Building Bridges: Decarceration and the Community

Day: Wednesday, March 13, 2019*  9 a.m. − 4 p.m.*  Alumni Hall, CCSU

Theme:
Connecticut was recently touted as one of five states with the largest rates of decarceration in the country. Yet there is still significant work ahead to fulfill the promise of Justice Reinvestment and ensure successful reintegration of those leaving incarceration. By highlighting the recent CT Reentry Strategy, this conference looks to the very communities most impacted by incarceration to play a critical role in the next phase of justice reform. Come lend your voice to the conversation!

Audience:
All entities administering and/or affected by Connecticut criminal justice policies and practices including: state legislators and local elected officials; state and municipal agencies; the Judicial Branch; law enforcement; business leaders; academics and students; the faith community; impacted individuals; and local and statewide community-based organizations

Schedule:
8:30am:  Registration/Coffee/Networking (Welte Auditorium)
9:00am:  Welcome and Introduction and Morning Keynote (Welte Auditorium):
• Keynote: Daryl McGraw – Reentry: The Ongoing Process
9:30am: Panel 1
• How are elected officials working together to impact decarceration and ensure successful reentry?
  • Moderator: Bill Dyson
  • Panelists (invited): Sen Gary Winfield (Co-Chair, Judiciary); Rep. Robyn Porter (Co-Chair, Labor); Rep. Toni Walker (Co-Chair, Appropriations); Mayor Erin Stewart (New Britain); Mayor Joseph Ganim (Bridgeport)
11am: Panel 2

- How are advocates/community members working together to impact decarceration and ensure successful reentry?
- Moderator: Andrew Clark
- Panelists: Kenyatta Thompson (Katal), Gus Marks-Hamilton (ACLU-Smart Justice), Corey Betts (NAACP – Hartford); Rob Hebert (CT Reentry Collaborative)

12pm: Lunch (Alumni Hall)

- Networking

1pm: Breakouts (Alumni Complex)

- Aspects of the CT Reentry Strategy
- Higher Education in Prison
- Community Planning: Local Reentry Centers
- Innovations in public/private financing
- Equity in Marijuana Reform
- Forensic Peer Support (101)

2:30pm: Dennis Schrantz, Co-Author of Decarceration Strategies (Alumni Hall)

- Building out the Justice Reinvestment Framework
- Discussion of Lessons Learned from Decarceration Strategies report, followed by Interactive Discussion by Region (Bridgeport; Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, Windham; Southeast CT; New Britain; Stamford; Torrington, Danbury)

3:45pm: Wrap up: Next Steps (Alumni Hall)