

FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

POC assists individuals on parole, and prospective parolees, to understand their rights.

POC helps individuals on parole and their families to navigate the complexities of the parole system.

POC wants to reduce the overall cost of Mass incarceration by reducing recidivism among non-violent offenders.

POC works to empower people to empower people to speak out, stand up, and reclaim their voices.

POC's objective is to help people to successfully integrate back into our communities.



RECLAIMING VOICES

SHARE OUR VISION

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO OUR WORK!

- Make a donation online at www.projectoperationchange.org
- Become a corporate partner
- Sponsor an event
- Ask about volunteer opportunities
- Donate professional services or supplies
- Check our website or call for more information
- Refer someone to our program

Project Operation Change

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A CAMPAIGN FOR MASSACHUSETTS

PAROLE REFORM



Connecting to Individuals on parole and their families, to help build a better future.

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Project Operation Change (POC) is a grassroots' organization formed to work on creating an atmosphere of transparency within the Massachusetts' Parole System. POC will work within the system to increase clarity and to change the antiquated policies and abusive practices. POC believes strongly in self-advocacy. A key component of POC's mission includes educating people on parole, their families, and the general public of the parole system's obligations to the public.



BUILDING A COALITION

"Politics and knee-jerk reactions have derailed the criminal justice system. The consequences negatively impact all of us whether we're talking about human rights, public safety or the financial cost of these practices. It is time for reform that is smarter, safer and that produces positive results."

- Don Perry. Director of Project Operation Change

A lot of attention is being focused on expanding the current Parole Board membership. We need people from diverse backgrounds. We need advocacy for Presumptive Parole, Compassionate Release, and Commutations. These are all areas that need major reform. What happens when a person has run the gauntlet, has gotten a favorable parole decision and is released on parole?

Inmates paroled to the street have a higher recidivism rate reported (50%). The recidivism rate of inmates released at the expiration of their sentence was (35%). A large portion of re-incarcerations occurred as a result of a technical violation of parole conditions. According to Gordon Hass, "Only 7% of parole revocations were for new arrests alone, a percentage which was consistent throughout the four years from 2007 to 2010. The lowest rate was reported as 5% in 2010. ***What needs to be questioned is why nearly 75% of all parole revocations are solely for technical violations?***"

The reason for this phenomenon as reported by Seiter and Crews, "Over the past twenty years, there has been an increasing reliance on closely monitoring offenders to catch them when they fail to meet all required conditions." This style of supervision is said to place an emphasis on monitoring and enforcing compliance with the rules or supervision and the detection of violations leading to revocation and return to custody." This creates an overall "cultural bias" that people frequently experience via parole personnel.

PROJECT OPERATION CHANGE

- EDUCATE
- ADVOCATE
- ORGANIZE
- CHANGE
- ENGAGE
- CONNECT



MAKING CHANGE