of the public, justice-involved women, and the professionals who work with them;
- Synthesizing and disseminating evidence-based and gender-responsive research and knowledge;
- Promoting the implementation of innovative, evidence-based and gender-responsive approaches that build on women’s strengths and address their risks and needs;
- Promoting gender-informed policy and management practices that have systemic impact and improve outcomes;
- Highlighting critical issues confronting this population; and
- Building a community of professionals to encourage the exchange of ideas and information and advancing gender-informed practices nationally.

The NRCJIW conducts outreach, develops tools and resources, and provides training and technical assistance to criminal justice professionals working with justice-involved women. It serves as a clearinghouse for model policies and practical tools; a referral source for information, research, and subject matter experts; and a forum for discussion among experts, policymakers and practitioners.

Contact Us

For more information about the work of the NRCJIW please contact the following:

NRCJIW Contact:

Becki Ney, Project Director, Principal
National Resource Center on Justice-Involved Women
Center for Effective Public Policy
Phone: (717) 454-0013
E-mail: bney@cepp.com

BJA Contacts:

Gary L. Dennis, Ph.D.
Senior Policy Advisor for Corrections
Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: (202) 305-9059
E-mail: Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov

Thurston Bryant
Policy Advisor for Corrections
Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
U.S. Department of Justice
Phone: (202) 514-8082
E-mail: Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov

