

CIC Bulletin - December 2019

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CIC BULLETIN

NEWS FROM DC CORRECTIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL

Message from the Executive Director



As the holiday season begins, I want to express my gratitude for our community and constituents. We have started our holiday postcard writing project and received an enormous amount of support. So far, we have collaborated with the Howard University School of Divinity, Byte Back, MORCA, Martha's Table, the Urban Alliance, OHR, OAG, the Legislative Council, Ward 6 Councilman Charles Allen, Cardozo Senior High School, The Spice Suite, Yvonne Dubose and

her ladies ministry, and Ebenezer AME. The CIC appreciates the time, effort, and creativity that has gone into this project. In addition, for the first time, we will be sending holiday postcards to some of our incarcerated residents in the Central Detention Facility (CDF) and the Central Treatment Facility (CTF). We look forward to strengthening our relationship with those incarcerated at the DOC as we enter 2020.

Our staff returned to Hazelton FCI for a follow-up inspection, since our initial inspection in August. We conducted interviews with some of our incarcerated DC

residents and met with the Hazelton staff. We look forward to completing the Hazelton report by January 2020. The CIC staff also plans to visit Hope Village in January 2020.



Pictured at the Mayor's Annual Boards and Commission Ceremony, from left to right: CIC Director, Donald Isaac; CIC Communications Specialist, Nailah Seabron; DC Mayor, Muriel Bowser; CIC Board Chair, Charles Thornton; and OHR Director, Monica Palacio.

-Donald Isaac, Sr.



Hope Village Updates

The CIC is planning to revisit Hope Village with an on-site inspection in early February 2020. As a preliminary information gathering step, we are reaching out to community partners both to get information about recent experiences with Hope Village (staff, residents, primary concerns, anything that is working well, etc.) and to help connect with former residents of Hope Village who would be interested in sharing their experiences with the CIC.

If you are willing, we are asking for you/your organization's input via this [survey](#).

If you or someone you know is a current or former Hope Village resident who would be willing to speak with the CIC about Hope Village, please reach out to us directly by emailing chrisiant.bracken@dc.gov or calling us at (202) 478-9211.

Women's Corner: Women and Aging

Women and Aging within the Bureau of Prisons

Of the 4,616 DC inmates on the BOP roster provided October 1, 2019, 541 are between the ages of 55-64, and 160 are age 65 and above. Thus, 15% of the DC inmate population consists of senior citizens. Of the 4,616 DC inmates, ninety-seven are women. Of the ninety-seven women, 17 women are between the ages of 55-64 and two women are age 65 and above. Thus, nearly 20% of the female DC inmate population are senior citizens.

To see if older female DC code offenders have unique needs and to better understand the needs of this population, we looked at the survey results completed by the six older women we interviewed at Hazelton SFF (four of the women are age 55-64 and two are over the age of 65).

Our analysis of the surveys found:

- The older women generally had the same responses as the younger women.
- Without looking at their date of birth the survey respondents could not be differentiated.
- None are in need of medical attention specifically based on their age.
- The factor that seemed to define the older population at SFF Hazelton was the length of sentence and the need for programming specifically for inmates who have already participated in programming within the institution—a factor of their length of stay rather than their age.

Upcoming Community Events

Collaborative Solutions for Communities is offering a FREE Progressive Employment Program. The three week course starts on January 6, 2020. Learn how to interview for jobs and dress for success! For more information, contact Andy Williams at (202) 518-6737 or awilliams@wearecsc.org.

COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS COMMUNITIES
PROGRESSIVE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

FREE

THREE WEEK CLASS

1/6/20 - 1/24/20 MONDAY - FRIDAY 10 AM-3 PM

ORIENTATION: FRIDAY, 12/13/2019, THURSDAY, 12/19/2019 & FRIDAY, 12/20/20 > 10AM-2PM

YOU ARE ABOUT TO MAKE ONE OF THE BEST MOVES OF YOUR LIFE!!

LEARN HOW TO:

- ▶ Interview for a great job
- ▶ Dress for success
- ▶ Take charge of your life



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Must reside in the District of Columbia | Must be at least 18 years of age
Orientation Required! Please bring your DC ID & Social Security Card.

Transportation stipend available

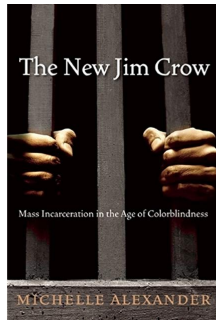


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What We're Reading: Mass Incarceration and Racial Justice in America



The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness

by Michelle Alexander

Legal scholar Michelle Alexander writes that many of the gains of the civil rights movement have been undermined by the mass incarceration of black Americans in the war on drugs. The book discusses race-related issues specific to African-American males and mass incarceration in the United States, but Alexander noted that the discrimination faced by African-American males is prevalent among other minorities and socio-economically disadvantaged populations. Alexander's central premise, from which the book derives its title, is that "mass incarceration is, metaphorically, the New Jim Crow"



The CIC is on Instagram!

Follow us @dc_cic for updates, useful information and events!



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