



JJC NEWS

APRIL 2023

FOR THE UNSEEN. FOR THE UNHEARD.

HIGHLIGHTS

At JJC, we are excited to share the essential work we have accomplished in the past month in our first Newsletter! We could not achieve this without your continued support, advocacy, and passion for a better future for our youth.

Mentorship Matters

Our Community Outreach Coordinator, Alleana Moss, and Executive Director, TaKasha Smith, have been meeting with the Department of Youth Services to discuss plans, budget, resources, and visions for our Pilot Mentorship Program. This program is set to run July through October and will teach incarcerated youth the necessary life skills required to thrive in today's society so that when they get out, they stay out. We are excited to see how we can better prepare and support youth because recidivism is directly linked to a lack of support and resources.

Restorative Justice finds its place at JJC

JJC staff have been training and learning about Restorative Justice methods and how crucial it is that our systems and institutions need to make a drastic change. RJ can be an invaluable resource. Restorative Justice focuses on healing for everyone involved and caters to the victim to make sure they receive the justice that is important to them. Alleana also attended a powerful roundtable called "Benefits of Restorative Justice," presented by Transitioning Justice Lab, Carter School, George Mason University.

Budget Advocacy

TaKasha testified in the House Finance sub-committee on public safety regarding the DYS budget. TaKasha provided support for several hearings in public safety, criminal justice, and higher education hearings as we are at the height of the budget season.

A Passion for Partnerships

For our children to succeed, they need someone supporting, believing, and guiding their path toward a bright future. At JJC, we know this can only be accomplished if our youth have the tools and opportunities needed to thrive in every system. This is why we partner with so many amazing organizations. Together with Policy Matters, ACLU of Ohio, and Children's Defense fund, JJC held a press conference to ask for more local discretion for school safety funds and better training for school officers! We also began a new partnership with Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center and presented our work at Worthington Kilbourne High School!

WHAT'S NEXT

- JJC will be joining City Year at their 2023 Career Fair!
- JJC Partners with CEJC's "2023 Community Listening" Campaign. We will host a conversation about what we need to demand from our school board officials to make our schools safer, inclusive, and equitable. If you're a local youth, educator, or community member let your voice be heard!
- We are currently collecting testimony about alternative safety measures to School Resource Officers in response to Gov. Dewine's budget request.

DID YOU KNOW?

Columbus' population is 28% Black, however 63% of people arrested by Columbus Police are Black, and 73% of people killed by Columbus Police are Black!

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 juvenilejusticecoalition

GET INVOLVED!

- Share our campaigns and posts on social media!
- Become a mentor in our 2023 Mentorship Pilot Program. Email our Community Outreach Coordinator for more info: alleana@jjcoho.org
- Share your thoughts in our Community Forum! New question posted weekly. <https://tinyurl.com/VolunForum>
- Join our volunteer list for more information about upcoming opportunities! <https://www.jjcoho.org/jointhemovement>