



CIC BULLETIN

NEWS FROM DC CORRECTIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL

Message from the Executive Director



Summer has come to an end and we are gearing up for fiscal year 2022. This summer has been quite productive at the CIC. In July, CIC staff traveled to USP Thomson, a high security federal prison in Illinois. Last week, CIC staff traveled to USP Victorville, a high security federal prison in California. As we enter fiscal year 2022, we plan to increase our staff capacity and inspect approximately 5 federal facilities. Additionally, in accordance with our MOA, we plan to continue quarterly visits to the Department of Corrections (DOC) and maintain visibility at all DOC facilities where DC adults in custody are housed.

On August 10th, Mayor Muriel Bowser announced that vaccination against COVID-19 is a requirement for all District government agencies under her authority. Unvaccinated employees will be required to test weekly for the illness. The CIC is following Mayor Bowser's vaccine mandate and all staff is compliant. The CIC is committed to a healthy community and doing our part to reopen the District.

Donald Isaac, Sr.



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- [District of Columbia Youth Rehabilitation Act Report](#)
- [Covid-19 Survey: Final Report](#)
- [Volunteers of America \(VOA\) RRC](#)
- [Recent Covid-19 Concerns at Volunteers of America Re-entry Center](#)
- [Department of Corrections \(DOC\) Site Visit Report](#)
- [Update on Covid-19 testing and early release data from the BOP](#)



The 4th Annual CFLS Visible Voices Fundraiser will be held virtually on Thursday, September 23, 2021 from 6:30pm- 8:30pm. CFLS invites you to attend the [4th Annual Visible Voices Fundraiser](#). This virtual event will take you on a journey through stories of resilience, courage, and empowerment. You will meet women of the [CFLS Speakers Bureau](#) as we weave together their accounts from domestic violence and prison to rising against the odds. Register [HERE](#).

September PWG Virtual Workshop: Improving Your Mental Health Through Work-Life Balance - Saturday, September 25 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Dress for Success, DC's Professional Women's Group (PWG), is hosting a virtual workshop in a safe space to learn from Dr. Candace Mukendi, a seasoned occupational health psychology consultant. Register now and connect with other women at different professional levels who have experienced challenges with mental health and work-life balance, especially during COVID-19. Register [HERE](#).

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Our Class

Trauma and Transformation in an American Prison



Chris Hedges

Author of *America: The Farewell Tour*

What We're Reading: Knowledge and Education

Our Class:

Trauma and Transformation in an American Prison

by: *Chris Hedges*

Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist Chris Hedges has taught courses in drama, literature, philosophy, and history since 2013 in the college degree program offered by Rutgers University at East Jersey State Prison and other New Jersey prisons. In his first class at East Jersey State Prison, where students read and discussed plays by Amiri Baraka and August Wilson, among others, his class set out to write a play of their own. In writing the play, *Caged*, which would run for a month in 2018 to sold-out audiences at The Passage Theatre in Trenton, New Jersey, and later be published, students gave words to the grief and suffering they and their families have endured, as well as to their hopes and dreams. The class's artistic and personal discovery, as well as transformation, is chronicled in *Our Class*. This book gives a human face and a voice to those behind prison walls.

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